



September 2022

COMMANDANT'S CORNER

COMMANDANT TOM PETERS

As I write this the official end to summer is fast approaching. A new season is beginning. A new season is also beginning for TRD #1334. Rob Montminy, our Paymaster, tells me that dues are coming in at a good pace, our second pancake breakfast is scheduled for October 15th, and plans for our Birthday Dinner on November 5th are well on their way.



Thanks to AMOY, Veronica Hoard, the DAR will assist us with our breakfast giving us more of a presence to the public. As I said last month, I am encouraged by the enthusiasm shown by our members and hopefully it will result in attracting new members.

Semper Fidelis

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MEMBER UPDATES

Lois Lane here had a hip replacement late August, so there is no interview this month. Thank you for the get well card from the detachment. Next month I hope someone “volunteers “ to be interviewed ... hint hint ... so I don’t have to strongarm anyone!

Veronica has interviewed twenty marines since 2018, stopping only when Covid attacked and she returned to work. What a fantastic job she did!

Tom and Janet Taylor have moved to upstate New York. Tom continues to be a dual member of 1334.

Peter Wozny, who retired from EB on August 8, has started his new job with the State, teaching at Ella Grasso. Those of us retirees are grateful that he continues to pay into our Social Security. On a personal note, when interviewing Peter and his wife Jan, I learned that my cousin Bob took Jan to her prom!

Adam Thomas is now the IT person for the entire Ledyard School system. He has been inundated fixing the Chrome Books that the students use ... and school has just begun!

On the other hand, **Bill Barnes** just retired from Pfizer

Joe and Mary Gardiner will be snowbirds right after our October 15 pancake breakfast. Kudos to **Pat McMahon** who became CT Dept Commandant. He recently attended the Marine Corps League National Convention in Daytona.

Did you know that #1334 has nine members 80 and above? Two members are residents of Solstice Senior Living Center in Groton, **Charles Callen**, 91, and **Shirley Verdini** who will be 90 next month. Any idea who the others are? Hint: **Stanley Ploszaj** is 97. He and his daughter Carol come to our Birthday Ball and picnic. Another hint: someone else just turned 80. Who are they?

We just lost one of our members from the Solstice Senior Living Center, **Louise Heidtman**, who was 98 and a World War II veteran. Guard those Heavenly gates, Louise.

Semper Fidelis.

~ Donna Peters

In Memoriam



Louise Helen Heidtman
March 6, 1924 – July 7, 2022

Louise Helen Heidtman, age 98, passed away on the evening of July 7, 2022. Louise was predeceased by her beloved husband Howard and grandson Keith. Louise was born in Norwich, CT on March 6, 1924 to William and Sarah (Riley) LaRoche and was the youngest of eleven children. After graduating from NFA in the spring of '43, Louise joined the war effort and enlisted in the Marine Corp. While stationed in Arlington, Virginia, Louise played professional softball. She also met Howard at an Army Navy football game. After the war, the couple settled in Norwich to raise four boys. Louise worked as the head cook at NFA for 35 years and also coached the Connecticut College women's swim team to five victorious seasons. Sports were always an important part of Louise's life and she played competitive tennis until she was 90. Louise also competed and medaled in many Senior Olympic events, so no one was surprised when a javelin arrived on her front porch! In 2007, Louise was inducted into the NFA Hall of Fame which recognized her achievements in both varsity sports in high-school, as well as a lifetime of athletic

accomplishments. Louise's ability to "Get her Irish up" at the slightest sign of injustice was legendary. She loved her country and wore her beloved Marine Corp hat proudly. Louise's family was her biggest joy and she loved to share stories about her life. Louise is survived by four sons, 11 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren.

Services were held at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Norwich, CT on August 18, 2022.



DEVIL DOG GROWL



At a recent Devil Dog growl, the 49th Past Chief Devil Dog, Doug Fisk, along with the DOGS from TRD #1334 celebrated the 80th birthday of Joe Balint by woofing Happy Birthday. Congratulations Joe and many more.



DEVIL DOG GROWL – JOE BALINT BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

DETACHMENT RECEIVES MEMBERSHIP CITATION

On behalf of TRD #1334, Commandant Peters accepts a National Jr. Vice Commandant's Citation from Dept. Commandant McMahon.

The citation was for exceeding our previous years membership.

Congratulations TRD#1334!



**Thames River Detachment #1334
Marine Corps League**



**PANCAKE
BREAKFAST**



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2022

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Norwich VFW

30 Connecticut Ave

Norwich, CT

Tickets: \$8 adults, \$5 children under 5

Children under 2 – free

In partnership with Daughters of the American Revolution – Abigail Hinman Chapter

BONDED BY THE COMMON ENEMY

OUR MEMBERS' GRANDCHILDREN (AND CHILDREN)

These three handsome guys, Ben, Alex and Henry belong to Rob and Jan Montminy. They recently took a trip to the Great Wolf water park. Some of you may remember Henry attending several of our birthday balls where he was killing it out on the dance floor.



CALENDAR

 <p>28 Sept</p> <p>Detachment Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Norwich VFW</p>	 <p>11 Oct</p> <p>Detachment Business Meeting 7:00 PM Montville VFW</p>	 <p>15 Oct</p> <p>Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM Norwich VFW</p>
 <p>25 Oct</p> <p>Detachment Planning Meeting 7:00 PM Niantic American Legion</p>	<p>Happy Halloween!</p> 	 <p>5 Nov</p> <p>Birthday Dinner/Ball TBD</p>