
Marine Corps League



Housatonic Detachment #1129

Volume 7 Issue 5

May 2009

Welcome to Housatonic Detachment 1129's Newsletter



My apologies for getting this newsletter out later than I had planned. It simply was a case of having to take care of other things including some computer problems. Hopefully, it will get to people before Saturday to remind them of the Bronx Zoo trip.



Some notes on the trip to the Bronx Zoo. The date will be Saturday, May 9th. It will be an enjoyable trip to take with your kids and grandkids. The current plan is to do a caravan of cars. Everyone will meet at the VFW at 0800. The caravan will leave for the zoo at 0815. The group will gather at the gate around 0945. Parking is \$12.00 per day.



Tickets are \$15.00-Adult, \$11.00-Child and \$13.00-Senior. There is a possibility that we might be able to get a group rate when we check in. Please contact Orrie (203-375-6382) or Jim Alexander (203-261-2189) to let them know you will be going.



The other thing we have scheduled is another Spouse Appreciation Dinner. We will have it at Outrigger's Restaurant again this year, as everyone seemed to enjoy that last year. Mickey McGovern is making the arrangements and needs a head count to give to the restaurant. The date is June 13th. Please contact Mickey (203-922-8824) or Jim Alexander (203-261-2189) ASAP if you plan to attend.

Paymaster Request:

When you make out a check to the detachment, please make it out to "**Marine Corps League**" as that is the primary name on our account. And, even if the check is for a Quartermaster order, make out the check to the "**Marine Corps League**" as quartermaster merchandise is paid for by the detachment funds.

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Quartermaster Stuff

Ribbon Bars: I have a number of uniform ribbon bars. Anyone that needs an upgrade can simply exchange their old ribbon bar for a new one or pay for a new one.

Membership applications can be downloaded and printed out from our website at:

<http://www.orgsites.com/ct/housatonic/index.html>

For those that are computer challenged, you can contact me to send you some or pick them up at one of our meetings. Just as an FYI, I usually have copies of our applications and rituals at every meeting. Just ask me for one if you want any copy.

Some people have asked me where to get embroidery done locally (Caps, jackets, etc.). A good place is:

All League Embroidery

171 Bruce Ave
Stratford, CT 06615
203-377-7215

The above info is the updated address and name info of the same place we've had in previous newsletters. They do a decent job with our MCL caps and give us a good price.

Announcements and other info on our detachment can be found on the Marine Corps League Announcement Forum on <http://www.YellowFootprints.com>; our website at

<http://www.orgsites.com/ct/housatonic/index.html> and on our webpage on National's website at <http://www.mcleague.com/mdp/userpages/HOUSATO NIC-914.php>

We also have a listing on the Department of Connecticut's website at

<http://www.mcldeptct.org/pages/detachments8.html>

Jack LaBrecque – Web Sergeant.

My email address is:

JITB@att.net

Other contact info is:

Jack LaBrecque, 2288 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615

(203) 380-0303

Housatonic Det. # 1129 Commandant's Column

My wife, Barbara & I are back from our trip to the Canary Islands, Morocco & Gibraltar. It was fun but most importantly it helped us realize how fortunate we are to live in the United States & how much we owe our country & it's freedoms.

At the April meeting we obligated several new members & it looks like there will be more in May. At the April Dept of CT meeting, we were recognized for our growth & involvement. A great compliment to all.

We have several special events to look forward to in the next month or so; Sandwich Night @ the VFW on May 21st & Spousal Appreciation Dinner on June 13.

The Dept of CT Convention will be held in Cromwell CT on June 19 & 20. If you have not attended a Dept Convention, it is worth considering & is surely a lot of fun. Information may be obtained through the Internet by contacting WWW.mcldeptct.org

We are working with other detachments to plan a trip to Washington & the Marine Corps Museum. The trip will take place early fall & I will have more information at our next meeting.

If you have not already done so, please consider becoming Rose Fund Booster for \$20.00& if you are a Life Member consider becoming a Life Member Booster for \$10.00- Contributions are tax deductible & go entirely to supporting our good works, especially deployed or wounded Marines. Checks should be made out to the MCL & given or sent to Jack LaBrecque, our Paymaster.

I will see you all at our next meeting on 11 May.

