

“THE GRUNT”



MCL Lakeland Detachment #744 Newsletter

December 2016 Mike McNulty – Editor 732-213-5264

Officers 2016



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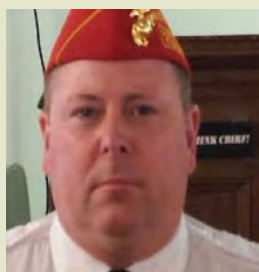


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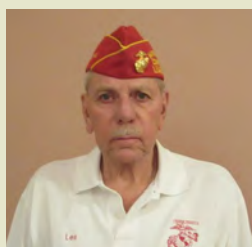


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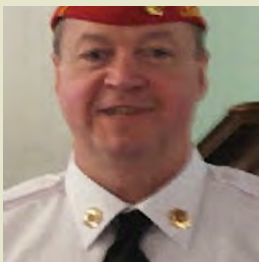


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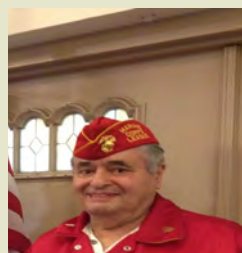


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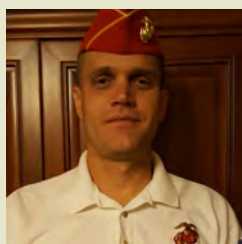


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Commandants Corner December 2016



COMMANDANT'S CORNER
Marine Corps League
Lakeland Detachment—744
December, 2016

Our 241st Marine Corps Birthday Ball held at Macaluso's in Hawthorne on November 4th was a tremendous success and one of the best Balls we've ever had. Congratulations to Les Derbyshire and his team, Trudi Derbyshire, Ken and Dorothy Fackina and Peter and Grace Alvarez.

However, if it weren't for the vision, dedication, patriotism and love of Corps by Tom Fiorilla, Lakeland Detachment would not be in existence. He hung his boot camp picture in his barber shop and invited others to do the same. On November 10, 1989 Tom and other Marines, Hank Kuhn Sr. and Jr., Tim Driscoll, Howard Shofner, Mike Wagner, Marty Hanse, Tony Franco, Desmond Reiser, Zack Ziccardi, Brad Sacoli, John Fitzgerald, Jeremiah Lucey, Joe Wasaki, Bob Kenyon, Harry Kaufman and Victor Paliotta gathered at the Tun Tavern of Wanaque (Holy Mackerel Bar and Grill) to celebrate the 214th Marine Corps Birthday. Tom provided the cake and had each in attendance stand and introduce themselves as none of them knew each other.

Learning there was an organization of Marines called the Marine Corps League, Tom set about finding out the requirements to organize a detachment. Since they met in the Lakeland area, the name Lakeland Detachment was adopted with 744 assigned by the Department of New Jersey Marine Corps League. In order to obtain a charter, 25 members were required. Tom started to recruit members by knocking on doors of homes flying the Marine Corps Flag and in December, 1990 received the official Charter. Tom knocked on my door in 1991.

The first meeting place was at the American Legion in Pompton Lakes. The second was at the VFW in Pompton Lakes; then to the Oakland Elks and most recently to the American Legion in Oakland.

HONOR---COURAGE---



COMMITMENT

Commandants Corner Cont.

Today our Detachment is 162 members strong, has a long history of significant accomplishments and will be celebrating its 26th birthday on December 15th. Happy Birthday to Lakeland Detachment and its members

Tom was recognized for his efforts at our Marine Corps Birthday Ball last year with the presentation of a Plaque. Thank you very much Tom for your significant efforts in the formation of our Detachment.

We also recently had elections of officers and I'm proud to announce our current slate of officers for 2016—2017 namely, Peter Alvarez, Paymaster/Adjutant, Ray Sears, Judge Advocate/Range Officer, Frank Sanclementi, Sergeant-at-Arms, Michael McNulty, Senior Vice Commandant, Kevin O'Leary, Jr. Vice Commandant, Les Derbyshire, Chaplain and Charles Huha, Commandant. The Detachment has a great slate of officers; however, for the 2017 election it would be great to have some competition for the various positions. Please consider how you may best serve the Detachment and consider running for one of the officer positions. Thank you.

