

# THE GRUNT



The Lakeland Grunt, PO Box 0008, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442  
April 2015 Mike McNulty – Editor 732-213-5264

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## Commandants Corner

### COMMANDANT’S CORNER

Marine Corps League  
Lakeland Detachment—744  
April 2015

#### Sir Jacob Charles Vouza—Hero of the Battle of the Tenaru River and the Battle for Guadalcanal

Jacob Charles Vouza was born in 1900 at Tasimboko, Guadalcanal, British Solomon Islands Protectorate, and educated at the South Seas Evangelical Mission School. In 1916, he joined the Solomon Islands Protectorate Armed Constabulary, from which he retired in 1941 after 25 years of service, at the rank of Sergeant Major.

After the Japanese invaded his home island in WW II, he returned to active duty with the British forces and volunteered to work with the Coast watchers under Major Martin Clements. On August 7, 1942, he rescued a downed naval pilot from the USS Wasp who was shot down inside Japanese territory. He guided the pilot to friendly lines where Vouza met the Marines for the first time and volunteered to scout behind enemy lines for the Marines. On August 27, he was captured by the Japanese while on a mission to locate and record the location of enemy camps and lookout stations. After finding a small American flag inside his loincloth, the Japanese tied him to a tree and questioned him for hours to reveal information about allied forces, but, he refused to talk. He was tortured and bayoneted 7 times about the arms, throat, shoulder, face, stomach and left to die after passing out. Vouza revived after his captors left, chewed through the ropes and vines that bound him and crawled more than 3 miles through the jungle to American lines. He refused medical treatment until he relayed valuable information to the Marines about the strength of Japanese forces and an impending Japanese attack. The Marines had approximately 10 minutes to prepare for the attack. After receiving 16 pints of blood during his 12 days in the hospital, Vouza returned to active duty as the Chief Scout for the Marines.

## Commandants Corner (Cont.)

Commandants corner cont.

He volunteered to accompany Lieutenant Colonel Evans F. Carlson and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Raider Battalion on their 30 day raid behind enemy lines at Guadalcanal. The vital information he relayed was a deciding factor in the Marines victory of the Battle of the Tenaru River, the retention of Henderson Airfield and subsequent victory of Guadalcanal.

After the war, Vouza continued to serve his fellow islanders. In 1949, he was appointed District Headman and President of the Guadalcanal Council from 1952-1958. He served as a member of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate Advisory Council from 1950 to 1960.

Vouza was highly decorated for his WW II service. The Silver Star was presented to him personally by then Major General Alexander A. Vandegrift, commanding general of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division, for refusing to give information under Japanese torture. He was also awarded the Legion of Merit for outstanding service with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Raider Battalion and made an honorary Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. From the British he received the George Medal for gallant conduct and exceptional devotion to duty and the Police Long Service Medal. In 1957, he was made a Member of the British Empire for long and faithful government service and in 1979, he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II.

Sergeant Major Vouza made many friends during his long association with the U.S. Marine Corps. In 1968, he visited the United States where he was an honored guest of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division Association. He had many Marine friends who visited him in the islands including, in 1978, author, William Manchester. He asked Manchester to relay the following words to his Marine friends in the United States: "Tell them I love them all. Me old man now, and not look good no more. But, me never forget."

Until the day he died, he flew an American flag at his residence; it was the very same flag he was given by the Marines before his capture by the Japanese. He wore his Marine Corps tunic until his death on March 15, 1984 and was buried in it.

A monument in his honor stands in front of the Police Headquarters building in Honiara, the Capital of the Solomon Islands to serve as a reminder to the Solomon Islanders of the bravery of Sir Jacob Charles Vouza, the Solomon Island Hero and Valiant Warrior.

Semper Fidelis,

Charlie



HONOR---COURAGE---COMMITMENT

## Service Officers Report



Hi Folks,



March Bingo representatives from 744

Effective March 24 the VA is implementing improvements to make it easier for you to apply for benefits. Online application tools, standardized forms, and a new intent to file process will create faster and more accurate decisions on your claims and appeals.

