



**Department of New Jersey Convention
Awards Applications**

2025 Convention

Department of New Jersey Marine / Associate of the Year

Department of New Jersey Recruiters of the Year

Murray J. Sklar Role Model Award

New Jersey Detachments' Newsletter Awards



Department of New Jersey

Marine / Associate of the Year Award

The criteria to be observed by the Department Marine of the Year Selection Committee shall be: consideration of letters of nomination by a Detachment, chartered in the Department of New Jersey and currently in good standing in the Department; nominations shall be made of a regular member or members (there shall be no limit on the number of its members that any one Detachment may submit) who are members in good standing of the nominating Detachment. Any Marine nominated must hold primary membership in the nominating Detachment, should that Marine hold dual membership in more than one Detachment situated within the Department of New Jersey.

NOMINATIONS SHALL BE TYPEWRITTEN AND IN THE FORM OF A RESUME, DESCRIBING ACTIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE NOMINEE FOR THAT YEAR. THE MARINE OF THE YEAR SELECTION COMMITTEE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE A MINIMUM OF THREE (3) NOMINATIONS TO REVIEW. IF THERE ARE LESS THAN THREE (3) NOMINATIONS THEY RESERVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE NO MARINE OF THE YEAR FOR THAT YEAR.

The Department Marine / Associate of the Year Selection Committees shall hold its deliberations in the strictest confidentiality. The Committee shall also be charged with ensuring that a suitable plaque be engraved and presented to the selectee at the Grand Banquet of the Department Convention at which the nominee is considered.

All nominations shall be submitted to the Department Commandant via CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED. CLEARLY MARKED 'MARINE OF THE YEAR' NO LATER THAN MAY 20, 2025. NO HAND-DELIVERED SUBMISSIONS SHALL BE PERMITTED AT THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION AND NO SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE SHALL BE ACCEPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDANT.

Submissions received beyond the established deadline shall be returned to the submitting Detachment, UNOPENED by the Department Commandant.

Michael Waluk
Commandant
Dept of NJ MCL
201 Westfield Avenue
Piscataway, NJ 08854



Membership Recruitment Program

Individual Membership Recruiting Awards

Each and every year, a special form must be filled out by the individual member and signed by the Detachment Commandant and Detachment Adjutant / Paymaster, then mailed to the Department Junior Vice Commandant and also the National Junior Vice Commandant for the National award.

This Membership Recruiting Program will include New Members, Out-of-State Transfers and National Member-at-Large (M-A-L) Transfers. All of these members increase your Detachment Membership Strength, so they will count towards Department Awards.

The goal of this program is to increase the overall Department Membership Strength and most importantly recognize our members who go above and beyond recruiting Marines and FMF Corpsmen into the MCL.

Department Recruiting Awards will be issued as follows:

A **citation** will be given to those members who have recruited 5-24 members during the year.

A **Distinguished Service Medal Citation** (signifying the accomplishment) will be presented to those members who have recruited 25 plus members during the year.

Recruiter of the Year: The one individual member that has recruited the most members through his/her individual efforts will be presented the **Department Recruiter Medal – Silver** and a plaque with his/her name engraved thereon.



Membership Recruitment Program

This is to certify the following Marine Corps League Member has met the criteria as established by the Department of New Jersey by recruiting five (5) or more new members **between the period of 15 May 2024 and 15 May 2025**.

Detachment: _____

Det #: _____

Recruited By: _____

Membership #: _____

Names of New Members

1 _____	11 _____
2 _____	12 _____
3 _____	13 _____
4 _____	14 _____
5 _____	15 _____
6 _____	16 _____
7 _____	17 _____
8 _____	18 _____
9 _____	19 _____
10 _____	20 _____

(LIST ADDITIONAL NAMES ON BACK OF THIS FORM)

Certified True and Accurate:

Detachment Commandant

Detachment Paymaster /Adjutant

All forms must be received no later than **May 20, 2025**. Awards will be announced at the 2025 Convention Banquet on Saturday, May 31, 2025.

Please Submit To:

Robert Sheppard
Jr. Vice Commandant
Dept of NJ MCL
18 Westwood Terrace
Millville, NJ 08332-4144



DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Michael Waluk
Commandant

Annual “Murray J. Sklar” Role Model Award

In June, 2018, the Department of New Jersey has begun sponsoring the **Murray J. Sklar Role Model Award**, which will be presented at the Department’s annual 2025 convention banquet. Although the recipient need not be present at the convention, this is a prestigious honor that merits the presence of those well deserving recipients therefore attendance is highly encouraged.

Nominations can be submitted by anyone and the award will be available to anyone (includes regular members, associate members and civilians alike) who meet the necessary criterion set forth in the Qualifications portion of this letter.

A Brief Biography of Murray J. Sklar.

