Slattery Sidelines
Welcome To Your OnLine Newsletter - Aug 2017
Volume #5 Issue 8

Links: Slattery Detachment 206 ~ Marines Care Foundation ~ Legacy of a Hero ~ Dept NJ MCL ~ MCL National
This newsletter is interactive while online, highlighted links work & sometimes open a new screen. You can print each page separately or all, the page number is at top right of page. Officers & members wishing to post in the newsletter, please send info to Pete Gallo.
Feel free to forward this newsletter & web site. Editors: Don Patterson ~ Pete Gallo

Signed & Numbered Limited Edition
"Recon" by Tom Miller

L/CPL Robert J. Slattery
Marine Corps League, Detachment #206
Marines Care Foundation, Inc.,
In Memory of L/CPL Chris Cosgrove, III
Whippany, New Jersey
P.O. Box 566, West Caldwell, NJ 07007-0566
2017 Schedule

Detachment monthly meetings 1st Wednesday of the month - starts 1930 ***UPSTAIRS HALL*** at Post #155 American Legion Home 13-23 Legion Place Whippany 07981 phone# 973-884-2494

Aug 2nd - meeting - 1930, nomination of officers - Legion home Whippany

Aug 19th - 10 am through 5 PM - Stop & Shop Madison

Sept 6th - meeting - 1930, election of officers - Legion home Whippany

Sept 10th - 0900-1500, Marine Rose event rain date is 17th at the Corvette Car Show - Anthony Fiorentino event Sgt.

Sept 24th - 1300-1530, John Basilone Parade, Raritan NJ

Sept 24th - 0900-1500, Marine Rose event at the North Jersey Corvette Club car show (National Glass - Anthony Fiorentino event Sgt.

Oct 4th - installation of officers - 1900 Legion home Whippany yes at 1900 food served

Oct 28th - 10 am-4 - Marine Rose Outing at Shop Route 206, Chester.

Oct 28th - (5:30 PM) Mass - Marine Rose Outing Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Verona

Oct 29th - 0730, 0900, 1030, 1200: Masses - Marine Rose Outing Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Verona

Nov 1st - meeting - 1930, Nominations for Detachment Marine of the Year - Legion home Whippany

Nov 11th - Veterans day ceremony - 1100 meet at Legion Home Whippany at 1030

Dec 6th - meeting - 1930, Legion home Whippany

Dec 7th - 2000 Pearl Harbor day ceremony, Legion Home Whippany

Department Meeting dates

Mark your calendars for the following Department Meeting dates at the Marine Reserve Center in Red Bank.

Sunday September 17, 2017 MODD Growl at 1000 and Full General meeting at 1200

Sunday November 19, 2017 MODD Growl at 1000 and Full General meeting at 1200

Sunday January 14, 2018 Sr. Vice Detachment Meeting at 1000 and Full General meeting at 1200

Sunday March 18, 2018 MODD Growl at 1000 and Full General meeting at 1200

Cover Page Photo

Thanks to Tom Miller for the signed and numbered limited edition print of "Recon (© 2001)" This graphite (pencil) print was limited to 1500 copies. "Recon" and other prints have been given out to our wounded veterans at the hospitals during our detachment trips since 2006.
This Month in USMC History

AUGUST

- **1 August 1944:** After nine days of fighting in a battle termed "the perfect amphibious operation of World War II," MajGen Harry Schmidt, commander of V Amphibious Corps, declared the island of Tinian secured. The combination of surprise, heavy preassault bombardment, and effective logistical support was responsible for Tinian's recapture with a much lower casualty rate (344 killed and 1550 wounded) than had been experienced in previous landings.

- **3 August 1950:** Eight Corsairs of VMF-214, the famed "Black Sheep" squadron of World War II, launched from the USS SICILY and executed the first Marine aviation mission in the Korean War in a raid against enemy installations near Inchon. After the F4Us delivered their incendiary bombs and rockets on their targets, the Marines concluded their greeting to the Communist troops with a series of strafing runs.

- **7 August 1990:** President Bush ordered U.S. military aircraft and troops to Saudi Arabia as part of a multinational force to defend that nation against possible Iraqi invasion. One week later the Marine Corps announced the commitment of 45,000 troops to the Persian Gulf area as part of Operation Desert Shield which would become the largest deployment of U.S. forces since the Vietnam War.

