

Lewis & Clark Young Marines



PARENT HANDBOOK

1st Washington Battalion, NW Regiment
6th Young Marine Division

The mission of the Young Marines is to positively impact America's future by providing quality youth development programs for boys and girls that nurtures and develops its members into responsible citizens who enjoy and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

What this means: serving our veterans and community, emphasizing achievements, offering adventure activities to build leaderships skills and offering a unique and challenging learning environment.

** The LCYM Parent Guidebook is based on the experiences of parents and staff within our unit as well as other units in the Young Marines program. If a discrepancy is found within this guide or conflicts with the National Young Marines Registered Adult Manual, please bring the discrepancy to the attention of the LCYM staff for review. All revisions and mandates to this guide will be posted in a timely manner and distributed through written notification.

Introduction & Welcome

Welcome to the Lewis & Clark Young Marines! We are pleased you have chosen this program to enhance your child(ren) and your family. Showing an active interest in your child's activities is an exceptional way to foster a strong parent/child relationship for years to come. Your involvement in Lewis & Clark Young Marines (LCYM) is an essential part of your child's success. Your recruit will soon receive their guidebook and have explained to them all that will be expected from them. This guidebook will explain what will be expected of you as well as highlight some of the YM expectations. For some, there will be a certain amount of apprehension when getting a child involved in such a tough curriculum. As the program progresses, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will discover that every detail may not have been fully explained the first day your child was enrolled. Please read this important information, attend all scheduled meetings, and always feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. The Parent Liaison (PL) is a dedicated volunteer to assist parents in the navigation of the program.

This program relies on the active participation of everyone, including you.

Young Marines is not a recruitment tool for militaries of any sort, combat skills are not taught, and it is not a "Scared Straight Program" for wayward youth. At the same time, events that Young Marines may participate in may involve close connection with public relations aspects of the armed forces.

The Young Marine program is not a daycare, nor do we act as your child's parent. It is important to know this in advance to avoid future conflicts with staff members due to misconceptions. Together we can achieve the extraordinary!

Volunteer & Unit Support

The most important quality of LCYM is that it is comprised entirely of volunteers. These individuals, giving their time and expertise, are the heart and soul of the unit's success. Furthermore, to make this program an even more successful investment to our children's potential, it is imperative that all parent(s)/guardian(s) support the volunteers when the need arise. *No staff

member or associate of LCYM receives monetary gifts as compensation for their services performed for the program.*

Each family is required to fulfill 6 (six) Parent Volunteerism hours each year for each YM enrolled in the program. Each YM will also be required to complete community service/volunteer hours each year. Opportunities are available year-round through the unit as well as outside opportunities that qualify.

What counts? Any volunteerism that benefits the community around you and no compensation is received. Examples: church, neighborhood groups, library, animal shelters, assisting elderly neighbors, babysitting, participation in church services, yard work. **no compensation received**

What doesn't count? Fundraisers, work done for parents/grandparents/family, work done for anyone when compensation is received.

Fundraising

Lewis & Clark Young Marines is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Fundraising is an essential activity to maintain the outstanding activities,

encampments, transportation & general unit expenses. The unit cannot do this without your support. One goal of fundraising is to maximize the YM's experiences while minimizing the cost to the families. Fundraising Accounts (FA) for each YM are generated and held in trust for the YMs use as a member of LCYM. A portion of funds raised will be credited to the FA, in the form of points, upon completion of each fundraising activity. (The points varies dependent upon the activity.) These points will be available for your YM to apply to the purchase of various supplies, field trip/encampment costs, annual registration dues, just to name a few.

*Departure from LCYM either by unit dismissal or voluntary exit will revert any FA points back to the General Fund for unit use & **will not** be refunded in any way.*

Mandatory Fundraising - Recruits & YMs: See's Candy Sales, annually January through mid-March

Other fundraising opportunities:

- Does your employer offer donation match?
- Enroll your Fred Meyer card in Community Rewards & choose LCYM.
- Save Box Tops off your favorite products.

