



Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

Home Detachment of the Department of PA Commandant, Tom Tanner

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

Website • www.gensdbutlerdet.org

Commandant Jim Alleva • 610.789.3755

1914 1915



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Commandant's Report February 2006

On Tuesday January 3rd, our General Meeting was held. We installed new officers. Thanks to Tom Tanner, our State Commandant; Bob Rup, our SE Division Commandant; and Leanna Dietrich, State Adjutant for attending and swearing in the officers.

Awards were given out. Bob Spano received the Marine of the Year award; good job! Our Honor Guard finished the year with a total of 266 Military Funerals, combined with the VFW #7390 and the AL #805. There are no words that can be said of the service these veterans have done for our community and our fallen brothers and sisters.

On January 6th and 7th the State had their quarterly meeting in Grantville, PA.

Our Veterans' Museum needs some volunteers to be guides. The Museum is open from Thursday to Sunday, 1200-1800. Please contact Steve Neri at 610-356-4982 if you're able to help.

Suggestion Box- At the sign in table you will see a Suggestion Box. You may put your comment in the box and it will be read at the next staff meeting. We are here to serve you. Any ideas you might have are important to us. You can sign your suggestion or not. It's up to you. What matters is that *YOUR VOICE* will be heard and action taken, if needed. We can always use improvement. Please take advantage of the suggestion box!

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I want to thank all who stayed on their committees; our Americanism, VAVS, Ceremonies, etc. You have done a wonderful job in the past and I know you will continue to make this Detachment proud!

It happened in February...

- 2-25-1861- the Confederate Marine Corps was organized
- 2-19-1945- US. Marines land on Iwo Jima
- 2-26-1991- A Marine recon unit was the first force to enter Kuwait City, and retake the American Embassy

God Bless & Semper Fi,

Jim Alleva

BERSERK

Anyone described as "BERSERK" is taken to be in a state of wild, reckless frenzy. This was the description given to the original "berserkers": Viking warriors who either went into battle bare to the sark (shirt) or clad in a bear sark. In both cases their lack of armor showed their contempt for death and the need for frenzied fighting, if they were to survive.

BITING THE BULLET

In the days before anesthetics were available on the battlefield, the wounded had to be treated without painkillers. To brace themselves against the agony of the operations, patients were told to bite on the soft lead of the bullet, which would absorb the pressure of the bite without breaking their teeth. The expression has entered the language to describe preparing oneself for something unpleasant or painful.

BURYING THE HATCHET

The hatchet was a key weapon of war among the North American Indians. When conflicts had been settled, smoking the peace pipe was a signal that all weapons should be buried, so that all ideas of hostility would be hidden from sight. "Burying The Hatchet" today means letting bygones be bygones and ceasing to quarrel.

*Sing the Lead & Spiking His Guns...Castle Books
J.J.V. Cook*

The Department of Pennsylvania, MCL, sponsors a raffle each year benefiting its VETERANS & YOUTH PROGRAMS. The prizes are generous, First Prize is \$5000. Second prize is \$1000. Third prize is \$500. Fourth to tenth prizes are \$100. Eleventh to twentieth prizes are \$50. Price per ticket is \$1.00.

Contact me for tickets. Make checks payable to the Smedley D. Butler Detachment, MCL, P.O. Box 184, Newtown Square, PA 19073-0184.

Thank you, and have a Happy New Year.

Earle E. Drake

Director & Acting Jr. Vice

THE DEMISE OF THE BATTLESHIP

The First World War afforded the Japanese Empire a golden opportunity to consolidate and expand their economic penetration and political domination of East Asia without incurring the diplomatic risks that would earlier have accompanied such aggressive policy. In its capacity as an ally of Great Britain, Japan had declared war on Germany in August 1914 and proceeded to seize all of Germany's possessions in the Far East such as the German controlled island chains of the Marianas, Marshalls and Carolines.

In the Washington Conference, a treaty was signed on 6 February 1922, in which all the major powers, United States, Britain, France, Italy and Japan would reduce their Naval Forces for peaceful purposes and not build heavy war vessels for 10 years. United States signed and also surrendered their right to improve its position in bases and fortifications in the Philippine Islands and their islands West of Hawaii, such as Midway, Guam, Wake and the Aleutians. The United States also scrapped 28 Battleships and Battle Cruisers.

The vulnerability of the American possessions in the Far East was increased by the advent of air power as a decisive factor in naval warfare. Four months before the Washington Conference, the U.S. Army Air Corps had sunk a captured German Battleship in an experimental test off the Virginia capes with foreign (including Japanese) military observers in attendance, conclusively demonstrating that gravity-propelled bombs could send a heavily armored vessel to the bottom.

