



# John Basilone Detachment Marine Corps League Detachment Bi-Monthly Newsletter



Volume 8 Issue 4

November 1st., 2010

Doug Rattazzi,

Commandant

Detachment Web Site: [www.johnbasilonedetachment.org](http://www.johnbasilonedetachment.org)

Detachment E-Mail: [johnbasilonedetachment@gmail.com](mailto:johnbasilonedetachment@gmail.com)

NJ MCL Web Site: [njmcl.org](http://njmcl.org)

National MCL Web Site: [www.mcleague.com](http://www.mcleague.com)

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

### November 10, 2010 Invitation's

St. Stanislaus Koska School at 221 MacArthur Ave., Sayreville. Veterans Day Presentation and Assembly at 0900. for additional information 732-254-5819

Twin Brook Golf at Tinton Falls. FREE Golf all day and a lite buffet and cake at 1800 hours for all MARINES. 1251 Jumping Brook Road, Tinton Falls, NJ RSVP 732-283-9000



Our Current strength is 183 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**

My Fellow Marines,

The 2010 Marine Corps Ball Committee is hard at work making preparations for our 235th Birthday Ball. The John Basilone Birthday Ball will be held on Saturday November 6th. (see flyer in this newsletter. The deadline for reservations is Monday November 1st.

On Monday November 1st the Officers for 2010-2011 will be sworn in by the Department of NJ staff. For a complete listing of the new Officers and Staff see page #2 of this newsletter.

I have enclosed in this issue the registrations form for the Department of NJ Leadership school that will take place in March 2011 in Sea Girt, NJ. For those wishing to attend this years class, complete and mail the enclosed reservation form with your check for \$35.00. This class will fill up quickly so you must act now to reserve a spot!

### Special notice:

- 1.Home Depot will take 10% off your bill if you are a veteran. Be sure and ask for the veterans discount when checking out
2. On Thursday November 11 (Veterans Day) Applebee's Restaurants will be offering a free meal to all Veterans, wear something that says USMC or John Basilone Detachment to take advantage of this offer.

Semper Fi,  
Douglas 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:..... Mel Meszaros 732-718-6460  
 Food For The Needy: Harriet Sosley 732-469-0005  
 Membership: .....John Heacock 609-924-0074  
 Historian: .....Milt Fischer 732-238-0005  
 Honor Guard: ..... Mel Meszaros 732-718-6460  
 Service Officer: ..... John Heacock 609-924-0074  
 Fund Drives: ..... Stan Szumel 732-752-3846  
 Phone Squad .....Joe 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

Paymaster/Membership

Our bank has requested that **ALL CHECKS** to be deposited in the John Basilone Detachments checking account be made payable to the following:

**John Basilone Detachment #190**

*We can no longer accept checks made payable to Marine Corps League or John Basilone Det. MCL, We are the John Basilone Detachment #190*

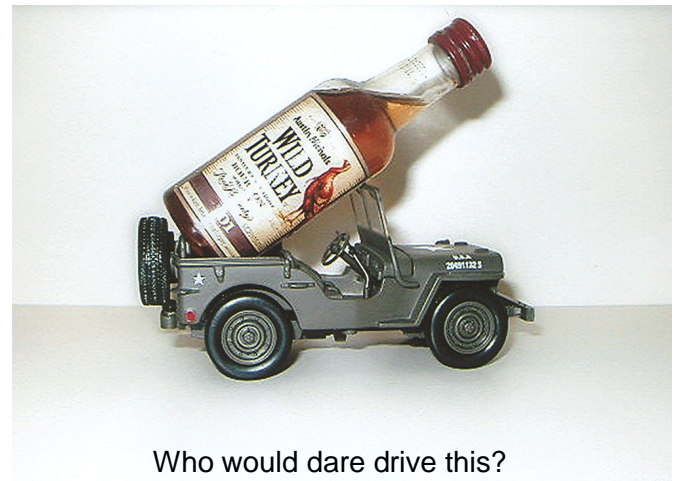
**Renewal dues are \$31.00 per year.**

John Basilone Challenge Coin



The new John Basilone Detachment Challenge Coins are in and for sale to our members at \$5.00 each.

