

# MC-LEF

### MARINE CORPS-LAW ENFORCEMENT FOUNDATION

Educating the children of those who sacrificed all

**APRIL 2018** 

#### NEWSLETTER

**ISSUE #55** 























19TH ANNUAL PHILLY GALA SEE PAGE 4



1st Annual MC-LEF Texas Dinner SEE PAGE 36





New MC-LEF Officers 6th Annual Brescome Barton Golf/Dinner



**BASILONE PARADE** 

#### MOH RECIPIENTS ARE HONORED AT 2018 SUPER BOWL LII SEE PAGE 24



GARDEN STATE GOLF



LAKE LAS VEGAS GOLF



LONG ISLAND GOLF CLASSIC

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Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation

#### **OUR MISSION**

The Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation (MC-LEF) provides educational assistance to the children of fallen United States Marines and federal law enforcement personnel. Since our founding in 1995, MC-LEF has awarded over \$73 million in scholarships and other humanitarian assistance, and supported over 3,900 children.

MC-LEF relies on the commitment of volunteers and generous donors across the country, who organize events, provide financial support and recruit others to our cause. With only one part-time employee, MC-LEF is sustained by a network of people who believe that the brave men and women who protect our country and our communities deserve to have their families protected as well.

Thanks to our generous donors, MC-LEF is currently able to place a \$30,000 savings bond in a scholarship account for every child who loses a parent serving in the United States Marine Corps or any federal law enforcement agency. In recent years, we have expanded our mission to provide medical equipment and financial support to catastrophically wounded Marines, as well as financial support for mentally or physically disabled children of active duty Marines. In the past, MC-LEF has also aided the children of other military personnel who perished in terrorist attacks and in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

MC-LEF is an approved IRS 501 (c) 3 organization that has been recognized for its excellence and efficiency by the Independent Charities of America. 98% of all donations to MC-LEF go directly to fund our mission.

Although MC-LEF is immensely proud of our work to date, there is still much to be done to support the families of America's Marines and federal law enforcement personnel. Please visit www.mc-lef.org to learn more and find out how you can help.

www.mc-lef.org

#### MARINE CORPS - LAW ENFORCEMENT FOUNDATION

273 Columbus Avenue • Office #10 • Tuckahoe, NY 10707

None of the MC-LEF Directors or Officers receives compensation for their services

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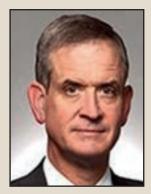
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Lou Piantadosi



## **NEW OFFICERS**

#### FOR THE

### **Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation**



John Connor MC-LEF Co-President

At the Annual Meeting on January 9th, 2018, the board elected John Connor as Co-President of the foundation. John joined the board last year after serving as the Head of the Investment Committee. John was an infantry officer with 2nd

Battalion/8th Marines having served in both Beirut and Grenada. After the Marines, John went to Wall Street and enjoyed a 30-year career there. He spent

25 years with Barclays as a Managing Director in their Interest Rates sales team. John is married to his wife Jane and has three daughters.

Also, during the meeting, the board elected a new slate of Vice Presidents, all of whom also serve as event chairmen. The new Vice Presidents are:

Anthony Boyle, Philadelphia Michael Fedorko, Atlantic City Kevin McGuire, Dallas James Mottola, New Jersey Gene Sepe, New Haven Michael Tobey, Las Vegas Kirk Tushaus, Scottsdale

## MC-LEFCOMMITMENT



Members of the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation believe that our nation's most precious resource is its youth. Their educational development is of primary importance in their becoming meaningful members of their families and of society.



Mentally or physically disabled children of the Marine Corps family may receive financial aid for medical equipment or tutoring. Scholarship bonds are provided for children of Marines who died while on active duty.

Scholarship bonds are also provided for children of Federal law enforcement personnel who died while on active duty. Special circumstances may be considered for humanitarian, death or medical cases.

Since it was founded in 1995, the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation has provided millions of dollars for the children we serve. We try to make the world a better place for the children.

CFC #10507

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# 19th Annual

#### MARINE CORPS-LAW ENFORCEMENT FOUNDATION

## PHILLY GALA

By Judge Jimmy Lynn

he humble man, who holds the 2nd most powerful job in the United States, took the phone from his ear and called to Karen, his lovely wife. "Philly! I've got to go to Philadelphia for MC-LEF! How am I going to get there"?

Mmmm? Maybe a Blackhawk helicopter; a Marine jet; Air Force One? Uh-uh!

General John F. Kelly, United States Marine Corps, (Ret.), The Chief of Staff to the President of the United States of America, drove up I-95 from Washington, D.C. to the Sugar House Casino for the 19th Annual Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation Philadelphia Gala on September 30, 2017. A crowd of over 500 waited to cheer his arrival.

The Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief was our Military Guest of Honor.

Honored and privileged we were to listen to General Kelly softly extol the virtues of military service and sacrifice. He regularly visits the graves of Marines he led in combat at Arlington and other military cemeteries around the nation. We could feel him palpably expose to us his thoughtful torment as he struggled to answer questions from the Ages. "Why do young people sign a blank check to our nation and offer their lives in order to answer to a higher calling? Why is it only one percent of this nation commits to answer that call?"

The answer came to him during one of his many visits to Arlington National Cemetery. During this visit to an Arlington grave, he was with a family friend and the pervasive questions rose again. Finally came the answer from his friend: "They do it because they love. They do it for love." In his telling of this, General Kelly obliquely mentioned, "This grave happened to be my son's." The ballroom at the Sugar House Casino was silent as these words wafted over the audience.

This was the lesson General Kelly wanted to impart to the MC-LEF audience that beautiful September night in Philadelphia. He wanted us to know how essential our support for the children of the Fallen is to those who gave all; to their loved ones left behind and to those who continue to walk in Harm's Way.



Committee member Tom Jankiewicz, Master Gunny USMC, with Presentation to Gen. Kelly.

Philadelphia MC-LEF committee member, and Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps, Lieut. General, Ronald Coleman, U.S.M.C., (Ret.), whose career took him from E-1 to O-9, introduced his old pal, General Kelly, noting that the General had been an enlisted man and rose from E-1 to O-10. This may have prompted General Kelly to remark on his promotion from Secretary of Homeland Security, a department he loved because it reminded of him of being in the Marine Corps, to Chief of Staff at the White House. He said he turned down President Trump three (3) times before accepting the assignment. On the last occasion, President Trump made the argument to General Kelly how important the job is; that he will be the second most powerful man in the country and how this would be the best job he ever had. "No, it wouldn't be Mr. President," interrupted Kelly. "What do you mean?" said the President, incredulous. "The best job I ever had was a Sergeant in the Marine Corps." The President must have loved that response and the job was Kelly's.

The humility of this man shown through the entire evening as he stood for photo after photo with well-wishers to the point of sacrificing most of his dinner to accommodate those who wanted to be near him.



## 19th Annual MC-LEF PHILLY



John Heenan presents portrait of his son, 1st Lt. Robert Kelly to General Kelly.

An emotional highlight of the evening was the presentation to General Kelly of a magnificent oil painting of his heroic son, 1st Lieutenant Robert Kelly, USMC, who was killed in action in 2010 in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. The painting shows Lieutenant Kelly in his dress blues.

MC-LEF-PHILLY's weekend's festivities began with golf on Friday at the spectacular Donald Ross designed Union League Golf Club at Torresdale. On Friday evening, there was a relaxing and casual barbeque dinner at Malta Boat Club on historic Boathouse Row. Medal of Honor recipients, Barney Barnum, Brian Thacker and Tom Kelley were on hand at Malta while Jack Jacobs arrived to be with his fellow heroes for the Gala. The ubiquitous presence of these men contributes greatly to the success of our PHILLY-MC-LEF events.

Our Semper Fidelis Award was presented to Terry Williamson, A Marine infantry officer in Vietnam where he received a Bronze Star with a V. After the war, he became a reporter and a speech writer. He later went into communications consulting with his firm, Three Diamonds Communications. Mr Williamson has been a life-long supporter of Veterans.

Our Eagle, Globe and Anchor Award was presented to Air Force Vietnam veteran, Thomas B. Fenerty. Mr. Fenerty is the President and Chief Executive Officer of NavMar Applied Sciences Corporation. His company manufactures Unmanned Air Vehicles to provide force security, intelligence and reconnaissance to SOCOM (Special Operations Command) along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. Mr. Fenerty's generosity has extended to veterans' support groups and to his alma mater, Father Judge High School where he has developed a STEM program.



John Connor, updates Gala audience on tremendous achievements by MC-LEF in 2017.



MC-LEF Co-President Detective Tim Scally, MC-LEF committee member with his family who were our hosts at Malta Boat Club on Friday night.



Terry Williams, USMC receives Semper Fidelis Award from General Kelly.



Committee member Mike Wallace and wife Judy with General Kelly pre-dinner.



Tom Fenerty and wife receive Eagle Globe and Anchor Award from General Kelly for his work helping countless veterans.

PHILLY MC-LEF is proud to announce that we raised over \$230,000.00

during 2017 for the children of the Fallen. We plan on surpassing that in 2018. We are very honored to do this work and proud of the efforts and creativity of our small committee. We are also proud of the fun we have doing it. The PHILLY-MC-LEF warrior-cry is: "Who has more fun than us? NOBODY!"