To see how the changes affect you go to [VA.gov](http://VA.gov).

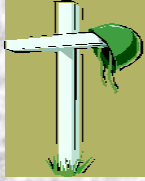
Our next Bingo is Wed. 4/22/15.

We'll car pool from the Oakland Elks at approximately 6:15pm. If you let me know by either a phone call or email if you're coming, I would appreciate it especially if you are going to be carpooling down with us so we know whether to wait for your not.

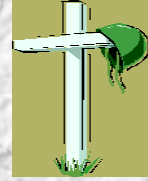
It was mentioned at our last meeting and in order to reemphasize the point that was made in reference to us doing these bingo's and other veterans functions during the year, that we need your help in signing up for any the Rose programs that are scheduled. Your contributions and help they are throughout the year is what makes her veterans program so successful !

Paul

[201-651-1822](tel:201-651-1822)



## Chaplains Desk



### Why the Marines' Hymn contains the verse 'to the shores of Tripoli'.

Few Americans are aware of the fact that over two hundred years ago, the United States had declared war on Islam, and Thomas Jefferson led the charge! At the height of the eighteenth century, Muslim pirates were the terror of the Mediterranean and a large area of the North Atlantic. They attacked every ship in sight, and held the crews for exorbitant ransoms. Those taken hostage were subjected to barbaric treatment and wrote heart breaking letters home, begging their government and family members to pay whatever their Mohammedan captors demanded.

These extortionists of the high seas represented the Islamic nation of Tripoli, Tunis, Morocco, and Algiers (collectively referred to as the Barbary Coast) and presented a dangerous and unprovoked threat to the new American Republic. Before the Revolutionary War, U.S. merchant ships had been under the protection of Great Britain. When the U.S. declared its independence and entered into war, the ships of the United States were protected by France. However, once the war was won, America had to protect its own fleets. Thus, the birth of the **U.S. Navy**. Beginning in 1784, seventeen years before he would become president, Thomas Jefferson became America's Minister to France. That same year, the U.S. Congress sought to appease its Muslim adversaries by following in the footsteps of European nations, who paid bribes to the Barbary States, rather than engaging them in war.

In July of 1785, Algerian pirates captured American ships, and the Dey of Algiers demanded an unheard-of ransom of \$60,000. It was a plain and simple case of extortion, and Thomas Jefferson was vehemently opposed to any further payments. Instead, he proposed to Congress the formation of a coalition of allied nations who together could force the Islamic states into peace; disinterested Congress decided to pay the ransom. In 1786, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams met with Tripoli's ambassador to Great Britain to ask by what right his nation attacked American ships and enslaved American citizens, and why Muslims held so much hostility towards America, a nation with which they had no previous contacts. The two future presidents reported that Islam "was founded on the Laws of their Prophet, that it was written in their Qu ran, that all nations who should not have acknowledged their authority were sinners, that it was their right and duty to make war upon them wherever they could be found, and to make slaves of all they could take as prisoners, and that every Musselman (Muslim) who should be slain in battle was sure to go to Paradise." The two future presidents reported that Ambassador Sidi Haji Abdul Rahman Adja had answered that Islam "was founded on the Laws of their Prophet, that it was written in their Qu ran, that all nations who should not have acknowledged their authority were sinners, that it was their right and duty to make war upon them, wherever they could be found, and to make slaves of all they could take as prisoners, and that every Musselman (Muslim) who should be slain in battle was sure to go to Paradise." Despite this stunning admission of premeditated violence on non-Muslim nations, as well as the objections of many notable American leaders, including George Washington, who warned that caving in was both wrong and would only further embolden the enemy, for the following fifteen years, the American government paid the Muslims millions of dollars for the safe passage of American ships or the return of American hostages. The payments in ransom and tribute amounted to over twenty percent of the United States government annual revenues in 1800.

