



# Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184 • Newtown Square, PA 19073  
Website • [www.genbutlerdet.org](http://www.genbutlerdet.org)

Commandant **Paul Ferguson**  
Email: [aphimself@verizon.net](mailto:aphimself@verizon.net)

1914 1915



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Dan Luty, editor  
[dan.luty@genbutlerdet.org](mailto:dan.luty@genbutlerdet.org)

## Commandant's Report February 2014

I would like to start by thanking the Detachment for having the confidence in me to lead the **Best** Marine Corps League Detachment. I would also like to thank my fellow Officers and Chairmen who have volunteered to take on those responsibilities. I look forward to working with all of you as well as the Commanders of the VFW and American Legion.

I only have a couple of items for my first report as your new Commandant.

Please start thinking about getting your *Scholarship Applications* completed. I know it's only February but better to get them early than late!

Also, *Operation First Response* is having a fundraiser next month. The flyer for their *Monte Carlo Night* is on page 2 of this Scuttlebutt. You all know what a great cause this is and the event is sure to be a great time.

*Semper Fi,*

*Paul Ferguson*  
Commandant

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
1	Commandant's Report
2	<b>Operation First Response</b> – Monte Carlo Night
3	Boosters; Birthdays; Officers & Committee Chairmen
4	Looking Ahead; Sick Call
5 & 6	January Meeting Minutes
7	Pics from January Installment of Officers
8	Pics from January Awards Ceremony
9	<i>DELCO Detachment Steak Dinner</i>



*(Yours truly, Fergy aboard the USS America in 1966 as part of a Burial at Sea Honor Guard)*

# St. Paddy's Night Out for Our Troops

*Raise Green for Our Red, White, and Blue*



## Monte Carlo Casino Night

Friday, March 14, 2014

7 to 12 p.m.

The Oaks Ballroom

511 Oak Lane, Glenolden, PA 19036



**Includes: Dinner Buffet, Beer, Wine  
and Dancing with Party Time DJs**

**Monte Carlo Casino Tables**

**Silent & Live Auction**

**\$40/person**

**For Tickets: 610-496-4299**

Show your Support for our Troops

[www.operationfirstresponse.org](http://www.operationfirstresponse.org)



"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!

FEBRUARY BOOSTERS

- John Burfete
- Bud Davis
- Beth & Jim Herbst
- Jack Kelly
- Emil Latini
- Con McGinley
- Stan Samsel
- Florence & Bob Spano
- Gene Trautner

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:

- Jonathan Barr
- Joseph Beal
- James Clark
- James Constien
- Harry Deaner
- James Dunlap
- Jeffrey Elliott
- Roger Godfrey
- R. Stewart Hughes
- John Keevill
- John Kelly
- William McCoy
- Robert McLaughlin
- Thomas Ranaudo
- Bob Spano
- H. Weston Tomlinson
- John Williams



**Happy Birthday...and many, many more!**

**General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers**

Commandant	Paul Ferguson
Sr. Vice Commandant	Dominic D' Alessandro
Jr. Vice Commandant	Jack McLeod
Adjutant	Jack Kelly
Paymaster	Bob Spano
Judge Advocate	Bernie McGinley
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	James Herbst

**General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Committee Chairmen**

Adopt-A-Highway	John Burfete
Americanism Team	J. Mulhern, E. Drake & L. Spangler
Auxiliary Liaison	Tony Fusto
Awards	James Herbst
Ceremonies	Charles (Bud) Davis
Color Guard	Jim Donegan
Flag Collection	Barry Reese
Historian	Jack Gallagher
Home Association	Tom Kerrigan
Honor Guard	Ben Sides
Honor Guard Assistant	Joe Blees
Locker Box	Paul Ferguson
Marksmanship	Paul Drinkard
Membership	James Herbst
Newsletter (Scuttlebutt)	Dan Luty
Newtown Twp Vets Park	Bill Kinney
Nominations	James Herbst
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**

<b>VA Hotline</b>	<b>800-827-1000</b>
<b>Veterans' Healthcare</b>	<b>877-222-8387</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>888-442-4551</b>
<b>Grave Markers</b>	<b>800-697-6947</b>
<b>Life Insurance</b>	<b>800-669-8477</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b><a href="http://www.va.gov">www.va.gov</a></b>

# Looking Ahead

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## DETACHMENT EVENTS

### February

- 4 General Meeting, 1930 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Newtown Square.
- 13 VAVS Bingo at the Coatesville Health Center. See Con McGinley for information.
- 23 Iwo Jima Veterans Luncheon, hosted by the Delaware County Detachment at their home in Upland, PA. Start time is 1300.
- 25 Staff Meeting at American Legion Post #805, Broomall. Start time is 1930.

### March

- 4 General Meeting, 1930 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Newtown Square.
- 14 **Operation First Response** - Monte Carlo Casino Night. The Oaks Ballroom in Glenolden, 1900-2400.

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## 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.

