



The Grunt

Marine Corps League Lakeland Detachment 744

July 2019 Newsletter

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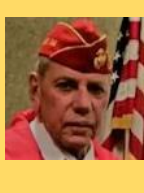
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Mission Statement of Marine Corps League

Members of the Marine Corps League join in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving traditions. Promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps, banding together those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service. Effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy. Voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines, FMF Corpsmen, Chaplains, and former Marines, FMF Corpsmen, Chaplains, and their widows and orphans; and to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.



COMMANDANT'S CORNER

Marine Corps League Lakeland Detachment—744 July, 2019

Lakeland Trip to Washington, D.C.

Give me your tired, your huddled masses yearning to sleep. That's the way the 36 Lakeland members and guests felt after returning from our trip to Washington Sunday evening. We started our journey on Friday at 0700 with Coffee and buns followed by boarding at 0730. After traveling several hours, we stopped at the Delaware House for a brief respite.

We arrived at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum for lunch and a guided tour. The tour was informative and our guides, retired Air force pilots, were extremely knowledgeable and interesting. After the tour we boarded the buses and departed for our hotel to have dinner and embark again at 1800 to attend the evening parade at the Marine Barracks at 8th & I, the oldest Post in the Corps. The parade is always a spectacular event filled with military grandeur, patriotic music and precision marching and rifle maneuvers executed by the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon. The parade was attended by General Neller, the Commandant of the Marine Corps and his wife with the guest of Honor being General Dunford, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and his wife. It was a night to be remembered by all.

Reveille on Saturday was at 0530 in order to have chow at 0630 with a departure time of 0800 to Arlington Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We witnessed the changing of the Guard by the famed Old Guard from Fort Meyer followed by a Wreath Laying by four of our members, Paymaster and Adjutant, Peter Alvarez, Senior Vice Commandant, Mike McNulty, Junior Vice Commandant, Kevin O'Leary and Detachment member, Dot Patson. The entire ceremony is very moving and all who participated were honored to be a part of this memorable occasion. Following the ceremony, we visited the Marine Corps Iwo Jima War Memorial at Arlington. A visit here is always a contemplative, awesome and solemn occasion and one not to be missed.



The next leg of our journey took us to the Marine Corps Museum at Quantico. We enjoyed a lunch at the Tun Tavern, visit to the Gift Shop with the highlight of the visit being a guided tour by Docent Don Wall, who is a veteran Marine. Our tour took us through the following exhibits, World War II, Vietnam War and Korea. Our Docent was extremely knowledgeable and informative; however, the ultimate highlight was the introduction of Terry Labar, friend and fellow Marine of Detachment member Captain Ben Cascio. Together Ben and Terry brought details of that exhibit and that war to life as only those who were there could do. Not only was it extremely informative, but, highly moving, as well. We thank them for their insight, knowledge and sacrifice. We closed our visit to the Museum with a photo shoot of the Helicopter on exhibit which was purchased, reconstructed and donated to the Museum by Captain Ben Cascio and some of his Marine friends.

Dinner was at the famed Globe and Laurel Restaurant owned by retired Marine Major Rick Spooner. Introduction of this 90+ year old Marine was made by his friend, Captain Ben Cascio. Detachment member Dennis Kievit is also a friend of the Major's. Major Spooner hailed us with a hearty Semper Fidelis which was followed by a hearty round of applause and Semper Fi from Marines. Following dinner, we made the return trip to our hotel.

Reveille on Sunday was again at 0530 with breakfast at 0630 and a departure time of 0800 to visit the following memorials: World War II, Vietnam, Women Marines, Korean and the Lincoln Memorial. We departed at 1100 with a short stop at the Delaware House for a quick lunch and then continued our return trip home arriving at approximately 1800.

This trip was conceived, coordinated and organized by our Service Officer, Ed Korek, through Betty Houston of Cardinal Tours, wife of Detachment member, Bill Houston. Unfortunately, Ed and his wife, Linda, were unable to attend the trip as he was in a hospital for two weeks. However, Ed's Daughter Karri represented him. Although Ed was missed, all who attended reaped the benefit of his hard work in arranging this memorable experience for all. Thank you, Ed. Your efforts were sincerely appreciated.

Semper Fidelis,

Charlie

HONOR---COURAGE---COMMITMENT





Independence Day Prayer

Dear Lord,

There is no greater feeling of liberty than to experience freedom from sin and death that you provided for me through Jesus Christ. Today my heart and my soul are free to praise you. For this, I am very thankful.

