



LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636
Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.

VOLUME XII, Number 6

JUNE 1999

Highlights

**CENTRAL BUCKS
DETACHMENT #636**
P. O. Box 1372
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372
Ph: (215) 822-6723
FAX: (215) 822-0163
Meets
7:30 p.m.,
2d Wednesday of Month
American Legion Post 210
315 North Street
Doylestown, PA

COMMANDANT:
ELLIS M. "BUDD" PEARCE, PC

Sr. VICE COMMANDANT
WILLIAM R. MILLER

Jr. VICE COMMANDANT:
PAUL CAPRIO

ADJUTANT:
GARY SMITH

PAYMASTER:
ROBERT C. CODY

JUDGE ADVOCATE:
BOB MOMORELLA

QUARTERMASTER:
ROBERT DUFF

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
ROBERT A. SUNDLING

CHAPLAIN,
P. R. Officer & Editor:
DON H. GEE, PC

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held May 12, 1999, at Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 22 members present including all officers. Distinguished members in attendance included **National Public Relations Officer** and **Past Commandant Don Gee**; **Past Commandants Don Parzanese Sr.** and **Frank Yohe**; **Past Department of New Jersey Commandant Ed Hoth**; and **Marine of the Year Bob Sundling**.

The minutes of the April Meeting were unanimously approved.

The Paymaster's Report was presented by **Paymaster Bob Cody**. The report was unanimously accepted.

Sick & In Distress: **Marine Al Brand** is ill and recuperating at home.

New member: **Marine Tracy Brockman** was unanimously approved for membership.

Commandant Budd Pearce reported he had received correspondence from the *Allentown Morning Call* seeking war stories from veterans which the newspaper planned to print on Memorial Day.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Miller reported the Detachment strength at 48 members: 31 regular members; 13 Life Members; 4 Associate Members; and 2 Delinquent Members.

Junior Vice Commandant Paul Caprio reminded the members that the ticket stubs and money for the Department of Pennsylvania Raffle are due at the next meeting. He

(Continued on Page 3)

THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE AT 1930 ON 9 JUNE 1999
AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST, 315 NORTH ST., DOYLESTOWN

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

When you get this "*Listen Up!*", the Memorial Day Parade and ceremonies will already be history. I want to thank all of our members who gave their time to come out and make the Detachment look good. Thanks again to **Wil Haas** for the outstanding job he did on the new float decoration. For those of you who haven't seen the latest addition to our float, Wil put together a great replica of the Iwo Jima flag-raising. Be sure to be at the 4th of July parade this year and check it out.

Speaking of the 4th of July parade, it is on the 3rd of July this year. We will muster at the New Britain Center at or about 8:30 a.m. and get the float ready. The parade kicks off at 10 a.m. This year, those in charge of the parade are having a float contest. Our float will be judged in the "Patriotic" category. Unless someone comes up with a really amazing float, our's just might take that prize. The Detachment needs your body at this parade. Don't worry, there is plenty of room on the float; come fill it up! After we reach the park, at the end of the parade, there will be sandwiches and cold drinks for everyone, as usual. My wife said that if anyone wants anything special, that's tough...no, you're supposed to let me know at the June Meeting.

The Pistol Team has been practicing and it appears we are improving. If we continue to improve at our present rate, we may be able to win a trophy by the time I'm about 80. Oh well, that gives me something extra to live for. I don't mean to make it sound like we are in need of more shooters, but we ARE in need of someone who can shoot! I'm glad we do this for fun and not the big money. Think about coming out with us next year; it's really a lot of fun and the competition isn't too steep.

The Department Convention is in June and we will have our scrapbook entered in the Americanism competition again this year. We have earned First Place for a number of years and I hope to bring home another award this time. The Detachment Colors will be on the floor of the Convention again this year. The Convention will be at the Holiday Inn in New Cumberland. There are a lot of things to do if you go out during the week, but the main meetings and the Department Raffle drawing take place on Saturday, the 18th. I will be happy to supply you with full information and a map, if you are interested in attending.

