

SCUTTLEBUTT NEWS

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Three Rivers Leatherneck Detachment 310

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2017 Elected Officers

COMMANDANT • Karl Wilzer SR. VICE COMMANDANT • Matt Popovich JR. VICE COMMANDANT • Calvin Reichhold JUDGE ADVOCATE • Dave Thens PAST COMMANDANT • Matt Popovich

2017 Appointed Officers

SGT. AT ARMS • Edward Peters CHAPLAIN Gerald Kunic **ADJUTANT-PAYMASTER & PISTOL TEAM CHAIRMAN** • P. Philip Cerussi **QUARTERMASTER** Rick Barzen **VETERANS HOSPITAL (VAVS)** Robert Timet **SCHOLARSHIPS** Richard Sanderson **PUBLIC RELATIONS** Richard L. Sanderson SECRETARY • Janet Lindner WEBMASTER

• Frank Kelly



A TRIBUTE TO THE VIETNAM Fallen Heroes

The Township of Hampton, PA, hosted the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, more commonly known as the 'Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall'. Phil Cerussi, #310's Adjutant, volunteered to participate and act as an ambassador/guide. Other members of the Three Rivers Detachment also attended

the opening ceremony held the evening of June 29th. Christopher Lochner, Municipal Manager for Hampton Township, said he raised well over the \$11,000 requested donation from private or corporate donations to have the wall brought here. The wall was open to the public at no charge, 24/7 from June 30 until the closing ceremony on July 4th, 12:00 noon. This is one of the two traveling walls in the United States; both are non-profit. There are 58,272 names listed on this Memorial of which 1,200 of these names are listed as MIA, POW or others; and, it represents only eighty percent of the souls lost.



The legislation for the permanent 'wall' located in the Constitution Gardens in Washington DC near the Lincoln Memorial was signed by President Jimmy Carter on July 1, 1980. It took three and a half years to build the Memorial.

Three Rivers Leathernecks Having Fun in the Sun

Many members gathered together for the annual outdoor picnic held at the Evergreen Community Park in Ross Township on Sunday, August 27th. Homemade Polish sausage kielbasa grilled to perfection complemented all the other food and pastries.



Janet Lindner and Donna Wilzer setting up for the raffles



Rick Barzen took charge of grilling



Mascot Sgt. Winston and Nancy McClements



Bill and Delores Parker



The Imbragno Family



Bob Timet is in total control of the fire pit



Phil Cerussi, Karl Wilzer, Bob Timet and Tom Szmed enjoying the camaraderie



George Bigelow, Phil Cerussi, Dan Bishop, Bob Timet, Karl Wilzer and Calvin Reichhold at parade rest after a volley of fire.

Three Rivers Leathernecks #310 Participated in the Veterans Sharing and Caring River Cruise on September 7, 2017





Tom Szmed has a quiet moment as the boat gets into position at the point where a wreath will be placed in the water. Detachment 310 will give a volley of fire after which Tom will play taps. (the entire video can be viewed on the MCL 3 Rivers Leathernecks website).



Bob Abbott (President) and Frank Lopes (Treasurer) of Sharing and Caring coordinates and hosts this annual event for the veterans four consecutive days each summer. This event is free to the veterans because of the generosity of their volunteers and fund-raising events during the year.



Matt Popovich prepares the firing squad prior to the singing of the National Anthem.



Matt Popovich coordinated the Three Rivers Leathernecks participation in the afternoon event. He and Tom Cusick (Sharing and Caring volunteer) go over the details.

Three Rivers Annual Golf Outing

On August 11th, the annual golf outing was held at the Pittsburgh North Golf Course where twenty foursomes gathered for a 10 a.m. scramble tee off. Many of the detachment members who volunteered arrived around 8 a.m. to set up and prepare for the golfers. The weather was rather 'iffy' but Mother Nature was kind and only sprinkled a little in the afternoon. The Chinese Auction array is always a draw with 13 baskets filled with various Steeler items, Marine items, original and one of a kind golf



theme metal sculptures hand made by award-winning artist Gene Lyle and cheer baskets to name a few. There were two special auction items; a Josh Harrison signed baseball bat and a football signed by Le'Veon Bell. Thanks to our returning and loyal guests our net profit was about \$8,000.



Brett and Phil Cerussi



Guest with Lou and Darlene Duffy



Janet Lindner and Paul Cusick



The Dave Giel Family



Phil Cerussi and Donna Wilzer



Loyal Volunteers



Jack Mennis and Grandson Zack Paper



Loyal Volunteers



Tom Holderman – has participated in the annual golf outing for many years. He is a sponsor and has donated the flat screen TV each year for the raffle.

