



Scuttlebutt

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184 • Newtown Square, PA 19073

Website • www.gensdbutlerdet.org

Commandant James Herbst

Email: bahinpa@aol.com

1914 1915



Volume XXIII, Issue 4
April 2013

Dan Luty, editor
dan.luty@gensdbutlerdet.org

Commandant's Report April 2013

This month I would like to start with unfinished business. I was finally able to present John Burfete with his Commandant's award. The award was hard to locate and ship to us. On awards, George Boyajian was recognized with a plaque for his outstanding support and dedication with the Help Us Help Others campaign. George is always charming the ladies to donate. Also recognized was Bob Stanton for his leadership and dedication to the Young Marines.

On the Young Marines Bob is looking for assistance with taking the Young Marines camping. If any member would like to assist in camping or any other Young Marine function please contact Bob.

Bob also mention that during a camping trip, in the middle of Hurricane Sandy, the Young Marines lost three tents and some other equipment. If any member can help, once again contact Bob.

On February 19 the Detachment lost a dedicated member. Former Sgt-at-Arms Jim Ross passed away. Jim held that position for seven years and did a great job. Jim was a Navy Corpsman and took care of his Marines.

I was late getting my report to Dan because there was a State Quarterly meeting on March 16. There are a lot of problems with the new computer system at National Headquarters. If you know your dues are due and have not received any reminder please give me a call.

Looking ahead, May is going to be very busy. May 11th is the dedication of the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Park. The detachment is the main VSO and has an active part. We still need assistance with the rifle detail. May 18th is the Walk for the Wounded. The Detachment always has a Color Guard and a tent set up to highlight the Detachment. Memorial Day weekend is always busy with placing flags at graves, ceremonies and parades. Also during this time, the HUHO campaign is in high gear.

Members, please support the Detachment.

Semper Fi,

James Herbst
Commandant

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
1	Commandant's Report
2	Jr. Vice's Report & 2013 HUHO schedule
3	Boosters; Birthdays; Officers & Committee Chairmen
4	Looking Ahead; Sick Call
5 & 6	February Meeting Minutes
7	Pictures
8	Samuel Nicholas commemoration
9	Retiring the CH-46; Tid Bits

Jr. Vice's Report

2013 Help Us Help Others Schedule

Our 2013 HUHO Campaign will have kicked-off, March 23!

Scheduling of our HUHO Store Events was completed subject to three Walmart Store Management approvals; each of which present separate problems which hopefully will be resolved. As a result of potential problems with these stores, we have scheduled two new ACME Stores to at least partially offset these problems. ACME Corporate Management has granted approval for our proposed ACME Store activity subject to confirmation from Management at our two new stores, ACME Bryn Mawr and ACME Glenolden.

At least part, if not all of our Schedule is contained in this month's Scuttlebutt. One thing we can be sure of is the schedule **will** change: corporate cancellation, double booking by Store Management action and JR. Vice errors will take its toll.

Please keep our Schedule information confidential, within our Detachment Family!

Copies of the schedule will have been emailed or USPS mailed to active HUHO participants and to new Members who have expressed interest in participating. **Other Members, who are interested in participating, please contact me at 610-356-8893.** During our Campaign, I will call active participants during the early part of each week in order to staff that week's scheduled event. Generally, if you have not heard from me by Thursday Evening, you may stand at ease!

It's never too late to express appreciation to our participants, spouses and friends for the outstanding results achieved in our past Campaigns! Here's to a similar, successful Campaign in 2013!