Jefferson was disgusted. Shortly after his being sworn in as the third President of the United States in 1801, the Pasha of Tripoli sent him a note demanding the immediate payment of \$225,000 plus \$25,000 a year for every year forthcoming. That changed everything!



## Chaplain Cont.

Jefferson let the Pasha know, in no uncertain terms, what he could do with his demand. The Pasha responded by cutting down the flagpole at the American consulate and declared war on the United States. Tunis, Morocco, and Algiers immediately followed suit. Jefferson, until now, had been against America raising a naval force for anything beyond coastal defense, but having watched his nation be cowed by Islamic thugs for long enough, decided that it was finally time to meet force with force. He dispatched a squadron of frigates to the Mediterranean and taught the Muslim nations of the Barbary Coast a lesson he hoped they would never forget. Congress authorized Jefferson to empower U.S. ships to seize all vessels and goods of the Pasha of Tripoli and to 'cause to be done all other acts of precaution or hostility as the state of war would justify'. When Algiers and Tunis, who were both accustomed to American cowardice and acquiescence, saw the newly independent United States had both the will and the right to strike back, they quickly abandoned their allegiance to Tripoli.

The war with Tripoli lasted for four more years, and raged up again in 1815. The bravery of the **U.S. Marine Corps** in these wars led to the line '**to the shores of Tripoli**' in the **Marines' Hymn**, and they would forever be known as '**Leathernecks**' for the leather collars of their uniforms, designed to prevent their heads from being cut off by the Muslim scimitars when boarding enemy ships. Islam, and what its Barbary followers justified doing in the name of their prophet and their god, disturbed Jefferson quite deeply. America had a tradition of religious tolerance, the fact that Jefferson, himself, had co-authored the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, but fundamentalist Islam was like no other religion the world had ever seen. A religion based on supremacism, whose holy book not only condoned, but actually mandated violence against unbelievers was unacceptable to him. **His greatest fear was that someday this brand of Islam would return and pose an even greater threat to the United States .**

Any doubts, just **Google: Thomas Jefferson vs the Muslim World**  
at; <http://www.truthorfiction.com/rumors/i/Jefferson-vs-Muslims.htm>

Dennis Kievit / Chaplain

Lakeland Detachment / MCL #744

Phone: (201) 825-0183

### Sick Call



Phil Barnett PC -973-839-2881  
Joe Bucheit - 203-791-4017  
Bobby Costantin- 973-696-6682  
Gene Frederick- 410-229-9951  
Stanly Golembieski- 973-764-3061  
Al Hazelwood- 973-696-4966  
Cliff Kozikowski- 973-616-4218  
Edward Streuli- 973-696-5961



## Editors Corner



### “Leadership for our Traditions”

Last year I found out that we were responsible for discarding old worn and tattered flags in the appropriate manner. We burned them after a brief ceremony at the Franklin Lakes fire department. The Mayor and firemen and some towns folk were in attendance. Members of “The 744” attended to render the honor for these symbols of our great nation and prepare these flags to be burned.

It seemed fitting and just that our defenders of those flags made sure they were retired appropriately. The Marine Corps League carries on traditions that must be preserved less we forget all the sacrifices that have been made in their honor. It is a job I take to heart as I know my fellow brother and sister Marines do the same. If you can join us for any or all of these events it would show our communities that the Marines are always with them. We are the leaders for our communities and our leadership is desperately needed.

