



Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184 • Newtown Square, PA 19073
Website • www.gensdbutlerdet.org

Commandant **Dan Luty**

1914 1915



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February 2010

Dan Luty, editor
Dan.luty@ricoh-usa.com

Commandant's Report February 2010

I would like to thank all of the members for having the confidence in me to lead the "greatest Marine Corps League Detachment!"

I feel very fortunate to have a great cast. Most of the 2009 officers are continuing in those same roles in 2010. The job that these Marines have done in the past is second to none and I know that they will continue to do so.

I would like to welcome our new Senior Vice Commandant: Jim Herbst (formerly Director) and our two new Directors: Ed Seidl and Bob Cosgrove (formerly Sr. Vice). There are some new Committee Chairmen as well.

Our new Historian: Jack Gallagher and helping Wayne Barner with the Honor Guard: Bea Loyd, I look forward to working with all of you!!

Earle Drake will be vacating the Commandant Post and is our new Junior Past Commandant. I would like to congratulate Earle for his 2009 Marine of the Year Award, very deserving, indeed! I would also like to thank you Earle, for your leadership over the past two years. Our Detachment's growth and accomplishments over this period are astonishing.

Of course, without the membership participating in our many programs, the hard work of the Officers and Committee Chairmen would be for naught. This isn't a problem for our Detachment. The Smedley Butler membership is as, or more involved, in League programs, than any other Detachment.

We are firing on all cylinders!! Members, Chairmen and Officers - "Let's keep the momentum going"!

Semper Fidelis,

Dan Luty
Commandant

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Sr. Vice Report

It is a privilege to be your Senior Vice Commandant for this coming year. I want to thank Coz for all his hard work during the past year. Coz has gotten me started on the right path.

As membership chair, I am working on getting new membership packets together. They will be ready in time for February's meeting. The Detachment has done a great job on recruiting these last two years. Let's keep that spirit going.

Semper FI

Jim Herbst

Sr. Vice Commandant



Members of the Smedley D. Butler Detachment Honor Guard presenting Colors at the opening of the General Smedley D. Butler display at the Springfield Library. The Display was created by John Cook and Con McGinley. This display will be moving to the West Chester Historical Society in February.

Jr. Vice Report

Help Our Heroes Campaign

This Campaign involves our Members sharing information with potential contributors regarding the financial challenges faced by our wounded troops, needy veterans, and their respective families. The Campaign will continue throughout 2010; Members are encouraged to use the materials distributed last year. Updated kits will be created as needed.

Letters and Certificates of Appreciation will be sent to our 2009 Contributors by the end of January.

Birthday Ball Program Ad Book

Follow up action will be taken on unpaid ads.

Help Us to Help Others (HUHO) Campaign

We hope to complete our 2010 HUHO event schedule by the end of February.

Respectively submitted,

Jack McLeod

Jr. Vice Commandant



Pictured from left to right: Audrey Blossic-Springfield Library Director, John Cook, Vince Sullivan-News of Delaware County and Harold Boyer-Springfield Public Services Director

Walk for the Wounded

A Very Special Fund Raiser will be held on Saturday February 27 from 7PM to 11PM. It will take place at Anthony's Restaurant in Drexel Line Shopping Center, Drexel Hill. **Charlie Gracie** will be performing 3 to 4 sets; to fill in the gaps we will also have a DJ. The cost is \$40 per person, which includes a Buffet Dinner. It will be a cash bar.

We are putting together a silent auction table and are looking for volunteers to solicit gifts. We are also looking for help, to set up the restaurant, the night of the event.

Our goal is to sell 400 tickets. **The success of this event depends on all of us getting out there, and selling this event.** If you would like to volunteer your time, help sell tickets, or purchase tickets – please contact:

Nick Constantino:

Phone: 610-496-4299 or **Email:** usmilitfan1@aol.com

P.S. Joe Conigliaro would like to get a head count of all those, from Smedley Butler Detachment, who are going to attend so that he can reserve tables. Please contact Joe, as soon as possible at: 610-353-1679 if you intend on making it to this very worthy cause!!!

Live or work at Camp Lejeune before 1987?

You may have been exposed to contaminated drinking water...

Camp Lejeune Historic Drinking Water

The Marine Corps encourages all those who lived or worked at Camp Lejeune before 1987 to register to receive notifications regarding Camp Lejeune Historic Drinking Water. Please encourage family or friends who were at Camp Lejeune during this period to also join the Notification Registry.

The Department of the Navy is funding two independent research initiatives. The CDC's Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is conducting a health study to determine if there is an association between in-utero exposure to the water and certain adverse health effects. The National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council (NRC) has reviewed scientific evidence on associations between adverse health effects and historical data.

