



Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

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Website • www.gensdbutlerdet.org

Commandant Earle Drake • 610.325.9065

1914 1915



Volume XX, Issue 1
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Dan Luty, editor
Dan.luty@ricoh-usa.com

Commandant's Report January 2010

"Hello, I must be going. I cannot stay, I came to say, I must be going. I'm glad I came but just the same I must be going".

Groucho Marx, Animal Crackers.



It's been a great two years. We don't have to go over our achievements, we did great! I'm honored to have served as Commandant.

I'm pleased to tell you that we elected a great slate of officers that will take our detachment many years into the future. Dan Luty knows all of the details of our detachment and will be a great Commandant. Jim Herbst will do a great job as his second in command. I'm pleased to see Paul Ferguson take the Judge Advocate position. New as a Director is Ed Seidl, a young Marine veteran who has enjoyed his brief stay with us. Bob Cosgrove, our immediate past Sr. Vice Commandant has agreed to stay on as a Director. And of course, we need continuity, Bob Spano will stay on as Paymaster, Chris Bush will stay as Chaplain, and Jack Kelly and Jack McLeod will stay as Adjutant and Jr. Vice Commandant respectively, Con McGinley is our valued Service Officer and VAVS Chairman. Bernie McGinley is a talented and dedicated member who has served as Director with distinction.

"Hello, I must be going. I cannot stay, I came to say, I must be going. I'm glad I came but just the same I must be going".

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year.
Semper Fidelis,

Earle Drake
Commandant

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Sr. Vice Report

It has been a great year. I have enjoyed serving as Sr. Vice. Jim Herbst will be taking over and I am sure you will all provide him with as much help and support as you did for me. I was pleased that the Marine Corps Ball and the Christmas Party came off as well as they did and look forward to next years festivities. The "Toys for Tots" campaign is winding down with the last pick-ups being made this week. The Delaware Valley Carpenters Union and the PMi Group have been collecting Toys for Tots. Earle and I have been invited to their Christmas dinners to receive their toy donations on Dec.16 & 17 respectively. Our final staff dinner will be on the 29th followed by the regular meeting on Jan.4th.

Thank you all for your help over the past year and have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Big Coz

Sr. Vice Commandant

Jr. Vice Report

The primary purpose of this report is to call your attention to those Members who devoted their time, effort and money in making our fundraising campaigns a huge success!

Help Our Heroes Campaign

This Campaign involved our Members sharing information with potential contributors regarding the financial challenges faced by our wounded troops, needy veterans, and their respective families. The following Members, led by **John Burfette**, obtained contributions to help our heroes in their need: **George Boyajian, Jim Constien, Coz Cosgrove, John Davis, Jim Donahue, Jim Herbst, Gene Kern, Bill Kinney, Pete Patrucci, Hank Velardi and Bob Wells.**

Birthday Ball Program Ad Solicitation Campaign

This Campaign involved Members soliciting ads to be placed in our Birthday Ball Program Book to help defray the expense of our Birthday Ball. Members responsible for placing **multiple** ads were: **Chris Bush, Anthony Delgrippe, Earle Drake, Tom Kerrigan, Jerry Leon, and Bob Spano.** A number of our Members placed **individual** ads for which we are most grateful!

Help Us to Help Others (HUHO) Campaign

This Campaign involved the following Members participating selectively during twenty-five weekend and two WaWa events: **Bob Balantine, George Boyajian, Bob Bunce, John Burfete, Jim Constien, Coz Cosgrove, Earle Drake, Paul Ferguson, Tony Fusto, Spence Goldsborough, Rick Guyer, Jim Herbst, Joe Hudson, Jack Kelly, Gene Kern, Bill Kinney, Aleta Kraus, Jerry Leon, Bernie McGinley, Thomas McGovern, Jack Meyer, Dennis Morsa, Bill Nolan, Jerry Powlus, Stan Samsel, Ed Seidl, Bob Spano, Hank Velardi and Bob Wells.**

During these events in excess of 26,000 miniature American Flags were distributed to store shoppers from whom we received in excess of 46,000 donations!

For the bounty we received from the above Campaigns, we offer the following prayer:

"Dear God, in the name of the Father, our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, we thank thee for the bounty received from the above activities;

We thank you for allowing these activities to take place, for the hospitality of our event hosts, for the generosity of those who donated to our causes, and for the time and effort expended by our Member participants;

Please help and guide us to use this bounty wisely and in the spirit for which it was given us.

