



The Grunt

November 2017

Marine Corps League
Lakeland Detachment 744



Newsletter

Editor: Ken Gysbers

201-895-3358 kragsysbers@yahoo.com

Officers 2017

Commandant: Charles Huha

Chuhah1@msn.com

973-835-2315



Judge Advocate/Range Officer: Ray Sears

rcsears93@aol.com

973-694-8457



Senior Vice Commandant: Mike McNulty

Simms156@gmail.com

732-213-5264



Chaplain: Les Derbyshire

201-644-8679



Jr. Vice Commandant: Kevin O Leary

Kloleary@msn.com

201-644-8078



Sgt at Arms: Frank Sanclementi

frankusmc1@verizon.net

973-839-1499



Paymaster/ Adjutant: Peter Alvarez

palvarez1942@hotmail.com

973-839-5693



Secretary: Theresa Muttel

thmut-

973-764-9565

tel@hotmail.com



Service Officer: Ed Koreke

Koreke@optonline.net

201-317-1678



Quartermaster: Ken

kragsysbers@yahoo.com

201-895-3358

Gysbers



Commandant's Corner

Marine Corps League Lakeland Detachment 744 November 2017

On November 10, we happily and eagerly celebrate the birthday of our beloved Corps. November is also the month we honor the living and those departed who made the supreme sacrifice to preserve our freedoms and those of freedom loving peoples throughout the world.

After four years of Carnage in Europe, the giant cannons finally fell silent at 11:00 AM on 11 November, 1918. On the eleventh hour, on the eleventh day, of the eleventh month, the allies and Germany signed an armistice. The Great War, The World War, the War to end all Wars mercifully ended and the whole world rejoiced. Thereafter, the eleventh day of November became known as Armistice Day throughout the western world. In Canada, it became Remembrance Day.

In the United States, Congress officially recognized Armistice Day in 1926. Twelve years later it became a national holiday. Unfortunately, three decades and two wars later, America realized that the world order had been equally preserved by veterans of World War II and the Korean War. In 1954, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President, signed an act which changed the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

In 1968, Congress changed the day of observance to the fourth Monday in October. Veterans Day had become just another long three day weekend. The reason for the holiday had been forgotten by many. Fortunately, public outcry rose steadily over the next ten years. Finally, bowing to public pressure, Congress reversed itself in 1978 and the eleventh day of November again became the day on which Americans observe Veterans Day.

By law, Veterans Day is set aside to honor our nation's military veterans, both living and departed, who served in time of war. The focal point for national observance is at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. At 11:00 AM on 11 November, a color guard that includes all military services executes, "Present Arms". The President of the United States lays a wreath at the tomb, steps back, salutes and a bugler plays taps. A grateful nation remembers.

We are here today to pay tribute and honor all veterans, but we especially remember our Marine veterans. All of us know what it took to earn the title "Marine" and once earned, it is something that no one can take away from us.

As we celebrate this Veterans Day, let us especially remember our too soon departed Brother Marine Kenneth "Ken" Fackina. Ken was the Commandant when I rejoined the Detachment and I will always remember his sincerity, kindness, warm smile and infectious laugh. Rest in peace MY FRIEND, but I wish you were here. Semper Fi.

God Bless America, the United States Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League

Semper Fidelis,

Charlie

HONOR - COURAGE - COMMITMENT

Lakeland Detachment Happenings

November

3rd: Marine Corps Ball Macaluso's, Hawthorne 1700
6th: Paramus Veterans Home Bingo 1400
10th: Color Guard Ceremony at Express Scripts in Franklin Lakes
10th: Veterans Fair at Stryker Orthopedics Mahwah 1000 - 1500
10th: Marine Corps Birthday - Mack's, Pompton Lakes - 1800
11th: Veterans Day Ceremony Veterans Park, Pompton Lakes 1000
14th: Executive Board Meeting 1900
16th: Detachment Meeting 1930
18th: 3rd Saturday Breakfast 0800-1200
19th: Rose Event—Stop & Shop Wyckoff 0900-1700