In strategic terms, this suggested that capital ships (battleships) could no longer safely operate in waters within range of land-based enemy aircraft or aircraft carriers. Gone were the days when the great battleships could roam about the oceans of the world with impunity, intervening anywhere at will. American superiority in battleships was a deceptive advantage.

~~~J.J.V. Cook

### **Post note!**

The Detachment Library Committee will present a display in the Marple Public Library during the month of February 2006....Titled...

***The Era of the American Dreadnoughts and the Demise of the Battleship as the Capital Ship of the U.S. Navy.***

# Looking Ahead

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## DETACHMENT EVENTS

### February

- 07 General membership meeting-K of C- 1930
- 08 Coatesville Valentine's Day Party-1830
- 09-11 Mid Winter National Staff Meeting, Falls Church, VA
- 13 Coatesville Bingo Party- 1830
- 28 Staff Meeting AL-#805- 1930

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## 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.

#### **Disabled American Veterans: Delaware County Chapter # 113**

Meetings are held at the AmVets Post in Morton, PA on the second Monday of every month at 2000.

#### **Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 67,**

2nd Thursday every month-1930-Catholic War Veterans Post 731, 920 West Chester Pike, Havertown, PA.

#### **Delaware County Detachment**

Third Sunday of the month: Breakfast: 0800-1130, \$5.00/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.

#### **Upper Darby Detachment #884 MCL**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 2000, 1026 Providence Rd. Secane, Pa. 19018

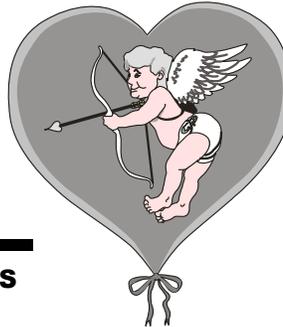
## Other Organizations' Events (Cont'd.)

#### **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.



### New Addition to the Library

Members, even though the library has not been available at the general meeting, I would like to inform you that one of our members, Les Turner, has donated "Old Gimlet Eye, Adventures of Smedley D. Butler". The book is signed by both the author, Lowell Thomas and Smedley himself. This book which was copyrighted in 1933 was first owned by Bob Thompson, Norwood, PA; Rich Milliken, Havertown, PA; and then Les Turner.

~~~submitted by Bob Spano

MEDIA THEATER PRESENTS **BLACKTHORN**

In Concert

**Benefits the Veterans Legacy Project
And
PA Veterans Museum**

Friday, February 17, 2006, 8 PM

**For tickets call 610/891-0100
\$25.00**

~~~for additional information, contact Steve Neri

## Quotes

"There are only two kinds of people that understand Marines: Marines and the enemy. Everyone else has a second -hand opinion."

---General William Thornson, U.S. Army

~~~submitted by Steve Neri

BEEF & BEER

NEWTOWN TOWNSHIP
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The committee is holding their first fund raiser for the Veterans Monument and Park.
Construction will start in the spring.

A time for good grog,
good food,
good music and
good friends.



There will be

- a silent auction with loads of great gifts,
- a chance to win a fantastic basket of cheer
- ALSO A 50/50 \$\$\$

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST, 2006, 5 – 9 pm
Knights of Columbus Hall, Newtown Square, PA

DONATION - \$35.00

~~~for additional information, contact Steve Neri



## SICK CALL



### Members:

Matt Balfrey, Bud Bruce, Frank DiBonaventuro,  
Joseph Dodds, Jim Duffy, Jay Joseph, Jack  
Lister and Don Walz

***Please keep these members and family members in your prayers and make an effort to contact them and let them know you care.***

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

## CLASSIC MILITARY WARNINGS

**“Aim towards the Enemy”...**

Instructions printed on U.S. Army Rocket Launcher.

**“When the pin is pulled, Mr. Grenade is not your friend.”**

U.S.M.C. Training Bulletin.

**“Cluster bombing from B-52s is very accurate. The bombs are guaranteed to always hit the ground.”**

U.S.A.F. Literature.

**“If the enemy is in range, so are you.”**

Infantryman’s Journal.

**“A slipping trigger gear could let your M203 grenade launcher fire when you least expect it. That would make you quite unpopular in what’s left of your unit.”**

Army’s Magazine of Preventive Maintenance.

~~~submitted by J.J.V. Cook

"SCUTTLEBUTT" BOOSTER CLUB



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

With the recent increase in postage and printing costs, we encourage your continued support. 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!

JANUARY BOOSTERS

Vincent J. Manjelli, Robert Senior, Florence and Bob Spano, Dan Fitzpatrick, Ben Sides, Joe Direso and Elena and Jim Alleva. .

