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Serving our detachments and their members everywhere

Department of New York Newsletter "The Ground Pounder"

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

The Passing of Marine Alfonso Cavallo

31 July 1943

15 November 2019



Al Cavallo, Honorary Department of New York Commandant, Honorary Pack Leader of the Pack of New York, Pedigree Devil Dog, and friend to every Marine he ever met, succumbed to COPD and other illnesses all connected to Agent Orange while serving in Vietnam. Al was the third Marine to set foot on the beach in Vietnam back in 1965 when the Marines first came to Vietnam in force by amphibious landing.

I was honored to attend his wake along with National Commandant Tobin, Vice Chief Devil Dog Heyde, Former Long Island Area Vice Commandant Seaman, Current Long Island Area Vice Commandant Annunziata as well as other National, Department and Detachment officers and many Marines not only from his Detachment, North Shore Queens, but Marines from all over who came to pay their last respects and to preform our funeral ritual for such a well liked Marine. His family was touched by such a turnout and thanked us for our thoughts and prayers. If you met Al, you liked Al. Al can never be replaced, he was indeed a one of a kind person, a one of a kind Marine. Semper Fi brother.

TWO New Detachments!



The Department of New York was pleased to add two new detachments to our roster.

The Father Vincent Capodanno detachment in Manhasset NY and the James R. Moore Detachment in Naples NY.

(above left) Here I'm presenting the Charter to the new Capodanno Detachment to their Commandant, Maria Salazar.

(above Left) is Assistant Division Vice Commandant Mike Waluk gives direction to Commandant Salazar.



After installing her staff because at this point I had no voice left due to an illness and needed help. Thanks to Tina Olsen, my Department Credentials and Raffle Chairperson, Area Vice Volker Heyde and Assistant Vice Division Commandant, NE Division Mike Waluk, I got all the help I needed. Thank you Marines.

(Middle Left) All my helpers along with Maria Salazar.

(Bottom Left,) Department Senior Vice Commandant Tom Arcuri presented the Charter to the new James Moore Detachment and it's officers.

Jim Hatch Detachment



Marines from the Jim Hatch Detachment #1201 sitting at their table at a Tioga County Veterans Fair put on by Tioga Downs for the Tioga County Veterans. They distributed information to veterans for services available. They also tried to recruit new members and collect for Toys For Tots. Tioga Downs will be the site of our Winter Staff Meeting.



Our Fall Staff Meeting in Suffern NY



(Left) Our host, Rockland County Detachment who treated us like gold, fed us and entertained us. What could be better?. That's Brian Horgan, Detachment Commandant with his hand up, welcoming us, thank you Brian.



(Right) Diane Lawton, of the ladies Auxiliary selling (hawking) raffles tickets to the membership showing us the winning prize.

LCpl Craig Wyche Marine Memorial Ceremony. KIA Lebanon 23 Oct 1983

Marine LCpl Craig Wyche was one of two Marines from Westchester, killed in the terrorist bombing of the Marine Barracks in Beirut. The Westchester Detachment planted a tree in his honor along with a memorial stone. Each year they hold a ceremony, in conjunction with other groups to remember Craig Wyche and Cpl James Jackowski's



sacrifice. The Detachment awards 2 scholarships in the name of these fallen Marines.

(right) SSgt Thomas R. Angle Jr placing the wreath.

(left) Ossining High School Secretary Michele Marona, awarded the Distinguished Citizen Award presented by Detachment Jr Vice Commandant Donald O'Keefe. She was also awarded the Distinguished Service Award by Department Adjutant Steve Topilnycky.



Lt. Peter Little

Memorial Day Detachment # 468 Sr. Vice Commandant Dave Brisbane presents Lt. Peter Little with a commemorative clock made by Detachment Paymaster Bruce Lise-no. The clock features a model tank assembled by Navy veteran and VA volunteer Kip Utter, a challenge coin featuring a Purple Heart and one featuring 2nd Battalion 4th Marine Regiment, a small Marine Corps League pin and small EGA as well as a battery operated clock. Lt. Little was a tank commander In Viet Nam and was attached to 2/4 in the same time period that Dave was serving in Foxtrot 2/4. Though they did not know each other at the time they became friends at the Canandaigua VA. Dave volunteers there and Peter is a resident. Lt. Little was awarded a Purple Heart in Viet



Nam and is a member of the Memorial Day Detachment. We are proud to be able to honor Lt. Little for his service to his country and grateful for his friendship.