On behalf of all the officers I extend to all our members a very Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah and a very Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.

Semper Fidelis,

Charlie

HONOR—COURAGE--COMMITMENT



Service Officers Report December, 2016

Let's get together in December and spread some Xmas cheer at our annual Xmas Bingo at the veterans home in Paramus on Dec 13, 2016 at 2:00pm.

They really look forward to us coming with our Marine Corp spirit! I get questions during the year on e-benefits. If you aren't using eBenefits, it's a great tool for veterans. If you have any questions on the site, please just call me.

I want to thank all the volunteers that have helped out this year at our monthly Bingo's!

Your heart is in the right place!

What is eBenefits?

eBenefits provides electronic resources in a self-service environment to Servicemembers, Veterans, and their families. Use of these resources often helps us serve you faster! Through the eBenefits website you can:

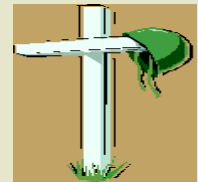
- Submit claims for benefits and/or upload documents directly to the VA
- Request to add or change your dependents
- Update your contact and direct deposit information and view payment history
- Request a Veterans Service Officer to represent you
- Track the status of your claim or appeal
- Obtain verification of military service, civil service preference, or VA benefits
- And much more!

Enrolling in eBenefits is easy. Just visit www.eBenefits.va.gov for more information. If you submit a claim in the future, consider filing through eBenefits. Filing electronically, especially if you participate in our fully developed claim program, may result in a faster decision than if you submit your claim through the mail.