In a time when poor leadership is found at every level it is up to each and every Marine to pick up the torch and light the way! “Semper Fidelis” Mike McNulty





VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S.  
JOHN HAND-TRI COUNTY POST NO. 2906  
P.O. Box 86  
Pompton Lakes, New Jersey 07442-0086  
Est. 1934

**March 1, 2015**

**Dear Memorial Day Parade Participant:**

**You are cordially invited to participate in the annual Pompton Lakes Memorial Day Parade, sponsored by the John Hand Tri-County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2906 and the Borough of Pompton Lakes.**

**This year's parade will be held on Sunday May 24, 2015. The parade will assemble at 10:45Am at the intersections of Lakeside and Jefferson Avenues.**

**V.F.W. memorial services will be held at 11:30Am at the Veterans Memorial Park, Jefferson and Lakeside Avenues. The parade will then commence following the services.**

**Please complete the enclosed postcard, indicating if your organization will be participating, and return the card as soon as possible. Upon receipt of your positive reply, a copy of the parade route will be forwarded to you.**

**Very Truly Yours,**

  
**Robert J. McGrady**  
**Parade Chairman**

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

# Marine Photos 744

## NJ State Marine Corps League Leadership School 2015

Class Graduation - 19



Class Graduation - 4



Congratulations to Ed Korek and Kevin O'Leary for attending the MCL State Leadership School!



Tradition



Dan & Mike deliver clothes to VA



Bingo at Veterans Home



Thank You and Eagle scout Award



Field trip to Raider Hall 2/4



Ceremony Marine Corps Ball



## Veterans Information

**Paul Thompson**

Lakeland Detachment 744

Marine Corps League

Veterans Service Officer

201-320-3210

**Veterans Administration**

Department Of Veterans Affairs  
20 Washington Place  
Newark, New Jersey 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**

Margaret Wojciechowicz  
973-297-3227

**PASSAIC**

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

**BERGEN**

Division of Veterans Services  
One Bergen County Plaza,  
2nd Floor  
Hackensack NJ 07601  
201-336-6325, 6328, 6329,  
6326, 7406

Richard Daul, Director

## Marine Corps League Information

Marine Corps league National Website

<http://www.mcleague.com>

Marine Corps League NJ State Website

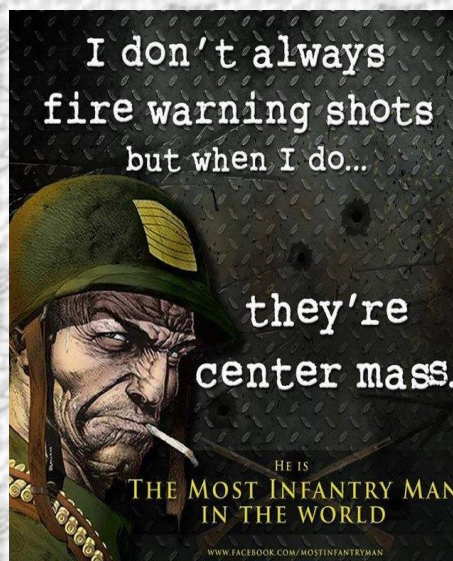
<http://www.njmcl.org/>

744 Website Address

<http://www.usmcl744.org/>

744 Facebook Page Address

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





# Marine Corps Ball

**240th Birthday Celebration**

Friday November 6, 2015

Join us at:

**Macaluso's in Hawthorne, NJ**

**Our Menu will begin with:**

Cold Antipasti, Grilled Vegetables in Onion Vinaigrette - Button Mushroom Salad with Wine Vinegar Gaeta and Sicilian Green Olives - Assorted Vegetables in a Sweet and Sour Dressing Italian Sun-Dried Tomatoes - Assortment of Imported Cheeses - Seafood Salad, etc. - Chafing Stations Include: Eggplant Rollatini - Clams Oreganato - Stuffed Mushrooms with Crabmeat - Fried Shrimp - Fried Calamari in Marinara Sauce - Prince Edward Mussels Marechicra - Italian Meatballs - BBQ Ribs etc.

