



Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

Incorporated 1991

P.O. Box 184 • Newtown Square, PA19073

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Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro

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1914 1915



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Dan Luty, editor
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Commandant's Report

March 2016

Awards were given out at our February meeting to our Detachment members who participated in our Detachment activities during 2015. It was a pleasure to see so many members receive awards for their hard work. Thank you Leaguers. I noticed that there were many members who received multiple awards, which was impressive. I hope in the future that there will be more members stepping up to help with Detachment activities. I would like to thank Jim Herbst and Bob Spano for doing a great job in arranging the awards presentation. Thank you to all for your participation.

We are still waiting for one of our members to "step up" and take over the position of Honor Guard Chairman, with maybe an assistant or two to help with the rifles. Meanwhile, the American Legion will be handling the rifles as best they can. Anyone who can assist John McComb with this should contact him.

The annual audit was performed on the Paymaster's records on January 14, 2016. The Detachment's Directors, Bill Kinney, Paul Donohue, and Roger Godfrey found everything to be in order and no discrepancies were found. Our thanks go to Bob Spano for his thoroughness as Paymaster.

Arrangements have been made by Sr. Vice Commandant Dominick Mattioni for our dinners, picnic and Marine Corps Birthday Ball. The dates are as follows:

- Spring/Scholarship Dinner 7 June 2016
- Alliance Picnic 13 August 2016
- Marine Corps Birthday Ball 12 November 2016
- Toys for Tots Dinner 6 December 2016

On 19 April 2016, the Villanova University NROTC will hold its annual Spring Review at Mendel Field. There will be a reception at 1400 hours and the ceremony will start at 1500 hours. During the ceremony, awards will be distributed to members of the senior class, and the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment will award its "Gung Ho" award to a deserving midshipman. Everyone is invited but we need to have a count of those planning to attend. We need to contact Villanova University with the number attending before 20 March 2016. Please contact Jack Kelly or Earle Drake if you plan to attend. The uniform is the red blazer, if you have one.

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Semper Fi,

Dominic D'Alessandro

Commandant

"SCUTTLEBUTT" BOOSTER CLUB



Help support our award winning newsletter and become a member of the Booster Club!

Any monetary contribution helps offset the cost of publication and mailing. We wish to thank our current boosters. With their assistance, we are able to continue our **award-winning** newsletter!

MARCH BOOSTERS

- John Burfete
- Bud Davis
- Tom Falgiatore
- Jim Flynn
- Rosemarie & Tony Fusto
- Jack Kelly
- Steve Kusner
- Con McGinley
- Jerry McGuckin
- Florence & Bob Spano
- Hank Velardi

Thank you boosters!

Bob Spano
Paymaster

Birthday Greetings for March

The Detachment staff sends best wishes to the following members who are celebrating a birthday this month:

- James Donegan
- John Griffis
- Richard Guyer
- Albert Harper
- Anthony Terence Jones
- Henry Kaufman
- Samuel Mayer
- Gerald Powlus
- Edward Seidl
- Charles Sexton
- Lloyd Spangler
- Paul Turner
- Paul Vergalla



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

Commandant	Dominic D'Alessandro
Sr. Vice Commandant	Dominick Mattioni
Jr. Vice Commandant	Jack McLeod
Adjutant	Jack Kelly
Paymaster	Bob Spano
Judge Advocate	Bernie McGinley
Sergeant-At-Arms	Charles (Bud) Davis
Chaplain	Christopher Bush
Service Officer	Jim Herbst
Director	Bill Kinney
Director	Roger Godfrey
Director	Paul Donohue
Jr. Past Commandant	Paul Ferguson

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Committee Chairmen

Adopt-A-Highway	Jim Flynn
Americanism Team	J.Mulhern, E. Drake, D. Fitzpatrick
Auxiliary Liaison	Tony Fusto
Awards	James Herbst
Ceremonies	Charles (Bud) Davis
Color Guard	Wayne Williams
Flag Collection	Dominic D'Alessandro
Historian	Jack Gallagher
Home Association	Tom Kerrigan
Honor Guard	OPEN
Honor Guard Assistant	Mike Milliken
Locker Box	Paul Ferguson
Marksmanship	Gene Kern
Membership	James Herbst
Newsletter (Scuttlebutt)	Dan Luty
Newtown Twp Vets Park	Bill Kinney
Nominations	Paul Ferguson
Property	Bob Spano
Communications	John Burfete
Scholarships	Wayne Williams
Scouting	John Gingras/Ed Seidl
Toys-For-Tots	Dan Luty
V.A.V.S.	Con McGinley
Young Marines	GySgt Melendrez and Dan Luty
Web Master	Dan Luty

