



Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

1914 1915



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Dan Luty, editor
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Commandant's Report April 2009

After conferring with staff members and after testing the roads myself, we felt that in the interest of safety, the March meeting should be cancelled. The snow and ice caused poor road conditions throughout the county and it just wasn't worth risking anyone's life to attend a meeting.

Unfortunately, another of our Marine friends and a member of the Detachment has passed away. Tony Nastro, Lt. Colonel, USMC, Retired, passed away at Sunrise Assisted Living of Hemet, California. Tony and Rita lived in Havertown before moving to Murrieta, California. He will be buried in his hometown of Bristol, RI.

Tony is survived by his wife Rita, two sons, Mark and David and a daughter, Victoria. We will miss Tony and we will honor him at the May Remembrance Ceremony. He was a fine man and a fine Marine.

As I mentioned in my March message, your staff has been working on upcoming events. Bob Cosgrove has been actively working with Newtown Township arranging the picnic at Drexel Lodge and also with Paxon Hollow Country Club making the Birthday Ball arrangements.

Gene Kern and I have made arrangements along with the Upper Darby Detachment, represented by Jay Joseph and the Delaware County Detachment, represented by Gerry Zell to hold a combined Delaware County Marine Corps League 100 yard rifle match. The match will be held at Delaware County Field and Stream Club on August 2, 2009 at 9AM. The rules for the match will follow closely the rules used at the Department match at Indiantown Gap in the fall. We have reserved the range with Ed Hilliard, the senior high power range officer. We invite everyone who is interested to contact Gene Kern or myself to sign up. If you are not a member of the club, but want to compete, your cost for being a guest will be ten dollars. Costs for targets and awards are still to be determined, but they will be reasonable.

Bob Spano and I had the honor of attending the premier showing of "Women in The Military: Willing... Able... Essential". This outstanding program told the stories of American women that have stepped forward to serve this country. It featured dramatic re-enactments, archival film footage, current day visuals and period music. After the film, we were treated to four vignettes featuring music and dissertations of each of the women's wartime experiences.

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Commandant's Report (Cont'd.)

A CD is available to buy from the Pennsylvania Veterans Museum, State Street, Media, PA. Please take the time to visit the Veterans Museum and pick up a copy of this program.

Jack Gingras, our Detachment Scout Coordinator, has been busy attending Eagle Scout Courts of Honor. His latest scout to be elevated to Eagle Scout is Samuel S. Lappen. The ceremony took place March 7, 2009 at 7:30 PM. Jack presented Eagle Scout Lappen with the Marine Corps League Good Citizen Award and the new Marine Corps challenge coin which our detachment has had engraved for these presentations. They are beautiful! Other dignitaries and clergy also were in attendance.

Make 2009 the year you became more involved with your League.

Semper Fidelis

Earle Drake

Sr. Vice Report

Mark your calendars:

>**June 1, 2009—Annual Scholarship Award Dinner** @ our regular Monday night meeting starting at 6:30pm, Knights of Columbus.

>**August 23, 2009—Annual Picnic** @ Drexel Lodge Park (same location as last year). Time will be announced.

>**November 6, 2009—Marine Corps League Birthday Ball** @ Paxon Hollow Country Club. Time will be announced.

>**December 7, 2009—Annual Christmas Toys for Tots Dinner** @ our regular Monday night meeting starting at 6:30pm, Knights of Columbus.

Robert "Cozy" Cosgrove

Sr. Vice Commandant

Jr. Vice Report

Contribution-Special Activity

We have received at least twenty contributions to date, primarily from past contributors.

Because our March Detachment Meeting was cancelled, solicitation of new contributors will commence in April. Our Members will be asked to present Contribution Kits to two persons selected among relatives, friends or family members. This effort will replace last year's TV Bonanza II Campaign and will run throughout 2009.

The Kits contain documentation which:

- Explains the financial difficulties that wounded troops, needy veterans and their respective families are encountering;
- Identifies the source and nature of their difficulties.
- Graphically portrays how financial support has been employed in specific instances;
- **Emphasizes the fact that our Detachment is not seeking donations for its own account but acts as a means of channeling contributions to those in need;**
- Details how contributions will be processed.

Contents of the Kits will be presented at our April Detachment meeting and distributed to attending Members. Absent members will be contacted by phone to determine if they wish to participate.

"Help Us Help Others" (HUHO) Events

A proposed schedule of HUHO store events has been submitted to ACME corporate management. We hope to obtain corporate approval in March to be followed up by confirmation at individual stores. Tentative scheduling with individual stores has commenced.

Respectfully Submitted,

John B. McLeod

Junior Vice Commandant

The Legend Continues ...



Butler, quite innocently, got into a mess which terminated his tour of duty in the Philippines. Butler, with a detachment of fifty men was assigned to a remote outpost on Subic Bay opposite the main naval base of Olongapo. Their duty was to dig and fortify new artillery emplacements in the mountains for a problematical future war with Japan. It was a miserable existence due to tropical weather conditions and total lack of supplies which were never delivered by the navy supply tug from Olongapo. The tug was not even aware of the detachment's existence at the outpost.

It was a march of 90 miles around the horseshoe shaped bay to the supply depot but only a few miles by boat.

Butler decided to obtain supplies that were badly needed himself. He obtained a native dugout with a tiny sail and bamboo poles and set sail for the supply base with two enlisted men. They had shoved off, no more than five minutes, when they were caught up in a sudden tropical storm. A howling wind tore away their sail and high waves took the paddles and swamped the dugout. Somehow, after five hours, they were able to make land which had been more than four miles by water from the outpost. They pleaded their case to the Commander of the naval supply base and he provided a tug and fresh supplies. Butler was quite pleased with their accomplishment although it had been hard work.

For this "stunt", he was condemned by a Board of Medical Survey, which had decided that he had displayed evidence of a nervous breakdown by taking out the dugout. A few days later Butler was ordered back to Philadelphia for recruiting duty. The year was 1907.

John Cook
Historian

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

Commandant	Earle E. Drake
Sr. Vice Commandant	Robert Cosgrove
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	James Herbst
Director	Paul Ferguson
Director	Bernie McGinley
Jr. Past Commandant	Jerry Leon

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Committee Chairmen

Adopt-A-Highway	John Burfete
Americanism	Jim Mulhern
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	Gene Kern
Membership	Robert Cosgrove
Newsletter (Scuttlebutt)	Dan Luty
Newtown Twp Vets Park	Earle Drake
Nominations	Jerry Leon
Property	Bob Spano
Public Relations	
Scholarships	Wayne Williams
Scouting	John Gingras
Toys-For-Tots	Dan Luty
V.A.V.S.	Connie McGinley
Young Marines	Robert Stanton
Web Master	Dan Luty

*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	www.va.gov

Looking Ahead

DETACHMENT EVENTS

April

- 06 General Meeting, KOC @ 7:30
- 13 VAWS Bingo at the Coatesville VA Medical Center
- 16 VFW Annual Luncheon, Springfield Country Club. Start time is 12 Noon. Come for a fine meal and ENTERTAINMENT! \$25.00
- 19 Adopt a Highway, 1st one of the year! 9:00 am on Bishop Hollow Rd.
- 26 March of Dimes, Walk for Children! Ridley Creek State Park at 8:30am.
- 28 Staff Meeting! American Legion Post 805, 7:30 start time.

May

- 04 General Meeting, KOC @ 7:30

June

- 24-27 2009 Department Convention at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, 148 Sheraton Drive, New Cumberland, PA 17070. Room Rate is \$89.00 + tax. Deadline date for reservations is May 25.

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 are the first Wednesday of every month at 1930.

American Legion Broomall Post #805, 2340 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA 19008. Meetings are the second Wednesday of every month at 1930.

American Legion Nunan-Slook Post #338, Ralston & Graslynn Aves., Havertown, PA. Meetings are the second Tuesday of every month at 1930.

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

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 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, \$7.00/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

Bill Charlton, Jr. Dave Brimble Anthony Delgripo Tom Kerrigan	Ralph LaMarra Henry Mumma Craig Allen Wayne Barner
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Please remember to notify Chaplain Chris Bush (610.353.5569) of an illness, or of a member or family member passing away.

FATE

On April 14, 1865, Abraham Lincoln invited General Ulysses S. Grant and his wife Julia to accompany him and Mrs. Lincoln to Ford's Theater. The Grants declined. That night Lincoln was assassinated. Had his assassination plot gone according to plan, John Wilkes Booth would have killed not only the President but future President Grant as well.

Why didn't the Grants go? Because Julia Grant detested Mary Lincoln. A few weeks earlier, while touring Grant's headquarters together, Mary Lincoln snubbed Julia so many times in front of so many important people that she refused to spend another evening in her company.



The Myth: Humpty Dumpty was a giant egg!

The Facts: Humpty Dumpty was actually the nickname for a large cannon on the wall of St. Mary's Church in Colchester, England. During the English Civil War (1642-1649) a shot from an enemy cannon damaged the church wall causing Humpty Dumpty to fall to the ground. Royal Sympathizers ("all the king's men") tried to perch Humpty Dumpty on another part of the wall but since the cannon was so heavy, "all the king's horses and all the king's men" couldn't get Humpty back atop the wall.



