



OUR HOUSE

Quarterly Newsletter

January, February, March 2020

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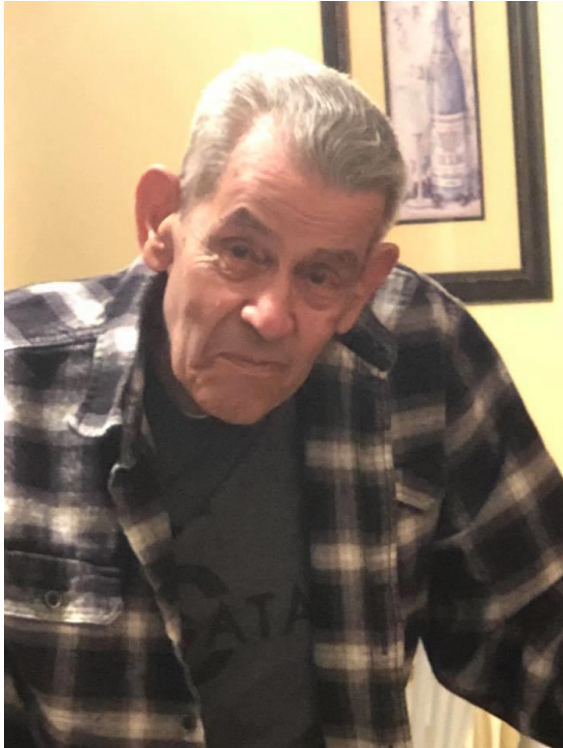
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Principles: The members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps. Those who belong have the respect of a nation,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

January- The month began with a visit from Pat and Mike DeFrancisci. They brought a few bottles of cheer and helped celebrate a toast to recently departed “Tommy D”. He will be missed, yet always remembered!



A few days later, Jr. V.C. Jack Engdahl and Marine Walter Rudolph paid a visit to the Shop-Rite in Belleville. There they presented a Certificate of Appreciation to owner Hemal A. Patel, in gratitude for allowing us to conduct our collections for the Gifts for Children drive as well as the VAVS drive. Thank you from all of us.



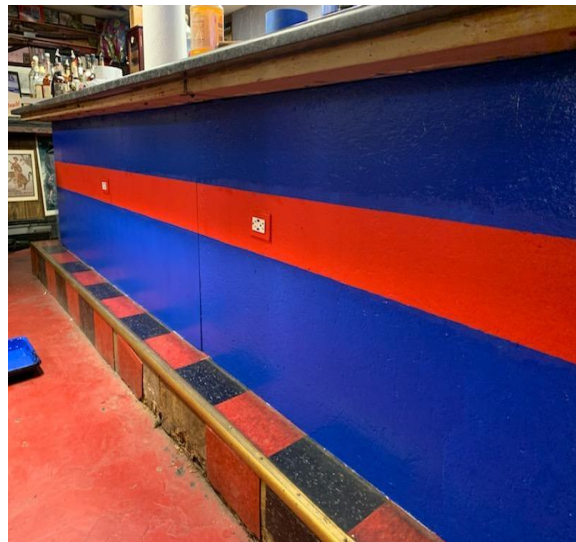
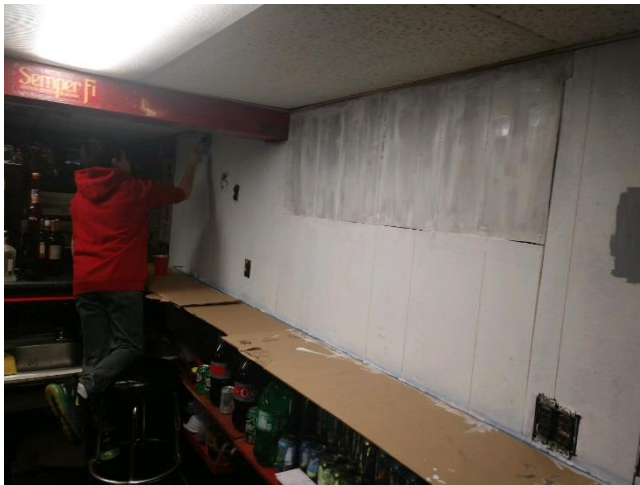
On the 5th, Leaguers attended an event at the Teaneck Library, celebrating the donation of a uniform from General Peter Pace (Retired). Gen. Pace graduated Teaneck HS, and later attended the Naval Academy, graduating in 1967. He was commissioned a 2nd Lt. and later assigned as a platoon leader in 2/5, during the battle for Hue City, Viet Nam. He held numerous positions in his career, including becoming the 16th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a position never before attained by Marines. He retired from service in 2007, after 40 plus years of service! His lecture was relaxed and casual, and he displayed that he was a caring, dedicated Marine!



On the 8th, we held a joint Staff and General Meeting, since the 1st week was New Years Day. Plans were discussed for upcoming projects and events, including the Kearny St. Patrick's Day parade. Starting to get things going for the festivities for that day, including Cesar Huaman remaking the Irish Coffee tradition. Everyone's looking forward to the day.

