



Do You Read Me?

Yes, Sir!

ESSEX COUNTY LEATHERNECKS DET 791

Newsletter for Nov/Dec 2009

www.essexcountyleathernecks.com

det791@verizon.net

Officers:

Commandant: Brad Peters

Jr. Vice Commandant: Mike Forand

Judge Advocate: Bill Pelerin

Paymaster: Todd Debrobander

Sr. Vice Commandant: Kevin Peters

Adjutant: Heather Jordon

Sgt. at Arms: Tom McKeown

Chaplain: John Walls

Commandant Brad Peters, officers, and staff wish to extend their heartfelt wishes for Thanksgiving (belated), Christmas, Jewish holiday, Hanukkah, and New Years to all members their families and community.

Our ranks maybe a bit thin, the numbers few, but not the spirit; the following is but one example. Year 2008 announcement from our leagues high command. We will not have a Marine Corps Ball. "Not acceptable" from member Tom McKeown. Not acceptable was not the language used but not permitted for public print. Tom and a dedicated staff but on the year 233 Marine Corps Ball which served as a model for this year's 234 Birthday Ball which was in a traditional spirit. (as the evening wore on the bar helped out a bit) ceremony and food from the catering service of the Hot Biscuit Diner was excellent.

The hall was beautifully decorated; The credit goes to Patty Ives for organizing this year's Ball as she has for the previous years. Thanks to Sharon, Darryl, Tom McKeown, Vicky and Charlie Messier for decorating and setting up for the Ball.

Ray Tolar was the guest speaker received honor of the first to receive a piece of birthday cake, (there must have been something in his piece of cake for he was seen doing a wild dance with a wild young beautiful women). Thanks Tom all are grateful and look forward to next year, you know how that volunteer bit goes! Thanks are also extended to the American Legion for the use of their hall for the Ball and the meetings!

Toys for Tots

Mike Forand is in charge of this event everything appears to be well in hand, various contacts have been made, one of which will be at the meeting of the toy for tots train.

From the Fox Hole

John Walls one of our members, has been shipped out his e-mail is tiwalls@msn.com

Drop him an e-mail we are sure he would like to hear from you.

(from John) I am currently in Balad and working out of there. My teams are integrated already into Army units and out working. Some of them are busy as hell and the JESTR teams are still highly effective.

We got in country a little late due to a hold over in Kuwait with possible change to new AOR. That was nuts-

I did pick up CWO3 on the last board- I will put it on in August 2010, things here are still a little wild and keep me busy!

Tell everyone I said hello and enjoy the marine ball!!!!!!! Hey we had the Navy Ball at the Al Fal palace at Camp Victory- Needless to say No booze so that sucked!!!!!!!

Fund Raising

Fund raising is always a constant issue and the latest proposal for a spaghetti dinner as of date has not been materialized more effort will be made.

The Wall

The vast collection of service war photos exhibited on the entrance wall in the Ticonderoga Wal-Mart store honors those who are serving or have served.

Pending a meeting with Store Manager Vera Kugler for presentation of said pictures (either original if requested or copies thereof) will be used as a pictorial historical resource for public exhibit on specific occasions such as Veteran's Day and Memorial Day or other occasion as may be appropriate. Discussion will include use of display with at the Town Community Building and as part of the pictorial historical documentation of those who have or are serving in the military service. It would be in effect a sought after source for those wishing to identify loved ones. It could be called a "Pictorial Wall".

Pictures will continue to be taken for display. Take photos to photo dept in Ticonderoga, we want a good presentation of Marines in the display there is no cost and you may get a copy!

Sick Call

Take Charlie Drake off the list he's chasing a ball across the lawn with a stick to put it in a hole in the ground....seems to me he could find better things to do such as wearing dark glasses on the beach and watching the young babes in string bikinis!

Patty Ives had her appendix out just before the Ball....it wasn't the same without Patty and John. John was under the weather also.