On this Independence Day, I am reminded of all those who have sacrificed for my freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ. Let me not take my freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May I always remember that a very high price was paid for my freedom. My freedom cost others their very lives.

Lord, today, bless those who have served and continue to give their lives for my freedom. With favor and bounty, meet their needs and watch over their families.

Dear Father, I am so thankful for this nation. For all the sacrifices others have made to build and defend this country, I am grateful. Thank you for the opportunities and freedoms we have in the United States of America. Help me never to take these blessings for granted.

Help me to live my life in a way that glorifies you, Lord. Give me the strength to be a blessing in someone's life today, and grant me the opportunity to lead others into the freedom that can be found in knowing Jesus Christ.
In your name, I pray.

Amen

Submitted by
Chaplin Les Derbyshire



Service Officers Report July 2019



Greetings to all.

Due to medical and family issues, Ed Korek has resigned from his position of service officer. Ed willingly stepped up a few years ago and dove right into the matter of being a top rate service officer. He has supported the detachment and it's members through out the course of his tenure as service officer and exemplifies what being a Marine is all about. He saw a need that he could fulfill and jumped right in.

While Ed is stepping down and stepping away from many activities, it is with a very heartfelt thanks that we wish him the best and hope that he knows that he always has a home with Lakeland Detachment 744.

John Harris will be filling in for Ed and here is his contact information:

John W Harris CVSO

Passaic County Veterans Officer

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Totowa, NJ 07512

Tel.-973-569-4090

Fax- 973-256-5716

johnh@passaiccountynj.org

Below is a list of some of the things we will be doing in July.

July 9th Bingo at the Paramus Nursing Home. We start at 2PM and are done by 3:30. The address is 1 Veterans Way in Paramus.

June 21st Our rescheduled 19th Annual Golf Outing.

June 20th Our monthly Saturday Breakfast. Bring your appetite.

As always, if there is anything that I can do to help you with some of your VA Issues, feel free to call me.

John Harris

973-569-4090

Editor's Page



Happy Birthday America,

On July 2nd, 1776, members of the Second Continental Congress voted to declare our independence. Two days later, the same congress voted to accept the draft of the official declaration which would be sent to His Majesty King George III as well as read on the streets on our fledging nation. These men were mostly doctors, lawyers and men of affluence. Some were landowners and farmers. In general, they all felt that King George III had violated the rights that God gives all of us. Thomas Paine just 2 years before had written, "These were the times that try men's souls" in his pamphlet called Common Sense. This pamphlet was the first document to publicly call for a separation from Great Britain.

The Declaration of Independence was mostly written by Thomas Jefferson and edited by both John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. Congress made several more changes before unanimously voting in favor of the document. I will include the words of the full document later on in this segment, but for now I want to focus mostly on the first 2 sentences:

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

While the first sentence is in of itself important, the second sentence is what our entire foundation of independence and our Constitution are based upon. God gave us rights that King George III was consistently removing or violating. Our freedoms are based on this sentence. We have the right to worship as we please, we have freedom of speech, we have the right to bear arms in our defense, we have the right to earn a living and provide for our families, we have the right to trial, we have the right to fair representation and the right to vote for the laws that govern our nation. We are a nation of laws and rules. In the June 2019 Grunt, I mentioned that protecting our freedoms was one of the main reasons why I enlisted and I think it was the main reason behind the cause which we all enlisted or signed up to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

Freedom, that word has somewhat new meaning in this day in age. People twist it's meaning to suit their own purposes. Our laws, based upon that one key sentence in the Declaration of Independence, are constantly under attack.



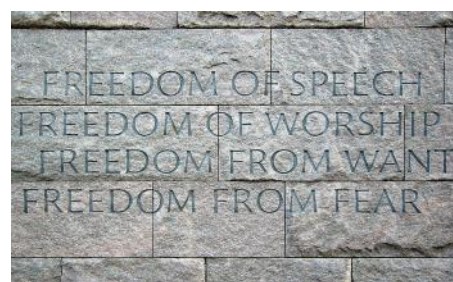
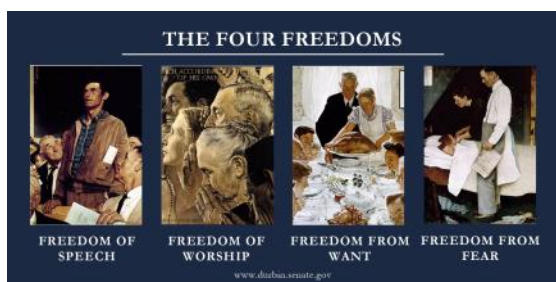
What are our freedoms? We have the right to worship as we please—we do not have the right to force other religions upon people regardless of what they believe or don't believe. We have the right to freedom of speech—that means we have the right to voice our opinions but we don't have the right to force those opinions on others. It also doesn't mean that the news media has the right to infringe upon the rights of others for privacy. We have the freedom to bear arms in our defense—we do not have the right to go around shooting others nor do we have the right to kill another human being. We have the freedom to earn a living and provide for our families—everyone has the right to work and get paid appropriately—no one has the right to a "free ride. We have the freedom to a fair and speedy trial with a jury of our peers—we do not have the right to abuse the judicial system laid out by the laws of this land where career criminals are out of jail. We have the right to fair representation— Our representatives need to vote their conscience in relation to what is good for the people not that of private interest. Too many of our politicians are career politicians who's interests are not those of the people.

