



## ***OUR HOUSE***

Quarterly Newsletter

*January, February, March '19*

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**Principles:** The members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps. Those who belong have the respect of a nation, the loyalty of their own, and the pride of being a part of history

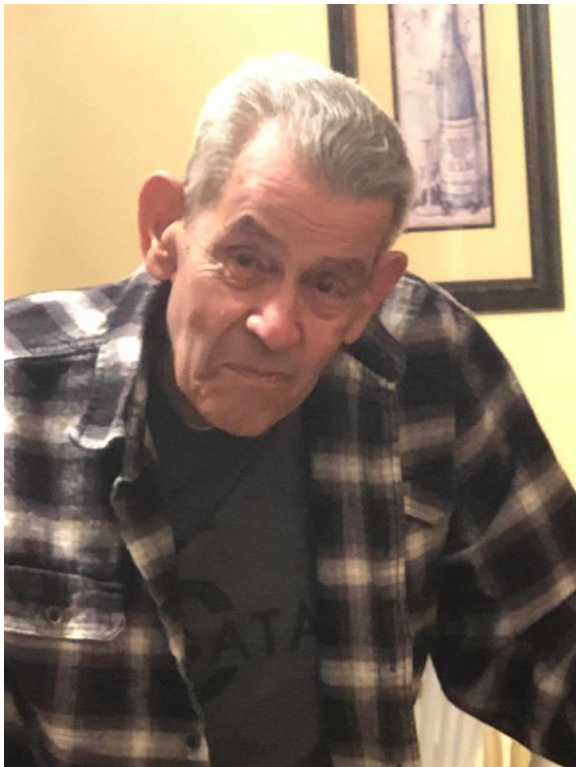
**Belated-** apologies to P.C. Roger Maccagnano for omitting his contributions during the Christmas holiday. He was on hand at the Care Point Health hospital, in Hoboken, collecting for the annual Toys for Tots drive. He has been organizing that event for a few years, and we thank him for his efforts.



Then, on the 31<sup>st</sup>, the Grinch turned another year older. Happy birthday Roger.



**January-** The New Year began with a celebration of Tommy "D". Members met at his house and we celebrated his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday. A good time had by all, and Tommy enjoyed a few shots of his Wild Turket 101. Now that's celebrating in style!





Thanks to Pat and Mike for allowing us to share in that special event!



On the 6<sup>th</sup>, N.J. State Police attended annual Three Kings Event in Atlantic City. This annual event supplies gifts for children and has been ongoing for years now. Some gifts were supplied from our collection, which were donated gladly.



A few days later, a belated birthday gift was delivered to Tommy D....his cover and walking stick, bearing the emblem of his old unit



***History:* Marine Barrage Balloon Squadrons**

Squadrons flying lighter than air vehicles (balloons), were indicated by the letter Z in naval squadron designation.<sup>[9]</sup> The first use of balloons by the Marine Corps was during World War I when they were used for [artillery spotting](#).<sup>[10]</sup> After the outbreak of World War II, the Navy authorized the Marine Corps to create [barrage balloon](#) squadrons for the air defense of advanced naval bases.<sup>[11]</sup> Balloon training was cancelled in the summer of 1943 and the remaining units were deactivated by the end of the year.<sup>[12]</sup>

