



Number 1-18

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*For a complete list refer to the
Department Staff Roster*

Serving our detachments and their members everywhere

Department of New York Newsletter

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“The Ground Pounder”

www.mclnewyork.net

A Good Read.....

By Bill Read

Commandant, Sunrise Detachment

Supporting our local Active Duty Marines this Thanksgiving Holiday

Once again, Marines of the Marine Corps League, Sunrise Detachment #248 did a great job in carrying out one of its missions—providing support for active duty Marines—with our sixth annual thanksgiving food drive, benefitting active duty Marines stationed on Long Island. OOHRAH!

On November 17, 2017, members of the Sunrise Detachment distributed 115 turkeys, and accompanying food items to Marines at the headquarters of the First Marine Corps District located in Garden City, NY. This food drive truly represents a tangible way in which we can show our appreciation to these Marines for their service; and we are very happy to be able to alleviate some of the financial burdens of being stationed in the high cost area of Long Island.

The Sunrise Detachment is extremely happy to lead this community effort in providing this support; and we are extremely thankful for several people and organizations which have enthusiastically assisted the Sunrise Detachment in this endeavor:

Stop & Shop Supermarkets has been a

great supporter of the military and this particular endeavor for several years despite the overwhelming number of donation requests they receive from many organizations.

Mr. Mike Donegan, manager of the Miler Place Stop & Shop, located at 385 Route 25A, has been a great supporter of the military and contributed all 115 turkeys this year. I encourage my fellow Marine Corps League members and all supporters of our military to patronize your local merchants who support our mission as has been generously demonstrated by Stop & Shop supermarket.

The Commack School District donated many boxes of food and hundreds of dollars worth of gift cards through children and family donations. This was the third year of the Commack School District's participation through the leadership of Debbie Virga—Director of Community Relations. Several classes were able to turn this food drive into a shopping learning experience by way of actually bringing the students to the supermarket and having them pick out the items they wanted to donate within their budget.

(continued on page 2)

gift cards for students to make their purchases. (I also need to give a shout out to the Commack Teachers Association which was instrumental in this food drive and also providing gift cards that were distributed to Marines who faced particular financial hardship.

The Stewart School of the Garden City School District contributed boxes of food as part of their annual program of recognizing and supporting the military and military veterans.

Providing tangible support for our active duty Marines is a mission the Sunrise Detachment considers one of our most important priorities and we very much value

the opportunity to engage with them in a variety of instances. The simple fact of the matter is that our association and assistance provides practical functionality to living our motto, 'Once a Marine, Always a Marine'.

Semper Fi!

Deadlines

Marines, the Department would like to publish this newsletter four times a year.

July 1st, Oct 1st, Jan 1st, & April 1st.

Cut off dates shall be as follows:

June 10th, Sept 10th, Dec 10th & March 10th.

GENERATIONS

Back when Sean was only 8 years old, he saw a Marine Corps recruiting ad in a TV Guide magazine and it stuck. When he was old enough to do so, he joined the

Marines and his family followed, still doing so to this very day. (Left) Here is the boot camp picture of young Sean Sr. looking like we all did on that faithful day back in 1986.



Hector, seeing what his younger brother did, soon joined as well with his boot camp picture on the right.



Sean took leave to be with his brother on graduation day and took a picture (right)



(Right,) With both older brother having served in the Corps, Deforest Torres



Also signed up and he too joined the Corps. His boot camp picture on the below, left in 2011 Upon his graduation both brothers were there to congratulate Deforest.

And today, Sean Jr, is carrying on the family tradition by following his father and his two uncles into the Corps graduating this past December. And his family could not be prouder, and for good reason. Father and son, like brothers in arms, and his uncles before him, carry on the tradition. Posing proudly together by the same statue his uncles did years ago. BTW, all the Torres Marines are members of the Staten Island Detachment.

Semper Fi, Brothers



Here are some photos from various Toys for Tots drives all around the Department. This is a project the league has been helping the Marine reserve units with for years and is a very good cause. If you helped out, we thank you and if not think about next year. I am sure the kids getting the toys, thank you as well.



(above) North Shore Queens Detachment in working with local law enforcement gathered many toys for kids in their area.



(left) The Toys for Tots pictures were from Detachment 1201 (mine). We have 4 members headed by Kim Blackwell, who does all of the work for Toys for Tots in Tioga County. This year the provided toys to 2500 children in our county. Our group consists of Kim Blackwell, Dave Pierce, Dennis Card and Shirley Card all members of Detachment #120 Also Pictured is the department Commandant, Ricardo Sheppard.



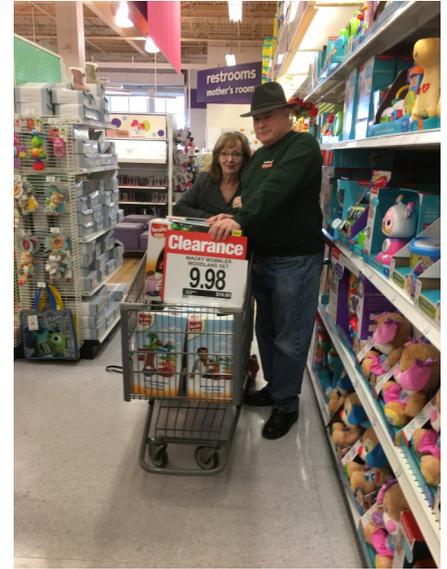
The pictures was the setup for Northern Tioga Rural Ministries on the night of our Detachment meeting. The following night the children came in.