From time to time, I run across something on social media that I feel obligated to share. The following is called, " We Hold These Truths":

On July 4th, 2019 Americans will celebrate our country's 243rd birthday, born of a declaration that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

After I retired from my "job" I became a school bus driver in the small town of Cottonwood, AZ. I drove all ages from pre-school to eighth grade and loved the interaction with kids. One Monday I challenged them. On the bulkhead over my driver's seat I wrote "We hold these truths to be self-evident." The first to tell me the meaning of that phrase would receive a silver dollar. I gave them a week. By the second day they were frantic and asked for a hint. I said I'd give them a huge hint. I said that the answer was "obvious." No one tumbled onto the answer. Not until Friday morning, refusing to get off the bus as they tossed nonsensical words about did a timid 6th grade girl say "Does it mean obvious?" On Monday, I presented her with her silver dollar and used the opportunity that week for discussion of why the signers of the Declaration of Independence risked their lives and their fortunes to declare themselves free from foreign governance.

Today, in my 79th year, I wonder how many of those kids, all voting age adults now, really do hold those "truths" to be obvious. How many of them have read and understand that the U.S. Constitution was written to protect those "truths". Of course they believe they are entitled to "Life". Unfortunately, many believe "Liberty" is a given, even as we pass the 75th anniversary of D-Day and the 74th anniversary this year of the end of a World War, fought to ensure the "truth" of Liberty. Also, unfortunately, many have come to translate the "Right" to pursue "Happiness" as a "guarantee" of happiness. But most unsettling is that there are those who, although they give lip service to it, don't quite get the "all men are created equal" part, as they strive to deny equal voice to those with whom they disagree politically.



Now on to my history narrative for the month. In June 1950, there was little inclination that there would be yet another major conflict. It was not quite 5 years after WWII ended and our armed forces were mere shadows of what they were at the end of WWII. In fact, June 1950 manpower of the Marine Corps was at 74,249 (total—both officers and enlisted) compared to 469,925 at the end of WWII or about 16% of the Marine Corps at the end of WWII. The Army, the Navy and the fledging Air Force had similar percentages of cuts in man power between 1945 and 1950. Thus our armed forces were in no way ready or prepared to fight in another major conflict. Secretary of State Dean Acheson had recently made a speech concerning US policy and interests that the United States would willingly defend. Sadly, South Korea, which had been established in 1948, was not among those countries or interests. Thus in the predawn hours on June 25th, North Korea sent 8 divisions across the 38th parallel and invaded South Korea. Within 3 days the capitol city of Seoul was captured. President Truman authorized sending US Troops into South Korea and a Naval blockage. General MacArthur, the commander of US Forces—Far East, asked for a Marine Regimental Combat Team. The USMC responded and activated the reserve to begin rebuilding the 1st Marine Division for duty in South Korea. In the meantime, the 1st Marine Provisional Brigade was hastily organized. This was a 4725 man unit formed around the 5th Marine Regiment. It was organized on July 7th 1950 and set sail on or about July 14th. It landed on August 3rd in Pusan and was placed under control of the General Walker and the Eighth Army who immediately placed it in reserve in order to launch the first serious counterattack since the beginning of the war. However, the fluid scope of battle in the early months of the Korean War within the Pusan Perimeter, required the use of this force as a fire brigade of sorts to stop breakthroughs in the lines and plug in gaps where it was needed. This was until it was pulled from combat for refitting and replacements in preparation of the Inchon landings as part of the 1st Marine Division. There is little doubt that without the 1st Marine Provisional Brigade, the Pusan Perimeter would have been overrun and US forces would have been evacuated by sea.



To our Korean War Veterans we give thanks and we remember what is often called, The Forgotten War”.

