



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## “The People’s Marathon” Celebrates Over 20,000 Finishes

**QUANTICO, VA (Oct 30, 2018)** – The 43rd Marine Corps Marathon (MCM) on Sunday, Oct 28, 2018 started at 7:55 a.m. with a skydive presented by Leidos, Marine Corps Osprey flyover, Battle Colors of the Marine Corps from Marine Barracks 8<sup>th</sup> and I and the Howitzer blast coinciding with the firing of the starting pistol by Chief Warrant Officer 4 Hershel “Woody” Williams, the sole surviving U.S. Marine WWII Medal of Honor recipient.

Leading the crowd of the 20,700 finishers was local runner and Washington, D.C. native Jeffrey Stein, 32, with a time of 2:22:49. The top female finisher was Jenny Mendez, 38, of San Jose, Costa Rica with 2:40:19, who logged her second MCM victory.

The Challenge Cup, where members of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines travel thousands of miles to compete against the U.S. Marine Corps All-Marine team, celebrated its 42st year of the friendly rivalry. Both male and female divisions were won by the U.S. Marine Corps. The male lead was 2ndLt Dylan Villescascas with 2:28:17. The female top finisher 1stLt Lindsay Carrick, also placed third overall for the MCM women top finishers. The All-Marine women’s team has won twelve out of the sixteen competitions.

The men’s and women’s divisions in the Armed Forces Competition, where military runners representing each Armed Forces branch compete, were both won by the U.S. Army. The U.S. Marine Corps placed second in the women’s division and U.S. Navy captured second place for the men.

Impressive and noteworthy finishes were also met from the following:

- The overall top hand cycle finishers were Omar Duran, 39, from New York, NY with 1:21:28 and Tisha Knickerbocker, 27, with 2:21:54 from Jamesville, NY.
- 2018 Hall of Fame Inductees:  
Married couple Rob Taylor (5:28:02) and Donna Taylor (5:42:49) added to their record of most husband-wife finishes with their 62<sup>nd</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> finishes. LtCol Mark Cucuzzella, USAF, finished with a time of 3:02:46.
- Previous MCM winners:  
Sarah Bishop, 2017 MCM top female finisher, fought hard and finished in fourth place with 2:49:50. The top female finisher from 1998 and 2000 Donna Moore completed the 43<sup>rd</sup> MCM in 5:56:29.
- Finish line proposals:  
Royal Marine Sgt Robert Garthland and Emily Scrace added serious bling to their finisher medals when Garthland got down on one knee after completing the MCM. Wearing combat fatigues and boots while carrying a daysack, Garthland finished with a time of 5:44:26. Scrace completed the MCM10K with a time of 48:58 and met her now fiancé at the finish line. Both traveled from the United Kingdom to run the Marine Corps Marathon and MCM10K to raise money for a Royal Marines Charity. A second proposal occurred between locals Drew Taylor (5:50:07) and Amber Harrison (6:16:23), who ran the MCM side by side. Their special moment was shared with thirty friends and family.



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- Oldest finishers:  
Age is just a number for the MCM oldest finisher Nat Shaffir, 81, from Silver Springs, MD who finished in 7:17:22. An impressive finish with 6:32:08 was completed by the oldest female finisher, Jacqueline Bardol, 77, from Alexandria, VA.
- Jump rope from start to finish:  
Carlos Coffman, 57, from Bowie, MD jumped rope while running the entire 26.2 mile course with a time of 6:19:01.
- Sponsor participants included:  
Bryan Evanko, President of Government Business for Cigna Corporation, ran the MCM in 4:04:58, alongside U.S. Army MSgt Raymundo Soto. Sean Huffman, vice president of sports medicine at MedStar Health, finished his 26.2 mile run in 4:06:20. Sally Brown, Senior Brand Manager, Vaseline, finished the MCM in 4:10:02. Laura Lane, President of Global Public Affairs at UPS, crossed the finish line of the Marathon at 5:06:40. Roger Krone, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Leidos, fired the starting pistol then completed the MCM10K in 47:44. David Cordani, the President and CEO of Cigna Corporation, finished the MCM10K in 1:19:15.

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*The Marine Corps Marathon (MCM), known as “The People’s Marathon,” promotes physical fitness and generates community goodwill while showcasing the high standards and discipline of the United States Marine Corps. Annually ranked as one of the largest marathons in the US and the world, the MCM welcomes runners from all 50 states and more than 60 countries. The MCM is presented by Arlington County, Brooks, Cigna and Leidos. No federal or Marine Corps endorsement is implied. Connect with the Marine Corps Marathon on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [Flickr](#). #RunWithTheMarines*