**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.)

**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	
Matt Balfrey Marino DeFrancesco Jack Gallagher Don Walz	Jack Gingras Joe Mensack 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 – 7 January 2014**

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

**Minutes:** Dan Luty made a motion to accept the minutes of the 3 December 2013 general meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Bernie McGinley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**Officer Reports:**

**Commandant:** Commandant Jim Herbst expressed his appreciation to all the officers and committee chairmen who had assisted him during his time as Commandant. He also thanked the Detachment members for their motivation and dedication to the Detachment, to the Veterans that we support, and to the community that we support. He also expressed his appreciation to the comrades in the American Legion Post #805 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #7390 for their teamwork, including Larry Snyder, Barry Reese, and 8th District Commander of the American Legion Jerry Sweely. Jim Herbst also introduced Dan Condron, MCL District One Vice Commandant and Dan Murray, MCL Assistant District One Vice Commandant. Both would be involved in the swearing in of the Detachment's new officers later in the meeting.

**Sr. Vice Commandant:** Paul Ferguson provided a brief report, reporting that the December dinner meeting had gone well. The food was excellent and the meeting and dinner had progressed in an efficient manner.

**Adjutant:** Jack Kelly reported that letters of thanks had been received for donations made by the Detachment. Letters had been received from America 4R Marines, Operation First Response, the Semper Fi Fund, the Fisher House Foundation, and from the Newtown Public Library.

**Jr. Vice Commandant:** Jack McLeod provided a thorough report on the fund raising activities for 2013. He mentioned that in the Help Our Heroes Campaign, \$14,000.00 was collected versus a goal of \$15,000.00. For the Birthday Ball, advertisements had anticipated an income of about \$5,000.00, and the amount received was approximately \$4,700.00. This amount, plus the income from ticket sales, would indicate that the Ball was a profitable venture. In the Help Us Help Others Campaign (HUHO), more than \$132,000.00 was collected, versus a goal of \$75,000.00. Jack McLeod provided a breakdown of the number of persons involved in the effort, including thirty-six members, some Auxiliary members, and some family members.

He mentioned the number of stores involved, and the number of weekends, beginning in mid-March and continuing into mid November. Jack McLeod read the names of all the participants, and he asked for a round of applause for the participants. Jack McLeod closed his report with a prayer, thanking the Lord for His bounty in this endeavor. The membership gave Jack McLeod a round of applause for all of his efforts in another successful year.

**Chaplain:** Chris Bush reported that he had recently visited Marino DeFrancesco, and he reported that he is doing better. Chris Bush also mentioned that he had also visited Matt Balfrey and that he was back in the VA hospital.

**Paymaster:** Bob Spano provided the paymaster's report as of 31 December 2013. He also mentioned that the list of organizations to be proposed for donations this month was listed on the back of the agenda, and he encouraged the membership to review the list. The organizations would be considered later in the meeting. Bill Kinney made a motion to accept the paymaster's report as received. Stan Samsel seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**Service Officer:** Con McGinley mentioned that the next bingo game at the Coatesville VA Medical Center is scheduled for 9 January 2014.

**Director Kinney:** Bill Kinney reported that activity at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial has been uneventful recently, but attempts are being made to solicit funds in larger amounts. He also mentioned that a review of certain policies or procedures is being looked into, such as which veterans can or cannot be considered for having their names inscribed in the Memorial. Bill Kinney also provided some preliminary information on the Walk for the Wounded event, scheduled for early May 2014. More information will be provided at a later date.

**Director Seidl:** Ed Seidl mentioned that the semi-annual review of the paymaster's records by the three Directors would be completed shortly. A suggested date for the review was given as 14 January 2014.

**Committee Reports:**

**Communications:** John Burfete mentioned that he continues to provide publicity items regarding the Detachment's activities to the local press and to the Patch of Newtown Square.

**Awards:** Jim Herbst mentioned that later in the evening the certificates would be distributed in alphabetical order in order to expedite the distribution of the awards. If a member were to receive two or more awards, he would receive all certificates at the same time, so as to not have to call the member forward for each separate award.

**Honor Guard:** Ben Sides reported that the Honor Guard had performed at eleven military funerals for veterans during December, with a year-to-date total of 185. This number represents 185 veterans who have been provided with military honors at their funerals, with the Honor Guard recognizing them for their service to our nation.

***Minutes continued from page 5***

Ben Sides expressed his appreciation to those members who continually serve in the Honor Guard.

Membership: Jim Herbst mentioned that he was going to make some revisions to the membership packets that are given out to prospective members. The changes that are to be made would result in more current information.

Website: Dan Luty mentioned that the Detachment's website had been down for several months, and he provided the explanation of what had occurred. It has been repaired and it is now functioning again, although it was necessary to change the Detachment's web address. The new address is [www.genbutlerdet.org](http://www.genbutlerdet.org).

Scholarships: Wayne Williams reported that Detachment scholarship application forms are now available. Members should contact Wayne Williams for the application forms. The deadline to submit completed application forms is 15 April 2014.

