



IRON MIKE

An Official Publication of the

E.J. Brewer Marine Corps League Detachment 458 of New York

Edward J. Brewer, "Joe," was an Elmira native who enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1967. Joe requested a transfer from desk duty to combat duty. He was killed in action by enemy fire while on patrol near Quang Nam, Vietnam on 06 February 1968.



Issue: March 2026

Website: www.ejbrewermarines.com

Next Detachment Meeting: March 5, 2026 at 1900 Hours at 1140 Sullivan Street, Elmira, NY

VETERANS' CRISIS LINE - 800.273.8255 - PRESS 1

Detachment Officers

Commandant	John Sabatini	eightactual@gmail.com	607.232.2471
Senior Vice Commandant	Robert Ostrander	ostranderrj77@gmail.com	607.483.0919
Junior Vice Commandant	Janis Witchey Lunger	janis.witchey@gmail.com	607.331.8747
Paymaster	Robert Conrad	swtrobort@msn.com	607.259.5882
Adjutant	James Turpin	jameseturpin@icloud.com	607.733.1109
Sergeant-atArms	Ken Andrus	klandrus@stny.rr.com	607.739.1352
Chaplain	Nick Paluszkiewicz	ptwelve1@gmail.com	607.873.4958
Press Officer	James Turpin	jameseturpin@icloud.com	607.733.1109
Judge Advocate	Kevin Loukopoulous	kevinloukopoulous@gmail.com	607.425.2098
Public Information Officer	Jack Schamel	Usmc1954@gmail.com	607.738.7194

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

I'm looking forward to serving as your Commandant. We have a very active, vibrant detachment. We have increased our membership and our membership participation. Moving forward it's important to build on our successes and continue to grow. Thank you for your faith, trust, and confidence.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank everyone for their vote of confidence and nominating & electing me as the next Sr. Vice Commandant of the EJ Brewer Detachment. I have some pretty big shoes to fill, and will do my best to fulfill the requirements of the position. I look forward to serving as the next Sr. Vice Commandant. Thank you again.

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 2026 MEETING

- Meeting called to order at 1902 hours.
 - Sergeant at Arms presented the colors and the POW/MIA flag.
 - Sergeant at Arms led the detachment in the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - Chaplain opened meeting with prayer
- Roll call of officers was held.
 - All officers were present or accounted for.
- Installation of officers was led by Junior Vice Commandant.
 - Names of officers are in the last meeting minutes and the Iron Mike.
- Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as posted in the Iron Mike by voice vote with no dissent.
- No correspondence
- Paymaster report:
 - Working Capital: \$15,119.89
 - FAST Balance: \$3354.86
 - Total Reserve funds: \$18,474.75
 - Total income for month: \$715.36
 - Total expenses for month: \$2304.49
 - Month overall: -\$1589.13
- Motion was made to approve the paymaster's report as delivered which passed by voice vote with no dissent.
- Report of members sick or in distress
 - Two were reported, and the Chaplain suggested that detachment members try to visit them.
- Reports of officers:
 - Senior Vice Commandant pointed out the volunteer hours form that must be completed.
- Standing committees reports:
 - Ball committee. First meeting 11 February at 1800 hours at HQ
 - Scholarship committee. Posters are in the commandant's office with the applications. Commandant stated that posters and applications will be taken to local schools. Scholarships will be distributed at the family picnic, 3 of \$1500 each.
 - Golf committee. Will begin activities in March. Sponsorship and player fees will rise in 2026.
- Special committees:
 - Young Marines graduation is upcoming on 8 February 1600 hours at Family Fitness Center
 - 27 February a table will be set up to recruit at Ernie Davis Academy.

- Dine In Night. Proposal for Detachment dine in night for members and spouses. 16 May 2026, 1800 hours,
- Motion was made and seconded to hold event at Libs Supper Club. Adopted unanimously.
- Motion was made to adopt the event as stated. Motion was made and seconded. Discussion: Dwyer fund will cover up to \$2000. Motion passed unanimously
- Motion was made and seconded to hold on the date proposed. Motion passed unanimously.
- Unfinished Business
 - Looked into MS Office, won't allow free use due to our organizational structure. Proposal made to pay \$80 per year for one user. Motion made, seconded, and unanimously passed.
- New Business
 - Current cost \$30 per month to distribute Iron Mike. Proposal was made to send via email and post on website and discontinue printing and mailing. Proposal made to print one copy and bring to meeting for anyone who wants to read it. Motion was made and seconded, then passed unanimously.
 - Discussion was had to determine if there is a cost for formatting. Senior Vice Commandant said he would find out.
 - Second motion to table discussion until March detachment meeting. Motion was tabled
- Good of the League
 - Suggestion that all new members of the Honor Guard should be voted in by detachment members.
 - Commandant will find national or state rules for honor guard and report back.
- Colors were retired, prayer led, and meeting closed at 1958 hours.

