

THE GRUNT



The Lakeland Grunt, PO Box 0008, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442

February 2015 Phil Barnett—Editor Emeritus Mike McNulty –Editor

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Phil Barnett—Editor Emeritus

Commandants Corner

Marine Corps League Lakeland Detachment—744 February 2015

Iwo Jima, otherwise known as Sulfur Island represented a strategically important air base which would allow fighter escorts to support long-range bombing missions against mainland Japan. The island would provide an emergency landing strip for crippled B-29’s returning from bombing runs. The seizure of Iwo would allow for sea and air blockades, provide for the ability to conduct intensive air bombardment and provide the opportunity to destroy the enemy’s air and naval capabilities.

The battle commenced February 19, 1945 and ceased March 16, 1945. Mopping up activities commenced after that to clean up the remaining pockets of resistance. The island was officially declared secured on March 26, 1945. This year marks the seventieth anniversary of that historic battle.

The seizure of Iwo Jima was deemed necessary, but, would not come easy. 70,000 U.S. Marines would be involved in the invasion. Total U.S losses amounted to 28,686 of which 6,821 were KIA, 19,217 were WIA and 2,648 suffered combat fatigue. Of the total number, Marine casualties amounted to 23,573. Japanese losses amounted to 1,083 POW’s and over 20,000 est. killed.

Commandants Corner (Cont.)

Iwo Jima Cont.

We have two surviving members of the Battle of Iwo Jima in our Detachment, Gene Frederick, who was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions and Anthony Lechniak. Both men epitomize the strong values that make up Marines. We should consider ourselves fortunate to have known these two Marines and to be present in their company. Well done Marines, the Lakeland Detachment and our country honor and salute you.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific Fleet/Commander in Chief, Pacific Ocean areas said it best "Among the Americans who served on Iwo Island, Uncommon Valor was a Common Virtue".

Semper Fidelis,

Charlie

HONOR---COURAGE---COMMITMENT



Service Officers Report



Hi Folks,

Our next Bingo is February 19th, at the East Orange Veterans Hospital in East Orange NJ. It starts at 7:30pm.

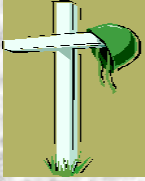
We will car pool from the Oakland Elks at 6:15pm. Please let me know if you're able to attend.

At our last meeting, I mentioned to members that if you have never have gotten your VA card from either a VA hospital or VA clinic, it's a good thing to have one. This isn't the Veterans discount card (which is a good thing to have for a discount at some stores), it's a card that will be registered with the VA, and will help you with getting your Veterans benefits. Over the last year I've helped a lot of veterans apply for it, and several are now getting treated at the VA, and have saved over 75% and more, off their prescription costs!

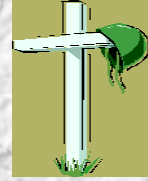
If you have any questions in reference to your benefits, call me and I will do my best to help you with your questions and direct you to the right place for help within the VA.

Paul

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



Chaplains Desk



The Chaplain's Desk February 2015

Here is an important message for us all to think about as reported by Tony Modzelewski, NVC, Northeast Division of our MCL. He called it "bad customer service" and it is something for all of us to consider when we attend the Lakeland MCL meetings. **Customer service can be boiled down to one word:**

CARING

We want all former Marines to be welcomed into our detachment the minute they step into our meeting hall. If a new or potential member attends a meeting and other members ignore him, or there is constant bickering during the meeting, he or she probably will go home and say "Forget the Marine Corps League! No one ever even talked to me and all they do is argue." You can bet that you will never get that person back to attend any more of our meetings and our membership will not continue to grow. New members are not outsiders to our detachment; they must now be a welcomed part of it. When a new member attends a meeting and you don't think you need to include them in your conversation, you may have a customer service problem. Simply, if a new person attends one of our meetings, go to them and offer a greeting and find out who they are or where they're from. Make it easy for them to be part of the group.

Again, become their brother Marine; you both earned that right years ago when each of you earned "The Title".

In civilian life, if these problems aren't corrected, they call it "bad customer service" and the customers don't come back!



Chaplain Cont.

Here are a few other things that can create “bad customer service”. When a member can no longer drive and needs a ride to a meeting, but no one bothers to pick him or her up, you may have a customer service problem. When a member calls with a question and you say you will get back to him, but never do; you may have a customer service problem.

