



John Basilone Detachment
Marine Corps League

Detachment Bi-Monthly Newsletter



Volume 9 Issue 4

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Douglas J. Rattazzi Commandant

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Detachment E-Mail: johnbasilonedetachment@gmail.com

NJ MCL Web Site: njmcl.org

National MCL Web Site: www.mcleague.com

MEETINGS ARE HELD THE FIRST (1ST) MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH
AMERICAN LEGION POST 25, MILLTOWN, NEW JERSEY @1930

2011 Department Convention Highlights

Convention opened at 0900 Friday 17 June, 2011 with introductions of all Officers and guests including our National Commandant Vic Voltaggio (originally from Vineland, NJ) Northeast Division Vice Commandant Dennis Tobin and his staff. The convention continued with updated reports from the various officers and standing committees of the Department . The Leatherneck plates, plate 4249 has been issued, 24 applicants for scholarships have been approved and Scouting has given over 300 certificates. Many awards and certificates were presented to Detachments and individuals. The evening session was dedicated to the MOOD.

Saturday 18 June 2011 started with a Commandants Council at 0800. Our National Commandant Voltaggio opened a Q&A for the Detachment Commandants at the Council meeting and was very candid with his answers. The Toys for Tots program will utilize the MCL to a greater degree with an increase of visibility to the general public. Our electronic membership program should be released later this year. The 2011-2012 Budget was presented and approved. 27 detachments have signed in at the convention and 97 delegates attended per the sign in form. Nominations for the 2011-2012 Officers were opened and the Following will be our Officers for the next year:

Department Commandant Tony Modzelewski

Department Senior Vice Commandant Rosemary Fleming

Department Junior Vice Commandant Harry Prince

Department Judge Advocate Donald Mack

District Vice Commandants were nominated by the respective districts, Our District #11 elected

District 11 Sr. Vice Commandant Marine Casper Everhard, Jr.

District 11 Jr. Vice Commandant Marine Richard Healey

In the afternoon session all the new Officers and staff were sworn in with the National Commandant assisting. On Saturday evening we had a very informal get together and a good time was had by all. Thanks to Department Senior Vice Commandant Rosemary Fleming for her hard work in preparing the Convention site and logistics.

Semper Fi,

Doug Rattazzi, Commandant

Officers and Staff
November 2010 - November 2011

Commandant:..... Doug Rattazzi 732-690-7100
Chief of Staff: Rosemary Fleming 908-526-9089
Sr. Vice Com:..... Ed Sphatt 732-247-5792
Jr. Vice Com:..... Milt Fischer 732-238-0005
Judge Advocate: . Louis Goldstein 609-409-9280
Adjutant:..... . Ray Skarzynski 732-257-4582
Paymaster:..... John Heacock 609-924-0074
Chaplain:..... George Coyle 732-254-6646
Sgt. At Arms:..... Stan Szumel 732-752-3846
Asst. Sgt. At Arms .. Gil Castro 732-248-1915
Food For The Needy: Harriet Sosley 732-469-0005
Membership:John Heacock 609-924-0074
Historian:Milt Fischer 732-238-0005
Honor Guard: Norm Bloomfield 609-409-1110
Service Officer: John Heacock 609-924-0074
Fund Drives: Stan Szumel 732-752-3846
Phone SquadJoe Duh 732-885-5135
Quartermaster:.. Norm Bloomfield 609-409-1110
Aide De Camp:..... Ruth Lincoln Menlo Park
Eagle Scouts.....Ray Skarzynski 732-257-4582
Web Sergeant:..... Cliff Walling 732-613-0441
Newsletter:..... Doug Rattazzi 732-690-7100

Elections of Officers 2011-12

We will be taking nominations for our Detachment Officers for 2011-2012 at our September & October membership meeting. If you plan on nominating a member for an elected position, be sure and ask the person prior to the nomination, and that member must be present at the time of nomination to accept the nomination. The positions are Commandant, Sr. Vice Commandant, Jr. Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate.

John Basilone Challenge Coin



John Basilone Detachment Challenge Coins are for sale to our members at \$5.00 each. See Quartermaster for coins.

The coins are available at regular meetings. These coins are a great way to show your pride in Our Marine Corps, Marine Corps League and the John Basilone Detachment.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Richard Manser July 5	George Coyle August 1
Robert McCall July 10	James Tofte Jr August 2
David Hall July 17	James Phillips August 13
Donald Murphy July 27	Michael Gianetti Jr. August 16
	Lance Dige August 17
	Robert Skwirowski August 23
	Gene Wojciehowski August 27

ANNIVERSARY

Randy & Alicia Crotzer July 5
 Kenneth & Jenny Osterman July 7
 Edwin & Theresa Ann Pagan July 10
 Frank & Audrey Zuccarelli July 19
 Martin & Bernice Kalsavage July 20
 Frank & Margaret Conover July 28
 Gerald & Margaret Bauer August 14
 Milton & Joyce Fisher August 21

Fellow Marines,

As I mentioned at the May Detachment meeting, this year we were two certificates behind the detachment that presented the most Eagle Scout certificates in the Department of New Jersey. I also mentioned that The Department of New Jersey Marine Corps League will be either #1 or #2 in the Nation for another year as we have been for the past ten years. I will confirm this as soon as I get the word from the National Scouting Chairman.

The Basilone Detachment should be very proud of its achievements for another outstanding year recognizing the Eagle Scouts in our coverage area.

We will continue in our efforts to "Do our best" this year.

Semper Fidelis, YIS;
Ray Skarzynski
Scouting Chairman



Menlo Park Veterans Home

The John Basilone Det. sponsors several events thru the year at the N.J. Home for Veterans at Menlo Park in Edison N.J. We hold a Bingo game on the second Thursday of each month, and then on the next Monday after Bingo we have a sing-along for the more handi-capped residents. Both of these events start at 2:00pm.

