



# THE QUARTERDECK

February 2009

Marine Corps League-West Hudson Detachment #209  
286 Belgrove Drive, West Hudson Station Post Office Box 1775, Kearny, NJ 07032

(201)992-4492

## COMMANDANT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Unfortunately we buried one of our life members, retired Caldwell Police Chief Harvey Lawshe. I was honored to speak with his wife who told me that Harvey loved being a Marine and she was very proud that we memorialized him that evening. Thanks to all who showed up on that very cold night to hold services for Harvey. It isn't often that we lose one of our members and I would ask all of you to consider making a concerted effort to join us when we perform services for our departed Marines.

We are well into the new year and have lots going on. We are in need of a Quartermaster. The responsibility is to keep track of the inventory, order new merchandise, and sell the items at meetings and events. It does not require a large amount of time but it is a necessary committee. Give me a call or an email if you would like to help.

Mark your calendars with the upcoming meetings and events and let's show our Marine Corps pride!

**OLD BREED? NEW BREED? THERE'S NOT A DAMN BIT OF DIFFERENCE SO LONG AS IT'S THE MARINE BREED!**

OOH-RAH!

*Joe Longo*

### MEETING DATES

Feb. 4 7:30 pm ..... Staff Meeting  
Feb. 11 8:00 pm ..... Regular Meeting  
Feb. 11 8:00 pm ..... Ladies Auxiliary

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 1 12:00 pm ..... Father Washington Mass  
St. Stephen's Church, Kearny  
Feb. 1 5:00pm ..... WHD Super Bowl Party  
Feb. 2 7:30pm ..... Eagle Scout Award  
St John's Lutheran Church,  
Rutherford  
Feb. 14 7:00pm ..... VFW Post 1302 Dinner Dance  
LCC Club, 6 Davis Av, Kearny  
\$50.00 per person.  
Mar. 8 TBA ..... St. Patrick's Day Parade  
Woodbridge, NJ  
Mar. 15 TBA ..... St. Patrick's Day Parade  
Kearny NJ  
Mar. 29 8:00 am ..... Dept NJ Leadership College  
Sea Girt, NJ  
Jun. 2-6 ..... Parris Island Trip  
Jun. 27 ..... Tom Watson Fishing Trip

## Chaplain's Corner

### In Memoriam

WHD Life Member and Retired Caldwell Police Chief **Harvey N. Lawshe**, passed away on January 10, 2009. He was a member of Caldwell Police Department for 26 years before retiring as Chief of Police in 2004. A sergeant in the Marine Corps Reserve, Chief Lawshe served until 1980, when he was honorably discharged.

*If you know of members who are sick or in distress, call Chaplain Charlie Norris 973-694-7177.*

### GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

- Matt Buccerri will be sworn into the East Rutherford Police Department to begin training on January 29th.
- Sr. Vice Cmdt Joe Melione is planning a trip to Parris Island April 21st returning on Saturday April 25th and outlined the costs for the excursion.
- Cmdt Longo thanked all who participated in the "Gifts for Children" drive and especially Caesar who made the "bi-lingual" telephone calls, Perry for setting up and circulating the "posts" for collections, Ed Pflugi for tallying the collections, and the cooks Ron Leminelle and Frank Buffardi for warming up the troops as they came off "duty." Sixty families were helped with grocery gift certificates and toys.
- Joe McLaughlin reported that the Waterhouse Museum has been closed. Paintings were distributed to the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico VA, the Intrepid Aircraft Carrier Museum in NY, and other parts "unknown." A sad end to a wonderful artist's display.
- PC John Cleary, reported our membership stands at 189; 110 members have been dropped for non-renewal of dues and five are "MIA."
- PC John Cleary is seeking articles, photos, and items of interest for the "2009" yearbook.

### PARRIS ISLAND TRIP JUNE 2-6



A trip to MCRD Parris Island is being planned for June 2-6. We will be traveling via Amtrak train. *If you are interested contact Sr. Vice Cmdt. Joe Melione 201-997-7516 mel0529@aol.com.*

### WHD SHOOTING TEAM



The Shooting Team is offering the opportunity for WHD members to purchase Shooting Team T-Shirts. The price is \$15.00 per shirt. All WHD members are invited to practice with the team at the Bullet Hole in Belleville every 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month. *If you are interested in joining the team or purchasing a T-Shirt contact Gene Patzer at (973) 770-1749.*

### FATHER WASHINGTON MASS

Father John P. Washington was one of four military chaplains on the torpedoed SS Dorchester who sacrificed their lives by giving away their life preservers during World War II. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross. Father Washington was a priest from St. Stephen's Parish in Kearny. In addition the father of WHD member John Holle's also went down with the ship. This event is a beautiful spectacle in remembrance of American heroism. We request that you mark the date on your calendar and join us at the mass.

February 1, 2009 Noon  
St. Stephen's Parish  
676 Kearny Avenue, Kearny, NJ 07032

### COLOR GUARD

Requests for our Color Guard at various events have drastically increased as of late, and the Color Guard is desperately in need of more members now then ever before. Understanding the difficulty our current uniform can be for some of our members such as costs, etc., the Color Guard is considering utilizing a "League" uniform instead of the traditional Dress Blues for some of our events. Dependant on member feed-back, those interested in joining the ranks of the Color Guard may wear the League uniform, which comprises of blue trousers with blood strip, Long-sleeved Khaki shirt, and windbreaker for the winter season, and short-sleeved khaki shirt for the summer season; along with the Detachment cover and web belt.

Again, the success of our Detachment has partially been achievable because of the reputation of our Color Guard. It would be a shame to allow such a traditional component of our Detachment wither to the point of extinction.

*If you know anyone who may be interested, have them call PC John Cleary.*

### VAVS

PC Perry Piwowarski and Roger Maccaganano are seeking volunteers to assist. The day and time have been selected to accommodate retired members of the detachment who are able to volunteer for this committee. Perry and Roger are proposing that we plan a trip for these veteran's to the USS Intrepid or some other point of interest this spring. Volunteers will be needed for this as well. *If you are interested in helping with VAVS contact PC Perry Piwowarski at 201-955-1176*

### QUARTERMASTER



We are seeking a volunteer Quartermaster. The duties include keeping an up to date inventory, selling our products at meetings and events and ordering new products. *If you are interested contact Cmdt. Joe Longo at 973-450-8877 or [cmdt@whdmcl.com](mailto:cmdt@whdmcl.com).*

### PAYMASTER'S REPORT



As of January 1, 2009, annual memberships and renewals have increased to \$31.00 annually; and new memberships will be \$36.00. Please submit the correct amount when renewing your membership. The fees for becoming a lifetime member have increased:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Jan 1, 2009</u>
0 - 35	\$400	\$500
36 - 40	\$350	\$400
41 - 50	\$350	\$400
51 - 60	\$250	\$300
61 - Over	\$125	\$150

Any member who is over one year behind in their dues can be reinstated as a member in good standing via the MAPS program. Contact Paymaster Cesar Huaman at (201) 923-3088 to get the process started.

To become a Life Member you must already be a Regular Member in good standing.

The NJ Motor Vehicle Commission will recall any MCL Plates issued to a member that fails to renew their annual dues.

### VISIT US ON THE WEB

Check out the West Hudson Detachment web site for pictures of events, up to date calendars, or even to email staff members.

[www.whdmcl.com](http://www.whdmcl.com)

### GIFTS FOR CHILDREN WRAP UP

The Detachment had a very successful "Gifts for Children Drive" as we were able to assist 75 families this year. Thank you to the members of the WHD who helped raise money and collect toys. Special thanks to PC Perry Piwowarski, PC Ron Leminielle, Cesar Huaman, Frank Buffardi, Joe Melione, Roger Maccagano, Tommy De Francisci, and PC John Cleary with his wife. The detachment was assisted by the Kearny Public Schools, Shop-Rite and Stop & Shop of Lyndhurst, the Carl A. Paserchia Memorial Foundation of Belleville, Belleville High School, and the Optimist Club of Belleville.



Marines Frank Buffardi and Ron Leminielle pictured above sorting toys for distribution to needy families in from Kearny as well as families known by detachment members.