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



Who would dare drive this?  
Some Marines have all the toys!

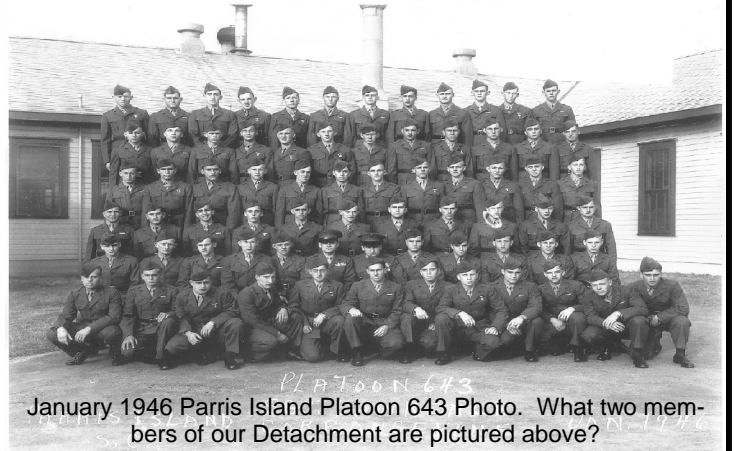
Picture worth a thousand words!

# Basilone Detachment Scouting Program

Ray Skarzynski presenting at Eagle Scout Ceremony



Found in a Sea Bag



January 1946 Parris Island Platoon 643 Photo. What two members of our Detachment are pictured above?

Clue: Ask our former Membership Chairperson Marine Caprio (3 Sq. on top right)

## Happy Birthday

David Cramer Nov 11  
 James Jurewicz Nov 22  
 Norman Bloomfield Dec 2  
 Peter Patti Dec 9  
 Ruth Lincoln Dec 12  
 Jonathan Grossweiler Dec 16  
 Robert Imbriaco Dec 18  
 Robert Retmanski Dec 18  
 Douglas Rattazzi Dec 21  
 Gerald Bauer Dec 25  
 Robert Gardiner Dec 28

## Happy Anniversary

David & Mary Dulack Nov 12  
 Anthony & Leanne Sodono III Nov 14  
 Ralph & Irene Lauro Nov 22  
 James & Mary Phillips Nov 26  
 Robert & Peggy Retmanski Dec 2  
 Larry & Francis Slaski Dec 2

### UP COMING EVENTS

#### November 1010

Mon,	Nov 1, 2010	Membership Meeting 7:30 PM Milltown
Sat	Nov 6., 2010	John Basilone hosts 235th Birthday Ball
Wed	Nov. 10, 2010	235th Birthday of USMC
Thu.	Nov 11, 2010	Veterans Day
Sat	Nov 13, 2010	Drumwackett Party, Princeton, NJ
Mon	Nov 15, 2010	Sing Along at Menlo Park Vets Home 1:30 PM Menlo Park
Thu	Nov. 25, 2010	Thanksgiving Day
Fri	Nov 26, 2010	Toys for Tots Drive Starts East Brunswick
Tue.	Nov 30, , 2010	Officers Meeting 7:00 PM Milltown

#### December 2010

Mon.,	Dec. 6, 2010	Membership Meeting 7:30 PM Milltown
Tue.	Dec 7, 2010	Pearl Harbor Day
Thu	Dec 9, 2010	Bingo at Menlo Park Veterans Home 1:30 PM Menlo Park
Mon.	Dec 20, 2010	Sing Along at Menlo Park Vets Home 1:30 PM Menlo Park
Wed	Dec 22, 2010	Toy for Tots ends
Sat	Dec 25, 2010	Christmas
Tue,	Dec 28, 2010	Officers Meeting 7:00 PM Milltown

**Notice to our members, If I missed your Birthday or Anniversary, send me the information and I will be happy to include your special days.**