Remember: To all of our members. When was the last time that you called out to a member and asked how everything was going? Did they need anything? It becomes all of our jobs to work on building a long-term member. Your dedication as a Marine can continue on forever; it’s up to you!

These are just a few examples of what it takes to make an organization strong, or better yet stronger and your Chaplain feels that we can all join together to make the Lakeland Detachment the “STRONGEST” MCL detachment in New Jersey.

Dennis Kievit / Chaplain

Lakeland Detachment MCL #744

Phone: (201) 825-0183





Editors Corner



Marines,

February is upon us already! We are almost through with this cold weather and soon we will be teeing off at our favorite courses, planting our gardens and enjoying the sunshine and warmth once again. To all our Marines who are in Florida lucky you, we will know who not to bet against on the golf course .

Its important to help out those who may have a tough time during the cold winter months. Family, Friends and neighbors may not ask for our help so we need to keep an eye out for our opportunity to lend a hand.

Next month our shooting league starts. Please contact Ray Sears 973-694-8457 if you want to join us. We have a great time and we keep our skills sharp. If you have not joined a local range please see me and I will help 732-213-5264.

We have been working on getting all the dates set up for our rose event calendar. We will update it as soon as the information is available to us. We are looking to have a record season this year!

Be careful, watchful and stay safe out there !

Semper Fi

Mike



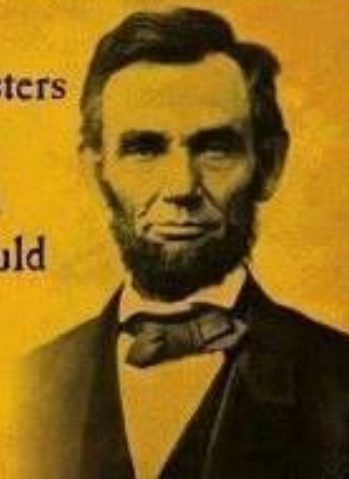


Founding Fathers Quotes

YES! HE REALLY DID SAY THIS.

We the people are the rightful masters
of both Congress and the Courts,
not to overthrow the Constitution
but to overthrow the men who would
pervert the Constitution.

~ Abraham Lincoln



“**Patriotism** is as much a virtue as justice, is as necessary for the support of societies, as natural affection is for the support of families.”



Marine Photos 744



In Last months
Grunt I chopped off
Frank Mackey's
head in this photo.
He was the guy on
the grassy knoll
Sorry Frank
"Semper Fi"



Marine Photos 744 (cont.)



Rose Event Calendar

EVENT

DATES

Adornos Fathers Fair Spring

April 26th

Montvale Street Fair

June 7th

Pequannock Street Fair

June 14th

Ramsey Day

TBA

Allendale Day

TBA

Pompton Lakes Day

Sept 6th

Riverdale Day

Sept 7th

Mahwah Day (Color Guard Needed)