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

General & Healthcare Benefits

VA Hotline	800-827-1000
Veterans' Healthcare	877-222-8387
Education	888-442-4551
Grave Markers	800-697-6947
Life Insurance	800-669-8477
Website	www.va.gov

Looking Ahead

DETACHMENT EVENTS

March

- 2 General Meeting at the Knights of Columbus Hall, start time 1930.
- 10 VAVS Bingo @ Coatesville, VA Center. Contact Jim Herbst for information.
- 3-5 National MCL Mid-Winter Conference at the Fairview Park Marriott, 311 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church, VA.
- 18-19 Spring Department Staff Meeting, Headquarters Building. Lodging at the Days Inn in Lickdale, 717-865-4064. Rooms at \$55.00 Double/\$60 King.
- 29 Staff Meeting at Broomall American Legion Post 805, start time 1930.

April

- 5 General Meeting, Knights of Columbus Hall, 1930.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS' EVENTS

OTHER VETERANS' & FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS' REGULAR EVENTS

AmVets: Harold P. Saks Post #118, 211 N. Morton Ave., Morton, PA 19070. Meetings the first Wednesday of every month at 1930.

American Legion: Broomall Post #805, 2340 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA. Meetings the second Wednesday of every month, at 1900.

American Legion Nunan-Slook Post #338, Meets the second Tuesday at 7:00 PM of every month at the corner of Ralston & Graslynn Avenues, Havertown, PA.

Upper Darby Detachment #884 MCL, 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2000, 1026 Providence Rd. Secane, Pa. 19018

Disabled American Veterans, Delaware County Chapter 113, meets the second Monday of the month at 7:30PM. Meetings are held at the Nunan-Slook American Legion Post #338. The Post is located at the corner of Ralston & Graslynn Avenues in Havertown, PA.

Other Organizations' Events (Cont'd.)

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 67, AmVets, Harold P. Saks Post #118, 211 N. Morton Ave. in Morton, PA meeting is 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 PM - no meetings July or August.

Delaware County Detachment MCL, Third Sunday of the month: Breakfast: 0800-1130, \$10.00/person. Delaware County Detachment at detachment home, Upland, PA. Every Month except: June-July-August.

M.O.D.D. "Devil Dogs" Triboro Pound #19, Pack of Penna., Growls (meetings) are the second Wednesday of the month at 1930. Growls are held at the Herbert W. Best Post # 928, VFW. Located at MacDade Blvd. and Sutton Avenue, Folsom, PA.

Veterans of Foreign Wars: Broomall Post #7390, Meetings the second Thursday of the month at 1930. Meetings are held at the Marple Twp. Municipal Building, Sproul & Springfield Roads, Broomall, PA.

Veterans of Foreign Wars: Herbert W. Best Post # 928, Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month except in September, it will be the day after Labor Day, the 2nd (Tuesday and the 3rd Monday) Meetings are held at Herbert W. Best Post # 928, VFW, MacDade Blvd. and Sutton Avenue, Folsom, PA.

Knights Of Columbus: Mater Dei Council #4129, 327 N. Newtown Street Rd., Newtown Square, PA. Meetings the first Thursday of the month at 2000.

SICK CALL	
Frank Grieser	Wes Tomlinson
<i>Please remember to notify Chaplain Chris Bush (610.353.5569) of an illness, or of a member or family member passing away.</i>	

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment #741

Marine Corps League

General Meeting Minutes – 2 February 2015

Commandant: Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro opened the meeting at 1930. The regular opening ceremonies were conducted. Officers present were Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro, Sr. Vice Commandant Dominick Mattioni, Jr. Vice Commandant Jack McLeod, Judge Advocate Bernie McGinley, Paymaster Bob Spano, Adjutant Jack Kelly, Chaplain Chris Bush, Sergeant-at-Arms Charles (Bud) Davis, Service Officer Jim Herbst, Director Paul Donohue, and Jr. Past Commandant Paul Ferguson.

Minutes: George Boyajian made a motion to accept the minutes of the 5 January 2016 general meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Paul Donohue seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Adjutant: Jack Kelly reported that letters of thanks for donations made by the Detachment had been received from the Fisher House Foundation, the Semper Fi Fund, and from the Veterans Multi-Service Center. A card of thanks was also received from the local family of a young girl that is in need of a new heart. The Detachment had made a donation to this family back in October 2015. As background, the Detachment was made aware of a couple, both Marines, stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina who had a one year old daughter who was in need of a heart transplant. The Detachment donated \$1,000.00 to this cause, and the card of thanks was from the mother of the Marine wife, who had grown up in Brookhaven, PA. The card expressed the family's sincere appreciation for the donation on behalf of the young girl, Mackenzie. Jack Kelly then mentioned that the annual Spring Review of the Villanova University NROTC unit is scheduled for 19 April 2016. More information will follow at the next general meeting, including arriving at a count of those interested in attending.

