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PUBLISHED BY AND FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

WESTCHESTER COUNTY DETACHMENT #254
PO Box 505

WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10602-0505 HTTPS://WWW.MCLWESTCHESTER.ORG

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MEETING NOTICE:

First Wednesday of the Month

Location:

American Legion Gilbert Rauh Post #1574 52 Garrigan Avenue, Thornwood, NY 10594

Muster: 1930 Meeting: 2000

Next Meeting: 4 September 2019

No Meeting July & August



MEMBERSHIP

We are now at **326 members** with **278 Life Members.** Invite those Marines to associate with our Detachment.

Renewal = \$36

New = \$40

Think Life!

Life Member Dues:

To age 35 = \$500; 36-50 = \$400; 51-64 = \$300; 65+ = \$200

You can pay your dues online at https://www.mclwestchester.org/renew

It's quick, easy, save a stamp and





@mclwestchester @t4twestchester @DepartmentofNewYork

WELCOME ABOARD!

New Members:

Bryce Fiero of Mahopac, NY and **Curtis Harrington** of Hesperia, CA sponsored by **Steve Topilnycky.**

Marc Lenci of Mt. Vernon, NY sponsored by Wilfredo Muniz Jr.

Andrew Sandor of North Salem, NY transferred from Putnam County Detachment.

Ramon Acosta of Bronx, NY transferred from MAL (Member at Large).

New Life Members:

Andrew Sandor of North Salem, NY, **Matthew Curran** of Ft. Meyer Beach, FL, **Carla Lucchino** of Brewster, NY and Rev. **Ricardo Sheppard** of New Brunswick, NJ.





SICK & DISTRESS

Contact:

chaplain@mclwestchester.org

TAPS

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of our brother Marines:

David Turney who passed away on 1 September 2018.

Leonard N. Spano who passed away on 10 February 2019.

Edward A. Grimm who passed away on 13 June 2019.



MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to Detachment Jr. Past Commandant **Kevin O'Keefe** who has been named Irish Echo 40 under 40 for 2019. The recognition ceremony was held at The Manhattan Club at Rosie O'Gradys, 800 7th Avenue, New York on 22 February.

Marine **Joseph DeAngelo** is running for National Judge Advocate at the 2019 National Convention in Billings, Montana this coming August. Marine DeAngelo is the current National Northeast Division Assistant Vice Commandant.

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CALENDAR

27 July 19– VAMC Montrose Patient Picnic. The Detachments annual picnic for the patients at VAMC Montrose, Building 6, Wards C & D.

4-9 August 19-National Convention—Billings Montana

4-5 Oct 19—Department Meeting— Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah, Suffern, NY

10 Nov 19—Detachment Birthday Brunch— Westchester Manor, 140
Saw Mill River Rd, Hastings-onHudson, NY. Guest Speaker
Department Commandant Thomas
Wortmann —\$50.00 per person.



HELP & ASSISTANCE

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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Marine Family-Keeping The Tradition: Detachment Judge Advocate **Drew McFadden's** granddaughter Ali (pictured left) before she departed for Parris Island for recruit training. Her brother Rian just got out in December. Pictured below is Drew's son Andrew, his grandson Rian, along with his granddaughter, Ali, who just graduated boot camp. All 3 of the McFadden family are members of the





Member **Jim Maisano** held his annual Toy Drive benefiting Westchester County Toys for Tots at Dudley's in New Rochelle, where he and Westchester County Executive George Latimer presented **Steve** & **Kelly Topilnycky** with a proclamation from the County for their volunteerism with Toys for Tots.

Congratulations to Mikey Maisano, son of

Marine **Steve Topilnycky** has been named Detachment Marine of the Year and has been nominated by the Detachment to the Department of New York for Department Marine of the Year.



Pictured above (L to R): Westchester County Pictured (L-R) County Executive George Latimer, Steve Topilnycky and Jim Maisano

member **Jim Maisano** who was awarded the "*Uncommon Valor"* scholarship from the New York Marine Corps League Foundation. Mikey will be attending the University of South Carolina. Congratulations Mikey!



DETACHMENT ACTIVITIES

Marine **Glenn Sadowski** represented the Detachment at the Court of Honor where certificates were presented to those Boy Scouts who were elevated to Eagle Scouts.

Detachment Jr. Vice Commandant **Donald O'Keefe** presented Certificates of Appreciation to those business that supported our Birthday Ball Ad Journal. Special thanks to the following businesses and individuals who took out full page ads in the journal:

- McKeon's Bar & Restaurant
- Just One Tavern
- Rory Dolan's Restaurant, Bar & Caterers
- L. I. U. N. A. Local 147

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MARINE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Lest We Forget'

In memory of Marine and Detachment Member

Sgt. Anthony Kalladeen NYARNG KIA Iraq 8 August 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 23 October 1983

LCpl Craig Wyche, USMC Ossining HS

2019 Awardee: Florencia De Armas Engineering

Cpl James J. Jackowski, USMC John Jay HS

2019 Awardee James Luccassen Materials Science and Engineering

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://bit.ly/2Tf5syN





(Above) Members of Troop 1, Hawthorne saying the Pledge of Allegiance before the flags are properly disposed of at Wheelabrator Westchester in Peekskill where they conduct a special burn for the American Flags. (below) Flag Folding. Story on Page 4.



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- Midway Electric
- All Time Detection
- Dr. Alan Schramm
- The Rambling House

Additional photos available on our Facebook page (@mclwestchester)

Detachment Commandant Wilfredo **Muniz Jr** and Member **Rosanna Muniz** represented the Detachment at the Detachment annual Patient Christmas Party for patients of Ward C & D of Building 6 of the VAMC Montrose this past December.