Respectively submitted,

Jack McLeod

Jr. Vice Commandant

<u>Date</u>	<u>Store/Event</u>	<u>Address</u>
3/30	Concordville ACME 610-459-2759 Devon ACME 610-341-6073	101 Byers Drive Glen Mills, PA 700 W Lancaster Ave Devon, PA
3/31	Ridley ACME 610-237-3800 Devon ACME	124 Morton Ave. Ridley, PA 700 W Lancaster Ave
4/06	Ridley ACME 610-237-3800 Pathmark of Glenolden 610-521-1213 Boothwyn Wal-Mart* 610-494-2535	124 Morton Ave Ridley, PA 140 N. MacDade Blvd Glenolden, PA 605 Conchester Hwy Boothwyn, PA
4/07	Pathmark of Glenolden Boothwyn Wal-Mart*	140 N. MacDade Blvd 605 Conchester Hwy
4/13	Granite Run ACME 610-891-0407 Pathmark of Chichester 610-859-8920	1067W Baltimore Pk Media, PA 643 Conchester Hwy Boothwyn, PA
4/14	Pathmark of Chichester Ridley ACME	643 Conchester Hwy 124 Morton Ave.
4/20	Bryn Mawr ACME* 601 565 5072 Havertown SuperFresh 610-446-4516	801 W Lancaster Ave Bryn Mawr, PA 1305 W Chest Pike Havertown, PA
4/21	Bryn Mawr ACME* Havertown SuperFresh	801 W Lancaster Ave 1305 W Chest Pike
4/27	Newtown Sq. ACME 610-353-8018 Paoli ACME 610-240-0101	3390 W Chester Pike Newtown Square, PA 39 Leopard Road Paoli, PA
4/28	Newtown Sq. ACME Paoli ACME	3390 W Chester Pike 39 Leopard Road
5/04	Glenolden Wal-Mart 610-583-2682 Glenolden Pathmark 610-522-1213	50 N Mac Dade Blvd Glenolden, PA 140 N MacDade Blvd Folsom, PA
5/05	Glenolden Wal-Mart Glenolden Pathmark	50 N Mac Dade Blvd 140 N MacDade Blvd
5/10 (Fri.)	Wawa Store 205 610-640-5322	5 Mathews Road Malvern, PA
5/11	Boothwyn Wal-Mart* 610-494-2535 Pathmark of Chichester 610-859-8920	605 Conchester Hwy Boothwyn, PA 643 Conchester Hw Boothwyn, PA
5/12	Boothwyn Wal-Mart* Pathmark of Chichester	605 Conchester Hwy 643 Conchester Hwy



"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!

APRIL BOOSTERS

Bud Davis	John Burfete
Jack Kelly	Charlie Coombs
Paul Ferguson	Stan Samsel
Richard Guyer	Beth & Jim Herbst
Joe Direso	Florence & Bob Spano
Tom Falgiatore	Jerry McGuckin

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
George Edelmann
George Hettenbach
William Holloway
Donna Moisiades
Robert Morris
Stanley Samsel
Benjamin Sides
Leslie Turner



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

Commandant	James Herbst
Sr. Vice Commandant	Paul Ferguson
Jr. Vice Commandant	Jack McLeod
Adjutant	Jack Kelly
Paymaster	Bob Spano
Judge Advocate	Charles Coombs
Sergeant-At-Arms	Charles (Bud) Davis
Chaplain	Christopher Bush
Service Officer	Con McGinley
Director	Bill Kinney
Director	Ed Seidl
Director	Rodger Godfrey
Jr. Past Commandant	Dan Luty

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Committee Chairmen

Adopt-A-Highway	John Burfete
Americanism	Jim Mulhern/E. Drake
Auxiliary Liaison	Tony Fusto
Awards	Harry Kaufman
Ceremonies	Charles (Bud) Davis
Color Guard	Jim Donegan
Flag Collection	Barry Reese
Historian	Jack Gallagher
Home Association	Tom Kerrigan
Honor Guard	Joe Tier
Honor Guard Assistants	Ben Sides/Joe Blee
Locker Box	Paul Ferguson
Marksmanship	Paul Drinkard
Membership	James Herbst
Newsletter (Scuttlebutt)	Dan Luty
Newtown Twp Vets Park	Jerry Leon
Nominations	Dan Luty
Property	Bob Spano
Communications	John Burfete
Scholarships	Wayne Williams
Scouting	John Gingras/Ed Seidl
Toys-For-Tots	Bob Cosgrove
V.A.V.S.	Con 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