Paul Thompson



Chaplains Desk December, 2016

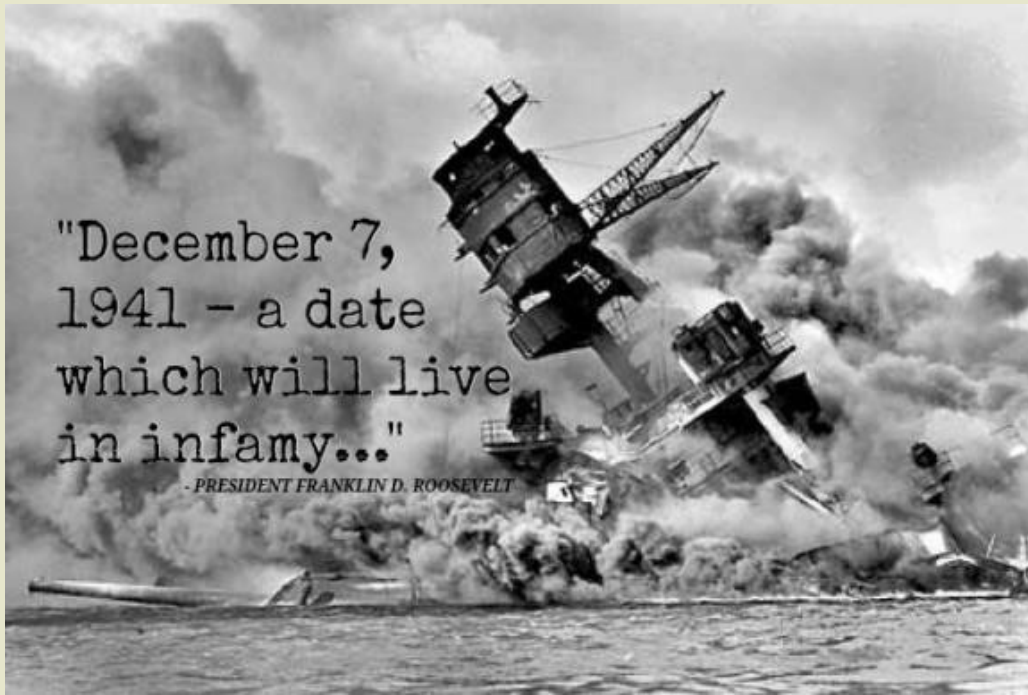


December; a month full of religious and secular holidays. A month filled with excitement, anticipation, joy, family, and memories. Often, December is also a month full of stress for many people. Events to attend, presents to buy, places to travel to, etc. Sometimes, however, the holidays can also be a time in which many people feel very alone, particularly those who are cooped up in care facilities, or those who don't have family that they are either near to or on good terms with. This time of year can be very depressing to people who feel isolated from society. This month is a month in which the Christian community celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. Leaving his heavenly kingdom, coming to an earth that did not desire Him, and being born into conditions that were less than ideal. The Bible describes Him as being a "man of sorrows, acquainted with grief." As He walked this earth, which He had created, for 33 years and saw what man had done to His perfect creation, no one ever felt more alone than He did. However, His life on earth reflected kindness, compassion, forgiveness and the offer of peace that only He gives. As we look at a world that is full of chaos, violence, unrest and hatred, let us remember again the promise of His birth; that He is the Prince of Peace. Let's strive to be like Him this holiday season and reach out to those around us who are hurting, alone, sad and try to bring them joy and remind them that they are not alone, but always have a heavenly Savior who cares for them and walked the same path they walk now; and is, as Scripture puts it, "closer than a brother."

Psalm 147:3 "He heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds."

Dave Elshout

Assistant Chaplain



Just before 8 a.m. on December 7, 1941, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor near Honolulu, Hawaii. The barrage lasted just two hours, but it was devastating: The Japanese managed to destroy nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight enormous battleships, and more than 300 airplanes. More than 2,000 Americans soldiers and sailors died in the attack, and another 1,000 were wounded. The day after the assault, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan; Congress approved his declaration with just one dissenting vote. Three days later, Japanese allies Germany and Italy also declared war on the United States, and again Congress reciprocated. More than two years into the conflict, America had finally joined World War II. Remember all our brothers and sisters who stood up to those who wished to dominate the world and take away all our freedoms that we hold sacred!





With VA's Caregiver Support Line assistance is just a quick phone call away. Whether you're in need of immediate assistance or have questions about what services you may be eligible for, the caring licensed professionals who answer the support line can:

Tell you about the assistance available from VA.

Help you access services.

Connect you with the Caregiver Support Coordinator at a VA Medical Center near you.

Just listen, if that's what you need right now.

If you're just getting started with VA, calling the Caregiver Support Line is a great first step to take to learn more about the support that's available to you.

Learn more about Veteran specific information by visiting the new webpage: <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/information-for-veterans>



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Det #744 2016 Review



Lakeland Det. #744 took part in these events and more for 2016

18 Rose events

23 + Eagle Court of Honors

14 Veterans Bingos

12 Detachment Breakfasts

4 Memorial services

3+ Street Dedications

12 Detachment Meetings

12 Officers Board Meetings

4 State MCL Meetings

1 State MCL Convention

1 VA Town Hall Meeting

1 Detachment Picnic

1 Marine Corps Ball

20+ Veteran Ceremonies, Events, Luncheons , and Remembrances

Outstanding Job Marines!





December Calendar

- December 3 Color Guard Pompton Lakes Holiday Stroll
- December 13 Bingo Paramus Nursing Home 2pm
- December 13 Executive Board meeting 7:30 pm American Legion
- December 15 Detachment Meeting 7:30pm American Legion
- December 16 Breakfast prep American Legion 10am 2pm
- December 17 Detachment Breakfast 8am-12pm
- December 17 Wreaths Across America

January Calendar

- January 1 "Happy New Year to all!!!"**
- January 10 Executive Board Meeting 7:30 pm American Legion
- January 20 Breakfast Prep 12pm– 2pm American Legion
- January 21 Detachment Breakfast
- January 26 Detachment Meeting American Legion 7:30pm

*Merry
Christmas*

Rose Program 2016



Our detachment took part in our final Rose event of the Year at the Boulder Run Stop & Shop. Thanks to a great team effort we had our most successful event of the 2016 season. Our Rose program has grown into a great way to brand our detachments name with all the communities in our area that we serve.

We have the communities attention and they can count on us to uphold traditions and we can count on them to support our efforts to help our veterans. To all who have helped our Rose program or support our Rose program "Great Job " and Great Teamwork!

We will start gearing up for our new year 2017. We must stay on point as the future can be a bigger challenge than we know!

Semper Fidelis Marines!

Veterans Information

Paul Thompson

Lakeland Detachment 744

Marine Corps League

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Veterans Service Officer

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Margaret Wojciechowicz

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BERGEN

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6326, 7406

Richard Daul, 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.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-League-Lakeland-Detachment-744/165447603504657>