Semper Fi,

Ken Gysbers, Editor



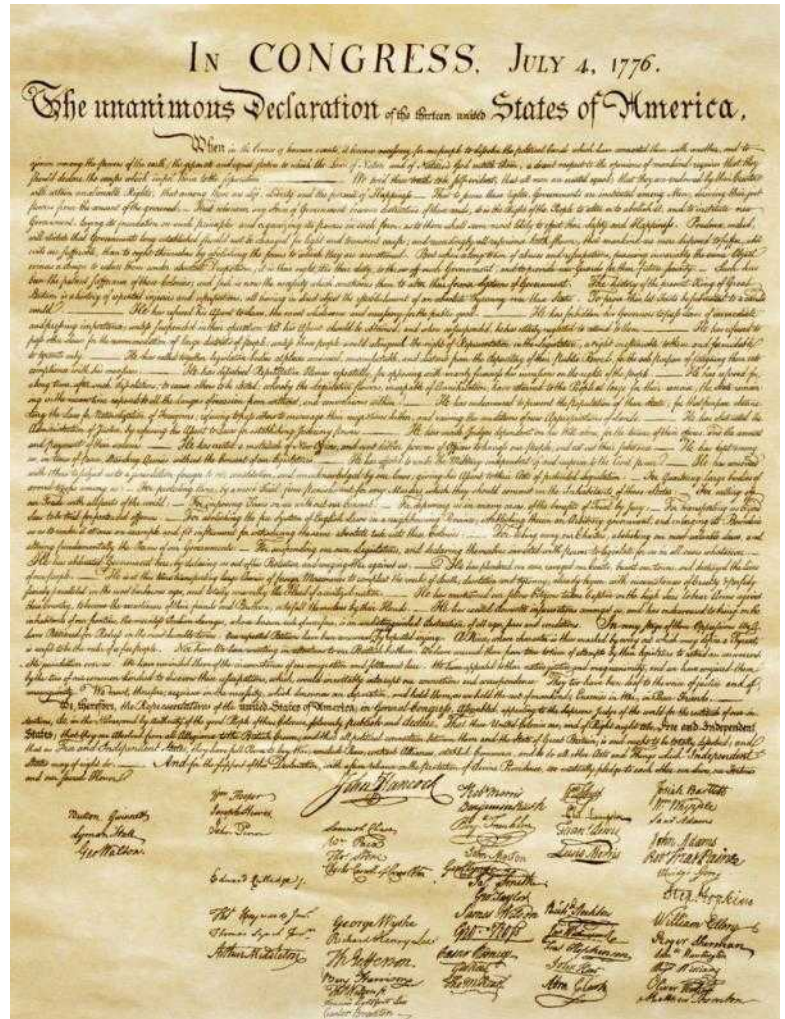
Marines of the first wave climb over the sea wall at the port on Inchon.



Marine Corsair during pre-flight in preparation for ground support sorties from Aircraft Carriers in the Sea of Japan.

The text of the Declaration of Independence begins at the lower part of this page and goes through to Page 11. I also included a listing of the signers. Couple of facts regarding the Declaration:

1. The resolution for independence from Great Britain actually passed on July 2, 1776. The resolution to approve the declaration passed on July 4, 1776
2. Official records indicate that there were 36 signatures on July 4, 1776. 56 signatures are on the accepted official document which is on display at the National Archives. The last signature took place on Nov 4, 1776 by Matthew Thorton of New Hampshire
3. 2 future presidents signed the declaration, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson
4. Edward Rutledge of South Carolina was the youngest signer at 26 and Benjamin Franklin was the oldest signer at 70
5. The same Syng inkstand used in the signing of the declaration was also used in the signing of the Constitution
6. As the President of Congress, John Hancock signed first and in doing so, made his signature large enough so the King George III could see it without glasses



In Congress, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America, When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighboring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

Georgia

Button Gwinnett
Lyman Hall
George Walton

Maryland

Samuel Chase
William Paca
Thomas Stone
Charles Carroll of Carrollton

Delaware

Caesar Rodney
George Read
Thomas McKean

Massachusetts

Samuel Adams
John Adams
Robert Treat Paine
Elbridge Gerry

North Carolina

William Hooper
Joseph Hewes
John Penn

Virginia

George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Thomas Jefferson
Benjamin Harrison