- Save your cans/bottles for return pay outs in Oregon.

Staff

Staff members are Registered Adult Volunteers (RA) who have completed the application process and passed a National Background check. Every member of the staff is just like a parent who has enrolled their child in the program. These volunteers have the same type of responsibilities as the parent/guardian of the children enrolled, including the same type of stress. Not all volunteers have children involved in the program. In some cases, the children have grown up and become responsible citizens for our communities. Whatever hardships you may be going through, chances are there is a staff member going through or has gone through the same thing. This includes having children who have trouble with the law to children who are doing great at home and school. As much as the staff might wish, children are not perfect and neither are we; however, this is where many of our experiences are learned and shared. This program succeeds when all parties work in unison to help instill discipline and personal accomplishments.

Are you interested in joining the LCYM staff team? Visit LCYM.org for the electronic application or e-mail our Adjutant at adj@lcym.org.

Meeting Facility

Our current meeting facility is the Elks Lodge, which is located at 11605 SE McGillivray Blvd Vancouver WA 98683. Under no circumstances will anyone be allowed to wander through the facility. Disciplinary action will be taken with anyone who does not follow this directive.

The Elks have been gracious enough to let us use the facility for our unit meetings. At the end of each unit meeting all Young Marines will be required to participate in a field day to ensure that we leave the facilities as clean as when we arrived.

Communication

Five key components of staying connected and up to date with the unit are:

- **Check your email!** Most unit communications, event schedules,

volunteer requests and pertinent information is communicated via emails. We request that you keep your email contact information up to date and check it regularly to ensure you have the information you need to be successful in the program.

- **Parent Meetings.** Parent meetings are held on the first drill of all the even numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, December) starting at approximately 0815. We encourage you to attend each and every parent meeting. These meetings will provide you with the opportunity to meet staff members, connect with other parents, ask questions, and stay informed.
- The **main website:** www.lcym.org. The website contains a wealth of relevant information, including the unit calendar. Use the calendar feature for important dates, access the Young Marine record book, important forms and more.
- **Facebook:** Lewis & Clark Young Marines – Private A very popular form of communication and is second only to e-mail. It's a great place to share individual experiences within the unit as well!

- Like and follow our Public Facebook page for even more information.
<https://www.facebook.com/lcym2002>
- **Phone Tree:** While it is your responsibility to obtain the latest information whenever possible, there will be times when plans change in the unit at the last minute. In such cases, a phone tree will be utilized in addition to email and Facebook to contact all participants based on current data supplied during receiving and scheduled administration stand-downs.

The Phone Tree works using the following method:

1. A small contingent of parents and YMs are given information via phone.
2. These individuals then contact other parent(s)/guardian(s) and Young Marines, passing the same information word for word.
3. This continues for a few layers, depending on the amount of individuals needed to be contacted.

Attendance

Regular and consistent attendance is very important because much of what is learned is hands-on and only so much can be caught up if missed. An absence will be counted as excused if the YM notifies the Unit Commander (UC) via email (absent@lcym.org).

The following guidelines for attendance have been developed in order that parents/guardians have an understanding of what will be requested of their Young Marine or recruit. This outline will also help instructors in performing and developing training each drill by knowing absences in advance. All attendances will be recorded weekly.

Only three Unauthorized Absences (UA) per year are allowed, regardless of a mandatory event or regular drill, to remain in good standing.

- a. YMs must be in good standing with the program in order to attend special events, overnights, and trips
- b. YMs must meet Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) training hour requirements
- c. YMs must meet all Physical Fitness Training (PFT) requirements

d. If a YM is on Leave of Absence, all DDR, PFT, and fundraising requirements must be completed to be able to participate in special events, overnights, and trips

e. UC reserves the right to make exceptions to these policies on an individual basis as needed.

There are **mandatory** events throughout the year:

- Recruit graduation
- Veterans Day Parade and Memorial Day events
- Wreaths Across America
- See's candy sales.

