

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 XXII, Issue 12
December 2012

Dan Luty, editor
dan.luty@gensdbutlerdet.org

Commandant's Report December 2012

We have had a busy start to the month of November. At the Detachment meeting we completed the second round of nominations for officers. Members also submitted nominations for Detachment Marine of the Year. We are still in need of a third director.

On Friday, 9 November, the Detachment Birthday Ball was held at the Paxon Hollow CC. A good time was had by all. Thanks for all the hard work put into this annual event by Bob Cosgrove, John Cook, Bob Spano, Jack McLeod and Jim Ross, serving as Sgt-at-Arms. Also assisting were the Young Marines in the Color Guard, led by Jim Donegan. Bernie McGinley read General Lejeune's message and Jack Kelly performed the POW/MIA service. Our Chaplin, Chris Bush performed the invocation and benediction.

Marine Sunday was held on 11 November at the Oakland cemetery in West Chester. Our Detachment along with the Chester County Detachment honored General Smedley Butler and two other local Marines. The Detachment had a great turn out. The Rifle Detail and Color Guard looked sharp.

On Monday, 12 November the Detachment had a busy day. First, our members participated in a Veterans breakfast at Paxon Hollow CC held by State Representative Bill Adolph and then the Detachment Color Guard and Rifle Detail supported the Marple/Newtown Veterans Alliance at the VFW Park in Broomall. After that the Detachment moved to American legion Post 805 for a ceremony and wreath laying. Upon this event the Detachment hurried to Media to take part in the Veterans Day Parade. Our Color Guard and float participated in the parade.

Also on Monday, member Terry Jones sculpture of Chesty Puller was unveiled at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico. On this BUSY weekend the Detachment still performed funeral honors plus supported the HUHO campaign. A BIG THANKS to the members that helped out.

Tuesday 13 November, Bob Spano and I took part with M/N Veterans Alliance in recognizing the Kish funeral home. This event took place at the Marple Township supervisor meeting. Kish funeral home is a great supporter of the veterans in the area. The Kish's provided refreshments to all after the Memorial Day events at the Broomall VFW Park.

Remember that the December General Meeting starts at 1800and is followed by our Annual Holiday Dinner. Cost for this event is one unwrapped new toy for our Toys for Tots campaign. This meeting is the last for nominations of officers and voting for Marine of the Year.

In closing after this long report, I would like thank all the members for your hard work this year. It is an honor to be your Commandant. Finally I wish you and your families a HAPPY AND HEALTHY Holiday Season.

Semper Fi,

James Herbst
Commandant

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
1	Commandant's Report
2	Boosters; Birthdays; Officers & Committee Chairmen
3	Looking Ahead; Sick Call
4	"Esprit de Corps"
5 & 6	November Meeting Minutes
7	Various Pictures

"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!

DECEMBER BOOSTERS

John Burfete, Jr.	Helen & John Cook
Charles Coombs	Bud Davis
Mel DelGrippe	Joe Direso
Jean & Tom Falgiatore	Paul Ferguson
Rosemarie & Tony Fusto	Roger Godfrey
Richard Guyer	Jack Kelly
Delores & Emil Latini	Bernie McGinley
Con McGinley	Jerry McGuckin
Joe Mealey	Pat & Joe Mensack
Florence & Bob Spano	Hank Velardi

Thank you boosters!

Bob Spano
Paymaster

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

Birthday Greetings for December

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

John Artz
Joseph Daly
Michael Milliken
William Nolan
John Schaffhauser
Walter Scott



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

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

December

- 4 General Meeting, K of C Hall at 1800 *(early start). This is a Tuesday and also please note the early start because of the Annual Holiday Dinner to follow the brief meeting at which the final round of nominations and elections will take place.
- 7 Pearl Harbor Day. In 1941, 111 US Marines are killed and 75 wounded during the Japanese attack.
- 21 First day of Winter.
- 25 Christmas
- 27 Staff Meeting dinner at Valentino's Restaurant at 1900. All members are invited, cost is \$25.

January

- 2 General Meeting, K of C Hall at 1930 (this was moved to Wednesday due to the New Years Holiday).

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.

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.

SICK CALL

Dave Brimble
Matt Balfrey

John McHenry
Con McGinley

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

“Esprit de Corps”

Ask a Marine what's so special about the Marines and the answer would be "Esprit de Corps," an unhelpful French phrase that means exactly what it looks like - the Spirit of the Corps. But what is that spirit? And where does it come from?