Amen."

Respectively submitted,

Jack McLeod

Jr. Vice Commandant



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

This is a very busy time of the year for everyone. Please remember who we are doing this for and why. **Our Heroes** certainly deserve every effort that we can make for them.

Thank so much for all your continued support!

Nick



Earle Drake & Dan Luty present \$2,000 to Sgt. Stoner & Sgt. Akroyd for Toys for Tots Campaign

Thank You, to all those Toys for Tots volunteers who helped make the 2009 campaign another success. Distributing the boxes and collecting the toys would be impossible without your help.

Santa's Helpers:

Kim Babcock, John Burfete, Bob (Coz) Cosgrove, Earle Drake, Paul Ferguson, Harry Kaufman, Bill Kinney, Con McGinley, Jack McLeod, Nick Repino, Bob Spano and Bob Wells.

Dan Luty

Toys for Tots Chairman

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

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

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Committee Chairmen

Adopt-A-Highway	John Burfete
Americanism	Jack McLeod
Auxiliary Liaison	Tony Fusto
Awards	Harry Kaufman
Ceremonies	Jim Ross
Color Guard	Joe Conigliaro
Flag Collection	Barry Reese
Historian	Bob (Coz) Cosgrove
Home Association	Tom Kerrigan
Honor Guard	Wayne Barner
“ Assistant	John J. V. Cook
Locker Box	Paul Ferguson
Marksmanship	Gene Kern
Membership	Robert Cosgrove
Newsletter (Scuttlebutt)	Dan Luty
Newtown Twp Vets Park	Earle Drake
Nominations	Jerry Leon
Property	Bob Spano
Public Relations	
Scholarships	Wayne Williams
Scouting	John Gingras
Toys-For-Tots	Dan Luty
V.A.V.S.	Connie 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	<u>www.va.gov</u>

Looking Ahead

DETACHMENT EVENTS

January

- 04 General Meeting, KOC @ 1930. Installation of Officers and Awards.
- 08-09 Department Winter Staff Meeting, Holiday Inn Grantville, PA. \$79 a night.
- 11 VAVS Bingo at the Coatesville VA Medical Center.
- 12 Budget Meeting, American Legion Post 805 @ 1930.
- 26 Staff Meeting, American Legion Post 805 @ 1930.

February

- 1 General Meeting, KOC @ 1930.
 - 27 **Walk for the Wounded** benefit. Anthony's Restaurant, Drexel Line Shopping Center
-

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.

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.

SICK CALL

Mat Balfrey
Ralph LaMarra
Dave Brimble

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 ...



In 1915, the recently promoted Lieutenant Colonel Smedley Butler was ordered to recruit, reorganize and train the new Haitian military titled Gendarmerie d'Haiti. They were trained as a military force and to exercise all police functions, both local and national and for several years, responsible for the development and maintenance of roads and telegraph lines.

The old Haitian army which had been disbanded consisted of 300 Generals and more than 1,000 Privates and the Gendarmerie had 2,000 to 3,000 black Haitians in the ranks but officered by U.S. Marines. The new unit was uniformed similar to the Marines: campaign hats, khaki uniforms, canvas leggings and shoes. In the new unit, Lt. Col. Butler was assigned as Major General, Captains were Colonels, 1st Lt.'s were Majors and 1st Sgt.'s were 1st Lt.'s – the final count was 120 officers.

The Gendarmerie supervised the construction of 470 miles of new roads, network of telegraph lines, postal service and restored lighthouses.

Marines brought their biases to Haite. In return, Haitians criticized the Marines for lack of culture: the Marines had no manners, they claimed, and did not speak French. The frustration of being in that land vented Butler who referred to his Marines and himself as “a glorified bill collecting agency” for American Business.

In 1916, Butler was given the task of equipping the Haitian Navy. The Navy was a sort of coast guard and it was used to patrol the coast and to prevent smugglings. The Navy consisted of four ships: Haiti, Republic, Liberte and Independence. They were a financial burden costing three quarter million dollars. In the first two weeks, the Republic caught fire and sunk. Later, the Liberte ran aground and split in two, the Independence blew up in a harbor in Cuba and the last ship, Haiti was sold. That was the end of the Haitian Navy!

In 1918, Lt. Col. Smedley Butler was ordered home to the states for medical reasons – dental treatment.