- 2 General Meeting, Knights of Columbus Hall at 1930.
- 7 District 1 Pistol Match, DCF&S. Muster @ 0830. Match starts @ 0900.
- 11 VAVS Bingo at Coatesville Health Center, see Con McGinley for information.
- 12 Walk 4 Wounded, OFR spaghetti dinner at American Legion Post #338 in Havertown @1830. Spaghetti, meatballs, sausage, peppers, salad, beer, wine, soda & desserts are included for \$15.
- 14 Adopt-a-Highway, Bishop Hollow Rd., Newtown Sq. @ 0830.
- 23 Villanova NROTC Gung Ho Award, reception 1400, ceremony 1500.
- 28 District 1 Meeting at DELCO Det. Home in Upland.
- 30 Staff Meeting, American Legion Post #805, Broomall at 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 1930.

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

Other Organizations' Events (Cont'd.)

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 7:30 PM. 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 MCL, 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

Dave Brimble	Phil Bannan
Craig Allen	Con McGinley
Marino DeFrancesco	Joe Mensack
John McHenry	Barry Reese

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

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment #741
Marine Corps League
General Meeting Minutes – 5 March 2013

Commandant: Commandant Jim Herbst opened the meeting at 1930, and the regular opening ceremonies were conducted. Officers present were Commandant Jim Herbst, Sr. Vice Commandant Paul Ferguson, Jr. Vice Commandant Jack McLeod, Judge Advocate Charles Coombs, Paymaster Bob Spano, Adjutant Jack Kelly, Chaplain Chris Bush, Sergeant-at-Arms Charles Davis, Service Officer Con McGinley, Director Roger Godfrey, Director Bill Kinney, Director Ed Seidl, and Jr. Past Commandant Dan Luty.

Minutes: George Boyajian made a motion to accept the minutes of the 5 February 2013 general meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Bernie McGinley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Commandant: Jim Herbst mentioned that the Detachment had lost a dedicated member, Jim Ross, on 19 February 2013. Jim Ross had served as a Navy Corpsman from 1952 to 1956. Jim had served the Detachment as its Sergeant-at-Arms for seven years before stepping down a year ago. Jim Herbst mentioned that Lou Camilli and Don Walz were the Iwo Jima veterans from our Detachment who attended the Iwo Jima recognition luncheon at the Delaware County Detachment on 17 February 2013. Other members from our Detachment were also in attendance, providing a good turnout for this annual event.

Sr. Vice Commandant: Paul Ferguson mentioned that he had prepared a listing of committees and the committee chairmen, particularly for newer members. Members could refer to this listing to contact committee chairmen if the members desired to help out in a given area. Paul Ferguson also announced that new cards had been obtained with information about the Detachment and the Marine Corps League. The cards, the size of normal business cards, can be used for recruiting purposes. Members were encouraged to take a number of cards for those opportunities that arise for discussing membership in the League and for this Detachment.

Adjutant: Jack Kelly reported that letters of appreciation for donations made by the Detachment had been received from the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society in Lakehurst, New Jersey, the Semper Fi Fund in Oceanside, California, and the Fisher House Foundation in Rockville, Maryland. A card of thanks was also received from the St. Vincent DePaul Society in Havertown, Pennsylvania. Jack Kelly also provided information on the Spring Review for the Villanova NROTC unit at Villanova University. The event is scheduled for 23 April 2013, with a reception at 1400 and the formal program scheduled for 1500. Each year the Detachment awards the Gung Ho Award to a Senior Midshipman pursuing the Marine Corps option.

Chaplain: Chris Bush reported that Dave Brimble was now at home and improving. Craig Allen had suffered a fall and had some leg injuries. Matt Balfrey and Jack McHenry are still ailing.

Jr. Vice Commandant: Jack McLeod reported that he has been working on the schedule for this year's Help Us Help Others (HUHO) campaign. Much of it has been scheduled, but there are still more stores to schedule. The approval for Acme Market sites needs be approved by their Corporate Headquarters. Jack McLeod mentioned that there is some difficulty with three of the Walmart locations, but he is still working with these stores. He mentioned that he is satisfied with the progress made so far in the scheduling process.