The Marine Corps is the only branch of the U. S. Armed Forces that Recruits people specifically to fight. The Army emphasizes personal development (an Army of One), the Navy promises fun (let the journey begin), the Air Force offers security (it's a great way of life). Missing from all the advertisements is the hard fact that a soldier's life is to suffer and perhaps to die for his people and take lives at the risk of his/her own. Even the thematic music of the services reflects this evasion. The Army's Caisson Song describes a pleasant country outing; over hill and dale, lacking only a picnic basket. Anchors Aweigh, the Navy's celebration of the joys of sailing, could have been penned by Jimmy Buffet. The Air Force song is a lyric poem of blue skies and engine thrust. All is joyful, and invigorating, and safe. There are no land mines in the dales, nor snipers behind the hills, no submarines or cruise missiles threaten the ocean jaunt, no bandits are lurking in the wild blue yonder.

The Marines' Hymn, by contrast, is all combat: "We fight our Country's battles," "First to fight for right and freedom," "We have fought in every clime and place where we could take a gun," "In many strife we have fought for life and never lost our nerve." The choice is made clear. You may join the Army to go to adventure training, or join the Navy to go to Bangkok, or join the Air Force to go to computer school.

You join the Marine Corps to go to War! But the mere act of signing the enlistment contract confers no status in the Corps. The Army recruit is told from his first minute in uniform that "You're in the Army now, soldier." The Navy and Air Force enlistees are sailors or airmen as soon as they get off the bus at the training center. The new arrival at Marine Corps boot camp is called a recruit, or worse (a lot worse), but never a MARINE. Not yet, maybe never. He or she must earn the right to claim the title of UNITED STATES MARINE, and failure returns you to civilian life without hesitation or ceremony.

Recruit Platoon 2210 at San Diego, California trained from October through December of 1968. In Viet Nam the Marines were taking two hundred casualties a week and the major rainy season and Operation Meade River had not even begun. Yet Drill Instructors had no qualms about winnowing out almost a quarter of their 112 recruits, graduating only 81. Note that this was post-enlistment attrition. Every one of those 31 who were dropped had been passed by the recruiters as fit for service. But they failed the test of Marine Corps Boot Camp! Not necessarily for physical reasons. At least two were outstanding high school athletes for whom the calisthenics and running were child's play. The cause of their failure was neither in the biceps nor the legs but in the spirit. They had lacked the will to endure the mental and emotional strain so they would not be Marines. Heavy commitments and high casualties notwithstanding, the Corps reserve the right to pick and choose whether you are seeing a truck driver, a computer programmer or a machine gunner or a cook or a baker. The Marine is amorphous, even anonymous, by conscious design. The Marine is a Marine. Every Marine is a rifleman first and foremost, a Marine ... First, Last and Always! You may serve a four-year enlistment or even a twenty-plus-year career without seeing action, but if the word is given you'll charge across that Wheatfield! Whether a Marine has been schooled in automated supply or automotive mechanics or aviation electronics or whatever is immaterial.

Those things are secondary - the Corps does them because it must. The modern battle requires the technical appliances and since the enemy has them, so do we. But no Marine boasts mastery of them. Our pride is in our marksmanship, our discipline, and our membership in a fraternity of courage and sacrifice. "For the honor of the fallen, for the glory of the dead," Edgar Guest wrote of Belleau Wood. "The living line of courage kept the faith and moved ahead."

They are all gone now, those Marines who made a French farmer's little Wheatfield into one of the most enduring of Marine Corps legends. Many of them did not survive the day and eight long decades have claimed the rest. But their actions are immortal. The Corps remembers them and honors what they did and so they live forever. Dan Daly's shouted challenge takes on its true meaning - if you lie in the trenches you may survive for now, but someday you may die and no one will care. If you charge the guns you may die in the next two minutes, but you will be one of the immortals.

All Marines die in either the red flash of battle or the white cold of the nursing home. In the vigor of youth or the infirmity of age all will eventually die, but the Marine Corps lives on. Every Marine who ever lived is living still, in the Marines who claim the title today.

It is that sense of belonging to something that will outlive our own mortality, which gives people a light to live by and a flame to mark their passing.

Semper Fidelis

Submitted by: Bernie McGinley

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment #741
Marine Corps League
General Meeting Minutes – 5 November 2012

Commandant Jim Herbst opened the meeting at 1930. Officers present were Commandant Jim Herbst, Sr. Vice Bob Cosgrove, Judge Advocate Paul Ferguson, Adjutant Jack Kelly, Paymaster Bob Spano, Chaplain Chris Bush, Sergeant-at-Arms Charles (Bud) Davis, Service Officer Con McGinley, Director Bill Kinney, Director Bernie McGinley, and Director Ed Seidl. Earle Drake served as the Jr. Vice as Jack McLeod was unable to attend.