Mark your calendar Friday July 29th. The John Basilone Detachment will be hosting a Wine & Cheese party at Menlo Park (Non-Alcoholic Wine). Detachment members are invited to come out and help serve our guests and make some new friends at Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home. Dress will be casual and it starts at 1930.

Semper Fi,
John Heacock
609/ 924-0074



Parris Island Gets First Female CO

June 17, 2011
Associated Press

PARRIS ISLAND, S.C. --- For the first time in its 96-year history, a female general will lead the famed Marine Corps training installation at South Carolina's Parris Island.

The Marine Corps says **Brig. Gen. Loretta Reynolds** will take charge of the depot Friday. The one-star Naval Academy graduate is taking command from Brig. Gen. Frederick Padilla, who will lead the 3rd Marine Division in Okinawa, Japan. Reynolds has been a Marine for 24 years. She's also going to be in charge of Marines' Eastern Recruiting Region, which covers the 23 states east of the Mississippi River. She has been a communications officer and commanded Marines from platoon to battalion levels.

The installation graduates more than 20,000 Marines every year.

MEMBERSHIP

First of all I would like to thank our members who keep their dues current, your dues are very important to the future of the Marine Corps League at all levels.

Your \$31.00 is divided between National Hq. Dept. of N.J. and the Basilone Detachment. National Hq. gets \$18.00, Dept of N.J. gets \$3.00 and our detachment gets \$10.00. So as you can see your dues are important to many.

Be advised that Life Membership is available ---

Age under 35 --- @ \$500.00 / Age 36 to 50 ---- @ \$400.00

Age 51 to 60 ---- @ \$300.00 / Age 61 and over-@ \$150.00

As you can see Life Membership isn't a bad deal, do the math !!

Any questions about your membership you can contact me at j.c.heacock@comcast.net or my home phone

609/ 924-0074.

One other thing, we have lost several members over the past year, if you know of a Marine Vet., or someone that would like to be an associate member give our recruiter a call, he is Ed Sphatt

@ 732/ 247-5792

Semper Fi.

John Heacock

Marine Corps Hymn



From the halls of Montezuma, to the shores of Tripoli, We fight our country's battles in the air, on land and sea. First to fight for right and freedom, and to keep our honor clean; We are proud to claim the title of United States Marine.

Our Flag's unfurled to every breeze from dawn to setting sun. We have fought in every clime and place, where we could take a gun. In the snow of far off northern lands and in sunny tropic scenes, you will find us always on the job, the United States Marines.

Here's health to you and to our Corps, which we are proud to serve. In many a strife we've fought for life and never lost our nerve. If the Army and the Navy ever look on heaven's scenes, they will find the streets are guarded by United States Marines.

OK, HERE IT IS! THE DEFINITION AND HISTORY OF 'OORAH'

Right after Korea in 1953 the 1st Amphibious Reconnaissance Company, FMFPAC can be credited with the birth of "OORAH" in the Corps.

Specifically, where it came from was when Recon Marines were aboard the Submarine USS PERCH, ASSP-313. The Perch was an old WWII diesel boat retrofitted to carry UDT and Amphib Recon Marines. If you remember the old war movies, whenever the boat was to dive, you heard on the PA system, "DIVE,DIVE", and you heard the horn sound "AARUGHA", like an old Model "A" horn.

Sometime in 1953 or 1954, 1st Amphib Recon Marines, while on a conditioning run on land singing chants, someone imitated the "Dive" horn sound "AARUGHA", and it naturally became a Recon Warrior chant or mantra while on runs. It is sort of like the martial arts yell and adds a positive inference to the action. And this became part of Recon lexicon.

Former SgtMaj of the Marine Corps, John Massaro, was the company gunny of 1st Force in the late 50s and when he transferred to MCRDSD as an instructor at DI school he took "AARUGHA" with him and passed it on to the DI students and they , in turn, passed it on to recruits.

Just as "Gung Ho" became symbolic of the WWII Raiders, so did "AARUGHA" become part of the new "running Marine Corps."

Over time, "AARUGHA" EVENTUALLY CHANGED TO "OORAH". The official Marine Corps Training Reference Manual on the history of Marine Recon is titled "AARUGHA", giving credence on the origins of the 'POSITIVE RESPONSE' accenting anything that is meant to be good and uniquely Marine Corps.

It is part of Marine Corps language, like "Pogey Bait", "SOS", etc.

A Few Good Men:

On 20 March 1779 in Boston, Capt. William Jones, USMC, advertised for "a few good men" to enlist in the Corps for naval duty. The term seemed ideally suited for Marines, mainly because of the implication that "a few" good men would be enough. This term has survived for over 200 years and has been synonymous with U.S. Marines ever since.

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Ironworkers Local 373



Frog Hollow Swim & Tennis Club, So. Amboy

Once a Marine, Always a Marine



Our Current strength is 188 members.

REMEMBER: We are always looking for a Few Good Marines to join our ranks.

If you would like information about helping in our recruiting program, contact

Ed Sphatt (Sr. Vice Commandant) at :

732-407-1503

This truism is now the official motto of the Marine Corps League. The origin of the statement is credited to a gung-ho Marine Corps Master Sergeant, Paul Woysner. During a barroom argument he shouted, "Once a Marine, Always a Marine!" MSgt. Woysner was right. Once the title "U.S. Marine" has been earned, it is retained. There are no ex-Marines or former-Marines. There are (1) active duty Marines, (2) retired Marines, (3) reserve Marines, and (4) Marine veterans. Nonetheless, once one has *earned the title*, he remains a *Marine for life*.