I want to thank all of the Detachment officers--elected and appointed--for serving this year and I am looking forward to a great year for the Central Bucks Detachment. I also want to thank our newest member, **Marine Track Brockman**, for joining our Detachment in May. I am sure he will find our members to be among the finest Marines he has ever met. It won't be long until he is as proud as I am to be a member of the Central Bucks Detachment. Come out to the June meeting, say hello to Tracy, and find out all the scoop on upcoming Detachment happenings. See you at the meeting!



LISTEN UP!

LISTEN UP! is the internal information publication of the **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636** of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc. It is published monthly by and for the members of the Central Bucks Detachment.

Semper Fi,

Budd Plance

also reported a down payment had been made with "Town & Country Players" for our August 15 show----cost is \$10 per ticket. Contact Paul at (215) 674-4111 for more details.

Adjutant Gary Smith reported he had received no correspondence in addition to that already announced.

Judge Advocate Bob Momorella reported the Detachment had no legal problems and that the Detachment was now incorporated in conformance with directions from the Department of Pennsylvania.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling reported everything is ready for the Memorial Day Parade in Doylestown.

Quartermaster Bob Duff reminded the members that he will accommodate "special" orders for items if the members want something.

Public Relations Officer Don Gee, PC, set May 20 as the deadline for the June "Listen Up!" He also reported the Marine Corps League pamphlet he designed for the National organization has been approved by the Commandant of the Marine Corps and will, therefore, be placed in the 13 Marine Corps "Separation Centers." nationwide. **Advertising Coordinator Bob Momorella** reported he was putting together an updated list of advertisers for the June issue.

STANDING COMMITTEES

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY--Coordinator Budd Pearce has set Saturday, July 17, as the next clean-up date.

YOUNG MARINES--Young Marines Liaison Bob Sundling reported the Young Marines are now meeting on Thursday nights rather than on weekends. **Past Commandant Don Parzanese Sr.** received a "Thank You" note from a citizen for returning some money he found during the clean-up.

AD-HOC COMMITTEES

A-DAY PARKING--A-Day Parking Coordinator Bob Momorella thanked the 14 Detachment members who turned out for this effort, making it the success that it was.

PARADE COMMITTEE--Commandant Pearce will set a time and date to assemble the float before we participate in the Memorial Day Parade in Doylestown. Members taking part were to meet on Logan St. (aka "Hot Rod Alley", "Smokers Alley") across from Central Bucks West High School at 10 a.m. Uniform for the Parade is Short-Sleeve White Shirt w/ribbons & badges, black/dress blue trousers and MCL garrison cover. The Detachment will also take part in the 4th of July Parade in New Britain. The Commandant stated the New Britain parade this year will have a float competition and the Detachment Float will be entered in the "Patriotic" category.

NEW BUSINESS

Commandant Pearce presented a Certificate of Appreciation to **Mess Sergeant Wil Haas** for his effort in constructing the Iwo Jima Flag-Raising replica which is now a part of the Detachment's Parade Float.

Marine Mike Waldron motioned the Detachment donate \$200 to the New Britain Police Department for their assistance during A-Day. The motion was defeated. **Sergeant-at-Arms Sundling** motioned the Detachment donate \$50 to one of the charitable programs of both the Doylestown and New Britain Police Departments for their assistance during A-Day. The motion passed. Letters of Appreciation from the Commandant will accompany the donations.

Adjutant Smith suggested the Detachment have pamphlets available at next year's A-Day for recruiting purposes. Commandant Pearce stated new pamphlets would be printed as soon as possible.

Judge Advocate Momorella suggested we have Marine Corps League signs made up and displayed with the other organization signs at the north and south approaches to Doylestown. Commandant Pearce said he would check on this.

Commandant Pearce reminded the members the Department of Pennsylvania Convention is set for June 17 and 18 in Harrisburg. Anyone interested in attending the Convention should contact him at (215) 343-5609 for further details.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Past Commandant Parzanese and **Paymaster Cody** will represent the Detachment on Sunday, May 30, at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church.

Commandant Pearce invited members to attend and represent the Detachment at the Memorial Day Service on Sunday, May 30, at Neshaminy of Warwick Presbyterian Church.

Public Relations Officer Gee announced the A&E Cable Network will air "Women Warriors" on Monday, May 17.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 1930 on June 9.

WHO DOES RATE A PURPLE HEART?

