



# Marine Corps League

Westchester County Detachment

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

<http://www.mclwestchester.org>

## NEWSLETTER



Commandant Kevin O'Keefe (718) 644-3101

June / July / August 2016

### MEETING NOTICE:

First Wednesday of the Month

**Next Meeting:** 7 September 2016

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

**NOTICE: NEW MEETING START TIME**

**Muster:** 7:30 PM      **Meeting:** 8:00 PM

### MEMBERSHIP

FY 2016 (July-June): We are at **399 Members** with **284 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; 51-64 = \$300;  
65+ = \$200

You can pay our dues online at

<http://www.mclwestchester.org/renew/>

It's quick and, easy, save a stamp and envelope and the check writing time. Try it, you'll like it!

### Welcome Aboard!

**New Members:** James Hansen of White Plains, NY sponsored by Steve Topilnycky.

**New Life Members:** Charles Northsheild and, Joseph Barresi

### SICK & DISTRESS

**Contact:** [chaplain@mclwestchester.org](mailto:chaplain@mclwestchester.org)

### CALENDAR

**7-8 October 2016:** Department of New York **October Staff meeting.** Clarion Hotel, 3845 Veterans Memorial Highway, Ronkonkoma, NY.

**6 November 2016:** Detachment Birthday Brunch Celebrating the 241<sup>st</sup> Birthday of the Marine Corps at

the Westchester Manor, 140 Saw Mill River Road, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706. \$50.00 per person. Guest of Honor/Speaker Major General James Battaglini.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Proposed dues increase. An increase to the annual dues will be voted on at the September meeting. The proposal is to increase new and renewals by \$5.00. You need to be present to vote.

Newsletter Change: The newsletter will be published every other month as a cost savings measure. Remember not all of our members receive the newsletter via email.

There was a disruption during the summer of the production of the newsletter due to the publisher having construction at the place of production. While the work is ongoing we are attempting to get the necessary equipment up and running as soon as possible. I apologies for any inconvenience this has caused -Editor

The Detachment Birthday Brunch will be held on 6 November 2016 at the Westchester Manor, 140 Saw Mill River Road, Hastings On Hudson, NY, from 11 am to 2pm. We are honored to have Major General James Battaglini as our guest of Honor/Guest speaker, please see the attached bio. The cost is \$50 per person.

### MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to Detachment Life Member General **John Paxton**, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, who retired after 42 years in uniform.



From the Department of New York's 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention: Detachment Member **Ricardo Sheppard** was reelected as Senior Vice Commandant, Department of New York and to **Steve Topilnycky** was elected to South East Area Vice Commandant. Department Jr. Vice Commandant Thomas Wortmann

Once A Marine, Always A Marine



Honor • Courage • Commitment • Tradition



Semper Fidelis

awarded the Department of New York Jr. Vice Commandant Award for Recruitment to Detachment Members **Donald O'Keefe** and **Steve Topilnycky**. Department Commandant James Ransom awarded the Distinguished Service Award to Detachment Member **Steve Topilnycky**. Congratulations Marines!

## DETACHMENT ACTIVITIES

Detachment Members **Ricardo Sheppard** (Department of New York Sr. Vice Commandant), **Kelly Topilnycky** and **Steve Topilnycky** (Department of New York South East Area Vice Commandant) represented the Detachment at the Department of New York 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in June.

Congratulations to **Westchester County Detachment** who was awarded a Meritorious Unit Citation by Department of New York Commandant James Ransom.

Commandant **Kevin O'Keefe** attended the Ossining High School award ceremony where the Marine Memorial Scholarship in the memory of LCpl Craig Wyche was presented to Iran Cedeno, the 2016 awardee. The Detachment also awarded William Slater of John Jay High School in memory of Cpl James Jackowski. Both Marines were killed in the terrorist bombing of the Marine Barracks in Beirut Lebanon in 1983.



On July 24<sup>th</sup>, Detachment Commandant **Kevin O'Keefe**, Jr. Vice Commandant **Donald O'Keefe**, Judge Advocate **Drew McFadden**, Adjutant Paymaster **Steve Topilnycky**, Members **Kelly Topilnycky**, Reverend **Liz Wold** and her husband David along with Rockland County Detachment members Commandant Dale Robinson, George Rath, Frank Viggiano Jr., Chip Hayes, Bob Callanan, Harvey Lenchner and Patricia Watford from the VA Staff held a picnic for about 30 patients from VAMC Montrose, Building 6 Wards C/ D.



