

Dear Sir or Ma'am:

We are the Greater Lake County Young Marines located in Mentor, Ohio and are proud to be a part of our nation's premiere, award-winning program for boys and girls from the ages of eight through the completion of high school.

The Young Marines strengthens the lives of America's youth by teaching the importance of self-confidence, academic achievement, honoring our veterans, good citizenship, community service, and living a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

The Young Marines promotes the mental, moral and physical development of its members. The program focuses on character building and leadership and promotes a lifestyle that is conducive to being productive members of society. The Young Marines is the premier youth organization in its Drug Demand Reduction efforts.

Our unit is supported by the local Marine Corps League Col. Justice M. Chambers Detachment. We currently meet one Saturday and consecutive Sunday a month from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. Our drill location is Gunny's Hall, 8720 Twinbrook Road, Mentor, Ohio 44060.

Upon joining a local Young Marine unit, youth undergo a 26-hour orientation program, generally spread out over several monthly meetings. This orientation is called Recruit Training. The youth learn general subjects such as history, customs and courtesies, close order drill, physical fitness, and military rank structure.

After graduating from Young Marine Recruit Training, the youth can learn even more new skills, earn rank, wear the Young Marine uniform and work toward ribbon awards. Young Marines earn ribbons for achievement in areas such as leadership, community service, swimming, academic excellence, first aid and drug resistance education.

Please visit our unit website <u>www.glcyoungmarines.org</u> for more information. We are a 501©(3) non-profit organization and we appreciate donations of any size to promote our program and offset expenses.

Sincerely,

William J. Sickles

U.S.M.C. Veteran / Unit Commander