Continued on next page

Post Script: Since our Gala, Tom Fenerty, our Eagle, Globe and Anchor recipient lost his son, Thomas, Jr. in a car accident. Please keep the Fenerty family in your thoughts and prayers.



# 19th Annual MC-LEF PHILLY Continued from page 5







#### **MOH** Introductions:

Far Left: MOH recipient Barney Barnum, USMC and wife, Martha.

Center; MOH recipient Brian Thacker, US Army.

Left: MOH recipient Jack Jacobs, US Army.



General Kelly greets two longtime friends John Heenan and General Ron Coleman.



Committee members Brian Stephenson, USMC, Brian Grady and Kevin Cauley.



Special Agent Gary Rizzo and General Kelly.



Gerry "Murph" Murphy, former Jack Paulsen Awardee presents Paulsen Award to Mike Kelly for 2017.



3rd Battalion Honor Guard with General Kelly pre-dinner.



Retired Chief Justice of Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Ronald Castille. USMC, Vietnam veteran with General Kelly.



Philly Police and Fire, Pipes and Drums, welcome in our Honored Guests.



Left: Chief inspector Anthony Boyle, committee member, in full regalia of Philadelphia Pipes and Drum Honor Guard.



Committee members George Bochetto and Jim McNesby share a toddy.



# 19th Annual MC-LEF PHILLY



View from Malta Boat house on Friday night.



Denise and Dave Jordan, longtime supporters of MC-LEF and General Kelly.



General Kelly being bored by Committee member Brit Henderson, USMC before the Gala.



Committee member Chris San Jenis and wife, Diane with General Kelly.



Sam Minutola, USMC with Committee member Rich Walsh and General Kelly.



General Kelly and Committee member Kevin Cauley with Meredith McGrath.



Mary and Mike Ryan, long time supporters with General Kelly.



Post Gala Committee party. It never ends.



Committee members, Photographer Bob Castaldi, USMC and Bob McClone and Rich Cray, USMC celebrate the end of another long year with MC-LEF.





Far Left: MOH Tom Kelly and wife Joan, with MOH Brian Thacker and Committee member, Mike Reilly.

Left: Post Golf at Union League on Friday morning.



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Benefit Year	Benefits Awarded	Benefits Value
1995	32	\$ 260,300
1996	47	402,010
1997	38	350,855
1998	135	793,900
1999	133	863,637
2000	96	642,400
2001	314	1,657,600
2002	168	1,376,457
2003	402	11,019,283
2004	216	3,063,557
2005	235	3,653,564
2006	172	2,756,741
2007	232	4,973,189
2008	289	6,723,085
2009	197	4,370,942
2010	249	5,735,328
2011	200	4,791,911
2012	174	4,153,077
2013	159	3,967,874
2014	131	3,155,192
2015	132	2,954,142
2016	126	2,707,742
2017	121	2,750,807
TOTAL	3998	\$73,123,575

## Very Special Scholarship Award Presentation to Son of Terry Jentsch

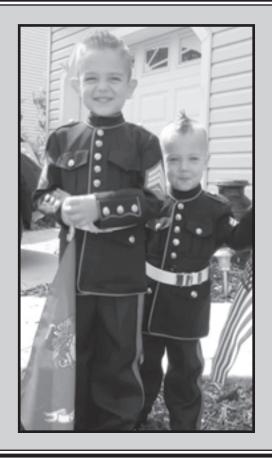


Left-Right: McGruff, GS Ozzie Goytia, GySgt. Chacon, Paola Jentsch and Sean Jentsch, SA Luis De La Cruz, ASAC Dante Sorianello, GS Todd Armstrong and TFO Knack Cox.

Scholarship funds were presented to Sean Austin Jentsch, the son of Terry Jentsch (DEA, San Antonio) on 10-27-2017 at his school, Hoffman Elementary School, New Braunfels, TX during Red Ribbon Week. Sean was presented the scholarship in front of the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classes and respective teachers and administrative staff. It was a big success. Thank you for all you all do for these families.



The whole host of people to include classmates, teachers and admin staff, National Guard personnel, local law enforcement, etc.



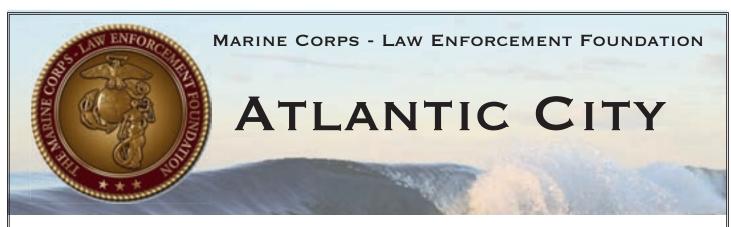
# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT...

The Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation is thankful for your committment and support of its mission.

In this world where economic changes challenge us daily, we need your help more than ever.

The greatest gift we can offer these children is to ensure that their parents' dreams of providing higher education are met.

Your contributions benefit the children of our Country's heroes, like Sgt. William Pascal, USMC. His sons, William Jr. and Reese each received a \$30,000 educational scholarship to honor their father for his service and dedication.



#### 7th Annual Cpl. Marc Ryan 5K Run/Walk Benefits MC-LEF by Lisa Spengler

The Cpl. Marc Ryan 5K Run/Walk held November 18 in Gloucester City, New Jersey, was not just a race. It was a time of reflection. It was a time to pay tribute to heroes and to show Patriotism. It was a time to show respect for our Country. It was a time to show a Gold Star Family that their son's and brother's sacrifice had not been forgotten.

It was 15 November 2004, that Cpl. Marc Ryan made the ultimate sacrifice during this, his fifth combat tour in the Battle for Ramadi, where it is said that the heaviest urban combat took place since the Battle for Hue City in Vietnam in 1968. Shortly after the terror attacks of 9-11-01, Marc served in Afghanistan completing a full deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. After a short time back in the States, he deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After returning from that deployment, Cpl. Ryan contemplated returning to civilian life, but his dedication to his fellow Marines kept him in the Corps and he deployed again to Iraq with 2/5, this time making the ultimate sacrifice.

The Atlantic City committee of the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation is extremely grateful to Bob and Cheryl Morrell for their tireless efforts in organizing this event. Each year, Bob and Cheryl give their heart and soul to find sponsors, to contact vendors and to organize all the volunteers and community groups, all to honor Marc and his family.

There is no greater tribute for all their hard work then to have a record 485 people gather together to share their memories and love of Marc while benefiting the children of our fallen heroes.

In addition to all the volunteers and organizers, runners and walkers, thank you to the families who brought their young children to participate in the Cpl. Ryan 5K Run/Walk as spectators, volunteers, runners or walkers. In today's world, our youth's involvement with activities such as the Cpl. Ryan run/walk will show them the true meaning of the word, "hero."

Please visit the new MC-LEF Atlantic City website at www.mc-lefac.org to view the pictures from this year's Cpl. Marc Ryan 5K Run/Walk and for upcoming dates on other MC-LEF Atlantic City events.



The New Jersey Gators 12U softball team out of Medford NJ, under Coach Mike Murphy, perform community service at the 5K by assisting with food distribution.



MC-LEF Atlantic City co-chair Mike DiFrancesco, MGySgt. USMC, (Ret.) Cardo Urso and his wife May with Atlantic City committee member, Jon DiFrancesco.







Pictured above: This day would never happen if it was not for ALL the incredible volunteers, coordinated by Cheryl and Bob Morrell. Bob (pictured above right) is a member of the MC-LEF Atlantic City Committee and "the man who does it all" for the Cpl. Ryan 5K. Run/Walk.



It was a family affair for the Ryan and McNally families as they get ready for the run/walk. Memories of Marc were forefront in their minds as they joined the other participants at the starting line.



It was great to have Christopher T. Isola, Chief Financial Officer for MC-LEF and a dedicated supporter of Veterans, join the Ryan family and the Atlantic City committee for the day's events. Mr. Isola is pictured with MC-LEF committee member Paul Marrandino, his wife Gail and son Dino Jr.



Always an honor to have the Camden County Police Academy Recruits as part of the 5 K Run. Great job guys and stay safe!

# Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation Atlantic City Save the Date

June 9, 2018
24th Annual Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation Gala
Tropicana Atlantic City
Join us in celebrating the 90th birthday of
General Alfred M. Gray, Jr.
The 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps
June 11, 2018
24th Annual Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation Golf Tournament
Atlantic City Country Club



## PRESS RELEASE

#### Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation Atlantic City Committee

Michael DiFrancesco, Co-Chair Michael A. Fedorko, Co-Chair

Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation Atlantic City Announces the dates for its 2018 24th Annual Gala and Golf Tournament

Contact: Lisa Spengler (609) 335-1130 mclefac@aol.com www.mc-lefac.org

Atlantic City, NJ - The Atlantic City committee of the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation announces the dates for its 2018 24th Annual Gala and Golf Tournament.

The 24th Annual Gala, featuring the 90th birthday celebration for General Alfred M. Gray, Jr., the 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, will once again be held at the Tropicana Casino & Resort Atlantic City. The date for the gala is Saturday, June 9, 2018.

The Tropicana is one of Atlantic City's premier dining, retail and entertainment properties with The Quarter as a destination experience. Please visit http://www.tropicana.net for more information on the property.

Dinner pricing remains \$175 per person. Room rates with a MC-LEF room code and reservation link will be available and provided in the formal invitation package.