December

4th: Paramus Veterans Home Bingo 1400
9th: Eagle Scout Court of Honor David Bellauro Troop 12 Livingston
(Need 1-2 volunteers)
11th: Executive Board Meeting 1900
16th: 3rd Saturday Breakfast 0800-1200
28th: Detachment Meeting 1930

Best Wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving





**MARINE CORPS ORDER No. 47 (Series 1921)
HEADQUARTERS
U.S. MARINE CORPS Washington, November 1, 1921**

The following will be read to the command on the 10th of November, 1921, and hereafter on the 10th of November of every year. Should the order not be received by the 10th of November, 1921, it will be read upon receipt.

On November 10, 1775, a Corps of Marines was created by a resolution of Continental Congress. Since that date many thousand men have borne the name "Marine". In memory of them it is fitting that we who are Marines should commemorate the birthday of our corps by calling to mind the glories of its long and illustrious history.

The record of our corps is one which will bear comparison with that of the most famous military organizations in the world's history. During 90 of the 146 years of its existence the Marine Corps has been in action against the Nation's foes. From the Battle of Trenton to the Argonne, Marines have won foremost honors in war, and in the long eras of tranquility at home, generation after generation of Marines have grown gray in war in both hemispheres and in every corner of the seven seas, that our country and its citizens might enjoy peace and security.

In every battle and skirmish since the birth of our corps, Marines have acquitted themselves with the greatest distinction, winning new honors on each occasion until the term "Marine" has come to signify all that is highest in military efficiency and soldierly virtue.

This high name of distinction and soldierly repute we who are Marines today have received from those who preceded us in the corps. With it we have also received from them the eternal spirit which has animated our corps from generation to generation and has been the distinguishing mark of the Marines in every age. So long as that spirit continues to flourish Marines will be found equal to every emergency in the future as they have been in the past, and the men of our Nation will regard us as worthy successors to the long line of illustrious men who have served as "Soldiers of the Sea" since the founding of the Corps.

**JOHN A. LEJEUNE,
Major General
Commandant**

10 November 2017

A Message from the Commandant of the Marine Corps

Seventy – Five years ago today, after months of fighting at Henderson Field and along Edson's Ridge, Marines on Guadalcanal spent the night of 10 November 1942 planning and preparing. Although the Battle of Guadalcanal would continue for three more months, the plans laid on our Corps' most sacred day became integral to the amphibious campaigns that followed. Success at Guadalcanal proved to be the turning point that ultimately paved the way for Allied victory in the Pacific. Those warriors defended their positions in brutal conditions against a formidable enemy and triumphed. Through every major conflict our Nation has seen since the Revolutions, Marines have performed their duty with utmost courage, devotion and raw determination. Their valiant deeds in the face of overwhelming challenges give us confidence and inspire us to meet the trials of today. As we pause to celebrate the birth of our Corps this year, we honor the legacy that was passed down to us and we recommit ourselves to carrying those traditions into the future.

This November 10th marks 242 years of warfighting excellence. At places like Trenton, Tripoli, Chapultepec, Belleau Wood, Guadalcanal, Chosin, Khe Sanh, Fallajah, Sangin and so many others, Marines have fought with an inner spirit—a spirit that bonds us, binds us together as a cohesive team. It's that intangible spirit that has formed the foundation of our warfighting reputation for the past 242 years. Now it's our responsibility to ensure we honor and carry on that legacy. The American people expect a Corps of men and women who are committed, selfless, willing to sacrifice, who epitomize honor, courage, commitment, virtue and character. We owe our Nation and our predecessors no less.

Today, as we celebrate our 242nd birthday, we must remember who we are, where we came from and why we're here. We must remember the past, honor those who are no longer with us, focus on today's battles and get ready for tomorrow. We can and will prevail as we always have, in any clime and place. But we must prevail together, united by the unyielding spirit in each of us that makes our Corps unique—that willingness to put our Corps and fellow Marines ahead of ourselves. Victory in battle comes through the integrated efforts of many - Teamwork. We value the sacrifices and contribution of every Marine and Sailor as well as our family members without whose support we would not be able to accomplish our mission. And we remain committed to being our Nation's Expeditionary Force in Readiness that sets the standard for honor, discipline and courage. I am proud of each and every one of you.

