

Young Marines

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Congratulations on your unit's participation in Young Marines Veterans Appreciation Week (YMVAW) 2004. We apologize for the delay of delivering your unit's flag devices. We had a larger turnout than we expected this year and the flag devices were on back order for some time.

Here are some of the highlights of the 2004 YMVAW campaign:

- Our Young Marines reportedly reached over 17,000 veterans during Young Marines Veterans Appreciation Week 2004. That's twice as many as the 2003 campaign.
- Sixty-six units submitted participation reports prior to the event. Those 66 units all received 4 promotional posters, free-of-charge from YMNHQ. Of those units, 37 were sent celebrity photos. Celebrity photos were sent on a first come, first serve basis.
- The 69 units that submitted After Action Reports will be listed under the "Roll Call" section for their participation in Veterans Week in the Vol. 1, 2005 edition of the *Young Marine Esprit* magazine, and have been sent flag devices, free-of-charge, from YMNHQ for each Young Marine that participated. Those Young Marines are authorized to wear the flag device on their most senior ribbon.
- A new feature was added to the Young Marines website for units to report electronically instead of faxing or mailing their reports as in years past. This new feature was well received.
- Units were provided downloadable campaign toolkits online to assist them in the planning of their campaigns.
- Broadcast emails were sent out (to those who subscribe) reminding units of all of the various deadlines associated with YMVAW (participation and after action report deadlines, as well as, reminders of the *Esprit* magazine deadline to submit their unit's articles and photos from YMVAW).
- ***YOU ASKED and WE LISTENED!*** Due to the multiple requests from our units, we are pleased to announce that next year we will provide a Young Marine Veterans Appreciation Week Ribbon versus the flag device.

Because your unit filled out the After Action Report, your Young Marines that participated in YMVAW are authorized to wear the enclosed flag devices on their most senior ribbon.

Please note: the flag device goes on their most senior ribbon. There has been some confusion in the past with Young Marines wearing this device on their Basic Ribbon. Young Marines should only wear the flag device on their Basic Ribbon if this is their most senior ribbon. For questions, please contact our YMVAW Coordinator, Janelle Johnsen at: vetsweek@youngmarines.com

Mark your calendars, Palm Pilots, unit training calendars, etc... **The 5th Annual Young Marines Veterans Appreciation Week is Nov. 6 -13, 2005.**

*Celebrating 40 years of
"Strengthening the lives of America's youth"
1965-2005*