Later, on the 16th, Cmdt. Healy was joined by helpers Jr. V.C. Jack Engdahl, Marines Ron Leminelle Sr., Rob Milligan and wife Eileen for our monthly VAVS Bingo. As always, a decent turnout, and we were greeted to a new year by the veterans and residents at the Menlo Park Veterans Home.

During the off hours, Marines Jack Engdahl, Sean Glennon, Cesar Huaman, and Adrian Mansilla have been spending time doing some archiving and renovating of the downstairs. As many have already observed, big changes have taken place, and a big Thank You goes out to these Marines for their time and dedication to this monumental undertaking (Additional Television for the bar, outlets for cell phone charging, new colors for the bar face, and more to come).



As you can see, the transformation is well underway. Mind you, we will be keeping the memorabilia, etc. to keep the "flavor" and history. Also, the pictures will be archived and displayed in the basement as well. Just updating and freshening up the place. The founder would be proud, I believe!

February- The month began with the celebration mass of the 4 Chaplains, at St. Stephen's R.C. Church on the 2nd. Marines and veterans from all over attended the mass, celebrating Father Washington, at his parish. As always, a dignified and well attended celebration of these heroes!

A. Washington

400 mi
Greenland
reabysund
72°N
24°

THE FOUR CHAPLAINS
SACRIFICE AT SEA
★

NIGHT OF TERROR – NIGHT OF GRACE

1943. On board the Dorchester, 900 soldiers heading for war are torpedoed off frigid Greenland. With not enough life jackets for everyone, the four chaplains on board give their own life vests to the troops. Watch the inspiring, true story of a Catholic priest, a Jewish rabbi, and two Protestant ministers, whose last moments passed praying, arm-in-arm, as the Dorchester went down. **A TRUE STORY.**

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FATHER & VALUES
MEDIA
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WEDNESDAY
NOV 10

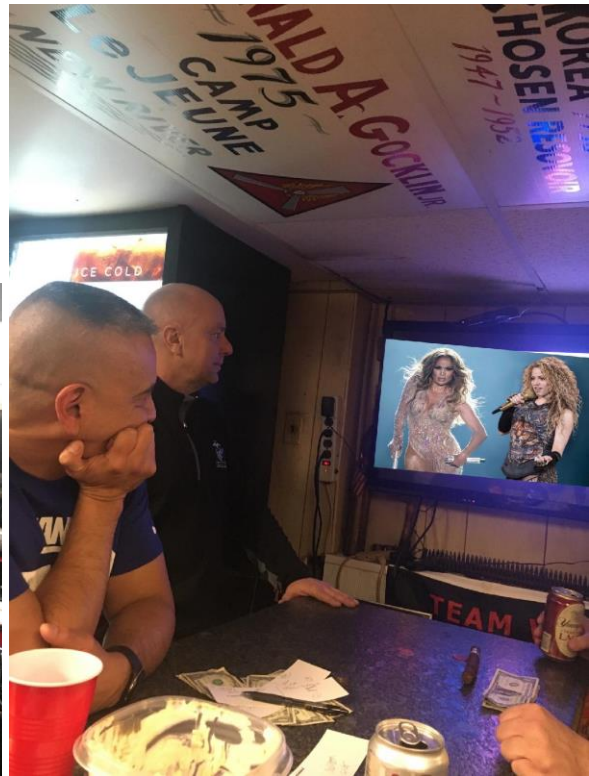
A. Washington





Later in the day, members gathered at the house in preparation of tonight's Super Bowl championship. More members attended this year, enjoying the new lounge area and dual television viewing. A plus for many, and a good time, for sure!





Even though the local teams weren't in the game, the evening was a resounding success.

On the 5th, staff members met for our Staff meeting. Outside, the ground breaking has begun for the memorial firepit. P.C. Adam Tegge, his sons, and scouts began the process. Again, staff members making plans for the St. Patrick's parade, and plans for the 2nd annual Beefsteak dinner in September. Last year's was a great event. Hoping we can outdo ourselves this year!

Then, on the 12th, the General Meeting. Marines met and discussed local events, membership, committees, as well as future plans. So much to do, and time is flying.

HISTORY- THIS IS A SAD WEEK IN AMERICAN MILITARY HISTORY... This week (February 11-17) in 1968 the record for the highest US casualty toll during one week of the Vietnam War was set...The record week during the Tet Offensive was 543 Americans killed in action and 2547 wounded...

HISTORY- On February 19th, Marines were met by 21,000 Japanese soldiers beginning the bloody battle for the island of Iwo Jima

Despite the iconic [flag raising atop Mount Suribachi](#) on February 23, the bloody battle would continue for nearly another month. However, James V. Forrestal, the secretary of the Navy, observing the flag raising from a ship offshore, famously remarked to [Major General Holland Smith](#) that “the raising of that flag on Suribachi means a Marine Corps for the next 500 years.” One Marine noted that because of the taking heavy casualties no one knew if they were winning or losing. The flag raising created hope and, to him, signaled that the Japanese were going to have to kill every last American if they wanted the island. No less than 27 Medals of Honor were awarded for the fighting on Iwo, whereas for Operation Overlord there were 12 recipients.

