

Marine Corps League Slattery Detachment #206 Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Roll Call of Officers: All Present

Applications for New Members: Luis Gomez from Dover along with Colin Murray applied as regular members. Jim Cavanaugh from Morristown applied as an Associate Member.

Guests: Bob Beck recognized Hector Schorno, District Vice Commandant, and member Father Mike as being present.

Keith Butler introduced Jim Cavanaugh who spoke about the many volunteer services he is involved in such as Welcome Home Vets of N.J. and Mary Queen of All Nations Missionary Alliance. Jim indicated that he was impressed with our members and our Detachment. He had a flag that was given to him by Rodney Frelinghuysen and wanted help refolding it properly. He mentioned that the National Deck & Rail Association would like to build a free deck for a reliable Veteran. He also offered paintings for Veteran fundraising. He had on hand many handouts and information regarding his activities.

Pat Donofrio from Guitars for Vets thanked us for our Detachment donation. Pat along with some of the students will be performing their music at our next trip to Lyons VA.

Liz and Paul Hackett were present from Operation Jersey Cares which supports deployed Troops and Veterans. The organization has shipped over 500,000 pounds to date. Since the cost of shipping runs \$30 - \$40, and it is harder to get donations, she indicated that they decided to have an "Audi" automobile raffle. Each ticket will cost \$100 with only 800 being sold. If anyone is interested, she and Paul have raffle books with them. She also mentioned that a Dr. Maddalena of E. Hanover contributed a major dental operation for a soldier at no charge.

Commandant's Comments:

- Bob Beck indicated that Pete Gallo is at home and making steady progress. Pete thanks those who have been visiting him.
- Bob presented Domenick Monaco with the Distinguished Citizen Gold Award, the highest award granted by the MCL National. Domenick also received a certificate, medal and ribbon.
- At the Memorial Day ceremonies, Jim Ward will be the Grand Marshall and John Andrews the speaker.
- Tom Miller joined Bob at Bayer Pharmaceuticals where a service dog leashing ceremony was performed. Sergeant Nieves was the recipient of the dog, "Laya." Along with the Bayer employees, JT Gabriel and her daughter Casey were present. Tom Miller generously handed out his art work.
- BG Burden, Commanding Officer Picatinny Arsenal, requested an informal visit with Bob at the Legion. Bob was able to contact Mike McCorry and Ron Engle who also joined in. BG Burden was accompanied by two of his staff. He gave out challenge coins, and thanked everyone for their support. It was a nice visit enjoyed by all present.
- The Daughters of the American Revolution hosted Jack Gartenberg who gave a very informative talk about his experiences on Iwo Jima plus much more. Charlene and Art Bowie and Bob and Gloria Beck attended.

Old Business

Report of Adjutant/Paymaster

Marines Care Secretary: Steve Bliss gave the following:

Marines Care	70,000 checking balance
	11,000 donations received
	10,500 donations made
Rose Program	25,600
	3,300 donations received
	4,700 donations made

Minutes of Meeting: Accepted. Tom Miller surprised Gloria Beck, Recording Officer, with a gift of a Marine Corps League jacket.

Correspondence Received: Jim Loizides received a card from Eddie Neas from Vietnam.

Members Sick or in Distress: Norman Nutt was in the hospital with bleeding ulcers. Bill Freeman is not feeling well. Jimmy Heien has a large kidney stone and will need an operation.

Bob Beck called for a moment of silence for Hector Cafferata. Detachment members added some meaningful comments.

New Business

Bob Beck brought up the subject of recruiting and retention of Detachment members. The National is working on getting transitioning Marines' information to the Detachments. Bob Beck mentioned that one of the Detachments used a Fire Team approach and doubled the membership in one year.

Dave Katz pursued his idea to issue a plaque with the names of all the 8th grade student volunteers that helped at St. Bartholomew's on the Rose Program with a separate plaque for the staff. He also plans to have a certification for each student given at graduation time.

Keith Butler mentioned the following:

- Keith Butler mentioned again that help is needed to do work at JT Gabriel's K-9 Soldiers facility along with BAE employees on May 14th or May 21st rain date. He will car pool leaving the Legion at 9:00 a.m. Breakfast and lunch will be available.
- BAE celebrates the Military in the month of May. They recently had John Harris, a Veterans Service Officer, as a speaker along with a speaker from FFFFF and Operation Jersey Cares.
- The next presentation at BAE Systems may be May 25th. Guitars for Vets has already signed up to talk along with the possibility of Welcome Home Vets of NJ and Eddie Neas.
- A program similar to the Morris County Distinguished Service Awards for Veterans is being considered by Passaic County. If you know anyone in that county alert them.
- On May 9, the Morris County Bar Foundation is offering a free confidential legal clinic for Veterans. Forms were put on each table.
- A company in E. Hanover is hiring Veterans as drivers. Keith has further information if interested.
- During the month of May, BAE Systems will double match donations to select military support organizations.

Report of Project Leaders & Committee Leaders

Marines Care: Gunny Monaco, Domenick Monaco and Hetal Patel attended the 5th Annual Cocktail Reception on April 28 sponsored by the law Offices of Geoffrey D. Mueller. The

amount of \$5,275 was donated to Marines Care. The Detachment has received up to \$25,000 from them to date.

Gunny Monaco cautioned about giving money away without proper vetting. There are processes that are necessary and scams to be aware of. The process becomes a team effort with other organizations.

Lyons Hospital: Dan Danzi indicated that the next visit to Lyons is scheduled for May 21. Meet at the Legion between 9:00-9:15 a.m. or go directly if more convenient.

Rose Program: Charlene and Art Bowie are the Coordinators for Lake Hopatcong on May 7.

Bill Freeman, John Andrews and Bob Stalzer also have some Rose dates. Jim Ward is still available to send letters to the participating venues. Volunteers are needed for all the upcoming Rose dates but if you can't volunteer at a facility, then maybe you can help put roses together. Bob Beck needs the firm dates from the Coordinators.

If anyone knows where there is an additional table that had been used previously in the Rose Program, please advise Bob Beck, as it is missing!

Tony Fiorentino will be the Rose Program Coordinator for the North Jersey Corvette Club on September 11 with a rain date of September 18 and Jim Loizides will be the Coordinator at the Natural Glass Corvette Association on September 25. Flyers are being made up.

Golf Outing: Art Bowie had with him brochures for the Golf Outing being held on July 28. He asked for volunteers to help at the outing. Last year this outing cleared \$24,000 in donations and for the last six years a total of \$223,000.

Announcements: The flag placement on the graves at Gate of Heaven will take place on May 28th. Everyone is to meet at the Legion at 7:30 a.m. or go directly.

Detachment members in uniform are needed at the Memorial Day Parade in Whippany on May 30. More information to follow.

Good of the League: Tony Oszmianski announced that the next lunch bunch is scheduled for Thursday, May 19, at the Black Horse Pub in Mendham. Plan to be there by 12:00 noon but come early to order food.

Gunny Monaco will look into getting 20 gold EGA's.

Thanks to Ted Jemas who brought in a delicious Marine decorated cake for all of us to enjoy.

The 50/50 was won by Richard Gordon. Richard has retired from UPS and is moving to South Carolina. We will miss this fine member. Good luck in retirement.

The meeting ended at approximately 8:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 1 at 7:30 p.m.