

Leatherneck Times

M a r i n e C o r p s L e a g u e P l y m o u t h D e t a c h m e n t

Special points of interest:

- Rotary Club donates big
- Mohegan Bus Trip Planned
- Welcome Aboard
- Avatar
- Commandants Corner

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Plymouth Rotary Backs Marines

In December of 2009 Detachment Commandant Sampson made a presentation to the Plymouth Sunrise Rotary Club about the mission of the Marine Corps League.

Sampson was invited to speak before the group at the behest of detachment member Allan Costa, who is also a member of the Rotary Club.

It was Allan's idea that the detachment should come before the group in hopes of garnering a donation. The detachment was in need of funding as part of the ongoing effort to become tax-exempt, which carries a \$300 price tag.

Between the efforts of Sampson and Costa the club looked favorably upon the request and donated the full



\$300 donation from Rotary Club

amount of \$300 to the detachment. This allows us to submit our application to the IRS immediately. Once the detachment gains tax-exempt status it will also be able to

apply for property tax exemption as well. As you know the detachment has as one of its main goals the commandeering of a building.

Obviously both the board of directors and the members of the detachment should be extremely happy at this latest donation. When asked Commandant Sampson said "This donation marks the beginning of a great relationship with businesses and social clubs in Plymouth".

On behalf of the League in Plymouth we offer a hearty Semper Fi to the Rotary Club and stand ready if ever they should need us.

Marine Night at Mohegan

At the January business meeting the Detachment announced its latest fundraiser.

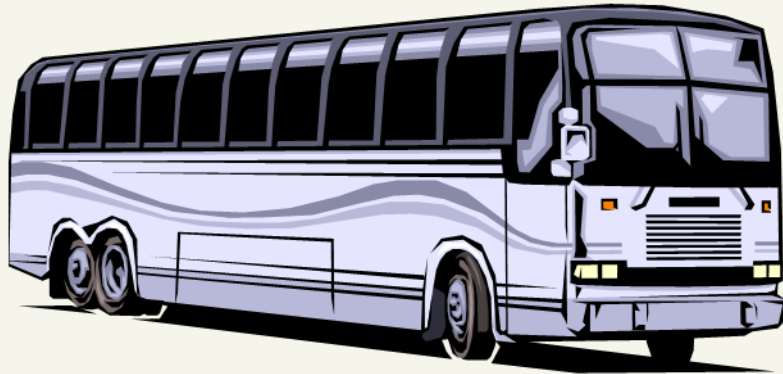
Marines will be going to Mohegan Sun Casino for a great night of eating, drinking, gaming and of course camaraderie.

The trip is scheduled for February 6, 2010 and the bus is leaving from the Legion parking lot at 1500. The tickets at just \$30 which also includes a \$15 meal voucher and a \$15 spin on the big wheel. That means the trip is FREE. The league has char-

tered a luxury bus with all the amenities on-board. You can bring coolers but make sure you don't have any glass bottles.

It is vital that we sell out the bus so that we can earn a profit. See you all there!

MARINES AT MOHEGAN NIGHT



The Plymouth Marine Corps League is going to the

Mohegan Sun Casino

Tickets are \$30

3PM-12PM (In Casino From 5-10PM)

For **Ticket Reservations Call John Murray @ 508-930-5537** or email your request to jarheadjohn1@gmail.com

Welcome Aboard Package

This month the detachment rolled out the first of its “Welcome Aboard” packages. The packages were the idea of Senior Vice Commandant Jones, who always felt it was important to give new members a great start.

The packages are a work in progress and will have more material and even a shirt in them when the detachment can afford it. For now the package includes a welcome letter

from the Commandant, a member database, uniform/cover order form, application, and prior newsletters.

It is the hope of the board that this package will make the new members feel more connected right away. They won’t have to figure out so much on their own and they can order a cover easily.

By including a spare application form we hope to encourage every new member to find at least one

other Marine to join the detachment. Every Marine knows at least one other Marine who might want to join.

The first “Welcome Aboard” package went out to our newest member, Gary Parziale. Gary is a school teacher and deputy sheriff in Plymouth County. The detachment is proud to count him as one of our own. Welcome Aboard Marine!



Corps official: Avatar ‘sophomoric’

Col. Bryan Salas’ letter:

Lost amid the staggering commercial success of “Avatar” and obscured by the punditry of the left and right as they debate James Cameron’s social and historical commentary are the real warriors whose heroism, valor and selfless service has allowed the U.S. to leave a war in Iraq that many in 2006 thought was unwinnable and indeed salvage success from the jaws of calamity.

“Avatar” takes sophomoric shots at our military culture and uses the lore of the Marine Corps and over-the-top stereotyping of Marine warriors to set the context for the

screenplay. This does a disservice to our Corps of Marines and the public’s understanding of their Corps.

The Marine Corps embraces a warrior-scholar mentality and prides itself on understanding host country narratives and sensitivities in complex climes and places. Gen. James Mattis, whose catch-phrase is “no better friend, no worse enemy,” better captures the essence of Marines who helped usher in the Sunni Awakening in Anbar province than the cinemagraphically convenient colonel-turned-mercenary antagonist in “Avatar.”

Let’s view “Avatar” for what it is, a leap in the wizardry of

cinema, a digital fantasy and a vehicle for a film-maker to make a statement, but not emblematic of the Marines who honorably fight and fall to win our nation’s real battles today.

Col. Bryan Salas director of public affairs

Headquarters Marine Corps

This does a disservice to our Corps of Marines and the public’s understanding of their Corps.





**M a r i n e C o r p s
L e a g u e P l y m o u t h**

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Semper Fidelis

The Marine Corps League Plymouth Detachment is now an official 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. We are now awaiting tax-exempt status from the IRS.

The League would also like to remind you that we now have a page on "Facebook" which helps us get the word out until our official website comes online. If you have any questions about Facebook or the internet call our WebSgt Chris Macintosh at: 781-264-7470

Our next meeting will be February 2nd, 2010 at the Legion Post #40 Plymouth

C o m m a n d a n t ' s C o r n e r

This year we shall set the mark of excellence and tradition. Every time we meet, it is clear to me that I am in good company. I welcome the new members and look forward to a bright future as both Veterans and Marines. God bless America and our Troops.

Commandant Sampson

January 2010

A key part of the Marine prayer:

"Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones, and Thee without shame or fear. If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith; if I am tempted, make me strong to resist; if I should miss the mark, give me courage to try again. Guide me with the light

of truth, and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answer to my prayer..... Help me wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold"