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May 6, 2007

**Mr. Kevin Lyons
President, NYPD Anchor Club
80-04 208th Street
Hollis Hills, NY 11427**

Dear Mr. Lyons:

I am an alumnus of both St. Dominic's Convent, Blauvelt, New York and St. Agnes Home and School for Boys, Sparkill, New York (and a member of the St. Agnes Alumni Association).

Your recent request for stories about the NYPD Anchor Club from any former children from these Homes who remembers and benefited from its many activities over the past 70 years or so, was in our current STAAA Newsletter published by Art and Gloria Kingsley, who you telephoned concerning this.

Attached is but one story about one family that not only remembers the wonderful things your organization did, and continues to do, for orphans and abandoned children, is sent not only to record this family's recollections, but to use the occasion by asking you to express our thanks and heartfelt appreciation for the wonderful activities you provide. You are indeed a very unique organization and your accomplishments in this area only lend to the already stellar reputation of the entire New York Police Department.

It was my pleasure writing this story, for reasons stated therein, and I hope in some small way it shows your membership what they have and will continue to accomplish, for the most vulnerable, neglected children in need of the caring you provide.

Sincerely, and Semper Fidelis,

**Gerald F.Merna
1stLt USMC (Ret.)**

PS I am also sending a copy of this to several St. Agnes Alumni, including the Webmaster of our on-line web site, www.stagnesalumni.org.