- **9 August 1942:** With the Guadalcanal airstrip secure after heavy fighting with the Japanese, the 1st Engineer Battalion commenced work on the runway using captured equipment. Three days later, on 12 August, the first plane landed on Henderson Field, a Navy PBY which evacuated two wounded Marines. Nearly 3,000 wounded Marines would be evacuated from Henderson Field during the battle.

- **17 August 1942:** Just prior to dawn, the 2d Marine Raider Battalion under LTCol Evans F. Carlson landed on Makin Island from the submarines NAUTILUS and ARGONAUT. The next day the Marines left the island after destroying a seaplane base, two radio stations, a supply warehouse, and killing about 100 Japanese soldiers.

- **21 August 1968:** PFC James Anderson, Jr., was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by Secretary of the Navy, Paul R. Ignatius, for heroism in Vietnam while serving as a rifleman with Company F, 2d Battalion, 3d Marines in February 1967. This was the first Medal of Honor presented to an African-American Marine. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Anderson, Sr., received the award during ceremonies at Marine Barracks, 8th and I.

- **23 August 1984:** The last Marines to serve peace-keeping duty in Lebanon arrived home. The 24th Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU) arrived off the coast of Lebanon on 9 April to relieve Marines of the 22d MAU who were guarding the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. The 24th MAU left Beirut on 31 July, marking the last presence of U.S. combat troops in Beirut since Marines entered almost two years earlier.

- **24 August 1814:** Captain Samuel Miller's 100-man detachment from Marine Barracks, Washington, fought in the battle of Bladensburg for the defense of the national capital. After helping to fight back three British charges, Captain Miller was wounded and the enemy began to work around both flanks of the American force. Almost encircled, the force of sailors and Marines was forced to retire to avoid capture. The Marines lost 8 killed and 14 wounded.

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NOMINATION OF ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 2017-2018 at the August 2nd meeting

The nominating committee will present a slate of nominees for elected office at the August 2nd meeting.

Election is at the September 6th Meeting. Start 1930. your participation is welcomed!

Installation of officers: at the October 4th meeting starts 1900 light refreshments served at the conclusion of the installation conducted by officers from the Dept NJ if you would like to be nominated as detachment officer please notify John Andrews or Tom Miller before the start of the August 2nd meeting the following positions are open, Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant Norman Nutt has thrown his hat into the ring for Senior Vice Commandant.
BSA Troop 9, West Caldwell

Christopher Vega, Thomas Caracappa, Steven Ferrarese and Ian Robson

Chucky Blazures Lunch Bunch Skuttlebutt!
Starts at 1200 on the 3rd Thursday of each month

DATES AND LOCATIONS for 2017
- 17th Aug Billy's Red Room Parsippany Rd. Whippany
- 21 Sep Charlotte's Web West Clinton St. Dover NJ
- 19 Oct 1 Billy's Red Room Parsippany Rd, Whippany NJ
- 16 Nov Charlotte's Web West Clinton Street Dover NJ
- 21 Dec Black Horse Pub Rt 24 Mendham NJ

John Basilone Parade, Raritan NJ

24 September 2017: John Basilone Parade, Raritan NJ Time :1 PM:- 330: PM: - MUSTER! At the Train Station at 77 Railroad Ave & Thompson Ave Raritan NJ 08869: Detachment Sgt. Arms Tony Oszmianski will be there to meet you at 1200: parade starts at 1300.

Uniform of the day MCL Fore & Aft cover, detachment red shirt, black trousers, black shoes black socks or official MCL uniform. This parade is the only one in the United States that Honors Marines
MARINE ROSE EVENT 17 JUNE AT SHOPRITE, W.CALDWELL

The following detachment volunteers Ted Jemas, Kevin Lawless, Jack Brenneis, Dave Katz, Bill Freeman and event coordinator Bob Stalzer during a steady rain most of the day. collected $1700 in donations from the very generous & friendly Shop Rite customers and employees.

A heartfelt thanks Marines, from the many veterans that will be recipients of the financial assistance from the Marine Rose fund donations.

The Marine Corps League has a New Chief Operating Officer...

From: “Modzelewski Tony” The Marine Corps League has a New Chief Operating Officer...

Mr. Robert J. Borka has accepted the offer from the Board of Trustees to become our new Chief Operating Officer of the National Marine Corps League effective 1 July 2017. Commandant Richard Gore and the Board of Trustees welcome Mr. Borka aboard and look forward to working with him during our restructuring of the League.