Paymaster: Bob Spano provided information on the paymaster's report as of 28 February 2013. George Boyajian made a motion to accept the paymaster's report as received. Bernie McGinley seconded the motion and the motion passed. Bob Spano also recommended that the membership should review the list of organizations suggested for donations later in the meeting.

Service Officer: Con McGinley mentioned that there would be a St. Patrick's Day party at the Coatesville Medical Center on 13 March 2013. Con McGinley also indicated that bingo is scheduled there for 14 March 2013.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: John Burfete mentioned that the first adopt-a-highway event for this year is scheduled for 14 April 2013, beginning at 0830. This event will take place on Bishop Hollow Road in Newtown Square, PA.

Communications: John Burfete mentioned that he had submitted six press releases to local media outlets and has seen several published. He also mentioned that he has used an on-line site, the Marple-Newtown Patch, with positive results.

Americanism: Earle Drake reported that two Americanism programs were competed in February with Jim Mulhern, Lloyd Spangler, and Earle Drake participating. Two more are scheduled, one for the Trinity Church's senior citizen's group and one at the Stonehurst Elementary School in Upper Darby. In his capacity as District One Vice Commandant, Earle Drake mentioned that there would be a District One pistol match on 7 April 2013. This will be conducted at the Delaware County Field and Stream in Brookhaven, PA, beginning at 0830. He also mentioned that a District One meeting is scheduled for 28 April 2013, beginning at 1400. This will be held at the Delaware County Detachment's home in Upland, PA. All members are invited to attend.

Color Guard: Jim Donegan reported that the Color Guard participated in opening ceremonies at a World War II discussion with World War II veterans at the Middletown Township Building on 23 February 2013. George Boyajian was one of the veterans participating in the program. The Color Guard consisted of Wayne Williams, Bob Wells, Bill Kinney, Jack Kelly, and Jim Donegan. The next event for the Color Guard is a citizenship ceremony scheduled for 13 March 2013 at the courthouse in Media, PA. The report time is 1830. On 16 March 2013, the Color Guard will be marching in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Springfield, PA. The report time is 1130 at Shelbourne Road in Springfield. Bob Stanton mentioned that the Young Marines will also be participating.

Honor Guard: The Honor Guard has been busy. Ben Sides reported that through February, the Honor Guard had participated in forty-six funerals for deceased military veterans. So far in March, three more had been conducted and four more were scheduled for the current week. Ben Sides mentioned that the family of Jim Ross was very pleased to see the high number of Detachment members who came out for the funeral of Jim Ross. Ben Sides also mentioned that two more riflemen are needed for the event at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Park on 11 May 2013. Anyone wanting to serve should contact Ben Sides.

Membership: Jim Herbst mentioned that it was good to see three new members sworn in at the February meeting, and he encouraged members to always be looking for new members. He has membership kits available for those needing them.

Delaware County Veterans Memorial Park: Bill Kinney reported on several recent photo shoots at the park with some local heavy contributors to the park. He thanked those members who were able to come out for these photo shoots. Bill Kinney also mentioned that for the grand opening on 11 May 2013, the program will begin at 1100 and go to about 1215. He strongly advised members to get there early, since parking will be at a premium. The report time for the members of the Color Guard and Honor Guard is 0930. The main speaker will be former Governor Tom Ridge, and Congressman Pat Meehan and Governor Tom Corbett will be attending. On another matter, Bill Kinney mentioned that there will be a Walk for the Wounded event on 18 May 2013 at Rose Tree Park in Media, PA.

Property: Bob Spano announced that his business is merging with another company and his warehouse has been sold. Over the years, a lot of Detachment property has been stored in his warehouse, but it has to be cleaned out by the end of March 2013. If anyone knows of a heated storage opportunity for Detachment material, please contact Bob Spano. If a proper facility cannot be found among the membership, it may be necessary to rent a facility to store Detachment property.

Scholarships: Wayne Williams mentioned that he has scholarship application forms for the Detachment and Department (state) scholarship programs, but the application forms for the National programs have not been received yet. He indicated that these should be available at the next general meeting in April.

Scouting: Ed Seidl mentioned that the fall had been quiet as far as Eagle Scout presentations go, but activity is picking up. There are six Eagle Scout ceremonies scheduled in the next six weeks or so.

