



Warriors Connected

The Official Newsletter of the Marine for Life Network

October – December 2020

CONNECTING MARINES WITH OPPORTUNITIES



www.marineforlife.org

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Company Information

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Major David "Hambone" Crookham (M4L Cincinnati) shares how he assisted transitioning Marine, Sgt David Swallens, with his goal of securing employment in the agricultural equipment repair industry, while attending school!

Sgt David Swallens was currently stationed at MCB Hawaii when he was first introduced to the Marine for Life Network. Our initial conversation revealed his background was in Diesel Mechanics while in the Marine Corps, and that upon transition he would be moving to Lima, OH to attend school for agricultural equipment repair. He reached out to Marine for Life because he was looking for employment while he attended school. His goal was to find something in or adjacent to agricultural equipment repair. My first thought was a military friendly company 30 minutes outside of Lima in Kalida, OH. The company manufactures agricultural equipment. I have contacts there and met with one of the owners, Dave, a couple of times. During my last conversation with Dave, we spoke a little about Marine for Life and employment in general at his company. I was very impressed with how they take care of their employees. A family owned company with a rich history, they have outstanding benefits to include free medical after a certain period and good pay. Their retention rate is very high.

I spoke with Sgt Swallen about this particularly veteran friendly organization and sent him some information. He was immediately interested and wanted to pursue only that opportunity for the time being. During our initial conversation I also strongly suggested he begin his VA claim process through a VSO vice going directly through the VA. I provided him names of a few organizations and suggested that he do some research and ask around. I also referred him to my Employment Specialists at the Ohio National Guard Employment Enhancement Program (NGEEP), who provided valuable resume assistance to Sgt Swallen.

I then sent Sgt Swallen's resume and a short recommendation to my contact Dave, for consideration within his company. Two weeks went by with no response. I reached out to Dave again, who informed me that he sent Sgt Swallen's info to HR and would check on it. After an additional two weeks with no word, I followed up again, respectfully letting them know that Sgt Swallen was holding out on other opportunities because of his desire to work at their company, and Sgt Swallen was at a critical juncture in his transition where he could not wait any longer.



Shortly after Sgt Swallen received a call from HR and a virtual interview was scheduled. On short order Sgt Swallen and I set up a virtual mock interview to prepare for his real interview. Due to technology glitches it turned mostly into a mock phone interview but effective, nonetheless.

After two weeks of silence post interview, I suggested to Sgt Swallen that he should follow up. I am pleased to inform, that shortly after following-up, Sgt Swallen was offered a position with the veteran friendly company, as an Assembler Technician. Sgt Swallen accepted the position with a starting salary higher than expected, and is will be eligible for a pay increase in just six months.

Additionally, Sgt Swallen is starting school in November and will also be receiving his GI Bill stipend. He is very excited, and I am very excited for him as well.

What can we learn from David's Transition?

- ✓ Join the Marine for Life Network and connect with a local M4L Representative
- ✓ Take action to begin your VA claims process sooner than later
- ✓ Be sure to tailor your resume to the specific job you're applying for
- ✓ Be sure take advantage of education benefits you may qualify for before returning to school
- ✓ Learn about Marine & Family Programs available to you during and after transition, such as the Information, Referral, and Relocation
- ✓ Don't hesitate to reach out when you need help



David Swallen, USMC Veteran



MARINE & Family

Information, Referral and Relocation

The Information, Referral and Relocation program at each installation, and at HQMC, can assist you with connecting veterans to non-employment related resources. We recommend you add these to your resource directory:

Requesting Medical Records:

Marines who have been discharged, separated or retired **May 1, 1994 or later:**

Department of Veterans Affairs
Records Management Center
P.O. Box 5020
St Louis MO 63115-8950
314-538-4500; Fax 314-538-4571

Marines discharged, separated or retired **before May 1, 1994** must contact the:

National Personnel Records Center
Military Personnel Records
9700 Page Avenue
St Louis MO 63132-5100
314-801-080; Fax 314-801-9195

RAPIDS ID CARD OFFICE ONLINE

Visit <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco> to update your CAC, manage sponsor or family member ID information, or find the nearest RAPIDS ID card office. Appointments are made online at <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/locator>

Local community support in times of crisis

You can contact 2-1-1 when you don't know where to turn but are experiencing a crisis or are worried about someone who may be: www.211.org -- search by zip code for the nearest **Community I&R center** or call **2-1-1** from your phone). They can connect you to local resources.