Happy Birthday Marines!

Semper Fidelis,

**Robert B. Neller
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps**



Service Officers Report November 2017

As I sit here at the keyboard getting ready to put some thoughts into words, looking out the window I can't help but notice that the leaves are changing colors and nature is reminding us that as was once said in a song, "Times they are a changing".

For many years Paul Thompson has worked tirelessly for our Detachment, serving both our members and our hundreds of veterans in our regional Veterans Homes. I remember the first bingo that I went to at the Paramus Nursing Home. Paul came in smiling and greeting everyone. His energy was infectious. He was at the front of the room calling out the numbers for Bingo and telling jokes to the Veterans that were there. You could not help but notice that our Senior Veterans who were residents of the Nursing Home had been looking forward to his banter. At the end of the day, we walked out together and he thanked me for helping out at the Bingo. He talked about how the residents so look forward to our monthly visits. That was at least three years ago. As time went by I found myself getting more involved with the Bingo's and other events that the Detachment holds. It wasn't long before I volunteered to join Paul and became the Assistant Service Officer. Gosh I hate that word, "Volunteer". While helping out as the service officer you come to realize that its not a job but a vocation, and none more rewarding than helping out members, veterans and their families.

Well Paul has done more than his share helping our Veterans as our Service Officer. He has created a great team of Volunteers for our Bingo Program. He has organized BBQs for all three nursing homes. Spent more hours than you can imagine lending comfort and support to our Veterans that are in hospice. He helps our Veterans and their Families completing the maze of paperwork required to get a Veteran into our Nursing Homes.

The time has come for Paul to spend more time with his family and his ever growing Tribe of Grand children.

I will be attempting to fill his shoes going forward. But Paul will not be leaving altogether, I've asked Paul to continue doing that Maze of paperwork that is required to be filled out before acceptance into a Nursing Home. (Actually I doubt that I am smart enough to fill it out).

Now on to business.

We have only 2 more Bingos scheduled for this year. We have one on November 6th at 2:00 PM and the last one for December 4th at 2:00 PM.

Now I know why everyone groans when I speak at the Monthly Meetings.

As always any questions on Veterans Benefits, please feel free to call me at 1-201-317-1678.

Oh, by the way, I've asked John Harris to join me and he has accepted the position of Assistant Service Officer. For those that don't know who John is, he is the Passaic County Veterans Service Officer. So all questions I can't answer will be sent to him.

Ed Koreke



November 16th Detachment Meeting Presentation

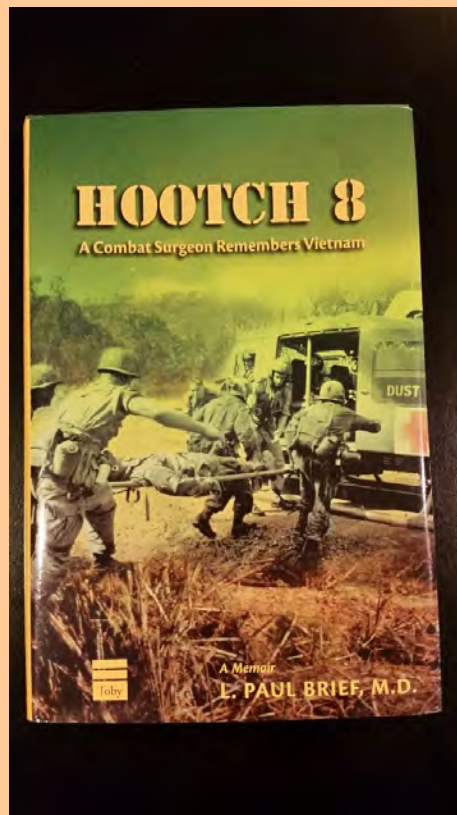
Dr. Paul Brief will be presenting his talk:

“They got Purple Hearts

We got Broken Hearts.