Only the UC can excuse absences from these events.

Study Nights

Weekly on Thursdays from 1900 – 2100. Study Nights are also held at the Vancouver Elks Lodge.

Sign-in: 1900 - Check in with Mr. Vernier (no sign-in sheet – the NCOIC takes attendance)

Sign-out: 2100 – Address the NCOIC for dismissal from formation – bring your outdoor voice (no sign-out sheet – the NCOIC will dismiss)

Beginning the day your child has been accepted into the Young Marines program, they are strongly encouraged to begin attending study nights; this applies to Poolies, Recruits and Young Marines.

This is an opportunity to demonstrate commitment! Study nights are not mandatory and missing one does not affect your attendance or standing with the Young Marines. However, by not regularly attending, your Young Marine will miss a valuable opportunity to progress in the program.

Study nights are the primary avenue for obtaining required sign-offs in the Young Marine guidebooks. In order to advance from one rank to the next, YMs must learn, demonstrate and document key performance objectives (PO) and enabling objectives (EO). Study night is geared towards obtaining sign-offs for POs and EOs, as well as participating in DDR education and presentations.

The focus may seem to be on progress within the unit, but school comes first. Should your YM have school homework to be completed, bring it to study night! The Young Marine program also emphasizes focus on school. Report cards will be requested from all YMs 1-2 times each year. You are welcome to forward any progress reports you

receive throughout the year. These documents can be turned in or submitted electronically by e-mail to adj@LCYM.org.

Drills

Every other Saturday from 0745 – 1630.

Sign-in: 0720 – 0745 – Sign In sheet in the main entry.

Sign-out: 1600 - 1615 – Sign out sheet in the main entry.

Drills are a required, and extremely fun, portion of the Young Marine program. Not every drill is considered a “mandatory drill”, but participation in the bi-weekly drills is necessary to stay in good standing with the program. The UC and Executive Officer (XO) work hard to provide a wide range of enriching activities for your Young Marine.

We encourage parents to stay for morning formation. Morning and afternoon formations are a time we recognize various Young Marines for

promotions and award ribbons for achievements. Even if your Young Marine is not promoting or receiving a ribbon we strive to recognize every Young Marine and your support does not go unnoticed. OoRah!

Lunch is an essential part of every drill and your child(ren) must eat in order to maintain their energy throughout the day. The unit provides lunch options every drill (hot lunch on site or sack lunch off site) for \$5 or you may pack a sack lunch. If your child(ren) has special dietary needs, it is your responsibility to ensure they have a lunch that meets those needs.

Drill information can be found on the unit website under the “Unit Calendar” tab. The website will be updated with Uniform Of the Day (UOD), activity planned and whether or not it is a mandatory drill.

Basic Young Marine Guide Book

This guidebook is designed for the Young Marine Private and Young Marine Private First Class. There are three other guidebooks that you will receive as you progress through your career in the Young Marines:

- The Junior Young Marine Guidebook

- The Senior Young Marine Guidebook
- The Advanced Young Marine Guidebook.

Each guidebook contains additional knowledge as well as other degrees of performing, leading, and instructing that will aid you in becoming a leader in your unit as well as in your community.

The guide book should be with the YM for each study night and drill. This is where sign-offs will be recorded for Physical Objectives (POs) and Enabling Objectives (EOs). Completing these objectives is essential to progressing rank advancement. Our unit utilizes “The Power of 5” form, which is a single sheet that a YM can obtain 5 sign offs that will be turned in, upon completion, for proper recording. Power of 5’s are turned in to the NCOIC at the end of Study Night who in turn hands them in to the Adjutant. (Lose your guidebook? The Power of 5’s are a backup documentation of all POs/EOs signed off.)

Uniform

All YMs are expected to always arrive at any Young Marine event in the proper Uniform of the Day (UOD). The only exception would be if you

have a medical reason that prevents you from wearing the designated uniform and you have a doctor's note (i.e. a cast on your foot that prevents you from wearing boots).

