

THE GRUNT



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

June 2015 Mike McNulty – Editor 732-213-5264

Commandants Corner

Your Officers for 2015

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COMMANDANT’S CORNER

Marine Corps League Lakeland Detachment—744 June, 2015

We received an invitation from the Passaic County Technical Institute to attend their Memorial Day ceremony on May 21. Attending from Lakeland Detachment was Augie Ploch, Frank Mackey and me. Joe White, the Commandant of the Passaic Detachment, a longtime friend was also in attendance. I was once a member of the Passaic Detachment when I lived in the area. Joe was the commandant then, as well. It is the oldest Marine Corps League Detachment in New Jersey at 85 years. Congratulations Joe White.

The festivities included the opening conducted by the Jr. ROTC members who were sharp in dress, definitive in their movements, decisive in their commands and militarily professional. After the opening their were remarks by Cathy Pagano, the Social Studies Teacher, a film reflecting on wars past as performed by the students, and a brief dissertation after the film by the same students who were on the film. At some time during the year a request was made of veterans to submit a photo of them and the students would then create a picture from the photos. There were approximately six submissions and our own Augie Ploch had a picture done of him. All of the art work was highly professional, framed with much thought, caring and sensitivity. One of the attendees was recognized as a Pearl Harbor veteran who also was 100 years young.

Commandants Corner (Cont.)

Commandants corner cont.

He sat behind me, was there on his own steam and was quite lucid. I had spoken with him prior to the event starting and would not have taken him for 100. The program ended with the Jr. ROTC members who were Seniors and graduating conducting a passing of the flag to the next class while Lee Greenwood's recording of "I'm Proud to be an American" playing in the background. It was a very moving experience. The program concluded with the retirement of the colors, taps, a wreath laying at the Veterans Monument on campus and a brief lunch.

What impressed me during the entire program was the honest regard the school and all students had and displayed to veterans and especially to those who sacrificed their lives so we could all live free in the greatest country in the world. Other than in our Detachment and the 8th & I Association I belong to, I have never witnessed such an outpouring of support, love and gratitude for veterans and to those who are our fallen heroes. I can say that I was deeply touched by the entire experience which brought a tear to these eyes.

They've had this event for many years and I encourage all of you to attend next year if at all possible. You won't regret it.

Semper Fidelis,

Charlie

HONOR---COURAGE---COMMITMENT



Service Officers Report



Hi Folks

We had a great turnout last month at the Veterans Home in Paramus!

Our next Bingo is at East .Orange on Wed.-June 10. We'll car pool from the Oakland Elks at 6:15pm

Please let me know if you can make it. Your presence there means a lot! One of the Vets there, said to me last month, that we're the only company he see's!

Keep coming with your smiles, and goodwill.

Thank You,

Paul Thompson

Service Officer

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

Commandants Club Tickets

COMMANDANT CLUB TICKETS ARE NOW BEING DISTRIBUTED.

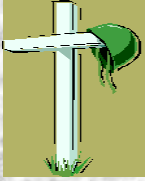
I WILL NOT BE AT THE JUNE MEETING.

IF YOU WANT ME TO RESERVE TICKETS OR MAIL THEM TO YOU

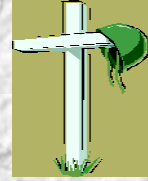
PLEASE CALL ME @ 973-694-7840

Thanks,

Gene Kelley



Chaplains Desk



The Chaplain's Desk June 2015



"Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a mental health condition that's triggered by a terrifying event; either experiencing it or witnessing it. Symptoms may include flashbacks, nightmares and severe anxiety, as well as uncontrollable thoughts about the event. Some Vets who go through traumatic events have difficulty adjusting and coping for a while, but they don't necessarily have PTSD — with time and good self-care, they may eventually get better. But If their symptoms get worse or last for months or even years, and interfere with their functioning they may have PTSD. Thankfully, they can now get help through the many new updated programs that the VA is offering.

"Your Chaplain downloaded a good initial test to find out some of the basic symptoms:

1. Have you experienced or witnessed an event in your past that was any or all of extremely scary, horrifying, assaulting, and/or life-threatening? Yes No
2. Do you have recurrent and distressing memories of the event, even when you try not to think about it? Yes No
3. Are you having recurrent dreams of parts or all of the trauma? Yes No
4. Do you sometimes feel like you are experiencing some part, parts and/or all of the traumatic event over again? Yes No
5. Do you sometimes find yourself feeling traumatized or very frightened about something and cannot associate any memories with the feeling? Yes No
6. Are you making efforts to avoid thoughts, feelings or talking about the trauma? Yes No

Chaplain Cont.



7. Do you avoid certain places, people, events and/or situations because they trigger (or might trigger) thoughts of the trauma? Yes No
8. Are you unable to recall important aspects of the trauma? Yes No
9. Do you feel detached or estranged from yourself and/or others? Yes No
10. Are you experiencing problems with falling or staying asleep? Yes No
11. Are you having trouble concentrating, being irritable or jumpy? Yes No
12. When you think about the future, do you get a sense that it will be shortened for some unknown reason?" Yes No"

The VA has put much effort into these brand new programs that are aimed directly at helping all Vets with PTSD, young or old. Bottom of Form 1

If your answers are mainly YES, then the best thing that you should do is pay a visit to a VA "Doc".