Minutes: Bernie McGinley made a motion to accept the minutes of the 2 October 2012 general meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Jim Donegan seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Commandant: Commandant Jim Herbst mentioned that the coming weekend would be a busy weekend, and volunteers are needed. Members were asked to review the schedule of Detachment events to determine where they could serve. Jim Herbst also reminded everyone to vote in the presidential election the next day - we all served to protect that right. Jim Herbst mentioned that he had attended the Department (state) quarterly meeting on 20 October 2012. One main issue discussed at the meeting was membership. He will provide more information on the meeting in the next issue of the *Scuttlebutt*. Jim Herbst also mentioned that on 21 October he and a number of Detachment members participated in the Beirut Memorial recognition. The Color Guard, buglers, and rifle detail all participated in the event. In addition, Col. John Church gave a motivating speech.

Sr. Vice: Bob Cosgrove mentioned that this evening was the last evening to sign up for the Detachment's Marine Corps Ball, scheduled for 9 November at the Paxon Hollow Country Club. He also mentioned that the December general meeting is the annual Christmas dinner meeting. There is no cost, but members should bring a new toy for the Toys for Tots program. Bob Cosgrove also mentioned that the monthly meeting of the "Smedley's Breakfast Club" would be on Saturday, 10 November 2012, at the Country Squire Restaurant.

Jr. Vice: As Jack McLeod was not in attendance, Earle Drake provided the Jr. Vice report. Earle Drake mentioned that the Ball program book went well, with \$4,575.00 collected in advertising revenue. In the Help Us Help Others (HUHO) campaign, it was reported that \$121,170.00 has been collected year-to-date.

Adjutant: Jack Kelly mentioned that letters of thanks for donations made by the Detachment had been received from the Semper Fi Fund, the Fisher House Foundation, the Society of St. Vincent DePaul, and from Operation First Response. In addition, a card of appreciation was received from a family whose loved one served in World War II and had been honored recently by the Honor Guard during graveside ceremonies.

Judge Advocate: Paul Ferguson, who is active in activities at the USO at the Philadelphia International Airport, provided information on how the Detachment funds are used at the USO when contributions are made to that organization. He also provided an account of how one family responded to a situation in which two brothers were in the military with both facing deployments, and how this situation was settled with only one brother deployed.

Chaplain: Chris Bush did not have any names of those in the hospital or with other illnesses, but he did ask the members to please notify him if anyone hears of members being hospitalized, or if the Chaplain's services are needed for any other reason.

Paymaster: Bob Spano provided the paymaster's report as of 31 October 2012. He also asked the members to review the list of organizations in the agenda suggested for consideration for donations. This will be reviewed later in the meeting. Bill Kinney made a motion to accept the paymaster's report as received. Bernie McGinley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

V.A.V.S.: Con McGinley reported on upcoming activity at the Coatesville Medical Center, including a Christmas party scheduled for 8 December 2012.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: John Burfete was not in attendance, but Jim Herbst mentioned that the program has been completed for this year. It will start up again in the Spring of 2013. Jim Herbst also mentioned that John Burfete is doing a great job in his role of Communications Chairman, sending out a number of e-mail communications on a number of different topics.

Americanism: Earle Drake mentioned that no Americanism presentations have been scheduled recently because both he and Jim Mulhern will be traveling to different locations. Jim Mulhern was scheduled to be in Germany and Earle Drake will be traveling to California.

Awards: Jim Herbst mentioned that committee chairmen should forward the names of those members to be recognized for activities during 2012 to Awards Chairman Harry Kaufman. The reports should indicate if a person is being recommended for a Certificate of Appreciation, a Meritorious Commendation, or the Distinguished Service Award.

Color Guard: Jim Donegan reported that he had contacted Bob Stanton concerning the availability of having the Young Marines handling the Color Guard duties at the Marine Corps Birthday Ball. He also thanked the members who had participated in the Color Guard duties at the Beirut Memorial recognition event. It was mentioned that the Veterans Day recognition would again be a very busy day. The day would begin with a Color Guard event at Representative Bill Adolph's Veterans' Day breakfast, followed by events at Lawrence Road for the VFW and at Post #805 for the American Legion. The final event of the day would be the annual Veterans' Day Parade in Media. Another event is scheduled for 17 November 2012 at the Springfield Country Club.