The National Academies NRC Report is Released

The NRC committee's report and findings, "Contaminated Drinking Water at Camp Lejeune," was released Saturday, June 13, 2009. For this research, NRC conducted a comprehensive review of scientific literature and potential health risks related to exposures at Camp Lejeune. The public summary, executive summary and full report are available at the [NRC website](#).

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

Commandant	Dan Luty
Sr. Vice Commandant	James Herbst
Jr. Vice Commandant	Jack McLeod
Adjutant	Jack Kelly
Paymaster	Bob Spano
Judge Advocate	Paul Ferguson
Sergeant-At-Arms	James D. Ross
Chaplain	Christopher Bush
Service Officer	Con McGinley
Director	Bob Cosgrove
Director	Ed Seidl
Director	Bernie McGinley
Jr. Past Commandant	Earle Drake

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	Jim Ross
Color Guard	Joe Conigliaro
Flag Collection	Barry Reese
Historian	Jack Gallagher
Home Association	Tom Kerrigan
Honor Guard	Wayne Barner/B. Loyd
Honor Guard Assistant	John J. V. Cook
Locker Box	Paul Ferguson
Marksmanship	Gene Kern
Membership	James Herbst
Newsletter (Scuttlebutt)	Dan Luty
Newtown Twp Vets Park	Jerry Leon
Nominations	Earle Drake
Property	Bob Spano
Public Relations	
Scholarships	Wayne Williams
Scouting	John Gingras
Toys-For-Tots	Dan Luty
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

February

- ?? Gen Butler Display moves to Chester County Historical Society.
- 01 General Meeting, KOC @ 1930.
- 08 VAVS Bingo at the Coatesville VA Medical Center.
- 11 National Mid-Winter Conference. Falls Church VA (see mcleague.org for more info).
- 21 Iwo Jima Vets commemoration. Upland Det. @ 1300.
- 23 Staff Meeting, American Legion Post 805 @ 1930.
- 27 **Walk for the Wounded** benefit. Anthony's Restaurant, Drexel Line Shopping Center. (call Joe Conigliaro, 610.353.1679)

March

- 1 General Meeting, KOC @ 1930.

Other Organizations' Events (Cont'd.)

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 67, AmVets, Harold P. Saks Post #118, 211 N. Morton Ave. in Morton, PA meeting is 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 PM - no meetings July or August.

Delaware County Detachment, Third Sunday of the month: Breakfast: 0800-1130, \$6.00/person. Delaware County Detachment at detachment home, Upland, PA. Every Month except: June-July-August.

M.O.D.D. "Devil Dogs" Triboro Pound #19, Pack of Penna., Growls (meetings) are the second Wednesday of the month at 1930. Growls are held at the Herbert W. Best Post # 928, VFW. Located at MacDade Blvd. 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.

Special Event ...

The Delaware County Detachment in Upland will again host an event to commemorate the 65th Anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima @ 1300 on Sunday, February 21. All honorees and their families are invited. All others guests can help offset the costs with a donation.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS' EVENTS

OTHER VETERANS' & FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS' MEETING SCHEDULES

Regular Events

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

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

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

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 7:30PM. Meetings are held at the Nunan-Slook American Legion Post #338. The Post is located at the corner of Ralston & Graslynn Avenues in Havertown, PA.

SICK CALL

Matt Balfrey
Ralph LaMarra
Dave Brimble

Walt Talmadge
Steve Hodulik
Anthony Delgrippio

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

The Legend Continues ...



Returning to the States, Butler was placed in command of the 13th Regiment of the Marines at Quantico, Virginia. The Regiment sailed from New York to France on 15 September 1918.

After incredibly dangerous experiences in China, Philippines and Central America, which awarded him two Medals of Honor and 16 other distinctions for fighting, he naturally expected that, when the greatest scrap of all came, “They” (always the mysterious, mystic, “They”, which controls the fate of real warriors, not the wire pullers) would want a man of his repute and brave ability to get into action at the front, as soon as possible. But “They”, saw to it that Butler, one of the most sensationally victorious soldiers our country had ever produced never got any farther than the U.S. Reception Center named Camp Pontanezen at the seaport of Brest, France.

Shortly after arriving in France, Butler was promoted to Brigadier General. At the age of 37 years, he became the youngest General ever in Marine Corps history and one of the youngest in the Armed Forces at that time.

Telltale symptoms of the terrible influenza outbreak, not at first recognized, had already begun to make its appearance on the voyage over and 20 September, the epidemic began to take its toll of life.

Before he was put “in charge”, the horrors of the so-called Rest Camp, Camp Pontanezen, and the terrible conditions there in which American Troops were forced to live were reported by high officers and enlisted men alike. They had been threatened that they would be forced to remain longer if they made any complaints but accounts of the conditions at the camp came by the thousands to the U.S. newspapers. Several attempts to whitewash these reports on conditions at the camp, and those responsible for the conditions, had failed and it was revealed that immediate and drastic reform was needed.