Dennis Kievit / Chaplain MCL #744 / Lakeland Detachment

Phone: (201) 825-0183

Sick Call



Phil Barnett PC -973-839-2881
Bobby Costantin- 973-696-6682
Stanly Golembieski- 973-764-3061
Cliff Kozikowski- 973616-4218

Joe Bucheit - 203-791-4017
Gene Frederick- 410-229-9951
Al Hazelwood- 973-696-4966
Edward Streuli- 973-696-5961



Editors Corner



Even though he was 73 years old and serving as President of the United States at the time, Ronald Reagan received a letter from the Marine Corps asking him if he would like to enlist in 1984.

It may have been a clerical error or just a practical joke from the service to its commander-in-chief, or in the words of Reagan in his response, the result of “a lance corporal’s overactive imagination.” In any case, on Tuesday the U.S. Marine Corps Historical Company [shared on its Facebook page the letter](#) he sent back to then-Commandant Gen. Paul X. Kelley on May 31, 1984, and well, it’s classic.

“I regret that I must decline the attached invitation to enlist in the United States Marine Corps,” Reagan writes on official White House letterhead. “As proud as I am of the inference concerning my physical fitness, it might be better to continue as Commander-in-Chief. Besides, at the present time it would be rather difficult to spend ten weeks at Parris Island.”

With [his trademark wit](#), Reagan noted the Democrats would probably appreciate it if he left The White House, but had to pass since his wife Nancy loved their current residence and Reagan himself was “totally satisfied with his job.”

“Would you consider a deferment until 1989?” Reagan wrote. (It’s worth noting that Reagan served stateside in the U.S. Army Air Force’s first motion picture unit during World War II).

Check out the full letter below:

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MAY 31, 1984

Dear General Kelley,


I regret that I must decline the attached invitation to enlist in the United States Marine Corps.

As proud as I am of the inference concerning my physical fitness, it might be better to continue as the Commander-in-Chief. Besides, at the present time it would be rather difficult to spend ten weeks at Parris Island.

The recruiter notes that "had (I) joined six months ago, I would have a whole new life now." There is no doubt about that. As much as the other political party would appreciate the notion, Nancy is happy with the house and I am totally satisfied with my job. As for the immediate future, I have the kind of tenacity the Corps is famous for in my resolve to stay here for the next four years. Would you consider a deferment until 1989?

On a more serious note, P. X., I'm sure my invitation came as the result of a lance corporal's overactive imagination. Nevertheless, please let him know that he honored me in believing that I have what it takes to become a United States Marine.

Semper Fidelis,



General Paul X. Kelley
Commandant
United States Marine Corps
Washington, D. C. 20380

My Commander in Chief was a class act. He was a good leader who cared about the men and woman who serve our great country.

He strengthened our Military and he made the world take us seriously as defenders of freedoms and liberties and justice for the people of the free world. We worked hard in the Marine Corps under his leadership and we trusted his resolve. I miss that time and I will fight to get us back on tract as a nation as I know many of you all will also. Semper Fidelis my brother Marines!



*The Oakland Elks & Marine Corps League #744 Invites you
to our Third Sunday Monthly Breakfast*

Sunday June 21. 8am-12pm "Father's Day"

"Best Breakfast Around"

Eggs Benedict

Omelet's & Scrambled Eggs

Pancakes & French Toast & waffles

Bacon & Sausage

Hash Browns

Coffee & Orange Juice

Adults \$10.00

Seniors & children \$9.00 (Children under 10 free)

Bring your friends and family and join us for a Great Time!

***33 Ramapo Valley Rd, Oakland, NJ 07436 Phone:
(201) 337-2170***

Marine Corps 240th Birthday Ball

November 6, 2015

Save this date

All League members will be receiving an invitation to The Ball in late August.

If you have a family member or friend that would like to attend The Ball please include their name on your invitation response card and send their payment in at the same time.

If you know of anyone who would like their own invitation please contact:

Peter Alvarez (973) 839-5693



A cake from last year!



The Marine Corps League
Lakeland Detachment #744

Invites you to its:

17TH 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 [201-797-8616h-201-321-6897c—gwvjr37@optimum.net](mailto:gwvjr37@optimum.net)

Joeseh Piazza [201-505-1361h--201-661-4226c—joemar21@msn.com](mailto:joemar21@msn.com)

Peter Alvarez [973-839-5693h-973-568-7119c—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

June

06/05/15	Hawthorne Street Dedication 2 Marines needed 1pm	TBD
06/07/15	Flag Day	Elks
06/07/15	Rose Program Montvale	Paragon Drive
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
06/10/15	Bingo East Orange Veterans Hospital 7pm "Meet at Elks 6:15pm to carpool "	
06/17/15	Flag Retirement Ceremony "Franklin Lakes Fire Department"	TBD
06/20/15	Rose Event Wyckoff Stop & Shop **ALL HANDS ON DECK**	Wyckoff
06/21/15	MCL Breakfast Fathers Day Breakfast 8am -1pm	Elks
06/26/15	Detachment Meeting 7:30pm	Elks
06/28/15	Garand Match at Cherry Ridge	

July

07/04/15	July 4th Parade	
07/11/15	Frank Mackey Bike Run Rose Event Willowbrook Mall	TBD
07/14/15	Officers Meeting	TBD
07/19/15	Monthly Breakfast	Elks
07/23/15	Detachment Meeting New Time 7:30pm	Elks

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

Vietnam Veterans of America

Margaret Wojciechowicz

973-297-3227

PASSAIC

Veterans Service Office

930 Riverview Drive, Suite 200

Totowa, NJ 07512

973-569-4090

John Harris VSO/ Richard Mannes VSO

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>