Scouting: Ed Seidl reported that six Eagle Scout presentations had been made during the six month period of July through December 2013.

Unfinished Business: No items of unfinished business were raised.

New Business:

Awards for 2013: Commandant Jim Herbst conducted the presentation of awards for the 2013 year, assisted by incoming Commandant Paul Ferguson. As mentioned earlier in the meeting, certificates were handed out in alphabetical order, with those members receiving multiple certificates receiving all of their certificates at once. Certificates of Appreciation were distributed to a number of members who had made contributions to the Detachment throughout the past year. Certificates of Meritorious Commendation were distributed to those members who had made significant contributions to the Detachment during the year, as recommended by committee chairmen. In addition, Distinguished Service Awards were distributed to certain members for their contributions during the year. Jim Herbst asked Jack Kelly, Marine of the Year for 2012, to present the Detachment's Marine of the Year Award for 2013. Jack Kelly mentioned that the election results by the membership had been very close. Past recipients of the Marine of the Year Award were asked to come forward, and the Marine of the Year Award for 2013, as elected by the Detachment members, was awarded to Ben Sides. Ben Sides expressed his appreciation to the membership for electing him, as the award meant a great deal to him. Jim Herbst then presented the Commandant's Award to Wayne Williams, particularly for his work with the Detachment's scholarship program.

Installation of Officers for 2014: Commandant Jim Herbst then introduced Dan Condrón, District One Vice Commandant and Dan Murray, Assistant District One Vice Commandant to conduct the installation of officers for 2014.

Earle Drake served as chaplain for the installation of officers. The officers who were sworn in and installed as officers were Commandant Paul Ferguson, Sr. Vice Commandant Dominic D'Allessandro, Jr. Vice Commandant Jack McLeod, Paymaster Bob Spano, Adjutant Jack Kelly, Judge Advocate Bernie McGinley, Chaplain Chris Bush, Service Officer Con McGinley, Sergeant-at-Arms Charles (Bud) Davis, and the three Directors, Roger Godfrey, Bill Kinney, and Ed Seidl. After the officers were installed, Dan Condrón then had a specific challenge to Paul Ferguson for his service as Commandant for the 2014 year. The Detachment Colors were then transferred from outgoing Commandant Jim Herbst to incoming Commandant Paul Ferguson. Newly installed Commandant Paul Ferguson then presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Charitable Contributions: Bob Spano reviewed the list of organizations suggested for consideration by the membership for donations this month. The list of organizations had been approved at a recent officers' staff meeting. Dan Luty made a motion to donate the funds as listed on the back of the agenda. The organizations and the amounts to be donated in parentheses are (1) Fisher House Foundation, Rockville, MD (\$2,000.00); (2) The Coatesville VA Medical Center, Coatesville, PA (\$2,000.00); (3) The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Oceanside, CA (\$2,000.00); (4) The Philadelphia VA Medical Center, Philadelphia, PA (\$2,000.00); (5) Operation First Response, Culpeper, VA (\$2,000.00); and (6) The USO, Philadelphia International Airport, Philadelphia, PA (\$2,000). Earle Drake seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Good of the League: Bob Spano mentioned that he has pins and ribbons available for those members who may need them. He also mentioned that he would be accepting contributions for those members who may desire to be a booster for the newsletter.

Earle Drake made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Herbst seconded the motion and the motion passed. After the regular closing ceremonies, the meeting was adjourned at 2045.

Jack Kelly won the 50/50. Twenty-eight members signed the logbook, and the two guests of District One Vice Commandant Dan Condrón and Assistant District One Vice Commandant Dan Murray were also in attendance.

***Respectfully submitted,***

***Jack Kelly***  
Adjutant



Ben Sides receiving The Marine of the Year from Jack Kelly



Wayne Williams receiving The Commandant's Award from J. Herbst



Paul Ferguson and Dominic D'Alessandro getting to work on their new offices, Commandant and Sr. Vice Commandant



January Installation of Officers Ceremony



**Pictures from the January Annual Awards Ceremony**



**Pictures from the January Annual Awards Ceremony**



**Americanism Team w/ children from the Rocky Run YMCA**



**Annual Detachment December Staff Dinner Meeting**



**Delaware County**  
**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

3602 Sixth St.  
Upland Pa.  
610-874-6601

# **STEAK DINNER**

**February 8<sup>th</sup>**

**1700 – 1900    \$15.00/per**

## **NEW YORK STRIP STEAK**

Baked Potato - **California Blend Veggies.**

**Fresh Salad - Bread - Rolls**

**Coffee - Dessert**

*complimentary drink*

Choice of **Wine** - **Beer** – Soda

**Reservations Required by FEBRUARY 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Call or Sign-up at the League or  
Respond to this e-mail**



## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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

Honor-Courage-  
Commitment



Next Meeting  
**4 February, 2014 @ 1930**  
Knights of Columbus  
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.  
(Route 252)  
Newtown Square, PA 19073