



Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

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Commandant Earle Drake • 610.325.9065

1914 1915



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Commandant's Report & Message April 2008

Leaguers,

We are delighted to have Craig Williams and Paul Vergalla join us as new active members. Please welcome them to the Detachment.

On February 9, 2008 our friend and fellow Leaguer, Stan Short, passed away. The Detachment provided a Casket Watch and performed the Marine Corps League Funeral ritual at his viewing. The Newtown Square Township Police Department took over at 7:30 PM and continued the casket watch until the end of the viewing. Present at the Church the next day were Tom

Tanner and Jack McLeod who acted as ushers. The family has asked for Memorial contributions to be made to Saint Albans Episcopal Church, 3625 Chapel Road, Newtown Square, PA. Please remember Stan in your prayers.

Stephen D. Neri was awarded The Distinguished Citizen Medal for his service to the Detachment and the Community. This medal is the highest award the Detachment can bestow. It is an award that is rarely given. It was unanimously agreed upon by the officers and the Board of Trustees that he receive the medal.

We were very pleased to have had Bill Walsh, District Manager for Congressman Sestek, give a presentation on Veterans affairs and how he can be of service to our members. If you are having a problem concerning your veteran's benefits, he's the man to help. He can be reached at 610-892-8623 for questions and concerns. As an aside, Bill is a veteran who served our country and is a retired Navy Captain whose roots are here in Delaware County.

Our 2008 TV Bonanza II fund raiser has been kicked off by Jack McLeod. It's important that you participate in these programs because they allow your Marine Corps League to help our wounded veterans, families in distress, award scholarships, etc. We will be calling on you.

Thank you and Semper Fidelis.

Earle E. Drake
Commandant

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Sr. Vice Report

WELCOME NEW REGULAR MEMBERS

Paul W. Vergalla
446 Shadeland Ave.
Drexel Hill, PA 19026
H 610-259-6841
Cell 610-931-8174
Email pvergalla@rcn.com

Craig Williams
61 Running Brook Road
Glen Mills, PA 19342
H 610-361-1131
W 610-251-5770
Email williams.wc@gmail.com

A membership meeting was held on March 6, 2007 with Jack McLeod, Bob Cosgrove, Earle Drake and myself. The subjects that were discussed were: MCL Recruiting Poster that is inclusive of all members of the Armed Forces. Cost is approximately \$1.00 each from Chapel Printing. A plan for distribution of the recruiting posters to high traffic areas, bars, Post Offices, libraries, etc. was discussed.

Recruiting package with application, generic letter, with stamped MCL addressed envelope to be mailed back to the recruiter. Pick up a hot prospect and bring him to a meeting. Three fold brochure with pictures that tell "who we are and what we do". Every member, get a member.

Signs on buildings? Signs in other service organizations meeting places. Change our Public Access TV ad. TV Blurb for Public Access TV. We need a list of newspapers and contacts. Channel 12 Auctions. We can try to be the telephone bank in our uniforms. Place ads in the "Val Paks".

We will shorten our meetings by having printed reports at the sign in table for the membership. We can then focus on more relevant information.

The Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be celebrated at the Paxon Hollow Country Club on November 7th, Friday evening at 1800.

Jim (JR) Robinson
Sr. Vice Commandant

Jr. Vice Report

TV Bonanza II

We launched our TV Bonanza II Campaign at our March Detachment Meeting. Progress to date has been decent with 750 Tickets placed on consignment.

For those who cannot attend our Meetings **please** call me for your consignment order! **Remember, you are not obligated to buy or sell the tickets!** Just make a good faith effort to sell what you order.

Drawing For Dollars (D4D)

The Corporate Office of ACME Markets has made commitments to various fundraising groups. The commitments override some of the reservations we made with local ACME Market Store Directors. We are working with ACME management to create a mutually satisfactory schedule. As of this time, our D4D sales will not begin until May 3rd.

D4D billboard signs, to be used at sales sites, are in the process of being created along with a membership recruiting billboard.

Respectfully Submitted,
John B. McLeod
Junior Vice Commandant

Young Marines' Report



On Friday, March 14th we helped out the Folsom VFW with egg dyeing for their annual Easter Egg Hunt. We'd like to thank the VFW for the delicious pizza that was served after the work was done.

