



November 10<sup>th</sup> is a special day for all Marines everywhere in the world. In New Hampshire, the Marine Corps League starts the day off at the Statehouse in Concord with the raising of the USMC flag over the Capitol building where it will fly for the day and into Veterans Day.

We arrive on site at 0730 and the ceremony begins at 0800 sharp. The color guard on hand is the MCJROTC from the Winnacunnet High School in Hampton, NH and they do a fine job every year. A graduated student of the MCJROTC will be singing the National Anthem.



General LeJeune's message, the Commandant of the Marine Corps' message, and a proclamation by the Governor of NH are all read to the assemblage of Marines and general public.

This significant event was started many years ago by Dillon Detachment member Joe Shea, who had a clear vision of the importance of this day. Joe has since passed on, but, his legacy and memory live on.

While this event is hosted by the Dept. of NH Marine Corps League, it is also attended by Marines from all over the general area. An assortment of motorcyclists from the Marine Riders, Nam Knights, and Jarheads MC will stand with us in formation and share in the event. Military music resounds and all Marines swell with pride during the playing of the Marine Corps Hymn. After the ceremony has concluded we head to a local restaurant to have breakfast and share in the camaraderie.

Later in the day, the celebration continues at the Manchester Expeditionary Brigade Birthday Luncheon where the Marine Corps League traditionally participates in the annual Cake Cutting Ceremony. A guest speaker will be on hand, a fine meal will be served, raffles will be held, and the annual collection of toys for the Toys for Tots program will start the holiday season.



For all Marines who may be in the area that day, we invite you to join us and celebrate this auspicious occasion.

John Jenkins,  
Commandant, Department of NH