YMs always start with the basics of a clean body, clean clothes and good personal hygiene. Failure to comply with uniform and appearance standards may result with additional training or after repeat offenses, an YM will be sent home to change clothes.

LCYM utilizes a Uniform of the Day (UOD) for all Young Marine events. Proper notification for UOD will be provided via study night announcement, LCYM.org, email, or FB posts.

UOD descriptions:

Recruit Drill: LCYM Recruit

- Gray Physical Training (PT) shirt with recruit platoon number on back
- Jeans or Cammie Trousers (Jeans are to fit properly, no bagging/sagging)
- Belt (a standard belt is fine until your YM belt is issued)

- Black Jungle-type boots - not required until 3rd Drill - sneakers are acceptable until then. Boots are expected to be polished with high shine on toes and heels.
- Other items will be added at appropriate times as issued or required (cover and camouflage uniform)

LCYM Cammie Alphas:

- Cammies with ribbons
(Black boots, green/black socks, blousing bands, cammie trousers, khaki web belt, Red National tee shirt, cammie blouse, cover, dog tags, ID)

LCYM Cammie Bravos:

- Cammies without ribbons
(Black boots, green/black socks, blousing bands, cammie trousers, khaki web belt, Red National tee shirt, cammie blouse, cover, dog tags, ID)

LCYM Charlies:

- Red National tee shirt tucked in

- Jeans or Jean shorts (no sagging, rips or tears)
 - Khaki color pants/jeans or shorts may be mandated for unit encampments or special events.
- Khaki web belt (when issued)
- Dog tags
- ID

LCYM Deltas:

- Unit tee shirt tucked in
- Jeans/jean shorts (no sagging, rips or tears)
- Khaki web belt
- Dog tags
- ID

LCYM PT (Physical Training):

- Gray PT shirt (with recruit platoon # on back)
- Black shorts with LCYM logo (or plain black shorts NO logos/stripes etc)
- White socks
- Running Shoes
- Dog tags

*Note: Blouse sleeves are “Sleeves Up” (rolled up per uniform guidelines) beginning Daylight

Savings Time. "Sleeves Down" will commence at the end of Daylight Savings time in the fall or if announced by UC (i.e. inclement weather).

All camouflage for uniforms is the Woodland pattern camouflage. All uniforms require a blouse, trousers, web belt, boots, and cover. The belt and cover are issued during recruit cycle - additional available in Supply [supply@lcym.org]. Field jackets are available for loan, as appropriate, through Supply.

Name tapes & identifying patches will be required on blouses & trousers. These are initially issued by LCYM. Replacements can be purchased through supply@lcym.org.

Camouflage Blouse: Worn with Young Marine olive drab service tape centered above the left breast pocket, flush to the pocket seam and flush to the edge of the pocket. The Young Marine shoulder patch is worn on the wearer's left sleeve with the unit designation arc centered above the patch on the shoulder seam. The blouse will be machine or hand laundered in warm water. It may be starched or sized but may not be bleached.

Nametape: An olive drab name tape is worn centered over the right pocket, flush to the pocket seam and flush to the edges of the pocket.

Ribbons: Ribbons are worn so that the lowest row of ribbons is 1/8-inch above the left breast pocket patch and centered. Ribbons are worn in the order of precedence as established in the Young Marine Awards Manual. They are preferably worn in rows of three. However, they may also be worn in rows of four. Ribbons that become soiled or faded should be replaced. Your YM's ribbon rack configuration can be found in your YM's Record Book.

Camouflage Trousers: Worn with straight or pouch pockets. Nametapes will be sewn over the right rear pocket of the trousers, centered and flush over the top seam. The trouser will be machine or hand laundered in warm water. It may be starched or sized but may not be bleached

Khaki Web Belt: Worn with the Marine Corps style brass or anodized buckle

Boots: Standard black leather, black hot weather tropical (jungle) boots, or the old-style black boots (with eyelet lacing), polishing with a high shine on the toes and heels will be maintained. Black or green socks will be worn with the boots.