Showing our Pride, Doing our Duty



(Above left) Detachment members from Long Island and Staten Island march in the New York City Veterans Day Parade. (and one 4 legged wannabe.)



(Above right) The annual Tioga County POW/MIA Vigil that the Jim Hatch Detachment participants in each year. The 2 Marines in the photo are Jr. Vice Commandant Dennis Card (left) and Paymaster Christopher Potter (right).

Around the Department



(left) Eric Bellamy with a brother Marine Eric Fetterman at the fund raiser for him. (Right) another shot with Marine Tom Arcuri (his back to the camera) while Eric chats with supporters.



Marine Eric Bellamy is a member and past Commandant of the John W Thurston Detachment in Binghamton, NY and sadly has pancreatic cancer. He just started a new job but it has no benefits. Out of the blue, Marines from the detachment and members of the Leatherneck Motorcycle club put together a fund raiser for this Marine. His prognosis, from what they have heard is not very good. This came out of the blue. Altogether they sold 425 wristbands sold, 75 bikes were in the bike run, 3 bands playing all afternoon, 80 raffle baskets, numerous donations from area organizations and Veteran ran organizations, the list goes on all day. Altogether raised over \$23,000.00 to help this Marine in need. Plus the Foundation donated a check as well. Semper Fi Brothers.

Submitted By Dean Lawton Sr.



(Bottom left) NYS State Senator Fred Akshar was there to show his support for Eric.

(Right) Department of New York Senior Vice Commandant Tom Arcuri presents a check from the Leathernecks to Eric Bellamy Benefit organizer Marine Eric Fetterman



Marines helping Marines, it's what we do.

Around the Department



Great job done by all. Thank you Marines!

The Kiwanis Club of Glendale Queens invited the North Shore Queens Detachment to participate in their veterans Appreciation day and made a Large Donation to our Gift cards to the Troops. Present were Past Commandant's Al Cavallo. And Herb Nowak. Commandant Ron Steiner And New MCL member Bruce Johnson.



Presented by the Marine Corps to Jimmy Seaman who accepted this on behalf of North Shore Queens Detachment for Gift cards to our troops.

(Left bottom) Members of the Long Island Area & Father Capodanno Detachment held a fund raiser in front of Marine Dom's Deli in New Hyde Park raising over \$700, while recruiting several candidates for Membership in the League.

Pictured below left to right is Deputy Area Vice John Joseph, "Mascot Rose" Mac the Marine Statue (on loan from Suffolk Detachment, and Marine jim Geraci.

As everyone should know, all annual dues is expires on the 30th of August of every year. Keep you dues current. Especially if you have League license plates. You are only permitted to use them if you are a member in good standing in the league. If you dues lapse, you need to stop using them. The Department is in the process of creating a database that we can lock in with our rosters to conform that all tag holders are paid up members. If you come up as delinquent a letter will go out to the Department of Motor Vehicles, they in turn will then tell you to turn your plates in. So keep you dues current.



For your interest

On September 22, 2019, myself and Metro Are Vice Heyde joined in with the Department of New Jersey Junior Vice Mile Waluk at their annual Sgt Basilone Parade in Rahway N.J.

Chain of Command or Chain of Responsibility

When you have an issue with National don't call them directly, call the Department instead. It's not that we are nosey BUT we have contacts and connections you don't AND when we pass it on, we keep on it until it is done the way you want.

Keep in mind that if one quarter of the membership, or an officers of a Detachment call, they can get really tired up. Most times we have what you want, know the answer and can get right back to you.. Remember, if our adjutant can't get it, it does not exist.



(Bottom Left) is a photo showing members of the Memorial Day Detachment # 468 presenting donations to the Homeless program at the Canandaigua V.A. Members are from L-R. Sr. Vice Commandant Dave Brisbane, Commandant Wally Anderson, Jr. Vice Commandant Tom Parker and Jim Wicker. Case managers Nicole Brayer on the left and Kelly Flores accepted the donations for the VA. The donations consisted of air mattresses and bedding, cleaning supplies, dishes and kitchen utensils and gift cards.

Semper Fi

Submitted by Dave Brisbane

And to all our Marines and Associates, your families and loved ones, A Joyous and Happy Holiday Season

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