



# Finnegan's 411



February 2012



## Up Coming Events



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### NEWSLETTER

### EDITOR:

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Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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!**

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

Home of Major Douglas T. Jacobson  
U.S.M.C.

Medal of Honor Recipient, 1945

## Ahoy Leathernecks!

Welcome aboard and congratulations to our newest member, Pvt. **Frank Wirth!** Frank is the son of member **Lou Wirth.** He reported to Parris Island on October 24, 2011 and just graduated on January 20, 2012. At the time of this writing, Frank is home on leave. He'll be reporting to Camp Lejeune for MCT (Marine Combat Training) after which he'll get orders to school for training in the Logistics field.

For the last few years, the detachment has been getting together for a dinner during the holiday season. This year we had to wait till after the holidays before we could plan the dinner. We will be going to *Amalfi of Port Washington* located at 49 Old Shore Rd. on Thursday, February 2; at 7:00 PM. **Tom Piccinninni** has made arrangements with the restaurant to accommodate us for dinner at a cost of \$25.00 per person off a Prix Fix menu, which will include a salad, entrée, coffee and Italian cheesecake. If you're interested in joining us, contact Tom at (516) 883-0769 by Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> so he can tell the restaurant how many of us will be coming. Call the restaurant at (516) 883-4191 for directions.

We are coming to that time of year when we will choose our officers for the next year. As such we will form an nomination committee at the February meeting. If you are interested in running for an officer position, or if there is someone you'd like to see as an officer, come to the meeting and submit their name. The only requirement for nomination is that he or she be a member in good standing and current on dues. The positions up for election are the Commandant, Sr. Vice Commandant, Jr. Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate.

The Long Island Marine Corps League detachments will be hosting the Dept. of New York spring Staff meeting this year, April 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, at the Holiday Inn by MacArthur Airport in Ronkonkoma. The meeting is open to all League members. The agenda for the meetings will be posted in subsequent newsletters.

**Thursday  
February 2, 2012  
Detachment Dinner  
Party**

**7:00 PM**

*Amalfi of Port  
Washington*

**49 Old Shore Rd.**

**Port Washington.**

(See newsletter for details)

**Tuesday  
February 7, 2012  
26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Port Washington  
M.C.L. Detachment  
Charter**

**Thursday  
February 9, 2012  
Detachment Meeting**  
2000 Hrs (8:00 PM)  
Elks Lodge  
30 Haven Ave.  
Port Washington, N.Y.

**Tuesday  
February 14, 2012  
Valentine's Day**  
*Do Not Forget!*  
You have been warned!

"Once A Marine, Always A Marine"

[www.orgsites.com/ny/port-washington-marines/index.html](http://www.orgsites.com/ny/port-washington-marines/index.html)

# Finnegan's 411

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

**Matt Falcone**, aside from being our Sgt. At Arms, is the Commander of the Manhasset American Legion. He has informed us that his Legion detachment is working on a trip to Quantico, VA. and Marine Barracks 8<sup>th</sup> & I some time in late May or early June, similar to the trip we put together back in 2007. There are no firm dates or details yet but Matt would like to know how many of us would be interested in going. He's looking for upwards of 25 people who would want to make the trip. As details emerge, they will be publicized. In the meantime, let Matt know if you're interested so he can put a head count together.

Congratulations to **Stan Derby** on winning the January 50/50 drawing!

## **MEMBER MILESTONES: DECEMBER 2007**

**Jim Buatti** celebrates his birthday February 14<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday!

**Stan Derby** enlisted in the Corps 55 years ago February 1, 1957. Where does the time go?

**John Destefan** celebrates his birthday February 10<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday. He also enlisted in the Corps this month on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1981

**Bernie Dunn** celebrates his birthday February 12<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday!

**Matt Falcone** celebrates his birthday February 23<sup>rd</sup> Happy Birthday!

**Al Hoovis** celebrates his birthday February 24<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday!

**Mike Kummer** celebrates his birthday February 26<sup>th</sup> and his 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the League, February 1986. Congratulations!

**Ed Knizewski** celebrates his 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the League, February 1986. Congratulations.

**Wilson Mead** celebrates his birthday February 6<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday!

**Brian Mohr** celebrates his 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the League, February 2003 Congratulations!

**Brian J. More** also celebrates his 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the League, February 2003 Congratulations!

**Jim O'Hara** celebrates his 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the League, February 1986 Congratulations.

**Charles Shuh** celebrates his 25<sup>th</sup> 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.



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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. 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Reg't (A 1/5) 1<sup>st</sup> 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 probable. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 H.W. Bush went into effect. I Marine Expeditionary Force had 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:**

*"The raising of that flag on Suribachi means a MARINE CORPS for the next 500 years."*

**James Forrestal**, Secretary of the Navy, February 1945

***Semper Fi***

**Good night Chesty, where ever you are!**

Questions? Comments? Sound Off! [USMC7585@verizon.net](mailto: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!"*