The 24th Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, June 11, 2018. There will be a 9:00 a.m. shot-gun. The location remains the ever-popular Atlantic City Country Club in Northfield, NJ, owned and operated by the Ottinger Golf Group. The 2018 cost per golfer is \$250.00, which includes a newly-revised barbecue luncheon buffet following the morning tournament, plus new and exciting surprises!

Sponsorship packages, including ad sponsors for the 24th annual commemorative program book and hole sponsors for the golf tournament are available.

If you would like more information, or to be added to the emailing list for the 2018 24th Annual Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation Gala and Golf Tournament invitation package, please email Lisa at mclefac@aol.com or visit the new Atlantic City website at www.mc-lefac.org.



# 20 Year Time Capsule

Almost 20 years and still fighting the good fight ... educating the children of our fallen heroes.



1999

Left to Right: Cpl Jon DiFrancesco, USMC, Mike DiFrancesco and Eileen DiFrancesco, Pete Haas - President, MC-LEF and Cpl Jason Politte, USMC.



2017

Left to Right: Jon DiFrancesco, Mike DiFrancesco and Eileen DiFrancesco, Pete Haas and SgtMaj Jason Politte, USMC.

## Thousands attend JOHN BASILONE PARADE honoring hometown WWII hero

By Sophie Nieto-Munoz

RARITAN BOROUGH -- Thousands gathered on the sidewalks of Somerset Street waving small American flags while honoring a local World War II hero on Sunday.

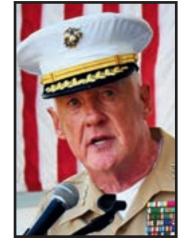
The 36th Annual John Basilone Parade featured more than 100 units marching including eight World War II veterans, a marching band that performed at President Trump's inauguration, a live rock-and-roll band and a wreath laying ceremony, honoring veterans.

The parade honors Basilone, a marine from Raritan

and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. After coming home to receive his medal for his actions during the Battle of Guadalanal, he returned to combat and was killed in action in Iwo Jima in 1945.

Family of Basilone spoke at the memorial, where a tall statue of the hero stands. Lt. General Richard Mills was the guest speaker for the event.

It's clear the American spirit is alive in this patriotic town, said Bruce Doorly,



Lt. General Richard Mills.

marketing chair for the parade. Year after year, thousands come out to honor Basilone and the veterans.

"I heard some towns had to cancel their Veteran's Day parades because of lack of interest. There's plenty of interest here," he said.

Raritan's identity is represented through Basilone's bravery and selflessness, said Doorly, a 25-year resident.

Although the parade is in Basilone's name, it allows the name of other veterans to live on as well, he said.

"Basilone has helped other vets be remembered with his story being told, it opened another avenue for other stories to be told. It keeps sacrifice in the back of people's minds," he said.

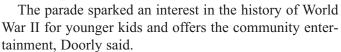
Ann Navatto, a 94-year-old, lifelong resident of Raritan, attended the parade the town held for him in 1943 and said she's proud of what the town has done for Basilone and other veterans.

"I think it's wonderful," she said. "It's a sea of humanity. It's a happy day in my life to enjoy a day like this."

was hotter than Sunday's 90 degree temperatures, but streets were just as packed, calling it a glorious day.

number of families out for the event, pointing out what Basilone and war heroes mean for the

community, even for schoolchildren.



"I mean, you can't talk about Raritan without talking about John Basilone," he said. "The whole community comes and it's a whole day event."

Sophie Nieto-Munoz may be reached at snietomunoz@njadvancemedia.com. Follow her on Twitter @snietomunoz. Find NJ.com on Facebook.

#### PHOTOS by Dawn Wilde

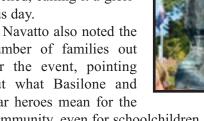








She recalls the day



Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation













# Officials Dedicate New Raritan Veterans Park

RARITAN – A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Sept. 12 at the new Veterans Park on West Somerset Street.

Veterans and members of the Basilone Parade Committee were in attendance along with state, county and municipal officials. The park is located adjacent to the statue of World War II hero John Basilone.

"This park is dedicated to all Somerset County veterans, from all branches of the military and from all wars and conflicts," said Freeholder Director Peter S. Palmer. "We thank you for your service and your sacrifice."

The Somerset County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard presented the colors at the start of the ceremony. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano.

Speakers included former Gov. Donald T. DiFrancesco, president of the Somerset County Park Commission; Sen. Michael Doherty, a West Point graduate and retired U.S. Army captain; Freeholder Brian D. Levine, veterans' services liaison; Raritan Mayor Chuck McMullin; and Basilone Committee Chairman John Pacifico. A prayer concluding the ceremony was offered by the Rev. John Rozembajgier of St. Ann's Parish.

The park consists of a landscaped semi-circle of brick pavers with nine flags representing the U.S., New Jersey, Somerset County and the branches of the service. There are three monuments as well: one recognizing all service men and women, one dedicated to all veterans from Raritan Borough, and a plaque in memory of borough men killed in action during World War I, World War II and the Korean War. The two Raritan monuments previously were located at the municipal building.

The \$293,156 contract was awarded in June to Neto Contractors Inc. of Middlesex; the design engineer was Keller & Kirkpatrick Inc. of Morris Plains. Ground was broken on Sept. 16, 2016. The project was managed by the county Engineering Division.

# Raritan Post Office to be named after John Basilone



# House passes honor for veteran who died in battle of Iwo Jima

By Mike Deak Reprinted from Central Jersey Courier News USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Raritan Borough, once called the most patriotic town in America, will have a another reminder of its hometown hero, John Basilone.

In a voice vote on Thursday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation designating the U.S. Post Office at 30 E. Somerset St. as the "Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone Post Office."

The legislation was sponsored by Rep. Leonard Lance (R-District 7) and supported by the state's Congressional delegation.

In a speech before colleagues in the House, Lance recounted the many honors Basilone earned in service to the country and asked the House to support his measure to inspire future service in Basilone's tradition.

"Gunnery Sergeant Basilone is an exemplar of brave service in our Armed Forces and a member of the greatest generation whose collective bravery and selflessness won World War II and liberated millions from oppression," Lance said. "In Congress, there are many actions we take to honor and remember those who serve our Nation. These commendations matter. Younger generations ask whose name is inscribed in monuments, at flag posts or on federal properties. And in retelling these stories we inspire young Americans to appreciate the generations that came before in public service. And Gunnery Sergeant Basilone indeed has a tremendous story."

Lance told the lawmakers about Basilone's decision first to enlist in the Army and later his enlistment in the Marine Corps. Lance recited the details of Operation Watchtower, where Basilone and his fellow Marines sought to regain ter-



Rep. Leonard Lance's bill to name the Raritan Borough Post Office after World War II hero John Basilone was passed Thursday by the House of Representatives. Joining Lance is Basilone's niece, Kim Van Note, one of the founders of the Basilone Memorial Foundation.

(Photo: - Office of Rep. Leonard Lance)

ritory in Guadalcanal in the Pacific Theater. And Lance recounted the specific citations that earned Basilone the Medal of Honor.

"In a moment of selfless service to his fellow Marines, Gunnery Sergeant Basilone endured brutal enemy fire during the assault to assist nearby machine gunners in trouble," Lance said. "Seeing the immediate danger, Gunnery Sergeant Basilone killed eight encroaching Japanese soldiers and quickly provided aid and equipment to the pinned Marines. He saved many lives that day and in later testimony his fellow Marines credited Gunnery Sergeant Basilone's gallantry and heroic conduct for saving their lives — actions that would earn him the Medal of Honor in recognition of his actions at Guadalcanal."

Lance also spoke of the tour of duty where Basilone lost his life and posthumously earned the Navy Cross.

"Gunnery Sergeant Basilone and his men stormed the shores of Iwo Jima with the first wave of Marines on Feb. 19, 1945. The Japanese returned heavy fire," Lance said. "Gunnery Sergeant Basilone ran toward one of the block-

houses — the source of Japanese fire - and quickly destroyed it with grenades and demolitions. After this, he scrambled to rescue an American tank that was trapped in a minefield.

"But in a moment that will forever live on in our hearts, Gunnery Sergeant Basilone and a handful of his fellow Marines were then hit by heavy mortar fire. He died alongside the brave men who stepped forward to serve this country and the men who he wanted to return to battle to protect and defend."

Basilone was the only Marine of World War II to receive both the Medal of Honor and the Navy Cross.

Kim Van Note, Basilone's niece and a founder of the Basilone Memorial Foundation, thanked the lawmakers for their action.

renaming of this Post Office will stand as a testament, and as a monument to the ultimate sacrifice my uncle and so many other American soldiers have made. I am grateful that so many were involved, especially Congressman Lance, with honoring and recognizing the service of my uncle to his country.

> "It is my hope that others will look upon the newly renamed Raritan Post Office and be inspired to serve their country as loyally and faithfully as my uncle, Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone," Van Note said.

The measure now heads to the U.S. Senate.

Every year the borough hosts a parade in September to honor Basilone and all other veterans. There is also a statue of Basilone at the west end of Somerset Street and the bridge over the Raritan River connecting Raritan and Hillsborough is named after him.

In addition, the athletic field at Bridgewater-Raritan High School

is named after Basilone, where the annual Basilone Bowl high school all-star game is played.