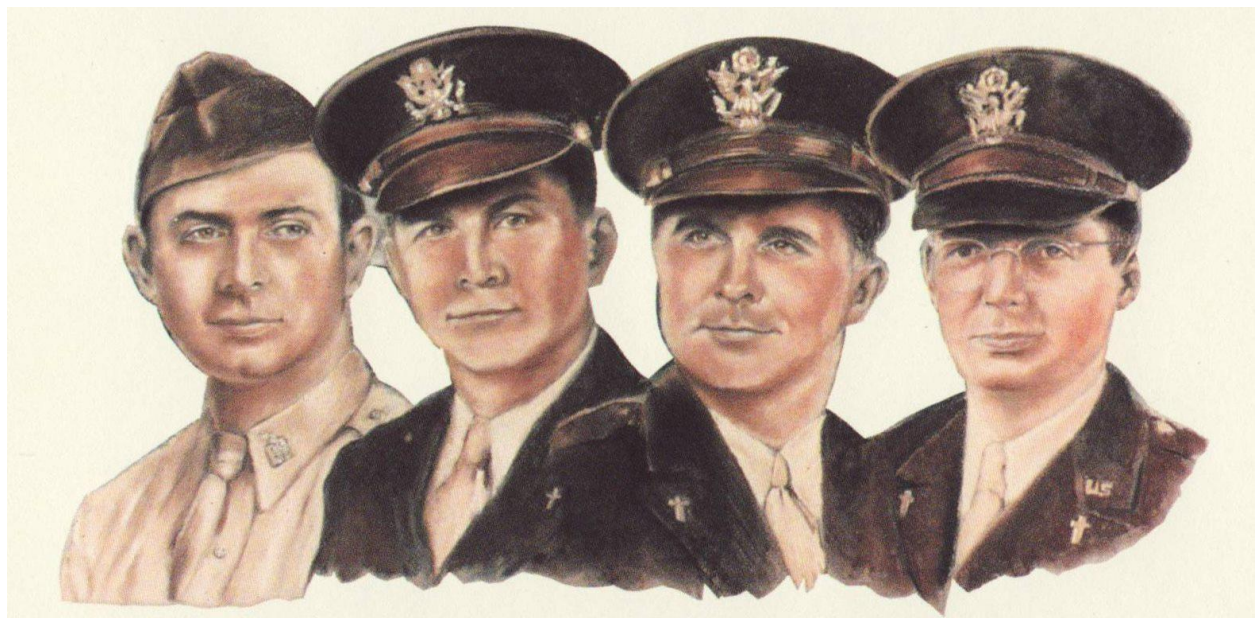
Squadron Name	Insignia	Nickname	Date Decommissioned
ZMQ-1			December 15, 1943 <sup>[13]</sup>



On the 9<sup>th</sup>, the regular Monthly meeting was held. Plans discussed for the upcoming Beefsteak dinner, and “tricky tray”. As well as the St. Patrick’s Day parade in March. Work around the house is continuing, with flooring, trim, and lighting upgrades.....Much thanks to Adam Waldron and Jack Engdahl for their tireless efforts, as well as Walter Rudolph for his contacts.

On the 17<sup>th</sup>, Marines hosted a VAVS Bingo at the Menlo Park Veterans’ Home. As always, we were greeted with applause and open arms. Sr. V.C. John Healy, Rob Milligan and Eileen Milligan helped host this event.

**February-** On the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Father Washington Mass was held at St. Stephen’s R.C. church in Kearny to celebrate the lives of the 4 Chaplains. Members from the detachment joined numerous other veteran and religious organizations to pay tribute to these heroes.





Then, a fun filled evening....Super Bowl Sunday (the 3<sup>rd</sup>). Marines converged on the house and enjoyed some comraderie and chow, while viewing the big game. Even though the HOME team wasn't in it, troops enjoyed the game anyway.







Then, on the 6<sup>th</sup>, staff members met to prepare for the upcoming general membership meeting.

On the 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Monthly membership meeting, plans and discussions took place about upcoming events and needs for the house. The Beefsteak dinner is a lock, so, plans have to be made. A first for West Hudson, wish us luck! Also, we were granted a \$5000.00 donation toward the house from a local developer, the Rousseau Foundation. Much thanks on some needed revenue toward repairs.

There was no Bingo held this month.

(History) On 2/27/76, West Hudson Detachment was created. P.C. John Schmidt is among the names of initial Marines on the charter in the house. We've come a long way, with so much more to be done! Semper Fi, Marines!



Photo courtesy of MCL archives.