We also want to thank Mr. Tom Hazlett for his service and leading the League through the past couple of years. We wish Tom success in his next endeavor.

Please share this with your Division officers and Detachments. Semper Fidelis,

Wendell W. Webb
National Senior Vice Commandant
Marine Corps League

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MARINE ROSE DONATION COLLECTION EVENT

1. MARINE ROSE DONATION COLLECTION EVENT and 2. Bimonthly breakfast and visit at VA hospital. Yes 2 events in one day!

1. On June 24th at Shop Rite of Chester the following detachment volunteers had a great day: Jimmy Heien, John Andrews, Bob Stalzer, Ted Jemas, Tony Fiorentino, Bob Dante, Kevin Lawless, Don Campbell, Ed Moscahiello, Bill Freeman. They were welcomed by the very generous customers and employees of Shop Rite who donated $1443.64.

The donations collected at these Marine ROSE EVENTS fund the bimonthly visits to the VA hospital Lyons Campus Community Care Center.

2. On Saturday, June 24 Slattery Detachment members drove to the Lyons VA facility nursing home. There they presented a breakfast to the male and female veterans who preside there. There were 10 Slattery members and about 25 veterans. Dan Danzi and the members brought donuts, hard rolls with butter or cream cheese, bananas, crumb buns, some sugar-free cakes and cupcakes, coffee and orange juice. Dan purchased a new coffee pot which he gave them as their coffee pots was in need of replacement. Over $200 in PX money cards were also distributed for them to use at the local PX. When we were finished: 6 members decided to drive over to Chester to help with the Rose Outing now thats the way to go! Senior Vice Commandant Thank you to our great volunteers at both events A great team effort by all Tom Miller Senior Vice Commandant

NEWLY ELECTED DEPARTMENT of NJ COMMANDANT

WE ARE PLEASED TO INTRODUCE COMMANDANT DOUGLAS RATTIZZI

Members and detachment officers. Take the time to browse through the Department NJ Web site. There is a lot of Department information for you to familiarize yourself with. All the newly elected and appointed officers and department staff are listed with their contact info. All committees are listed. You will find online forms to print.

Check out the various programs PLUS news and pictures, so much to browse through. There is really a wealth of information. Other detachment newsletters are posted. Read and see what your fellow Marines are up to. You will be surprised as to the many various activities and programs the MCL is involved with. Click Here: Dept NJ MCL
Change of Command and Awards Ceremony for the Civil Air Patrol
Curtiss - Wright Composite Squadron

I had the honor and privilege of attending the Change of Command and Awards Ceremony for the Civil Air Patrol Curtiss - Wright Composite Squadron and handing out coins for all the cadets Note the Major I’m with is Major Rogacki

Subject: [NJ073] Photo Gallery from NJ073 Cadet Change of Command and Awards Ceremony Thanks to Mr. Keith Behrle for taking the photos. Downloads are free.


New Cadet Commander Charles Marashlian
Mitchell Awardees: Nicolas Galup and Robert Toth
Major Rogacki

VA Secretary Formalizes Expansion of Emergency Mental Health Care

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 27, 2017

VA Secretary Formalizes Expansion of Emergency Mental Health Care to Former Service Members

WASHINGTON — Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today released finalized plans that lay the framework for providing emergency mental health coverage to former service members with other-than-honorable (OTH) administrative discharges.

This is the first time a VA Secretary has implemented an initiative specifically focused on this group of former service members who are in mental health distress.

"Suicide prevention is my top clinical priority," said Secretary Shulkin, also a physician. "We want these former service members to know there is someplace they can turn if they are facing a mental health emergency — whether it means urgent care at a VA emergency department, a Vet Center or through the Veterans Crisis Line."

Effective July 5, all Veterans Health Administration (VHA) medical centers will be prepared to offer emergency stabilization care for former service members who present at the facility with an emergent mental health need. Under this initiative, former service members with an OTH administrative discharge may receive care for their mental health emergency for an initial period of up to 90 days, which can include inpatient, residential or outpatient care.

During this time, VHA and the Veterans Benefits Administration will work together to determine if the mental health condition is a result of a service-related injury, making the service member eligible for ongoing coverage for that condition.

Since Secretary Shulkin announced his intent in March to expand VA mental health coverage to service members with OTH administrative discharges, VA has worked with key internal and external stakeholders, including members of Congress, Veterans Service Organizations and community partners on the issue.

