



FIRST STATE DETACHMENT MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

P. O. Box 434 – Ocean View, DE 19970
<http://www.firststatemarines.org>

MARCH 2010 - NEWSLETTER



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Greetings, Marines.

Many of you traveled out of town and are now beginning to come back. One of those many travelers is our Immediate Past Commandant Jack Rine and his wife, Jackie. They will be coming back from Hawaii where they endured the aftershocks of the earthquake that hit Chile. Jack called to say that they were safe and uninjured. He described the tsunami as nothing more than a swell of water no more than 2 feet higher than normal. We look forward to hearing his tale.

This past month several members have been busy working for you. In mid-February, about a dozen Marines manned the Detachment's booth at the Optimist Club's Seaside Boat Show. Thanks to the hard work and initiative of Al Kessler it was a huge success. Over a three day period, a total of 8 potential members were recruited. Of that 8, three have already submitted their paperwork which has been forwarded to National. In addition, Al and his crew were very creative in collecting funds for the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund. As a result they collected \$675. Henry Albert's wife, Georgette, was a big assist in this endeavor. Sitting in front of the booth in her wheel chair with a Marine Corps flag attached to it, she was successful in bringing many folks to the booth, many of whom made a donation. We thank her.

We also had a great guest speaker at our January meeting. Ms. Sandy Winter talked about the 4 Step Therapeutic Program where horses are used to assist severely injured service members and children with physical handicaps regain their self confidence by riding on these horses. A \$100 donation was made to this organization.

May is when our activity really begins to pick up.

On May 15, 2010, Senior Vice Commandant Wise is putting together a program in honor of Armed Forces Day to be held at Northside Park in Ocean City. The Detachment has been invited to march in the 75th Anniversary Memorial Day Parade to be held in Newark, DE on May 16, 2010. Marine Pete Rendina will be asked to put his marching group together to participate. On May 28, 2010 the Detachment will be placing flags on the grave sites of deceased veterans in Stockley, DE. And finally, on May 31, 2010, the Detachment will be involved with ceremonies in Ocean City, MD (parade), traditional ceremonies at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines, and at ceremonies at VFW Post 8296.

In addition to the recruiting success we enjoyed at the Boat Show, several members have been reaching out to members who are in arrears with their dues. This effort has been quite successful as well. To date approximately 25 members have been contacted over the phone. Of that number approximately 12 have either paid or committed to do so. Your Leadership Team will continue contacting members as their dues expire to ensure they do not go on the inactive list.

Jim McGinniss, we think of you often and miss you. At the February meeting, your friend, Ed Smith, finally received his Certificate of Appreciation for assisting you in your time of need. He was grateful, as were we in knowing that you are safe and sound.

As always, we look forward to seeing you at our monthly meetings. This past month we were graced with the presence of Delaware Department Commandant and old friend, Bob Galvin, and Diamond State Detachment Commandant, Phil Folan. It was a pleasure. The slate of candidates for the elected officer positions will be announced at the March meeting which will be held on March 31, 2010.

Semper Fi,
Dick Tanner, Commandant

NEXT MEETING 1930 – 31 MARCH @ OC VFW
Although the meeting starts at 1930, come early, meet with your friends have some refreshments and a “HAPPY HOUR” before we get down to business

MEMBERSHIP

Members in Arrears: Please mail your dues check and the MCL HQ's Renewal Notice (if received) to:
Marine Corps League P.O. Box 434 Ocean View, DE 19970
Or you may give me the paperwork at the scheduled monthly meeting.

Members in Arrears with their dues:

October 2008: Robert Layton, Jr.

June 2009: Charles J. DiPino

September 2009: Gilberto A. Cano, Alexander Sledge, David W. Smith, John R. Wineberg, Jr.

