

Marine Corps League Presents Flag to Grand Lodge

July 12, 2011

On Monday, July 12, 2011 the Marine Corps League-North Shore Queens Detachment presented the Grand Lodge a United States Flag in recognition of the packages being sent to our Troops by the Veterans and Servicemen Committee. The Flag was Flown over Camp Leatherneck in Afghanistan on Independence Day, July 4, 2011.



Pictured above are members of the Grand Council and the Marine Corp League.

The Servicemen and Veterans Committee was originally set up to provide support and visitations to VA hospitals where simple gifts and good cheer would bring comfort to injured – many permanently disabled -- members of our armed forces. At a visitation to the Castlepoint VA Hospital in Beacon, NY, Pythians donated coffee makers and set up a social room for permanently disabled vets who live on premises.

In 2006, a New York Pythian and former Marine recognized that our service personnel in the middle east battle zones were not getting access to basic personal care products like shampoo, razor blades, snack foods, books, etc. and started soliciting products to send over.

It currently costs \$12.95 to ship one box via USPS. Since setting up, the Servicemen and Veterans Committee has raised enough money and material to box and ship about 900 boxes per year totaling over 5,000 individual packages to service men and women currently serving tours in Afghanistan and Iraq.