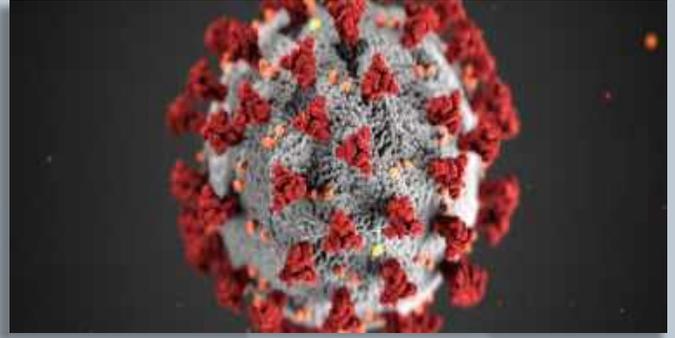
Veterans Crisis Line – 1-800 273-8255 (press 1)
Text to 838255

DSTRESS - <https://www.usmc-mccs.org/services/support/dstress-line/>
Call 1-877-476-7734 to speak anonymously with a live person. Live chat also available.

Need help finding a resource? Contact the Information and Referral Program Manager at HQMC:
Lucinda Lorei, Lucinda.lorei@usmc.mil, 703-784-9550

Coronavirus Resource

In light of the rapid spread of **COVID-19**, here are some precautions and resources to be aware of as the situation continues to develop. If you, or your family, are experiencing potential symptoms, you call your health care to determine if you are need of medical intervention. Calling first is a necessary precaution to help contain he spread of the virus. The list of symptoms for COVID-19, according to the CDC includes:



- **Fever**
- **Cough**
- **Shortness of breath**

These symptoms may appear as soon two days and as many as 14 days after exposure. As the numbers of cases in the United States continues to rise, it is important to limit close interaction with others when possible. Please follow your state and local news and guidance for specific information on travel restrictions, lockdowns, and closures.

Resources & Information

- Military OneSource provides a comprehensive list of resources and information for military members and DoD civilians.
- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): <https://www.coronavirus.gov>
- U.S. Government Response: <https://www.usa.gov/coronavirus>
- Center for Disease Control: <https://cdc.gov/coronavirus>
- Department of Defense: <https://www.defense.gov/coronavirus>

TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Clean your hands often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands

Avoid close contact

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick

Stay home if you're sick

- Stay home if you are sick, if you need medical care make sure to call ahead before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room

Cover coughs and sneezes

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow
- Throw used tissues in the trash
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol



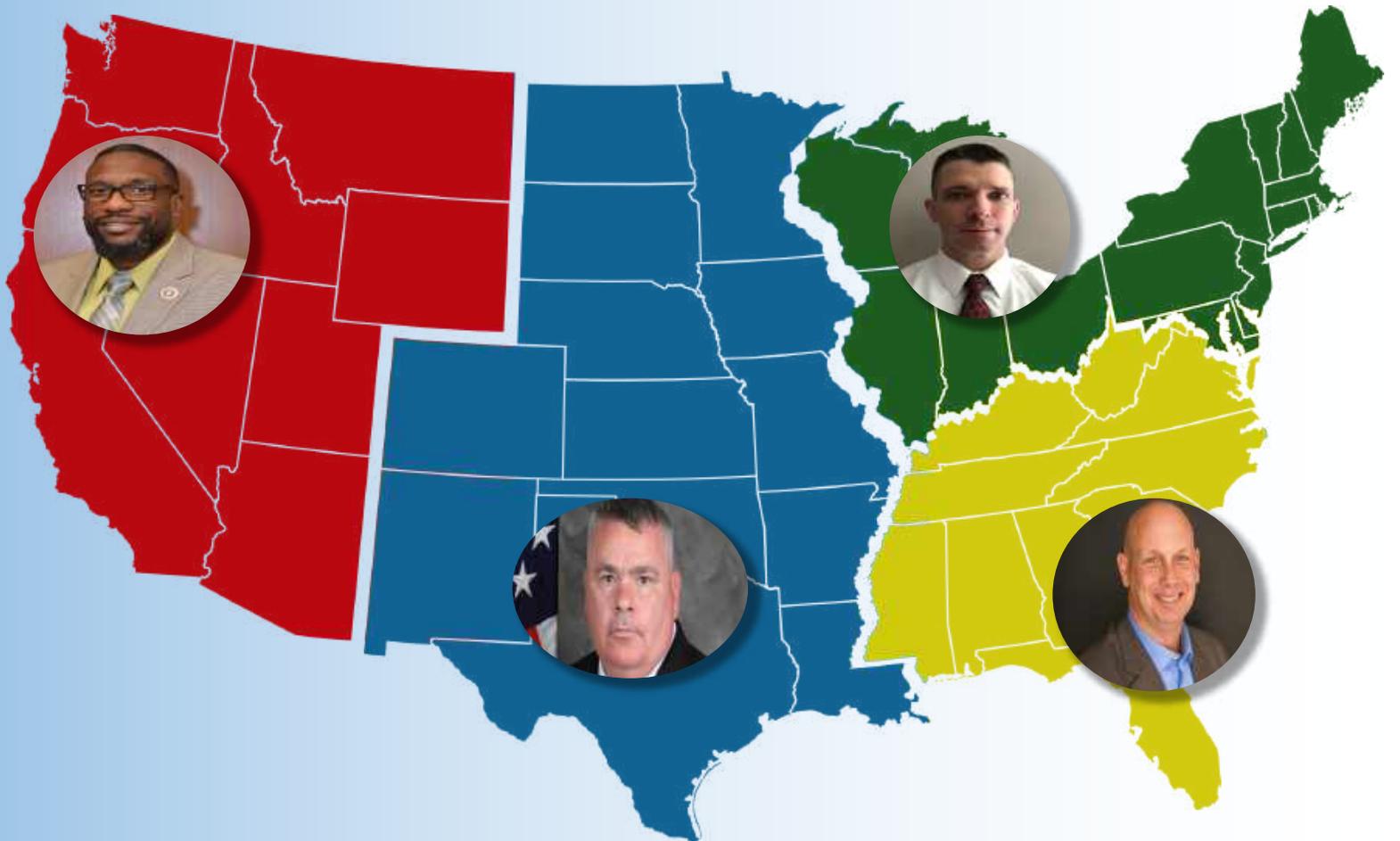
Get to Know

Your Regional Network Coordinator (RNC)

Regional Network Coordinators work to support transitioning Marines/Sailors and assist with connecting you to opportunities throughout the Marine for Life Network. In some cases, the RNC may be able to put you in touch with a Marine for Life Representative, local to your area. Feel free to contact an RNC nearest to you for more information!

Marine for Life Regional Map

www.marineforlife.org



Regional Map

West RNC:

Central RNC:

Southeast RNC:

Northeast RNC:

Mr. Jamal A. Brown



jamal.brown@usmc.mil

Mr. Timothy "Skip" Crawley



timothy.crawley@usmc.mil

Mr. Mark D. Munger



mark.munger@usmc.mil

Mr. Gregory Donahue



Gregory.donahue2@usmc.mil

Marine for Life congratulates **Todd James** on his recent retirement! Todd has been the Section Head for the Marine for Life Network for the last 5 years and has done incredible work to grow the program. Thank you for all you have done Todd, enjoy those endless weekends!



Congratulations, Todd!

Upon my retirement, I want to reach out to my family and let each of you know how much I appreciated being a part of the M4LNetwork. M4L is a special organization, and I have been blessed to be the flag bearer of all the tremendous work our team has accomplished during my time here. In August of last year, Marine veterans enjoyed a historic 1.7% unemployment rate. A far cry from the near double digits when this program began. Obviously, we are sailing in different waters today, but I'm confident that team M4L is up for the challenge.

The M4L Representatives throughout the country and the handful of full-time staff: Emily, Mark, Jamal, and Skip, are all now in the very capable hands of Mr. Rick Butler, who just accepted his well-deserved offer as the next Section Head.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the assistance of the thousands of non-profits, not-for-profits, and the good-hearted people that work within these organizations. There are too many to name, but you all know who you are. More importantly, so do our Marines. The USMC community is fortunate to have you as allies!

To the warriors within P&PR, MF Division, and all the terrific community and nationwide organizations who support their missions, I'll forever be an advocate for you!