Sr. Vice Commandant: Dominick Mattioni outlined information on several activities planned for the year. The Spring Scholarship Dinner will be held on 7 June 2016, beginning at 1800, and the cost will be \$12.00 per person. The League picnic will be held in August, and the Detachment's annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held on 12 November 2016 at the Paxon Hollow Country Club. Dominick Mattioni mentioned that it has been confirmed that some members from a Marine Corps League Detachment from Utah will be attending our Ball. Members of their Detachment will be in Philadelphia for a reunion of some of their Viet Nam veterans. Dominick Mattioni also mentioned that the Toys for Toys dinner meeting is scheduled for 6 December 2016. He also mentioned that a Mid-Atlantic Air Museum show is scheduled for 3, 4, and 5 June 2016. More information will follow at a later date.

Jr. Vice Commandant: Jack McLeod reported that a tentative schedule has been developed for the Help Us Help Others (HUHO) Campaign for this year. The proposed dates will be submitted to the management of Acme Markets in Malvern, PA. Once approved, the dates will be shared with individual stores in confirmation letters directed to the store managers.

Chaplain: Chris Bush mentioned that member Bill Nolan had passed away last month. Chris Bush mentioned that the Honor Guard and those members who were there involved in the casket watch were appreciated by the family.

Paymaster: Paymaster Bob Spano provided the paymaster's report for the month of January 2016. The proposed budget for 2016 was also presented. Bob Spano mentioned that the list of organizations being suggested for donations this month was on the back of the agenda. These organizations were being suggested to the membership for consideration, and would be discussed later in the meeting. George Boyajian made a motion to accept the paymaster's report as received. Jim Herbst seconded the motion and the motion passed. Jim Herbst then made a motion to accept the Detachment's budget of \$162,650.00 for the year 2016 as printed in the budget handout. Bernie McGinley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Jim Flynn mentioned that he would be meeting with John Burfete, the previous Adopt-a-Highway Chairman, after the meeting to get some information and some equipment. He also mentioned that the first Adopt-a-Highway event will be in April 2016. Dominic D'Alessandro thanked Jim Flynn for stepping up to accept the Adopt-a-Highway chairmanship.

Service Officer: Jim Herbst reported that the next bingo game for the Coatesville Medical is scheduled for 11 February 2016. Jim Herbst mentioned that Con McGinley had shown him around the Coatesville Medical Center, but Jim mentioned that he could use some help with his new responsibilities. There is also a Valentine's Day party scheduled for 13 February 2016, which will be assisted by the Auxiliary. Jim Herbst also mentioned that the awards for 2015 will be distributed later in the meeting, and he mentioned that these will be distributed as quickly as possible. Jim Herbst also stressed the need for new members, and he stressed the need for the membership to become actively involved in existing programs. He mentioned the Walk for the Wounded event this year is scheduled for 14 May 2016, and help is needed to set up a booth and distribute information concerning activities of the Marine Corps League and our Detachment.

Americanism: Earle Drake reported that an Americanism program will be rescheduled during February for the Chester County Youth Center. He also mentioned that presentations are being sought for the St. Patrick's School, Cardinal Foley School, Hillcrest School and Stonehurst Elementary School. Earle Drake is on the Board of the Marple Newtown Fourth of July Parade and he provided a financial report for the 2015 parade. Total expenses were \$22,709.15 and total income was \$34,341.78, so there is enough funding on hand to have a parade in 2016. Earle Drake provided some additional information on the Villanova University NROTC Spring Review. This year's Gung Ho Award nominee is Midshipman Owen Fallon. Members interested in attending should contact Earle Drake.

Color Guard: Wayne Williams announced that he has asked Bob Wells to be the Co-Chairman of the Color Guard and he has accepted. There may be times when Wayne Williams is not able to attend an event and Bob Wells will then be in charge of the Color Guard. Wayne Williams also mentioned that in certain events, the Color Guard wears dress blues trousers, and Bob Wells is the only member of the Color Guard who does not have a pair of dress blues trousers. Wayne Williams made a motion to have the Detachment pay for the purchase of a pair of dress blues trousers for Bob Wells. Chris Bush seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Honor Guard: Ben Sides mentioned again that he has stepped down as the Honor Guard Chairman.

