Central Bucks Detachment P.O. Box 1372 Doylestown, PA 18901

Meets 7:30 P.M. 2nd Wednesday of Month American Legion Post 210 315 North Street Doylestown, Pa.

EDITOR - BOB SCHAFFER

COMMANDANT - BUDD PEARCE

VOL. 7 NO. 5

### **NEWSLETTER**

**MAY 1994** 

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE APRIL DETACHMENT MEETING

Fifteen members were present including all officers except Jr. Vice, Tony Kimes and the Judge Advocate, Jim Marckstein. Also present were S.E. Div. Vice, Jim Bradford and Dept. Of Pa. Chaplain and Sgt. At Arms, Jim Miller who would preside over the installation of officers ceremony. Two visitors, Gary Smith and Russ Easly, who are potential members, also attended.

Former commandants, Don Parzanese, Frank Yohe and Bill Plant were recognized.

An application for membership from Gary J. Smith of Chalfont, Pa. was received and discussed, followed by an approval vote by those present. The initiation was ritual was performed by the commandant.

Minutes of the previous meeting and the treasurer's report were accepted and approved.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Doylestown Hospital has requested that the Detachment Color Guard participate in the 100th Anniversary Parade, in Doylestown, on May 7, 1994. The parade route will be from the center of Doylestown to the Hospital. All detachment members are invited to join the spectators along the parade route.

#### SR. VICE. - (DON GEE)

As of this date, our Detachment has 60 members. (Thirty-five regular, 14 life and 11 associate) A concentrated effort will be made in the coming months to increase that number substantially.

#### ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP - (MIKE WALDRON)

Saturday, April 23, 1994 (0800) will be the date for the Spring pickup of roadway trash that has accumulated throughout the winter months.

#### QUARTERMASTER

Many items are on sale at each Detachment meeting from the Locker Box. Sunbursts collar emblems will be coming in shortly and available at the next meeting.

#### POW/MIA - (BILL PLANT)

There is an excellent article in the March issue of the Legion magazine.

#### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Mike Waldron wished to register a complaint that the watches that are being sold by the Dept. Of Penna. Scholarship Fund are made in Japan. Why can't an American made product be sold for this purpose.

#### VAVS (DON GEE)

A meeting was held by the Advisory Committee to re-cap last years activities and to discuss plans for this seasons events. More information will be forthcoming the year progresses

#### YOUNG MARINES

A motion was made and passed to send our previously approved quarterly payments to the Young Marines. Additional grants will be sent as they become due.

#### PISTOL MATCH

The Department Of Pa. Pistol Matches will be held on June 4th and 5th. Anyone interested in participating please contact Budd Pearce as soon as possible since practice sessions will be held prior to that date.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Former Marine, Nate Hill, who lost his home in a fire, has been living in an apartment in Warrington, with his wife and three children, that was provided by the efforts of the American Legion, VA and the MCL. Right now they could use some canned food and other non-perishable items. If you wish to help out with this endeavor please contact Bill Plant (794-7701)

#### NEW BUSINESS

The 49th Annual Dept. Of Penna. Convention will be held in Erie, Pa. on June 23rd thru 25th. The Detachment voted to place an add in their program book.

#### INSTALLATION OF NEW DETACHMENT OFFICERS

Our guests, Jim Bradford and Jim Miller conducted the installation ceremony of the Detachment Officers for 1994-95 term.

There being no further business the closing ritual was performed.

NEXT REGULAR DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, 11 MAY 94 (1930) AT THE AMERICAN LEGION HOME ON NORTH STREET, DOYLESTOWN, PA.

## CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

P.O. Box 1372, Doylestown, PA 18901

#### **DETACHMENT OFFICERS 1993**

Commandant: Ellis (Budd) Pearce H: 343-5609, W: (609) 397-2343 Sr. Vice: Don Gee, 822-6723

Jr. Vice: Mike Waldron - 672-7095
Paymaster: Robert Cody, 343-8786

Judge Advocate: James Marckstein, 343-2786 Adjutant: Ray Krout, 822-2322 Chaplain: Frank Yohe: 659-1921 Sgt. at Arms: Bob Sundling, 348-8925 Newsletter Editor: Bob Schaffer, 345-1673

Meetings 2nd Wed. of Month 1930 hrs At American Legion Post 210 315 North Street

Doylestown, Pennsylvania



From The Desk Of BUDD PEARCE, Commandant Central Bucks Detachment, Marine Corps League

Marines,

The Detachment held their installation of officers at the April meeting. We were honored to have the S.E. Div. Vice, Jim Bradford and the Dept. of PA Chaplain, Jim Miller as installing officers. We also swore in a new member at the meeting and had a visitor that will be joining our ranks in May. I was please to see so many of our members turn out for the meeting in their uniforms. Wearing your uniform to as many meetings as you can shows your pride in the League and the Detachment. Even if you don't have a uniform you should still make every effort to attend as many meetings as possible throughout the year.