Taps

John Ives Mother Past away; Ruth M. (Dunkley) Ives, 80, went into the arms of our Lord and to be with her beloved husband, Phillip D. "Fee" Ives, Friday, Nov. 27, 2009.

Mail Call

Haven't received any letters of "news" as of date, we know these are busy times but readers would like to hear from you, contact Mike Forand at det791@verizon.net or 105 Mt. Hope ave. Ticonderoga N.Y. 12883

From the Commandant of the USMC

UNCLASSIFIED//

ALMAR 052/08

MSGID/GENADMIN/CMC WASHINGTON DC CMC//

SUBJ/CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS//

REF/A/DESC:DOC/CMC WASHINGTON DC/05MAY2003//

AMPN/REF A IS MCO P5060.20, MARINE CORPS DRILL AND CEREMONIES MANUAL.

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GENTEXT/REMARKS/1. THIS ALMAR REINFORCES THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS AND AMPLIFIES THE PROVISIONS OF THE REFERENCE **FOR RENDERING SALUTES AND HONORS TO THE NATIONAL FLAG**; THE PROPER CONDUCT OF THE MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY; AND THE PLAYING OF THE MARINES' HYMN.

2. CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS PROVIDE A LINK TO THE PAST; THEY BOND MARINES WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE WITH MARINES WHO WILL CARRY THE TORCH THROUGH THE FUTURE. ANY LOSS OF TRADITION OR IMPROPER OBSERVATION OF CUSTOM BLURS OUR IDENTITY AND WEAKENS US AS AN INSTITUTION. THROUGH THE FAITHFUL ADHERENCE BY COMMANDERS AND EACH INDIVIDUAL MARINE, WE PRESERVE OUR IDENTITY AND REPUTATION AS A UNIQUE AND ELITE FIGHTING ORGANIZATION.

3. SALUTING. A RECENT CHANGE TO THE LAW HAS AUTHORIZED ACTIVE DUTY AND RETIRED SERVICEMEMBERS TO SALUTE THE NATIONAL COLORS, WHETHER COVERED OR UNCOVERED, INDOORS OR OUT. BY CUSTOM AND TRADITION, **MARINES DO NOT RENDER THE HAND SALUTE WHEN OUT OF UNIFORM OR WHEN UNCOVERED. LET THERE BE NO CONFUSION; THAT HAS NOT CHANGED.** DURING THE PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, OR THE RAISING, LOWERING, OR PASSING OF THE NATIONAL FLAG, MARINES WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW NAVAL TRADITIONS AND THE POLICY / PROCEDURES CONTAINED IN REFERENCE (A). SPECIFICALLY, MARINES NOT IN UNIFORM WILL FACE THE FLAG, STAND AT