Murray J. Sklar was born on June 11, 1924. He was one of three siblings growing up in Newark, NJ. Murray graduated from Weequahic High School, Newark, in 1943 and soon after enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps during World II and valiantly participated in the campaigns of Saipan and Okinawa.

Murray later attended Newark College of Engineering (Presently NJIT) where he earned his Master Degree in Engineering. Murray was married to Harriet Sklar for 68 years and had a son, daughter and grandson whom he held in high regard.

Murray was a man of faith and a long standing member of Temple Beth Shalom in Livingston. He served as Temple President and as President of the Temple’s Men's Club. Murray joined the West Hudson Detachment #209, Marine Corps League in 1987 and a Life Member in 1990. During his tenure, he served as detachment Commandant in 1990-1991 and continued to serve as a Staff member. Murray also served as state Chaplain for the Dept of NJ, Marine Corps League for 14 years and was awarded the honorary position of Past State Commandant for the Department and he was awarded Marine of the Year for both the West Hudson Detachment and Department of NJ in 2015.

He was also a member of the Jewish War Veterans Post 740 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2856 and was responsible for starting the annual Veterans’ Day Appreciation Ceremony at Temple Beth Shalom each November beginning in 1986.

Purpose.

Anyone who has ever had any affiliation Murray could attest to Murray's character. He always greeted his fellow Leaguers with a friendly smile and emanated a warm, positive aura that was highly contagious. Nobody was immune to Murray's optimism and genuine belief that anything is possible if you put your heart and mind into your endeavor.

Murray was a wise and trusted counselor who was willing to dedicate his time and efforts for the benefit of others. He had a genuine love for the U.S. Marine Corps, the Marine Corps League and his fellow Marines. He demonstrated exceptional leadership through conviction, confidence, courage, patience, pride and self-discipline. Murray portrayed friendliness, fairness, respect and responsibility for oneself and treated others with the same compassion. Simply put, Murray was a man of extraordinary character; a man of joy, understanding, compassion and intelligence, all of which he was willing and wanting to share with others so they too could become mentors for others.

Although Murray was the epitome of the Role Model, there are others amongst us who possess the same qualities as Murray and have the same impact upon others as he did. The Department wishes to acknowledge such people – both their accomplishments and their persona, as a means for recognizing just how important role models are to each of us.

Qualifications.

As stated, the ideal candidate will be one who exemplifies his or her self as a role model to others. This award **IS NOT** intended to be an achievement award, but rather, it was designed to recognize that person who selflessly puts him or herself before others. A person who is personable towards others, warm and friendly and capable of putting strangers at ease upon first meeting them. A person who is curious and has a genuine desire to learn more about others. A person who is both a confidant and problem-solver. A person having devotion to his or her faith, family and country. A person having a sense of responsibility and optimism that any challenge can be overcome with strength, support, love and passion. A person who sets the example for others to follow and does so in such a way that others want to follow. These were the attributes of Murray Sklar, and serve as qualifications of a role model.

Nominations.

Nominations will be open from January 1st to May 15th of each year and must be submitted in narrative form to the Committee Chairman via U.S. Regular Mail. Nominations need to be written in detail and supporting documentation such as letters of reference and media articles can be included with the nomination letter in order to emphasize a nominee's qualifications. Nominations are now due no later than **Monday, May 20, 2025**, and the award will be announced on May 31, 2025 at the Department's Convention Banquet.

Department of New Jersey - "Murray J. Sklar" Role Model Award

Please mail all nominations to:

**Michael Waluk
Commandant
Dept of NJ MCL
201 Westfield Avenue
Piscataway, NJ 08854**

If you have any questions you can call me at 732-689-0034 or via email mwaluk@aol.com.

Thank you and Semper Fidelis,

Michael Waluk
Commandant
Dept of NJ - MCL



DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY MARINE CORPS LEAGUE NEWSLETTER COMPETITION

Check the criteria included in the attachments that will be used for judging of Detachment newsletters at the annual Department Convention.

Each Detachment is asked to select **THREE (3)** of their newsletters and submit them to the Sr. Vice Commandant by Monday May 13, 2025. Submissions can be made either by email or traditional mail service.

Newsletters should cover the period from July 2024 to May 2025.

Awards will be given for 1st and 2nd place on Saturday, May 31st of the 2025 Convention.