Champagne Toast

First Course: Penne al Filetto di Pomodoro

Second Course: Tri-Color Salad with Aged Balsamic Vinaigrette

Entree Choice:

Roasted NY Strip Steak - Pan Seared Boneless Chicken Breast of Chicken and Veal Marsala Wine Sauce  
North Atlantic Salmon with Dill Sauce - Roasted Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables with Garlic and Oil

Desert Table:

Marine Corps Birthday Cake - Assorted Italian Pastries - Fresh Fruit - Ice Cream Bar

Coffee - Tea - Decaf - Soda - Wine - Beer

Music for Dancing by: Joey Zisa and Friends

**\$75. PER PERSON**



The Marine Corps League  
Lakeland Detachment #744

*Invites you to its:*

## **17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

**Preakness Valley Golf Course  
209 Totowa Road, NJ 07470**

**DATE:** Thursday September 10, 2015

**TIME:** Register & Breakfast 8AM Tee Time 9AM

**COST:** \$135.00 per Golfer Includes: Green Fees,  
Cart, Continental Breakfast Plus Buffet Lunch  
Beer, Soda, Dessert & Prizes

**BEST BALL FORMAT TEAM SCORE**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### **Golf Committee**

George Vankat [201-797-8616](tel:201-797-8616) [201-321-6897](tel:201-321-6897) [gwvir37@optimum.net](mailto:gwvir37@optimum.net)

Joesph Piazza [201-505-1361](tel:201-505-1361) [201-661-4226](tel:201-661-4226) [joemar21@msn.com](mailto:joemar21@msn.com)

Peter Alvarez [973-839-5693](tel:973-839-5693) [973-568-7119](tel:973-568-7119) [palvarez1942@yahoo.com](mailto:palvarez1942@yahoo.com)

**Please Make Checks payable to:** MCL LAKELAND DET. 744

**MAIL TO:** P.O. BOX 8

POMPTON LAKES, NJ 07442



# **Marines**

*The Few. The Proud.*

# MCL 2015 Schedule

All M. C. League meetings start at 19:30 (7:30pm)

ELKS, 33 Ramapo Valley Rd, Pompton Lakes

DATES		ADDRESS
<b>April 2015</b>		
04/07/15	Officers Meeting 7pm	P. Alvarez Home
04/12/15	Pistol Qualification Union County Sherriff Department	UCSD Springfield NJ
04/19/15	MCL Breakfast	Elks
04/22/15	Bingo East Orange Veterans Home 7pm	East Orange VA
04/23/15	Detachment Meeting 7:30pm	Elks
04/26/15	Adorno Fathers Fair rose program Mahwah 8am—4pm	Adorno Fathers
04/26/15	MCL Pistol Championship 8:30 am	UCSD Springfield, NJ
<b>May</b>		
05/01/15	Hawthorne Street Dedication 3 Marines needed	
05/12/15	Officers Meeting 7pm	P. Alvarez Home
05/15/15	Bingo Paramus Veterans Home 7pm	Veterans Home Paramus
05/17/15	MCL Breakfast	Elks
05/17/15	600 Aggregate Match Union County Sherriff Department	UCSD
05/25/15	Pompton Lakes Memorial Day Parade 10am Monument	Pompton Monument
05/25/15	Hawthorne Memorial Day Parade	
05/28/15	Detachment Meeting 7:30pm	Elks
05/30/15	Detachment Rifle Shoot Cherry Ridge Range	Highland Lakes
<b>June</b>		
06/05/15	Hawthorne Street Dedication 2 Marines needed 1pm	TBD
06/07/15	Flag Day	Elks
06/07/15	Rose Program Montvale	TBD
06/09/15	Officers Meeting 7pm	P. Alvarez Home
06/11,12/13	Department of NJ MCL Convention Seaview Hotel Galloway NJ	See Charlie
06/14/15	Pequannock Rose Program 8-5pm	TBD
06/18/15	Bingo East Orange Veterans Hospital 7pm	TBD
06/21/15	MCL Breakfast Fathers Day Breakfast 8am -1pm	Elks
06/26/15	Detachment Meeting 7:30pm	Elks
06/28/15	M1 Garand Match 8am	Cherry Ridge Range