The 36-day slog horrified military planners and American citizens alike. In the end, 6,821 Marines were killed with another 19,217 wounded. And of the Japanese, 212 defenders – only 1 percent of the original garrison – were still alive to surrender.

On the 20th, P.C. Roger Maccagnano, Jr. V.C. Jack Engdahl, and Marine Rob Milligan met at the Menlo Park Veterans Home to conduct our monthly VAVS Bingo. This month we were greeted by a smaller group, but just as enthusiastic. Once again, Thanks Marines!

Later in the month, on the 29th, our house played host to NRA members conducting a Muzzle loader safety class. As always, safety briefings, and safety training were paramount, as students enjoyed an evening of training.



MARCH- The month began with the Staff meeting on the 4th. Once again, plans and items were discussed for mention at the general meeting next week.

On the 8th, the West Hudson Shooting Team sponsored their annual Youth Match, this year at the Riverdale Police Range. The young shooters enjoyed a day of safety and marksmanship, receiving their certificates upon completion. Way to go, Marines and youngsters.

Personalized
one-on-one instruction
for all shooters

WEST HUDSON
DETACHMENT
SEMPER FIDELIS
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
SHOOTING TEAM

No holding no tarrying...
Just a good time ending fast
down range

**West Hudson Detachment's
7th Annual
Youth Match**

Sunday, 8 March 2020
10:00 – 14:00

Our shooting team cordially invites Marines, Associates, Friends and Family to our seventh annual Youth Match

Other than SAFETY, there's only one rule... Have Fun!
\$15 includes the use of a .22 rifle, 30 rounds of ammo and targets.
Eyes and ears free of charge.
A great event for the entire family.

**Riverdale Pistol Range
2 Dalton Drive Riverdale, NJ**

No walk-ins accepted
To RSVP or obtain information, please email
stege@hotmail.com

New Location!



On the 11th, at the General Membership meeting, we were greeted with the completed firepit project out back. The completed product was so much more than we had expected and will serve as a source of enjoyment for many years. Thank you Lucas Tegge and fellow scouts for the enormous job you had: hauling dirt, sifting soil, and placing pavers. A job definitely well done!



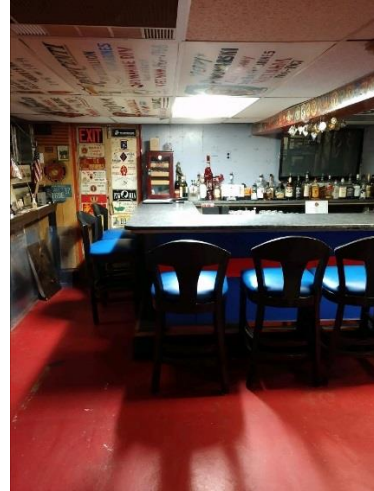
At the meeting it was agreed that the “christening” of the firepit would be by the Scouts, at a ceremony of their choosing on a later date (to be determined). Also, during the meeting a small black placard was issued dedicating the upstairs Museum to the Scouts and members for their dedication and hard work creating this now living monument.

Also, during the meeting, we got to use the new oath of office to our newest Marine: Marty Taccetta. Welcome aboard and welcome to the West Hudson family!



Semper Fi, Marine!

During the beginning of the month, a nationwide, and global pandemic of COVID-19 was taking over, causing illness and death. Due to the virus, as of 3/14, under the direction of New Jersey Governor Murphy, all non-essential activities and places of congregation would cease, in an effort to combat the ever-growing threat. As such, until further notice, Our House will remain closed to any/all fraternal and/or business operation. Sadly, the house had been cleaned and sanitized prior, in anticipation of the now cancelled St. Patrick's Day parade. An eerie quiet has set in on Our House!



Commandant's Message: Marines, we have begun a situation never thought possible before in any of our lives. Practicing safe space, self quarantine, and, in some cases, loss of employment, as businesses temporarily close, in compliance with safety precautions and directives. I have also observed that this country seems to become stronger, more united in times of strife and disaster. Along with the fright and paranoia, comes moments of strength, humor, and compassion. We, as Marines, have been taught to "Improvise. Adapt, Overcome", a concept now becoming more prevalent throughout the world. The use of social media has helped people to stay in communication and share good times with the world. As such, we, as Marines, a life long Brotherhood, can also "keep in touch". When you can, pick up a phone, call members, see if all's well and if anything can be done in this time of need. Often, just the sound of another Marine, a little talk about the Corps, etc. will help take the worries away, if only for a while. Until this event is over, we will comply with the directions of our Commander in Chief and our appointed officials. At that time, we will once again get together, hoist a few, and sing out:

Semper Fidelis, Marines everywhere!