He mentioned that there were fourteen funerals for deceased military veterans during January 2016 in which the Honor Guard served. Ben expressed his appreciation to the members of the Honor Guard who supported him over the years, indicating that they had done a wonderful job. He mentioned that there is a need for someone to step up and volunteer to be the next chairman of the Honor Guard. Ben Sides received a round of applause for all of his work over the years as the Honor Guard chairman.

Historian: Jack Gallagher reported that progress is being made on the Detachment's history book.

Property: Bob Spano reported that he is holding the rifles and other equipment for the Honor Guard until a new Honor Guard chairman is named. He also mentioned that if any member is in need of a name tag to contact him after the meeting. He has two members who need name tags, but he is looking for any others so the name tags can be ordered all at once.

Communications: John Burfete mentioned that January was not a busy month for communications, but he has been sending out e-mail communications that he receives. He mentioned that Liz McLeaster is the publicity chair for the Marine Corps League Department of Pennsylvania, and John Burfete has forwarded a number of e-mails from her. He also mentioned that he has begun to use Facebook for a number of items, and this could possibly be used to attract younger members into the Detachment. Bob Spano made a suggestion to post the requirements for membership for regular members as well as for associate members.

Scholarships: Wayne Williams mentioned that the application forms for the Detachment scholarship program are available and interested members could see him after the meeting. The application forms for the Department of Pennsylvania and the National MCL programs are not available yet, but he should have those forms at the March general meeting.

Director Donohue: Paul Donohue reported that the three Directors had met last month and had conducted a review of the paymaster's records. Paul Donohue reported that everything was found to be in good order, and no discrepancies were found.

Unfinished Business: No items of unfinished business were raised.

New Business:

Awards for 2015: Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro turned control of the meeting over to Awards Chairman Jim Herbst. Before the formal distribution of awards began, Jim Herbst presented a membership pin to new member John Griffis. Dominic D'Alessandro had been announced as the Marine of the Year for 2015 at the January general meeting. At this meeting, Jim Herbst presented Dominic D'Alessandro with his Marine of the Year ribbon as well as his copy of the book *Marines and Others*. Jim Herbst then asked Dominic D'Alessandro to assist him with the distribution of awards for 2015. Awards were distributed in alphabetical order to those members who were present. Certificates of Appreciation, Certificates of Meritorious Commendation, and Distinguished Service Awards were awarded to those members who had made valuable contributions in time and effort to the Detachment during the 2015 year. Jim Herbst then returned control of the meeting to Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro.

Charitable Organizations: Bob Spano reviewed the list of organizations that were being suggested to the membership for donations this month. These organizations had been discussed at a recent officers' staff meeting and were now being suggested to the membership for consideration. George Boyajian made a motion to donate the funds as outlined on the back of the meeting agenda. The organizations and the amounts to be donated shown in parentheses are: (1) The Fisher House Foundation, Rockville, MD (\$2,000.00); (2) The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Oceanside, CA (\$2,000.00); (3) Operation First Response, Inc., Culpeper, VA (\$2,000.00); (4) The Marine Corps League Foundation, Merrifield, VA (\$2,000.00); and (5) The USO, Philadelphia International Airport, Philadelphia, PA (\$2,000.00). Tom Kerrigan seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Announcements: Ben Sides provided some additional comments on the Mid-Atlantic Air Museum in Reading, PA on the June 3, 4, and 5 2016 weekend. The emphasis that weekend will be on World War II.

Jack McLeod mentioned that Aleta Krauss was in attendance this evening. She is a Life member of the Detachment but she has not been able to attend for awhile as she was studying for and completing her DBA Degree.

Good of the League: Bob Spano mentioned that he has ribbons and stars available for those who have earned them. He also mentioned that he will be ordering some supplies from National, so members should contact him after the meeting if certain items are needed.

George Boyajian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Several members seconded the motion and the motion passed. After the regular closing ceremonies, the meeting was adjourned at 2025.

Dominick Mattioni won the 50/50. Thirty-five members signed the logbook.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Kelly

Adjutant



Americanism/Flag History Presentation

On February 12, 2016 Marine Corps Leaguers, Earle Drake, Dan Fitzpatrick and Jim Mulhern from the General Smedley D. Butler Americanism team presented two mini-history programs at the Chester County Youth Center on Wawaset Road in rural Chester County. Also, Joe Conigliaro, a Butler Detachment member who joined the team for the day, gave an overview of Marine Corps Aviation.

