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July 2009

Fred Hoekstra Detachment 141 Marine of Year

In a special ceremony in the Northampton Veteran's Hospital at Leeds, Fred Hoekstra was presented with the Detachment's Marine of the Year Citation and Medallion.

The award was announced at the July 5 Pig Roast and Family Picnic by Commandant Francis J. Curnow who brought the award to Fred at Monday, July 6, where he was undergoing treatment for cancer. He is recuperating at home.

Fred was presented the MOY award for his organizing color guards for Det. 141 parades and ceremonies and serving as a member of the Color Guard details at the Veteran's Cemetery in Agawam.



Our Marine of Year

Fred Hoekstra is presented MOY Award by Commandant Francis Curnow, R, and Past MOY JR Rutovich.



Scholarship Awards Presented

A highlight of the July 5 Pig Roast and Family Picnic was the announcement and presentation of four 2009 Detachment 141 Carl P. Butler Scholarships by Nancy Butler, Carl's widow. From left to right Are: Marie J. Allie of Westfield \$250.; Andrew J. Fontaine of Holyoke, \$500.; Shayna Davilli, Suffield, Conn., \$250.; Christine J. Wzorek of Westfield; Brian Dupee, scholarship committee chairman; Mrs. Butler; and Detachment Commandant Francis J. Curnow.

Sit-down Dinner Planned To Precede July Meeting

A catered sit-down dinner will be held beginning at 1730 (5:30 pm) Monday July 13 prior to the Detachment's monthly meeting.

Commandant Francis J. Curnow said the dinner is the first in a series designed to give members to interact and to promote comradeship. "It will give us a chance to get to know each other."



Under Construction

Detachment 141's new booth at the Westfield Fairgrounds is nearing completion thanks to Chaplain Dan Bishop, project clerk-of-the-works.

Commandant's Corner

Hallelujah! We have made it through the 4th of July and a smashing good Pig Roast!! Our keeper of records has advised me that we had over 200 Marines , guests etc.

Special guests included State Rep. Don Humason from Westfield, NVDV Gore and our scholarship awardees. Nancy Butler assisted Brian Dupee and myself with their awards.

Kudos to Dan and Bev Bishop on the early arrival ..ice and set up team. Did anyone notice that fantastic new Marine booth that Dan has led the way on? Only need

some painting / staining volunteers to finish the job. Javish Garcia (new member) has volunteered to do some special mural work on the booth..stand by for his ideas. Many thanks to all who served on the chow line..Brian D, Mike Burke, Bill Garen ,Bill Chandler ,Jack Ramsey, Peggy Gary and YM Chris Roy. And special thanks to my own better half ,Gail M. for the raffle table and all the deserts that were enjoyed by all ..Also the cookies by Sue Redfern and a mighty good job with e 50-50 by Sue & Mike Redfern. Fred Hoekstra was announced as



Commandant Francis J. Curnow

Fred was unable to be at the event since he had just undergone chemo treatments and surgery from which he is in the recovery mode at home.

On Monday July 6, JR, and I were able to join with Fred's wife Bev and drive to VA Leeds for a medical follow up . Brian D and Joe Mucha were able to join us and present Fred with his MOY plaque and medallion.

Fred has been in this battle now for some time and yet has carried on at many of our parade and honors details while still serving at the Agawam Veteran's cemetery. Your prayers and support are welcomed at this difficult time.

JR advises that all calendar cards were successfully accounted for and that this was an excellent turn out.

Also nice was Bridget Gore's win on the 50-50 of \$235 which she turned back to the Detachment with a challenge to Rep. Humason to match it which he generously did. What a team!!

Multi-thanks and apologies to John Haley and Joann Newsome for their work at the Memorial day picnic. Semper Fi, Fran C.



Polish Scouts

More than 100 Boy and Girl Scouts of Polish decent spent two weeks at Camp Stanica in the Bondsville section of Palmer. Above and at right, the Scouts interacted with Detachment 141 Marines and two active duty U.S. Marines. Top photo shows, John Rudovich, Polish Scout Commandant Francis Herzod, Matt Knas, L/Cpl. Marcos Mateo and Det. 141 MCL Commandant Francis Curnow, also shown at right.



July Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following Detachment 141 members who celebrate their birthday's this month: July 2

- George Daley July 4
- Richard Stone July 7
- Robert Duffy July 9
- Sean P. Sullivan July 10
- Frederic Hoekstra July 11
- Robert Farrell July 11
- Leila Connolly July 14
- Santiago Bustos July 15
- Barry Szymojko July 15
- Tom Walsh July 15
- Brian Whitten July 19
- Justin Gelgut July 20
- Ella Balchunas July 22
- Chester Brown III July 25
- Richard Nunes July 26
- Frederick Hathaway July 29
- William H. Hassard Jr July 31



2009-2010 State Officers

A retired Dennis police officer was elected the new Mass. Dept. Marine Corps League Commandant at its 73 annual convention at Hyannis in June. Above, outgoing Commandant Robert Delong, right front, of Southbridge presents the gavel of office to Joseph Summers of South Dennis. Other newly elected officers include, from left to right: Francis J. Curnow of Agawam, financial officer; Dominick Ricci of Waltham, financial officer; Bernie Heaney of Baldwinsville, junior vice commandant; Paul Porter of Lunenburg, senior vice commandant; Warren Griffin of Holliston, financial officer; JR Rutovich of Agawam, financial officer; and Phil Sullivan of South Orleans, finance chairman. (MCL photo by Matt Knas)

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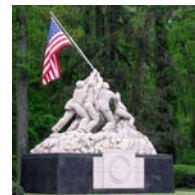
Photo Editor Matt Knas



Quiz

This sign is a replica of one that marked Tun Tavern in Philadelphia in 1775. Where is this sign located?

Last Months Quiz
 Where is this Iwo Jima Memorial Located. Answer: New Marine Corps Museum, Quantico, Va.



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2009 Pig Roast Festivities

More than 200 Marine veterans and families turned out for the third annual Pig Roast and Family picnic Sunday, July 5, at the Westfield included awards, raffles with plenty to eat and drink.

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