*Todd James, USMC RET
RET Military Veteran Advocate*

UPCOMING Virtual Hiring & Networking Events, October - December 2020

**AS THE SITUATION WITH COVID-19
CONTINUES TO EVOLVE, M4L
RECOMMENDS ADHERING TO YOUR
STATE/LOCAL REGULATIONS + CDC
GUIDELINES**



Visit the link below for events offered by Recruit Military (RM)

<https://success.recruitmilitary.com/events/schedule>

Visit the link below for events offered by Hiring Our Heroes (HOH)

<https://events.hiringourheroes.org/c/calendar/a7a5b351-8807-4343-8561-c757c022600f>

- October 6, 2020: Central Region Virtual Career Fair: Online, 1100 – 1500 CT (RM)
- October 7, 2020: Virtual Career Summit: Opportunities for Veterans: 1300 – 1500 ET (HOH)
- October 8, 2020: Pittsburgh Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 ET (RM)
- October 21, 2020: Virtual Career Summit: Joint Base San Antonio: 1400 – 1600 ET (HOH)
- October 22, 2020: Detroit Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 ET (RM)
- October 22, 2020: Norfolk Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 ET (RM)
- October 28, 2020: Virtual Career Summit: Hawaii: 1000 – 1200 HAT (HOH)
- October 29, 2020: Tar Heel State Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 ET (RM)
- October 29, 2020: Indianapolis/St. Louis Areas Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 CT (RM)

- November 3, 2020: Western Region Virtual Career Fair: Online, 1100 – 1500 PT (RM)
- November 12, 2020: Southern California Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 PT (RM)
- November 12, 2020: Washington, DC/Baltimore Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 ET (RM)
- November 19, 2020: Dallas Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 CT (RM)
- November 19, 2020: Jacksonville Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 ET (RM)
- November 24, 2020: National Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1200 – 1600 ET (RM)

- December 3, 2020: Orlando Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 ET (RM)
- December 3, 2020: Seattle Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 PT (RM)
- December 10, 2020: Houston Virtual Career Fair for Veterans: Online, 1100 – 1500 CT (RM)
- December 15, 2020: Eastern Region Virtual Career Fair: Online, 1100 – 1500 ET (RM)

Movie Making Marine Shares Story and Insights to Success

James Dever is a prominent military technical advisor to the entertainment industry and a retired Marine Corps Sergeant Major. His work is extensive and includes films such as *The Last Samurai*, *Flags of Our Fathers*, and *American Sniper* to name a few!



"Honor, Courage, Commitment! I don't change my values to fit a situation," Dever said without hesitation. "The Marine Corps strengthened my ability to overcome hardships and dig deep within myself, which helped me transition from the Marines and continue on in the entertainment industry."

Though Dever assisted with several major productions including; *Heartbreak Ridge*, *The Last Samurai*, *Flags of Our Fathers*, *American Sniper* and many more, he credits the Marine Corps with imprinting its' values on his spirit and gifting him with the experiences that allowed him to achieve more than he ever thought possible, especially considering his humble upbringing.

"My family was poor, but I learned how to endure and use it as an advantage in life," said Dever. "Though my parents separated by the time I was 13 and I was the oldest of three boys living on welfare, I believe that just made me resilient. I did have a great childhood and my youth was a very positive experience. I got to play lots of sports growing up and was active outside all the time..."



"I still act like a sergeant major when I am working on set; give 100 percent, show the right and wrong way to do things, keep my commitments and lead by example," said Dever. "I make sure the actors have military style haircuts, follow regulations, and present a fit military appearance. I teach the history of the uniforms being used in the film to the actors wearing them because people have died in those uniforms and they must be respected. Respecting the history and sacrifice helps build a seriousness in the role." ...



For the complete public domain story, visit the link below:
<https://rb.gy/lvh9hn>

Story by Maj. Joel Searls
Photos provided courtesy of James Dever

Employment Resource

WHO IS JOHN DEERE?

John Deere is the world's leading provider of advanced products and services in agricultural, construction, forestry, and turf care equipment. ***John Deere's SkillBridge program is intended to help place service members in careers at participating dealerships and Deere factories nationwide.*** Most of the thousands of openings are for mechanics. Other openings include welders, assemblers, warehouse, parts, logistics, sales, and management.

WHY WORK FOR A JOHN DEERE DEALERSHIP?

John Deere is close to home. There are thousands of dealer locations nationwide who are actively hiring, so you can plant your roots near your community of choice. When working for a John Deere dealer you can count on:

- ✓ Competitive pay
- ✓ Advanced training
- ✓ Career development
- ✓ Openings nationwide

WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES AT JOHN DEERE FACTORIES?

John Deere production positions offer industry-leading benefits, competitive pay, and opportunities for advancement within the company. Production position availability is updated frequently with opportunities in assembly, weld, and machining. Machine repair, electricians, and other skilled positions are also available. Check out current openings any time at johndeere.jobs/wage.



