



Westchester County Detachment

Marine Corps League

PO Box 505 • White Plains • NY • 10602-0505

Next Meeting: 4 May 2011 – First Wednesday

Muster 7:30 PM, Meeting 8 PM

Legion Hall • 57 Mitchell Place, White Plains, NY

Commandant: Kevin Fischer

WWW.MCLWESTCHESTER.ORG

Editor: Lu Caldara 914-941-2118

MEMBERSHIP

FY 2011

449

Ask that Marine to associate with our detachment.

Welcome Aboard!

New members: Welcome aboard: **SgtMaj Fenton Reese USMC** ret of Quantico, VA; **Mario Garcia** of Ossining; **GySgt Steven Hernandez USMC** of Newburgh, **SSgt Brian Dawes USMC** of Wappingers Falls sponsored by Lu Caldara.

Renewal = \$26 New = \$31

Life Members: We are now at **314** Life Members

Think LIFE!

Life Member Dues:

To age 35=\$500; 36-50=\$400;

51-60=\$300; 61+=\$150

Online dues payment

Visit our website and save a stamp, envelope and that check writing time. Try it, you'll like it!

www.mclwestchester.org/

Sick & Distress? Contact:
Chaplain Kurt Michaelson

914-438-6926

ktmichaelson@yahoo.com

TAPS

Associate Life Member **Robert Mauro** passed away March 13. He recently retired as Chief of the Fairview Fire Department, Greenburgh. He was active in our Toys for Tots program and the Flag disposal project. See obituary.

Sick Call

Donald Shelton is still in the Nursing / Rehab facility of the Bronx VA. **Paul Rusinko** is also at the Nursing Home at Bronx VA. Drop by and say hello. New Associate Member **Justin**

Sanabria is going to become a regular visitor to check in on our nursing home members.

Calendar

May 22: Memorial Day Eastchester

May 29: Veterans Appreciation Day.

Rye Playland Sunday Noon – 4pm.

May 30: Memorial Day. White Plains

June 2-4 NY State Convention:

Vernon Downs

Nov 6: Marine Anniversary Brunch

Antun's

2011 MCL R&P Shoots
Colonie, NY

28-29 May Rifle; 17 Sept Rifle;

18 Sept Pistol

Member News

Frank Morgenthaler did a DC run.

See "from the wire." **Joseph Murphy** has "retired" from 27 years of serving our local congress people. He has been recognized for serving / chairing the Service Academy Selection Committee. **SSgt Steven Hernandez USMC** and **SSgt Brian Dawes USMC** are recruiters at the Peekskill RSS.

Detachment Activities
Mar 12: St Patrick's Day Parade White Plains & Tarrytown: **James Stead** represented our detachment with his WWII USMC Jeep plus our YMs color guard and marchers.
Mar 17: St Patrick's Day Parade, NYC. Members participating: **Bill Hall, Bob Stephens, Lu Caldara, Susan Porcello, Liam Murphy, Wayne Mcgrath.**

Mar 19: "Spaghetti Dinner" fund-raiser for LCpl John G. Curtin USMC WIA Afghanistan. Curtin is still at the Reed Army Hospital, recovering.

Frank Morgenthaler our detachment.
March 25-26: Northeast Div. Conf. Hampton Inn, Woodbridge, NJ. Life member **LtGen Steve Olmstead USMC** ret was Guest of Honor. **Lu Caldara** represented our detachment.
Mar 28: Service Academies selectees recognition ceremony by Congresswoman Nita Lowey. **Steve Smalley** and **Lu Caldara** represented our detachment.

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2011-2012 Officers

Commandant: Kevin Fischer

Sr. Vice Cmdt: Frank Morgenthaler

Jr. Vice Cmdt: Ricardo Sheppard

Judge Advocate: Bob Stephens

Adjutant: Drew McFadden

Paymaster: Lu Caldara

Chaplain: Kurt Michaelson

Installation performed by Dept. Sgt at Arms Ricardo Sheppard.

Marine Memorial Scholarship

Funds

"Lest We Forget"

In memory of former Marine and fellow Detachment member

SGT Anthony Kalladeen
NYARNG

KIA Iraq 8 Aug 2005

Andrus Childrens Home, Yonkers

As of 12/31/2010=\$5,802.49

In memory of Westchester County Marines who were killed in the bombing of the Marine Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon in 1983.

LCpl Craig Wyche USMC
Ossining HS

2010 Awardee Rafael Rodriguez
Cpl James J. Jackowski USMC

John Jay HS

2010 Awardee Skylar Harris

University of Maryland

Engineering

As of 12/31/2010=\$18,762.79

Young Marines of White Plains

YM's participated in the White Plains and Sleepy Hollow "St. Patrick's Day" parades.

YM SSgt Kyle Avery represented our unit at The Battalion Staff meeting at Hampton, CT, in preparation of the Battalion activities.

West Harrison FD provided a "Fire Safety" instruction period.

