

**Marine Corps League Slattery Detachment #206 Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, September 2, 2015**

**Roll Call of Officers:** All present.

**Applications for New Members:** None. Steve Bliss had available Marine Corps pins for new members who have not already received one.

**Guests:** Vito Collucci, Managing Member of Gaspar & Lavaco, LLC, presented information on the portable dental pods. Dr. George Schmidt, a dentist practicing in Cedar Knolls, has partnered with Gaspar & Lavaco in order to give complimentary dental care to veterans only at the VFW in Whippany. This would include free dental examines, cleanings, x-rays, oral cancer screenings, etc., that would take place sometime around Columbus Day week. The doctors are donating their time. Vito has to work on dates with the town but it is expected to be available sometime in October. Our Detachment will have to write a letter to the town in order to proceed. The facility would be state of the art with up-to-date equipment. The whole process will be fully insured. Vito will get back to us regarding the specifics to accomplish this.

James Grawehr, a police officer from Whippany, presented the actual design of the proposed Memorial in honor of Chris Cosgrove that will be built at Whippany Park High School at the cost of \$70,000. Also, at this Memorial will be a piece of steel from the Twin Towers. The dedication of the Memorial is slated for late October or November. Tom Miller made a motion to donate \$10,000 to this effort which was accepted by the members. Domenick Monaco mentioned making James an Associate Member. The donated funds collected will be coming into Marines Care.

Keith brought Bob Marino as a guest.

**Commandant's Comments:** Bob Beck asked Tom Miller to give the 2015/2016 Slate of Officers. They are as follows:

- Commandant - Robert Beck
- Sr. Vice Commandant - James Wisecup
- Jr. Vice Commandant - Anthony Fiorentino
- Judge Advocate - Robert Stalzer

The motion was accepted. The installation of officers will take place at the next meeting on October 7 at 7:00 p.m. followed by a short meeting and then sandwiches, cookies, beer and soda.

The Commandant's appointed officers are:

- Adjutant/Paymaster - Steve Bliss
- Chaplain - Dan Danzi
- Sergeant at Arms - Anthony Oszmianski
- Quartermaster - Art Williams
- Recording Officer - Gloria Beck

Bob asked for a Chair person to run the Winter Social. John Andrews accepted the position

**Report of Adjutant/Paymaster**

**Marines Care Secretary:** There was no financial report. Mario Monaco along with Domenick and Doc Patel attended the Blue Goose Golf Outing and received \$1,720. Wounded Warriors Battalion East received \$100 of this total.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Accepted.

**Correspondence:** A thank you card was received from Bethesda thanking us for the gift cards.

A thank you was received from Reverend Joseph D'Amico, Pastor of Our Lady of the Lake Church, for the \$1,000 we donated for the Father Michael Hanly Pastoral Center.

**Members Sick or in Distress:** Bob mentioned that he recently spoke with Jack Gartenberg and he has had some back problems but he is planning to be at the October meeting.

#### **Report of Project Leaders & Committee Leaders:**

**Marines Care:** Mario Monaco mentioned that there is a homeless veteran from Ocean County who needs \$3,412.95 to get his driver license back so he can get a job. He is presently at Lyons, but is working on returning to the community. There were many suggestions and questions regarding this individual. It was decided that more information was needed and no decision was made.

**Rose Program:** Keith Butler is looking for volunteers for two September 19<sup>th</sup> Rose Outings. Ken Rohlff is the Coordinator for Stop & Shop in West Caldwell and Art Williams is the Coordinator for Stop & Shop in Madison.

Tony Fiorentino is looking for volunteers to help with the two upcoming auto shows, one on September 13 at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Corvette & Open Car Show located at Schumacher Chevrolet in Clifton and the other one on Sunday, September 20, Wheels in Motion being held at Konner Chevrolet in W. Caldwell. Keith will also help in getting volunteers. Thanks to Tony for arranging with both of these shows to donate half of their proceeds to the Marines Care Foundation.

Bob Stalzer is doing the Shoprite in Parsippany sometime in November.

Monika Flaherty has a table for us at the Octoberfest in Chester on September 26 and 27 and volunteers are needed.

Keith Butler indicated that he along with Art Bowie, Dave Katz, Al Bischoff and Jim Crupi collected \$693.72 in donations at the Pathmark in Lake Hopatcong on August 22.

The total Rose donations collected year to date is \$3,792.33.

The next Lyons breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, September 5. Everyone is to meet at the Legion at 9:00 a.m. for car-pooling, or go directly if more convenient.

**New Business:** Suzy Becker who is now working on the ad book gave out the ad order forms to the members. She mentioned that the ad book cover will be in color but the pages will be black and white. The deadline to get the orders in is October 24. Jim Ward and Pete Gallo will also be working to assist Suzy.

Bob Beck reported that he approved a software purchase of \$299 for Suzy Becker's use for preparation of the ad book. Tom Miller indicated that he would help with the software program.

Bob Beck listed the upcoming events and has the flyers available at the meeting. Also, Pete Gallo mentioned that this information is on the website. The events are as follows:

- Family & Friends For Freedom Funds 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Beefsteak Dinner is being held on November 10 at The Brownstone, 351 W. Broadway, Paterson, NJ. Tickets are \$55.00 per person.
- Totowa PBA Local 80 Annual Golf Outing is being held at the Farmstead Golf Club at 88 Lawrence Road, Lafayette Township, NJ on Thursday, September 10.
- Rutgers FOCUS Wellness Center Veterans Program has services available at 449 Broad Street, Newark, NJ. Mario Monaco is working on this. It is funded by the State and a Veteran's ID card is not needed as you can use the Marine Corps League card.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual NJ National Guard Suicide Prevention Stand Down is being held on September 9 at 151 Eggert Crossing Road, Lawrenceville, NJ.
- Goldstar Mother Ceremony is being held on Sunday, September 27. They are looking for volunteers to distribute water bottles or work the front gate. Also seeking out donations of multiple cases of bottled water. Contact telephone 914-995-2203.

**Good of the League:** Pete Gallo indicated that after the Golf Outing, \$2,000 was sent to the L/Cpl Chris Cosgrove III Legacy of a Hero Scholarship Fund.

Eddie Neas explained his desire to have Bruce Jensen honored at the 2015 Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Bruce Jensen was active at Picatinny Golf Company and Eddie felt that this was an appropriate honor. Eddie wants to give an engraved NCO sword honoring Bruce Jensen to the Marine of the Year at the Ball. This motion was accepted.

On August 30 in Bridgewater, NJ, the Somerset Patriots had a Veterans of America Day honoring veterans and current military members. Mario Monaco, Domenick Monaco, Doc Patel, John Andrews, Henry Zimmerman and Luis Gomez participated in the reenactment of the flag raising on Iwo Jima.

Tony Oszmianski stressed the importance of attending the Basilone Parade on September 20 in Raritan at 1:00 p.m. Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and The Navy Cross. Bob Beck asked for more participants to March at the parade. The dress is either undressed blues or the black pants, red shirt, with fore and aft cover. Be at the Legion at 10:00 a.m. to car-pool as the parking is difficult at the parade.

Tony Oszmianski announced that the next lunch bunch is on Thursday, September 17, at Billy and Madeline's Red Room in Whippany at 12:00 noon but get there earlier to order food.

The 50/50 was won by Dave Katz.

The meeting ended at approximately 8:45 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 7 at 7:00 p.m.