Sign up today at:

www.JohnDeere.com/MilitaryCSP

WHAT IS THE JOHN DEERE DoD SKILLBRIDGE PROGRAM?

THE 3 PHASES ARE FLEXIBLE DEPENDING ON SERVICE MEMBER'S TIMING AND FACTORY/DEALERSHIP NEEDS:

Phase 1: Series of 31 self-paced web-based training classes for both service and parts paths

- ❖ Open to all who have targeted mechanic and logistics Military Occupational Specialty (MOS)
- ❖ Guaranteed interview with participating dealership or Deere factory upon completion of classes
- ❖ Must have access to a computer

Phase 2: Hands-on Internship at a participating John Deere Dealership or factory nationwide

- ❖ Requires successful interview with participating dealership or Deere factory
- ❖ No more than 40 hours per week
- ❖ Up to 6 months, subject to command approval
- ❖ Unpaid
- ❖ Uniforms and tools are provided for mechanics during internship
- ❖ Most openings are for mechanics; there some openings for parts, logistics, welders, and sales
- ❖ Entry level mechanics who plan to participate in the 2-year John Deere Technician Program are also eligible for this phase

Optional Phase 3 :(for mechanics only) 1-week hands-on training at John Deere's Davenport Training Center in Davenport, Iowa

- ❖ Prerequisite: successful completion of Phase 1 service training
- ❖ Occurs during internship or shortly after being hired by participating dealer
- ❖ Tuition provided by John Deere
- ❖ Lodging, meals, and travel provided by John Deere Dealers

Training Certificates are awarded from John Deere University after Phase 1 and Phase 3.



JOHN DEERE

Employment Resource

How has the program been doing so far? The John Deere SkillBridge Program was approved by Department of Defense on 20 April 2020 and since that time through 3 September 2020 there have been 178 inquiries from all services. ***The Marine Corps leads the way with 40% of the inquiries.***

Since inception of the program, there have been 143 service members enrolled in Phase 1, which consists of free online training. As a result, over 100 interviews at 70 participating dealerships nationwide have been conducted. ***Many of these interviews have turned into job offers and direct hires.***

As of 3 September, the Phase 2 internship currently has 24 participants. ***A total of 12 service members have been hired with full time offers, to start upon completion of the internship.*** Some transitioning service members have not yet started their jobs or are currently in internships awaiting separation from the service.

What Marines are saying about their experience with the John Deere?



Corporal Jacob Springston with his GSD Kaiser and a 250G Deere Excavator

Corporal Jacob Springston, Maintenance Management Specialist with Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 371, Yuma contacted John Deere about the SkillBridge Program in May 2020. Since then he worked diligently to complete Phase 1 training, which means finishing 31 classes of the John Deere Accelerated Technician Online Training. Jacob will start an internship with the John Deere dealer, P&K Equipment in Arkansas beginning in September 2020. He plans to be available for transition to full time employment in January 2021.

Corporal Springston was highly motivated to share at a recent phone interview ***"One of the great things about the John Deere program was that I was able to pick a location near my home and this will be helpful to start my post transition career back home, near my family. I appreciate the flexibility John Deere corporate had to get my transition set up."***

WELCOME TO YOUR NEW MISSION.

HOW TO SIGN UP:

1. Fill out interest form at www.JohnDeere.com/MilitaryCSP
2. Secure command authorization
3. Contact local SkillBridge Program Manager



With Phase 1 training under his belt, Corporal Juan Leija had three job offers extended from three different John Deere dealerships in Texas!

For questions, contact
MilitaryCSP@JohnDeere.com



EMPOWERING AMERICA'S VETERANS



Mr. Skip Crawley, Central Region Network Coordinator, had a chance to speak with Major Steph Drake, Executive Director at NextOps Veterans, about their mission and how they help veterans translate their military training into successful civilian careers!

Major Steph Drake is one of the Houston M4L Representatives. Major Drake is a Logistics Officer who has been the XO of a Security Company in Fallujah; CO, Headquarters Company of a Marine Logistics Regiment (MLR); S-3 of a MLR, and as the S-4A, Marine Barracks 8th & I, responsible for cataloging all items in the Commandant's House before and after renovation. In October Major Drake will assume the duties of Region OIC, Central Region, M4L Program. In her civilian career, she is the Executive Director of NextOp.