The car wash that was scheduled for April had to be cancelled due to heavy rain. Another date will be set to do the car wash and you will be notified in plenty of time. Remember, we need about 10 or 12 people to help out on this project, so get your name on the volunteer list by calling me at 343-5609 as soon as we can supply you with the dates.

Central Bucks Detachment's trash detail is growing!!!!
We had about 24 people turn out on a beautiful April
morning. I want to thank everyone that made it out to help.
Our next hwy. clean-up will be in August. The date of that
one will be announced at the May meeting. Even though it
seems like we get alot of people, feel free to come and take
a walk with us in August. We meet for breakfast and camaraderie
then go out for a nice little walk and manage to pick up a
little trash (and car parts) along the way. I sure hope to see
you out there with us on our next clean-up.

During the month of May the Detachment will be busy. First we're in the 100th Anniversary Parade, which our color guard has been asked to lead. We will be in the Doylestown Memorial Day Parade, as usual and will be leading the Chalfont/New Britian Parade on July 4th. Although only our color guard will be in the parade on 7 May, I hope everyone can, and will, come out for the others.

That's about it for now, as I am already late getting this to Bob Schaffer, and you all know how tough he can be! I'll see you all at our next meeting on 11 May. Come out and show your support!!

Semper Fib,
Thicke Helice
Commandant

# MARINE CORPS TRIVIA QUIZ

- 1. Who was largely responsible for developing the amphibious landing techniques in the Pacific during WWII?
- 2. Name the largest helicopter evacuation ever attempted.
- 3. How many awards did Chesty Puller earn during his Marine Corps career?
- 4. How many stars are found on the Medal of Honor ribbon?
- 5. Which U.S. President first ordered Marines to guard U.S. Navy ships? Answers in Next Month's Newsletter

#### ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S OUIZ

- 1. Lieutenant General Roy Geiger was the only Marinepresent aboard the USS Missouri during the Japanese surrender.
- 2. Units of the 1st Korean Marine Corps Regimen were allied with U.S. Marineunits during the Korean Conflict.
- 3. Staff Sergeant Robert Kennemore was the first Marine to win the Medal of Honor in Vietnam.
- 4. Major General John A. Lejeune was the first Marine to command an Army division in combat.
- 5. Seven Chinese communist divisions surrounded the 1stMarDiv at the Chosin Reservoir. The 1st Division literally destroyed three of these divisions. They were so decimated that they ceased to exist as functional combat units.

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# Rebirth of Tun Tavern

## Trying to rebuild place where first Marines enlisted

By Chris Lawson Times staff writer

PHILADELPHIA - In a smokey, Colonial tavern more than 218 years ago, the Marine Corps was born. Centuries later, a group of former Marines is trying to rebuild the

birthplace.

The Marine Corps Tun Tavern Association, a Philadelphia-based group, is trying to raise about \$1.5 million to build a replica of historic Tun Tavern, the place where the Corps' first officer and recruiter, Capt. Samuel Nicholas, enlisted the first two battalions of Continental Marines.

More than 30 former Marines like Ron Lankford, now a vice president of Philadelphia's Federal Reserve Bank, are rallying the cause. They want to rebuild Tun Tavern using original construction plans, and turn the site into a historic museum and fraternity house for all Marines.

"It's the one basic piece of our history that's missing. The birthplace," Lankford said. "We think it's important we do something to honor that.

memory."

While their goal is not unique - at least two similar projects were started then stalled in the past 20 years -Lankford said the year-old group is committed to erecting the building. It's already raised about \$72,000 and plans to start a nationwide direct-mail campaign this fall.

own Tun Tavern beer, a lager brew that's currently made and bottled by a small, local distributor. Lankford said the association is negotiating to sell the license to a national brewer, which could help raise as much as \$100,000 in annual royalties — funds that could be used to pay maintenance costs for the tavern. The label portrays a Continental Marine hoisting a brew in front of Tun Tavern.

The site of the original Tun Tavern, at the northeast corner of Tun Alley and South Water Streets, now houses a piling for the Delaware Valley Bridge. The new tavern will be built on city-owned land at the corner of Dock and Second Streets about 15 blocks from City Hall. A building foundation has already been poured.