New officers

Officers have been installed/appointed.

Commandant- John Sabatini

Senior Vice- Rob Ostrander

Junior Vice- Janis Lunger

Staff Judge Advocate- Kevin Loukopoulous

Adjutant- James Turpin

Press Officer- James Turpin

Public Affairs Officer- Jack Schamel

Paymaster- Robert Conrad Robert Conrad 607-259-5882/swtrobort@msn.com

Chaplain- Nick Paluszkiewicz

CHAPLAIN REPORT

1. Bob Guzman is back home
2. Chris Kamas is in the Chemung County Nursing Facility, Ng home.

HONOR GUARD REPORT

of Parades: 0

of Ceremonial Events: 0

of Funerals: 1 (Glenn House-2/5/26); 7 Detachment members participated

PAYMASTER

At last meeting we approved extending the current budget to June 30th, 2026 in order to get us Myself and Robert Conrad are working to make the transition from me to him smooth. With that being said, everything should be transferred to Robert by the March meeting. As of right now, the account looks as follows:

Working Capital - \$14,167.42

FAST Balance - \$3,354.86

Total Reserve Funds - \$17,522.28

Monthly Income - \$0.32 (I still have money to deposit but I did not get a chance too since I went on vacation)

Monthly Expenses - \$952.47

Ball Committee:

We had our first meeting on 2/11/2026. The committee has established the timeline and deadlines for the ball. The following are key dates:

11/7/2026 - Ball

7/2/2026 - Tickets will go on sale to MEMBERS ONLY

8/6/2026 - Ball ads to members for sale

9/3/2026 - Tickets go on sale for NON-MEMBERS

10/23/2026 - Ball Ads to be turned in

Other important information:

- When tickets go on sale to members, members will only be able to buy two tickets until tickets go on sale to non-members.
- Ticket prices have NOT been set yet. We are waiting until we can get all the information on venue, food etc.
- Ball ads received after 10/23 will be put in the following years programs.
- While Ill Eagle Tap house is still on the table for a venue, we are also looking at other venues that can accommodate us.
- To ensure more accurate record keeping, one person will collect the money & ads. This person will also track the ads we have. Once all ads and money have been recorded, all monies will be given to the paymaster for deposit. The ads will then be turned over to the individual who is going to be developing the programs.

- As for the ceremony, we will be doing the same ceremony this year. Because of that, we will need four Honor guard members in uniform for the presentation of colors.

YOUNG MARINES

Young Marines:

We currently have 5 Privates. We have several potential recruits going through the registration process.

The month of February:

- In addition, we will be having a table at EDA during the lunch periods (thanks to Steve Paciorek) on Feb. 27th.
- Training consisted of Knot tying class which was held at the Elmira Heights FD (thanks to Joe for setting that up)
- Kids attended orientation at the Tangle wood Nature Center. In the future, we plan to leverage their services to provide additional outdoor training for the Privates.

CAR DECAL AVAILABLE



If you would like one or more decals let me know. They are \$5.00 each.

THEY SUPPORTED US SO NOW WE NEED TO SUPPORT THEM

A.R.T.S Auto Service
Banfield Baker Corp
Barber Funeral Home
Barrett Bowhunting
Beijing Garden
Bernie Murray's
Bethie's Place
Big Flats Legion Post 1612
Bill's Locksmithing
Bradley Farms
Buckley's Automotive
Carbonic Systems
Casella
Charm Pool
Clune Insurance
CMD Group
Confidential Brokerage
Curren Powe Sports
DiPetta Chiropractic

Fix Rite Service
G & G Consulting
George Hoare Memorial Co., Inc
Gerould's Pharmacy
Greg's Auto Body
Hands on Chiropractic
Herman's Auto Repair
Hilliard
Humula – Allstate Agency
Jim's Gym
John Mills Electric
Mammoth Designs
Manzari's Grill
Mengel, Metzger & Barr
Nick's Pub & Grill
N W Technology Consulting
Nel's Tractor
Nucor/Vulcraft
Olthof Funeral Home

Donavan's Auto
Edgar Enterprises
Elbow Room
Empower FCU
Farmers Insurance
First Heritage FCU
Sand Box
Sanitary Barber
Schamel Brother Contractors
Seneca Lake Wine Driver
Seneca Lodge
Sullivan's Funeral Home
Tomasso's
Vandusen Machinery
Wally's Hall of Fame
Walter J Kent Funeral Home
Wilke & Baker Dentistry
Zeigler Florists
Barrett Funeral Home