Semper Fi!
Jim Alexander
Commandant

Detachment News & Info

2009 Staff:

Commandant: Jim Alexander
Sr. Vice Commandant: Jack Dougherty
Jr. Vice Commandant: Matt O'Neil
Judge Advocate: Jim Jarusinsky
Jr. Past Commandant: Harry Howe

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Adjutant: Colleen Sullivan
Paymaster: Jack LaBrecque
Chaplain: Harry Howe
Sgt. At Arms: Mickey McGovern
Web Sergeant: Jack LaBrecque
Newsletter Editor: Jack LaBrecque
Public Relations: Bob Vitale
Color Guard Commander: Jack Dougherty
Scholarship Chairman: Jim Alexander
Detachment Historian ~ TBA
Detachment Librarian ~ Ruth Rosenberg
VA-VAVS ~ Jim Alexander/Colleen Sullivan
Youth Liaison ~ Mickey McGovern
Marine Corps Birthday Breakfast ~ Harry Howe/ Mickey McGovern
Toys for Tots Coordinator ~ Mickey McGovern/ Jack LaBrecque
Detachment Activity Coordinator ~ Orrie Barber
Quartermaster ~ Jack LaBrecque

Detachment Address:

Marine Corps League
 Housatonic Detachment #1129
 Post Office Box 281
 Stratford, CT 06615-0281

Detachment Meetings are at:

VFW Post 9460
 100 Veteran's Blvd (Off of Barnum Avenue Cut-Off)
 Stratford, CT



Our next meeting will be on Monday, May 11th, 2009 at 1930



The Marine Corps League Cover

Every member should have MCL cover as it is the minimal Marine Corps League uniform. The Ship's store recently raised the price for the cap. It is now \$23 and the EGA cap emblem is \$3.50.

A Happy Birthday this month to:

Jim Alexander ~ May 30th

1 Song "[September in the Rain](#)" by Guy Lombardo

Ron Bacote ~ May 7th

1 Song "[Wanted](#)" by Perry Como

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Rosella Hook ~ May 18th

1 Song "[The Third Man' Theme](#)" by Anton Karas

Stan Kaplan ~ May 9th

1 Song "[Riders in the Sky \(A Cowboy Legend\)](#)" by Vaughn Monroe

John Ray ~ May 3rd

1 Song "I'll See You in My Dreams" by Isham Jones with Ray Miller's Orchestra

Above indicates the # 1 Billboard Song on the date they were born



Thursday, May 21, 2009

The detachment will have a Sandwich Night at VFW Post 9460 on the above date. PDC Howe is in charge and plans to serve Philly cheese-steak sandwiches. Keep that date open for dinner and forget the diet for that night. Our Commandant has asked for donations of raffle prizes for Sandwich Night. You can bring anything you wish to donate to the next meeting or you can bring items to Sandwich Night on May 21st.

Membership Dues

Membership dues renewals should be sent to our address:

Marine Corps League
 Housatonic Detachment #1129
 Post Office Box 281
 Stratford, CT 06615-0281

Or to:

Jack LaBrecque
 2288 Main Street
 Stratford, CT 06615

You can use the Renewal Form that National sends you or the Application/Renewal form available at our website at:

<http://www.orgsites.com/ct/housatonic/index.html>

Make checks out to the "Marine Corps League". You also can just send a check with "Renewal" printed in the Memo section on the check.

Marine Rose Booster Members

2009

Bob Goetz ~ January

Bob Chenoweth ~ February

Jim Alexander ~ February

Jack LaBrecque ~ February

Ruth Rosenberg ~ April

It's not mandatory that you become a Marine Rose Booster but it does focus certain funds towards worthwhile charitable projects of the detachment.

Life Member Booster

Jim Alexander ~ February

Jack LaBrecque ~ February

May USMC History

1 May 1992: BGen Marvin Hoppood Jr. led 1,500 Marines from Camp Pendleton to help quell the Los Angeles riots.

2 May 1946: Marines from Treasure Island Marine Barracks, under the command of Warrant Officer Charles L. Buckner, aided in suppressing the three-day prison riot at Alcatraz Penitentiary in San Francisco Bay. WO Buckner, a veteran of the Bougainville and Guam campaigns, ably led his force of Marines without suffering a single casualty.

3 May 1988: Lt Dion Williams and Marines from the USS Baltimore raised the American flag over Cavite, Philippines.

4 May 1942: Marines participated in the Battle of the Coral Sea during WW II.

5 May 1919: HQMC moved into the new Navy Building on Constitution Avenue in Washington, DC.

5 May 1961: Marine pilots retrieved America's first astronaut, Navy Commander Alan Shepard.

5 May 1983: In Beirut, Lebanon, a UH-1N helicopter carrying the commander of the American peace-keeping force, Colonel James Mead, was hit by machine gun fire. The six Marines aboard escaped injury. Colonel Mead and his crew had taken off in the helicopter to investigate artillery and rocket duels between rival Syrian-backed Druze Moslem militiamen and Christian Phalangists that endangered French members of the multinational force.

6 May 1937: Marines at NAS, Lakehurst, New Jersey, helped rescue survivors of the Hindenburg disaster.

6 May 1942: The colors of the 4th Marines Regiment were burned to avoid capture on Corregidor.

7 May 1873: 200 Marines and Seamen from the USS Pensacola and Tuscarora land at Bay of Panama, Colombia to protect Americans.

