

Marine Corps League

Westchester County Detachment

PO Box 505 • White Plains • New York • 10602-0505

http://www.mclwestchester.org



Commandant: James (Jim) V. Mazzone (914) 843-6379

August 2015

MEETING NOTICE:

First Wednesday of the Month

Next Meeting: 2 September 2015

NOTE: NEW MEETING LOCATION & TIME!

Location: American Legion Post 135 57 Mitchell Place, White Plains, NY 10602

Muster: 7:00 PM Meeting: 7:30 PM

Got an Email?

Do you have an email and are you receiving the hard copy newsletter? Save the Detachment a few bucks and processing by sending your email address to:

mailcall@mclwestchester.org

Be sure to add <u>mailcall@mclwestchester.org</u> to your allowable senders list so that it is not blocked by your spam filter. **Note:** Detachment Announcements are also being sent from this email address. If you wish not to receive emails from the Detachment, please select OPT-OUT instead of SPAM in the message footer. Thank you.

Newsletter Team:

Editor: Steve Topilnycky (914) 263-0840 • <u>spt1@mclwestchester.org</u>

Assistant Editor: Kelly Topilnycky

Got a new job, promotion, transfer or participated in a League activity or Corps event, or got some awesome news, we would like to hear from you. Contact our Editor Steve Topilnycky using one of the methods above.

MEMBERSHIP

FY 2015 (July-June): We are at **438 Members** with **307 Life Members**. Invite those Marines to associate with our Detachment.

Renewal = \$31 **New** = \$35

Active Duty: Renewal = \$15 **New** = \$20

Think LIFE!

Life Member Dues: To age 35 = \$500; 36-50 = \$400; 51-60 = \$300; 61+ = \$200

You can pay our dues online at <u>http://www.mclwestchester.org/renew/</u>, It's quick and, easy, save a stamp and envelope and the check writing time. Try it, you'll like it!

SICK & DISTRESS?

Contact: chaplain@mclwestchester.org

Detachment Jr. Vice Commandant **Kevin O'Keefe** reports that his cousin Gina Hooks is suffering from cancer.

TAPS

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Detachment Life Member **Robert Finck** who passed away on 4 August 2015.

MEMBER NEWS

Detachment Paymaster **Kevin Fischer** will be running in this year's Marine Corps Marathon. His efforts will support MARSOC Foundation, and is looking to raise \$5000 for the foundation. You can support his efforts by making a donation at http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/KevinWFischer/2015-marine-corps-marathon-charity-partner-team. The Detachment has contributed \$1000 to help him achieve his goal.

CALENDAR

08-15 August: National Convention, The Scottsdale Plaza Resort , Scottsdale, AZ

09 December: *VAMC Montrose Patient Christmas Party,* The Detachment will hold its annual patient Christmas Party for our veterans at the VA hospital in Montrose. Volunteers and Donations welcome and needed. Contact Sr. Vice Commandant **Stephen Smalley**.

DETACHMENT ACTIVITIES

Sr. Vice Commandant **Stephen Smalley** lead the contingent representing the Westchester County Detachment at the VAMC Montrose where we hosted a

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Semper Fidelis

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Veterans in Crisis

Free confidential support to Veterans in crisis, as well as their family and friends. Save this number to your phone: **1-800-273-8255** (press 1 for Veterans). You can also chat online or text professional responders at 838255.

Westchester County Veterans Service Agency

914-995-2145 / 2146 Yonkers Veterans Service Agency

914-377-6700

Who Are You Going to Call?