From the Wire

Life Member Jim Lint: On behalf of the Lint Center team, I am delighted to share some outstanding news with you - Anna Hyonjoo Lint was awarded her PhD this week! Gary Scher said it best, "We are enormously proud of the hard work and dedication Anna has demonstrated by completing her Doctoral studies. Doctor Lint's accomplishment of achieving the highest academic recognition in her field is an impressive standalone triumph. However, her achievement is even greater when one realizes it was attained in a second language. Dr. Lint's success clearly demonstrates that language need not be a barrier and her example further illustrates the character of persistence as well as steadfast commitment to education that we all share." : A hearty congratulation for a job well done is duly in order for Dr. Lint!

Life Member Frank Morgenthaler
I went to Washington for a series of meetings to promote the Service Dog Program and educate some of the newer Representatives about the program and its benefits to our wounded. The purpose of visiting Congressional reps was to encourage them to put the heat on the VA to follow the Public Law and implement provisions that are related to the Service Dog Program. At the present time, VA is not doing what they have been mandated to do. Also, at the current time, Veterans who have received Service Dogs are not allowed to bring them into VA facilities when they go there for treatment or assistance. Many of the wounded vets have complained about this problem, but, the VA has not addressed it. To that point, I met with retired Major General Clifford Stanley, USMC, Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness at the Pentagon. Secretary Stanley's wife has a Service Dog and he is a big supporter of the Program. Within two days of the meeting, the General had assistants draw up paperwork to address this matter and to more or less order the VA to open the doors at VA facilities to wounded vets and their service dogs. I also had meetings with 15 Congressional Reps or their Military Legislative Aides, including members of the Veterans Affairs Committees (both House and Senate) trying to solicit support for the Program.

I visited Walter Reed AMC on Tuesday, March 8th, to speak with staff about the Service Dog Program. Many of these individuals (acting in an unofficial capacity) make the wounded vets receiving treatment at WRAMC aware of the Service Dog Program, the fact that the dogs are provided for free to these vets and also provide information on contacting Service Dog Training facilities. While there I met a young Marine from Illinois, who had been severely wounded in Afghanistan last May. He is a quadriplegic and is confined to a wheelchair. Corporal John Peck, USMC, lost both legs (very high up), and both arms to an IED. His right arm is gone up into the shoulder socket. He has part of the left arm; amputated just below the elbow joint. He is only 21 years old and has little family support. In the 10 months he has been at the hospital, no family members visited. His mother just showed up the day before I was there. This young Marine has tremendous spirit and is an inspiration. The day I saw him, he was extremely happy. That day he had been able to bend the elbow joint of his left arm. It was incredible to see what this "simple" movement meant to him. I spent over an hour with him. He is interested in obtaining a service dog and it would obviously be a great help to him. We started the paperwork for him to apply with one of the training facilities. I intend to follow up on this and make sure that he gets what he needs. I have to compliment the staff at the hospital. They are extremely dedicated and committed to these wounded troops. One negative note - in discussing the Afghanistan situation with the staff, they stated that the number of seriously wounded casualties coming back has spiked again to almost the level of the beginning of the Iraq War. Most of the injuries are the result of IED incidents. I made a comment to a friend who was with me at Walter Reed - in the section of the hospital where we spent our time, we look out of place. We have all of our limbs. Just about everyone else there, except for staff, is missing at least one limb. The positive - their spirit is incredible.

USMC Uniform Support Center 800-368-4088

Wounded Warrior Regiment

Financial donations can be accepted by the Regiment.

Checks should be made payable and sent to:

Department of Navy Gift Fund
3025 John Quick Road
MCB Quantico, VA 22134
C/O: Charitable Donations Coordinator

Memo line:
Wounded Warrior Regiment

Obituary

Life Member and former Fairview Fire Chief **Robert Mauro**, who retired last month after a 45-year career in the fire service, died March 13 at White Plains Hospital Center. He was 76. Mauro began his firefighting career as a volunteer in Thornwood, while working at the General Precision Laboratory there. He joined the Fairview department in 1965. Mauro was promoted to lieutenant after four years, became a captain in 1975 and was named chief two years later. He led the town's largest fire district for the next 33 years. During the 1980s, he helped draft state law that requires hotels and motels to furnish each room with smoke detectors for the hearing impaired. He was vice chairman of the Greenburgh Health Center and an aide at the White Plains Phobia Clinic, helping people manage panic and anxieties. He was very involved with our Toys for Tots and Flag programs.

**Got an Email?
Receiving the hard copy
newsletter?
Save the detachment a few
bucks and processing by
sending your email
address to:
LLC1@mclwestchester.org**

**Westchester County
Veterans Service Agency
914-995-2145,6**

**Yonkers Veterans Agency
Member Al Ramsey, Director
Member Geno Egiziaco, Counselor
914-377-6700**

**USMC Recruiting Service
Westchester
682-4785 - White Plains
969-0550 – Yonkers
213-3951 - Ossining
737-7887 – Peekskill**