All Young Marines are expected to keep themselves clean and well groomed whether in uniform or not.

Grooming

Male Young Marines

1) Hair will be neat and closely trimmed. Hair will be short enough so that it does not touch the ears or hang on the nape of the neck. The hair may be clipped at the edges of the side and back and will not be over 3 inches in length fully extended on the upper portion of the head. Head hair will be styled so as not to interfere with the proper wear of uniform headgear. Hair, which protrudes from beneath properly worn headgear in an unsightly manner, is considered excessive, regardless of length. Male Young Marines are not authorized to wear braids of any sort nor have eccentric designs cut in their hair.

2) Beards are unauthorized. However, mustaches and sideburns may be worn, as long as they conform to current Young Marine grooming standards. When worn, the mustache will be neatly trimmed and must not extend beyond the length of the upper lip. The individual length of a

mustache hair fully extended must not exceed 1/2 inch. Except for a mustache, sideburns, eyebrows, and eyelashes, hair may be grown on the face only when a medical officer has determined that shaving is temporarily harmful to the individual Young Marine's health. Sideburns will not extend below the top of the orifice of the ear. Sideburns will not be styled to taper or flare. The length of an individual hair of the sideburn will not exceed 1/8 inch when fully extended.

3) The only jewelry permitted is watches, medical items, religious medallions, class or Young Marines ring. All jewelry will be removed for physical training.

Female Young Marines

1) Hair may touch the collar, but will not fall below the collar's lower edge. Hair that would fall naturally below the collar's lower edge will be neatly and inconspicuously fastened or pinned. During physical training periods in which physical training clothing is worn, hair will be allowed to fall naturally, without being fastened or pinned. This does not apply when conducting physical training in the utility uniform.

2) Hair will be styled so as not to interfere with the proper wear of the uniform headgear. All headgear will fit snugly and comfortably around the largest part of the head without distortion or excessive gaps. Hairstyles, which do not allow the headgear to be worn in this manner, are prohibited.

a) Faddish and exaggerated styles to include shaved portions of the scalp other than the neckline, designs in the hair, unsecured ponytails and styles that are distinctly unbalanced or lopsided are prohibited. Multiple braiding and buns are authorized. If hair extensions are used in the braiding of the hair, the extensions must have the same general appearance as the individual's natural hair. Braided hairstyles will be conservative, and conform to other guidelines listed herein.

b) Barrettes, combs, rubber bands, etc. are authorized, if concealed by the hair. Inconspicuous hairpins and bobby pins, if required, are authorized. Hairnets will not be worn unless authorized for a specific type of duty.

3) Cosmetics are authorized for wear in uniform if permitted by the parent or legal guardian. It shall be applied conservatively and must complement

the individual's complexion and skin tone. Exaggerated or faddish cosmetic styles are considered inappropriate and shall not be tolerated. Non-eccentric lipstick and nail polish colors, to include colorless nail polish, are authorized for wear with the uniform. Fingernails with multiple colors and decorative ornamentation are considered eccentric and may not be worn. Nail length, to include false nails, will be no longer than 1/4 inch from the tip of the finger.

4) Jewelry. The only jewelry permitted is watches, medical items, religious medallions, class or Young Marines ring. All jewelry will be removed for physical training activities. Small, polished ball, or round stud earrings, (post, screw-on, or clip), not to exceed six millimeters (about 1/4 inch) in diameter, may be worn with any uniform. When worn, earrings will fit tightly against, and will not extend below, the earlobe. Only one earring will be worn on or in each earlobe in the lowest hole.

Core Values & Code of Conduct

Discipline: Discipline is the instant willingness and obedience to orders and respect for authority.

Leadership: (By example) Leadership is an act or instance of leading, guidance, or direction.

Teamwork: Teamwork is a cooperative effort on the part of a group of persons acting together as a team or in the interests of a common cause.

A guiding principle of the Young Marines program is that “We will uphold the core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment”, the same core values adopted by the US Marine Corps.