Young Marines: Bob Stanton gave a positive report on the Young Marines, indicating that the "Young Marines are doing very well." He provided some information on recent activities of the Young Marines. He did mention that they had been on a camping trip during Hurricane Sandy, and they lost three tents and some other equipment. The Young Marines were then placed in cars during the remainder of the hurricane, and therefore no one was injured. Due to the loss of equipment and some organizations no longer funding this endeavor, donations are needed to help defray some of the costs. In addition, Bob Stanton asked if any members would be interested in helping out with the Young Marines program. Additional help is always welcome! At the end of Bob's report, Commandant Jim Herbst presented a check from the Detachment to Bob Stanton for the Young Marines program.

Unfinished Business: Commandant Jim Herbst presented a Certificate of Meritorious Commendation to Bob Stanton for his work with the Young Marines. In another presentation, the actual award for the Commandant's Award for 2012 had finally arrived, and the award was presented to John Burfete. Commandant Jim Herbst also presented a special plaque to George Boyajian for his many contributions to the Detachment over the years.

Announcements: Bob Stanton provided details on an upcoming open house at VFW Post #928. The date of the event is scheduled for 17 March 2013.

Good of the League: Earle Drake presented a Certificate of Appreciation for the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment to Commandant Jim Herbst. The Certificate was from the Tun Tavern Detachment in Philadelphia, and was in recognition for the donation that our Detachment had sent to the Tun Tavern Detachment for its Christmas Walk at the VA Medical Center in Philadelphia, PA. The donated funds were for the veterans to purchase items they needed or desired for their well being. In another venue, Wayne Williams expressed his admiration for Ben Sides and the other members of the Honor Guard. In Wayne's words, the Honor Guard was "looking sharp out there."

New Business: Bob Spano reviewed the suggested organizations to be considered for donations this month. These organizations had been discussed and approved at a recent officer staff meeting and were being recommended for consideration by the membership. He mentioned that there was some question about the first organization listed on the back of the agenda, so that organization, America 4R Marines, will not be considered for approval this evening. George Boyajian made a motion to approve the donations as outlined on the agenda, except for the America 4R Marines organization. The organizations to receive donations and the amounts to be donated in parentheses are: (1) Coatesville VA Medical Center, Coatesville, PA (\$1,000.00); (2) Fisher House Foundation, Rockville, MD (for Camp Lejeune) (\$2,000.00); (3) Honor Flight Philadelphia, Springfield, PA (\$1,000.00); (4) The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Oceanside, CA (\$2,000.00); (5) Marple-Newtown High School LINK, Broomall, PA (\$1,000.00); (6) Operation First Response, Inc., Culpeper, VA (\$2,000.00); and (7) The USO, Philadelphia International Airport, Philadelphia, PA (\$2,000.00). Bernie McGinley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

George Boyajian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bernie McGinley seconded the motion and the motion passed. Before the closing ceremonies, there was a moment of silence for our recently departed member, Jim Ross. After the regular closing ceremonies, the meeting was adjourned at 2025.

Dan Luty won the 50/50. Forty-three members signed the logbook.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Kelly
Adjutant