The following day we participated in the Springfield St. Patrick's Day parade. On March 21st, we are attending the Phantoms game.

Thank you as always for your support!!

Jeffrey Gunning
Delaware County Young Marines

**THE LEGEND
OF**

SMEDLEY DARLINGTON BUTLER

This column will provide a time to remember the legendary Smedley D. Butler who was the youngest officer, at age 48, ever to become a Major General. His combat record, which includes two Medals of Honor, was one of the most illustrious in the history of American arms. The fire-eating Quaker-born, Pennsylvanian Butler retired in 1931. By a combination of forthrightness and indiscretion seasoned by an inborn genius for publicity, Butler had become a nationally controversial figure during the "ROARING TWENTIES". Butler, stormy to the last, retired from the Corps after an attempt by President Herbert Hoover to court martial him for a characteristically outright blast at Benito Mussolini, the Italian Fascist Leader. The charges backfired and Butler became a national hero.

The "SCUTTLEBUTT" will endeavor to present our detachment's namesake through a series of articles in our monthly newsletter. These articles, not necessarily in chronological order, will provide you with a spirit and élan that once had existed during Butler's time and has been carried on with the highest standards even to this present time.

GENERAL SMEDLEY DARLINGTON BUTLER

Sometimes a person who had an illustrious career in earlier times is not well known when his generation has passed. General Smedley Darlington Butler could be such a person. Born in West Chester in 1881 and later a resident on Goshen Road until the time of his death in 1940, he was one of two men in American Military History ever to be twice awarded the nation's highest decoration, The Medal of Honor, for separate actions.

Appointed a 2nd Lieutenant in the marines, while still a teenager in 1898, he served in Cuba during the Spanish-American War. Then to the Philippines to fight the insurrectionist in 1899 and from there to China in 1900 where he was cited for heroic action during the Boxer Rebellion. Next, duty took him to stations in the Caribbean area of Central America where he served in Puerto Rico, Panama and action against bandits in Nicaragua. In April 1914, during the Mexican insurrection, he was awarded the Medal of Honor for his command in leading troops in action at Vera Cruz and the occupation of that city.

The following year, November 1915, he was awarded the second Medal of Honor for action in facing and capturing a remote rebel stronghold, named Fort Riviere, in revolt torn Haiti.

During WWI, although he did not command any combat troops, he distinguished himself by cleaning up the "worst pest hole in France" which was an American Replacement Camp, at Brest, which had caused many non-combat deaths.

Continued on page 5

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

Commandant	Earle E. Drake
Sr. Vice Commandant	Jim (JR) Robinson
Jr. Vice Commandant	Jack McLeod
Adjutant	Jack Kelly
Paymaster	Bob Spano
Judge Advocate	Dan Luty
Sergeant-At-Arms	James D. Ross
Chaplain	Christopher Bush
Service Officer	Connie McGinley
Director	Paul Donohue
Director	Paul Ferguson
Director	Bernie McGinley
Jr. Past Commandant	Jerry Leon

**General Smedley D. Butler Detachment
Committee Chairmen**

Adopt-A-Highway	John Burfete
Americanism	Bob Matthews
	Jack McLeod
Auxiliary Liaison	Tony Fusto
Awards	Harry Kaufman
Ceremonies	Jim Ross
Color Guard	Joe Conigliaro
Flag Collection	Barry Reese
Historian	Bob (Coz) Cosgrove
Home Association	Tom Kerrigan
Honor Guard	Wayne Barner
" Assistant	John J. V. Cook
Locker Box	Paul Ferguson
Marksmanship	John Williams
Membership	Jim Robinson
Newsletter (Scuttlebutt)	Sandi Mauer
Newtown Twp Vets Park	
Nominations	Jerry Leon
Property	Bob Spano
Public Relations	Steve Neri
Scholarships	Wayne Williams
Scouting	John Gingras
Toys-For-Tots	Dan Luty
V.A.V.S.	Robert Matthews
Young Marines	Robert Stanton
Web Mistress	Sandi Mauer

**DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

General & Healthcare Benefits	
VA Hotline	800-827-1000
Veterans' Healthcare	800-222-8387
Education	888-442-4511
Grave Markers	800-697-6947
Life Insurance	800-669-8477
Website	<u>www.va.gov</u>

Looking Ahead

DETACHMENT EVENTS

April

- 5 MNLL Opening Day 0800 Color Guard. Parade starts at the Broomall firehouse.
- 7 General Meeting
- 14 VAVS Bingo, Coatesville Hospital
- 17 VFW Luncheon. Springfield Country Club. 1200. See Barry Reese for information
- 20 Adopt A Highway, PA Beautification Day
- 22 Villanova Spring NROTC Review and Gung Ho Award, 1400 report time
- 22 American Legion Post 805 Egg Roll to be held on Malin Road
- 26 March of Dimes Walk at Ridley State Park 0800 report time. Coffee and donuts served
- 29 Staff meeting, American Legion, 805

May

- 3 Marine Corps League Leadership class, Headquarters, Indiantown Gap
- 26 Memorial Day, Monday celebration. Wear the medals you earned in the service. You are authorized to wear the medal, large or small, ribbons on your red blazer or white MCL uniform shirt. This has been approved by National Commandant Jack Ryan and the National Board of Trustees. On the blazer, wear the medals or ribbons above the pocket, centered on the pocket. Ribbons would be worn in the same manner, just above the pocket.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS' EVENTS

OTHER VETERANS' & FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS' MEETING SCHEDULES

Regular Events

AmVets: Harold P. Saks Post #118, 211 N. Morton Ave., Morton, PA 19070. Meetings the first Wednesday of every month at 2000.

American Legion: Broomall Post #805, 2340 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA. Meetings the second Wednesday of every month, at 1930.

American Legion Nunan-Slook Post #338, Meets the second Tuesday at 7:30 PM of every month at the corner of Ralston & Graslynn Avenue's, Havertown, PA.

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

Other Organizations' Events (Cont'd.)

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.

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, Third Sunday of the month: Breakfast: 0800-1130, \$6.00/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 & Kendron 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.

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

- Bob Bunce
- Matt Balfrey
- Steve Neri
- Jack Lister

Please remember to notify Chaplain Chris Bush (610.353.5569) of an illness, or of a member or family member passing away.

“SCUTTLEBUTT” BOOSTER CLUB



Help support our 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

*Dan Fitzpatrick *Kay & Frank Greiser *Joyce & Richard Guyer *Vince Mangelli *Bob Matthews *Carole & Jack McLeod *Pat & Joe Mensack *Jerry Powlus *Stan Samsel *Florence & Bob Spano

Thank you boosters!

Bob Spano
Paymaster

If you are interested in being a “Scuttlebutt” Booster, please see Bob Spano.

Birthday Greetings for April

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

Robert Allen
Arthur Caldwell
Joseph Direso, Jr.
George Edelman
Thomas Flack
Spencer Goldsborough
William Kinney, Jr.
Donna Moisiades
Stanley Samsel
Benjamin Sides
Leslie Turner



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

If your birthday was omitted, please contact Adjutant Jack Kelly. We apologize for any omissions.

In 1919, he returned to command the Marine Base at Quantico, VA and turned it into a prime showcase and home for the expeditionary force to Central America.

In 1924, at a special request from the Mayor of Philadelphia, he was granted leave by the Marine Corps to assume the post of Director of Public Safety of Philadelphia to clean up the city during this prohibition era and end the corruption in the police and fire departments and rid the city of vice. Two years later, he resigned in disgust and later lamented: “Cleaning up Philadelphia was worse than any battle I was ever in”.

Returning to the Marines, he then commanded the new base at San Diego, California, furthered the construction and made it into the expeditionary force base for the Far East.



He was then assigned to China in 1927 where he displayed great skill in diplomacy and in recognition was honored by the Government of China.

Returning in 1931, he commanded the base at Quantico and retired from there in October 1931 and retired to his home on Goshen Road. He made an unsuccessful bid for the U.S. Senate and lectured throughout the country on behalf of veterans’ causes and good government.

In 1940, he died after a four-week illness on 21st June at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

His son, Tom, resided at the family home and maintained an extensive display of his father’s uniforms, swords, medals, photos and memorabilia until his death 3rd September 1998.

