



John Basilone Detachment Marine Corps League Detachment Newsletter



Newsletter Volume 7 Issue 6

Sept 2009

Detachment Web Site: www.johnbasilonedetachment.org

Detachment E-Mail: johnbasilonedetachment@gmail.com

NJ MCL Web Site: <http://donjmcl.org/index.htm>

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

Mark Your Calendars

Officers Meetings:

Tuesday September 29th. 1900 Hrs.

Tuesday October 27th. 1900 Hrs.

Tuesday November 24th. 1900 Hrs

Tuesday December 29th. 1900 Hrs

General Membership Meetings:

Monday August 31st. 1930 Hrs. (Sept.)

Monday October 5th. 1930 Hrs

Monday November 2nd. 1930 Hrs.

Monday December 7th. 1930 Hrs.

Sunday Sept 27th Basilone Parade

Saturday Nov 7th USMC Birthday Ball

Basilone Commandant

Sunday September 27th is the annual John Basilone Day Parade in Raritan. All members of the John Basilone Detachment MCL are urged to come out join our fellow Marines in the 28th Annual Basilone Parade. Muster for marching is 1200 hours at the train station in Raritan on Thompson Street and the parade starts at 1300 Hours,

Our Birthday Ball is fast approaching and reservations must be in to Ray Skarzynski by October 5th. Any questions about your reservations or to offer support in the setup of this great event, contact Ray at 732-257-4582.

Nomination for the Staff Officers for 2010 will be taken at the September and October Meeting with the election being held at the October meeting.

Semper Fi,
Ernie Mondics
Commandant



Newsletter Editor

Doug Rattazzi

732-690-7100 / drattazzi@att.net





*John Basilone
Parade Committee*

*22 First Street
Raritan, New Jersey 08869*

NEWS RELEASE

THE ONLY PARADE IN AMERICA HONORING A WAR HERO

On Sunday, September 27, 2009, the Borough of Raritan will host its Twenty-eighth Annual John Basilone Memorial Parade honoring its National World War II hero, Marine Sergeant John Basilone. Sergeant Basilone received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his gallant action during the Battle of Guadalcanal in 1942 and the Navy Cross posthumously for more heroism in the Battle of Iwo Jima where he was killed in 1945.

The Parade continues to grow in size and popularity each year. Last year, more than one hundred-fifty units marched along with the Quantico Marine Band and twenty other military and high school bands before thousands of spectators, many of whom came from different parts of the country to attend this annual event.

This year's Parade will also include more than 150 units: military groups and Veterans' organizations, floats, cyclists, go-carts, twirlers, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Sea Scouts, ROTC units, military vehicles, Marine Detachments, fire companies, rescue squads, and other civic and patriotic groups. The Parade, featuring 20 marching bands, will begin at 1:00 PM in Raritan.

Music of the World War II Era will be provided by the Summerswing Orchestra on Friday September 25 from 6:00 - 9:00 PM at the Basilone Statue followed by fireworks.

The Twentieth John Basilone Commemorative Concert, presented by the Quantico Marine Band, will be held on the eve of the Parade: Saturday, September 26 at 7:00 PM at Raritan Valley Community College.

Preceding the Parade on Sunday, the John Basilone Museum at the Raritan Public Library will be open to visitors at 10:00AM and a memorial Mass will be celebrated at St. Ann Church at 10:30 AM.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John R. Pacifico". The signature is stylized and written in cursive.

John R. Pacifico, Chairman
John Basilone Parade Committee
908-429-8868 (phone)

From The Paymaster:

Reminder to all Officers and Members;

When requesting Payment or Reimbursement for anything pertaining to Detachment business you must fill out a proper Yellow Request form.

It must show the date of the request, your name, if a payment to a business or supplier 'Their Name & Address' , a Receipt of payment made if applicable, a description of items or services for which the request is being made, and must be signed by at least two authorized officers.

If any of the above is omitted on the form the request for payment may be delayed. Forms are available from the Paymaster or Commandant.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

John Centofanti

Paymaster

Fund Drive

Shop Rite Canister Drive

All Fund Drives are 9 to 5

Sat. Sept 12 Hamilton

Sun. Nov 8 Branchburg

Contact

Ed Sphatt 732-247-5792

Stan Szumel 732-752-3846

Call early to schedule your shift!