October 2009: Howard J. Burton, Jr., Anthony F. Sapia

November 2009: Donald Clagett, Dennis C. Dunkleman

December 2009: John P. Bradford, Robert S. Dodson, George M. Kellerman, Thomas N. McKelvey, Charles J. Miller, George H. Perkins, Martin C. Vogt, John Wallis

January 2010: Stephen G. Acton

February 2010: Vernon F. Becker, Stanley J. Cygan, Donald G. Hattier, Harry E. Hopkins

March 2010: Richard A. Koller, Albrech Krannebitter, Frank Mathers, Neil Taylor, Carl Thomas

Checks should be made out to **First State Detachment** in the amount of \$30 and may be sent to the following address in lieu of the one above:

R. T. Tanner

11 Fort Sumter North

Ocean Pines, MD 21811

Members wishing to become a Life Member. We have to have the Life membership funds to National prior to the end of the month of your renewal date. If this does not occur, it only counts as a yearly renewal and we have to wait until the next year's billing cycle.

Please notify Dick Tanner of any change in your **Home Address, E-Mail Address or Telephone Number.**

ONE OF OUR MEMBERS HAS HAD A LITTLE SET BACK. Jerry Miller is currently a patient at Coatsville VA Medical Center, 1400 Black Horse Hill Road, Coatsville, PA 19320-2096. A card would be appreciated.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

David Bohn – Tony Curro – Stanley Cygan – George Kellerman – Joe Pantone – Bob Rau
Jack Rine – Joe Schwarz – Ken Taylor – Carl Thomas



BE A CANDIDATE FOR:
COMMANDANT
SENIOR VICE-COMMANDANT
JUNIOR VICE-COMANDANT
JUDGE ADVOCATE

For more info call Jack Carey
302-537-7272

HEY MEMBERS,
You volunteered once before
and now have a chance to
step up again. The election for
new officers is to be held at
the April meeting the offices
of:

Commandant,
Senior Vice-Commandant,
Junior Vice-Commandant
and

Judge Advocate

Requirements: An interest
and willingness to serve
plus a commitment to put
in the time and effort to
meet the needs of the
detachment.



Ed Smith receiving Certificate of Appreciation from Commandant Dick Tanner



Collecting for Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund at Boat Show

MARCH DATES IN MARINE CORPS HISTORY

4 March 1801: The Marine Band performed at a Presidential Inauguration for the first time.

6 March 1932: John Philip Sousa died at age 79 in Reading, PA.

7 March 1951: The 1st, 7th, and 11th Marine Regiments commenced operations against enemy forces at Hongchon, Korea.

8 March 1965: The 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade landed at DaNang, Republic of Vietnam as the first U.S. ground combat troops to be committed to that conflict. The 3,500 men arrived both across the beach with Battalion Landing Team 3/9, and at DaNang Airfield with Battalion Landing Team 1/3.

16 March 1922: Marines guarded the U.S. Mail during a national crime wave.

17 March 1918: The 5th Marine Regiment was the first Marine unit to move into WWI front-line trenches.

21 March 1945: General A.A. Vandergrift, 18th Commandant became the first Marine four-star general on active duty.

25 March 1945: After 35 days of bitter fighting, the amphibious assault on the rocky fortress of Iwo Jima finally appeared over. On the night of 25 March, however, a 300-man Japanese force launched a vicious final counterattack in the vicinity of Airfield Number 2. Army pilots, Seabees and Marines of the 5th Pioneer Battalion and 28th Marines fought the fanatical Japanese force till morning but suffered heavy casualties --more than 100 killed and another 200 American wounded. Nearly all of the Japanese force was killed in the battle.

26 March 1945: Iwo Jima secured. Marines suffer 25,851 casualties.

27 March 1953: The 5th Marines, supported by the 2d Battalion, 7th Marines, in the first full day of fighting after the Chinese assault the previous evening of Outpost Vegas on Korea's western front, counterattacked to regain enemy-held positions. Companies E and F of 2/7, down to only three platoons between them, managed to regain partial control of Outpost Vegas that day.

30 March 1966: The 7th Marine Regiment terminated Operation Indiana in Vietnam.

31 March 1801: On this date, LtCol Commandant William W. Burrows rode with president Thomas Jefferson to look for "a proper place to fix the Marine Barracks on." President Jefferson was a personal friend of the Commandant, and deeply interested in the welfare of the Corps and accompanied Burrows on horseback on the morning of 31 March. They chose a square in Southeast Washington, bounded by 8th and 9th streets, and a & I streets, because it lay near the Navy Yard and was within easy marching distance of the Capitol.

“Once a Marine, Always a Marine”