> Staff Writer Mike Deak: 908-243-6607; mdeak@mycentraljersey.com



Col. Lou Piantadosi, USMC (Ret.) (Center) joins Reserve Marines for photo op. Reserve Marines provide support for the Basilone parade.



Left: Herb Patullo, Grand Marshall of Basilone parade with W.O. Nick Di Andrea, USMCR, whose troops provided support for the parade.

# BRESCOME BARTON CHARITY GOLF OUTING



Monday, September 18th was one of those glorious Fall mornings where sunshine lit up the greens at the New Haven Country Club making the course look like it was sprinkled with diamonds! The real diamonds are the Brescome Barton volunteers. These amazing folks were hard at work making sure everyone had a wonderful day. Our MC-LEF crew of Sue Boulhosa, Leslie Sepe and Diane Vezza worked the event, but as is the case every year, Mia and her team left us little to do. Ms. Mia Ginter, Mrs. Paula Demery, Ms. Nancy Melocowsky and, of course, Mr. Gene Sepe had everything ready to go. The golf pros and staff at the New Haven Country Club were all set.

The Brescome outing is one of our premier outings and the guests are well fed. The day starts with a spread of bacon, egg and cheese sandwiches, smoothies, fruit and assorted breads. A delicious BBQ Lunch is a served on the course. When the golfers finish playing, they are treated to a magnificent cocktail hour complete with a raw bar and hors d'oeuvres. A sumptuous dinner follows.



Presentation of colors.

The golfers began to roll in and there were so many familiar faces who have come every year. The New Haven I&I staff sent a Color Guard – Corporal Franklin Downing, USMC, Sergeant Thomas Hecht, USMC, Corporal Nathan Lochowski, USMC, and Corporal Brian Drury, USMC arrived – sharp and looking great as always! After their presentation of the Colors, Gene Sepe

addressed the golfers and thanked everyone for coming out to support MC-LEF.

Great rounds of golf ensued. This year, Robert's Dodge donated a Dodge Challenger to be awarded to a lucky golfer who hit a "hole in one". One of the golfers





Guests gather for dinner after a day of golf and listen to speakers welcoming and thanking them for their support of the foundation.

came within inches – very exciting for that moment in time!

At about 3:00 p.m. the golfers began coming in from the course amidst laughter and good-natured teasing. The cocktail hour was held on the patio overlooking the beautiful course. It truly was a beautiful evening. Before long, everyone was invited into the dining room for the program to begin. After a welcome and thank you from Brescome Barton President and CEO, Gene Sepe, MC-LEF Chairman, Jim Kallstrom offered his thanks and gave a brief update on the Foundation. Jim invited Foundation Executive Director, Sue Boulhosa to the podium. Sue reiterated her thanks for the continued loyal support from Brescome and all the familiar faces in the audience. She explained that MC-LEF had named the scholarships for the children of Major Caine Michael Goyette, USMC the Brescome



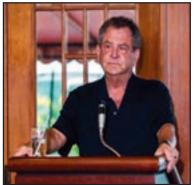


Far left: Mike Hayes addresses the crowd.

Left: Mia Ginter receives special thanks for all of her efforts ensuring the success of the Brescome Barton Charity Golf Outing.

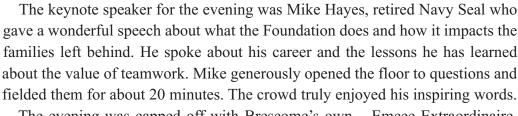
Far left center: MC-LEF Chairman, Jim Kallstrom gives update on the foundation.

Far left bottom: Larry Kochiss, calling the raffles which raise funds for the foundation.



#### **BRESCOME BARTON** - Continued from page 18

Barton Special Scholarships. Major Goyette, USMC died in the tragic KC 130 crash that occurred in July, 2017. Major Goyette was stationed at Stewart's Airforce Base in New York just across the river from New Haven. Sue wanted the supporters to know that his two little girls, Alexandrea and Annalise would know that their Connecticut friends cared about them and wanted to make a difference in their lives.



The evening was capped off with Brescome's own – Emcee Extraordinaire, Larry Kochiss – calling the raffles. As usual, Larry had the audience in stitches. The event was another enormous success and we at MC-LEF cannot begin to thank Gene Sepe and the Brescome family for their continued support. The 6th annual outing raised over \$100,000.00 putting their support over the last six years to over half a million dollars! Thank you to all who supported this outing!



# MC-LEF - Making a DIFFERENCE...

MC-LEF has supported our fallen heroes and their families through educational bonds and other financial resources.

Here are just a few acts of charity MC-LEF committed to last year...

- The sons of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agent Jose "Joey" Barraza, who was fatally struck by a tractor-trailer on his way home in his government vehicle near Fort Hancock, Texas.
- The three children of Deportation Officer (DO) Brian P. Beliso, who was found unresponsive following a foot pursuit while conducting Fugitive Operations in Redwood City, California.
- The four children of Border Patrol Agent (BPA) Manny Alvarez who suffered a fatal accident while responding to criminal activity on the border.
- The two children of Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) Agent De'Greaun Frazier who was shot and killed during an undercover drug buy in Jackson, TN as part of an ongoing DEA investigation targeting violent drug offenders.

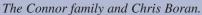


### **MC-LEF Sponsors**

#### Marine Corps Marathon and 10K Race team

On Sunday, October 22, 2017 The Marine Corps Law - Enforcement Foundation sponsored a team to run in the Marine Corps Marathon and 10K Race. On an unseasonably warm, sunny day, 45 MC-LEF runners left the starting corrals by Arlington National Cemetery to run 26.2 miles through our nation's capitol. The team was comprised of secret service agents, local law enforcement (from the Clarkstown, NY Police Department) and friends of the foundation. While the marathon was starting, the 10K Race began from the mall and eight MC-LEF members ran the final 6.2 miles of the Marathon course. Both finished at the Iwo Jima Memorial where Second Lieutenants from The Basic School welcomed finishers with a sharp salute and a commemorative medal. After the race, finishers congregated at the MC-LEF tent at the Charity Village to have refreshments and rest weary limbs. This was our second year at the marathon and we look forward to an even larger team next year when the race is held on Sunday, October 28th.







Marathon finishers.



### **Help Us Help Marines!**

Designate CFC #10507

"The Independent Charities Seal of Excellence (Best of the CFC) is awarded to the members of Independent Charities of America and Local Independent Charities of America that have, upon rigorous independent review, been able to certify, document, and demonstrate on an annual basis that they meet the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. These standards include those required by the U.S. Government for inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign, probably the most exclusive fund drive in the world. Of the 1,000,000 charities operating in U.S. today, it is estimated that fewer than 50,000, or 5 percent, meet or exceed these standards, and of those, fewer than 2,000 have been awarded this Seal."

CFC is Combined Federal Campaign

## America Needs More Marine Corps Values

#### by Mark Shields

(written in 2010, but truer now than ever)

A half a century ago, I spent the longest 13 weeks of my life at an out-of-the-way place called Parris Island, S.C., then and now the home of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot.

We were strangers who arrived there in the middle of the night and were immediately relieved of all our civilian clothing and possessions - including our hair. Standing there confused, apprehensive and bald, I remember asking myself over and over: What the hell am I doing here?

Then silently appeared in our midst a man in a starched uniform and polished boots brimming with self-confidence and a sense of command. This was the Marine drill instructor, the DI, who did not conceal his disgust with what he saw in us. I can still hear him that we were the sorriest collection of misfits and rejects he or anyone else had ever seen.

What followed was 90 days of splendid misery. Civilian habits, speech and attitude were marched and drilled and driven out of us. The DI was relentlessly democratic. He treated everyone on our platoon, 189, with equal contempt while double-timing us 12 hours a day from mess duty to the rifle range and back. He used his personal term of endearment to remind us, "Maggot, remember, you volunteered to be here."

Somehow after more than three months of no Cokes, no beer, no TV and not even a day off, the DI, by then our Ultimate Authority Figure, reluctantly conceded that just possibly, maybe someday, we might actually be Marines. The combination of joy, relief and pride was unmatched.

I was not a great Marine. I never saw combat. I got a lot more from the Marines than the Marines got from me. But I believe fervently that this nation today needs the values of the Marine Corps as much as the nation needs the Marine Corps.

Of course, honor, courage and commitment are always in short supply, But the Marines teach personal responsibility and accountability by example, that any chain is only as strong as the weakest individual link. As a unit we are stronger working together than the individual members can separately be. Marines take care of their own - and they take care of their fellow Marines before themselves. The well-being of the country and of the Corps is more important than our individual well-being.

This may best be stated in the hard-and-fast Marine rule: "Officers eat last." The Marine officer does not eat until after his subordinates for whom he is responsible - the corporals and privates - have been fed. Marines live by the rule that loyalty goes both up and down the chain of command. Would not our country be a more just and human place if the brass of Wall Street and Washington and executive suites believed that "officers eat last" The Marine ethic emphasizes responsibility to duty and responsibility to others before self. This is the very opposite of the unbridled individualism that elevates profit and personal comfort to high virtues. The selfish and self-centered CEO or senator who disregards and discards his loyal "troops" would be shunned in the Corps. Civilian Americans must understand that the greatest civil rights victories have been won by the Marines and the U.S. military, the most successfully integrated sector of our national life. Why? No racial reference and no racial discrimination. The first time I ever slept in the same quarters with African-Americans or Latinos - or took orders from them - was as a private in the Marines Corps. Yes, America really does need more Marine values and influence.

# Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation 9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

## Garden State Golf Outing

Submitted by James Mottola

On September 26, 2017, the 9th Annual Garden State Golf Outing was held at Royce Brook Golf Club, in Hillsborough to benefit the Marine Corp - Law Enforcement Foundation. The tournament which has been held since 2009, and originally led by the Newark Field Office of the United States Secret Service, continues to be supported by current and former federal, state and local law enforcement officers as well as our Marines. This year, with the hands-on assistance of volunteers Tom Molitoris' crew, and J.M. RODGERS Co., Inc. and our reliable corporate sponsors, Metro One Loss Prevention Services, ADP and Investor's Bank, we were able to raise over \$20,000 for the foundation. The day began, as it usually does, with early morning coffee, breakfast and the

Marine Corps Color Guard, I&I. Members then enjoyed the beautiful weather, while playing in the clubs, West or members course, which proved to be very challenging but for a few skilled foursomes. On the course, participants enjoyed a restful stop at the grill station to reconnect with former colleagues and friends, sipping cool refreshments provided by the committee. The scramble format was warranted in this most challenging terrain, with the winners finishing an impressive -12 Under. Longest Drive and Closet to the pin competition were marked by impressive displays of accuracy and strength. The day concluded with a full lunch, short program and a lot of prizes; no one ever leaves empty-handed.







Top left: Mike Fedorko, Roy Budd, Dave Rankin, Joe Coloiaro.

Top right: Dave Beach, John Toal, Mike Toal, and Joe Russo.

Left: Frank Senerchia, Scott McBride and Ed Olio and John Donahue.



Len and Faye Harac, John Cuff and Mike Renahan.



Dick Herzog, William Culp, Richard Elm and Duane Lynch.



Kevin Cunningham, Tom Mauro, Mike Mauro and Anthony DeSena.



## **NOTICE**

On Monday, June 18, 2018, the Garden State Golf Outing to benefit the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation will be held at the Royce Brook Country Club, Hillsborough, NJ. Royce Brook has been gracious enough to allow our golfers to use both the East (Public) and West (Members) course to support our tournament.

The Royce Brook Country Club will provide a day of Four Star Golf, including golf tips from their teaching professionals who will be on hand at the practice tee. Course competitions will include Hole-in-One Competitions, Nearest-to-the-Pin, Longest Drive, and Beat-the-Pro.

If you are interested foursomes and sponsorships, please visit the MC-LEF website:

#### https://www.mc-lef.org/upcoming-events

to obtain an entry form or contact Jim Mottola at mottolajames@gmail.com or Tom Molitoris at (973) 462-2997, for more information.

Medal Of Honor

Recipients

## Honored At Super Bowl LII

by
KATIE JERKOVICH
Entertainment Reporter

Reprinted from The Daily Caller

The NFL plans to take time out during the coin toss Sunday at Super Bowl LII to salute 15 Medal of Honor recipients.

"And then we will turn our attention towards what I think is going to be be an unbelievable moment for our country and part of the coin toss celebration, we will be bringing out 15 Medal of Honor recipients, the most prestigious honor our military offers. And this will be a moment that I think will bring our country together," an NFL spokesperson explained during the Pepsi Super Bowl Half Time press conference Thursday.

World War II veteran Hershel Woodrow "Woody" Williams, who was recognized for his heroism during the battle of Iwo Jima, will be the one to do the coin toss. He will be surrounded by 14 other heroes during the on-field ceremony ahead of the New England Patriots and Philadelphia Eagles championship battle in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



Top photo by Chris Graythen/Getty Images Sport/Getty Images

Left photo by Ben Liebenberg/AP

"The NFL is proud to honor our nation's heroes at Super Bowl LII," NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell shared last week. "These courageous individuals deserve to be recognized on America's biggest stage. We are grateful for their service to our country and we are pleased to continue the NFL's longstanding tradition of hosting special tributes to service members at the Super Bowl."

The decorated Marine, a recipient of the Medal of Honor, stood at the 50-yard line between a handful of the New England Patriots and the Philadelphia Eagles players on Super Bowl Sunday inside U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

When his name was announced by the referee, a roaring applause from the Eaglesdominated contingent followed. Williams was tasked with flipping the coin -- the heads side included the Lombardi Trophy and

the tails featured both NFL teams' logos.

"The honor is yours," said referee Gene Steratore. Philadelphia called tails. It landed on heads.

Williams, a West Virginia farmer turned war hero, is the last living soldier to receive the nation's highest award for valor from serving in the Pacific Theater during World War II. He went beyond the call of duty during the Battle of Iwo Jima, where as part of the 3rd Marine Division he used a flamethrower to destroy pillboxes, or dug-in guard posts, made of concrete. The brave Marine faced enemy fire during the campaign and came close death when he was hit with a piece of shrapnel.

"The corpsman came. He took his forceps and pulled it out and said, 'Do you want this?' Williams remembered, according to the Marine Corps website. "I said, 'I sure do!' It was still hot. I still have it."

### HEROES PARTICIPATING IN THE SUPER BOWL Coin Toss:

- Woody Williams: Marines, WWII (10/5/1945)
- **Roger Donlon:** Army, Vietnam (12/5/1964)
- **Walter Marm:** Army, Vietnam (12/19/1966)
- **Sammy Davis:** Army, Vietnam (11/18/1967)
- James Taylor: Army, Vietnam (11/19/1968)
- **Tom Kelley:** Navy, Vietnam (5/17/1969)
- **Robert Patterson:** Army, Vietnam (10/10/1969)
- **Don Ballard:** Navy, Vietnam (5/14/1970)

- Allan Kellogg: Marines, Vietnam (10/15/1973)
- Gary Littrell: Army, Vietnam (10/15/1973)
- Bennie Adkins: Army, Vietnam (delayed 9/15/2014)
- Sal Giunta: Army, Afghanistan (11/16/2010)
- Leroy Petry: Army, Afghanistan (7/12/2011)
- Clint Romesha: Army, Afghanistan (2/11/2013)
- Flo Groberg: Army, Afghanistan (11/12/2015)



# Who Is Woody Williams?

The Super Bowl Coin Toss Will Be Inspiring & Here's Why

By MEHREEN KASANA Article Reprinted from BUSTLE

Woody Williams as he prepares to go onto the field at Super Bowl LII.

s passionate football fans gather across the nation to cheer for their teams on Sunday, they might be touched to know that 94-year-old Hershel W. Williams, also known as Woody Williams, will do the Super Bowl 2018 coin toss. The 15 veterans who received the United States' prestigious Medal of Honor will be honored at the Super Bowl LII, and Williams will represent the group.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell, who picked the group, said:

These courageous individuals deserve to be recognized on

America's biggest stage. We are grateful for their service to our country and we are pleased to continue the NFL's longstanding tradition of hosting special tributes to service members at Super Bowl LII.

Williams will be representing the other 14 veterans as he initiates the Super Bowl by flipping a coin in the air. And he seems pretty excited about it. "To be honored in this way, it's just almost like a miracle," Williams told CBS Minnesota. "It really is because you don't ever dream or think that this kind of a thing

could happen to you, and then all of a sudden you're it."

Williams also said that he hopes his coin toss will inspire unity in the United States. "I hope we can maybe raise the bar a little bit of how important it is that we respect our country, that we respect our flag, that we remember and respect

and pay tribute and honor to those who never got to come home," he added to CBS Minnesota.





# Letters







Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Sept 21, 2017 Mr. Brian Piantadosi Handyman, LLC 19 Lamington Rd Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889

#### Dear Brian:

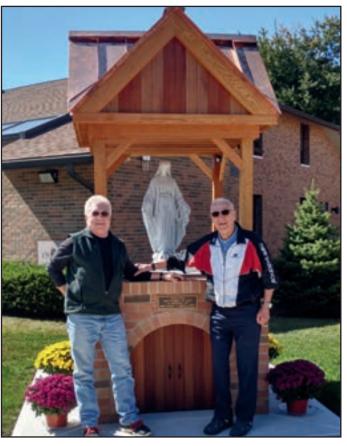
Many thanks once again for undertaking the task of organizing contractors to produce a spectacular Shrine to our Blessed Mother! We are overjoyed with the beautiful outcome and truly appreciate the careful planning, the numerous hours of labor, and the pride in craftsmanship that are evident in all aspects.

This certainly was a "love of labor" for Our Lady of Lourdes!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Rev. Leonard F.A. Rusay, Pastor

Doreen Budris-Kovacs, Pastoral Executive Assistant



L-R: Brian Piantadosi, owner of Handyman LLC, stands with his father and MC-LEF Director, Lou Piantadosi in front of the Shrine at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, which was built gratuitous, Handyman LLC.

### Major Caine M. Goyette

7 May 1976 - 10 July 2017

KC-1301 Aircraft Commander VMGR - 452 Operations Officer

SEMPER FIDELIS

Thank you for your generous and thoughtful support of our daughters, Alex and Annolise.

