



Marine Corps League Suffolk County Detachment, Inc



Gung Ho

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Commandant's Message



Dear Friends and Fellow Members,

Winter has finally moved on. With the temperature in the 50s and 60s, I know everyone is looking forward to spending more time outdoors, vacations, barbecues and the beach. Let's get right into the information on the Long Island Ducks baseball game/barbecue. Dominick Pensante has set up the Detachment's 3rd Annual Barbecue and Ducks baseball game. This year it is on fireworks night, July 4th. The BBQ starts at 5:30 p.m. Suffolk County Detachment will provide the color guard for the national anthem. Game time is 7:10 PM, followed by a fireworks display. We have a total of 75 seats. For anyone wishing to attend, tickets are \$20.00 for adults and \$9.00 for children under the age of nine. Reservations can be made by calling the detachment at 631-968-5180, or e-mailing BBQ@mclsuffolkdetachment.org See you at the game.

The newsletter is mailed with two Lottery tickets. Anyone requesting favorite numbers (if available) will be attached to your newsletter. Contact 631-968-5180 or e-mail information@mclsuffolkdetachment.org
GOOD LUCK!!

Raffle tickets are available at the hall. The price is the same as last year, six for five dollars. A little effort from all members can make this year's raffle successful. Thanks again to Tony Demaio for his efforts in obtaining the printing of the tickets.

Sunday, May 3rd was the Islip Street Fair. A special thanks to all whom despite the heavy rain, volunteered their Sunday; Pete Ford, Marlene Johnson, Tom Gilbride, Leo Maese, Brian Mayer, Jim McCann, Dominick Pensante, Carmine Raineri, Ed Rohbacher, Luis Sanchez , Bob Shaw and Chick Ciccarelli.

The detachment is looking for a member to run the ship's store. This could be a very interesting position in the future.

On Memorial Day, the color guard will start at 10 AM, with the Bay Shore parade. They will be at the hall for the 2:00 PM ceremony.
Set up help is needed for this occasion

Reminder

USS NEW YORK (LPD-21) is coming home to her namesake city and state on November 2, 2009.

Look for the Navy's newest amphibious warship to grace the Manhattan skyline as she slides into a berth at a Hudson River pier in preparation for her commissioning on November 7.

Suffolk County Detachment would like to extend its deepest sympathy and condolence to the family of Dan McNiff, a long time member and editor of our newsletter.

SEMPER FI

Ciro "Chick" Ciccarelli

Judge Advocate's Message

It is that time of year again that we get ready for our Memorial Day services which take place at 1400 Hours or 2 PM on 25 May 2009. If you going to the service and have

guest please let me know how many in your party will attend. Please remember that our hall is small and that we want to have enough room for members and their immediately family.

If you can help, clean up at the hall, which will take place on the 24th of May 2009 at 09:00 Hours or 9:00 AM. If you want to be in the Honor Guard, and/or will help clean up after the refreshments on Monday, or help in other way please contact me, cell phone (631) 338-1434 Monday thru Friday after 1700 hours or 5 PM.

Also, if you have a name you want added of deceased military personnel to our Memorial Roster please let me know this.

God Bless
Judge Advocate
Bob "Bear" Shaw

Carmine's Corner

Birthdays

Victor Monteiro

Member's Milestone

Mr. & Mrs. R. Coffey

Mr. & Mrs. B. Mayer

Mr. & Mrs. R. Scola

Mr. & Mrs. C. Raineri

Long Island Duck Game, July 4th Tickets are \$20.00 each which includes BBQ from 5:30-7:00 PM. The game starts at 7:05 PM and fireworks will be immediately following the game. Anyone interested e-mail BBQ@mclsuffolkdetachment.org or call the hall at 968-5180. Tickets must be paid by May 29.

Speedy Recovery wishes to Rich Scola

Islip Street Fair



Rifle Team News

RIFLE TEAM

We are not fielding a team to the Pennsylvania rifle match in Altoona this year. Hopefully the match will return to Indiantown Gap & we will look into once again participating. All those that registered with me for this match will receive a refund check. They were mailed out today, 4 May. We are looking into a long weekend event perhaps 17,18,19,20 September '09 that will include shooting the Quantico Range on the 19th. Frank DeGregorio has a contact with the Quantico Shooting Club & we are welcome to shoot there with them. This trip will not be cheap. We will need hotel accommodations, meals, tolls, gas, etc. & we also want to make a day visit to the new museum. Anyone interested in this trip please see Tom Gilbride for an application to QSC. If the response is great enough this will be pursued more after the first NYS match.

Farewell

Farewell to a good friend,

When I first joined the Marine Corps League, I would sit down the south end of the bar pretty much by myself talking to the then bartender Charles Bowie and Bob Shaw. There was a group of about four men that sat down the other end of the bar. After short time one of those men befriended me and got me to sit with them on Friday nights. He told me that he was a wise guy (I found out shortly there after that he meant he was a Wise potato chip route owner and supplied our bar with a steady supply of chips). I also found out that like me he was a diehard Nascar fan, his only draw back being a Jeff Gordon fan.

After a short time at one of our regular Friday night meetings he thought it would be a good idea if we had a newsletter. Our commandant at the time Bob Shaw thought it was a great idea and asked for a volunteer. Immediately this man stepped up and said that he would take the job (little did we know that it would be his wife that would do the bulk of the work with him by her side). But he would take it to print and deliver it.

Later when I became Jr. Vice Commandant, we needed a bartender. He convinced me that I should do the job. A short time later when times got tight and we needed to raise more money I was forced to make an unpopular decision and raise the prices of the drinks at the bar. His group abandoned ship, and I didn't see him for a time. I decided to give him a call, and found out that the only reason that he didn't come back was that he needed a ride to the detachment. So I started picking him up on Friday nights. He told me that I was doing the right thing with the bar and supported me.

A few years later, he along with other members of the league, convinced me to run for commandant, so I did and became the commandant. He (and his wife) continued to support me during my years as commandant, producing our newsletter, and putting together our scrapbook, even while battling his cancer. When we started to sell our birthday raffles he got us our first supermarket to sell them at and helped sell.

In the Marine Corps we have a saying, "Semper Fidelis" (always faithful). This man, for a man that was in the Army, exemplified this more than most men I know. In colleges around the world they bestow honorary degrees to people who never attended college. I really wish that it would be in my power to bestow the honorary title of "Marine" on a great Associate Member, a great man, and an even greater friend, Mr. Dan McNiff. You will be sorely missed but forever engraved in our hearts.

Your loyal friend and past Commandant,
Mike Coffey

Visit the detachment website
www.mclsuffolkdetachment.org
(under construction)

Officers

**Ciro "Chick" Ciccarelli -
Commandant**
Jim McCann - Sr.Vice Commandant
David Flareau - Jr.Vice Commandant
Robert Shaw - Judge Advocate
Tom Gilbride - Paymaster
Leo Maese - Adjutant
Brian Mayer - Chaplain
Louis Sanchez – Sgt. at Arms
**Robert "Mike" Coffey - Past
Commandant**
Judy McNiff-Editor Newsletter

**Buying lottery tickets helps support
the Marine Corps League**

**Please return your lottery tickets to
Marine Corps League Hall or to
Jim Kindberg at 122 Fawn Ct, East
Islip, NY 11730, Phone-631-581-
7661**

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