Thank you boosters!

Ben Sides
Paymaster

If you are interested in being a "Scuttlebutt" Booster, please see Ben Sides.

Committee Chairmen 2006

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Adopt-A-Highway | Dave Brimble |
| Americanism | Bill Lessig |
| Auxiliary Liaison | Tony Fusto |
| Awards | Bob Spano |
| Ceremonies & Honor Guard | George VanDusen |
| " Assistant | John J. V. Cook |
| Color Guard | Jim Alleva |
| Historian | John J. V. Cook |
| Home Assoc. & Meetings | Tom Kerrigan |
| Legislative | Bernie McGinley |
| Locker Box | Tom Lynch |
| Marksmanship | Mike Bodle |
| Membership | Dan Luty |
| Newsletter (Scuttlebutt) | Sandi Mauer |
| Newtown Twp Vets Park | Stan Short |
| Public Relations | Steve Neri |
| Property | Dave Brimble |
| Scholarships | Wayne Williams |
| Scouting | John Gingras |
| Toys-For-Tots | Dan Luty |
| Uniform | Tom Bishop |
| V.A.V.S. | Robert Matthews |
| Young Marines | Robert Stanton |

OFFICERS For YEAR 2006

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Commandant | Jim Alleva |
| Sr. Vice Commandant | Dan Luty |
| Jr. Vice Commandant | Jerry Leon |
| Adjutant | Jack Kelly |
| Paymaster | Ben Sides |
| Judge Advocate | Rick Van Luvender |
| Sergeant-At-Arms | James D. Ross |
| Chaplain | Christopher Bush |
| Service Officer | Connie Mc Ginley |
| Director | Paul Donohue |
| Director | Bernie McGinley |
| Director | Earle Drake |
| Jr. Past Commandant | Bob Spano |

Birthday Greetings for February

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

James Clark
James Constien
Harry Deaner
Lawrence Doyle
Jeffrey Elliott
Stewart Hughes
John Keevill
John Kelly
Robert McLaughlin
Ronald Miller
Robert Spano
Weston Tomlinson



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

Gen. Smedley D. Butler Det. 741
Marine Corps League
General Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2006

1930: Commandant: Called meeting to order.

Approximate ceremonies were held.

Adjutant: Held Roll Call of Officers, all present except Judge Advocate and Director Bishop who were absent. Director VanLuvender sat in for the Judge Advocate.

Commandant: Introduced our Guest and recognized all former Commandants.

Officers Reports:

Sr. Vice: No Report. Thanked everyone who helped the detachment this past year and for electing him as new Commandant.

Jr. Vice: The Junior Troop Handler Wagon was delivered to the winner of the drawing. The delegation included Joe Hudson, Bob Bunce, Bob Spano, and Earle Drake and George Boyajian.

Marine Corps Birthday Ball Program Book: There are a few ads that have not been paid and collection letters have gone out to those advertisers.

Department of PA Raffle Tickets: Raffle tickets for the Veterans & Youth Programs are available after the meeting. I want to remind you that the top prize is \$5,000. Other prizes range from \$1,000 to \$50.00.

Adjutant: Read the correspondence.

Paymaster: Gave a detailed report and passed out copies. Motion to accept Paymaster's report by Joe Mensack and seconded by Jerry Leon. The motion passed.

Chaplain: No Report. He distributed a get well card to be signed by everyone for Bud Bruce.

Sgt-at-Arms: Reminded everyone to show courtesy to the person speaking and not to distract from the meeting. He also, stated how good it looks having everyone wearing the red Covers and saluting the Flag and the Sgt-at-Arms, when they enter the meeting.

Service Officer: No Report. He thanked everyone for coming to his brother's funeral and especially the Honor Guard.

Jr. Past Commandant: Stated we had a request to attend an Eagle Scout award Ceremony. He also

stated that the new PA Veterans Museum is offering to recognize any Post that donates \$500.00. The Am Vets Post in Morton, PA was the first to do this; Steve said he would like to see our detachment do the same.

Department Commandant: Presented a Plaque to the detachment from the past National Convention; we placed second in the country for our Americanism Program. Also we received the National Jr. Vice Award for membership, and two streamers for our colors. He also thanked the detachment for their outstanding service to our communities.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: The detachment has just received our award for ten years of participation in this PADOT program.

Americanism: They gave their program at three schools in December.

Auxiliary Liaison: No Report.

Awards: We will have our awards program later in the meeting.

Ceremonies: We performed 266 Military Funeral Honor Guards this year; it was also an extremely busy year for both the Color & Honor Guard details. We participated in more than two-dozen different events and parades, in at least six or more different communities.

