

**Marine Corps League Slattery Detachment #206 Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 4, 2015**

**Roll Call of Officers:** Jim Wisecup, Senior Vice Commandant, was not in attendance.

**Special Awards:** S/Sgt. Matthew Hutcheson from Picatinny Co. "G" presented a plaque to Mario Monaco for outstanding service T4T 2014 program, Keith Butler for appreciation of support for the T4T 2014 program, and a plaque to Bob Beck for the Slattery Detachment #206 support of the T4T 2014 program.

**Application for Membership:** Gunny Minix is planning to join and Don Patterson is setting it up.

**New Members:** None mentioned

**Commandant's Comments:** Bob Beck mentioned that he had received a thank you from Joe Patrick, Commandant Cape Atlantic, in regard to his friend Carl Waterman who had a serious stroke. We sent a \$300 donation for Waterman which Bob had authorized.

The Rose Program cards were handed out which clarifies the National guidelines. However, the Detachment has the final say regarding expenditures that are constructive.

We have an invitation from Lee Moreau to participate in the Lake Hopatcong block party on May 9. We can either participate or send a donation.

There was further discussion regarding the importance of the Rose Program. Bob Beck introduced an approach to have one person run each individual outing. Jim Ward is anxious to help with planning approximately 6 money making events. We had \$36,000 plus from the last 2 years from the Rose Program. Bob asked for volunteers to take on each outing and received interest from the members. John Andrews indicated that he would continue to do Mendham and Chester. Bob said he would discuss with Jim Ward and put together the events. Keith mentioned that there are also three opportunities to share with Sussex. Hector Schorno may want to take that over.

Bob asked about the progress on the dog for Aguilera. Gunny and Bill Freeman updated everyone. Apparently Aguilera's girlfriend has allergies and a special dog would be needed. For now a PTSD dog is being trained for a female Marine from Golf Company and the dog for Aguilera is on hold. Bill Freeman spoke to Will Lyles and Will wanted to thank everyone for his dog, Spartan. Will is getting married.

Rosemary Fleming, Department Commandant, has requested that the Detachment Commandants speak to their members about the proper uniforms. Bob stressed that it was important that when attending functions such as a funeral that everyone be appropriately dressed. The fore-and-aft cover is the most important along with the black trousers, black belt, black shoes, black socks, and red shirt. You can make purchases at the Semper Fi Store.

**Report of Adjutant/Paymaster:**

**Marines Care Secretary:** Steve Bliss indicated that the Detachment is doing all right.

- Marine Rose Fund - (due to 2 great years) \$26,000
- The ad book efforts by Jimmy Heien and Tom Miller - over \$2,000
- Marines Care - \$48,666

We have made donations as following:

- FFFFF - \$1,500 per month

- 2 Sergeants that lost homes in fires - \$2,000 each
- Joey Clayton - \$1,000 (have already received a thank you from his family)
- Alan Gondeck, PTSD \$4,000 - Gunny brought to our attention.

We received a certification of appreciation from the Marines Care Foundation in Maryland for the money we give them every year.

Discussed was the gift cards. Apparently, up to \$2,000 maximum was voted on by the Detachment five years ago but it will be based on our financial situation.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Accepted

**Members Sick or in Distress:** None mentioned

**Report of Officers:** Jimmy Heien reported a group would be attending the NRS pistol orientation at F.F.S. on Sunday for 4 hours. Also another group would be attending on Wednesday, March 11 and Thursday, March 12, for two hours each day.

Dan Danzi gave a date to go to Lyons Veterans Hospital on Saturday, March 14. Meet at the Legion Hall parking lot between 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

### Marines Care

Gunny indicated that you can go to Motor Vehicles and request a laminated sticker on your license saying veteran.

Gunny indicated that certificates of appreciation will be sent to the marines that participated in the ceremony for Bruce Jensen. Gunny along with Bob Beck, will be working on a letter to headquarters to thank them for the color guard. He also mentioned that 1st/Sgt Piazza was instrumental in allowing Troy, NY to do a full ceremony there as well.

Gunny spoke about the falsehoods regarding Eric Calamusa who Gunny and his brother knew. Calamusa received the Basilone award from UNICO based on lies involving Gunny, Domenick and Marines Care. Gunny pursued this and UNICO pulled back the award.

Gunny received a request from Operation Home Front to help again with a baby shower. Gunny, Tom Miller and Domenick Monaco previously helped with this function but Gunny stressed that our Detachment did not pay for anything. He also received another request for help to do an event for Father's Day.

Gunny indicated he received many letters from a woman who had been corresponding with those serving in Vietnam in 1968, 1969, and 1970. In order to not destroy the letters since the woman has died, Tom Miller and Eddie Neas indicated that they would do some research on them.

**Report of Standing Committees:** Tony Oszmianski indicated that the next lunch bunch will be on Thursday, March 19, at Billy & Madeline's Red Room in Whippany at Noon.

**Old Business:** Keith handed out two certificates of appreciation, one to N.J. Federal Credit Union and the other one to the Alanzo family.

Keith told about his trip to Troy, New York, for Bruce Jensen's burial service. Art Bowie and Susie Becker also attended. Karen, Bruce Jensen's daughter, sent a very nice thank you letter. Keith gave Dan Danzi a spent round that was retrieved from the gun salute.

Keith Butler gave a review of Monika Flaherty's upcoming trip to San Antonio, TX. She is attending the 514 Air Mobility Bosslift, on March 10 & 11. The purpose of the trip is to inform civilian educators, businesses and community leaders about the US Air Force Reserve and Burn Unit.

On February 27, Eddie Neas and Don Patterson attended Gunny Minix's retirement party in Philadelphia and presented him with a \$1,000 check to cover the cost of the hall.

Eddie Neas spoke about his and four others' attendance at the Trenton Marine Corps League fund raiser on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The fund raiser was to help maintain their building.

Picatinny had a network issue that has been resolved by their IT staff.

Eddie Neas went to the Lakeland Detachment where Ben Casio gave him a book entitled *Semper Cool, Memories of Vietnam*, authored by Barry Fixler. The Barry Fixler Foundation helps families of wounded warriors from various services. He went on to detail his visit there. He had purchased some of the books and offered them for sale at \$20.00 each.

**Announcements:** Keith Butler mentioned that he took a photography class at Unique Photo on Route 46W in Fairfield. There is a display of Vietnam photos on their wall that may be of interest to the members.

**New Business:** Steve Bliss mentioned that every year we do a full page ad in the Department Convention ad book.

Eddie Neas made a suggestion that the Marine of the Year award be renamed Sgt. Bruce Jensen Marine of the Year award which was unanimously accepted by the Detachment.

Eddie Neas indicated that no one had gone to Walter Reed since last February. He might do something in the month of April.

Keith worked with Gunny in obtaining and sending Wii Game Controllers to Walter Reed. Steve Springer at Walter Reed sent a thank you for the donation which was slated for the Occupational Therapy Department. Total cost approximately \$37.00.

**Good of the League:**

**50/50:** The 50/50 was won by Bob Stalzer. Also there was another drawing for a book, *Medal of Honor*, which was won by Monika Flaherty.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1.  
The meeting ended at 8:50 p.m.