October 22, 2010

## Colors Passed, Gen. James Amos Becomes 35th Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps

By KEVIN BARON

Stars and Stripes



Gen. James Amos, left, became the 35th commandant of the Marine Corps as he accepted the flag passed from Sgt. Major of the Marine Corps Carlton Kent, right, and Gen. James Conway, center, in a ceremony at Marine Barracks, Washington, DC., October 22, 2010. (KEVIN BARON)

WASHINGTON – Gen. James Amos became the 35th commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps on Friday, taking command of a force that has roughly 20,000 Marines deployed at war in southern Afghanistan while at the same time is being tasked to question its own future by civilian defense leaders.

"If I said I was about to jump out of my skin, it would be an understatement," Amos said eagerly, as soon as he took the microphone.

Amos, who served as vice commandant, commanded II Marine Expeditionary Force and an aviation wing in Iraq. He is the first naval aviator to hold the job and takes the post as Defense Secretary Robert Gates has called for the Marines to conduct an introspective analysis of what kind of force it wants to be in the future.

Gates and Marine Corps leaders frequently bemoan that the corps has been used as a "second land army" in Iraq and Afghanistan, getting away from its amphibious roots. In his remarks Friday, Gates recalled that retiring commandant, Gen. James Conway led Marines through times of change where they, "reached back to their small war heritage."

Conway frequently likes to say, Gates noted, "Wherever there's a fight, that's where the Marine Corps belongs."

This summer, Gates predicted that the size of the corps likely will decrease as Iraq and Afghanistan drawdown. The last combat-purposed Marine left Iraq this year, though Amos noted the tens of thousands of Marines still fighting in Afghanistan under his watch.

Amos embraced his new mission, referencing a mid-20th Century Congressional mandate: "Our nation still needs a force that is most ready when the nation is least ready," he said. "That will be my focus during my commandancy for the next four years."

Looking back, Conway said he leaves those Marines in Afghanistan on a promising note. "There's a good sense of optimism there," he said of his last visit, six weeks ago. "Our Marines believe that they have the momentum, they have the initiative. Our Army brothers are starting to see the same thing we think down in the province of Kandahar. Lots of work still to be done; close fight still to be won, but what they all ask of us is that we stay with them."

An all-star lineup of military leadership attended the ceremony at the historic Marine Barracks in Washington, DC, which was built in 1801 and has been home to every commandant since 1806. Amos lives in 200-year old, red brick officers quarters steps from the main commandant's house at the end of a long parade ground. After the Conways move out shortly, the house will undergo structural renovations and the Amos family will not move in for roughly another six months, according to Maj. Joseph Plenzler, the commandant's spokesman.

Attendees included Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. Mike Mullen; Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Gen. James Cartwright; recently retired National Security Advisor Gen. Jim Jones; Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey and Vice Chief Gen. Peter Chiarelli; Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz; Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead; CENTCOM Commander Marine Corps Gen. James Mattis, retired Sen. John Warner, R-Va., former chairman of the Senate Armed Service Committee; and former Sen. Chuck Robb, D.-Va., a Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam war.

Amid the spit-polished pomp of the occasion, in the simplest of traditions, Conway took the Marine Corps flag from Sgt Major of the Marine Corps Carlton Kent, passed it to Amos, and the two men switched places.

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY  
LEADERSHIP COLLEGE**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**DETACHMENT** \_\_\_\_\_

A check for \$35.00 should be made out to Department of NJ MCL and mailed to:

Marine Tony Modzelewski  
45 Stagecoach Road  
Millstone Twp. NJ 08510

If you have any questions, please contact me at 732-780-5380 or email at [polishtony@yahoo.com](mailto:polishtony@yahoo.com)

# DEPT OF NJ MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

To: Department Staff, Detachment Commandants  
Marines  
Subject: Department of New Jersey Leadership School, Class 10

A Leadership School training class is scheduled to be held on March 12, 2011 at the State Police Training Center in Sea Girt.