Historian: The Springfield Library has asked us to keep the WWI display for another month; it seems to be very popular with the public.

Legislative: Bernie gave quite a thorough report of the status of a number of bills that will have major impact on Veterans benefits.

Locker Box: No Report.

V.A.V.S.: There is a bingo party this coming Monday night. We also received two letters from Coatesville VA Hospital thanking us for the Christmas parties and the gifts for the patients.

Unfinished business: None

Old business: none

AWARDS CEREMONY:

The Awards Chairman with the assistance of the Sr. & Jr. Vice presented all the detachment awards for Certificate of Appreciation, Meritorious Commendation, and Distinguished Service.

continued on page 7

Department Adjutant: The Detachment was given a Certificate of Appreciation from Tun Tavern Detachment for participating in the Dedication of a plaque at the location of TUN TAVERN. Also presented were Meritorious Commendations to the members of the Color Guard, Dan Fitzpatrick, Jim Ross, Bernie McGinley, Ben Sides and Jim Alleva. Two other members were recognized with Meritorious Commendations. They were John Cook and Walt Tallmadge.

The Commandant presented special awards to Ben Sides and Harry Kaufman. His choice for the Commandant's Award was made to Earle Drake.

The Awards Chairman presented the Marine of the Year Award to this year's recipient, Bob Spano.

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS:

The Department Commandant, the Southeast Division Vice and the Department Adjutant conducted the installation ceremony of the newly elected officers for 2006.

After the new officers were seated, the Commandant thanked everyone and called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Joe Mensack, and was seconded by Steve Neri. The motion passed.

Closing ceremonies were held and meeting adjourned at 2110.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen D. Neri
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

Updates from the Global War on Terrorism

The following items come from Marine Capt. Jeffrey S. Pool, attached to the ground combat element multi-national forces western Iraq. The info from Captain Pool contains quite a bit of information regarding the progress being made in Iraq, yet not covered by the media here in the United States of America. Be sure to see the quote from Captain Pool below.

Semper Fidelis,
Rick Van Luvender

~~~~~  
*Wednesday December 21<sup>st</sup> 2005*

Operation Alkamra Almaner (Moonlight) concluded yesterday evening. Moonlight was the first brigade-level operation conducted by Iraqi Army soldiers in the Al Anbar province. Five Iraqi Army companies from 1st Brigade, 1st Iraqi Army Division led the operation and were supported by a company of U.S. Marines from Regimental Combat Team-2. The Iraqi soldiers, with the Marines following in trace, cleared an area east of Ubaydi along the northern and southern banks of the Euphrates River.

*Thursday December 29<sup>th</sup> 2005*

More results from some of the targeted raids that are being conducted in Ramadi. Currently there are no large clearing operations being conducted in Al Anbar, but instead Iraqi and U.S. Forces are launching targeted raids of a short duration on insurgents and their caches. These raids are possible because of the increase in information given to Iraqi and U.S. Forces by Anbar citizens.

Iraqi Army soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, 7th Division working alongside of 2nd Brigade Combat Team (28th Infantry Division) are clearing the streets of known insurgents in western Ramadi. In the past two days, 1-1-7 IA forces have detained five targeted insurgents, to include Jassim Mohammed Fayadh, a high value insurgent leader, allegedly responsible for financing terrorism in the Tammim neighborhood and known to have supplied arms and munitions to Al Qaeda in Iraq. The four additional detainees are under investigation for coordinating insurgent attacks and activities, including the storage and transportation of weapon systems and munitions.

*Monday Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> 2006*

Op Green Trident - U.S. Marines discovered more than ten metric tons of munitions hidden at 72 cache sites 39 km south of Fallujah during the weeklong Operation Green Trident. To give these cache finds some perspective; the weight of these caches is approximately equivalent to five full-size Ford Explorer sports utility vehicles. A separate operation, Red Bull which took place in the Haditha Triad (Haditha, Haqlaniyah and Barwana) discovered 82 caches.

"What the media doesn't seem to grasp is that everyday the Iraqi battalions we are partnering with are getting better. Partnering with their soldiers is really working; when I arrived last March, we would attach a squad of Iraqi soldiers to a Marine platoon and now we have a fire team of Marines going out with a platoon of Iraqis. Things are definitely looking up."

SF  
Capt. Pool

If you are interested in receiving updates from the front, please email me at rvanluve@bellatlantic.net and I will add you to the distribution list.  
*Rick Van Luvender*



**Marine Corps League**

Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184

Newtown Square, PA 19073-0184

**Next Regular Meeting is:  
February 7, 2006  
1930 hrs.  
Knights of Columbus  
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.  
(Route 252)  
Newtown Square, PA**

