



Number 3-18

Serving our detachments and their members everywhere

Department of New York Newsletter "The Ground Pounder"

Fall 2018

www.mclnewyork.net

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*For a complete list refer to the
Department Staff Roster*

A SUMMER OF CONVENTIONS.

We had our Department Convention in June, which had good people, good food and a great speaker. Our officers were reelected for another term and our business was conducted.



Our guest speaker was US Representative, Claudia Tenney of the local Congressional district in Syracuse. She spoke of her son serving as a captain in the Marines, so she always gets correct and first hand reports of what is really going on. She has had the honor to meet the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and visited a few bases herself. She spoke of the needs of our mili-

tary and the work she, and many of Congress are trying to do and bills they are trying to pass.



(above) Commandant Sheppard and National Senior Vice Tobin with the Congresswoman Tenney.



(above), members listen to our speakers at the Banquet. Well, not everyone was fully attentive, but that's OK.



Buffalo, NY 2018, the 95th, National Convention

In August we had the National Convention, this year hosted by the Department of New York and what a convention it was. With 7 hotels set up for us, and at least 4 of them fully booked. It was a blast. it was a long ride from Staten Island, but it was really worth the visit. There was something going on everyday.



(above) The main Convention Hotel

I arrived at the hotel Sunday and parked the car. The city of Buffalo gave us free parking for the week in two indoor locations. My wife and I then put our gear in our room and took a bus to the early bird luncheon at the Erie County Naval and Military park. After we ate drank, and chatted, we visited the three Naval ships on display there. The USS The Sullivan's, the USS Little Rock and the USS Croaker. It was interested to bring our wives on board to show them just a tiny piece of military life. Afterwards we took the local trolley back to the hotel.

The next day was morning colors with a detail of Marines presenting the colors outside the convention center.



(above) Both Jim Ransom and Penny Weston make sure the Marines get it right, (Or was it the other way around?)



(above) LIAVC Seaman and DJA Lawton discuss issues with Det 246 Commandant King before the ceremony.

This was a great opportunity to meet and discuss issues with both National and Department Officers and many took advantage of it.

Right after it was off to the convention center to register for the convention and pick up our tour tickets. What a big place! Everything went on their and in the New York room where all our people were working their tails off selling tours, shirts, mini Buffalos, pins, patches and more. Other rooms had the national ship stores fully stocked with everything you needed, from Blazers, uniform shirts, ties, sweats, shirts, belts and more.

The Kennel store and then there was also the Kennel house where dogs signed in to attend the growl and Devil Dogs signed in to get elevated to Pedigree.

It was the 100th anniversary of Women Marines and there was a display on the history of Woman Marine uniforms presented by Mike Waluk, NE Division, Aide de Camp of the Department of New Jersey.

There were representatives from Billings, Montana, the next location for the National Convention.

Of course there were lots of meeting and of course lots to learn, you could stand up and ask questions or even make suggestions.

The Dogs make a Donation, some get elevated



The Kennel along with the Pack of New York presented a check for \$40,000 to the local children's hospital in Buffalo.



(Center) The hospital CFO accepting the check from the Chief Devil Dog Spicer. This was made up of donations from Pounds and Packs all over the county

(Above and Top right) Pictured is the Chief Devil Dog, Leonard Spicer, his staff along with the Pack Keeper, James Seaman and our Commandant, Riccardo Sheppard.



Meanwhile AVC David Wiggs, with Marines Skip Diamond and Jimmy Knapp enjoy the age old tradition of elevation within the Dogs.

At the Convention



(left) It was also the 100th Anniversary of the women Marines and the uniforms were on display.

(Right) A New York Picture, MAVC Heyde, DSVC Wortmann, NSVC Tobin, NY Marine for life rep, SSgt Tjornhom, USMCR, all hob nobbing with Major General Mike Regner, USMC (retired)



Pictures from the Buffalo Convention



Here's a collection of pictures submitted to the Ground Pounder, if you missed this convention you missed a really good time. Our people went far beyond and did a really outstanding job.



Here's a collection of some of the tours that were available. (Above left) a Double decker Bus tour of Buffalo, (above right) A concert at the Fair Grounds by the Oak Ridge Boys. (left & below The Pierce Arrow Museum and (right) Niagara Falls, NY side.



(lower right) Every Marine group was present in the center. (Lower center) Skip Diamond selling stuffed Buffalos in the New York Room.



We ate well at the Banquet.



Pictured above, from left to right is our Commandant, Rev. Ricardo Sheppard and his sister, Valarie, A.J. and his wife Audrey, PDC Penny Weston, Dept Paymaster Ralph Luciani, PNC Bob Becker and the Brooklyn #1 Commandant Jimmy Knapp and his wife.