DELCO Veterans Memorial donations from Delco Community Foundation & SAP

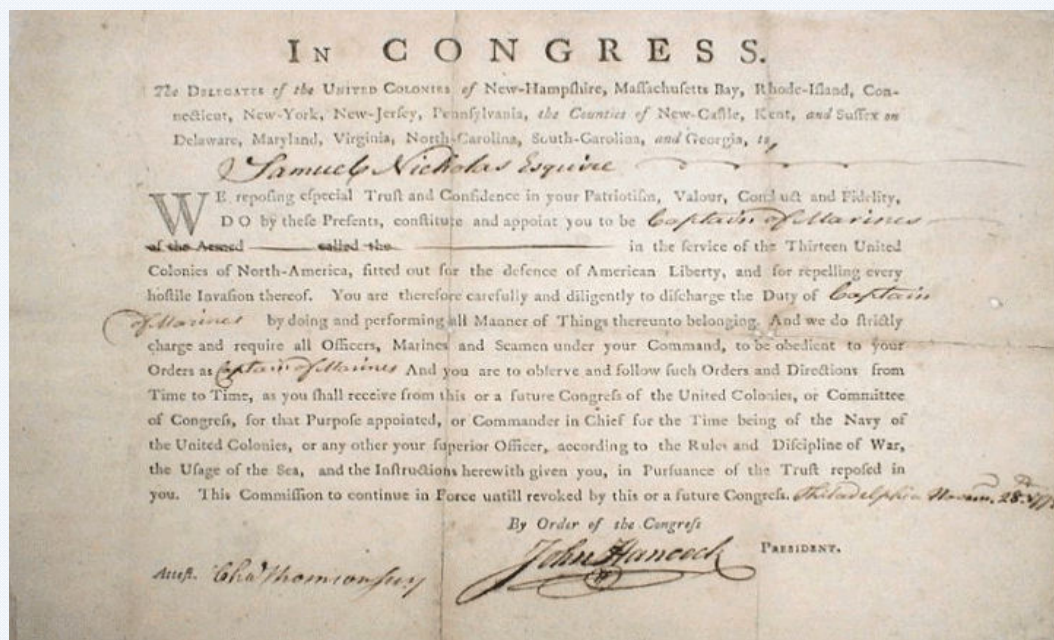


Les Rouse, Alan Staniskis & Senator Pat Toomey (pictured left) and Les and Bob Stanton (pictured right) at the Distinguished Warfare Medal Meeting



Our Americanism Team at Concord & Bethel Springs

End of a long and glorious era – The CH-46 Sea Knight



Samuel Nicholas and his Commission

Our Chester County PA Detachment #286 needs your help.

The Department of PA Marine Corps League has donated a memorial marker to commemorate the burial place of the First Commandant, Samuel Nicholas.

In keeping with our mission of perpetuating the history of the United States Marine Corps, we need your help in letting Marines know that this event will take place on 1 June 2013, 1 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House, 3rd and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, PA. We would like you to attend. Please help us pass the word to all Marines and their families.

The ceremony will be held in the heart of Philadelphia's most historic square mile where you will be within walking distance of the site of Tun Tavern, a Marine Corps Museum, Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, the Betsy Ross House, the U.S. Constitution Center and many more historic sights. There is a Holiday Inn directly across the street from the ceremony location. You can reach the Inn at [1-215-923-8660](tel:1-215-923-8660). For additional information on this area, you can contact the Philadelphia Visitor's Bureau at [1-800-537-7676](tel:1-800-537-7676).

If you would like to be introduced at the ceremony, please let me know. The highest ranking officer present will be asked to present the memorial wreath at the commemorative marker site.

We are proud to have accomplished this long past due commemoration to our First Commandant at the site where he was put to rest in 1790.

Semper Fidelis,

Fred LeClair, Commandant

Chester County PA Detachment



<http://www.cpf.navy.mil/news.aspx/010079>

EAST CHINA SEA - Ten CH-46E Sea Knight medium-lift tandem rotor transport helicopters, assigned to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM) 262, departed the forward-deployed amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) for the final time, March 20.

Known colloquially as the "Phrog," the Sea Knight has been used in all U.S. Marine combat and peacetime environments since its introduction in 1964, and will be replaced with the MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft.

The Sea Knights have been conducting missions from Bonhomme Richard since the ship's commissioning 15 years ago.

Lt. Col. Aaron Wells, HMM-262's commanding officer, has been flying the "Phrog" since 1994.

"The CH-46 has been my bread and butter for 20 years now, and will be my sun-down as it moves to the end of its time," said Wells. "It's been in pretty much every mission that we have done as Marines since it came online during the Vietnam War."

According to Wells, some of the same Sea Knights in HMM-262 were used in the Vietnam War. Production stopped in the '70s, so it's not a newly-built version of the aircraft, but the same aircraft used in that time period.

The Marine Corps has been maintaining and upgrading parts of the Sea Knight, such as the avionics, navigation system and communications to keep them up to pace, but the basic parts of the aircraft are the same ones that have been flying for 50 years.

