

Finnegan's 411



OFFICERS

- COMMANDANT:**
John Bauman
mjabauman@verizon.net
- SR. VICE**
- COMMANDANT:**
Tom Kenney
USMC7585@verizon.net
- JR. VICE**
- COMMANDANT:**
Vinny Annunziata
Vinnya22@hotmail.com
- JUDGE ADVOCATE:**
John Burke
loopholeburke@aol.com
- PAYMASTER:**
Stan Derby
campderby@aol.com
- SGT. AT ARMS:**
Matthew Falcone
malfalcone@optonline.net
- CHAPLAIN:**
Rudy Jonak
rjonakxes@yahoo.com
- ADJUTANT**
John Donovan
(516) 791 2938
- NEWSLETTER**
- EDITOR:**
Tom Kenney
USMC7585@verizon.net

Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month except July and August at the BPO Elks Lodge, 30 Haven Ave. Port Washington, N.Y. **2000 hrs (8:00 PM)**
We value your membership! Your support, input and participation in the detachment's affairs are important to our success! Come to the meeting, get involved!

Support Your Detachment!

February 2010

The Official Newsletter of
Marine Corps League Detachment 614
Port Washington, N.Y.

"Once A Marine, Always A Marine"

www.orgsites.com/ny/port-washington-marines/index.html

Devil Dogs!

January is now history. This past meeting we welcomed *three* new members to our ranks! *Welcome aboard* to former Sgt. Of Marines **Walter Coveny**, Pfc. **Clarence Jaye**, and Cpl. **Louis Wirth**.

Walter reported to Parris Island in May 1953 and served as an 1833, AmTrac crewman. He's now enjoying retirement and lives in Albertson with his wife **Catherine**.

Clarence reported to boot camp in September 1945 and served with the Engineers. He is also retired and with his wife **Barbara**, also lives in Albertson.

Lou reported to boot camp in October 1980. He was trained as a 6112 CH-46 helo mechanic and became a 6172, CH-46 crew chief. He's a retired NYPD Detective and lives in Williston Park with his wife **Antoinette**.

Paymaster **Stan Derby** reports that the detachment is in outstanding financial condition. As a result of the kindness and charity shown by so many of our members and guests at our Christmas Party, he put forth a motion for the detachment to send a \$1,000.00 donation to the Wounded Warrior Reg't. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. By the time you read this, the regiment will have received the check. Thanks very much to all who participated and showed such generosity.

In April, the detachment will be holding annual elections for Officers. As such, a Nominations Committee has been formed. The committee members are **Tom Kenney**, **John Burke** and **Matt Falcone**. The positions of Commandant, Sr. Vice Commandant, Jr. Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate are all open to eligible members. If there is someone you want to see in a specific position or if you want to nominate yourself for one of the positions, you can submit those member's names to any one of the committee members.

The Dept. of N.Y. paymaster reports that the N.Y.S. D.M.V. has increased the price for MCL license plates as of Sept. 2009. Regular MCL plates went from \$28.00 to \$28.75. Special (vanity) MCL plates went from \$53.00 to \$60.00

Up Coming Event



Sunday
February 7, 2010
24th Anniversary
Port Washington M.C.L.
Detachment Charter

Thursday
February 11, 2010
Detachment Meeting
2000 Hrs (8:00 PM)
Elks Lodge
30 Haven Ave.
Port Washington, N.Y.

Sunday
February 14, 2010
Valentine's Day
Do Not Forget!
You have been warned!

Recruiting new members for the detachment should be a priority for all of us. If any of your friends are former Marines who know you're in the League, explain to them who we are and what we do. Bring them to a meeting, introduce them to the detachment and get them interested in joining us!



Finnegan's 411

There's no such thing as an "ex" Marine!



Walter Coveny, one of our new members was asked to pull the winning ticket for the January 50/50 drawing. As luck would have it the ticket he pulled just happened to be *his*! Congratulations!

The detachment wishes to convey our sincere condolences to member **Scott Werner** on the passing of his mother **Victoria**. We're sorry for your loss.

It's official; DD-214s can now be requested online. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214s online:

<http://vetrecs.archives.gov/>

This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans with computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents.

Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time.

VA CONTACT NUMBERS: Call VA Benefits: 1-800-827-1000 for:

Burial, Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA), Death Pension, Dependency Indemnity Compensation, Direct Deposit, Directions to VA Benefits Regional Offices, Disability Compensation, Disability Pension, Education, Home Loan Guarantee, Life Insurance, Medical Care, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment.

Beneficiaries in receipt of Pension Benefits: 1-877-294-6380, *Education (GI Bill):* 1-888-442-4551

Health Care Benefits: 1-877-222-8387, *Income Verification and Means Testing:* 1-800-929-8387

Life Insurance: 1-800-669-8477, *Mammography Helpline:* 1-888-492-7844

Special Issues - Gulf War/Agent Orange/Project Shad/Mustard Agents and Lewisite/Ionizing Radiation: 1-800-749-8387

Status of Headstones and Markers: 1-800-697-6947

Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD): 1-800-829-4833

For health care services, contact the nearest VA medical facility

MEMBER MILESTONES: FEBRUARY 2010

Jim Buatti celebrates his birthday February 14th Happy Birthday!

Stan Derby enlisted in the Corps 53 years ago February 1, 1957. Where does the time go?

Bernie Dunn celebrates his birthday February 12th Happy Birthday!

Matt Falcone celebrates his birthday February 23rd Happy Birthday!

Al Hoovis celebrates his birthday February 24th Happy Birthday!

Mike Kummer celebrates his birthday February 26th and his 24th anniversary in the League, February 1986. Congratulations!

Ed Knizewski celebrates his 24th anniversary in the League, February 1986. Congratulations.

Wilson Mead celebrates his birthday February 6th Happy Birthday!

John Meehan enlisted in The Corps 44 years ago on February 15, 1966 and celebrates his 23rd anniversary in the League, February 1987 Congratulations!

Brian More celebrates his 7th anniversary in the League, February 2003 Congratulations!

Jim O'Hara celebrates his 24th anniversary in the League, February 1986 Congratulations.

Justin Restivo enlisted in The Corps 11 years ago on February 1, 1999. Seems like just yesterday!

Charles Shuh celebrates his 24th anniversary in The League, February 1986. Congratulations

If you wish to be included in the **Member Milestones** column or if there is incorrect or incomplete information indicated, notify Tom Kenney and the proper adjustments will be made.



Finnegan's 411

There's no such thing as an "ex" Marine!



THIS MONTH IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY:

1 February 1967: "Operation Prairie II" was begun in Quang Tri province by elements of the 3d Marine Division. During the 46-day search-and-destroy operation which terminated 18 March, 93 Marines and 693 of the enemy were killed.

2 February 1944: The 4th Marine Division, as part of the first assault on islands controlled by the Japanese before the start of World War II, captured Namur and eight other islands in the Kwajalein Atoll.

3 February 1953: "Operation Clambake" jumps off when Marines from Able Co. 1st Bn., 5th Marine Reg't (A 1/5) 1st Marine Div. Assault the Ungok Hill mass on the western front in Korea. At first light when the Marines jumped off, the temperature was 2° below zero (F). As a result of the operation, 90 Chinese soldiers were confirmed KIA with another 400 probables. Marine casualties were 14 KIA and 90 WIA, all of whom eventually recovered. One of those wounded Marines was our own, **John Donovan**. There was one Medal of Honor awarded to 2nd Lt. Raymond "Jerry" Murphy. Two Navy Crosses were also awarded to Marines as a result of their heroic actions during the fight.

6 February 1968: Two reduced Marine battalions, the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines with two companies, and 2d Battalion, 5th Marines with three, recaptured Hue's hospital, jail, and provincial headquarters. It would take three more weeks of intense house-to-house fighting, and nearly a thousand Marines killed and wounded, before the imperial city was secured.

15 February 1898: 28 Marines and 232 seamen lost their lives when the battleship MAINE was mysteriously sunk by an explosion in the harbor of Havana, Cuba. Though no definitive evidence linked the Spanish with the sinking, the cry went up, "Remember the Maine!", and by late April the U.S. and Spain were at war.

19 February 1945: "Operation Detachment" the invasion of Iwo Jima began at 08:59, one minute ahead of schedule. The first of an eventual 30,000 Marines of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Marine Divisions, under V Amphibious Corps, landed on the beach. Before the operation was over, more than 20,000 of the island's 21,000 Japanese defenders would be killed. Only 216 were taken prisoner.

23 February 1945: Four days after the initial landings on Iwo Jima, 1stLt Harold G. Schrier led 40 men from Company E, 2d Battalion, 28th Marines, up Mt. Suribachi to secure the crest and raise the small American flag that battalion commander LtCol Chandler Johnson had given Schrier. Within an hour, the patrol reached the rim of the crater. After a short fire-fight with Japanese defenders emerging from several caves, the small American flag was attached to an iron pipe and raised over the island. Later that day, Joe Rosenthal would snap his history-making photo of the second, larger flag being raised on Suribachi

24 February 1991: The I Marine Expeditionary Force and coalition forces began a ground assault on Iraqi defenses in the final chapter of "Operation Desert Storm". The 1st and 2d Marine Divisions stormed into the teeth of Iraqi defenses while heavily armored allied forces attacked the Iraqi defenses in Iraq from behind. In 100 hours, U.S. and allied forces defeated the Iraqi Army.

28 February 1991: "Operation Desert Storm" ended when the cease-fire declared by President George Bush went into effect. I Marine Expeditionary Force has a strength of more than 92,000 making Operation Desert Storm the largest Marine Corps operation in history. A total of 24 Marines were killed in action during the Gulf War

Quotable Quotes:

"Among the Americans who served on Iwo Island, uncommon valor was a common virtue".

Fleet Admiral **Chester W. Nimitz**, USN, Pacific Fleet communiqué, 16 March 1945

Semper Fi

Tom

Good night Chesty, where ever you are!

Questions? Comments? Sound Off! USMC7585@verizon.net Do we have your E-Mail address? If not, send it and we'll add you to our mailing list.

No computer? No E-Mail address? NO PROBLEM! Contact the newsletter editor, Tom Kenney at: 226-49B Kingsbury Ave. Bayside, N.Y. 11364. Telephone: (718) 776-2045 (Home) (516) 456-9186 (Cell)

"Once A Marine, Always A Marine!"