Series edited by:

John JV Cook

“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!

FEBRUARY BOOSTERS

Bud Davis	Rosemarie & Lloyd Spangler
Joe Direso	Caroline & Tony Coladonato
Dan Fitzpatrick	Helene & Wayne Barner
Jerry McGuckin	Jeanne & Tom Falgiatore
Pat & Joe Mensack	Carole & Jack McLeod
Janice & Stan Samsel	Hank Velardi
Bob Matthews	Beth & Jim Herbst
Florence & Bob Spano	Barry Reese

Thank you boosters!

Bob Spano
Paymaster

If you are interested in being a “Scuttlebutt” Booster, please see 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, III
Lawrence Doyle, Sr.
James Dunlap
Jeffrey Elliot
R. Stewart Hughes
John Keevill
John Kelly
William McCoy
Robert McLaughlin
Bob Spano
H. Weston Tomlinson
John Williams



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

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

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment #741
Marine Corps League
General Meeting Minutes – 4 January 2010

Commandant: Commandant Earle Drake opened the meeting at 1930. The normal opening ceremonies were conducted. In addition, buglers Lloyd Spangler and Dan Fitzpatrick assisted by playing the national anthem and the Marine Corps Hymn. Officers present were Commandant Earle Drake, Sr. Vice Bob Cosgrove, Jr. Vice Jack McLeod, Judge Advocate Dan Luty, Adjutant Jack Kelly, Paymaster Bob Spano, Chaplain Chris Bush, Sergeant-at-Arms Jim Ross, Service Officer Connie McGinley, Director Paul Ferguson, Director Jim Herbst, and Director Bernie McGinley. Commandant Drake recognized special guests Department of Pennsylvania Commandant Leanna Dietrich and Southeast District Vice Commandant Bill Miller.

Minutes: Dan Luty made a motion to accept the minutes of the 7 December 2009 general meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. George Boyajian seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Jr. Vice Commandant: Jack McLeod reported on the Help Our Heroes Campaign, and the year-end result fell just short of the budgeted goal of \$15,000. The Birthday Ball Ad Solicitation Campaign resulted in a collection of \$5,895.00 versus a budget of \$5,000.00. The Help Us Help Others campaign resulted in collections totaling \$91,684.00 versus a budgeted amount of \$50,000.00. This amount is a Detachment record, and Jack McLeod offered a prayer of thanks for the Lord's blessing in this endeavor. Jack McLeod also provided the names of members who participated in each of these fund-raising activities.

Paymaster: Bob Spano presented the paymaster's report as of 31 December 2009. Paul Ferguson made a motion to accept the paymaster's report as received. Bob Wells seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Bob Spano made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 each to the following organizations: (1) Operation First Response, Inc., Culpeper, VA; (2) Soldiers Angels, Pasadena, CA; (3) The USO, Philadelphia International Airport, Philadelphia, PA; (4) Wounded Warrior Regiment, Quantico, VA; and (5) The Upper Darby Detachment MCL Auxiliary, Upper Darby, PA. These organizations had been discussed at a recent officers meeting, and recommended to the membership for consideration for donations. Bernie McGinley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Sr. Vice: Bob Cosgrove expressed his appreciation to all members who assisted him in his duties of Sr. Vice this year. He also publicly thanked Jack McLeod for all of his work in coordinating all of the activities in order to collect more than \$91,000 in the Help Us Help Others Campaign. A round of applause was given for Jack McLeod.

Adjutant: Jack Kelly referred to several letters of thanks that had been received from organizations for donations made by the Detachment. Letters were received from the YMCA of the Upper Main Line and the USO of Pennsylvania and Southern new Jersey (Philadelphia International Airport). Several other notes of appreciation were also mentioned briefly.

Chaplain: Chris Bush mentioned several members who were not feeling well. Del Delgrippe, Craig Allen (back), and Walt Tallmudge (broken wrist) were all mentioned, and Chris Bush encouraged members to call these individuals to encourage them in recuperating.

Service Officer: Connie McGinley mentioned that the next bingo night at the Coatesville Medical Center is scheduled for 11 January 2010.

Committee Reports:

Americanism: Earle Drake mentioned that six additional schools have been contacted to determine if any interest exists to have an Americanism program presented at the respective schools.

Color Guard: It was reported that the Color Guard and Honor Guard would be involved with the opening of the General Smedley D. Butler display at the Springfield Public Library on 5 January 2010 at 0930. John Cook and Connie McGinley had placed the display in the library earlier today.

Flag Collection: Barry Reese reported that the next flag retirement ceremony would take place as scheduled, at the home of the Upper Darby MCL Detachment.