The Army is under siege from irate veterans who don't think three soldiers beaten by their Yugoslav captors suffered enough to earn a Purple Heart.

Defense Department officials say veterans are jamming phone lines, sending e-mails to the Pentagon and flooding call-in shows complaining that a few cuts and bruises, even broken bones, do not deserve the medal.

Arthur Monosson, 74, a World War II veteran told *The Dallas Morning News* that to make heroes out of the soldiers, who had not fired at an enemy, "is an insult to every World War II vet, Korean vet and Vietnam veteran who saw combat."

Many veterans argue that **Staff Sergeants Christopher Stone and Andrew Ramirez** and **Specialist Steven Gonzales** were only doing their jobs when they were captured by Serb forces in Macedonia near the Yugoslav border Mar. 31. They were freed 32 days later.

The three were awarded the Purple Heart in a ceremony in Germany on May 6.

The award is bestowed upon members of the military who are wounded or killed in hostile action or who are wounded while held as a prisoner of

foreign forces or while being taken captive.

Veterans argue that giving the medal to soldiers who weren't wounded in a firefight devalues its meaning.

But Army spokesman **LtCol. William Wheelehan** says the three soldiers qualify because they "were interrogated and beaten in a combat zone."

"People don't understand," said **Maj. Shelly Stellwagen**, an Army spokeswoman. "You don't have to be shot to get a Purple Heart. It's pretty clear from the treatment they got that they deserve recognition because of their injuries."

The requirements for earning a Purple Heart have changed since World War II.

In 1962, the eligibility requirements were changed to include "individuals wounded while prisoners of foreign forces."

Ten years later, victims of terrorist attacks were included.

The three soldiers probably don't consider all the aggravation worth it, but as former POWs they will also receive nearly \$5,000 in extra pay for their 33 days of captivity.

Pentagon sources said the Office of the Secretary of Defense is expected to approve an Army request that the cavalry troopers be paid full per diem of \$4,996.48 each. The pay is an entitlement under federal law.

Cpl. Chesty Gets Good Conduct Medal

WASHINGTON, DC--**Corporal Chesty XI**, the official mascot of the Marine Barracks, Washington, DC, received the Good Conduct Medal, first award, Apr. 30.

Since enlisting in the Marine Corps on Aug. 24, 1995, this brindle and white-colored pedigreed English bulldog has risen to the rank of Corporal and now adds a new medal to her uniform.

Due to poor performance last parade season, this award was suspended for almost nine months after she failed to sit during three consecutive parades. Now, after a period of suspension, the Barracks Commanding Officer feels **Molly** has conducted herself in a credible manner to earn her medal.

The duties of "Chesty" include serving as the official mascot of the Marine Barracks, appearing weekly at the renowned Evening Parades and Sunset Parades. During her off-duty hours, Chesty remains closely involved with the community. She visits nursing homes, hospitals, Boy Scout troops, etc. Most recently, she visited a young boy with leukemia and a young man paralyzed from a gunshot wound.

Chesty XI had to overcome a less than stellar beginning in her Marine Corps career. Early in her first parade season, she received a derogatory entry in her Service Record Book for failure to obey orders to sit during several parades. That prevented her recommendation for pro-

motion to Lance Corporal.

In her rebuttal, Molly stated she felt the non-recommendation was severe due to the weather conditions at the time of the incidents.

"As a Marine, I am aware I am expected to carry out orders regardless of weather conditions, however, the concrete on Center Walk was very chilly during the past two parades. Furthermore, publicly planting my bare butt on ice-cold concrete before a large crowd of picture-taking strangers in something above and beyond what is expected of most Marines," she stated.

Her rebuttal obviously didn't sway the mind of then Barracks Commanding Officer, **Colonel David G. Dotterer**, because it was several more months before the "Devil Pup" pinned on her Lance Corporal chevrons.

VA Burial Benefits

Veterans with discharges other than dishonorable, their spouses and dependent children are eligible for burial in Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemeteries. VA also provides grave markers or headstones for the unmarked graves of eligible veterans even if they are not buried in a National Cemetery. VA does not reserve space in National Cemeteries prior to the time of need. Information on VA burial benefits is available from National Cemetery Offices and VA Regional Offices.