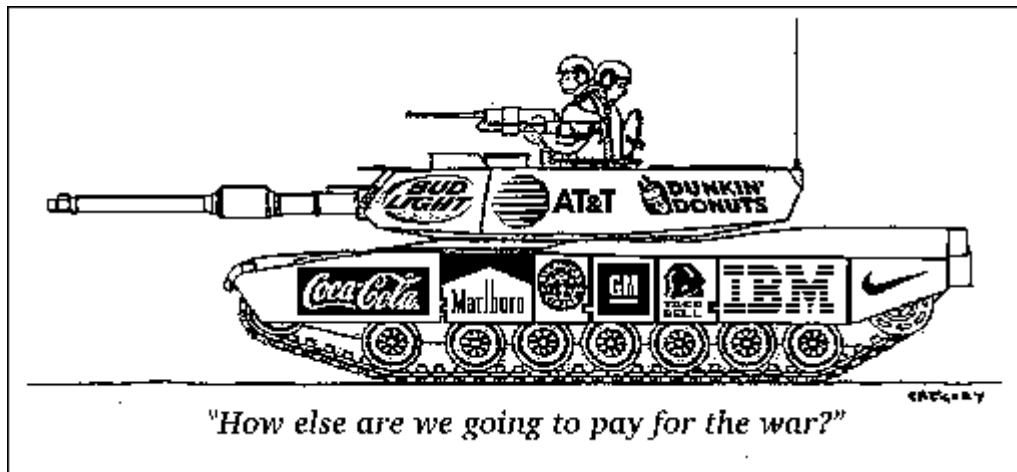
ATTENTION, AND PLACE THE RIGHT HAND OVER THE HEART. IF COVERED, MARINES NOT IN UNIFORM WILL REMOVE THEIR HEADGEAR WITH THE RIGHT HAND AND PLACE THEIR RIGHT HAND OVER THEIR HEART. WHEN THE FLAG IS NOT PRESENT, MARINES WILL ACT IN THE SAME MANNER WHILE FACING IN THE DIRECTION OF THE MUSIC. IN CASES SUCH AS INDOOR CEREMONIES, WHEN MARINES ARE IN UNIFORM AND UNCOVERED, THEY WILL FACE THE FLAG, OR THE DIRECTION OF THE MUSIC WHEN THE FLAG IS NOT PRESENT, AND STAND AT ATTENTION.

4. THE MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY. THE MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY IS ONE OF OUR TIME-HONORED TRADITIONS IN GARRISON, IN THE FIELD, AND IN COMBAT. ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE CEREMONY IS THE TRADITIONAL RECOGNITION OF THE OLDEST AND YOUNGEST MARINES PRESENT. TO CLARIFY THE LANGUAGE IN REFERENCE (A), THE COMMANDER CUTS THE CAKE AND HANDS THE FIRST PIECE TO THE GUEST OF HONOR. THEN THE COMMANDER HANDS THE SECOND PIECE OF CAKE TO THE OLDEST MARINE PRESENT AS A SIGN OF HONOR AND RESPECT TO EXPERIENCE AND SENIORITY. AFTER TAKING A BITE, THE OLDEST MARINE PASSES THE SECOND PIECE OF CAKE, AND A CLEAN FORK, DIRECTLY TO THE YOUNGEST MARINE PRESENT; THIS ACTION SYMBOLIZES THE PASSING OF WISDOM, KNOWLEDGE, AND EXPERIENCE, AS WELL AS TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN THOSE WHO WILL CONTINUE TO CARRY ON OUR MARINE CORPS TRADITIONS.

5. PLAYING OF THE MARINES' HYMN. THE MARINES' HYMN IS THE OFFICIAL HYMN OF THE MARINE CORPS. IT IS THE SONG OF PRAISE TO OUR INSTITUTION AND THE LYRICS ARE A DIRECT TRIBUTE TO OUR WARFIGHTING CULTURE. BY CUSTOM AND TRADITION, THE MARINES' HYMN IS THE LAST SONG PLAYED AT CEREMONIES AND GATHERINGS OF MARINES. ALTHOUGH THE REFERENCE ALLOWS FOR THE PLAYING OF SPECIAL MUSIC REQUESTS BEFORE THE MARINES' HYMN, SUCH AS "ANCHOR'S AWEIGH," THIS IS BY EXCEPTION AND AT THE DISCRETION OF THE LOCAL COMMANDER.

6. ONE OF OUR HALLMARKS AS MARINES IS THAT WE ARE AS GOOD ON PARADE AS WE ARE IN THE ATTACK. OUR SHARP APPEARANCE - IN AND OUT OF UNIFORM - AND OUR SUCCESS IN BATTLE ARE TWO IMPORTANT PARTS OF OUR IDENTITY. WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR TRADITIONS, AND THEIR UNIFORM APPLICATION, WHEREVER MARINES ARE ASSIGNED.

7. SEMPER FIDELIS, JAMES T. CONWAY, GENERAL, U.S. MARINE CORPS,
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS.//



Military etiquette

Officer: Soldier, do you have change for a dollar?