Our very own A.J., working his stuff with Santa. Is he trying to get a special gift for Christmas?



(Right) Staten Island 246, Doug DuVal, Program Coordinator, with helpers at Toys R Us, Wagner High School and Chariot Auto (Volker Heyde) collecting toys for kids. (Left) The employees of Toys R Us, pose by the detachment's 5 ton truck.



Staten Island Detachment Frank and Carmella Montella shopping at Toys R Us, (right and above), at Wagner High School students load the truck. They left with a very full truck.



(top) Westchester County Detachment Sgt. John Gonzalez and Marines from RSS White Plains, NY with the Westchester Knicks Cheerleaders (center) Member and Toys for Tots Coordinator Steve Topilnycky with Country Singer Jessica Lynn.



(Top Right,) Westchester County Legislator (and Westchester County Detachment Member) Jim Maisano, his wife Jean and son Mike at his annual toy drive/fund raiser to benefit toys for tots.



(Top) Students at the Kensico Middle School, Valhalla, NY showing off the toys they collected to benefit Toys for Tots.

(Bottom) Toys collected by Stop & Shop Corporate at Westchester Burger, in Rye Brook, NY. Westchester County Toys for Tots Coordinator Steve Topilnycky is pictured in the background

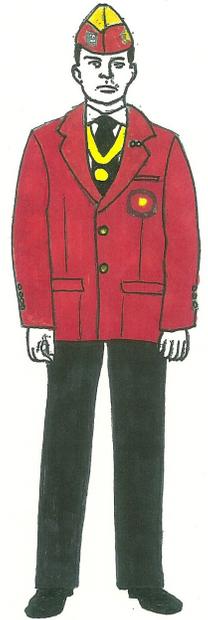


Signed up for Online shopping at the PX ? If not go to vetverify.org Follow the prompts to get signed up.

New VA ID available to all vets NOT enrolled in the health system. To sign up go to: <https://www.vets.gov/?next=%2Fveteran-id-card%2F>

Let's talk Uniforms

Do you know the proper uniform for a funeral? Per National Bylaws, you'd wear a Red Blazer with black trousers, white button up shirt, black tie and black socks & shoes and your league cover. BTW, no pins or patches are allowed on your cover other than officer patches and the Devil Dog patch. If you do not have a league blazer, now on sale at National ships stores again, it is perfectly all right to wear your red wind breaker in it's place. Just as a reminder, you do not wear any medals or ribbons, nor your star bursts, and no more than three pins on your blazers left lapel. But you should wear your Devil Dog collar if you have one.



Remember, no blue trousers and please no white sneakers.

NY State Police Barracks honors local fallen Marine



AMITY, N.Y. -- Eight years ago on Wednesday, Hornell native, Lance Corporal Zachary Smith, was killed in action in Afghanistan. Smith died on January 24th, 2010. He was just 19-years-old. On Wednesday, State Police flew a Marine Corp flag over the barracks in honor of his service and in memory of his life. His father, is also stationed at SP Amity (Troop A). The Post Office in Hornell was named after Lance Corporal Smith.

Ed Arias, President, NYST, MCA, www.nyst-marine.org

From the Pack Dog Robber

If you PUPs are planning to advance to Devil Dog at the Department Convention in Syracuse in June. You need to turn in your advancement application to your Pound Dog Robber so that I receive them NLT May 31, 2018.

If you Devil Dogs plan on advancing at the National Convention in August the application for advancement will need to be in my hand by June 1, 2018. Again you must submit them to your Pound Dog Robber first who then forwards them to me. I need to submit them to the Kennel Dog Robber by June 20, 2018. Please remember to make a copy for yourself.

The newest Pound in the Kennel was announced at the Mid-Winter conference. It is Mad Dawg Pound 382 which will hold their meetings in Owego. The first growl will be announced at a later time.

Woof woof

PDD Dean Lawton, NY Pack Dog Robber



Picture taken of the Statue dedicated to all Marines, Past, Present and Future at Staten Island Det. 246, by Carolyn Meany, friend of member Douglas DuVal.

DEPARTMENT CALENDAR

April 20-21st, 2018 Department Membership Meeting, Akwesasne Mohawk Casino, 873 STRT 37, Hogansburg, NY

June 7, 8 & 9th 2018 Department of NY Convention, Embassy Suites 6646 Old Collamer Rd S. East Syracuse, NY 13057

August 12-18th 2018 Buffalo NY, MCL National Convention www.2018mclnationalconvention.com

The department reserves the right to select what is inputted into the newsletter. There will be times when we cannot print everything right away due to space limitations. For that we apologize and thank you for your submission.