To all Marines:
The March meeting will be on the 2nd. Meetings are held at the Teaneck American Legion Post 128, 650 American Legion Dr., Teaneck, NJ 07666

Upcoming Events

Department of New Jersey Convention

The Department of New Jersey Convention will be held on June 8th to 10th, 2017. Pre-registration is $12.00 and is due by June 1, 2017. Registration at the Convention is $14.00. Please note that the Gooney Bird Detachment will pay for the registration fee for any member who attends the convention.

The Convention will be held at the Seaview Hotel and Golf Club, 401 South New York Road, Galloway, NJ 08205, phone number is 1-855-894-8698. Room rates are $127.00 per night. All reservations must be made with the hotel prior to May 3, 2017. Be sure to mention you are with the Marine Corps League.

Anyone interested in attending the Department of New Jersey Convention should contact Al Frater.

National Youth Physical Fitness Program

The National Youth Physical Fitness Program encompasses students from elementary school through junior and senior high school. The program is designed to complement, not replace, existing curriculum and to be easily implemented in any school situation. Students are tested in five basic exercises and are awarded scores indicative of their general fitness level. Students can earn one beautiful full-color certificate for each year of participation.

This program provides a means for adult leaders to actually measure the fitness level of participating students throughout the school year. More importantly though, this program, provides hope and offers our youth an opportunity to become part of something bigger than themselves, an opportunity to be challenged, and an opportunity to grow as individuals. It teaches students to respect their bodies and helps them build and maintain a personal resistance to drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

The next Youth Physical Fitness will be held at Colts Neck High School, 59 Five Points Road, Colts Neck, New Jersey 07222 on March 18th at 0800 hours. Volunteers are needed as time keepers and to assist the students. If you participated last year, please wear the t-shirt that you received.
Detachment News

Membership

Annual Members: please check your annual due date regarding your Marine Corps dues. If you are past due, please submit your annual dues of $40.00 to the detachment. Remember, the National Marine Corps League will not send past due notices.

Jim Biringer
Membership chairman

New Members

The Detachment would like to apologize to our new associate member John Campbell for getting his name wrong. Welcome aboard!

Rose Program

On February 11, 2017 the Gooney Bird Detachment sponsored a Rose Program at Englewood Hospital. The funds collected go to support programs to provide funds for detachments to assist veterans and youth and provide other services to the community. Participating were Al Frater, Brian Murphy and Jim Biringer.

Monthly Luncheon

The Gooney Birds had their monthly at lunch at Tommy Fox’s in Bergenfield on February 17, 2017. And, as Marines do, there were plenty of Sea Stories and other great conversations. We hope for an even better turnout for March’s lunch. See you there.

The Gooney Bird 2017 Scholarship Fund

The application forms for the 2017 Scholarship Awards are now available. Any members in good standing, including members who live out-of-state, who would like an application for a child or grandchild must request and complete the form before the deadline. Forms are available by requesting one in writing to the attention of the Scholarship Chairman. Members who live locally are advised to attend a meeting to obtain a form. Your eligibility to be a sponsor will be verified upon submission of the completed application.

Phil Sullivan
Scholarship Chairman

The completed scholarship application must be received by April 15, 2017 for consideration.

Gooney Bird Committees

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter Editor</td>
<td>Carl Peter</td>
<td>201-837-1071</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carlpeter@verizon.net">carlpeter@verizon.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership:</td>
<td>Jim Biringer</td>
<td>201-546-2439</td>
<td><a href="mailto:goo22ney@optimum.net">goo22ney@optimum.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Affairs:</td>
<td>John Finkeldie</td>
<td>201-868-4759</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historian:</td>
<td>Dave Biesel</td>
<td>201-387-1529</td>
<td><a href="mailto:d.biesel@verizon.net">d.biesel@verizon.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship:</td>
<td>Phil Sullivan</td>
<td>201-261-6319</td>
<td><a href="mailto:osbeara902@verizon.net">osbeara902@verizon.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toys for Tots:</td>
<td>Al Frater</td>
<td>201-906-1197</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teanal@optonline.net">teanal@optonline.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parades and Ceremonies:</td>
<td>Alex Stoichkov</td>
<td>201-280-9452</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ak3083@aol.com">ak3083@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scouts:</td>
<td>Al Frater</td>
<td>201-906-1197</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teanal@optonline.net">teanal@optonline.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball:</td>
<td>vacant</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball Journal:</td>
<td>Dave Biesel</td>
<td>201-387-1529</td>
<td><a href="mailto:d.biesel@verizon.net">d.biesel@verizon.net</a></td>
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Bingo

On February 18, 2017 the Gooney Bird Detachment sponsored Bingo at the Veterans Home in Paramus. There was a large crowd of veterans who participated and everyone enjoyed themselves. Participating were Emily Stoichkov, Alex Stoichkov, Al Frater, Brian Murphy, Shelly Levy, Pat Korczak, Phil Sullivan, and Carl Peter. Not pictured: Chris Gately.

In Memoriam:

Marine and Gooney Bird member William Edgar, 80, died on February 12, 2017. Bill served in the Marine Corps from 1957 to 1959. Bill was an expert marksman. He was a high shooter in his platoon winning the Expert Badge. Has such he became a Rifle instructor at Parris Island.

The Detachment wishes to express its condolences to the Edgar family.

Marines to Get New Ultralight ATVs

Infantry Marines will soon receive ultra light off-road vehicles that will improve mission readiness by providing rapid logistics support in the field. The U.S. Marine Corps is expected to deliver 144 Utility Task Vehicles (UTVs) to the regiment-level starting later this month. The rugged all-terrain vehicle can carry up to four Marines or haul 1,500 pounds of supplies. With minimal armor, the UTV can quickly haul extra ammunition and provisions, or injured Marines. Thanks to its small size, the UTV fits inside MV-22 Ospreys and CH-53E helicopters for easy transport to remote locations and greater tactical support.

Submitted by Chris Gately
“The Few, The Proud”

The Marine Corps historic recruiting slogan “The Few, The Proud” is going on hiatus but it’s not going away, a top recruiting official said.

New Marine Corps recruiting commercials set to air next month will not include any tagline at all, said Lt. Col. John Caldwell, a spokesman for Marine Corps Recruiting Command. Instead, they will end with the word “Marines” and the Corps eagle, globe and anchor emblem.

Caldwell stressed that “The Few, The Proud” remains part of the Marine Corps’ lexicon and is not going away.

Nota Bene

The deadline for submission of articles for the April 2017 Gooney Bird News is March 18, 2017.

The Gooney Bird News is always looking for articles about the Detachment, sea stories of the time you were in the Marines and other items of interest to Marines.

Comments and suggestions are also accepted.

We continue to accept contributions to help defray some of the cost to produce your newsletter. You can also help by signing up to receive your newsletter via email or by buying a business card ad at an annual cost of $40.00.

Semper Fi

Carl Peter
Newsletter Editor
carlpeter@verizon.net.