

Finnegan's 411



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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!

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

Ahoy, Leathernecks!

Summer is slowly ebbing away and the kids are getting ready to go back to school. Hopefully everyone has been enjoying a safe, fun filled summer, even if the weather was less cooperative than usual this year.

We're back from our summer hiatus. Our next meeting will be on **September 10, 2009** as always at the Port Washington Elks Lodge. The meeting will be called to order at 8:00 PM. But the doors open (as does the bar) at 7:30. So come by early and enjoy a pre-meeting drink and some good old Marine Corps fellowship!

The detachment was certainly not idle during the summer. We kept busy with several affairs and events, some enjoyable and entertaining, others sadly, not.

Our second annual July Sunset Cruise was a great night. Twenty-seven detachment members, spouses and guests enjoyed a relaxing, two and a half hour trip around Port Washington Harbor; past some of the most expensive and posh homes on the north shore of Long Island, through the Long Island Sound to the Throggs Neck Bridge and back. Our boat's able crew made certain that everyone was comfortable and our "first mate" Amanda pointed out places of interest all along the route. Of course we had plenty of thirst quenching beverages aboard and delicious sandwiches and salads for our dining pleasure, compliments of **Dominick Grasso**. Everyone who attended agreed; the cruise was an outstanding affair.

The detachment's annual Pot Luck Picnic BBQ, hosted by **Stan and Kay Derby** was as usual, a great time. The weather cooperated nicely, the various dishes, ranging from salads and sides to entrees and desserts were all top notch and delicious. The beverages were cold and refreshing. Of course, the company was outstanding! It's an age-old cliché, but it still holds true; a good time was had by all! We're already looking forward to next year's bash!

Unfortunately this summer, the detachment suffered a loss. **Carmine Santoli** passed away at the end of July. Carmine was 84 years old. He enlisted in The Corps in December 1942 and served in the Pacific Theater during WW II. Unfortunately, the detachment was not present to render honors at Carmine's wake or funeral due to the fact that we did not receive notification of his passing until well after his burial. The detachment sends out condolences to Carmine's wife and family. As is our custom, a \$100.00 donation to the Wounded Warrior Reg't has been made in Carmine's name. Rest in Peace, Marine.

Up Coming Events



Monday
September 7, 2009
Labor Day

Saturday
September 12, 2009
Veterans Appreciation BBQ
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Hicksville VFW
320 South Broadway
Hicksville, N.Y.

Thursday
September 10, 2009
Detachment Meeting
2000 Hrs (8:00 PM)
Elks Lodge
30 Haven Ave.
Port Washington, N.Y.

Tuesday
September 22, 2009
Autumn begins.

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!



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We also had a few members making visits to sickbay. **Dennis Cummings** had knee surgery on August 3rd. Reports are that he's going through rehab and he's on the road to recovery. **Mike Gregory** also had leg surgery on August 26th. Mike got through the surgery well and thinks he'll be fully recovered in a short while. Mike is also scheduled for cataract surgery at the end of September. Our own **Larry Jindra** will treat him. Best of luck Mike, you're in good hands! We know you'll come through in fine, Marine Corps fashion!

The war in Afghanistan is taking its toll on our Marines. Members of our detachment were present at the wake and funeral on August 15th to pay respects to LCpl **James D. Argentine**, 22, of Farmingdale, N.Y. And we had an excellent turnout for the wake of LCpl **Leopold Damas** of Floral Park, on Friday, August 28th. To those members who attended the tributes to these fallen Warriors, thank you. All of us know the basic premise behind the League's existence; "Members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps, as well as providing camaraderie and assistance to Marines, as well as to their widows and orphans". Our presence at these final tributes provides much needed support and assurances to the Marines' families that their Marine may be gone but he will never be forgotten.

No doubt we will be called upon again to represent our Corps and the League at future wakes and funerals. Time and again as this war progresses, Marines will clash with our enemies and emerge victorious, but not without suffering losses of our own. When the call goes out, we ask that as many detachment members as possible try and join us in paying tribute to those who make the ultimate sacrifice. Doing so helps maintain our bonds of brotherhood with fellow Marines and their families. It's part of what makes Marines special and separates us from the other branches of the military.