Once the tavern is built, Lankford said officials plan to display Marine Corps artifacts and memorabilia from the Revolutionary War through Desert Storm. And for \$75, Marines can have their name, photograph and service biography included in a computer-operated display system.

"Twenty years after you retire, you can bring your family to Tun Tavern and tell them you own \$75 of that place," he said. "And you'll have the

documents to prove it.'

While many involved with the project would like to see the reconstructed tavern become a bar and restaurant, Lankford said his group wants to keep it a historic landmark.

Different people want to do it different ways, but we see it as being the historic birthplace of the United States Marine Corps," he said. However, Lankford said, once the money

For more information on the Tun Tavern Association, or if you want to make a contribu-tion, write: Tun Tavern Foundation Inc., P.O. Box 13882. Philadelphia, Pa., 19101-3882

has been raised, contributors will be surveyed for their opinions.

This is not the first time former Marines have tried to rebuild Tun Tavern. More than one past effort ended in failure. Complaints about mismanagement and squandering of donations by past groups still linger. But Lankford remains undaunted, and encourages potential contributors to have faith in the new group.

"There will be no questions about propriety this time around," he promised. The association has hired an independent accounting firm to oversee all accounts. Lankford insists his motives are simple: love of his Corps: "We're doing this for us - all Ma-

rines - and nothing else."

Just as most Americans can trace the nation's birth to July 4, 1776, in this historic city, so most any Marine can do the same with the Corps, which predates the Declaration of Independence by more than seven months. The date: Nov. 10, 1775. The place: Tun Tavern.

"Everybody who has ever stepped off the bus and onto the yellow footprints at Parris Island knows about Tun Tavern," Lankford said. "The lore and legend of the Marine Corps starts growing on you at once. This building will help keep the passion flowing.

## "Old Glory"

The name "Old Glory" was first applied to the U.S. flag by a young sea captain who lived in Salem, Mass. On his twenty-first birthday, March 17, 1824, Capt. William Driver was presented a beautiful flag by his mother and a group of Salem girls. Driver was delighted with the gift. He exclaimed, "I name her 'Old Glory." Then Old Glory accompanied the captain on his many voyages.

Captain Driver quit the sea in 1837. He settled in Nashville, Tenn. On patriotic days he displayed Old Glory proudly from a rope extending from his house to a tree across the street. After Tennessee seceded from the Union in 1861, Captain Driver hid Old Glory. He sewed the flag inside a comforter. When Union soldiers entered Nashville on February 25, 1862, Driver removed Old Glory from its hiding place. He carried the flag to the state capitol building and raised it.

Shortly before his death, the old sea captain placed a small bundle into the arms of his daughter. He said to her, "Mary Jane, this is my ship flag, Old Glory. It has been my constant companion. I love it as a mother loves her child. Cherish it as I have cherished it."

The flag remained as a precious heirloom in the Driver family until 1922. Then it was sent to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, where it is carefully preserved under glass today.



# CELEBRATING AMERICA'S FREEDOMS

## The Origins of Memorial Day

Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the head of an organization of former Union soldiers and sailors — the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) — established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan declared it should be May 30. The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. The cemetery already held the remains of 20,000 Union dead and several hundred Confederate dead.

The ceremonies centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant and other Washington officials presided. After speeches, children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the GAR made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns.

#### Local Observances Claim To Be First

Local springtime tributes to the Civil War dead already had been held in various places. One of the first occurred in Columbus, Miss., April 25, 1866, when a group of women visited a cemetery to decorate the graves of Confederate soldiers who had fallen in battle at Shiloh. Nearby were the graves of Union soldiers,

neglected because they were the enemy. Disturbed at the sight of the bare graves, the women placed some of their flowers on those graves, as well.

Today cities in the North and the South claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day in 1866. Both Macon and Columbus, Ga., claim the title, as well as Richmond, Va. The village of Boalsburg, Pa., claims it began there two years earlier. A stone in a Carbondale, Ill., cemetery carries the statement that the first Decoration Day ceremony took place there on April 29, 1866. Carbondale was the wartime home of Gen. Logan. Approximately 25 places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day, many of them in the South where most of the war dead were buried.

#### Official Birthplace Declared

In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, N.Y., the "birth-place" of Memorial Day. There a ceremony on May 5, 1866, was reported to have honored local soldiers and sailors who had fought in the Civil War. Businesses closed and residents flew flags at half-mast. Supporters of Waterloo's claim say earlier observances in other places were either informal, not community-wide or one-time events.

By the end of the 19th century, Memorial Day ceremonies were being held on May 30 throughout the nation. State legislatures passed

proclamations designating the day. The Army and Navy adopted regulations for proper observance at their facilities. It was not until after World War I, however, that the day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. In 1971 Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress, though it is still often called Decoration Day. It was then also placed on the last Monday in May, as were some other federal holidays.

