

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

**Roll Call of Officers:** All present

**New Members:** None

**Guests:** Luis Gomez who was once a member of Slattery and plans to return to our Detachment. He served from 1994-2010.

Eddie Neas introduced Barry Fixler, the author of *Semper Cool*, who later spoke about his experience in the military and his book.

**Commandant's Comments:** Bob indicated that at the Convention, our Detachment received many awards which he distributed to the members involved as follows:

- Newsletter Award - 2<sup>nd</sup> place of 36. Kudos to Pete Gallo, Editor and Don Patterson, Web Sergeant, for this well-deserved recognition.
- Department of NJ Strength Award for 100% membership with a streamer. We have joined 6 new members so far this year.
- Distinguished Service Award with ribbon - Steve P. Bliss
- Distinguished Service Award with ribbon - Keith T. Butler
- Certificate of Appreciation for exceptional leadership and support of the MCL Scouting Program. This award was passed onto Mario Monaco.
- Distinguished Citizen Medal for exceptional service to the Department of NJ while serving as a member of the Department Staff - James Ward
- Community Service/VAVS Commendation - James Ward
- Community Service/VAVS Commendation - Dan Danzi
- Community Service/VAVS Commendation - David Katz
- Department Meritorious Unit Commendation - Slattery Detachment. Any Detachment member may now wear this ribbon.

Bob showed the plaque he received as guest speaker at the Family Day For Future Marines at Picatinny. Bob got to play football with Joey Clayton. Joey is making progress with his cancer. Another test will be done to evaluate the progress. Bob also mentioned that Gunny Clayton will complete his tour as Commander - Recruiting Sub Station Northwest Rockaway, but will continue to serve at Picatinny in another capacity. Staff Sergeant Jeremy Curcio will replace Gunny Clayton.

The Basilone parade is scheduled for Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, in Raritan. Steve Bliss needs to know how many plan to march, if any vehicles are involved and whether there will be a color/honor guard. Let Bob know ASAP.

**Report of Adjutant/Paymaster:**

**Marines Care Secretary:** No financial report given. Steve Bliss indicated that he had with him audited financials if anyone wanted to look at them.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Accepted. A copy of the minutes was available.

**Correspondence:** Steve Bliss indicated that he received a donation from Friends of Frank T. Carvill who was killed in 2004. Carvill's sister gave the donation in his memory in the amount of \$500.

**Members Sick or in Distress:** Bob spoke to Jack Gartenberg and he is well. Keith Butler mentioned that Joe Donahue is fine. John Andrews will check on Joe Ollerenshaw who was not at the meeting.

**Report of Officers:** Jimmy Heien gave out certificates to those that attended the F.S.S. program last month. He will be planning another class sometime in September. Let him know if you wish to participate.

**Old Business:** Keith Butler reported on the Rose outing that took place on Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, at the A&P in Oak Ridge. Working alone, he was able to collect \$957.60. Art Williams is set to do a September 19 outing at Stop & Shop in Madison. On Saturday, August 22, the Rose outing will be at Pathmark in Lake Hopatcong. Volunteers are needed to run some further Rose Program events. Bob Beck also stressed the importance of the Rose Program stating it is a source of income for our many activities. He thanked Keith for what he has done for the Rose Program.

A thank you went out to Charlene and Art Bowie for the donation of a tent. It is currently housed in the American Legion's shed along with rose supplies.

Art Bowie spoke about the upcoming Golf Outing on Thursday, July 23. He mentioned that they were behind on golfers but doing well with donations. A friend of Art donated \$5,000 in memory of his wife's father who recently passed away. The father served both in WWII and Korea. Eddie Neas donated 4 tickets he received from a friend for the Yankees & Blue Jays game on September 11 that will be used for the Silent Auction. Art showed everyone the T-shirt that will be given at the Golf Outing. If you are able to volunteer to help, see him or Charlene after the meeting.

Keith Butler spoke about the trip to 8<sup>th</sup> & I that he and Pete Gallo arranged. He felt it was a perfect trip. He has about 200 photos and a video he will have on the website. He thanked Tom Miller & Bob Beck for taking care of supplying food and drinks. Our driver of the bus was a marine.

Keith Butler indicated that he had gone to the Beef Steak Fundraiser for U.S. Marine Nick Taylor held on June 19 in Little Falls.

**New Business:** Bob Beck indicated that he approved \$300 for the Family Day For Future Marines. However, an additional \$200 was needed. The vote to give the remaining \$200 was approved.

Keith Butler is looking into Guitars for Vets, an organization that works with the VA. They purchase guitars and give them to veterans suffering from PTSD along with free lessons. He will get more information.

**Good of the League:** Eddie Neas indicated that there were no new injured or wounded coming into the Hospital. He may do a trip sometime this summer. He mentioned that Diana Williams, a newscaster on Channel 7, whose son was in a serious car accident will be sent to Bethesda. He will check to see if they can make contact with him. In September there will be another Wounded Warriors Battalion East Symposium at Camp Lejeune. He doesn't have dates yet but will present it at the August meeting.

Eddie Neas introduced Barry Fixler who spoke about his tour of duty in 1968 at Khe Sanh, Vietnam, a 77 day siege. His book, *Semper Cool* took almost 5 years to write. One hundred percent of the funds go to the severely wounded from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. One example was Brendan Marrocco who lost all four limbs and he received a \$5,000 donation from the Foundation. If you purchase the book from Amazon or Barnes and Noble, the book keeps getting ratings and they keep printing it. They also have to put a percent of the sales of this book directly into his Foundation.

Eddie Neas gave Barry Fixler a MCL coin for all he does. He also made a motion to give a donation to Barry's Foundation. It was voted on and the amount of \$2,500 was approved which will come from Marines Care.

**Announcements:** Tony Oszmianski announced that the next lunch bunch is scheduled for Thursday, July 16, at the Black Horse Pub in Mendham.

The 50/50 was won by Pete Gallo.

The meeting ended at 8:35 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 5.