CRITERIA	POINTS
Commandant's Name	
Is the Commandant's name prominently displayed?	[4 Max]
1. On front, in large size print, in listing of officers or by itself.	4
2. On front, in smaller size print, in listing of officers or by itself.	3
3. Inside (page 2), in large size print, near top, in listing of officer or by itself.	2
4. Inside (page 2), in small size print – hard to read.	1
Editor's Name	
Is the editor's name displayed?	[4 Max]
1. On front, listed as editor, near top, address & phone number listed.	4
2. On front, listed as editor, near top, phone number listed.	3
3. On front, listed as editor, name only	2
4. Inside (page 2) in small print – hard to read	1
Detachment or Department Name	
Is the Detachment or Department name prominently displayed?	[4 Max]
1. On front, at very top, in large size print and in a pleasing style.	4
2. On front, at very top, in large size print but no style.	3
3. On front, at very top, in small size print with pleasing style.	2
4. On front, at very top, in small size print but no style.	1
Newsletter Name	
Is the newsletter's name prominently displayed?	[4 Max]
1. On front, at the very top, in large size print and in a pleasing style.	4
2. On front, at the very top, in large size print but no style.	3
3. On front at very top, in small size print in a pleasing style.	2
4. On front at very top, in small size print but no style	1

Date of Newsletter	
Is the newsletter's publication date displayed?	[4 Max]
1. On front, at the very top, in large size print and easy to read.	4
2. On front, at the very top, in small size print and easy to read.	3
3. On front, in middle or bottom, in large size print and easy to read.	2
4. On front, in middle or bottom, in small size print and easy to read.	1
History & General Information Articles	
Does the newsletter contain any historical or general interest articles?	[5 Max]
Each article (up to 5 articles) gets 1 point.	1
Community, Detachment & Department	
Are individual events & activities (complete or planned) publicized?	[10 Max]
1. For each upcoming event.	1
2. For reporting the outcome of that event after the date of the event.	1
National and/or Division Information	
Does the newsletter relay National and/or Division related information?	[5 Max]
1. Each article up to maximum of 5 points. No credit awarded for repeated items.	1
2. For reporting the outcome of that event after the date of event.	1
Detachment Membership & Renewals	
Does the newsletter promote membership and renewal efforts?	[5 Max]
1. Listing members due for the month.	1
2. Listing delinquent members.	1
3. Listing new members or article for welcoming new members into detachment.	1
4. Some type of incentive for recruiting new members.	2
Department Membership & Renewals	
Does the newsletter promote membership and renewal efforts?	[5 Max]
1. Listing Detachment's annual renewal goal and percent achieved.	1
2. Listing of number of new members gained by the Detachment	1
3. Listing new members or article for welcoming them into the Department.	1
4. Some type of incentive for recruiting new members	2
VAVS Information	
Does the newsletter publicize VAVS programs or activities & involvement?	[5 Max]
1. Each article up to five points. No credit awarded for repeated items.	1
Awards	
Does the newsletter publicize awards or achievements achieved by members; or awards or achievements that have been received by Detachment/Department?	[5 Max]
1. Each item receives one point.	1
*Presentations of any awards that are given to non-members or businesses are considered COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, NOT AWARDS	

Calendar of Events

Are future events and activities publicized?	[5 Max]
1. A monthly calendar with events or activities listed within it.	5
2. A listing of upcoming events by itself and displayed in large size print.	4
3. A listing of upcoming events by itself and displayed in small size print.	3
4. A listing of upcoming events by itself and displayed in very fine print.	2
5. A listing of upcoming events by itself not having a fixed location within the newsletter.	1

Points of Contact

Are points of contact listed for events and activities?	[5 Max]
1. A person's name, phone number and/or email address for a particular activity. One point for each unique event (no repeats).	1

Clarity

Are articles accurate, complete and easily understood?	[5 Max]
1. Accuracy	1
2. Completeness	1 or 2
3. Easily understood	1 or 2

Format

Does the newsletter make use of graphics and photos?	[5 Max]
1. Has clear and recognizable graphics and photos.	5
2. Has graphics and photos that are fuzzy or blurry	4
3. Uses graphics extensively but no photos	3
4. Uses some graphics but no photos	2
5. Uses cartoons or the Detachment letterhead stationery with logo.	1

Overall Appearance

Does the newsletter look professional, as in appealing to the reader's eye?	[25 Max]
1. Outstanding style and appearance	23-25
2. Excellent style and appearance	18-22
3. Good style and appearance	11-17
4. Consists of two or more pages but appears more like a letter rather than a newsletter.	5-10
5. Consists of a single page in a letter-type of format.	1-4

SCORING RESULTS	
Category	Score
Commandant's Name	
Editor's Name	
Detachment / Department Name	
Newsletter Name	
History & General Informational Articles	
Community, Detachment & Department	
National and/or Division Information	
Detachment Memberships & Renewals	
VAVS Information	
Awards	
Calendar of Events	
Points of Contact	
Clarity	
Format	
Overall Appearance	
	Total Scoring:

Mail or Email your Submissions to:

Chris Soldano
 Sr. Vice Commandant
 Department of New Jersey
 1 Felicia Court
 Flemington NJ, 08822
mclmoddtool@gmail.com