Veterans in crisis should call the Veterans Crisis Line at 800-273-8255 (press 1), or text 838255.
Veterans and their families stand in line to board the Miss Lotta

LAKE HOPATCONG: NJ Veterans and their families stand in line to board the Miss Lotta on Saturday morning. The owners of Lake Hopatcong Cruise Line honored veterans from the lake's border towns — Jefferson, Mount Arlington, Roxbury and Hopatcong — with a two-hour complimentary cruise around the lake. Each of the four towns nominated 24 veterans and their quests for a tour of the Lake. We gave gift bags to all veterans as they were welcomed aboard by ships captain Lee Moreau. Mario & Dom Monaco

Bowie Knife

Saturday, May 08, 1965 - PFC Greer and I take “Liberty” and go to “Mainside” PX where Greer buys a “Jim Bowie” knife. The sucker is a foot long and in a nice scabber. From Oceanside we take a bus into Oceanside and decide to walk south about 2 - 2.5 miles along Oceansides main Highway 101. There are stores to look in and the walk is refreshing. This is early afternoon and it’s too early to sit in a bar and drink Coors Beer.

We start our walk south on the western side of the highway and after about an hour of looking at store fronts we make our turn and head back north towards the downtown area. The end of our walk at the turn-a-round starts the residential area of Oceanside with nice houses and bush boarders. The highway is 6 lanes wide and another lane for parking on both side of the road. From the parking lane there is a 3’ section of “grass” and then the sidewalk we are on. It's a bright, warm weekend afternoon with the temperature about 75 degrees with no clouds and a beautiful blue sky.

As we walk along heading north cars go by in a normal thing. One heading south yells out. We wave with our arms high. A short time later the same car, a brand-new 1965 Chrysler 4-door, I believe, pulls along the curb. There are three high school male students in it making snide remarks. We told them to “Fudge off.” With that they said something but in a mumbled slur. We said, “What?” and came towards the car. At that moment the guy in the rear seat tried to pull out a baseball bat and get it on the outside of the car. It took him several seconds and Greer said, “Watch out, he’s got a bat.” With that we both backed up as they were in the car and we were out of range. The fellow in the rear seat swung but missed us by several feet.

We exchanged comments with them saying things about faggots in the Marine Corps and us taunting them about being in their “daddy’s car.” I said to Greer, “Give me your knife.” He said, “No, I don’t want that kind of trouble.” I said, “Trust me, I know what I’m doing.” With that he reached in the shopping bag and handed it to me in its scabber. I showed it to the three of them and with that they said, “What do you think you are going to do with that you #1@$$% idiot?” as they laughed.

I said, “I’ll show you.” as I grabbed it by the scabber and took several steps towards the car’s rear as the punk swung the bat while hanging out the window and swearing. When I reached the trunk area I raised my left arm with the knife in hand and brought the gripping knob down hard on the trunk producing a beautiful deep dent. I did this several times and left 4 to 6 dents in the trunk before the guy floored the car and took off. “Show that to your dad.” We finished up our walk and had some beers before returning to Las Pulgas.

Semper Fi, Tom Miller
L/Cpl Robert J Slattery

Last week during our monthly meeting the L/Cpl Robert J Slattery Detachment # 206, Marine Corps League of Whippany, NJ honored and remembered the namesake of our Detachment who was KIA 50 years ago on 6 July 1967. A few members of our Detachment, some Slattery family members and two Marines from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines who were with him when he was killed met at the cemetery. I said a few words, Father Mike Hanley said a prayer and we then placed a flower arrangement at his gravesite.

At 7:00pm we met at the American Legion Post 155 for our Detachment's monthly meeting and continued to honor and remember him after placing a wreath at the monument with his name. In attendance, we had many members of the Detachment, Slattery family members, two Marines who served with him in Viet Nam and two of us who were in the same Platoon in Boot Camp 51 years ago at Parris Island, SC. It was a great night and I will make sure "WE" never forget him.

It's in Robert's honor that the Morris County Detachment of the Marine Corps League in Whippany, New Jersey was issued a Charter and renamed the L/Cpl. Robert J. Slattery Detachment on August 30th, 1967. Our Charter states that our Organization was renamed in memory of those Marines who by their deeds and heroism have set the Standard that is our guide today. Please take a moment to honor this Marine and local Hero who lost his life defending our Freedom and the Freedom of those who cannot do it alone.