In July 1952, a 5 foot bronze tablet was dedicated in the Philadelphia City Hall Courtyard as belated recognition of his efforts towards peace in the world and clean government for that city and state.

That tablet aptly describes the character of that man....

HE ENFORCED THE LAW IMPARTIALLY
HE DEFENDED IT COURAGEOUSLY
HE PROVED INCORRUPTABLE

Submitted by John J.V. Cook

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment #741
Marine Corps League
General Meeting Minutes
3 March 2008

Commandant: Commandant Earle Drake opened the meeting at 1930. The normal opening ceremonies were conducted. Officers present were Commandant Earle Drake, Sr. Vice Jim Robinson, Jr. Vice Jack McLeod, Judge Advocate Dan Luty, Adjutant Jack Kelly, Paymaster Bob Spano, Sergeant-at-Arms Jim Ross, Service Officer Connie McGinley, Director Paul Ferguson, and Director Bernie McGinley. Harry Kaufman served as the Chaplain in Chris Bush's absence.

Minutes: George Boyajian made a motion to accept the minutes of the 4 February 2008 meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Joe Mensack seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

New Member: Craig Williams, USMCR, was introduced as a potential new member. He was sponsored by Steve Neri. A fighter pilot and an attorney, Craig Williams has recently been selected for the rank of Colonel in the USMC. After a brief introduction, he was accepted as a regular member of the Detachment, and he was sworn in by Commandant Earle Drake.

Officer Reports:

Commandant: Commandant Earle Drake mentioned that our friend and member Stan Short had passed away on 9 February. Certain members of the Detachment performed a casket watch at Stan Short's viewing, and some were present at the church service the following day. Earle Drake also expressed his appreciation to those who had contributed to the needs of Cpl. Derrick Sharpe, for his injuries suffered in Iraq. Commandant Drake then presented the Distinguished Citizen's Award to Steve Neri, after reviewing many of Steve's contributions to the community and to the causes of veterans. A round of applause for Steve Neri followed the presentation of his Distinguished Citizen's Award.

Adjutant: Jack Kelly noted several letters of acknowledgement for contributions that had been made by the Detachment. Letters were received from the USO – PA and Southern New Jersey Chapter, from the Toys for Tots in Quantico, VA, and also the Anthracite MCL Detachment for our Detachment's contribution for the needs of Cpl. Derrick Sharpe, USMC, who had been wounded in Iraq. In addition, a letter was received from the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, indicating that the Detachment's engraved brick has been placed in the Foundation's Semper Fidelis Memorial Park.

Chaplain: Acting Chaplain Harry Kaufman asked members to keep in prayer those members who are ill. He also asked for prayers for those presently serving in the military, especially for those serving in harm's way.

Sr. Vice: Jim Robinson reported that this year's Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held at the Paxon Hollow Country Club on 7 November 2008. He encouraged members to be involved in recruiting of new members. He also encouraged members to consider joining the Honor Guard for the ceremonies at the funerals of veterans.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Jim Ross mentioned that there are two upcoming needs for the Color Guard. One is for the Springfield St. Patrick's Day parade scheduled for 15 March 2008, and the other is for the opening of the Marple Newtown Little League on 5 April 2008.

Jr. Vice: Jack McLeod reported on this year's TV Bonanza, the chance to win a flat screen TV. Tickets on a consignment basis are available through Jack McLeod. He also provided information on this year's Drawing for Dollars fundraising event. Additional details will be provided in the *Scuttlebutt*.

Paymaster: Bob Spano reported on the additional amounts reported so far for the wounded Marine, Cpl. Derrick Sharpe. The extra funds have been forwarded to the Anthracite MCL Detachment, since they are assisting with his financial affairs. Bob Spano also reported on two adjustments to the annual budget that had been approved at the monthly staff meeting. The line item for the Marine Corps Birthday Ball has been reduced to \$3,000.00 (from \$6,500.00). In addition, the Detachment's contribution to the Young Marines program has been increased by \$500.00 to \$2,000.00. Bob Spano reviewed the Paymaster's report as of the end of February 2008. Bernie McGinley made a motion to accept the Paymaster's report as received. Tony Fusto seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Director Paul Ferguson: Paul Ferguson reported that the annual audit had been completed, and everything was found to be in order.

