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Marine Corps League

Scuttlebutt

Newsletter of Detachment 141, Westfield, Mass.

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February 2009

Annual Fundraiser Set For Feb. 21 At Alexander's

Westfield River Valley, Detachment 141, is holding its third annual fundraiser dinner at Alexander's Restaurant, Feeding Hills, on Saturday, February 21. from 4:30 to 7:30 pm.

Attendees will have a buffet dinner choice of stuffed loin of pork or Chicken Françoise accompanied by stir fry veggies and red roasted potatoes. Ziti and meatballs will also be offered.

"This is a major event for the detachment. We'll have live music and a raffle," Commandant Francis J. Curnow said.

Deadline for tickets is February 16 and may be purchased at Alexander's, by calling Marine Corps League headquarters on North Elm St., Westfield, at 413-562-4850 or from any member.

Hockey Game Escorts

Volunteers are needed to escort veterans' from the VA Hospital at Leeds to hockey games in Springfield. Contact VAVS Chairman Brian Dupee for information .



Detachment Booth At Bike Show

Detachment 141 , Young Marines and regular Marines staff a booth at the Big E Motorcycle Show to promote the Toy for Tots bike ride September 20. From left to right are: Det. Commandant Francis J. Curnow. Mike Redfern. YM Marine Chris Roy, Marine PFC Jerry McCool, a member of the Machine Gun Platoon at Westover Air Reserve Base and Toys for Tots Chairman Aldo Mancini. Fred Hoekstra is working in the rear. (MCL photo by Frank Real)

Mass MCL Collects \$1.6M In New Toy Value To Bring Christmas Joy to State's Needy

Toys valued at \$1,649,690 were collected by the Department of Mass., MCL's 27 detachments in conjunction with the 2008 annual Toys for Tots joint effort of the MCL and Marine Corps League.

Mass. Dept. Commandant Robert DeLong reports that the MCL Detachments throughout the state collected 164,969 new toys and actually

distributed 120,829 to needy children in the state.

"I was truly surprised and astounded at the figures reported from all Detachments in December. In true Marine fashion, you made 2008 the best ever in collections for toys for so many families," DeLong said in a letter to commandants and members of the 27 Detachments.

(Continued on Page 2)

Commandant's Corner

Only Seven more weeks 'till spring..We will survive. Super Bowl complete and Oorah Pittsburgh..unless you're an Arizona fan.
 Pound growl coming up on 8 Feb 1500 at the Barracks..See Brian for info.
 This past Tue eve. I had the pleasure of a call from Don Dorrington.. just back from a family gathering on the Left coast. Seems he was surprised with a few days escorted tour at Navy P.G. School, Monterey. From our talk , his family arranged meetings with the Marines attending ,for a lunch with the troops to a talk about his experiences . Don found himself rubbing shoulders with a Marine Maj .Gen and calling a Navy Capt. "Hey sailor !" What a guy!! For a most special part of his trip Don had the opportunity to assist in the awarding of a Bronze Star to a Marine Capt. just back from Iraq..way to go!! Don is off to




Florida for the winter... look forward to Don's safe return in the spring.
 For February Get out those tickets for the Alexander's fundraiser Entertainment and great chow for the same price Only 180 tickets available..See the accompanying article. And again for the Dogs a pack growl on March 1, 2009. at Westfield, 13:00.. Keep warm out there....
 Semper Fi, Fran Curnow

Toys for Tots Drive Exceeds 2008 Goals By MCL in 2008

(Continued from Page 1)


Toys for Tots began in 1947 when a group of Marine reservists in Los Angeles, Calif., collected and distributed 5,000 used toys to needy children.
 Because of its success the Marine Corps adopted the program and expanded it nationwide. From 1948 to 1979 the Marine reservists collected both old and new toys, repairing the former at weekend drills. In 1980, it began accepting only new toys.
 In 1996, the Commander, Marine Forces Reserve, expanded the efforts to cover all 50 states and authorized MCL Detachments to cover areas where no Reserve Center existed. DeLong reported that in addition to the new toys collected, Mass. MCL Detachments collected \$75,910 in cash that was forward to Toys for Tots headquarters in Quantico, Va. He also reported that 12,290 volunteer man hours were donated by MCL members and there are 44,000 toys remaining in the warehouse to begin the 2009 campaign.
 "Well done Marine," DeLong said.

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 WESTFIELD, MA 01085
 CELL (413) 537-3290
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Scuttlebutt
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 Commandant Francis J. Curnow 413-786-0855.
 Editor Frank G. Real, Jr. fgreal@aol.com 413- 888-2030
 Associate Editor Marc Dunne marcunne@comcast.com 413-733-1402



February 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 DD Growl Barracks 15:00	9 Monthly Meeting	10	11 Salute To Veterans at VANH	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Iwo Jima Day	20	21 Fund raiser dinner
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

**Westfield River Valley Detachment 141,
Marine Corps League
71 North Elm Street
Westfield, MA 01069**