#### Some States Have Confederate Observances

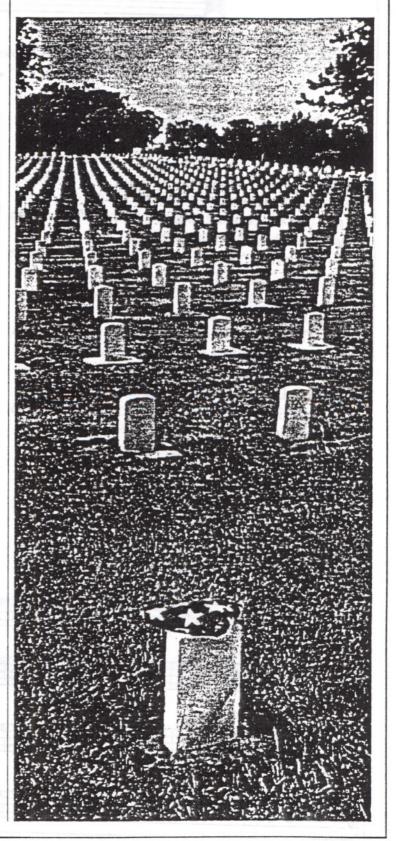
Many Southern states also have their own days for honoring the Confederate dead. Mississippi celebrates Confederate Memorial Day the last Monday of April, Alabama on the fourth Monday of April, and Georgia on April 26. North and South Carolina observe it May 10, Louisiana on June 3 and Tennessee calls that date Confederate Decoration Day. Texas celebrates Confederate Heroes Day January 19 and Virginia calls the last Monday in May Confederate Memorial Day.

Gen. Logan's order for his posts to decorate graves in 1868 "with the choicest flowers of springtime" urged: "We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. ... Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

The crowd attending the first Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery was approximately the same size as those that attend today's observance, about 5,000 people. Then, as now, small American flags were placed on each grave — a tradition followed at many national cemeteries today. In recent years, the custom has grown in many families to decorate the graves of all departed loved ones.

The origins of special services to honor those who die in war can be found in antiquity. The Athenian leader Pericles offered a tribute to the fallen heroes of the Peloponnesian War over 24 centuries ago that could be applied

today to the 1.1 million Americans who have died in the nation's wars: "Not only are they commemorated by columns and inscriptions, but there dwells also an unwritten memorial of them, graven not on stone but in the hearts of men."



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# ELEBRATING AMERICA'S FREEDOMS

## The Story of Taps

The 24-note melancholy bugle call known as "taps" is thought to be a revision of a French bugle signal, called "tattoo," that notified soldiers to cease an evening's drinking and return to their garrisons. It was sounded an hour before the final bugle call to end the day by extinguishing fires and lights. The last five measures of the tattoo resemble taps.

The word "taps" is an alteration of the obsolete word "taptoo," derived from the Dutch "taptoe."

Taptoe was the command — "Tap toe!" — to shut ("toe to") the "tap" of a keg.

The revision that gave us present-day taps was made during America's Civil War by Union Gen. Daniel Adams Butterfield, heading a brigade camped at Harrison Landing, Va., near Richmond. Up to that time, the U.S. Army's infantry call to end the day was the French final call, "L'Extinction des feux." Gen. Butterfield decided the "lights out" music was too formal to signal the day's end. One day in July 1862 he recalled the tattoo music and hummed a version of it to an aide, who wrote it down in music. Butterfield then asked the brigade bugler, Oliver W. Norton, to play the notes and, after listening, lengthened and shortened them while keeping his original melody.

He ordered Norton to play this new call at the end of each day thereafter, instead of the regulation call. The music was heard and appreciated by other brigades, who asked for copies and adopted this bugle call. It was even adopted by Confederate buglers.

This music was made the official Army bugle call after the war, but not given the name "taps" until 1874.

The first time taps was played at a military funeral may also have been in Virginia soon after Butterfield composed it. Union Capt. John Tidball, head of an artillery battery, ordered it played for the burial of a cannoneer killed in action. Not wanting to reveal the battery's position in the woods to the enemy nearby, Tidball substituted taps for the traditional three rifle volleys fired over the grave. Taps was played at the funeral of Confederate Gen. Stonewall Jackson 10 months after it was composed. Army infantry regulations by 1891 required taps to be played at military funeral ceremonies.

Taps now is played by the military at burial and memorial services, to accompany the lowering of the flag and to signal the "lights out" command at day's end.



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