Honor Guard: Ben Sides reported that 159 military funerals for deceased veterans had been performed so far this year. Four more have been scheduled for this week. Ben Sides mentioned that Burton (Burt) Marks, one of the original members of the Marple-Newtown Combined Veterans Alliance Honor Guard, was laid to rest this week.

Recruiting: Jim Herbst again emphasized the need for members to be involved in recruiting new members.

Delaware County Veterans Memorial: Bill Kinney mentioned that the construction of the Memorial is on target to meet its dedication day of 11 May 2013. A recent discussion on permit fees was settled in the Memorial's favor.

Toys for Tots: Bob Cosgrove mentioned that the Toys for Tots program is ready to begin. He mentioned that Bob Spano has the assignment sheets and the collection boxes are ready to be distributed. The boxes of toys should be collected by 16 December 2012.

Unfinished Business: Jim Herbst asked Earle Drake to conduct the second round of nominations of officers for 2013, since Jr. Past Commandant Dan Luty was away on business. Nominations can also be made at the December general meeting. After the nominations are closed, the election of officers will be conducted at the December general meeting. Nominations for the following positions have been accepted by:

Commandant: Jim Herbst

Sr. Vice Commandant: Paul Ferguson (Paul Ferguson had previously been nominated for Judge Advocate, but he withdrew his name from that nomination to accept the nomination of Sr. Vice Commandant.)

Jr. Vice Commandant: Jack McLeod

Paymaster: Bob Spano

Adjutant: Jack Kelly

Judge Advocate: Charles Coombs

Chaplain: Chris Bush

Service Officer: Con McGinley

Sergeant-at-Arms: Charles (Bud) Davis

Directors: Ed Seidl and Bill Kinney. (Three are needed)

As stated above, additional nominations can be made at the December general meeting, prior to the election of officers at that meeting.

Earle Drake also distributed forms for the nomination of the Marine of the Year. Names can be submitted, and then the list of names will be narrowed down to the top three nominations at the November officers' staff meeting. Members will vote on the Marine of the Year from the top three nominations at the December general meeting, and the Marine of the Year will be announced at the January 2013 general meeting.

New Business: District One Vice Commandant Earle Drake presented a certificate from the MCL National Headquarters to Commandant Jim Herbst for maintaining the Detachment's 100 per cent membership status. Earle Drake also presented a Distinguished Citizen Award to Jack Kelly for his service as Aide de Camp to Earle Drake in Earle's position as District One Vice Commandant.

Bob Spano went over the list of organizations recommended by the officers for donations this month. These organizations had been reviewed at a recent officers' staff meeting and were being recommended for consideration by the membership. Bernie McGinley made a motion to donate the funds as outlined in the meeting's agenda. The organizations and the amounts to be donated in parentheses are: (1) Fisher House Foundation, Rockville, MD (\$2,000.00); (2) The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Oceanside, CA (\$2,000.00); (3) The Marine Corps League Foundation, Merrifield, VA (\$2,000.00); (4) Operation First Response, Culpeper, VA (\$2,000.00); (5) The USO, Philadelphia International Airport, Philadelphia, PA (\$2,000.00); and (6) The Wounded Warrior Regiment, Quantico, VA (\$2,000.00). Bill Kinney seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Announcements: Bob Cosgrove mentioned that if a member is working in an office or another location that could be considered for a Toys for Tots location, to check it out and contact Bob Cosgrove if it can be utilized.

Good of the League: Earle Drake mentioned that there is a display in the Springfield Public Library on the Frigate Navy. A number of Detachment members have made contributions from their own collection of memorabilia toward the display, and Earle Drake encouraged all to visit the display. It will be in the Springfield Public Library until the end of December.

There was a brief discussion concerning the number of events that can be handled on Veterans Day. This topic will be taken under consideration during the officers' staff meeting in January 2013.

Bernie McGinley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paul Ferguson seconded the motion and the motion passed. The regular closing ceremonies were conducted. The meeting was adjourned at 2035.

Bob Wells won the 50/50. Thirty-two members signed the logbook.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Kelly

Adjutant



Beirut Memorial Ceremony



"Marines in the Frigate Navy" exhibit at the Springfield Library



Terry Jones looks on as Chesty Puller gets placed outside The Marine Corps Museum



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

**Honor-Courage-
Commitment**



Next Meeting
December 4, 2012 (Tuesday)
1800 hours *(early start)
Knights of Columbus
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.
(Route 252)
Newtown Square, PA 19073