

Marine Corps League Slattery Detachment #206 Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 1, 2015

Roll Call of Officers: Bob Stalzer, Judge Advocate, was not in attendance.

New Members: None

Application for Membership: Walter Michura from Chester and Sal Zaffarese of Mendham are transferring from the Air Land Sea Detachment in Nutley. However, the transfer forms were invalid, but new paperwork will be done. Steve Bliss indicated that the transfer forms are available on the Department of New Jersey website. Walter and Sal gave a brief presentation of their backgrounds.

Commandant's Comments: Bob indicated that he and Gloria attended the Department Conference in Albany, NY, which included New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He felt their attendance was worthwhile as much was learned and they were able to meet many other attendees. Apparently, there is a budget deficit due to declining membership and the cost of purchased equipment.

Bob spoke about the Leadership School that he attended along with Jim Wisecup and Keith Butler. He felt it was a worthwhile program. Bob and Gloria also attended a Department business meeting in Red Bank on Sunday, March 15, which was very informative.

Bob spoke in depth regarding the Rose Program. Art Williams volunteered to take care of the April function at Stop & Shop in Madison. Jim Ward will support each function with letters, confirmations, and a follow up letter. Art Williams will select his team and pick up the gear. This proposal is to have one volunteer responsible for each of the functions. The Lake Hopatcong Block Party event is scheduled for May 9, and Keith was asked if he could cover it. Keith will get back to Bob to let him know if he is available. Unfortunately, this event is the same day as the Lyons event.

There is a very nice new website for the Patterson Detachment. The website is as follows: www.mcldet747.com.

Charity scams and stolen valor were discussed by Bob alerting everyone to be aware and cautious.

Bob indicated that Amazon has a smile button on their website. When ordering, press the button and select the Marine Corps Foundation and 10% of the profit will go to it.

This Detachment has very little problem with unpaid dues. However, this has become a big issue with the National and Department. Bob thanked Hector Schorno for volunteering to contact our delinquent members if necessary. Fortunately, Jim Wiseup, Membership Chairman, has been taking care of this.

Report of Adjutant/Paymaster:

Marines Care Secretary: Steve Bliss indicated that we are in good shape.

- Slattery Rose Program - almost \$27,000
- Detachment donations given out - \$8,800
- Marines Care - \$47,000
- Marines Care donations to worthwhile causes \$16,000

Received over \$2,000 in memory of Bruce Jensen.

Received \$1,000 from the Lakeland Detachment that Gunny picked up.

Eddie Neas delivered a donation of \$1,500 to L/Cpl Nick Taylor from Chester who was paralyzed in a car accident.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Accepted

Members Sick or in Distress: Keith reported that Joe Donahue had hip surgery and will be out of the hospital tomorrow. Surgery went very well.

Everyone welcomed back Dave Katz, Jim Ward and Frank Gargano.

Jack Gartenberg had been ill but no one had any further information. Bob Beck will contact him.

Report of Officers: Jimmy Heien reported that everyone who attended F.F.S. received their certifications. He is planning a more advanced class at the end of April. He will get more information and will send an email regarding the details. A minimum of 5 participants is necessary.

Dan Danzi indicated that the March 14 Coffee Social at Lyons was successful and that 5 members showed up. The next Lyons Coffee Social is scheduled for Saturday, May 9, and everyone should be at the Legion 155 at 9:15 a.m.

Art Williams has been working with Alfred's Sport Shop in Madison. Members will be able to shop on-line from our Detachment's website where they will be able to order items. This will cut down the need to keep a large inventory. Items can be shipped directly to the member or can be shipped to Alfred's for pick up. Art volunteered to assist with any computer related issues that may be needed by the members. Alfred's can do any embroidering required.

Project Leaders: Eddie Neas spoke about how to honor Bruce Jensen. He and Bob Beck had some discussions on the subject and there are other recommendations to be considered. Eddie Neas mentioned that Bruce's daughter, Karen, has been very appreciative and would possibly attend a meeting.

New Business: Eddie Neas mentioned that he has 4 more books available - *Semper Cool*, *Memories of Vietnam*, authored by Barry Fixler. The 100% proceeds from the book sales go to The Barry Fixler Foundation which helps Marines and wounded veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

Jim Loizides mentioned that the sandwiches offered by Jimmy John's will possibly be delivered at the next meeting.

Good of the League: Kim Goulding volunteered to do stories on the members that will eventually go into a book. You can email your story to her along with a picture. In order to implement this, she will come up with a questionnaire. Hector Schorno mentioned that this could possibly be helpful information at the time of a member's passing.

Keith Butler spoke about his trip with his wife to Europe. He was especially interested in going to Normandy. He took over 2,000 photos. He has sand from the Omaha Beach which he wants to give to our WWII veterans.

Announcements: Tony Oszmianski announced that the lunch bunch is scheduled to meet on Thursday, April 16, at Charlotte's Web at noon but suggested coming between 11:30 - 11:45 a.m.

Hector Schorno reported that according to MCL rules an audit should be done annually. Jim Loizides volunteered to do the audit. Hector mentioned the Distinguished Service Awards which Bob Beck has already sent in, and he also mentioned the Newsletter competition.

Bob Beck mentioned that the Legion was holding a Fish & Chips dinner on Friday, April 3. Ed Moscariello said that take out is at 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. The dinner is at 6:00 p.m. We should try to support this activity.

Eddie Neas stated that on an 8th & I trip, he met Cpl Mark Kemp, a Royal Marine Commando. Mark will be coming to NYC on April 9, 10 and 11. If anyone is interested in meeting with Mark, let Eddie know at the end of the meeting and he'll get out the necessary information to you.

Eddie Neas announced that he is planning to go to Walter Reed Thursday, April 9. Anyone interested should meet at Newark Penn Station at 6:00 a.m. The return is 8:00 p.m.

The 50/50 was won by Steve Bliss.

The meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.