Young Marines Code of Conduct

Article I: I am an American youth, proud of my country and our way of life. I am prepared to dedicate myself to educating others and myself in the history, traditions, and institutions thereof. I will do my best to live by the Marine Corps’ core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment, as well as the Young Marines’ core values of Discipline, Leadership and Teamwork.

Article II: I will never let another Young Marine down of my own accord. If in-charge, I will do my best to ensure the safety and well-being of those for whom I am responsible. I will immediately report any suspicious activity or behavior to a registered adult.

Article III: If I am offered drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products, I will politely resist and refuse. I will make every effort to stay clear of situations involving gangs, bullying, drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. I will not get involved in the same. I will also aid my friends and schoolmates to stay clear of similar situations.

Article IV: I will always be loyal to my fellow Young Marines. I will make no statements nor take part in any action that may bring discredit to my God, country, family and Young Marines. If I am the senior Young Marine present, I will take charge. If not, I will obey the lawful orders of those senior to me and support them in every way.

Article V: When asked about the Young Marines program, I will answer questions politely, respectfully and to the best of my ability. If I am asked a question that I do not know the answer to, I will refer the person asking the question to a registered adult. I will never give information that I am not certain of nor mislead those who are seeking information about the Young Marines program.

Article VI: I will never forget that I am an American youth and therefore the future of America, privileged with the freedom won and kept

by the blood of those who fought to ensure our freedom. I am responsible for my actions, and dedicated to the principles that made my country free.

Common Military Terms/Jargon

Chow	Food
Cover	The uniform article that covers your head
Field Day	General Housekeeping
Galley	Kitchen
Gear	Personal belongings, Issued equipment
Gear Adrift	Lost & Found personal belongings
Head	Bathroom, washroom or restroom
Mess Hall	Dining hall or dining room
Morning Colors	Ceremony of raising the flag at sunrise
Pipe Down!	Quiet
Scuttlebutt	Gossip
Semper Fidelis	Always Faithful (The Marine Corps Motto)
Skivvies	Underwear
Uncover	To remove your headgear

Acronyms

ALS – Advanced Leadership School
APL – Adult Platoon Leader
COD – Close Order Drill
DDR – Drug Demand Reduction
FA – Fundraising Account (trust account)
FSA – Female Staff Advisor
HOBY – Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership
HQ – Headquarters
JLS – Junior Leadership School
LCYM – Lewis & Clark Young Marines
NCO – Non-Commissioned Officer
NCOIC – Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge
O** - Operation ___ ___ (ie OSL- Operation Southern Legacy, OBW-Operation Belleau Wood)
PAO – Public Affairs Officer
PFT – Physical Fitness Test
PL – Parent Liaison
PT – Physical Training
RA – Registered Adult
RAM – Registered Adult Manual
SFS – Store Front Sales (See's Candy)
SLS – Senior Leadership School
S.P.A.C.E.S.- Summer Program of Adventures, Challenges and Encampments
SUG – Sign-Up Genius
UC – Unit Commander
UOD – Uniform of the Day
XO – Executive Officer
YM – Young Marine

FAQs

Q: Where can we buy our YM uniforms?

A: Woodland pattern cammies can be purchased at Andy & Bax, Aloha Surplus, Alley Cat Supply as well as several on line purchasing options. It is a good idea to purchase 2 trousers (1 to keep nice & 1 to get dirty in). Also, there are summer & winter options for the blouse. The summer style is a rip stop material and is lighter weight.

Q: Who can sew the patches & name tapes on the uniform?

A: Affordable Alterations (12106 SE Mill Plain Blvd. | 360-607-2162) is a reasonably priced option & the owner is a veteran who loves the YM program. Many tailors offer this service. Just be certain the guidelines are followed for proper placement. If you are handy with a sewing machine, feel free to do it on your own.

Q: Can I alter the size of the web belt?