"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

John Burfete, Jr.
Bob (Coz) Cosgrove
Joe Direso, Jr.
Jim Herbst
Marple Memorial Post #805
Bob Matthews
Connie McGinley
Jack McLeod
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:

Arthur Caldwell
Joseph Direso, Jr.
George Edelmann
Thomas Flack
Donna Moisiades
Stanley Samsel
Benjamin Sides
Leslie Turner
C. Spencer Goldsborough



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

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

Young Marines' Report

On March 28th, the Young Marines and guests are going to the Phantoms hockey game. Our color guard will be on the ice before the game for the national anthem.

We are heading up to Connecticut with a small group of Young Marines for the 50th anniversary of the Young Marines thanks to the generous support of the Smedley Butler Detachment.

Thank you as always for your continued support!

Jeffrey Gunning

Delaware County Young Marines



Spring

Ah! How doeth thou grow
As the first crocus nods its weak head to the
heavens and gives signs that Spring is here...

How the birds come into light from their
winter sanctuaries and sing Spring melodies...

And the animal kingdom, out of hibernation
from the long winter
Seeking the food of Gods off the good earth...

Young and old alike breathe the sweet air of
Spring
As lovers stroll through the arch of love
Another Spring, another year.

Author,
George Boyajian
1971



Walk for the Wounded

About the Walk

You too, can help carry a wounded soldier to safety on the home front.

Operation First Response (OFR) is inviting people from all over the Delaware Valley to participate in Pennsylvania's official WALK FOR THE WOUNDED on June 14th at Rose Tree Park in Media, PA. At the hub of 3 major population centers, Philadelphia, Wilmington and South Jersey – the goal is two-fold: **1)** to draw attention to the plight of the more than 25,000 returning soldiers who are wounded, and whose families are facing significant financial and emotional challenges as their loved one recovers and **2)** to raise funds to help meet the critical needs of these families, **many of whom are in crisis right now – today**, in hometowns all across the country.

Quick Facts:

- Operation First Response (OFR) delivers over 90 cents of every dollar raised to wounded soldiers and their families.
- OFR is staffed by mostly volunteers; with the exception of one full-time and one part-time salary workers."
- The 2 mile WALK will take place in the town of Rose Tree Park of Media, PA (just minutes off I-95 and Rt. 476).



Paymaster Report

At the February 24th Staff Meeting the board discussed \$1000 donations (with membership approval) to: Fisher House; TAPS; Intrepid; KWVA and the Upper Darby Detachment Ladies Auxiliary for Packages for Troops. Another donation I would like to suggest to the membership is the Walk for the Wounded, OFR, which will be held at the Rose Tree Park on Sunday, June 14th (Flag Day). We supported the Walk last year with a \$1000 donation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Spano

Bob Spano
Paymaster

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:

dan.luty@ricoh-usa.com

March of Dimes

Every year several of our members participate in the **March of Dimes "March for Babies"**! This year the event is April 26 at Ridley Creek State Park at 9:00am.

If you would like to walk with us, we usually muster around 8:30. There are plenty of refreshments available before and after the walk which is a very scenic five mile walk through the park.

The event is all about raising funds to prevent pre-mature births and birth defects. **You can help by sponsoring our Smedley D. Butler team** in this years "march".

If you are interested in either sponsoring, joining our team or both, just go online to this website <http://www.marchforbabies.org/644988> which will take you directly to the **Smedley D. Butler** team web page.



Our Marcher's from the '2007 March of Dimes event. If Earl can make it (albeit with a cane), anyone can!!

Pictured from left to right: Paul Donohue, Joe Direso, Bob Spano, Dan Luty and Earle Drake



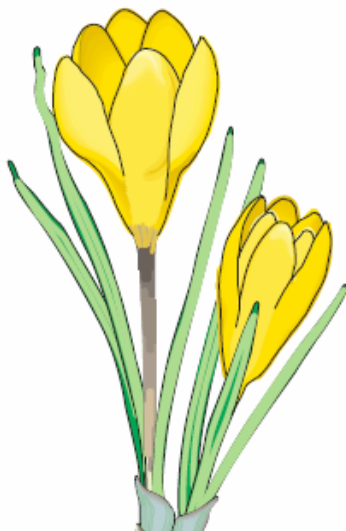
Marine Corps League

Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184

Newtown Square, PA 19073-0184

*Honor-Courage-
Commitment*



Next Meeting

April 6, 2009

1930 hours

Knights of Columbus

327 N. Newtown Street Rd.

(Route 252)

Newtown Square, PA 19073