Around the Department



Electric City held their 8th annual golf outing on August 4th. Among many hole sponsor's and gifts donated, \$500 Gift was donated from the local supermarket for a hole in one. Close but not close enough



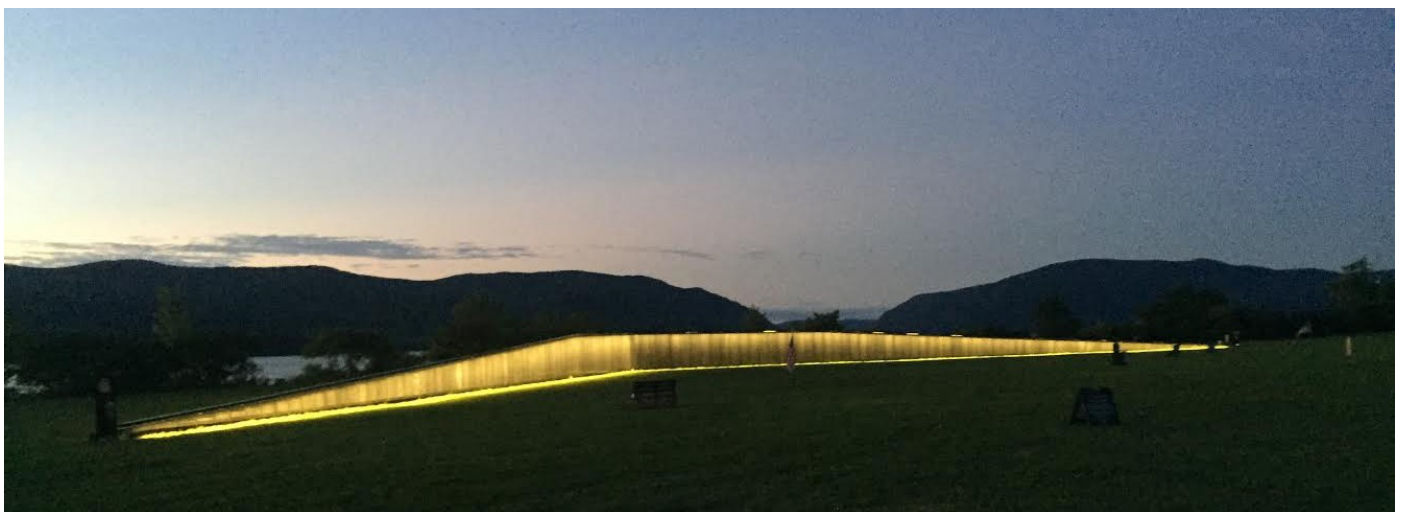
Electric City Detachment also supports the Honor flight by presenting them with a check for \$18,000 at the Albany Airport. Scott Westcott, Commandant



(Left, right and below) The wall of honor, the moving Vietnam Memorial Wall, visited New York and the Greater Newburgh Detachment had the honor of placing a wreath on it during it's visit. And manned a table for fund raising and recruiting.

(Left) Commandant Sheppard with Marine Vincent Serrano of the Greater Newburgh Det. at the wall.

(right) A piper plays taps at the wall.



The New Sgt Angel Mendez Detachment



Each year the newly renamed Staten Island #1 detachment renders honors on the date of Sgt Mendez death by reading his citation, firing a rifle salute and playing taps. Sgt Mendez was a Staten Island Marine Sergeant who awarded the Navy Cross (posthumously) for actions in Vietnam.

His gravestone is to the left in the photo. The detachment was instrumental in getting him the stone and bringing attention to his story and otherwise unknown and unmarked grave. Photo by Bert Springstead

Electric City Answers the Call.



A super McDonalds in opened Schenectady, NY. The Electric City Detachment 222 was asked to raise the colors for the grand opening.

Bucky Dent, former baseball player was the guest of honor. A large crowd watched as the flag was raised.

The detachment is asked to do many things in and around the city, and always answers the call.

Photo by PDD Al Shemo



At the end of June, our paymaster, Marine **Ralph Luciani** took over the control and issuance of New York State license plates. Contact the Department Adjutant for a copy of the 2 forms you will need. You do NOT need any letter from your detachment, the letter mentioned on the form will be provided by the Department paymaster. All you do is mail your check, made out to Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, and mail the completed forms (Notarized where needed) to Ralph at P.O. Box 311, Vestal, NY 14892-0311. Once you get your plates in the mail, you are suppose to turn in your old ones to your local DMV. Be sure to remove and destroy your old registration sticker from your window and replace it with your new one. Motorcycle plates are available too!

The Department would like to publish this newsletter four times a year so the cut off dates shall be as follows:
June 10th, Sept 10th, Dec 10th & March 10th. Please submit your detachments photos and stories.