

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Westfield River Valley Detachment 141
71 North Elm Street
Westfield, MA 01085-1619
Phone & FAX 413- 562-4850
Meetings 2nd Monday of every month
www.mclwrv141.com
SEMPER FIDELIS

Minutes of Monthly Meeting 9 December, 2019

OPENING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1903 hours, posted the Colors, and led the detachment members in the Pledge of Allegiance; the acting Chaplain then read the opening prayer after which the Sergeant-at-Arms declared the meeting open for official business. Fourteen regular members and four associate members were present on a cold, wet, foggy night.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Board of Trustees		
Commandant	Keith A. Buckhout	P
Senior Vice Commandant	Joseph R. Delaney	P
Junior Vice Commandant	Sophie Bartosik	P
Judge Advocate	Christopher Cekovsky	P

Appointed Staff Officers		
Junior Past Commandant	John S. Rutovich	P
Paymaster	Roger Beer	P
Adjutant	William Federman	P
Chaplain	Lawrence Holbrook Stanley Lachtara	E E
Sergeant-at-Arms	Aldo Mancini	P
Historian/Photos		P
Auditor	Sophie Bartosik	P
Public Relations	Trudy Tynan	A
Scuttlebutt Editor	Roger Beer William Federman	P P
Web Sergeant	Carriann D. Bailey	P
Armorer	Chris Cekovsky	P
Color Guard	Keith Buckhout	P
Quartermaster	Chris Cekovsky	P

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Past commandants							
Brian P. Dupee	P	Francis J. Curnow	P	Joseph C. Willis		Steven Snow	
Donald E. Wielgus		Daniel Bishop	P	Joseph F. Mucha		John S. Rutovich	P

Distinguished Citizen awards were presented to Chris Cekovsky and Keith Buckhout, and also to Peter Pitoniak, who was not present, for their tireless and ongoing work in promoting the interests of Detachment 141. It was also announced that Stan Lachtara has been selected as the detachment's Marine of the Year. Because Stan's health is fragile his award will be presented to him at his home.

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved without revision.

CORRESPONDENCE: Two letters were received, an acknowledgment from the American Cancer Society of our past donations and a solicitation for more funds; and a thank-you card from Carrieann Bailey for the detachment's help after a fire ravaged her family's house.

SICK OR IN DISTRESS: Carrieann Bailey's house is still uninhabitable and she and her family are in temporary accommodations; Stan Lachtara's serious health problems continue; John Knapik is in failing health and is having difficulty getting into a care facility; Tom Pirnie had neck surgery; Bob Peloquin reports that Life Member William Kana is now a resident of the Holyoke Soldiers Home.

REPORT OF THE PAYMASTER: Report for November was accepted unanimously. Paymaster Beer reported that national headquarters is not keeping our membership information up to date, despite repeated pleas.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS (those not listed had nothing to report or were absent or excused):

Commandant: Detachment members who participated in the Westfield Pearl Harbor Day ceremony were thanked; the detachment Christmas party for kids is set for December 15; the annual skate party will be on December 27; Tom Pirnie delivered a check from the detachment to the Shriners Hospital.

Junior Past Commandant: A celebration of Richard Gore's life will be held in Worcester. Gore is a past MCL national commandant and a former Massachusetts State Trooper.

Armorer: Ceremonial rifles have been cleaned and are accounted for.

VAVS: Christmas party preparations are underway; the Marine Corps birthday party with cake and ice cream was a big success.

Holyoke Soldiers Home: The Christmas party will be held on Dec. 17 and the Young Marines will help pass out gifts; assistance is needed from detachment members to fill the gift bags.

Paper City Young Marines: Eighteen Young Marines graduated recently.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Toys for Tots will be distributing the toys that have been collected, with Dec. 21 as the tentative date, at the barracks. The children's Christmas party will be held at the barracks on Dec. 15 at 10 a.m.; the skate party at Amelia Park is set for Dec. 27; JR and Aldo are working on setting up a Jingle Bell Run.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE: Commemorative pins for Vietnam veterans and Vietnam Era veterans are available from the commandant.

CLOSING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 2000 hours and the acting Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The closing statement was read and the Sergeant-at-Arms declared the proceedings closed until the next scheduled detachment meeting, on January 13, 2020.

William W. Federman
Adjutant
Westfield River Valley Detachment 141
Marine Corps League