Continued Next Page
A bronze Plaque and stone monument will be placed at the Whippany, town hall in the coming weeks after it has been completed. Detachment member Tom Miller put a lot of time and effort in the design and placement of the plaque and monument. Picture is included.

I heard this comment from the sister of a Soldier at the Viet Nam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC and who was speaking this past Memorial Day. Her brother’s name is on the wall, like Robert's. She said, “Wars are started and they are ended, But, they are NEVER over”, And at times like this tonight, those words are so true.

Semper Fidelis,
Eddie

At the Cemetery

To Honor the 50th Anniversary death of LCpl Robert J Slattery KIA Vietnam on July 6th 1967

On July 6th there was a small meeting at the Gates of Heaven Cemetery to honor our detachment namesake. The gathering went well with 5 or 6 members of the Slattery family there along with several of Robert's Marine friends who were with Robert in Vietnam. Father Mike gave a very moving prayer and seven members (Anthony Fiorentino, Jimmy Heien, Eddie Moscriello, Eddie Neas, Art Bowie, Tom Miller and Father Mike Hanly) of the detachment in attendance. Michael Slattery took some pictures and some early life stories and boot camp/Vietnam remembrances of Robert were told. Eddie Neas brought a collage of the military history of Robert which he presented to the family. Eddie also laid a beautiful wreath with an Eagle, Globe and Anchor in the center of flowers. It was a beautiful day honoring LCpl Robert J. Slattery.

Tom Miller
My name is Douglas Rattazzi and I am your Department Commandant

Marines,

My name is Douglas Rattazzi and I am your Department Commandant. I would like to tell you a little about myself for those who do not know me already.

I served in the Marine Corps from 1959-1965 and experienced many different aspects of military life starting with 19 months at Marine Barracks NAS Port Lyautey Morocco. This was followed by duty at 8th & I Barracks Washington DC, assigned to the Office of the Commandant (Davis M. Shoup) at Navy Annex Henderson Hall. I was assigned to CG 2nd MAW Cherry Pont, and then TAD NAS Boca Chica, Key West Florida with VMF (AW) 531, with two deployments on the USS Okinawa.

As a civilian I was in sales for most of my career starting with Pitney Bowes in New York City. I owned my own office equipment company in Central Jersey and finally worked for a fund raising company, Entertainment Publications, as a Regional Sales Manager for Community and Corporate Fundraising for the New York / New Jersey Metro area, retiring in 2004.

I joined the John Basilone Detachment in 2003 not really knowing what I was getting involved with, other than my love of the Corps and all that it stands for. I was recruited to a very active Honor Guard, and took part in so many parades, funerals, ceremonies and events that I felt like I was back on active duty again. I assumed the responsibilities for their monthly newsletter and computerized it for a more professional look. My first job with the department was as Assistant Web Master. I was asked to teach the importance of a proper military funeral at our Leadership School in Sea Girt, and continued doing this for several years. I now instruct on the duties and responsibilities of the Judge Advocate.

In 2009 I was elected Commandant of the Basilone Detachment serving till 2011. I transferred to the Cape Atlantic Detachment in 2013 after moving to South Jersey. I was asked to run for a Department position in 2013 and was elected to the Judge Advocate position, and for two years I really learned about our Rules and Procedures. In 2015 I was elected Junior Vice and handled the organization and scheduling of the Department Convention for two years (2016-2017) along with a multitude of other duties assisting the Commandant. In 2017 our Senior Vice Don Mack announced that due to personal health issues he would not seek the Commandant position, which put me in as the next candidate for the position of Department Commandant.

After living in Somerset, New Jersey for 37 years, my wife Carol and I moved to Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey. We have two daughters and six grandchildren.

I look forward to two very active years as your Commandant, and am honored to represent the Department of New Jersey and the Marine Corps League at many public events. My goal, along with my team of officers and staff, is directing our growth as a League in New Jersey. I also look forward to visiting as many of the Detachments in New Jersey as time and travel permit.

Semper Fi,

Doug Rattazzi

Department Commandant

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John Kovalcik Past National Commandant send get well card

If any one would like to send PNC John Kovalcik a card it can be mailed to:

Georgetown Healthcare
2715 South Island Road
Georgetown, SC 29440
The Wall

View photos at: www.mclslatterydet.org/photos/yr2017/namwall/

Marines, Join Slattery Team Here 🐘