

## Commandant's Corner

For Marine recruits, it's now the Crucible: the big test to see if these "new guys" can be promoted to Marine.

For Marine Corps Leaguers, it's putting in time, money, sweat and tears to be of service at funerals, Toys for Tots, Marines helping Marines, planning and running a golf tournament and so on.

Marines from Detachment 1163 have gone beyond the call of duty. Within five days, there has been a full complement of Marines to take on three funerals, one at night. The riflemen have been squared away and have performed as Marines should, 7 M-1's firing as one, their squad leader using his DI training, barking out the orders. You guys were great. Our bugler keeps improving (or am I getting more sentimental: I love Taps). Families have given me a tearful thank-you and I have one who wants to make a donation to the Detachment. Don Smith, you are a rock or as the younger generation says, Don, you rock! Thanks.

Last night, the funeral home director said that if we only have 3 Marines to show up, that would be ok, the Army (National Guard) did that just a short time ago, and he gets few results when he calls on Ft. Bragg for assistance. Ten Marines (call them the A-team) reported for duty -- Fantastic, and we had that many and more at the two preceding funerals, all in only five days.

Mike Mooney has been working on our Web Page as well as Jerry "O" has developed a great Facebook page.

A big USMC salute to these two "teekies" and a huge USMC salute to all of you who have been on deck for all these events.

Insert the following URL in your internet browser and check out the Web Page, and in that page there is a link to the Facebook page:

<http://www.marinecorpsleague1163.com>

This Saturday, 4 March 2017 at 0830, we'll have our monthly breakfast and "sea story" get-together. That location is the 4 Peas in a Pod restaurant in Conover. If you can bring a "recruit" with you, that would be great. I have one who said he wants to come. We'll see.

Semper Fidelis, Marines

Bob