New York

William Floyd
Philip Livingston
Francis Lewis
Lewis Morris

Rhode Island

Stephen Hopkins
William Ellery

South Carolina

Edward Rutledge
Thomas Heyward, Jr.
Thomas Lynch, Jr.
Arthur Middleton

Thomas Nelson, Jr.
Francis Lightfoot Lee
Carter Braxton

New Jersey

Richard Stockton
John Witherspoon
Francis Hopkinson
John Hart

Connecticut

Roger Sherman
Samuel Huntington
William Williams
Oliver Wolcott

Massachusetts

John Hancock

Pennsylvania

Robert Morris
Benjamin Rush
Benjamin Franklin
John Morton
George Clymer
James Smith
George Taylor
James Wilson
George Ross

Abraham Clark

New Hampshire

Josiah Bartlett
William Whipple

New Hampshire

Matthew Thornton



Quartermaster's Report

Starting to get some new items in. Hope to have some of the back ordered items soon.

As always , if anyone has any ideas or something that you think we should carry for both the Ship's Store and the Rose Programs, please let me know.

Semper Fi,

Ken Gysbers

Quartermaster



Potential items for the near future



3rd Saturday Breakfast Ship's Store



MCL Lakeland Detachment 744

Calendar of Events

July 2019

- 07/09/2019 Bingo--Paramus Veteran's Home--1400
- 07/09/2019 Executive Board Meeting 1900
- 07/19/2019 Re-Scheduled Golf Outing
- 07/20/2019 3rd Saturday Breakfast 0800 - 1200
- 07/20/2019 Eagle Scout Award presentation to Evan Kelly of Troop 388, at Our Lady of Consolation Church, Hamburg Tpke. Wayne--1400
- 07/25/2019 Detachment Meeting 1930



Happy Birthday to the following Marines:

- | | |
|------------------|---------|
| Richard Bowitz | July 1 |
| John Demeter | July 4 |
| Art McEwen | July 7 |
| Dot Patson | July 7 |
| Tom "Doc" Pierce | July 12 |
| Debbie Zarzycki | July 13 |
| Darryl Laxson | July 17 |
| Richard Muttel | July 21 |
| Chris Cioppa | July 24 |
| Chet Lindquist | July 24 |
| William Malloy | July 25 |
| Harold Dahlberg | July 27 |
| Ray Sears | July 29 |
| Bob Ranzinger | July 30 |



On 28 July, 1918, Brigadier General John A. Lejeune assumes command of the US Army 2nd Division. He remained in command until April 1919 when the unit was disbanded.

The USS IWO JIMA LPH2 is retired on July 14, 1993 after over 30 years of service. She was the first ship designed specifically for amphibious operations.



On July 6, 1990, after over 30 years of service in Marine Air Wings, the A-4 Skyhawk, is retired from the Marine Corps arsenal.



7 July, 1941, the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing is activated at Quantico Va. It flew in support of Marine Corps and Army units at Guadalcanal and earned 5 Presidential Unit Citations.





MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
LAKELAND DETACHMENT 744
P.O. Box 8, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442-0008
Phone (973) 839-5693
www.usmcl744.org



Dear Member:

FRIENDLY REMINDER

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR

As we've discussed at the detachment's monthly meetings, Marine Corps League National Headquarters has changed the due dates for all membership renewals to: **August 31st of each calendar year.** By paying on or before 31 August of 2019 membership renewals will be due on August 31 of 2020 and each year thereafter.

Please remit your check for \$50.00, payable to MCL # 744 and mail to:

MCL
P.O. Box 8,
Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442-0008.

Important: Please put your six (6) digit ID number on the bottom left side of your check (Know as the Memo Section).

Please take note: Marine Corps League National Headquarters no longer sends out renewal Notices. Any notices will come from the Detachment Paymaster.

If you hold a NJ MCL License Plate, please remit your renewal check as soon as possible. Failure to renew your membership on time can result in forfeiture of the plate.

Any questions to the above please feel free to call me at 973-839-5693.

Semper Fidelis

Marine Peter J. Alvarez
Paymaster / Adjutant
Marine Corps League
Lakeland Detachment 744



Marine Corps League
Lakeland Detachment 744

Important Dates for 2019

Executive Board Meetings

7 PM 2nd Tuesday of the month

Tuesday January 8th, February 12th, March 12th, April 9th, May 14th, June 11th, July 9th,

August 13th, September 10th, October 8th, November 12th & December 10th

MCL Lakeland Detachment 744

Breakfast Dates

3rd Saturday of every month

0800 to 1200 Hours



January 19, February 16th, March 16th, April 20th, May 18th, June 15th, July 20th, August 17th,

September 21st, October 19th, November 16th & December 21st

MCL Lakeland Detachment 744

Regular Monthly Meeting

1930 Hours (except for Oct Meeting which is at 1900 hours for installation of officers)

4th Thursday of the month (Except November December)

January 24th, February 28th, March 28th, April 25th, May 23rd, June 27th, July 25th,

August 22nd, September 26th, October 24th, November 21st & December 19th



Marine Hornet Flyover Kuwait



Please mark your calendars
accordingly!

Desert Storm by Jake Hayes

Desert Storm First Offensive Ground Attack

Commandant's Club Announcement

IMPORTANT

Commandant's Club Raffle Tickets

will be distributed at the May Meeting on May 23rd at 1930

Money is due in by August 1st

Winners will be drawn at the Sept 26th, Detachment Meeting

Please see Gene Kelly



Special thanks to Gene for once again running this important part of our fund raising efforts.



Pictures from the Washington DC trip.



Current Operation Notes:

On July 4th, Commandant Charles Hua, Pay Master Peter Alvarez, Quartermaster Ken Gysbers, and Members Gene Kelley and Len Graff, marched in the 125th Fourth of July Parade in Ridgefield Park supporting the Gooneybird Detachment.



At the June Detachment meeting Member George Van Kat was presented with a trophy on behalf of the detachment for his dedication in running the detachment golf outing for many years and supporting Bob Ranzinger with the efforts for this years outing.



Below: Wheels and Wings Car & Air Show at the Fairfield Airport on June 15th. Left to right— Ted Wurster's Dodge Weapons Carrier, Marines Ted Wurster and Ben Cascio with Ted's L19 Beaver, Ben Cascio dancing with the Victory Gals, Gunny Monaco, Sgt Monaco & Mike Szymanski with a WWII era Marine Jeep and last but not least, Ben and Ted posing with the Victory Gals.



Current Operations Continued:

Detachment Trip to Washington DC



Assorted Pics from the Washington DC Trip. Of important note: Marines Dot Patson, Peter Alvarez, Michael McNulty and Kevin O'Leary are escorted to the Tomb of the Unknowns to perform a wreath laying ceremony . Thanks to Ed Korek for arranging the trip. As Charlies states in his Commandant's Corner, a good time was had by everyone that attended.



The detachment earlier this year, voted to partially fund the materials for a garden at the Paramus Veterans' Home. Tara Pragdat and Associate Member Nancy Bruning saw a need to make this area something that the veterans can enjoy year round. They cleaned out what was there, raised funds, purchased materials and installed a peaceful garden .



BEFORE

&

AFTER



Marine Corps League Lakeland Detachment #744

Invites you to our Third Saturday Monthly Breakfast

At The American Legion Hall

65 Oak Street, Oakland, NJ 07436

SATURDAY July 20th 8AM-12 NOON

Come have an Outstanding Breakfast and a Good Time

Enjoy Fresh Eggs Made to Order

Eggs Benedict

Omelets; Scrambled Eggs & Sausage Gravy

Pancakes; French Toast & Waffles

Bacon; Sausage; SOS & Corned Beef Hash

Home Fries & Biscuits

Donuts; Bagels & English Muffins

Coffee; Orange Juice & Pastries

Adults: \$12.00, Seniors: \$10.00

Children Between 6 and 10: \$6.00 & Children under 5: Free

Bring your family and friends

Most Important Support Lakeland Detachment #744

Be sure to visit our Marine Corps League Store in the back Right Corner.



Marine Corps League

Lakeland Detachment 744

Invites you to its:

19TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Preakness Valley Golf Course

209 Totowa Road, Totowa, NJ 07470 973-881-4921

Date: Friday July 19, 2019

TIME: 8AM Register & Breakfast - 9AM Tee Time Shotgun Start

COST: \$135.00 per Golfer; Includes Green Fees, Cart, Breakfast and Buffet Lunch

Plus: Beer & Soda, on Course and Prizes for All

Reservations & Payments ASAP (Credit Cards Accepted)