***March-*** The month began with work continuing around the house. Jr. V.C. Adam Waldron has been making arrangements for the repair/replacement of worn, broken doors, locks, security equipment, etc.

On the 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Staff meeting, it was reported that the security system has been upgraded with 3 new video cameras installed on the property, with more to come.

***History*** on 3/8/1965, 3500 Marines, from the 9th M.E.B., landed in Viet Nam, beginning the conflict. B.L.T. 3/9 made an amphibious landing in Red Beach, west of DaNang, while other troops from B.L.T 1/3 were airlifted in C-130's into DaNang airbase. Members of the 9<sup>th</sup> M.E.B, were placed under the command of General Karch.



Although, initially sent as support troops, the role gradually changed as time went by.

On the 10<sup>th</sup>, Kearny celebrated their ***St. Patrick's*** Day parade. Once again, West Hudson Detachment color guard led the way on a brisk sunny day. As always, well done Marines!



After the parade, back to the house for some corned beef and cabbage, done up in the kitchen by our own Commandant A. Tegge, and Marine Walter Rudolph. Once again, a delicious meal, cooked to perfection.





**A great job done, as always!!!! And a special thanks to our Ladies Auxiliary, always supporting us!**



Even wore his formal tie!





**And then the dignitaries....great job by Cesar Huaman, setting up the Irish Coffee station...It was the hit of he party, and all drinks were bartender quality!**



**Now, on with the party!!!!**





Another memorable year on the books. **Happy St. Patty's Day** all!

On the **13<sup>th</sup>**, the regular monthly meeting took place. Once again plans being made for upcoming events and suggestions sought from the membership. During the meeting, Paymaster Cesar Huaman reported that the final tally was in from the Gifts for Children. Over 100 children and families were helped and we raised \$2935.00. That's an outstanding effort on the part of all the detachment and we should all be proud!



We also swore in our newest member: Colin Congleton. **Welcome aboard Marine!**



On the 16<sup>th</sup>, members took to the streets in an effort to gather support and prizes for the upcoming Beefsteak Dinner/Tricky Tray. Sr. V.C. J.Healy teamed up with Jr. V.C. Adam Waldron, working locally, while Marines Jack Engdahl teamed up with Walter Rudolph to scout out the outlying areas. Lots of contacts, Here's hoping for results!

On the 21<sup>st</sup>, Sr. V.C. Healy, along with P.C. Ron Leminelle, Jack Engdahl, Rob and Eileen Milligan, sponsored the VAVS Bingo at the Menlo Park Veterans' Home. As always, we were greeted with applause and the usual comraderie, for a fun afternoon event.

The quarter ended on a somber note with the passing of Marine **Andrew S. Sinatra**. Born: 6/30/1925, passed: 3/21/2019.

Andy joined the Corps in 1943 served as a Horse Marine and was deployed to the South Pacific region, specifically Marshall Islands, Guam, Guadalcanal and Okinawa during World War II. Andy earned two Purple Hearts for injuries sustained on Guam and Okinawa.

Andy was a Charter Member of the West Hudson Detachment, meaning, among others, was responsible for starting the West Hudson Detachment. Andy was a Life Member of West Hudson and also a past Commander of the 6<sup>th</sup> Marine Division Association. A viewing was held at Kaminski Funeral Home, in Wallington, N.J. His remains were entombed at Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum, in Paterson, N.J. R.I.P. Andy, take your place in Heaven!

Well, that rounds out the quarter! As always, a lot's been done, yet there's so much more to be accomplished!

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** In the next quarter, we'll be hosting our 1<sup>st</sup> Beefsteak Dinner/Tricky Tray night, in April. Then some fun, as the annual Camping Trip is being planned for July. And later, the Basilone Parade, in Raritan, in September. Also, several shooting tournaments coming up with the West Hudson MCL Shooting Team...Good luck to them! Anyone with ideas, and/or comments contact Sr. V.C. Healy, or other Staff members. As always: ***Semper Fi, Marines!***