Pictured above (L to R): Chris Fitzsimmons, Financial Secretary, Jr. Vice Commandant Donald O'Keefe and John Ryan, President, L. I. U. N. A. Local 147.

The Detachment holds a patient picnic in July and a Christmas party for the patients at VAMC Montrose. Donations to support these events are welcome and encouraged. Checks payable to Marine Corps League with VAVS in the memo section, and mail to the Detachment Post Office Box, or you can donate online at http://bit.ly/2Tf5syN

The Marine Corps League is a 501(c)4 organization. Donations are deductible for tax purposes.

Detachment Elections: The following Marines were elected and appointed to their

respective offices:

Commandant: Wilfredo Muniz Jr.

Sr. Vice Commandant: -OPEN-

Jr. Vice Commandant: **Donald O'Keefe**Judge Advocate: **Drew McFadden**Adjutant Paymaster: **Steve Topilnycky**

Sgt at Arms: **G.E.W. Rupprecht** Web Master: **Steve Topilnycky**

Department Commandant Rev. **Ricardo Sheppard** installed the newly elected and appointed Officers.



(Above); Marine Topilnycky and 2nd Lt. Brett McCarthy. (Below Left) Marine Topilnycky presenting the Mameluke sword to MIDN Brett McCarthy.

Maritime College in the Bronx. **Steve Topilnycky** presented MIDN McCarthy the Mameluke sword on behalf of the Detachment.

Members MGen **Robert Wolf**, NYNM (ret), **Steve & Kelly Topilnycky** attended the 2019 Commissioning Ceremony of MIDN Brett M. McCarthy who was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in the United States Marine Corps at SUNY







Flag Disposal Bin Project

The Detachment created a US Flag disposal bin project in 2008. In the 11 years of operations, hundreds of thousands of flags have been collected and properly disposed of with honor. Chairman of the Flag Disposal bin project, Detachment JA **Drew McFadden** utilizes Boys Scouts from Troop 1 in Hawthorne to help in the disposal effort. Our bins have undergone 11 years of mother nature. We are currently rehabilitating our six current locations and adding a seventh. Detachment member **Marc Lenci** has been our mover, handling the transportation from collection points to the body shop where the boxes are getting a fresh coat of paint, repairs as needed, and all new signage. Like anything else, it comes with a price. We are seeking donations to offset the cost of this rehabilitation's project. Donations to:



Newly rehabilitated Bin

Marine Corps League PO Box 505 White Plains, NY 10602-0505 Memo: Flag Bin

You can also donate online at http://bit.ly/2Tf5syN.

The Marine Corps League is a 501(c)4 organization. Donations are deductible for tax purposes.

The Flag collection team consists of **Wilfredo Muniz, Jr.**, **Drew McFadden**, **Marc Lenci** and **Steve & Kelly Topilnycky.** Volunteers always welcome and encouraged.



The Westchester County Toys for Tots had a very successful 2018 season, collecting over 70,000 gifts that were distributed to

Just a small sampling of the number of bags full of Flags that are collected by the Detachment, on a regular basis...

over 18,000 children in our community. Many Detachment members and volunteers from the Community stepped up to make the 2018 campaign a great success. With loss of Toys R' Us we were going to make purchases from Walmart, but as of 3 August 2018 the local store closed down. We were able to make purchases from vendors provided to us from the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, as well monetary donations and the gifts of toys from the community. Each year the demand on our campaign increases and we are working hard to meet the demand. You can help by volunteering or making a donation. Please make checks payable to **Toys For Tots** and mail to:

Toys for Tots PO Box 1207 White Plains, NY 10602

Or online at http://bit.ly/2TLFs34

Give to a Good Clause!

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is a 501(C)3 charitable organization, and donations are recognized as tax deductible.

A Special Thanks to the following Detachment Members who assisted in this years Westchester County Toys for Tots Campaign: **Steve** & **Kelly Topilnycky** (Coordinators), **Wil Calderon, Ken Davis, Liz Dreaper, Jim Maisano, Drew McFadden, Donald O'Keefe**, Rev. **Mary Phifer**, and **Kevin Sylvester**. Special recognition to three Marines who are not members, but really stepped up and helped us get the toys collected from the various collection points, Marines John Condon & Josh Reilly. Also to Ossining Police Officer Mike MacNamara under the direction of Ossining Chief of Police **Kevin Sylvester** who worked closely with Detachment Member Rev. **Mary Phifer** to cover the Town of Ossining

Pictured above (L to R): Angie Wu (Trufflicious Treats, Westchester County Toys for Tots Coordinator Steve Topilnycky and Country Music Singer Jessica Lynn. Angie & Jessica were presented plaques for their fund raising efforts for Toys for Tots

and surrounding areas. We also had help from SSG Brendaliz Santos, USA, who sent volunteers from the 719th Composite Truck Company out of Camp Smith to help out in our warehouse. I apologize if I missed any Detachment members that participated, and I did not recognize.

And finally all of the civilian volunteers who worked in our warehouse, to the performers who held concerts (Country Music Singer Jessica Lynn and the Mid-Life Crisis Band), to those companies and business who hosted collection boxes for us and to the Westchester County Parks Foundation "Kids Free Night" for those who bring a toy and gain free admission (children under 12) at the Winter Wonder Land at the Kensico Dam. We can not do what we do without you!