BEST BALL FORMAT TEAM SCORE

PLEASE SHOW SHIRT SIZE NEXT TO YOUR NAME

Name _____ Phone _____

Shirt Size _____

Golf Committee

Robert Ranzinger 201-370-2062Cell--bankyankee@verizon.net

Joseph Piazza 201-505-1361H--201-661-4226C--joemar21@msn.com

Peter Alvarez 973-839-5693H-973-568-7719C--palvarez1942@hotmail.com

Dennis Kievit 201-835-0183H---dkievit@yahoo.com

Gregory Alvarez 973-632-9226Cell---alvarezgreg@outlook.com

Hole Sponsor Donations Start @ \$25 per hole

Please Make Checks payable to: MCL LAKELAND DET. 744

MAIL TO: P.O. BOX 8 POMPTON LAKES, NJ 07442-0008





*John Basilone
Parade Committee*

*22 First Street
Raritan, New Jersey 08869*

THE ONLY PARADE IN AMERICA HONORING A WAR HERO

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, September 22, 2019, the Borough of Raritan will host its 38th Annual John Basilone Memorial Parade honoring its National World War II hero, Marine Sergeant John Basilone. Sergeant Basilone received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his gallant action during the Battle of Guadalcanal in 1942 and the Navy Cross posthumously for more heroism in the Battle of Iwo Jima where he was killed in 1945.

The parade continues to grow in size and popularity each year. Last year, many units marched along with military and high school bands before thousands of spectators, many of whom came from different parts of the country to attend this annual event.

Parade expenses increase each year and although funds are provided by the municipal budget for this occasion, we rely on the generosity of many people like you for the success of this yearly tribute. We respectfully request your support and thank you in advance for your contribution.

We invite your organization to join us in making this year's parade the biggest and best ever. Participating units are to report for registration and line of march assignments at 11:30 AM at the Raritan Train Station located between Thompson and Anderson Streets. The parade will begin promptly at 1:00 PM.

Please respond on the enclosed card and include your email. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John R. Pacifico".

John R. Pacifico, Chairman
John Basilone Parade Committee
908-429-8868 (phone)

Please make checks payable to John Basilone Parade Committee.

**If you are unable to present this invitation to the organization designated on the enclosed card, kindly forward it to the appropriate person. Thank you.*

Military Humor

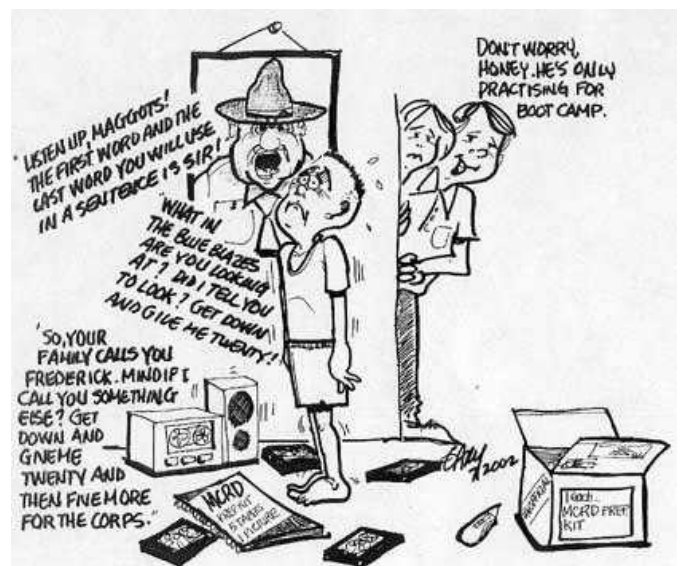
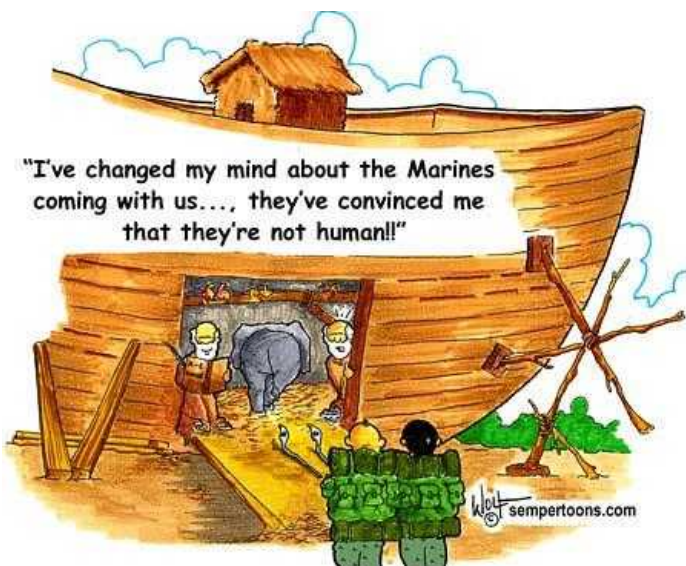
MARINES: 'A Recruit Goes AWOL'

As the sun rose over Parris Island, the senior drill instructor realized that one of his recruits had gone AWOL. A search party was dispatched immediately. After a few hours the recruit was discovered hiding in some bushes. He was sent back to the base and promptly escorted to the drill instructor's office. The instructor asked the young recruit, "Why did you go AWOL?"