General Communications: Commandant Jim Mazzone (914) 843-6379 ■ jim@mazzone.com

Detachment Events: Sr. Vice Commandant Stephen Smalley manorsmall@verizon.net

Membership Issues: Jr. Vice Commandant Kevin O'Keefe kevinnycl46@gmail.com

Payment/Dues Issues: Paymaster Kevin Fischer (914) 356-7940 ■ <u>kevin.fischer@mac.com</u>

Sick & Distress/Taps: Acting Chaplain Jim Mazzone (914) 843-6379 ■ jim@mazzone.com

Bylaws/Grievances/Detachment Policy: Judge Advocate Drew McFadden (917) 796-6638 • <u>drewmcfadden@aol.com</u>

Meeting Minutes: Adjutant Dwayne Edwards (917) 578-7825 • edwards.dwayne.r@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor/Web Site Issues: Web Sergeant Steve Topilnycky (914) 263-0840 ■ spt1@mclwestchester.org



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picnic for the patients at the VA Hospital. Commandant **Jim Mazzone** joined in, as well as members from Rockland County Detachment (Dale Robinson, Charlie Murphy, John Leighton plus more not named here). Sr. Vice **Smalley** reports every branch of service was represented by the volunteers.

Detachment Member **Elyse Garyn** represented the Detachment at the Change of Command Ceremony between Lieutenant Colonel Patrick R. Crawford and Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo C. Bitanga II, at 2nd Battalion 25th Marines, Garden City, NY.

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 Children's Home, Yonkers

In memory of Westchester County Marines who were killed in the terrorist bombing of the Marine Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon October 23, 1983.

LCpl Craig Wyche USMC Ossining HS

2015 Awardee Rebecca Hannan SUNY Binghamton Cpl James J. Jackowski USMC John Jay HS

2015 Awardee Ari Fay

ANNOUCEMENT FROM NATIONAL HQ

The National Judge Advocate Dennis Tobin, Has announced, that the Department of Pennsylvania Senior Vice Commandant Tom Hazlett has assumed the position of National Executive Director, replacing Mike Blum.

From: Thomas Hazlett

Good morning to you all; I would like to take a few moments of your time to thank those of you who were at the recent budget meeting for your hard work and perseverance in obtaining a balanced budget. I would also like to express to all of the Board members, the PNC's and to the membership that I am aware of the recent events leading to the decision yesterday to appoint me as Acting Executive Director of the Marine Corps League. Most of you I know from the various activities I am involved with within the League, be it the MODD, Rifle or Pistol Marksmanship or from casual meetings at Mid-Winter and National Conferences/Conventions. Regardless of how I know you, I do know this; we are all part of a unique organization and a resilient one to boot. We, as all Marines do, are capable of taking on the bad situations and moving out and making the most of the situation. I ask at this time that we move forward, put the past behind, remain diligent in our efforts to make the Marine Corps League what we wish it to be; an organization that is proud of our affiliated title, "Marine". Over the next few weeks many of us will meet in Scottsdale, AZ. At the National Convention and Supreme Growl. I ask but one thing, please let me know how I can assist you in your endeavors to put that which is bad behind us and to go forward with success. Your jobs are the important ones, mine is but to assist you in any way possible. I ask for your guidance, your cooperation and most importantly, I ask that we move forward and put a cease to the bitterness which has recently tarnished our great organization. Please let me know what I can do to assist you; I assure you that 100% of my efforts will be focused on

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looking ahead rather than behind and serving you and the membership any way possible. Semper Fi Tom 717-420-0623 (cell).

YOUNG MARINES OF WESTCHESTER



We have an invitation to the Inchon Landing Anniversary in Korea. One Young Marine and chaperone will be attending.

Our Young Marines have candidates selected to attend National Jr Leadership in Connecticut and Sr. Leadership School in Oregon. Two will be attending the National Encampment in Florida.

Sponsors / cosponsors / donors needed for Young Marine schools and the other unit educational activities.

Donate online at http://www.ymwestchester.org/donate/

NEWS FROM THE WEB

Good news. Congress recently passed the Veterans Identification Card Act, a new bill that would create a government issued Veterans ID card, something that many veterans have been requesting for years. The bill was unanimously passed by both the House and the Senate and signed into law by President Obama on July 20, 2015.

The official launch date hasn't been announced at the time of publication, but the law authorizes the VA to begin issuing the cards as soon as 2 months from now. The VA is also authorized to charge individuals for the cost of the card (the price has not been set as of the publication date).

Learn more about the new Veterans ID Card: <u>http://themilitarywallet.com/veterans-id-card/</u>

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