Where did you work before NextOp and why did you switch jobs?

Prior to NextOp I worked for Shell Oil Company, most recently as the Logistics Operations Manager for lubricants products for half of North America and previously at the Deer Park Refinery/Chemical plant managing all warehousing and distribution. I truly loved my supply chain and logistics roles in Shell, and it was a tough decision to leave. I am a logistics junkie and Shell had so many wonderful people. I also grew a lot as a leader and logistician. Meanwhile, I'd had the privilege of learning about and working with the NextOp team as part of my Marine for Life role and was excited about the opportunity to serve the young enlisted population in their career endeavors. I've had the privilege of serving on Active Duty and in the Reserves. My NextOp team is nothing short of phenomenal and "all-in" to deliver on behalf of our candidates. It truly makes my day to see our placements and hear directly from the candidates that we personally help from initial intake through resume/interview prep and all the way to career placement and beyond.

What are some of the synergies between being Exec Dir, NextOp and a M4L Rep?

There are so many synergies! I love that I have a pulse on the Marine Corps and our transitioning Marines, Marine families, and veterans to bring to the NextOp and Veteran Service Organization community. I also get the chance to meet and learn about many other organizations that our Marines and their families can get great support from and enjoy being able to share that within the M4L community.

What is the mission of NextOp? What is the core focus of Next Op?

Our core focus is on helping transitioning service members and veterans within our E-3 - E7 population successfully navigate the complex "you don't know what you don't know" world of career search. We see careers as the first major step in success transitioning out of the service and a building block to a great future as a community member, corporate colleague and leader and veteran. We love that we have the privilege of serving so many talented junior enlisted and highlighting to each of them that they are, in fact, more skilled and more of an asset than they may have thought, but specific resume, interview prep and job search approaches are needed to enable that success.

Community Resource

Discuss the post-Coronavirus job market.

Wow! So much has changed and continues to change. Prior to COVID veteran unemployment was extremely low and the name of the game was underemployment. At present, that has radically shifted, and unemployment has increased substantially, is expected to continue to increase and there is significant uncertainty across most industries and geographic areas - i.e. the problem is not confined to an industry or area you can simply avoid. Here are my top pieces of advice:

- (1)** Be ready. Resume ready. Interview ready. Why? So that when you see a job posting you can post ASAP, and then follow up with intentional networking to try and connect to someone in the company that may be able to help. Do not wait to apply. The recruiters and hiring managers are getting so many resumes. At some point they will call it and look at the first batch of X. Be in the first batch. But...
- (2)** ... don't just shove an untailed resume and cover letter their way. Help the hiring manager see you in the job and the recruiter and hiring manager see you at the company by doing your research on the company mission, the role specifics, and including key words and references in both the cover letter and resume. Always make sure you detail your quantitative impact in your resume. This is something many of our candidates need help with and that my team is really good at. Register and take us up on the support.
- (3)** Register... we have so much to share with each of our candidates in a 1:1 environment. If you meet our candidate pool requirements, register and we look forward to working with you. If you are a senior SNCO or Officer, please point your Marines and Sailors our way.
- (4)** Don't limit your job search to one geographic area. The world is virtual right now and many jobs may stay that way.

Any last thoughts?

I would mention that NextOp is still getting people placed.

Believe it or not, through Aug 31st we've helped place 224 middle-enlisted veterans into careers in 2020, with an average timeline from intake to placement of <33 days, despite a very ROUGH job market. This is nowhere near our normal numbers, however a tremendous number in light of the current economy.

We are Houston based and NOLA based from an office perspective but serve and visit all bases and areas. All of our employment coordinators are SNCOs who've walked in the same shoes. Our corporate partners often have jobs outside of Texas, CO, and Louisiana as well.



"Through NextOp I was connected with Dina who with no hesitation reviewed my resume and was able to provide critical and positive feedback on what I should consider adding to my resume. After a few creative phone and email communications, I was able to have a resume I was truly proud of. Because of NextOp and the skills of Dina, I was noticed by employers and recently accepted an offer with a wonderful company."

MICHEAL HANCE, USMC VETERAN

For more information, visit <https://nextopvets.org/>

7

TIPS

FOR VIRTUAL
LEARNING!*Written by Ms. Patricia Hackett*

Let's face it, everyone is different when it comes to their preferred type of learning environment.