Detachment Member **Patrick Ford**, Commanding Officer of the Young Marines of White Plains presented the Marine Memorial Scholarship award in the memory of Sgt Anthony Kalladeen, NYARNG to Young Marine Sergeant Max Gonzalez, the 2016 awardee. Sgt Kalladeen was killed in action in Iraq.

Detachment member **Ricardo Sheppard** (Department of New York Sr. Vice Commandant) represented both the Department and Detachment at the Marine Corps League National Convention in Tulsa, OK.

## 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**  
**Young Marines of White Plains**

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**

**Cpl James J. Jackowski USMC**  
**John Jay HS**

**Support our Scholarship Fund**, donate today! You can send your donation to the Detachment PO Box with Marine Memorial in the memo section or donate online at:  
<http://www.mclwestchester.org/programs/donate.asp>.



**Westchester County**

Toys for Tots Westchester County will be kicking off in the near future for the 2016 Holiday Season. If anyone wishes to participate by volunteering, please contact Westchester County Coordinator Steve Topilnycky at [coordinator@t4twestchester.org](mailto:coordinator@t4twestchester.org). Donations welcome, please see <http://www.t4twestchester.org/donate/donate.asp> for details.



## YOUNG MARINES



The Oldest, Continuously Running  
Young Marine Unit in the Country

Support our Young Marines!

Visit: <http://www.youngmarineswp.org>  
(Note: New Web Site)

### Got Email?

Be sure to sign up for our newsletter. Send your request to:

[mailcall@mclwestchester.org](mailto:mailcall@mclwestchester.org)

Be sure to add [mailcall@mclwestchester.org](mailto:mailcall@mclwestchester.org) 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 do not want to receive emails from the Detachment, please reply to the message and let us know. Thank you.

### Who Are You Going to Call?

#### General Communications:

Commandant Kevin O'Keefe  
(718) 644-3101 ■ [kevinnycl46@gmail.com](mailto:kevinnycl46@gmail.com)

#### Membership Questions:

Jr. Vice Commandant Donald O'Keefe  
(718) 796-6582 ■ [okeefebx@aol.com](mailto:okeefebx@aol.com)

#### Payment/Dues Issues / Meeting Minutes:

Adjutant / Paymaster Steve Topilnycky  
(914) 263-0840 ■ [spt1@mclwestchester.org](mailto:spt1@mclwestchester.org)

#### Sick & Distress/Taps:

Chaplain  
[chaplain@mclwestchester.org](mailto:chaplain@mclwestchester.org)

#### Bylaws/Grievances/Detachment Policy:

Judge Advocate Drew McFadden  
(917) 796-6638 ■ [drewmcfadden@aol.com](mailto:drewmcfadden@aol.com)

#### Newsletter Editor/Web Site Issues:

Web Sergeant Steve Topilnycky  
(914) 263-0840 ■ [spt1@mclwestchester.org](mailto:spt1@mclwestchester.org)

**NOTICE:** If you have changed your postal address, email address or phone number, please notify us with the changes so that we have current contact information for you. Send your changes to [paymaster@mclwestchester.org](mailto:paymaster@mclwestchester.org)

### Newsletter Team:

**Editor:** Steve Topilnycky  
(914) 263-0840 ■ [spt1@mclwestchester.org](mailto:spt1@mclwestchester.org)

**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 using one of the methods above.

### Westchester County Veterans Service Agency

914-995-2145 / 2146

### Yonkers Veterans Service Agency

914-377-6700

### 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.



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<http://www.twitter.com/t4twestchester>



## United States Marine Corps

**Major General James R. Battaglini, USMC (Ret.),** retired in 2004 after more than 33 years of active service in the United States Marine Corps. He then joined Colt Defense LLC, West Hartford, Connecticut in August 2004 as the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. In his role, the company's manufacturing operations increased from 285 to 800 M4 carbines per day in support of US forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. He served in that position until November 2008, when he assumed a newly established position of Executive Vice President, Business Development. This position was established to lead a company strategic shift and to implement a plan for aggressive business expansion and enlargement. He departed Colt Defense in August 2011 having created three major international sales programs worth \$300 million dollars.