The last nine classes were well received by the Marines who attended. Marines in the Detachments throughout New Jersey have expressed a desire for the Leadership School to continue. The objective of this class is to educate and familiarize Marines with the duties and responsibilities of Detachment Officers and to expand the Marines knowledge of National, Department and Detachment operations.


Class will begin at 0800 and conclude at 1600. The cost of the class is \$35.00 per student, payable in advance with the registration. This will cover morning coffee, pastry, lunch and printed materials. Detachments may wish to pay this fee for their Marines attending. I would suggest that the Detachments have the Marines pay and reimburse them when they return with a diploma. In the past we have had many Marines not show up for the class after the Detachment paid. I am sure that there are Marines in the Detachment that would have attended in their place had they known a spot was open. We will need a minimum of 20 Marines to have the class.

**EARLY REGISTRATION IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**, as the class will be limited to 30 students. Billets will be on first come first served basis. Last years class was filled by December. Applications should be mailed as early as possible. Enrolment will end on 1 February 2011. If you have attended an earlier class you will be put on a waiting list. You will only be able to attend if the class does not fill up. Our goal is to have as many Leaguers as possible attended the class.

If there is a cancellation, the opening goes first to the Detachment of the Marine that canceled. If no Marine from that Detachment is able to attend, that spot will go to the waiting list. There are no refunds. Your book is printed and food was ordered for you.

There is a registration form enclosed. You may make more if you need them. Registered Marines will be sent directions and other necessary information along with their confirmation approximately two weeks before the class date.

Please make every effort to get this information out to as many Marines as possible. Associate Members are also welcome.

Semper Fidelis  
  
Tony Modzelewski  
Department Sr. Vice Commandant  
Leadership School Dean

# John Basilone Detachment #190 235th. Marine Corps Birthday Ball

Where: The Victorian Room  
Knights of Columbus  
775 Washington Road  
Parlin, NJ 08859

When: Saturday  
6 November 2010

Time: 1800 to 2300  
Open Bar-1800-2300  
Cocktails at 1800  
Dinner served at 1900

Cost: \$ 70.00 per person.



Deadline: 1 November [no reservations will be accepted after this date]

If you have any questions please call RoseMary Fleming at : 908-526-9089

Make all checks payable to the: John Basilone Detachment, #190

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Prime Rib \_\_\_\_\_ or Chicken Cordon Blue \_\_\_\_\_

How many persons? \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Any dietary restrictions? \_\_\_\_\_

List who you would like to sit with \_\_\_\_\_

If you want to be considered for the oldest/ youngest Marine in attendance please fill in your birthday info. Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: RoseMary Fleming  
12 Pine Ave.  
Somerville, NJ 08876

[Include check and tear-off]

# Corporate Sponsors for John Basilone Detachment MCL

## SCHIAVONE CONSTRUCTION CO.

CONSTRUCTORS & ENGINEERS  
150 MEADOWLANDS PARKWAY  
SECAUCUS, NJ 07094-1589  
(201) 867-5070

(201) 867-5070

**FAX (201) 864-3196**



## Ironworkers Local 373



## Frog Hollow Swim & Tennis Club, So. Amboy

### Docs Corner

We have 1 Corpsman in our detachment, you can contact

Doc Dimitriou at

Phone: 917-447-6257

email: navydoc\_marine@yahoo.com



Commandant Doug Rattazzi and Wife Carol at Chapel of four Chaplains September 12, 2010

### Dedicated to the memory of our Fallen Marines

M.A. Maliszewski Funeral Home  
218 Whitehead Ave., South River, NJ  
732-254-0428  
Carmen F. Spezzi, Manager

**Maliszewski Memorial Home**  
121-123 Main Street, Sayreville, NJ  
732-254-1458  
Carmen F. Spezzi, Manager

**Carmen F. Spezzi Funeral Home**  
15 Cherry Lane  
Parlin, NJ 08859  
732-721-1290  
Christine O. Spezzi, Manger.