7 May 1965: MAG-12 (Forward Echelon) arrives at Chu Lai, Vietnam.

8 May 1808: Marine Barracks, Charleston was established under Lt Pinckney and 22 Marines.

8 May 1995: In the wake of the most devastating storm to hit the New Orleans area in more than 200 years, a group of Marines and sailors from Marine Forces Reserve demonstrated the quick response synonymous with the Navy/Marine Corps team. Within 24 hours of being called, Marines assisted in the evacuation of 2,500 civilians, and Navy corpsmen treated scores of flood victims.

9 May 1846: Lt Archibald Gillespie delivered a presidential message to Capt John C. J. Fremont in Oregon.

10 May 1845: Marines and Sailors of the USS Constitution landed at Tourane, Cochin China (later known as Da Nang, Vietnam).

10 May 1934: The first amphibious landing exercise by embryo FMF at Culebra.

10 May 1945: The 22d Marines, 6th Marine Division, executed a pre-dawn attack south across the Asa River Estuary and seized a bridgehead from which to continue the attack toward Naha, the capital of Okinawa.

11 May 1920: The 16th Marine Regiment organized at Philadelphia for duty in Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

12 May 1975: Marines were alerted for rescue of the Mayaguez crew and assault on Koh Tang Island, Cambodia.

13 May 1846: War was declared against Mexico.

13 May 1928: Marines participated in the Battle of Cua River in Nicaragua.

14 May 1917: The first Marine detachment transferred from

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Annapolis to a new Marine post at Quantico.

14 May 1919: Marines from the USS Arizona landed at Constantinople to secure the American Consulate.

15 May 1862: Corporal John Mackie, the first Marine to earn the Medal of Honor, was commended for service in the USS GALENA during action against Confederate shore batteries at Drewry's Bluff which blocked the James River approaches to Richmond.

15 May 1991: After flooding killed 130,000 in Bangladesh, the 5th MEB provided aid in Operation Sea Angel.

16 May 1927: Marines participated in the Battle of La Paz Centro in Nicaragua.

16 May 1945: The 22d and 29th Marines continued the attack against Half Moon Hill, a day characterized by the 6th Marine Division as the "bitterest" of the Okinawa campaign. By the 18th, the famed "Shuri line" had been breached.

17 May 1962: The 3rd MEU landed in Thailand, easing communist pressure.

18 May 1902: Marines from the USS Ranger landed in Panama City to protect Americans.

19 May 1927: The 11th Marine Regiment arrived at Esteli, Nicaragua, for garrison duty.

20 May 1803: Marines participated in the raid on Tripoli.

20 May 1906: Major John A. Lejeune embarked his battalion for duty in Panama.

21 May 1846: A Marine regiment formed for duty with General Winfield Scott's Army in Mexico.

22 May 1912: First Lieutenant Alfred A. Cunningham, the first Marine officer to be assigned to "duty in connection with aviation" by Major General Commandant William P. Biddle, reported for aviation training at the Naval Aviation Camp at Annapolis, Maryland, and Marine aviation had its official beginning.

23 May 1899: Marines arrived to secure Cavite Naval Base, Philippines.

23 May 1988: The V-22 Osprey, the world's first production tilt-rotor aircraft, made its debut during rollout ceremonies at Bell Helicopter Textron's Arlington, Texas, facility. More than 1,000 representatives from the military, industry, and media, gathered to hear various speakers, including Gen Alfred Gray, Commandant of the Marine Corps, praise the versatile rotor craft designed to meet the needs of 21st Century battlefields.

24 May 1900: Marines landed at Taku, China, to establish Legation Guard at Peking.

25 May 1775: Eight Marines escorted payroll; this was the first recorded action of the Continental Marines.

26 May 1853: Major Jacob Zeilin (in charge of Marines) arrived with Commodore Matthew C. Perry's squadron at Okinawa.

26 May 1969: Operation Pipestone Canyon began when the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines and 3d Battalion, 5th Marines began sweeps in the Dodge City/Go Noi areas southwest of Da Nang. It terminated at the end of June with 610 enemy killed in action at a cost of 34 Marines killed.

27 May 1803: Marines aboard the USS John Adams engaged Tripolitan gunboats off Tripoli.

27 May 1942: The 8th Defense Battalion (reinforced) landed on Wallis Island from Tutuila Island.

28 May 1945: The 5th Marine Regiment began the final assault against Shuri Castle, Okinawa.

29 May 1944: The 4thMarDiv sailed from Pearl Harbor for Saipan Operation.

29 May 1945: 0730, 5th Marines assault Shuri Ridge, Okinawa, despite heavy mortar fire, take the crest and later Shuri Castle.

29 May 1991: Elements of a joint task force that included the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade departed the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Bangladesh after nearly two weeks of disaster relief operations following a devastating cyclone. The joint task force delivered tons of relief supplies using helicopters, C-130s, and landing craft in Operation Sea Angel.

30 May 1873: 68 Marines from USS Ohio and USS Powhatan restored order after a fire in Boston.

31 May 1900: Marines guarded the Peking Diplomatic Quarters during the Boxer Rebellion.

PICTURES

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One final note: Please get those dues renewals in.