A Battalion Surgeon Remembers Vietnam”

An overview of his year of service at the First Medical Battalion(Danang). In Nam, tending to injured Marines, heavily slanted toward the Medical view point, as well as the great camaraderie among the docs. Video/Slide presentation, followed by Q&A and book signing:



Editor's Page

Greetings Marines and welcome to the "New" Grunt. Congratulations to our newly installed officers and remember that we are always looking for a "Few Good Marines" to step up and help out. Without us, there is no MCL Detachment 744 so it is important to help out and understudy the current officer positions. Many hands make light work.

On September 29th, our detachment lost one of its most dedicated workers, Ken Fackina. Ken was a past Commandant (2008-2010), our Quartermaster for many years and co-chair of our Marine Corps Ball. He truly embodied the meaning of Semper Fidelis and will be missed by all hands. Thank you to the many Marines that attended his wake and funeral services. He would have been truly honored. This month's Grunt is dedicated to Ken and his long time service to the Marine Corps League. It is my honor to step up to the Quartermasters position and I know that I have some very big shoes to fill.

I apologize for the delay in getting this out, but I've been overcoming some computer issues in the production of this newsletter in addition to a rather busy schedule. Hopefully, I will have the bugs worked out prior to the December Grunt.

Happy 242nd Birthday Marines and as we celebrate let us also remember that Veteran's day is Saturday November 11th and we have a busy week ahead of it. Lets have a good representation at the many events this month.

Semper Fi,

Ken Gysbers
Editor

201-895-3358
krgysbers@yahoo.com



MARINE CORPS RESERVE

TOYS FOR TOTSSM

BENEFIT CONCERT



SOF



NALANI & SARINA



DEENA CAHILL

7-10 PM . TICKET \$10

FRIDAY

NOV.17.17

CASH BAR AVAILABLE

DONATION BOXES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WISHING TO DONATE NEW UNWRAPPED TOYS.



Flemington Elks Lodge



165 NJ-31, Flemington, NJ 08822



Marine Rose Program

Last Rose Event of 2017

Sunday November 19th 0900 to 1900

Wyckoff Stop & Shop

If you haven't been at a Rose Event,
come down and lend a hand. Many hands make light work.

Semper Fi Marines





WE WANT TO KNOW!

If you are admitted to a Non-VA Hospital or
Emergency Room Please let us know.

Two steps are all it takes!

Let Your PACT Team know. Call us at 973-247-1666

To review medications, medical records and
discharge instructions or send your PACT team a
My Health Vet Secure Message.

AND

Let the Benefits Team know. Call the Non-VA
Hospitalization Notification Line at (973) 676-1000
extension 2408 to discuss your VA hospital benefits.

YOUR WELL BEING IS IMPORTANT TO US.



Health Care Benefits: 1-877-222-8387

Additional Numbers and Websites

Resource	Phone Number/Website
Bereavement Counseling	1-202-461-6530
Children of Women Vietnam Veterans	1877-345-8179 (or) 1-888-820-1756
Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMPVA)	1-800-733-8387
Dept Management Center (Collection of Non-Medical Depts)	1-800-857-0648
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Call Center for	1-877-424-3838
Homeless Veterans Hotline	
eBenefits (General Questions & Technical Issues)	1-800-983-0937
Education (GI Bill)	1-888-442-4551
Federal Recovery Coordination Program	1-877-732-4456
Foreign Medical Program	1-888-820-1756
Gulf War Veterans Hotline	1-800-749-8387
Homeless Veterans	1-877-222-8387
Income Verification and Means Testing	1-800-929-8387
Life Insurance	1-800-669-8477
Meds by Mail	1-888-385-0235 (or) 1-866-229-7389
National Call Center for Homeless Veterans	1-877-424-3838
National Cemetery Scheduling Office	1-800-535-1117
National Personnel Records Center	1-314-801-0800
National Resource Directory	https://www.nrd.gov/
Pension Management Center	1-877-294-6380
Presidential Memorial Certificate Program	1-202-565-4964
Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned or Veteran-Owned Small Business	1-202-303-3260
Special Health Issues	1-800-749-8387

Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned or Veteran-Owned Small Business	1-202-303-3260
Special Health Issues	1-800-749-8387
Spina Bifida/Children of Women Vietnams Veterans	1-888-820-1756
Status of Headstones and Markers	1-800-697-6947
Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD)	1-800-829-4833
VA Caregive Support Line	1-855-260-3274
VA for Vets	1-855-824-8387
VA Inspector General	1-800-488-8244
VA Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs	1-202-461-7600
Veteran's ID Theft Hotline	1-800-333-4636
Veteran's Employment and Traing Service (VETS)	1-866-487-2365
Women Veterans	1-202-461-1070
Wounded Warrior Resource Center	1-800-342-9647



Veterans Luncheon Wyckoff YMCA

Our detachment supported the YMCA Veteran Luncheon as General Level sponsors. Our very own Nick Ciampo who runs the Veterans' program at the YMCA put on another great event for our Local Veterans. The YMCA puts on two event for Veterans each year. This was their Luncheon and coming up in May they have a Veterans Breakfast. If you have not been to the event we will look forward to seeing you at the next one!

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11, 2017 6:30PM ★ THE THIRD ANNUAL
A SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS

FUNDRAISER
WRESTLING



SPECIAL IN-RING APPEARANCE BY BCC PROFESSOR MIKE ECHOLS



CW
ANDERSON

W AND ECW LEGENDS
TOMMY DREAMER
LITTLE GUIDO AKA
NUNZIO

JACK
VICTORY



THE KING OF NEW YORK
E.C. NEGRO

ADAM
PAYNE

GIBKI & VINCITA
DOWN BOYZ

BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE GYM ★ 400 PARAMUS RD ★ PARAMUS, NJ

TICKET HOTLINE: 201-580-6592
FRONT ROW (LIMITED): \$20
FLOOR SEATING (LIMITED): \$15
GENERAL ADMISSION: \$10

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AT WOODLAND PARK RANGE

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PUBLIC HOUSE
ESTABLISHED 2012



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FOLLOW US ON [Facebook] [Twitter] [Instagram]
CARD SUBJECT TO CHANGE
T-Phunk Designs



#744 1st annual Beefsteak Fund Raiser

Thank you to all the men and women of the Marine Corps League and all of our Friends and Family that joined us at our first annual Beefsteak. It was a huge success. I would also like to thank all the local Business's that donated great prizes for our event. We look forward to next years event being catered by The Brownstone Team and even better prizes!

I would like to give a special thanks to Grace Alvarez and Peter Alvarez for really helping me with this event. I could not have done it without them!

Thank You Again!

Kevin O' Leary
Jr. Vice Commandant

**Veterans
Information**

Ed Koreck
Lakeland Detachment 744
Marine Corps League
Veterans Service Officer
1-201-317-1678

Veterans Administration
Department of Veterans Affairs
20 Washington Place
Newark, NJ 07102-3174
Phone: 1-800-827-1000

Veterans Campus Lyons
151 Knollcroft Road
Lyons, NJ 07939
Phone: 908-647-0180
Fax: 908-647-3452

Veterans Service Officer
Vietnam Veterans of America
Margaret Wojciechowicz
Phone: 973-297-3227

Passaic
Veterans Service Office
930 Riverview Drive, Suite 200
Totowa, NJ 07512
Phone: 973-569-4090
John Harris/Richard Mannes VSO

Bergen
Division of Veterans Services
One Bergen County Plaza 2nd Flr
Hackensack, NJ 07601
201-336-6325,6328,6329,6326 &
7406 - Richard Paul, Director

**Marine Corps League
Information**

**Marine Corps League
National Website**

<http://www.mclnational.org/>

**Marine Corps League
NJ State Website**

<http://www.njmcl.org>

744 Website Address

<Http://www.usmcl744.org>

744 Facebook Page Address

<Https://www.gacebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-League-Lakeland-Detachment-744/165447603504657>