Sept 9th

Adornos Fathers Fair Fall

Oct. 11th

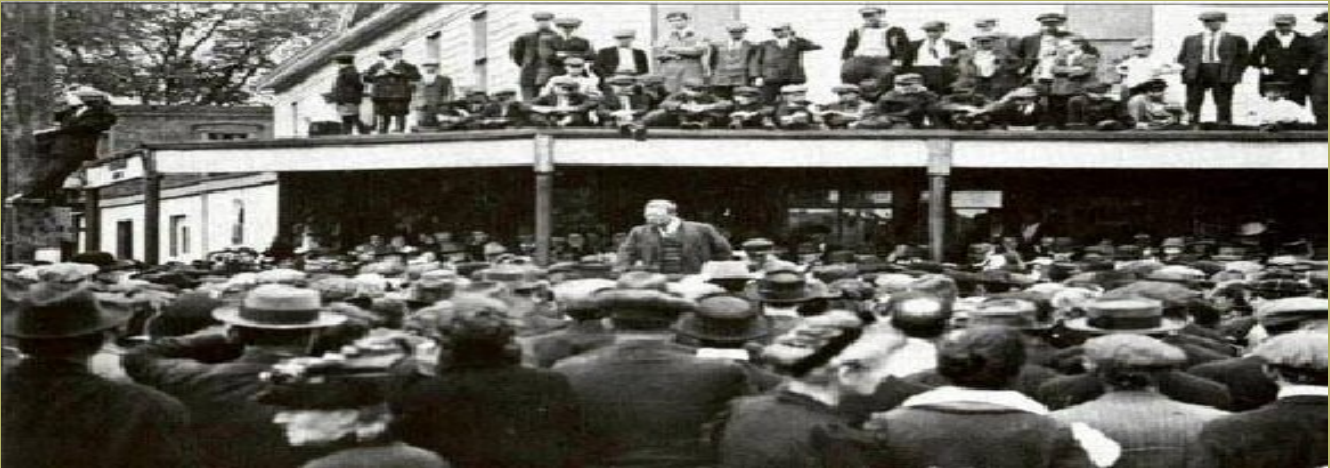
Kinnelon Day

TBA

These dates are what we have at this time we will add to this event calendar on a regular basis as we have supermarket dates verified. Please help us out with as many events as you can!

Semper Fi

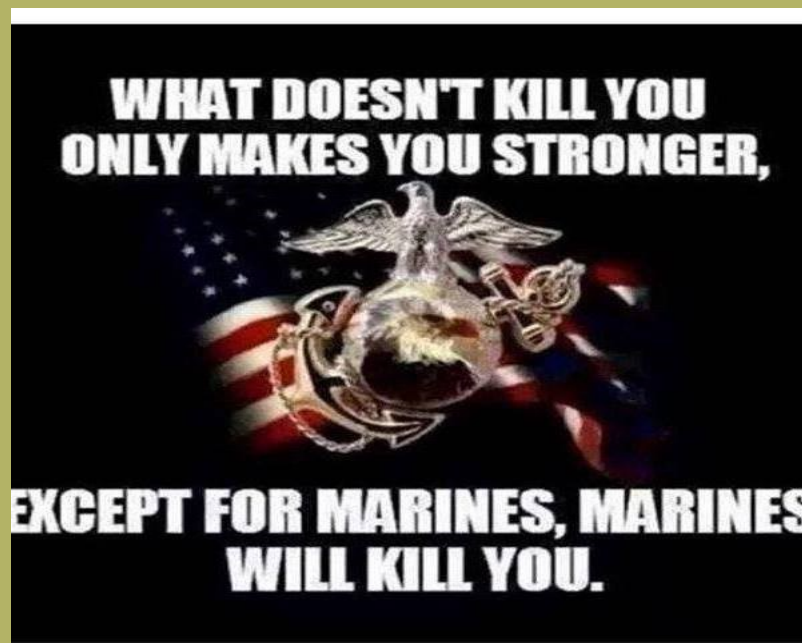
Editors Pick



Theodore Roosevelt's ideas on Immigrants and being an AMERICAN in 1907.

'In the first place, we should insist that if the immigrant who comes here in good faith becomes an American and assimilates himself to us, he shall be treated on an exact equality with everyone else, for it is an outrage to discriminate against any such man because of creed, or birthplace, or origin. But this is predicated upon the person's becoming in every facet an American, and nothing but an American... There can be no divided allegiance here. Any man who says he is an American, but something else also, isn't an American at all. We have room for but one flag, the American flag... We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language.. And we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people.'

Theodore Roosevelt 1907



MCL 2015 Schedule

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

ELKS, 33 Ramapo Valley Rd, Pompton Lakes

DATES		ADDRESS
DECEMBER		
12/5/2014	Off Station Christmas party for Veterans (Paramus Veterans Home)	
12/16/14	December Meeting 7:30pm ***** NEW MEETING TIME*****	ELKS
12/21/14	Marine / Elks Christmas Brunch SEE FLYER	ELKS
JANUARY		
01/03/15	Eagle Scout Ceremony Justin Millers son, & Oakland Scouts NY/ Oakland NJ. Call Charlie Huha.	Orange
01/18/15	Marine/Elks Breakfast	ELKS
01/22/15	Meeting New Time 7:30PM 744	ELKS
01/25/15	Bingo at Paramus Vets Home 7pm	Paramus Vets Home
February		
02/15/15	Marine Corps/ Elks Breakfast Valentines Day 8am-12pm	ELKS
02/19/15	Bingo at East Orange Veterans Hospital	7pm
02/26/15	Monthly Meeting 7:30pm *****New Meeting Time*****	ELKS