Honor Guard/Color Guard

PRACTICE:

TUES.SEPT.2..VFW,SAYREVILLE..1900 HRS

FRI.SEPT.18...Poker Run MENLO VET
EDISON MUSTER 1330 HRS

SUN. Sept 27..Basilone Parade Raritan, N.J.
MUSTER 1200 HRS
(Uniform for Honor Guard "Dress Blues")

SUN.OCT.11.. Columbus Day Parade Seaside,
MUSTER 1230 HRS (MCL UNIFORM)

August 25th., 2009

Outstanding Honor Guard Performance for
Departed Marine BILL HART

ESCORT, RIFLE SALUTE;
FOLDING AND PRESENTATION OF FLAG,
FOLLOWED BY TAPS

Operation Jersey Cares

Operation Jersey Cares held a packing event on August 8th at the American Legion in Bradley Gardens. 104 boxes were packed and shipped to Iraq, Afghanistan and Walter Reed Hospital. Total weight of products shipped was 3516 lbs. Products included popcorn, DVD's, books, health aids, snacks and cards.

Special thanks to Mel Mezaros, Doug Rattazzi, Lou Goldstein, Stan Szumel and "Tony" for giving a helping hand, it was greatly appreciated. Some people are pretty awesome with packing tape dispensers!!

Rosemary Fleming

Jim Phillips writes

The man who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran!

Docs Corner

We have 1 Corpsman in our detachment, you can contact

Doc Dimitriou at

Phone: 917-447-6257

email: navydoc_marine@yahoo.com

"Purple Heart"



Birthday of Purple Heart

The Purple Heart is perhaps, the most unique of all United States military awards. Though low in the order of precedence on the Pyramid of Honor (it ranks below the Bronze Star), it is one of the most widely recognized and respected medals. It cannot be earned by courage or by exceptional service or achievement. The Purple Heart signifies one thing ...SACRIFICE. Whenever you see the Purple Heart, know that it represents either a combat death or a combat wound. It represents the blood that has been shed in defense of liberty.

General George Washington originated the "Purple Badge of Merit" on August 7th, 1782 as part of his "General Orders of August 7, 1782" which were written to recognize his soldiers for service and for singularly meritorious service. Only three soldiers were recorded as earning the "Purple Badge of Merit" On October 10, 1927 Army Chief of Staff, General Charles P. Summerall drafted a bill to send to Congress in an effort to revive the Badge of Military Merit and was withdrawn the next year due to low support. As George Washington's Bi-Centennial Birthday drew closer, General Douglas MacArthur worked on passing the bill. Throughout 1931 the Army quietly designed and created the new award. It was announced on February 22, 1932, the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth. In honor of the Father of our Country and the man who established our military's first medal, the Purple Heart would bear the profile of George Washington on its face.

(The above was taken from the Menlo Park Veterans Newsletter of August 2009)

This is a quote from the President of Boy Scouts of America, 1984. It echoes most of the people like me who have been in scouting for many years.

Not long ago a reporter asked me why I was still in Scouting, even though my son-now in his forty's- was the original reason I joined. "I'm still active," I told him, "because what Scouting is all about is character building that helps youngsters find the values they need to grow up to be good men." Unfortunately, character and values are sometimes considered irrelevant in today's world. But not in my world, for character and values are the heart of the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. They always have been-and I pray to God- They always will be.

As always, if there is someone out there that may be interested in helping with the Detachment Scouting Program, the door is always open.

Ray Skarzynski (732-257-4582)

Eagle Scout Program

Corporate Sponsors for John Basilone Detachment MCL

SCHIAVONE CONSTRUCTION CO.

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Ironworkers Local 373



Dedicated to the memory of our
Fallen Marines

Carmen F. Spezzi Funeral Home
15 Cherry Lane
Parlin, NJ 08859

732-721-1290

Christine O. Spezzi Manger.
Lic. No. 3674

Booster's for 2009

Main Liquors of South Amboy
Frog Hollow Swim & Tennis Club, So. Amboy