



## OUR HOUSE

Quarterly Newsletter

*October, November December 2020*

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### *West Hudson Detachment #209*

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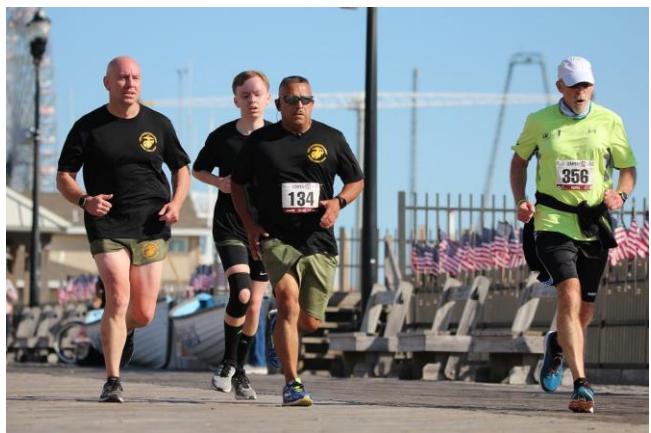
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**Principles:** The members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps. Those who belong have the respect of a nation, the loyalty of their own, and the pride of being a part of history

**OCTOBER-** The month began with West Hudson's Iron Men taking part in the annual Seaside Heights Semper Five run! P.C. Adam Tegge and son Lukas, along with Eduardo Soriano, Jack Engdahl, Cesar Huaman, Adrian Mansilla, and Sean Glennon joined with runners from across the state in this annual run for Marines. In spite of the pandemic, rules were enforced and the number of physical runners has been reduced, along with "virtual" runners outside the actual run. The day was brisk, but spirits were high, and it was a fantastic turnout! Troops were cheered on by P.C. Roger Maccagnano and Jenifer Zeas.





Although the team didn't win, they placed respectably. Well done West Hudson Marines!

On the 7<sup>th</sup>, Staff members met to go over plans for the upcoming Marine Corps birthday party. Although not the formal ball, an event to celebrate our history. Also, last minute plans for the upcoming Swearing in ceremony for staff and the Ladies Auxiliary Members.

Then, on the 10<sup>th</sup>, Chaplain Nick Valdez, and Commandant Healy tool part on a quiet memorial service for departed Marine: John Bravaco. Although maintaining the mandated health guidelines, we were able to celebrate the life of this Marine for family and friends in attendance.

The General Meeting, on the 14<sup>th</sup>, was held with plans for the upcoming Ball. Although a much smaller venue than in the past, this year's event will hold true to some of the formalities while maintaining social distancing and health precautions. Also, while at the meeting, Adjutant A. Mansilla recognized Marine Sean Glennon for 10 years of service. Outstanding!

On the 17<sup>th</sup>, Commandant Healy was honored to attend the Court of Honor for Lukas Tegge, son of P.C. Adam Tegge. His project of the firepit, honoring veteran Tommy DiFrancisci, and veterans has been the highlight of the year, and a moving tribute to be enjoyed and talked about for years to come. It was a wonderful turnout for a deserving young Eagle Scout.



On the 18<sup>th</sup>, West Hudson Detachment held it's Induction Ceremony. Staff members and Ladies Auxiliary members renewed their oaths to begin a new year of dedicated service. Semper Fi, and congratulations to all!



**NOVEMBER-** The month began with the Staff Meeting, on the 4<sup>th</sup>, where we discussed the upcoming Marine Corps ball. Also, plans underway for future projects around the house. Still, lots to do!

**NOVEMBER 10, 1775.** In the back room of Tun Tavern, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the United States Marine Corps was born. Since then, we've become known around the world as a leading fighting force , second to none, envied by many! Semper Fidelis, and Happy 245<sup>th</sup>, Marines everywhere!

Although we attempted, not enough members came for the general meeting. So, meeting was cancelled.

On the 14<sup>th</sup>, Marines got together to celebrate our birthday. Even though we maintained safe distancing and precautions, we got to celebrate our brotherhood, and history. Although not the usual venue, and circumstances, we maintained a few of the major traditions. It was a great evening and enjoyed by all.





Here's hoping that the pandemic will be controlled and we can resume our normal activities and celebrate our Marine Corps heritage, among many more brothers and sister Marines. In the meantime, we improvise, adapt, and overcome.

**DECEMBER-** The month began with our annual Gifts for Children collections. On the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>, Marines and support took post at the Shop-Rite in Belleville, and Lyndhurst, N.J. Outside Lyndhurst, the weather was brisk, yet bearable, and we set up shop for the event. Meanwhile, in Belleville, troops were able to set up shop in a much more festive manner. All in all, a great showing by the troops for our worthwhile cause.









Once again, a big **thank you** for the work done by all, and a special thanks to our own Walter Rudolph for making the calls and setting up the locations. Way to go!

Also, a big thanks to supporters from T. J. Maxx and the contacts from Amazon, whose assistance made this year's collection easier and quicker. Their donations and assistance will make for a Merry Christmas, even during a pandemic.

Our own, Sean Glennon drafted a thank you letter and delivered that and Good Citizenship letters, on behalf of us and the Marine Corps League. Again, their assistance was invaluable in our annual charitable event.



At our staff meeting, finally, we were able to award our own: Sean Glennon, West Hudson's **Marine of the Year**. His work around the house on behalf of the League have been monumental, to say the least. From his artistic talents in updating the lounge area, to his work at flea markets during the height of summer, earning cash from donations, going toward the house and funds, and finally, taking over duties as Judge Advocate on the staff. He has worked tirelessly and quietly, not looking for praise, but enjoying the comradery of brother and sister Marines. The title is well earned and deserved. Congratulations Sean Glennon, **Marine of the Year!** Semper Fi!



Finally, our distribution of Gifts for Children, on the 18<sup>th</sup>. After a bit of snow, troops arrived with shovels and cleared the walks enabling families to arrive safely and collect their packages for the holiday. We all took part in the distribution, with precautions being taken. Families were greeted at the front door and gifted with preselected sacks of gifts for children.





The evening went quickly, with a few deliveries made by Santa's elves..for families unable to come to us. That's what we do! Great work by Sr. V.C. A. Waldron for making the evening such a huge success with all the work he put in, collecting the packages from Amazon, sorting them by age/gender. That made the evening so much less chaos, yet still fun seeing the looks on families receiving their packages.

A big shout out to West Hudson's Santa Squad!



Finally. The year ends with a Happy Birthday to our very own P.C. Roger Maccagnano. Happy birthday and you'll be missed when you become a full time Floridian! Maybe even start the West Hudson Annex down there. Semper Fi, Roger, and Happy 69<sup>th</sup>.

Merry Christmas to all West Hudson Marines and families. We've done a lot, and still have plenty more to do. Best wishes for a Healthy, Happy New Year! See you in 2021.

**Semper Fidelis Marines everywhere!**