Soldier: Sure, buddy.

Officer: That's no way to address an officer! Now let's try it again. Do you have change for a dollar?

Soldier: No, SIR!

NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

T'was the night before Christmas and all the the Corps Not a soul had liberty, the troops were all sore.

Yes, every Marine every Marine in the lot was lying on a rack of nails called a Marine Corps Cot.

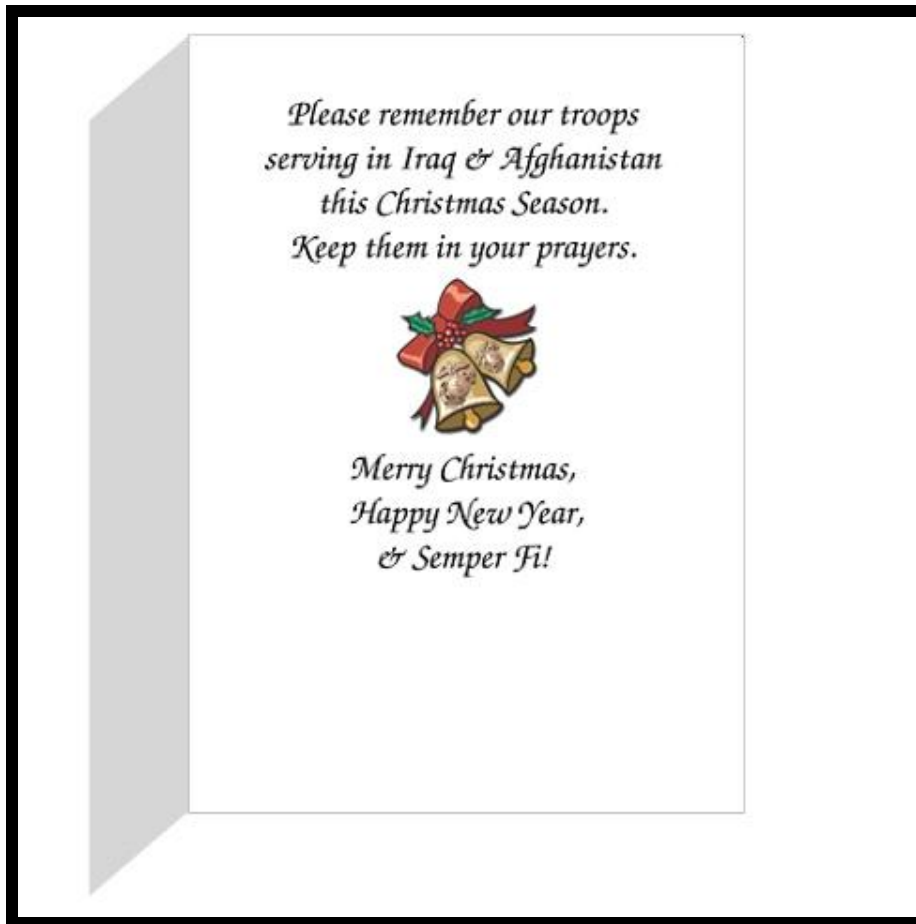
When out on the Parade Deck I heard such a clatter, I sprang from my cot to see what the hell was the matter.

With bayonet in hand I moved stealthily to the door I cautiously waited to see if there were more.

Yes, it was the Commandant of Marines this there was no doubt he was wearing his poncho green side out.

He carefully moved from rack to rack he cautiously inspected each rifle and pack to a chosen few a 96 chit but to the majority a ration of s*it

As he pulled away in his gold plated tank pulled by ten colonels all bucking for rank I heard him say, and he said with a shout Merry Christmas you suckers you'll never get out.



The editors and staff wish you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday. It's a pleasure spreading the word!

Next Meeting

Plan to attend Dec 14th 2009 at 7pm at the American Legion in Ticonderoga!

Semper Fi
The Editorial Staff