Sincerely, Andrea Goyette



## Letters Continued





Feb. 20, 2018

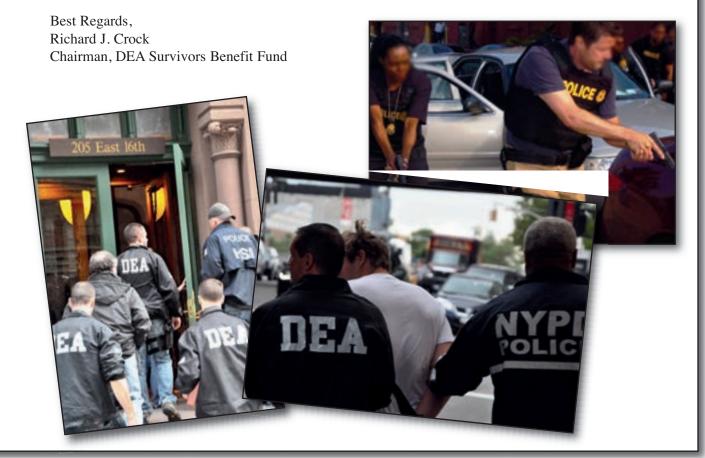
Dear MC-LEF,

I would like to commend and thank the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation for their generosity and outstanding service to our nation's heroes.

As the chairman of the Drug Enforcement Administration Survivors Benefit Fund, I have witnessed the good work of the Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation for many years. The Foundation often times fills gaps that other charities cannot address by assisting families that have suffered the unimaginable loss of a parent. Most recently I have worked with Mr. Edward Boran and Ms. Sue Boulhosa identifying DEA Special Agents that died from natural causes that never applied for Foundation benefits going back over the last 20 years. The MC-LEF has diligently assisted in this effort to ensure the sacrifice of these public servants and their families were honored appropriately by ensuring their children received a college education. Truly a remarkable group!

The impact these educational grants are having on these children is far reaching and should not be underestimated. The extent of impact on recipients is often locked behind tears of relief and joy.

On behalf of the many families the Foundation has helped, a sincere and heartfelt thank you.



# 2017 Lake Las Vegas MC-LEF Annual Golf Tournament



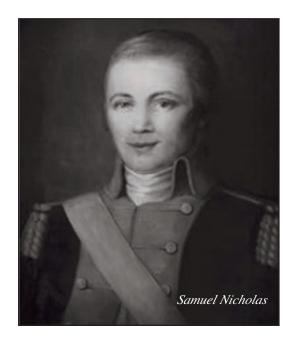
2017 SouthShore MC-LEF tournament winners from left to right: Marlene Rennie, Matt Nolasco, Jerry Kring, Terry Rennie and Dusty Craddock.

On Monday, November 6, 2017, the SouthShore Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas hosted the 11th annual charity golf tournament benefitting the Marine Corps – Law Enforcement Foundation. On a perfect day in Henderson, Nevada, a suburb of Las Vegas, a full field of golfers took to the links and played in a scramble format. Once again, to kick off the event, Marines from the 23rd Marine Regiment from Nellis Airforce Base presented the colors and SouthShore resident Sharon Sharp was joined by Pastor Rolfe Johnstadt in the singing of the National Anthem.

On October 1st there was a tragic shooting on the Las Vegas strip killing 58 innocent people including an off-duty Metro Policeman, Charleston Hartfield. Officer Hartfield was also a member of the Nevada National Guard and in his limited spare time the coach of his 15-year-old son's football team. Charleston was 34 years old and the senseless killing left a wife and two children without a husband and father. Mike Tobey, cofounder of the MC-LEF Committee and the driving force behind the annual tournament felt the need to do something special for this wonderful family. "When I read about this in the newspaper, I called the President of MC-LEF, Ed Boran and asked if we could do something for the children," Mike said, and Ed's response was, "of course!" Officer Charleston's wife and three kids attended the opening ceremony where it was announced that the foundation was giving each child a \$20,000 scholarship. "Needless to say, there was not a dry eye in the audience," Tobey said. During the banquet following the tournament, we were honored to have John Connor, co-president of MC-LEF provide participants with an overview of the great service MC-LEF provides to the families of our fallen heroes. "We are blessed to have the support of the SouthShore MC-LEF Committee and the SouthShore Community," John said. "The generosity shown each year by participants of this tournament truly makes a difference in the lives of children. Indeed, we all saw that first hand during opening ceremonies here today."

"This year's tournament repeat winners (shown above) shot a remarkable 17 under par score of 54. "Our committee will vote on a suggestion offered that this team must play either blindfolded or on one foot next year," fellow SouthShore MC-LEF Committee Member Vern Jennings said.

"We raised more than \$160,000 after expenses this year and since the first tournament in 2005 we have raised more than \$1,350,000," Mike Tobey said. Work is already underway for the 2018 tournament which will be held on November 12, 2018 at SouthShore Golf Club in Lake Las Vegas.



# The Un-Quaker Commandant

from The Pennslyvania Gazette

On February 23, 1776, Samuel Nicholas was "disowned" by the Philadelphia Meeting of Quakers for "associating to learn the art of war."

By then he was somewhere between Philadelphia and the Bahamas, so he wouldn't have heard the news until months later. But Nicholas hadn't been much of a Quaker anyway. He's remembered instead for being the first commandant of the United States Marine Corps.

Born in 1744, he did not have an easy childhood. His father, Anthony Nicholas, was un-Friended by the Philadelphia Meeting in 1749 for "Evil Conduct in frequent drinking strong

Liquor to Excess," and died when Samuel was 7. His mother, Mary Shute Nicholas, had died the year before. In January 1752 his uncle, Attwood Shute (later mayor of the city), enrolled him in the Academy of Philadelphia, the secondary-school counterpart of the College. Nicholas was a student there until the end of 1759.

Fast-forward to 1775. On November 5, the Second Continental Congress commissioned him as a captain of the embryonic Marines; on November 10 it authorized the creation of two battalions; and on the 28th it confirmed his commission and established his pay at \$32. That last document was signed by John Hancock. And so Nicholas became the first officer of the Marines, in charge of their First and Second Battalions, having overseen recruitment at the Tun Tavern.

In March 1776, the *Alfred* (commanded by Esek Hopkins) arrived in the Bahamas. Nicholas led a small expeditionary force to Nassau, capturing Fort Montagu and a large cache of weapons without a fight. A month later, he was aboard the *Alfred* when it engaged in a skirmish with HMS *Glasgow* off Rhode Island.

Nicholas was promoted to major on June 25, but was ordered to remain in Philadelphia to "discipline four companies of Marines and prepare them for service as Marine guards." In December, he was ordered to "march with three of the companies" to be under the command of General George Washington. He and his men did not take part in the successful attack on Trenton, though they did fight in the Battle of Princeton. After that, despite his requests to lead the Marine detachment on another ship, he mostly oversaw recruiting and training efforts. "I consequently had the mortification to become ... a useless officer," he wrote, "at least in sense of danger."

Nicholas died on August 27, 1790, of yellow fever. He was 46 years old. Despite having been expelled by the Friends, he was interred in the Quaker burial ground at 4th and Arch streets, now occupied by the Arch Street Meeting House built in 1803-05.

Three ships of the US Navy have been named Nicholas, the most recent of which was a frigate. And each year on November 10, Marines (and sometimes Quakers) gather outside the meeting house to lay a wreath on the small headstone that a local Marine veteran arranged to be placed there. It reads simply:

Samuel Nicholas 1744-1790

No guns are fired.

—SH



### John Is My Heart

#### By Frank Schaeffer of the Washington Post

This is a well-written article about a father who put several of his kids through expensive colleges but one son wanted to be a Marine. Interesting observation by this dad. A very interesting commentary that says a lot about our failing and fallen society.

Before my son became a Marine, I never thought much about who was defending me. Now when I read of the war on terrorism or the coming conflict in Iraq, it cuts to my heart. When I see a picture of a member of our military who has been killed, I read his or her name very carefully. Sometimes I cry.

In 1999, when the barrel-chested Marine recruiter showed up in dress blues and bedazzled my son John, I did not stand in the way. John was headstrong, and he seemed to understand these stern, clean men with straight backs and flawless uniforms. I did not. I live in the Volvo-driving, higher education-worshiping North Shore of Boston. I write novels for a living. I have never served in the military.

It had been hard enough sending my two older children off to Georgetown and New York University. John's enlisting was unexpected, so deeply unsettling. I did not relish the prospect of answering the question, "So where is John going to college?" from the parents who were itching to tell me all about how their son or daughter was going to Harvard. At the private high school John attended, no other students were going into the military.

"But aren't the Marines terribly Southern?"
(Says a lot about open-mindedness in the Northeast)
asked one perplexed mother while standing next to me at
the brunch following graduation. "What a waste, he was
such a good student," said another parent. One parent (a
professor at a nearby and rather famous university) spoke
up at a school meeting and suggested that the school should
"carefully evaluate what went wrong."

When John graduated from three months of boot camp on Parris Island, 3,000 parents and friends were on the parade deck stands. We parents and our Marines not only were of many races but also were representative of many economic classes. Many were poor. Some arrived crammed in the backs of pickups, others by bus. John told me that a lot of parents could not afford the trip.

We in the audience were white and Native American. We were Hispanic, Arab, and African American, and Asian. We were former Marines wearing the scars of battle, or at least baseball caps emblazoned with battles' names. We were Southern whites from Nashville and skinheads from New Jersey, black kids from Cleveland wearing ghetto rags and white ex-cons with ham-hock forearms defaced by jailhouse tattoos. We would not have been mistaken for the educated and well-heeled

parents gathered on the lawns of John's private school a half-year before.