The recruit replied, "My first day here you issued me a comb, and then proceeded to cut my hair off. The second day you issued me a toothbrush, and sent me to the dentist, who proceeded to pull some of my teeth. The third day you issued me a jock strap, and I wasn't about to stick around and find out what would follow that SIR!"

"You Might be a Marine Wife if"

You Might be a Marine Wife if: 1. Your mail goes to four addresses in two countries before it reaches you. 2. You earned an Accounting degree by deciphering your husband's LES and running a family on what was ACTUALLY deposited. 3. "Savings" sounds like a great idea and you hope to someday have some. 4. Sex - see #3. 5. You can simultaneously be a control freak, change plans on a moment's notice, yet you are not being treated for schizophrenia. 6. You know the Tricare regulations/procedures better than their service reps. 7. You know what forms you need better than your husband's Admin clerk. 8. You are strangely attracted (or repulsed) by the color green. 9. You can calculate the cost of a 5-minute phone call from any country, any time, on up to four different calling plans. 10. At a distance, you can pick out your husband from 100 other men with identical haircuts and clothes. 11. The face paint in your closet is NOT for your children. 12. Name tapes are not just for kids.





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Vets4Warriors.com

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Call Toll-Free at 855-838-8255,
visit Vets4Warriors.com, or email: Info@Vets4Warriors.com



- Vets4Warriors provides Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve Service members and their families worldwide with peer-to-peer support.
- The Vets4Warriors peers are Veterans who have been there and understand the problems unique to military life and know your challenges.
- Vets4Warriors will assist you in setting a plan to overcome adversity, manage stress, and build resilience.
- Vets4Warriors provides peer support and follow up for those with ongoing concerns. For those in crisis we will connect you to the Military Crisis Line.



- Peer-to-peer support is available 24/7, and it is toll-free throughout the U.S.
- Your call is confidential. Vets4Warriors does not discuss your call with anyone and, if callers choose, they can remain anonymous.
- The Vets4Warriors call center is staffed with Veterans and family members representing all branches of the Service.
- The call center's Veterans provide information and referrals as needed.



- Vets4Warriors is available via telephone, on-line chat, or e-mail.
- For more information visit www.vets4warriors.com.

Set your course with a military connection



855-838-8255 vets4warriors.com
Info@vets4warriors.com



Please Print This Page and Keep it in a safe location. Share it with other veterans.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Important Numbers and Websites

| | Phone Number |
|--|---|
| Health Care Benefits: | 1-877-222-8388 |
| 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 |
| Dept of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Call Center for Homeless Veterans | 1-877-424-3838 |
| Psychological Health Outreach Program Fort Devens, MA MFR-PHOP .North | east@serco-na.com |
| 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 |
| Spina Bifida/Children of Women Vietnam 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 Caregiver 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 Training Service (VETS) | 1-866-487-2365 |
| Women Veterans | 1-202-461-1070 |
| Wounded Warrior Resource Center | 1-800-342-9647 |



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U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Veteran's Information

Ed Korek

MCL Lakeland Detachment 744

Veteran's Service Officer

201-317-1678

Veterans Administration

Department of Veteran's Affairs

20 Washington Place

Newark, NJ 07102-3174

800-827-1000

Veterans Campus Lyons

151 Knollcroft Rd

Lyons, NJ 07939

908-647-0180 (Phone)

908-647-3452 (Fax)

Veterans Service Officer

Vietnam Veterans of America

Margaret Wojciechowicz

973-297-3227

Passaic Veterans Service Officers

930 Riverview Dr Suite 200

Totowa, NJ 07512

John Harris / Richard Mannes

973-569-4090

Bergen Division of Veterans Services

One Bergen County Plaza , 2nd Floor

Hackensack, NJ 07601

Richard Paul, Director

201-336-6325, 26, 28, 29 & 7406

Marine Corps League Information

Marine Corps League

National Web Site:

<http://www.mclnational.org>

Marine Corps League

Department of New Jersey

Web Site:

<http://njmcl.org>

Lakeland Detachment 744 Web Site:

<http://www.usmcl744.org>

Lakeland Detachment 744 Face Book Page:

[http://www.facebook.com/pages/](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-League-Lakeland-Detachment-744/165447603504657)

[Marine-Corps-League-Lakeland-](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-League-Lakeland-Detachment-744/165447603504657)

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