Around Town With Three Rivers Leathernecks

- Commandant Karl Wilzer, Adjutant Phil Cerussi, and Don and Joyce Bailey (Young Marines) attended the Convention held June 21-24 in York, PA. A certificate of recognition was awarded to Don Bailey for recruiting, Phil Cerussi for pay master accounting and Three Rivers Detachment for VAVS participation.
- Commandant Karl Wilzer presented a 'Good Citizenship' award and USMC pocket survival knife to Anthony Michael Seelinger at the ceremonial dinner promoting him to Eagle Scout. Anthony will head to Paris Island in October to join the USMC. Also attending the July 9th award dinner were Jr. Vice Calvin Reichhold, Quarter Master Rick Barzen and member Jim Hughes.
- Member Capt. Jeremy Harbaugh and founder of the Wounded Heroes Hunting Camp (WHHC) held the 6th annual hunting outing 'Trap Shoot for Heroes.' Of the 80 participants, 13 were wounded heroes who were treated to a full day of outdoor shooting. WHHC is a non-profit organization and supported by the people of Pittsburgh; some of the board members are North Hills residents, one of which is member and past commandant, Joe Wadlow (owner of Monte Cello's on Babcock Blvd.).
- Joe Wadlow participated in a motor cycle escort for the Viet Nam Traveling Wall where he was told of Mr. Buddy Hindman of Butler who collected supplies for the Houston victims and personally drove a 54semitrailer to Houston and was getting ready to drive a second load. Joe reached out through Face Book and secured enough supplies to fill two box trucks which he took to Mr. Hindman.
- The annual pistol match held in June at Indiantown Gap once again presented Three Rivers members, the opportunity to show their skills. Many of the awards were won by Three Rivers members. All the results can be viewed at the MCL website.
- Monthly bingo games are held at the Aspinwall VA Hospital coordinated by Bob Timet.
- Thanks to all who were persistent in helping Bob Mell get a much-needed chair lift. We hope to see Bob again at the meetings. His presence is greatly missed.
- George Coppola spoke at the last MCL #310 meeting to emphasize the importance of registering with the VA system and getting an ID card. There are many services available to Vets and George made himself available for questions or assistance. George can be reached at 412-287-2678 or <u>coppolag1212@comcast.net</u>. Form can also be found on the 3 Rivers Leathernecks website.

THE REAL

Farewell and Semper Fi



John Thomas Roberts, active member of Three Rivers Leathernecks, passed away suddenly on September 7, 2017. Seventeen members of Three Rivers Leathernecks, plus two active reserve Marines stationed in North Versailles who folded and presented the flag to his wife, Rita, gathered to pay respect and give the final farewell salute. Commandant Karl Wilzer and Chaplin Gerry Kunic read the traditional prayers. Past Sr. Vice Bill Howrilla, boyhood friend who enlisted in the Corps at the same time as John, recited the 3rd stanza of The Marines Hymn and placed the Eagle, Globe and Anchor pin on Marine John Roberts.



Thomas W. Hartman passed suddenly on October 3, 2017. Tom was a loyal and active member of Three Rivers Leathernecks. Tom was also a Free & Accepted Mason, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Syria Shriners, Sovereign Military & Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta and Commander of American Legion Post 161. He was a gentleman and will be remembered for his warm personality and constant smile. Three Rivers Detachment will hold a final salute ceremony on Friday with military burial honors on Saturday. He is survived by his wife Nancy of 64 years of marriage.





Once a Marine, Always a Marine

Detachment Meetings

2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM

Our Detachment meetings are held at the **West View VFW Post 2754** at 386 Perry Highway which is close to the West View Shopper's Plaza (the old West View Amusement Park).

IMPORTANT DATE TO <u>REMEMBER</u>

 2ND Monday of each month at 6:30 PM - Help our
Veterans' by Volunteering at the Aspinwall Hospital. For More Information Contact
VAVS Chairman Robert Timet 412-369-5188

DETACHMENT CALENDAR ---- 2017

Rose Campaign – TBD Contact – Bob Timet – 412-369-5188

VAVS Soup Day at Aspinwall VA Hospital Contact – Bob Timet – 42-369-5188

> Marine Birthday Dinner November 5, 2017

2018

Annual Pasta Fund Raiser April 22,2018

Detachment 310 Picnic – August 26 Bob Timet (412) 369-5188