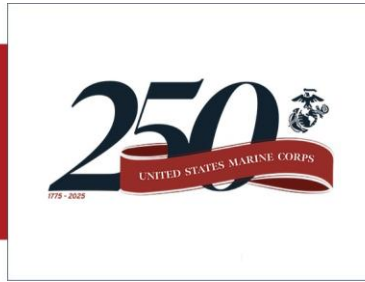


250 YEARS OF THE MARINE CORPS



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The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) Spotlights Arkansas During Nationwide Marines Across America Program

MCHF marks the achievement of Arkansas Marines as part of the Marine Corps' 250th Anniversary Celebration

TRIANGLE, Va. – The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) today celebrates the Marines of Arkansas, as part of the organization's year-long Marines Across America program to mark the Marine Corps' 250th Anniversary. The program highlights Marines who embody the values of honor, courage, and commitment within their communities and showcases the contributions Marines make in their local communities or nationally following their active-duty service.

"Marines have always made their mark on the battlefield, but it's important to remember they've also made their mark in their hometowns and communities," said retired Marine Major General James Lukeman, President and CEO of MCHF. "As we celebrate 250 years of the Marine Corps, we honor the significant contributions that Marines from Arkansas have made to our nation. It's an opportunity for all residents of Arkansas to commemorate this historic milestone and show their appreciation for all Marines who stand ready to protect our Nation and continue to put Marine values to work in their communities and professional lives."

Notable Marines with Arkansas ties include:

- [Chace McKamie](#), Tire Builder, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Amateur Player in the World Poker Tour (WPT) Championship (Hope, AR)
- [S. Robert Smith](#), Retired Avionics Engineer, Honeywell Aerospace
- [Michael Kirkland](#), General Manager and CEO, Petit Jean Electric Cooperative (Clinton, AR)
- [Todd Roberts](#), Sgt-at-Arms, Texarkana #1149, Marine Corps League (Texarkana, AR)
- [Lt. Col. Jason Smedley](#), Commandant, Arkansas Military and First Responders Academy (AMFRA) (Little Rock, AR)
- [Anthony Murphy](#), Lieutenant, Fayetteville Police Department (Fayetteville, AR)
- [Anita Jackson](#), Revenue Officer, Internal Revenue Service
- [Don Barnes](#), National Council Member, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Arkansas (Sherwood, AR)
- [Larry Wakefield, Jr.](#) Past Commandant, Texarkana #1149, Marine Corps League (Texarkana, AR)

- [David Niemann](#), Commandant, Northwest Arkansas #854, Marine Corps League, Department of Arkansas (Rogers, AR)
- [Jim Howington](#), Judge Advocate, Dale W. Langford #1323, Marine Corps League, Department of Arkansas (Conway, AR)
- [Ken Summers](#), Jr. Vice Commandant, Texarkana #1149, Marine Corps League Department of Arkansas (Texarkana, AR)
- [Stephen Green](#), Paymaster, Lake Dardanelle #1310, Marine Corps League, Department of Arkansas (Russellville, AR)
- [Cyndy West](#), Sr. Vice Commandant, Thomas A. Payne #1248, Marine Corps League Department of Arkansas (Fort Smith, AR)

“The list of notable Marines from Arkansas is impressive and showcases how they used the values and skills they learned in the Marine Corps to become leaders in their communities,” said Maj Gen Lukeman. “Today marks a special opportunity to recognize these extraordinary men and women for their service to our nation as well as their communities.”

The Marines Across America program continues throughout 2025, leading to the official 250th birthday of the Marine Corps on Nov. 10, which will be marked nationwide with official cake-cutting ceremonies taking place at all 50 state capitols.

Members of the public are encouraged to join the anniversary celebration and Marines Across America by sharing stories of Marines they know, both active and retired, who make a difference in their communities and in their professional lives. Submissions may be made through [the Marine250.com website](http://theMarine250.com) or via social media using the hashtag #MarinesAcrossAmerica.

About the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation:

Dedicated to the preservation and promulgation of Marine Corps history, the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation was established in 1979 as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. The Foundation supports the historical programs of the Marine Corps in ways not possible through government funds. The Foundation provides grants and scholarships for research and the renovation, restoration and commissioning of historical Marine Corps artifacts and landmarks. The Foundation secured the necessary funding for the construction of the National Museum of the Marine Corps and Heritage Center, located in Triangle, Virginia, and continues to expand programs at the National Museum of the Marine Corps and beyond its walls. For more information, visit MarineHeritage.org.



MARINEHERITAGE.ORG