During his Marine Corps career, Major General Battaglini held various staff and leadership positions as an infantry officer. His leadership positions included: Commanding Officer, Battalion Landing Team 1/8, 22d Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC)/CENTCOM ARG 3-91; Commanding Officer, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC), Landing Force Sixth Fleet (LF6F) 3-95; Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot/Eastern Recruiting Region, Parris Island; Commanding General, 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade/Deputy Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force; and, Commanding General, Third Marine Division.

His principal staff assignments included: Operations Officer, 26th Marine Amphibious Unit; Assistant Operations Officer, Marine Air Control Group-18; G-3 Current Operations Officer, 2d Marine Division during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm; Chief, United Nations Division, J-5, Joint Staff, Military Assistant and Marine Aide to the Secretary of the Navy; and, Director, Expeditionary Warfare Division (N75), Warfighting Requirements and Programs (N7), Navy Staff.

Major General Battaglini graduated in 1971 from Mount Saint Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Maryland where he majored in accounting. He was commissioned upon graduation having completed two increments of the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course (PLC Program) during the summers of 1968 and 1970.

Major General Battaglini's military decorations include: the Navy Distinguished Service Medal; the Defense Superior Service Medal; the Legion of Merit with Gold Star; Bronze Star with Combat "V"; Meritorious Service Medal with three gold stars; Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Combat Action Ribbon; and various unit awards.



# MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

WESTCHESTER COUNTY DETACHMENT #254

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

## 2016 US Marine Corps Anniversary Brunch

Celebrating the 241<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps

Guest of Honor and Speaker

**Major General James Battaglini**

**The Westchester Manor**

140 Saw Mill River Road

Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706

<http://www.westchestermanor.com/>

**Sunday, 06 November 2016**

**11 am – 2:00 pm**

**\$50 per person**

**Public Invited**

Dress Code: Civilian – Business Attire

Military – Class “A” or Dress Blue

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats at \$50.00 per person. Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor / Donate for an Active Duty Marine to attend: \_\_\_\_\_ seats at \$50.00 per Marine. Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

General Donation: Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to “*Marine Corps League*” and mail to:

Marine Corps League  
Attention: Brunch  
PO Box 505  
White Plains, NY 10602-0505

RSVP and pay online at <http://www.mclwestchester.org/brunch/>

**ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE!**

**[HTTP://WWW.MCLWESTCHESTER.ORG](http://www.mclwestchester.org)**



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## 2016 US Marine Corps Anniversary Brunch Program

The birthday brunch journal will be 5 1/2" x 8 1/2". All proceeds to benefit the programs of the Marine Corps League. The Birthday Brunch will be celebrating the 241<sup>st</sup> birthday of the United States Marine Corps, to be held at the Westchester Manor, 140 Saw Mill River Road, Hastings on Hudson, NY, on 6 November 2016 at 11am. Public Invited.

- Camera ready ad copy is requested but not necessary.
- Please submit one form for each advertisement order. This form may be reproduced locally as needed.
- Please submit all advertisement copy and payments no later than 15 October 2016.
- Please direct any questions to Adjutant/Paymaster Steve Topilnycky [spt1@mclwestchester.org](mailto:spt1@mclwestchester.org) or (914) 263-0840.
- Please DO NOT send Cash. Checks, Money Order or Credit Card via the Brunch RSVP form at <http://www.mclwestchester.org/brunch/>

_____	Full Page	\$100
_____	Half Page	\$ 75
_____	Quarter Page	\$ 50
_____	Eighth (Business Card Size) Page	\$ 25
_____	Booster (One line 225 characters maximum)	\$ 10
_____	Booster Text:	_____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to "*Marine Corps League*" and mail to:

Marine Corps League  
Attention: S. Topilnycky  
PO Box 505  
White Plains, NY 10602-0505

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***ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE!***

**[HTTP://WWW.MCLWESTCHESTER.ORG](http://www.mclwestchester.org)**