

Marine Corps League



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13 February 2016

Greetings All.

The minutes of the Donald Cook Detachment 01/21/2016 meeting are attached. Snail Mail versions (12 total) are expected to be in the mail shortly. *That's one fewer than last month. Another member is able to receive the newsletter and minutes by email. Thanks for saving the paper and postage.*

Reminders:

- ✓ Toys For Kids: Toy barrels and coin cans are all put away until next year, but the planning for next season is in the works. Oct-Nov-Dec 2016. Be mindful as to how you might like to help out & be a part of it.
- ✓ Next meeting of the Donald Cook Detachment of the Marine Corps League – 18 February 2016, 1800 Hours @ the VFW Post 6689, 73 Pearl Street, Essex Jct., VT. Main course: Meatloaf (*we'll see*).
- ✓ Meals at the regular monthly meetings: Please send me your meal preferences/suggestions (*email, snail mail & phone numbers above*).
- ✓ Membership: Every organization faces this issue in one way or another, and for a variety of reasons. Last year our numbers dropped significantly – too many funerals, and members moving from the area. Big, big losses for 2015. We need to always be 'recruiting.' That's the only way we'll be able to sustain our mission capability. I'll give you an example. Years ago (hate to think how long ago it was) a recruiter in Burlington may have signed me up, processed me through the paperwork and the physical exam in Albany and put me on the bus towards Parris Island. But it was Marine Bill Loney and others running their mouths at work (they called it the 'Missile and Armament Department' back then) that really set the hook and got me to commit. Sometimes all it takes is a conversation, then the right timing.

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- ✓ Quad State Convention/New England Division conference (04/22/2016 - 04/24/2016 at the Best Western Manor Inn, 700 Main St, South Portland, Maine. Room Rates per night - \$84 for single, \$89 for double. Friday night buffet \$29.50/person. Saturday breakfast – on your own with coupons for free breakfast in the Ballroom. Saturday lunch – on your own. Saturday evening buffet - \$34.50/person. Sunday breakfast – on your own with coupons in the Maine Table Restaurant). Further details and a print-out from the Department of Maine will be available at our next monthly meeting 02/18/2016.
- ✓ Parades - Maple Festival – Saint Albans (04/24/2016), Memorial Day (2 locations, date TBD), Independence Day (07/04/2016, location TBD); Annual Summer Picnic @ Sandbar State Park (8/27/2016?); Marine Corps Birthday Celebration (11/12/2016).
- ✓ All Veterans! Present and on active duty. Families of Veterans and current active duty. Survivor Outreach Services. Support Coordinator: Tammie C. Schmitt. Contact through the Vermont Army National Guard, 789 National Guard Road, Bldg 1014, Colchester, VT 05446. 802-338-3398. Email: Tammie.c.schmitt.ctr@mail.mil.
- ✓ Drive safe. Drive defensively.

And a word from our Commandant –

All Hands –

It appears that we will be having a busy summer ahead and I would like all hands to be present at the next meeting to know what is going down as the details are worked out.

Also, Town Meeting Day is scheduled for Tuesday, 1 March 2016. I urge all hands to exercise their right to vote on this day.

James S. Chase

Semper Fidelis.

Bob Ware
Detachment Adjutant

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