After graduation one new Marine told John, "Before I was a Marine, if I had ever seen you on my block I would've probably killed you just because you were standing there." This was a serious statement from one of John's good friends, a black ex-gang member from Detroit who, as John said, "would die for me now, just like I'd die for him."

My son has connected me to my country in a way that I was too selfish and insular to experience before. I feel closer to the waitress at our local diner than to some of my oldest friends. She has two sons in the Corps. They are facing the same dangers as my boy. When the guy who fixes my car asks me how John is doing, I know he means it. His younger brother is in the Navy.

Why were I and the other parents at my son's private school so surprised by his choice? During World War II, the sons and daughters of the most powerful and educated families did their bit. If the idea of the immorality of the Vietnam War was the only reason those lucky enough to go to college dodged the draft, why did we not encourage our children to volunteer for military service once that war

children to volunteer for military service once that was was done?

Have we wealthy and educated Americans all become pacifists? Is the world a safe place? Or have we just gotten used to having somebody else defend us? What is the future of our democracy when the sons and daughters of the janitors at our elite universities are far more likely to be put in harm's way than are any of the students whose dorms their parents clean? I feel shame because it took my son's joining the Marine Corps to make me take notice of who is defending me. I feel hope because perhaps my son is part of a future "greatest generation." As the storm clouds of war gather, at least I know that I can look the men and women in uniform in the eye. My son is one of them. He is the best I have to offer. John is my heart.

#### "Faith is not about everything turning out OK; Faith is about being OK no matter how things turn out."

Oh, how I wish so many of our younger generations could read this article. It makes me so sad to hear the way they talk with no respect for what their fathers, grandfathers and great grandfathers experienced so they can live in freedom. Freedom has been replaced with Free-Dumb. Please feel free to pass this on .



### BROKEN ARROW, OKLAHOMA CHRISTMAS PARADE



Long time MC-LEF supporters, Norman and Connie Freihaut, are pictured here in December with their Marine friends at the Broken Arrow Christmas parade. Norman and Connie have been donating monthly to MC-LEF for over ten years! They never fail to include a nice thank you message with their donation. The thank you goes to them, for people like Connie and Norman make what we do possible! We are blessed to have such wonderful, loyal supporters.

Connie shared that the Marines always "look sharp" and receive enthusiastic applause and "God

Bless You" from the crowd at the parade. The Freihauts help collect toys for the local "Toys for Tots". These are the kind of folks that make America great - always doing for others.

THANK YOU CONNIE AND NORMAN FREIHAUT!



# 2018 MARINE CORPS MARATHON CHARITY PARTNER

MC-LEF WANTS YOU!

The Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation (MC-LEF) www.mc-lef.org is fielding teams for both the **Marine Corps Marathon and the 10K race on 10/28/18.**We have bibs available for both races (30 marathon runners and 20 10K runners).

We have set modest fundraising goals as we are more interested in fielding a full contingent and are reaching out to our friends to help support us by either signing up to run or passing the word around to family, friends and running enthusiasts.

Access our race page at our website: www.mc-lef.org

Registration for the 2018 Marine Corps Marathon begins April 4, 2018

Thanks for your help!

# MC-LEF Provides 2nd Van to Vets on Track Foundation!

The Vets on Track Foundation is a certified 501 (c)3 charity that MC-LEF proudly supports!

The Vets on Track Foundation (VoTF) furnished their 100th home on Saturday, January 27th beginning at 8:30 a.m. as part of its "Fresh Start Program."

"The need for support goes much deeper than just putting a veteran in housing," said Rick Ecker, Founder and CEO of the VoTF. "Although many homeless agencies work hard to ensure these veterans are heading down the right path; one critical element in their transition from living on the streets has been overlooked, and mainly due to funding issues – they need furniture and basic household accessories...the things that will help turn their new house into a home," said Ecker, a 22-year retired Marine veteran.

Working with homeless agencies, the VoTF was created to fill a critical void when it comes to dealing with homeless veterans and their families. Operating out of a two-car garage in the beginning, the VoTF was reborn in 2016 to tackle a critical ele-



Marine Lieutenant and Foundation Ambassador Ian Bernett helps with a delivery to the Washington D.C. area. Ian is one of several Marine Lieutenants from "Mike Company," The Basic School who volunteer for the Foundation. (Vets on Track Foundation Photo by Foundation President - Kyle Olson).

ment within the homeless realm - a piece of the puzzle that was missing.

"Early on we learned that there wasn't much of a difference between living on the streets or in a shelter than being placed into an empty shell of a house," said Ecker. "The rooms echoed because there were no buffers - no furniture, no pictures, no rugs...nothing to muffle the sounds. The rooms were dark and cold. Although protected from the elements of Mother Nature, these unsung heroes were still not home," he added.

On any given night, more than 600,000 Americans will sleep in alleys, abandoned buildings, and under bridges because they have no home. Many of these are this nation's forgotten heroes – the men and women who once proudly served in a military uniform...yet today they are finding themselves experiencing the ravages of homelessness.

The Vets on Track Foundation averages 5-6 requests per month (although this month alone the Foundation has already received 15 requests for support) and expects that number to increase as more agencies become aware of our organization. On average, three times a month, the foundation organizes a "Sort and Delivery" day. "This is normally a Saturday when community volunteers and the foundation staff get together and sort through all the donations and separate the items by request," explained Rileigh Ecker, Director of Volunteers for the foundation and Rick's youngest daughter. "In the beginning we would have anywhere from one to four rental trucks, each loaded with furniture and accessories for at least two homes per truck," she said. "We provide everything a veteran needs to turn an empty house into a warm loving home," she continued. "We then break our volunteers into teams of three to four ambassadors per truck and send them on their way to deliver the much-needed support," she concluded.

The volunteers not only deliver the requested items, they often stay with the veteran to help hang

pictures, put beds together and put away dishes – they assist with anything that the vet needs to complete the transformation of his home.

The future of the Vets on Track Foundation looks bright. "Thanks to the generosity of the Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation, we now have two of our own trucks," said Ecker. "Having these trucks is a game changer for our operation, as we no longer have to rent a truck every time we get a request to pick up a donation or to deliver support," he said. We now have control and can respond to a request for support usually within 24-48 hours," he added.





ABOVE: Thanks to the generosity of the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation, the Vets on Track Foundation now has two of their own trucks that are used for donation pickups and more importantly, delivering much needed to support to veterans who have been placed into permanent housing from living on the streets. (Vets on Track Foundation Photo by Foundation Secretary -Lesley Ecker).

LEFT: The Vets on Track Foundation volunteers work together to get donated furniture and accessories loaded onto delivery trucks. The donations will go to veterans who have recently been placed into permanent housing from living on the streets. (Vets on Track Foundation Photo by Foundation Secretary - Lesley Ecker).



# "HELP US KEEP OUR FOUNDATION STRONG!

Search "Marine Corps – Law Enforcement Foundation (MC-LEF) on Facebook and become a fan by clicking "Like" at the top of the page. The announcements, links, and photos we post will automatically appear on your News Feed.

Fans are also invited to start discussions and post messages and photos on our wall.

Don't be shy – WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!"



## 26th ANNUAL LONG ISLAND GOLF CLASSIC



Monday, October 2, 2017 marked the 26th Annual MC-LEF Golf Outing at the Huntington Country Club. Blue skies, bright sunshine, and temperature in the mid 70's. A great day for about a hundred golfers to come out to support a premier charity that uses over 98 percent of its revenue for programs and services that support the children of fallen Marines and Federal Law Enforcement Officers.

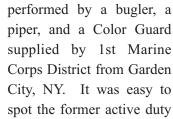
Volunteers made up of retired IBEW members, retired law enforcement officers, and military veterans were there



Military Guest of Honor, Major Michael Abrams

early to fill goodie bags with several items donated by Rush Limbaugh, a Foundation Director. MC-LEF windbreakers were also included.

The first golfers showed up before eight o'clock, and after a full breakfast everyone gathered at the flagpole for Morning Colors. The ceremony was



Marines in the crowd by looking for the guys standing at attention with their thumbs along the seams of their trousers!

After a scramble start, and several enjoyable hours of eagles, birdies, pars and bogeys, it was back to the clubhouse for cocktails and hor d'overes followed by an outstanding buffet dinner.

As the golfers enjoyed their meal, they listened to remarks by John Connor, MC-LEF Co-President, who reminded them of the importance of their continued support for the work done by the organization.

The military Guest of Honor was Major Michael Abrams USMCR. Major Abrams is a combat veteran of the war in Afghanistan. He also was the Commanding Officer of the Marine Unit in Chattanooga, TN where four Marines and a

> Sailor were murdered in a terrorist attack in 2015. Major Abrams told the gut wrenching story of his Marines being shot while rushing back into the killzone to help others evacuate the area.







(L) Ed Boran, (C), John Conner and (R), Gerry Griffin, take turns addressing the golfers.







Color Guard at opening ceremony.

Pipers.

Chow line.



Major Abrams and 3 active duty Marines.



Ed Boran with Major Michael Abrams, Military Guest of Honor.

While he continues his career in the Marine Reserves, Major Abrams is also the Executive Director of the Center for Veteran Transition and Integration at Columbia University.