For more information, call 1-800-827-1000, or visit the VA home page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.va.gov>.

Attention Marines!

The Next
Highway Clean-Up
Will Be On
Saturday, July 17
(Rain Date: July 24)

Meet at Lu's Place
at 8 a.m.

RESULTS OF 1998 USMCR 'TOYS-FOR-TOTS' CAMPAIGN

WASHINGTON--The final tallies are in and the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation announced the 1998 U. S. Marine Corps Reserve "Toys for Tots" Campaign was a resounding success. The final reports from Marine Corps Reserve units and Marine Corps League Detachments, which conducted "Toys for Tots" campaigns in 314 communities across the nation, revealed that more than 11,200,000 new toys were collected and distributed.

With these toys, Marines brought holiday joy to more than 4,800,000 needy children. The 1998 campaign covered all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa. The number of toys collected during 1998 surpassed the old record of 10,000,000 set in 1997.

Factors contributing to the success of "Toys for Tots" in 1998 include the hard work and dedication of the 314 "Toys for Tots" Coordinators, strong support from local business leaders and individual Americans, corporate support, and an

intensive public information campaign.

"Toys for Tots" has been the U. S. Marine Corps' premiere community ac-

tion program and one of the nation's flagship holiday charitable causes for 51 years.

How To Get Your Marine Corps Medals

Requests for medals from the Marine Corps and Navy should be sent to: U.S. Navy Liaison Office, National Personnel Records Center, Room 34375, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132-5100.

The veteran's full name should be clearly printed or typed so that it can be easily read.

The request must contain the signature of the veteran, or the signature of the next of kin if the veteran is deceased. Include the veteran's branch of service, service number or social security number, and the dates of service, or at least the approximate years.

If available, include a copy of the discharge or separation document, WDDAGO Form 53.55 or DD Form 214. If possible, send the request on Standard Form 180, "Request Pertaining

to Military Records."

These forms are generally available from the VA Regional Office on Wissahickon Ave., in Philadelphia..

DID YOU KNOW...

Guidon - literally "guide on" was a marker on which combatants depended for instructions in the days of smoky battlefields when ranks of soldiers faced each other. The Guidon would tell them which way to face, to prepare to fire, and to advance or retreat.

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St. Louis, MO 63132-5200

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1-800-SSA-1213

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MARINE CORPS DATELINES



JUNE

- 14—(1898) Two companies of Marines defeated Spanish near Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
- 15—(1944) 2d and 4th Marine Divisions made assault landing on Saipan.
- 16—(1941) 1st Provisional Marine Brigade activated for duty in Iceland.
- 17—(1979) Col. Valeria Hilgart became first woman Marine to assume duties as Chief of Staff of a major command (Albany, GA).
- 18—(1945) Army LtGen. Simon Buckner killed and Marine MajGen. Roy S. Geiger assumed command of the 10th U.S. Army on Okinawa.
- 19—(1888) Marines landed in Korea and marched 25 miles to protect Seoul, Korea.
- 20—(1866) 50 Marines and seamen landed at New Chwang, China, to assure punishment for those who attacked an American official.
- 21—(1945) Battle for Okinawa ended as LtGen. Geiger raised flag.
- 22—(1954) President Eisenhower authorized use of first Official Marine Corps Seal.
- 23—(1812) Marine Lt. John Heath became first casualty of War of 1812.
- 24—(1900) Legation Guard joined Allies to repulse heavy Chinese Boxer attack.
- 25—(1918) 4th Brigade secured Belleau Wood, Chateau Thierry, France.
(1950) Korean War began as Communists invaded South Korea.
- 26—(1891) USMC established first post at Port Royal, SC, later known as Paris Island.
- 27—(1916) 4th Marines defeated Dominican rebels in a stand-up bayonet attack.
- 28—(1918) Marines landed at Vladivostok, Russia, to protect Consulate.
- 29—(1963) VMF (AW)-314 recived first F4B "Phantom" jets.
- 30—(1834) Congress placed Marine Corps under Navy jurisdiction.