The Mission of the Chester County Youth Center is to provide secure, safe custody, to promote the health and well being of youths committed to its care, and to create an environment that fosters social, emotional, intellectual and physical development.

Approximately Thirty students, faculty and staff members attended the two programs. Marine Drake gave a flip chart presentation of the history of the flag, showing how the flags that flew over our country changed over time. Dan Fitzpatrick, the Marine Corps League's Ceremonial Bugler, sounded "To the Colors" and "Retreat" on his horn. Marine Mulhern gave the students a history of Flag Day, the Battle at Ft. McHenry and how Francis Scott Key, on a mission of mercy, came to write the Star Spangled Banner.

Shown in the enclosed picture are, left to right, Joe Conigliaro, Charlie Gracie, Jr. the history teacher at CCYC, Jim Mulhern and Dan Fitzpatrick.

Photo by Earle Drake...



Valley Forge Military Academy & College names Colonel John C. Church, Jr., USMCR, President

January 28, 2016 (WAYNE, PA) – The Board of Trustees of Valley Forge Military Academy & College has unanimously approved the appointment of Colonel John C. Church, Jr., USMCR, as President. Colonel Church will take office at the end of this academic year, succeeding current President Dr. Stacey R. Sauchuk. Colonel Church is a combat decorated US Marine Corps Reservist, educator, leader, mentor, role model, and author.

William R. Floyd, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees, was pleased to make the announcement stating that “Colonel Church possesses a unique combination of military leadership experience and an academic background. His prior experience at Valley Forge, serving as a Professor of Leadership and later as Dean of the College, make him uniquely qualified to lead Valley Forge into the future. The entire Valley Forge community welcomes Colonel Church back and looks forward to his inspirational leadership.”

“It is a great honor and humbling privilege to be given the opportunity to lead such a storied institution as Valley Forge. I am grateful for the appointment. However, I am also thankful for the manner in which the Sister Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Immaculata community embraced our family during my tenure here. Our family will truly miss all the Mighty Macs, but Mary Kay and I are truly thrilled to return to the VF family,” said Colonel Church.

Colonel Church is an active Marine Corps Reservist, currently commanding the 3D Civil Affairs Group in Great Lakes, IL, and intends to conclude his career at the end of his command tour.

As a combat engineer officer, Colonel Church commanded Company C, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion in Lynchburg, Virginia, from where he led a deployment to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. With 4th Civil Affairs Group, Colonel Church served in Kosovo, completed two tours of duty in Iraq, served in Afghanistan, and taught Civil Affairs to soldiers of the Armed Forces of Liberia.

In addition to being an Assistant Professor at Immaculata University he has taught at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, the U. S. Naval War College, George Mason University, Temple University, Holy Family University, and Rosemont College. Colonel Church is a doctoral student in Mass Media and Communication at Temple University and has earned a M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U. S. Naval War College, a M.A. in Communication Journalism and Public Affairs from American University in Washington, D.C. and a B.S. in Political Science from the U.S. Naval Academy. His personal reflections of duty throughout the world have been featured in both the *Washington Post* and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. In 2009, John’s submission, "The Best Seven Months of Our Lives: The War in Iraq and the Battle in Hollywood" won first prize for "Top Graduate Competitive Papers" in the Pennsylvania Communication Association Writing Competition. In 2010, his “This I Believe” essay was featured on WHYY and National Public Radio. His essays regarding the service of minorities, what constitutes good training and the true meaning of Memorial Day were featured in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and the *Mainline Suburban*.

His personal decorations include: the Meritorious Service Medal with two Gold Stars, the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two Gold Stars, the Army Commendation Medal, the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon. As a midshipman John was a member of the U.S. Naval Academy’s nationally ranked lacrosse program. As a junior officer, he was a member of the USMC All-Marine Rugby team on four occasions.

Colonel Church and his wife, Mary Kay, a retired Marine major, are the proud parents of John Carl Church, III, Travis Joseph Church and twins Harper and Claire. He is the son of Colonel and Mrs. John C. Church, Sr., USMC (Retired) of Mount Clemens, Michigan.





Iwo Jima Veterans Al MacAuley, Joe Hinderhofer and Lou Camili



Pictured with Iwo Vets (left) is DELCO Det Commandant and Battle of the Bulge Vet Frank Latorre, (right) Peg Curly



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184

Newtown Square, PA19073-0184

Honor-Courage-Commitment



Next Meeting

1 March, 2016 @ 1930

Knights of Columbus

327 N. Newtown Street Rd.

(Route 252)

Newtown Square, PA 19073