

Marines, Associate Members and Friends,

First of all, I would like to personally thank those of you who came through for me by helping out with Six Sundays. We were really under the gun with this one, because we didn't know that we would be allowed to participate until about a week before the first Sunday. Those who helped were as follows: Bob Cubillas, David Hochstrasser, Mike Seybert, Ed Whalen, Frank Kildea, Danny Richards, Ray O'Neill, Kevin Rumsey, Rob O'Loughlin Tammy Holt and Bob Hunter. Thanks again to you all!

Meet in the Streets was held this past Saturday and was a huge success for our detachment's fundraising efforts. I would like to thank those Marines who stepped up to the plate for this event as well. Events like this allow us to help our community and fellow Marines, so in the future please volunteer as your circumstances will allow. The Marines who signed up for this event were: Bob Cubillas, Dave Hochstrasser, Ed Whalen, George Cattelona, Danny Richards, Taylor Moore, Frank Kildea and Mike Seybert. Thanks Marines!

I was over at George Cattelona's house recently and looked at the deck project. Everything looks great! Hats off to our resident builder, Angelo DeBenedictis, and those who have helped him out thus far. If you have a free Saturday and would like to help, please let Frank Williams know so that he can add you to his list. Frank has done a wonderful job coordinating everything. Those who've helped out so far are: Dave Hochstrasser and son, Fred Leenerts and son, Mike Seybert, Danny Richards, Angelo DeBenedictis, John Madigan and Frank Williams. Oohrah!!!

I'm very proud of the help that the Air, Land, NC Detachment has been able to provide for our fellow Marines and our community in the past few months. We've raised hundreds of dollars for Wounded Warriors of Camp Lejeune, we've repaired a World War II Marine veteran's deck, we've made a contribution to help a young Marine that was wounded in Iraq to repair his home and make it more accessible for him and his young family. And, most recently, we are sponsoring a young man to Boys State camp to help develop his leadership abilities. The young man's name is David Tarangelo of Cardinal Gibbons High School. David is a high school senior, and after high school, he plans to attend the Naval Academy.

As you all know, Memorial Day will be observed on May 24th. On this day and every day, please remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and their families. Let us remember those who are now serving. Let us remember our veterans. And, let us not forget the risk to those who do the more mundane but equally important duties of military service... Those who rebuild and reopen schools, hospitals and roads; and those who uncover mass graves and provide for the proper internment of the victims of vile and evil men. God bless!!!

Semper Fidelis,

Mark Byrd  
Commandant