As they did last year, Assemblymen **Tom McKeivitt** (R, 17th Assembly Dist.), **David McDonough** (R, 19th Assembly Dist.) and **Rob Walker** (R, 15th Assembly Dist), are hosting a Veterans Appreciation BBQ. The information is as follows: Date: Saturday, September 12, 2009 Time: 12-4pm. Place: Hicksville VFW, 320 South Broadway, Hicksville, N.Y. *All* veterans are cordially invited to attend. There is NO charge to attend the affair! If you plan on attending, please try and wear something that will identify you as a Marine and member of the Port Washington Detachment. A little publicity never hurts! Along with meeting other veterans and vet's groups from the area and representing the Corps, the League and our detachment we'll enjoy some good chow and a few drinks as well. Perhaps we'll even scare up a few new members during the day.

MEMBER MILESTONES: SEPTEMBER 2009

Victor Cannizzaro celebrates his 4th anniversary in the League. Congratulations Vic!

Mike Gregory enlisted in The Corps 66 years ago on Sept. 10, 1943. "Old Corps" to the bone!

Dominick Grosso celebrates his 11th anniversary in the League. Congratulations Dominick!

Mike Kummer enlisted in The Corps 45 years ago on Sept. 10, 1964. Not *quite* as "Old Corps" as Mike Gregory but Marine through and through!

Jim O'Hara celebrates his 61st wedding anniversary Sept. 25. Congratulations to you and the Missus! Jim also enlisted in The Corps 66 years ago on Sept. 1, 1943, another "Old Corps" devil dog!

Tom Piccininni enlisted in The Corps 53 years ago on Sept. 20, 1956. Want to bet he still knows his rifle's serial number?

Rich Zoller celebrates his 47th wedding anniversary on Sept. 24. Congratulations to you and the Missus!

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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THIS MONTH IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY:

2 September 1945: The Japanese officially surrendered to the Allies on board the battleship MISSOURI in Tokyo Bay. With General Holland Smith transferred home in July 1945, the senior Marine Corps representative at the historic ceremony was LtGen Roy S. Geiger, who had succeeded Smith as Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

6 September 1983: Two Marines were killed and two were wounded when rockets hit their compound in Beirut, Lebanon. Heavy fighting continued for the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit peacekeeping force in the area near their positions around the Beirut International Airport.

8 September 1942: On Guadalcanal, the 1st Raider Battalion and the 1st Parachute Battalion, supported by planes of MAG-23 and two destroyer transports, landed east of Tasimboko, advanced west into the rear of Japanese positions, and carried out a successful raid on a Japanese supply base.

15 September 1950: The 3d Battalion, 5th Marines landed on Wolmi-do Island in Inchon Harbor and secured it prior to the main landing. The 1st Marine Division under the command of Major General Oliver P. Smith landed at Inchon and began the Inchon-Seoul campaign.

16 September 1814: A detachment of Marines under Major Daniel Carmick from the Naval Station at New Orleans, together with an Army detachment, destroyed a pirate stronghold at Barataria, on the Island of Grande Terre, near New Orleans.

20 September 1950: Marines of the 1st Marine Division crossed the Han River along a six-mile beachhead, eight miles northwest of Seoul, Korea. Five days later, the 1st and 5th Marines would attack Seoul and the city would be captured by 27 September.

24 September 1873: One hundred and ninety Marines and seamen from the USS PENSACOLA and BENICIA landed at the Bay of Panama, Columbia, to protect the railroad and American lives and property during the revolution.

27 September 1944: The American flag was raised over Peleliu, Palau Islands, at the 1st Marine Division Command Post. Although the flag raising symbolized that the island was secured, pockets of determined Japanese defenders continued to fight on. As late as 21 April 1947, 27 Japanese holdouts finally surrendered to the American naval commander on the scene.

30 September 1945: Marines of III Amphibious Corps, commanded by Major General Keller E. Rockey, began landing in North China to assist the Chinese Nationalist government in accepting the surrender of Japanese forces and repatriating Japanese soldiers and civilians.

Quotable Quotes:

"There is nothing particularly glorious about sweaty fellows, laden with killing tools, going along to fight. And yet—such a column represents a great deal more than 28,000 individuals mustered into a division. All that is behind those men is in that column, too: the old battles, long forgotten, that secured our nation ... traditions of things endured and things accomplish, such as regiments hand down forever ..."

Capt John W. Thomason Jr.: "Fix Bayonets," 1926, on Marines during WW I

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!"