Special Speaker: Bill Walsh, the District Manager for Congressman Joseph Sestak's office, spoke to the membership. He first thanked everyone for their service to our country, and then he provided information on how the Congressman's office can be of assistance to veterans. He outlined how the office can be of assistance in dealing with the Veterans Administration and other departments. Personal record keeping and keeping other family members involved was also emphasized. His presentation was followed by a short question and answer session. The Congressman's office is located in Media, PA.

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Committee Reports:

V.A.V.S./Americanism: Bob Matthews reported on the upcoming bingo game and upcoming St. Patrick's Day activities at the Coatesville VA center.

Auxiliary Liaison: Tony Fusto reminded the membership that the Auxiliary is collecting the receipts from Acme markets.

Flag Collection: Barry Reese indicated that he is continuing to check on the flag collection boxes on a regular basis.

Honor Guard: Wayne Barner reported that the Honor Guard has covered 50 funerals for veterans so far this year, and 5 additional funerals are scheduled for this week.

Marksmanship: Bob Cosgrove provided information on the Department's pistol match, scheduled for 30 May -1 June 2008.

Scholarships: Wayne Williams reported that he had the information packets available for those members who want to submit application forms for available Detachment scholarships for their relatives.

Toys for Tots: Dan Luty presented a plaque to Commandant Drake that had been awarded to the Detachment by Gunnery Sergeant Tonia Ayers of the Folsom Reserve Center. The plaque recognized the efforts of the Detachment members in last year's Toy for Tots campaign.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business was raised.

New Business: Ben Sides indicated that the flag on the outside of the building is torn and should be replaced.

Good of the League: Bob Spano reported on the case of Rose Soler, whose house had burned down. A photocopy of an e-mail on this situation reviewed for details. Bob Spano mad a motion to donate \$500.00 to her for some of her expenses. Steve Neri seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Announcements were made on some upcoming activities, including activities with the Upland MCL Detachment as well as with the American Legion in Broomall. Dennis Morsa reported that the American Legion is having its annual Easter egg roll on 22 March 2008. He also reported that the VFW is having a luncheon on 17 April at the Springfield Country Club.

Wayne Williams reported that his son Wayne will be

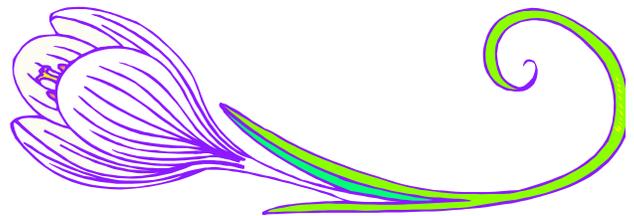
commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps on 14 May 2008.

George Boyajian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bernie McGinley seconded the motion. After the normal closing ceremonies, the meeting was adjourned at 2050.

Bob Matthews won the 50/50. Forty-four members signed the logbook.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Kelly, Adjutant



Guidelines for Submission of Articles & Photos for inclusion in "Scuttlebutt"

- All submissions must be received by the editor no later than the 15th of the month for the upcoming issue.
- The preferred format for written articles is a computer file (such as MS Word, or an email). Non-computer files will be considered and included in Scuttlebutt only if the editor is able to transcribe the article in a timely matter for publication.
- The preferred format for photos is digital in a high resolution JPG file (other file formats will also be considered). Traditional photos may be submitted as well, and will be included only if the editor is able to scan the photo in a timely matter for publication.
- All submissions must be the original work of the person submitting the piece. If the submitter is not the author of the work, the submitter should obtain permission from the author and submit that as well. No copyrighted materials can be used without permission from the appropriate parties.
- The editor reserves the right to include or exclude submissions as necessary according to these guidelines and as space in the publication dictates.
- Items may be submitted to the editor via email to sandi@lancasterpa.net



Marine Corps League

Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184

Newtown Square, PA 19073-0184

Honor-Courage-Commitment

Next Meeting

April 7, 2008

1930 hours

Knights of Columbus

327 N. Newtown Street Rd.

(Route 252)

Newtown Square, PA 19073

