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Serving our detachments and their members everywhere

Department of New York Newsletter “The Ground Pounder”

Fall 2019

<https://www.mclnewyork.net>

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

Exciting News from Billings, Montana! One of our own, PDC Dennis Tobin (Sgt. Angel Mendez Detachment) elected as the new National Commandant



(left) Department of New York’s, Past National Commandant Bob Becker shakes Dennis Tobin’s hand after swearing him in as the new National Commandant of Marine Corps League. Dennis now gets to wear the coveted white cover of the National Commandant.

(right) After being sworn in the new commandant, A happy Dennis addresses the convention attendees.



(left) Later at the Banquet, the new Commandant was presented with the cover of the National Commandant, outgoing Commandant Webb then reminded Dennis that this gavel is Wendell’s personal gravel so he needs to get his own. Marine Tobin then presented Marine Wendel with a past National Commandant cover.



Other convention pictures inside.

A lot took place at this convention including 26 Bylaw changes of which not all were passed. But one, written by both NY and NJ did, allowing Departments to handle their own members without placing them in M-A-L.

More Convention Photos



(Top left) Jim Ransom and Bob Becker enjoying the Chuck wagon BBQ. (top right), it's all business at the convention and this is only half the room. (middle left), Jr. Vice Commandant Dean Lawton and myself at an afternoon event.

The location was far from great but New York got a few things done (see my report) and overall it was good for all. Next year, Daytona Beach Florida. Come and check it out.



(above) The New National Commandant visits New York's table during the banquet. Standing behind AVC Heyde with past Div. Vice Commandant Forbes.

(Middle right) Native Americans demonstrate a tribal dance during the Chuck Wagon BBQ.

(Bottom right) The grave markers on Last Stand Hill during our visit to the Little Big Horn park. The one with the black is Custer's marker. They mark where the soldiers fell.



Around the Department



(left) Westchester County Detachment #254 member, Kevin O'Keefe (Jr. Past Commandant) raises old glory over one of the tallest residential building in NYC on 57th street.



Three Generation of Marines!

(above and Below) Newly graduate from Parris island, Ali McFadden, is the 3rd generation of Marine, following in her brothers (Rian), her father (Andrew Jr.) and grandfathers (Andrew Sr.) footsteps. Andrew Jr., Rian and Ali are all members for St. Lawrence County Detachment #408 while their grandfather Drew (as he is known as) a member of Westchester County Detachment #254 and serves as the Detachment Judge Advocate.



(Above) Past Dept. Commandant McGowan and E.L. Smith Jr. Detachment Adjutant Dan Berkhoudt placed Memorial flowers at the dedication ceremony of the Vietnam Veterans memorial that was dedicated on Memorial Day 2019. The memorial is located on the Griffiss Business Park. (formerly Griffiss AFB)



We finally have a Department Rifle and Pistol Team.

You have asked for years and so it is with great pleasure that I can announce Marine Lynn Stanton, Adjutant of Memorial Day #2 Detachment as the Department of New York Rifle & Pistol Team Chairman. Marine Stanton has put together a guideline on how the program will work and is present in later section of this newsletter.



Help wanted

1. The Department Is looking for someone to take over as **Department Paymaster**, as Ralph has asked to be replaced.
2. We need someone to head the **Marine for Life Committee** working with the Marine Corps Reserve Reps in the Department.
3. We need someone to be the **Liaison for Semper Fi**, to be responsible for getting New York in the Semper Fi magazine.
4. If anyone wants try their hand on putting out this newsletter, let me know. You must be comfortable with a computer and know some type of publishing program like MS Publisher.

The only real requirement for any of these jobs is the willingness to do it. Contact me if interested.

Rifle and Pistol Team By Lynn Stanton

In an effort to promote and support the members of The Marine Corps League - Department of New York that enjoy the sport of rifle and pistol competition shooting, we are pleased to announce a new Service Rifle and Pistol match program starting this year!

As a means of getting the program started, we will be utilizing the National MCL Postal Match program as a backdrop. For those of you who are unfamiliar with this program, information and forms regarding the National MCL Postal Matches can be downloaded from the MCL Library at <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/>.

Briefly, any DoNY MCL Member will be reimbursed for two scores submitted per year to the National MCL Postal Match Program. They can be any combination of rifle/pistol/ individual or team scores. Participants may also be Active Duty Marines that are listed as Honorary Active Duty Members of a Detachment on the Detachment roster.

Simply download the appropriate form or forms from the National web site above, copy and forward all score submissions that are sent to National to:

Lynn Stanton Chairman- DoNY MCL Rifle and Pistol Program
E-mail: lwldstanton@yahoo.com Phone: 518- 696-3406

Scores may also submit your scores via US Postal mail to:
Lynn Stanton PO Box 486 Lake Luzerne NY 12846

The Marine Corps League - Department of New York Rifle and Pistol program will run parallel to the National Program, starting on March 1st thru Oct. 31st. ALL SCORES must be received by the DoNY program Chairman by **no later than Nov. 15th** of each year for reimbursement, no exceptions!

Reimbursement checks will be sent to the Paymaster of any participating Detachment in the amount totaling ALL submissions received from each DoNY Detachment that submits their scores. The funds will be distributed by the "Home" Detachment, to each Member that submits a score or scores.

The National Library now has a member section which is password protected. We have been asked not to publish the password but your Detachment Commandant should have it and if not, your Area Vice Commandant has it. Just ask.

Advertise your pride in the League and your service in your daily life by wearing your League jackets, shirts and hats everywhere you go. When you wear your League clothing, you help advertise us to the world.

Semper Fidelis Marines

Outgoing Commandant's Gift

Outgoing Commandant Sheppard received a gift from the staff for his service as our Commandant the last two years. Everyone figured since he likes his cigars, we felt a monogrammed, filled humidor was the right gift. Along with cigars, a cutter and a lighter were included (and a few candies).