"It's truly an honor to be part of that history and legacy," said Wells.

Its longevity as a reliable airframe has led to such mantra as "phrogs phorever" and "never trust a helicopter under 30."

"I've been watching the Sea Knight from a number of different flight decks for a long time," said Cmdr. Hans Sholley, Bonhomme Richard's "air boss." "It's a sad day to see the last "phrog" leave, because this ship was built around a 12-phrog squadron. It's like a part of this ship will be leaving, but they've had a remarkable longevity and it's time for the MV-22 to come on."

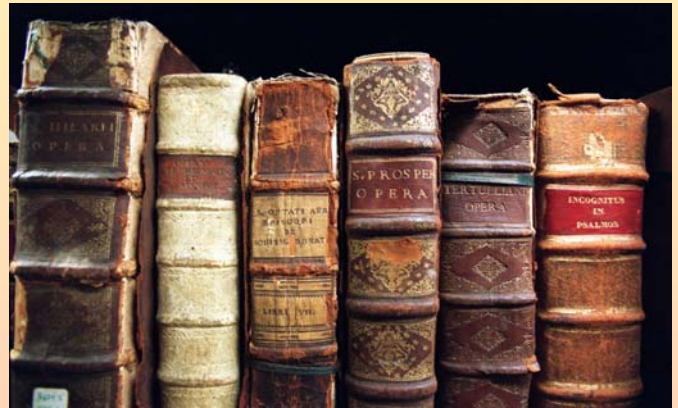
In March 2006, HMM-263 was deactivated and designated VMM-263 to serve as the first MV-22 squadron. The replacement process is expected to continue through the other medium helicopter squadrons into 2014.

According to Wells, HMM-262 will designate in late summer or fall 2013 through the process of slowly ramping down the CH-46s as the MV-22s come on line.

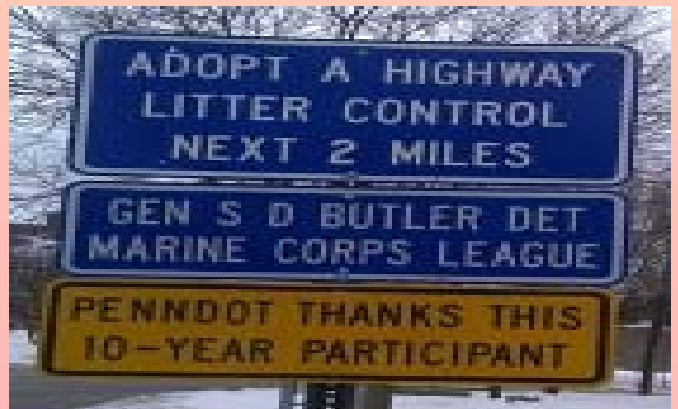
"It's been a wonderful aircraft and done amazing things for the Marine Corps," said Wells. "I think it is a highly reliable, very forgiving and very capable platform that will remain a Marine Corps history legend."



American Legion Post 338 in Havertown will be having a spaghetti dinner on Friday, April 12 at 6:30 pm. Dinner will include spaghetti, meatballs, sausage and peppers, salad, beer, wine, soda, and desserts. Cost will be \$15 a person and all proceeds will be donated to Walk For The Wounded, Operation First Response. All Leaguers and their significant others are invited.



Leaguers, the Detachment had to move the property we own to secure heated locations. Most of our materials will be stored in a Marple Township donated space. Our *Lending Library* will be stored at Earle's house. Contact Earle for a list of books available.



A big 'ole reminder that our first Adopt-a-Highway event of the year is coming up... the date is Sunday, April 14; the time is 0830 and the place is Wolff Co. parking lot on Bishop Hollow Rd., just off West Chester Pike in Newtown Square.



Marine Corps League
Smedley D. Butler Detachment
P.O. Box 184
Newtown Square, PA 19073-0184

**Honor-Courage-
Commitment**



Marines capture the pirate fortress at Derna, Tripoli

Next Meeting
April 2, 2013
1930 hours
Knights of Columbus
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.
(Route 252)
Newtown Square, PA 19073