A: Yes! (Please do!) The belt can be shortened by using a dime or other thin, flat item to pop open the buckle. Cut off the excess belt and then replace the buckle. Your YM's Basic guidebook will indicate the uniform regulation regarding belt length.

Q: Are parents/guardians able to attend study nights & drills?

A: Generally drills are 'closed' to visitors. Visitors must be approved & provided clearance through the office. Visitor badges are required. Study nights are open to parents/guardians. Please wear your LCYM Supporter shirt to identify yourself. If you have not yet received your shirt or do not have it available, you must check in at the office before proceeding to Study Night for a Visitor's badge. There will be times that volunteers are needed for side projects. These projects will be completed away from Study Night & parents/guardians are encouraged to help out as often as possible.

Q: Where can we obtain ribbon bars to hold the ribbons earned by our YM?

A: YMs will be provided an initial bar for the ribbons earned during recruit cycle. Additional ribbons earned after recruit cycle will need to be placed on a new bar. These larger, replacement bars can be obtained as following:

- 1) YM should empty their current ribbon bar. The previous ribbon bar must be exchanged for a new ribbon bar. (The YM will only have one ribbon bar in their possession at any time)

- 2) YM must visit the supply room to obtain a Ribbon Bar Request form.
- 3) The Ribbon Bar Request form is taken to the office & delivered to the Adjutant who will provide a new ribbon bar to the YM upon approval. They will sign the Ribbon Bar Request form which should then be returned to Supply.

Q: What time is Sign In & Sign Out on Drill days?

A: Sign in is 0720-0745 each drill morning. Sign out is 1600-1615. Timely sign in & out also allow drills to begin smoothly and promptly as well as allowing our volunteers to observe the YMs receive earned recognition.

Q: What is Operation Southern Legacy? Operation Belleau Wood? Operation Sasquatch Sighting?

A: Operation ____ is our name for extended encampments. They last three to ten days and may be somewhere locally or farther away. Previous locations have been places such as South Carolina, Southern California & Washington D. C.

Q: What is the time commitment for the YM/family?

A: Two weekends a month with supplementary weekly Study Nights to work on promotions and projects. Parent/Guardian: 6 hours of Parent Volunteerism is required each fiscal year for each enrolled YM. Mandatory fundraising events/activities throughout the year will have varying time commitments.

Q: What if my YM is not able to attend a Study Night or drill?

A: Study nights are optional and attendance does not impact overall standing with the unit. If a YM is unable to attend a drill they must e-mail absent@lcym.org. In the event of a mandatory drill or activity, the UC is the only one who can excuse an absence.

Q: What is a YM Record Book?

A: The record book is an electronic record of all achievements, community service hours, attendance, and any activity pertaining to the YM. It is a good idea to check this record book regularly to ensure that all records are accurate. There is only one Adjutant and there are many YMs in our unit. All entries are done by human hand, so errors or oversights are to be expected (though perfection is the goal). To access the YM

Record Book, visit www.youngmarines.com, scroll to the bottom of the page and find the Members button. Click the Members button and then click on the Login button on the top right hand side. You may then log into the Young Marine Portal using your YM(s) last name, first name & last 4 digits of their Social Security Number.

Q: What is SUG?

A: Sign Up Genius is an on line tool utilized by the unit for multiple purposes. This tool allows YMs/families/volunteers to sign up for specific Store Front Sales shifts, color guard, community service opportunities etc. It is a great centralized location for the Adjutant or other coordinators to manage events.

Q: What if I still have questions?

A: The old adage “There are no stupid questions” absolutely applies! There are always questions! The Parent Liaison is your first stop. They can be reached at PL@LCYM.org. Other resources include fellow parents/guardians, the Basic Guide Book, www.youngmarines.com, LCYM.org and YouTube has many instructional videos available.

In closing, we hope you have found this handbook helpful and use it as a resource as you begin your journey with Lewis & Clark Young Marines. Together we can achieve the overall goal to live by the motto of the Young Marines program:

Strengthening the Lives of America's Youth

December 2017

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