We are sure they will be put to good use in the very near future.



THE STATE FAIR



Each year the department attends the State fair to help raise money to run the department. Last year we did not attend due to some political issues but we are back this year. The members who stop by to help us out do so out of the goodness of their own heart and we thank them.



Without them, we could not do it. (above left) are members from the Memorial Day Detachment and (above right) are members from the E.L. Smith Detachment.

(Left) US Marines at their recruiting trailer are visited by Department JA Wiggs and Department Junior Vice Lawton.

****Note-National is now returning transmittals via emails. They will no longer use snail mail for this as postage is getting out of hand. Now you can now email your death notices to our Department Chaplain, Angelo Procopio. (DoNYChaplain@gmail.com) Simply save the notice by that members name and then attach it to an email to Angelo.***

The future is here Marines. If your detachment does not have a computer, please obtain one or someone who can do this for you. The Department can train your people if need be.

More around the Department

New York Detachment No. 1, "The League's First Detachment", proudly sponsored the New York State Citizen Preparedness Corps Training at the V.A. Hospital on 23rd Street in Manhattan.

The training was well attended (right top) and consisted of a two hour training course for New York State residents to have the tools and resources to prepare for any type of disaster, respond accordingly and recover as quickly as possible to pre-disaster conditions. A key component to the training is the distribution of free NYS Disaster Preparedness Kits (right middle) to each family that registered and attended the in-person only, public event course.

We would like to thank the staff and instructors of the New York State Citizen Preparedness Office for providing this important course.

Submitted by Ferdinand Rodriguez,
Detachment Commandant.



(above) AVC Annunziata with 2019 Espirit De Corps Award Winner 2ndLt. Alec Furiak USMC, at the USMMA Convocation Ceremony held on June 19, 2019 in Kings Point NY.

2nd Lt. Furiak received a Mameluke Sword from the Marine Corps League and it was presented by Vinny Annunziata.



"We're definitely being downsized."

(below) Marching in the Canandaigua Memorial Day Parade is the Memorial Day Detachment # 468 and 2 members of the new James R. Moore Detachment . They also had 2 members riding in a vehicle that unfortunately is not shown in the picture.

Submitted by Dave Brisbane



Even more around the Department



(top left and right) is Memorial Day's flag holder for the posting of colors at our meetings. The other image is of member Jim Wicker and his wife Joyce who made the holder for them. They also use the flag holder on our tables when we conduct our Rose Campaigns.

Submitted by Dave Brisbane.



Honorary Department Commandant and Honorary Pack Leader Al Cavallo turns 76 in a VA Hospital



(above) North Shore Queens members with Al at St Albans hospital in Queens NY.

(below) Al in heathier days with his WW1 helmet.



(above) Jimmy Seaman and his wife at Al's bedside.

Al Cavallo, well know in the Department and the dogs for many years, turned 76 in the VA hospital in St Albans.

Al who is suffering from COPD and other illness all connected to Agent Orange while serving in Vietnam, was visited by his detachment on his 76th birthday. Al appeared to have had a good time and was especially happy to see fellow dogs and members present. Former Area Vice Commandant Jimmy Seaman has been doing an outstanding job making sure Al gets visitors and keeping watch on him. Al has since been released and is back home. Sadly his prognosis is not good. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

For your interest

Double Japanese Flag



In 2016, two Yosegaki Hinomaru (good luck) flags carried by Japanese soldiers in WWII were donated to the Electric City Detachment. They then contacted the Consulate General of Japan in New York about returning the flags for a relative recovery program they have. Pictures of the flags were sent. In May 2019, a letter was received that they had contacted the family of one flag bearer, who declined the flag, and could not find the family of the second flag. It was requested that the flags be sent to the Consulate General and he will forward them to the Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo. The detachment voted to send the flags.

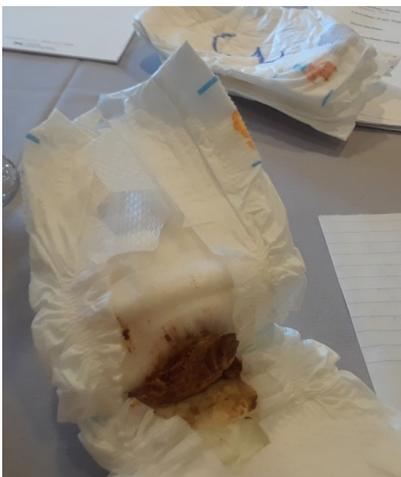
6th Communication Batt. Change of Command



Earlier this summer, members of the league were invited to attend the change of command ceremony of the 6th Comm Batt USMCR at their Command Headquarters in Floyd Bennet Field in Brooklyn. Members from some Long Island detachments as well as the Sgt Angel Mendez Detachment along with AVC's Heyde and Annunziata and myself attended. (above) eating chow afterwards. (above right) Here we are posing by their 9/11 memorial and (right) LtCol. Bell passing the command flag to his replacement. LtCol Celotto. We met with and spoke with him and to the new Command Sergeant Major Smith and offered our full support.

Our Department Auxiliary.

The GP hasn't mentioned our Auxiliary before but this time I must. This is a group of wonderful women (below right) who are a joy to have around. They bring smiles to our faces and raise money to help us all. They are strange to be sure. At the last Convention they grabbed me and another to figure out what was in these diapers. (below) Now you see why I say strange. They were actually melted candy bars and we had to identify them. We failed but had a lot of fun. Thank you ladies.



The Department would like to publish this newsletter four times a year. The cut off dates are: June 10th, Sept 10th, Dec 10th & March 10th. Please submit your detachments photos and stories.