Some people like classroom training, while others enjoy virtual instruction. Some even prefer a hybrid style learning environment, which offers a combination of traditional classroom time, in conjunction with virtual learning. However, nowadays, many people (including children) are required to take classes 100% online due to the current global pandemic.

With this in mind, here are seven basic tips to help adjust and adapt to a 100% virtual learning environment:

- 1 Routine- You need to learn your circadian rhythm (body clock). Ask your self how many hours of sleep do you need per night? What is your most energetic time of day or evening?
- 2 Sign yourself up for courses that interest you. This way you will be motivated to apply yourself to your studies.
- 3 Read your syllabus in its entirety. Most importantly read any announcements or emails your instructor sends out. Read all your modules in entirety too.
- 4 Email your instructor for any clarification or questions about assignments. Email the instructor as often as needed. Instructors do not mind. They want to hear from students and welcome your emails.
- 5 Do not procrastinate on module assignments, discussions, and responses. If you procrastinate you are subject to lose points for each day late towards your grade.
- 6 Set up and designate a study area free of distractions, such as television, video games, people, etc.
- 7 Be prepared to spend a minimum 25 hours per week of study time per class. The time will be required to prepare an excellent assignment. The time spent studying will result in sustaining a good grade point average during the semester. Your dedication can result in an excellent final grade.



Education Spotlight!



SSGT. MICHAEL CLARK, USMC – UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO



"Before going to school, I thought it was just a check in the box for some employer to hire you, but it's way more than that. There is so much out there to learn and to expand upon before handling other critical issues."

- Staff Sergeant Michael Clark, Marine Corps veteran and Civil Engineering student.

Staff Sergeant Michael Clark is earning his commission through the Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho. **He will graduate in the fall of 2020 with a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering.** SSgt Clark has become a

role model to the shipman and future officers. He attributes the skills gained in the Marine Corps to his success in college. The

Marine Corps taught him discipline, time management skills, and helped him obtain social skills that relate to teamwork. SSgt Clark described Moscow as a hidden jewel with its countless outdoor activities such as skiing, which he does every winter. These factors, along with the low cost of tuition, and the phenomenal engineering program, created a situation where the U of I "Just made too much sense" for him.

Semper Fi, SSgt. Clark...

*Keep Up the
Good Work!*

Visit the link below to learn more about SSgt Clark and his inspiring journey at the University of Idaho:



<https://rb.gy/2i6mcs>

Recommend Reading

Knowledge is Power.

Mission Transition: Navigating the Opportunities and Obstacles to Your Post Military Career

Reviewed by Mark Munger

“Mission Transition” is designed to cover all aspects of the career search for someone transitioning from active duty. It is very approachable; Louis utilizes personal quotes from various veterans to assist in re-enforcing his ideas. He includes exercises for the reader to be able to make this a useable tool for the transition journey.

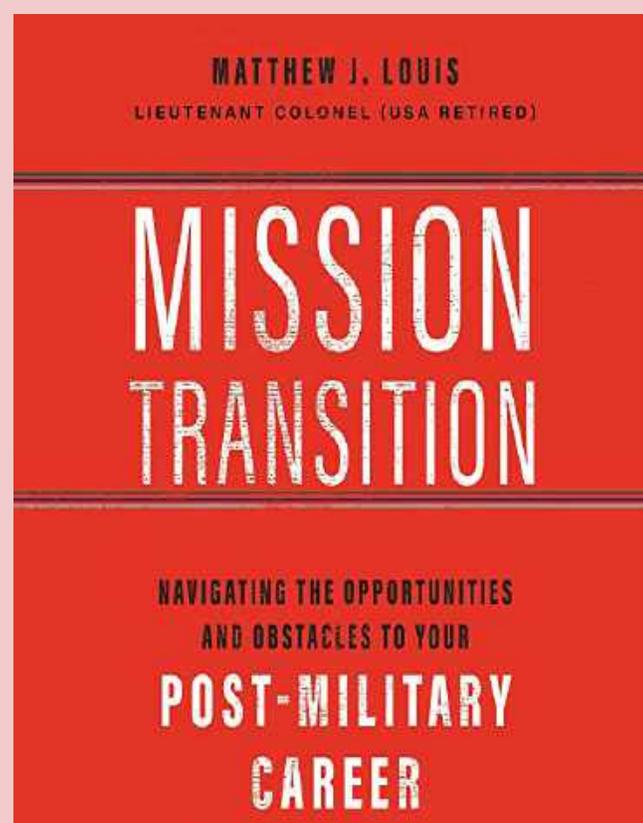
Early in the book, Louis relates the importance of orienting your map to find True North equating it with the veteran needing to find their personal True North. This True North will help the veteran, .5 percent of the population to get hired by the 99.5 percent.