JULY

- 1—(1920) MajGen John A. Lejeune became the 12th Coammandant of the Marine Corps.
- (1991) Gen. Carl E. Mundy Jr. assumed duties as the 30th Commandant of the Marine Corps.
- 2—(1891) Marines began protecting seal herds against poachers ion the Bering Sea.
- 3—(1864) Marines participated in skirmish near White Point, SC, during the Civil War.
- 4—(1800) U.S. Marine Band played at Tun Tavern, Philadelphia, in first public appearance.
(1834) President Andrew Jackson ordered green and buff as Corps' uniform colors.
- 5—(1943) 1st Raider Regiment landed against Japanese on New Georgia Island.
- 6—(1905) Marines escorted body of John Paul Jones from France to Annapolis.
- 7—(1941) 1st Marine Aircraft Wing commissioned at Quantico, VA.
- 8—(1930) MajGen Commandant Wendell C. Neville, 14th Commandant, died in office.
- 9—(1846) Marines and seamen occupied Sonoma, CA, after prioclaiming California part of the U.S. (Mexican War).
- 10—(1919) Submarine chaser turned over to Corps with first all-Marine crew.
(1941) 2d Marine Aircraft Wing commissioned at San Diego, CA.
- 11—(1798) USMC reestablished by Act of Congress, succeeding Continental Marines.
- 12—(1798) Major William Ward Burrows appointed 2d Commandant by President Adams.
- 13—(1954) 3dMarDiv placed on 24-hour alert, prepared to move in support of the French in Indochina. Alert was later cancelled.
- 14—(1853) Commodore Matthew Perry, escorted by Marines and seamen, landed at Uruga, Japan. Maj. Jacob Zeilin was the 2nd man to go ashore.
- 15—(1958) Battalion Landing Team 2/2 landed across the beaches at Beirut, Lebanon.
- 16—(1861) Maj. J. G. Reynolds commanded 350 Marines in the First Battle of Bull Run.
- 17—(1990) 200 members of the Marine Barracks, Subic Bay, Philippines, helped rescue survivors in Cabanatuan after the island was hit by an earthquake measuring 7.7 on the Richter scale. More than 300 civilians were killed.
- 18—(1918) 4th Brigade sustained 1,972 casualties in attack on Soissons, France.
- 19—(1779) 300 Continental Marines attacked the British at Fort George, Penobscot Bay.
- 20—(1950) Organized Marine Corps Reserve mobilized for duty in Korea.
- 21—(1944) 3dMarDiv, 1st Provisional Brigade and Marine Aircraft Group 21 landed to recapture Guam.
- 22—(1919) Two companies of Quantico Marines helped civil authorities restore order in Washington, DC, after race riots.
- 23—(1944) Elements of the 3dMarDiv completed the occupation of Cabras Island, Tinian.
- 24—(1944) Artillery, air, naval bombardment softened Tinian for 4thMar Div landing.
- 25—(1777) Congress authorized \$4 weekly subsistence for Marine officers.
- 26—(1861) Act of Congress increased Marine Corps authorized strength to 93 officers and 3,074 enlisted men.
- 27—(1898) Marines from USS DIXIE first to raise the American flag over Puerto Rico.
(1953) Korean Conflict ended.
- 28—(1918) BrigGen John A. Lejeune assumed command of the 2d U.S. Army Division in France.
- 29—(1919) Detachment of Marines from USS NEW ORLEANS prepared to land at Tyutuke Bay (near Vladivostok), Russia, to protect American interests during a period of political disturbances.
- 30—(1889) Marines landed at Honolulu, Hawaii, to protect American lives and property duiring election disturbances.
- (1918) The 1st Marine Aviation Force arrived in France.
- 31—(1813) Marines landed at York, Lake Ontario, with soldiers, to burn stores and barracks of the British.



Application for Membership Marine Corps League

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I hereby apply for membership in the **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT**, Marine Corps League, and enclose \$30.00 for one year's membership (which includes subscription to **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MAGAZINE**).

I hereby certify I have served as a U.S. Marine for more than 90 days, the character of my service has been honorable and, if discharged, I am in receipt of an Honorable Discharge. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of Honorable Discharge/service upon request.

(Sponsor - where applicable)

(Applicant's Signature)

Remit this form with check or money order (made payable to **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, MCL**)
to: **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, P.O. Box 1372, Doylestown, PA 18901-1372**

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT
Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.
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"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"