The Center helps returning veterans achieve academic achievement and career success.

As dessert was being served, Foundation President, Ed Boran brought everyone up-to-date on the Foundation's most recent activities including granting fifty-nine scholarships so far this year.

To close out the day, Foundation Corporate Council Gerard Griffin awarded golf and raffle prizes, some of which included Giant tickets, and tickets to next years MC-LEF Gala in NYC. As dessert was being served, Foundation President, Ed Boran brought everyone up-to-date on the Foundation's most recent activities including granting fifty-nine scholarships so far this year.

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The Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation is now an eligible charity for the Amazon Smile Program.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support MC-LEF every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate 0.05% of the purchase price to The Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization (Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation) to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to MC-LEF.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

### 1st Annual

### MC-LEF TEXAS DINNER

SEPTEMBER 21, 2017

"Don't mess with Texas!"

The Texas MC-LEF Marines dropped the ramp Dallas in September 21, 2017, to engage the Dallas Fort Worth metroplex with the mission of formally introducing the Foundation to the State of Texas. Organized by dinner chairs Pat "Punch" Haynes, Clint "Boo Boo" Weber, LtGen Robert "Boomer" Milstead, USMC (RET), and Kevin "Scrapmetal" McGuire, the dinner brought together over 200 from Texas' business communities to honor our special guests - LtGen James B. Laster, USMC, Director, Marine Corps Staff; and Mrs. Kyle Frederick. Fox News Senior Correspondent Rick Leventhal served as the evening's master of ceremonies. The dinner, at the Ritz Carlton Dallas, crossed the line of departure led by 50 students from Highland Park High School who volunteered their time to sing the

National Anthem that set a patriotic tone for the evening, accompanied by the color guard of VMFA-112 out of NAS JRB Ft. Worth.

The dinner brought in CEOs and business executives from Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, Houston, and broader Midwest regions including approximately 30 Marines from the local Texas active duty and reserve community. Also attending were numerous Marine Corps dignitaries including Lt.Gen Joe Weber, USMC (RET), LtGen Chuck Pittman, USMC (RET), LtGen Richard Carey, USMC (RET), all from the great state of Texas. The Marine veteran community was prominently represented by officers from the Metroplex Marines and the Airpower Foundation. Present were numerous Federal Enforcement dignitaries representing the local field offices of the FBI,



Squared away Marines at entrance to MCLEF Inaugural Dallas Dinner!

Secret Service, and US Customs and Border Protection.

The true guests of honor of the evenings events were as follows:

Mrs. Kyle Frederick, wife of Captain Jake Frederick and mother to Colt and Mayley Frederick. In the words of Clint Weber introducing Mrs. Frederick and speaking about her husband:

Captain Jake "Red Stripe" Frederick, a US Marine and F/A-18 Hornet pilot, was killed after ejecting from his aircraft roughly 120 miles off the coast of Japan on Thursday, December 8, 2016, while deployed with VMFA-115, The World Famous Silver Eagles. God, family and the country he died defending were of the upmost importance to Jake. Before each flight Capt. Frederick always made sure he remembered to recite 1 John 1:9 to "get squared away." Written on his pre-flight checklist was "FHS" meaning to ensure fellowship with the Holy Spirit. Jake's life was an example to all those around him of the unwavering grace and faithfulness to



Students from Highland Park High School sang the National Anthem, accompanied by the color guard of VMFA-112 out of NAS JRB Ft. Worth.

God. Jake graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Petroleum Engineering. After graduation, he was commissioned in the United States Marine Corps where he

faithfully served his country for eight years. He married the love of his life in 2009, and they built a life together serving the God and the Country they love.

Mrs. Frederick gave an outstanding narrative of her family, her husband's life and commitment to God, Country and Corps. She spoke for 20 minutes about the impact MC-LEF had on her family and the community of Marines around her. Mrs. Frederick wrapped her comments in front of a completely taken audience by closing with, "God Bless MC-LEF, God Bless the Marine Corps, and God Bless the State of Texas." It could not get any more Texas than that.

Lt. General Jim Laster USMC, Marine Corps Staff, spoke about the current state of the Marine Corps and offered numerous stories of heroism of the forward deployed

around the globe. He articulately tied in the role of MC-LEF with the mission of Marines always looking after each other and the importance of the Foundation to the families of Marines and Federal Law Enforcement. We were honored to have him speak.

Lastly, a table of wounded veterans accompanied former NFL linebacker David Vorbora and the Adaptive Training Foundation gym he founded to work with the disabled wounded. The group received a standing ovation



Mrs. Kiley Frederick addresses the 2017 Inaugural MC-LEF Dallas Dinner.

from a Texas community proud of their veterans and, in true enlisted form, they were the last to leave the bar upon last call.

Rick Leventhal of Fox News and host of numerous MC-LEF events in New York and Chicago moved the evening along in efficient form. His work with MC-LEF is always met with our gratitude and appreciation. He also was a last call participant.

This event took form from the work Pat Haynes has put together for MC-LEF previous years in

Chicago.

That oversight and framework provided a successful template for the evening. Col. Clint Weber, CO of VMFA - 112 provided the necessary link to the local Marine units and served as the important connection with Mrs. Frederick and the flawless execution of the Marine Color Guard along with the representation of the local com-The work of mands. American Airlines and longtime sponsors Jim Palmersheim and Tim Raynor was significant and most appreciated. Kevin McGuire, recently relocated to Dallas from Chicago, was able to put the unit together and, with LtGen Milstead, corralled all the appropriate steers.

The Texas community embraced the mission of MC-LEF with a successful fund raise. We look forward to putting togeth-

er our next dinner on September 20, 2018, at the Ritz Carlton in Dallas to further deepen the mission of MC-LEF within the broader State of Texas.

SAVE THE DATE!

# Members On the Go...



Pete Haas and Lou Piantadosi having lunch at the Old Mill Inn.



(Left) MOH recipient, Barney Barnum, holding 'Caffy' (Center) Sgt. Luis Gomez and (Right) MOH recipient, Mike Thornton. Caffy was named after Hector Cafferata, who treated the dog as his own.



### News from Foundation Friend Joanne Ratcliffe

My running career started 40 years ago. I became involved in a running club in my home town, where I am still an active member. I started running 5K's and ran two races a weekend. I trained with my club and traveled all over the North Shore to run local races. As I progressed in my running I knew

that a marathon was my challenge! So little by little I was determined to do just that! It took me months and months of training. My first marathon was Boston in 1984. I cannot describe to you the feeling I had coming across the finish line! When you hear "runner's high", it is a true feeling! In my running career I have run 15 full marathons: Marine Corps Marathon 11 times, Boston twice, Montreal and Chicago each once; Several 10 mile, 10K's and 5 K's.

In the pictures below are my daughter, Patricia Moylan and my granddaughter, Brooke Moylan and above, my son, Jimmy Ratcliffe. What an honor to have them side by side with me. They have run beside me as we raise pledges for The Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation since we started in 2001. Running is a great passion of mine. But the greatest joy is running with my family!



I have been blessed! Sincerely, Joanne



Marine Corps - Law Enforcement Foundation 273 Columbus Avenue Office #10 Tuckahoe, NY 10707

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Clip or copy this form from your issue of the newsletter so that the complete mailing label below shows and mail the completed form to: MC-LEF, 273 Columbus Avenue Office #10, Tuckahoe, NY 10707

### SAVE THESE DATES

#### 2018 SEMPER FIDELIS GALA

Thursday, Apr 12, 2018 Cipriani Wall Street 55 Wall Street, New York, NY, 10005 Contact: sboulhosa@mc-lef.org

#### 2018 SCOTTSDALE GOLF OUTING

Friday, May 11, 2018 Greyhawk Golf Club 8620 East Thompson Peak Parkway, Scottsdale, AZ Contact: Kirk Tushaus 480-505-4004 or kmt@me.com

#### 24TH ANNUAL MC-LEF GALA

Saturday, Jun 9, 2018 Tropicana Atlantic City 2831 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, NJ Contact: Lisa Spengler at mclefac@aol.com

#### 24TH ANNUAL MC-LEF GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, Jun 11, 2018 - Time Start: 8:00 Shotgun Atlantic City Country Club 1 Leo Frazier Drive, Northfield, NJ 08225 Contact: Lisa Spengler at mclefac@aol.com

#### **GARDEN STATE GOLF OUTING**

Monday, Jun 18, 2018 Royce Brook Golf Club 201 Hamilton Road, Hillsborough Toendhip, NJ 08844 Contact: Jim Mottola at James.Mottola@sobel-cpa.com or 973-634-1681

#### 2018 BRESCOME BARTON GOLF OUTING

Monday, Sep 17, 2018
New Haven Country Club
160 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT
Contact: Mia Ginter mginter@brescomebarton.com

#### **2018 DALLAS DINNER**

Thursday, Sep 20, 2018
The Ritz Carlton Dallas
2121 McKinney Avenue, Dallas, TX
Contact: Kevin McGuire at kevin.mcguire@gs.com

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Feedback Corner	Name
Please send more information about the Foundation	Address
I want to help. A donation is enclosed	City
⊚ Sign me up! I want to join the Marine Corp-Law	State Zip
Enforcement Foundation. There are no dues	Phone ()
Put my name on your mailing list	Mail To
© Enclosed is a story for the next Newsletter	Address
Membership is approved upon receipt of application	Email