Louis provides very good explanations of multiple career paths veterans tend to follow in the work force. He supports these paths with those requiring higher education or certifications and how continuing education works into preparation.

The chapter on developing your resume is on its own, an excellent reason to read this book. From comparing the differences between the federal and civilian resume; to discussing how to approach the verbiage you include in your resume.

Personal branding and networking are well covered, providing tips for getting started and sustaining networking connections all the while developing the brand of who you want to be post active duty.

I believe “Mission Transition” will not only assist with the multiple aspects of preparing for a new career, by providing reasons why. Multiple exercises are included to help you along your way. In the end, I believe this book meets the mark for all ranks, I highly recommend this book.



Matt Louis (LtCol, USA RET) is one of the nation's leading experts in career transition for veterans and public service professionals. He advises veterans on their transition efforts and employers on hiring programs designed to successfully assimilate these valuable talent pools. Matt serves as the veteran Transition Assistance officer for his West Point class, leads the workforce development committee for YourNexStage in Washington DC, and actively serves several other veteran collaboratives around the country.





TRANSITION TRIVIA

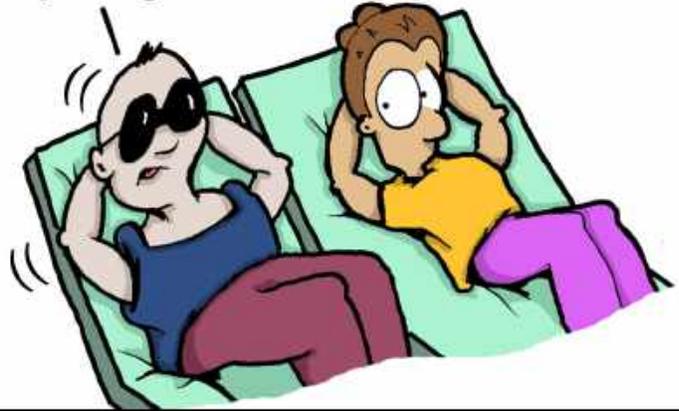
The "Risk Taker"

"My boy friends mom is hooking me up with a job..., I'll meet her after I get out"



The "Not Worried"

"I got some irons in the fire..., not really worried about it, just gonna chill for awhile"



The "Desperate"

"Hello..., We met 2 years ago..., I was wondering if you had any jobs open..?"



The "Double Dipper"

"Still on terminal leave, Double dippin..., Life after the Marines is so much easier when you use the Marine for Life Network"



WHICH ARE YOU?



**MARINE
FOR LIFE
NETWORK**

www.marineforlife.org Company/marine-for-life-network

866.645.8762 /MarineForLifeNetwork /M4L_Network



CONNECTING MARINES WITH OPPORTUNITIES

BENEFITS OF JOINING



Gain access

to our LinkedIn networks with ability to post discussions, job openings, and other opportunities to transitioning Marines and family members



Get added

to our resource repository that we use to connect transitioning and Veteran Marines to employers and resources



Be introduced

to your closest Marine For Life Representative who can connect you to the M4L Network community on a local level

About Us

Marine For Life Network (M4L) connects transitioning Marines and their family members to employment, education, and community service resources that aid in their career and life goals when they transition from military service. To expand our network, the Marine For Life Network continually seeks to connect and collaborate with Veteran-friendly employers and other services.

Eligibility Requirements

Do you think your organization is a good fit for the Marine For Life Network?

- Provide resources at no cost
- Feedback on hiring/selection process of Marines we connect you with
- Keep the Marine For Life Network updated on current contact information

How to Get Started

Visit our website and complete our [Military Friendly Resource form](#):

A Marine For Life Network staff member will contact you and introduce you to the network

Join your respective M4L LinkedIn group

- 1 Create a new post on the group and introduce yourself and your organization
- 2 Post your job openings in the group
- 3 Network with group members

Connect

With Marine for Life!



Follow the Marine for Life Network on social media to keep up-to-date with the latest military-friendly employment, education, and other veteran and community resources:



**Company/
marine-for-life-network**



MarineforLifeNetwork



M4L_Network



866.645.8762



Marineforlife.org