Historian: Bob Cosgrove indicated that he had enjoyed serving as the Detachment's historian. He has turned over his responsibility and materials to the new historian, Jack Gallagher.

Marksmanship: Gene Kern mentioned that Paul Ferguson would be working with the members of the shooting team this year as an instructor.

Property: Bob Spano mentioned that the Knights of Columbus have erected a storage shed on the property, and the Detachment is having discussions with the Knights to share the shed in order to store some of the Detachment's property there.

Honor Guard: Wayne Barner reported that 234 military funerals had been conducted for deceased veterans during 2009. Special recognition was made for those members who participated in 150 or more events.

Scouting: Jack Gingras was not in attendance, but Earle Drake mentioned that there had been 24 Eagle Scout ceremonies in the last two years.

Toys for Tots: Dan Luty mentioned that PMI, a company close by in the business center, had matched our Detachment's donation of \$2,000.00, so the Toys for Tots drive had received a sizable monetary donation. In addition, more than 17,000 toys had been collected for distribution to deserving children.

Young Marines: Bob Stanton express his appreciation to those who made contributions in order that some of the Young Marines could attend the Marine Corps Birthday Ball last November. He also reported on an event that will involve the Leatherneck Motorcycle Club and the Young Marines in May 2010.

Announcements: Gene Kern provided information on a Walk for the Wounded fund-raiser to be held on 27 February 2010 at Anthony's Restaurant in the Drexeline Shopping Center. More information will follow at a later date. Southeast District Vice Commandant Bill Miller provided information on a Southeast District Meeting scheduled for 31 January 2010, at the Chester County MCL Detachment's home in Downingtown, PA. Paul Ferguson reported on recent activity for flights with returning troops from Iraq and Afghanistan. Members interested in this welcome home activity should contact Paul Ferguson.

Unfinished Business:

Awards: Harry Kaufman presided over the awards for members who had contributed to the success of the Detachment during 2009. Community Service Awards, Certificates of Appreciation, Meritorious Commendations, and Distinguished Service Awards were distributed to a number of members. In addition, Chris Bush presented special Certificates of Appreciation to Joe Mensack and Donald Walz for their special contributions to the Detachment in their inspiration to the membership and attendance at the monthly general meetings. Commandant Earle Drake presented plaques for special recognition to Paul Ferguson for his work in establishing a relationship with the USO at the Philadelphia International Airport for welcoming home returning troops, and a plaque was also presented to Wayne Barner for all of his work on behalf of the Honor Guard and the Combined Veterans Alliance. Commandant Earle Drake presented a Distinguished Citizen's Medal – Bronze to Bob Spano for his involvement in the community. Commandant Drake presented the Commandant's Award to Dan Luty for his work as the editor of the *Scuttlebutt*, web sergeant, and other endeavors. Connie McGinley and other recent recipients of the Marine of the Year Award presented the Marine of the Year award for 2009 to Earle Drake.

Installation of Officers for 2010: Leanna Dietrich, Department Commandant, and Bill Miller, Southeast District Vice Commandant, presided over the installation of the Detachment's officers for 2010. Tom McGovern served as the Chaplain for the installation ceremony.

The elected officers for 2010 are Dan Luty, Commandant; Jim Herbst, Sr. Vice; Jack McLeod, Jr. Vice; Paul Ferguson, Judge Advocate; Jack Kelly, Adjutant; Bob Spano, Paymaster; Chris Bush, Chaplain; Jim Ross, Sergeant-at-Arms; Connie McGinley, Service Officer; and Bob Cosgrove, Ed Seidl, and Bernie McGinley, Directors. Following the installation of officers, Leanna Dietrich presented Department Distinguished Citizen Awards – Silver to Detachment members John Cook and Walt Tallmadge. Neither gentleman was in attendance, but the awards were left with Commandant Dan Luty to present to them at a later date.

Good of the League: Bob Spano reminded the membership of the opportunity to become a booster for the newsletter, for a minimum donation of \$10.00 per month.

As an announcement, Barry Reese mentioned that Harry Finerfrock of the VFW and the Combined Veterans Alliance had passed away earlier in the day. Funeral details were not yet known, but they would be publicized once the arrangements were made.

Commandant Dan Luty expressed his appreciation to outgoing Commandant Earle Drake for his leadership during the past two years.

Harry Kaufman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. George Boyajian seconded the motion, and the motion passed. After the normal closing ceremonies, the meeting was adjourned at 2125.

Tom McGovern won the 50/50. Forty-eight members signed the logbook.

Respectfully submitted,



Jack Kelly
Adjutant



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

*Honor-Courage-
Commitment*



Next Meeting
February 1, 2010
1930 hours
Knights of Columbus
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.
(Route 252)
Newtown Square, PA 19073