POST NOTE: The Gendarmerie d'Haite was renamed Garde d'Haite in 1928 and passed from American control 1 August 1934. On 15 August 1934 the 1st Marine Brigade departed Haiti.

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!

JANUARY BOOSTERS

John Burfete, Jr.
Joe Direso
Dan Fitzpatrick
Jerry McGuckin
Pat & Joe Mensack
Janice & Stan Samsel
Florence & Bob Spano

Thank you boosters!

Bob Spano
Paymaster

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

Birthday Greetings for January

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

David Brimble
James Cecchini
George Curran
Paul Drinkard
Anthony Fusto
Richard Hudak
Vincent Mangelli
Frank McGovern
Edward Moore
Barry Reese
Nicholas Repino
Alexander Rubin
Walter Tallmadge
Robert Wells
Michael West



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 – 7 December 2009

Commandant: Commandant Earle Drake opened the meeting at 1805. The normal opening ceremonies were conducted. 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.

Minutes: George Boyajian made a motion to accept the minutes of the 2 November 2009 general meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Joe Conigliaro seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

New Members: Charles (Bud) Davis and Thomas Rodriguez were introduced as potential new members. Charles (Bud) Davis served in the Marine Corps during the 1970's and was introduced to the membership by Gene Kern. Thomas Rodriguez served in the Marine Corps from 1987 to 1993 and was introduced by Bob Spano. Both men were approved for membership and Commandant Earle Drake swore them in as regular members.

Officer Reports:

Commandant: Earle Drake read a proclamation from Governor Edward Rendell recognizing the 234th birthday of the United States Marine Corps as well as the purposes and accomplishments of the Smedley D. Butler Detachment of the Marine Corps League.

Jr. Vice: Jack McLeod reported that the Help Our Heroes Campaign will probably not meet the anticipated goal by year-end, but he was pleased to report that the Birthday Ball Ad Solicitation Campaign did exceed expectations. In addition, the Help Us Help Others Campaign far exceeded expectations by collecting \$87,897 so far, with one more event to go. The budget objective had been \$50,000.

Sr. Vice: Bob Cosgrove reported quickly on the Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Earle Drake thanked Bob Cosgrove for his coordinating efforts on the success of the Ball.

Chaplain: Chris Bush reported that Jack McHenry had fallen recently, but he is recovering at home.

Paymaster: Bob Spano presented the paymaster's report as of 30 November 2009. George Boyajian made a motion to accept the paymaster's report as received. Bob Gosgrove seconded the motion, and it passed.

Adjutant: Jack Kelly mentioned that a number of letters of appreciation had been received from organizations that had received donations from the Detachment. Among others, letters were received from Hope for the Warriors, Jacksonville, NC, Operation First Response, Culpeper, VA, and Homes for Our Troops, Taunton, MA. In addition, letters of appreciation were received from two local organizations, The St. Vincent DePaul Society in Havertown, PA, and Surrey for Seniors in Broomall, PA.

Service Officer: Connie McGinley mentioned that members going to the stocking stuffing at the Coatesville Medical Center on 11 December 2009 should meet at the Knights of Columbus parking lot at 0800. The stockings will be distributed at the Center on 12 December 2009.

Director Paul Ferguson: Paul Ferguson reported on two recent meetings of returning troops at Ft. Dix and at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey. He also indicated that he would keep the Detachment members informed by e-mail when other troop arrivals become known.

Committee Reports:

Americanism: Jim Mulhern provided a report on the first two Americanism projects that were presented, one before the Young Marines in Folsom and the other one at St. Patrick School. Another presentation is scheduled for Worrall School on Thursday, 10 December 2009.

Auxiliary Liaison: Tony Fusto mentioned that the Auxiliary had prepared about 30 bags of toiletries, scarves, and miscellaneous items for the women at the Coatesville Medical Center. Tony Fusto made a motion for the Detachment to donate \$1,000.00 to the Auxiliary. Chris Bush seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Awards: Harry Kaufman introduced a guest, Nick Constantino, who had recently been involved in the Walk for the Wounded project that raised more than \$155,000.00 for wounded servicemen and women. A certificate was awarded to him, and Earle Drake recognized Nick Constantino as an honorary member of the Smedley D. Butler Detachment. Harry Kaufman also requested that Committee chairmen send the names of those members to be recognized for participating in 2009 activities to him or Bob Spano, so that the proper recognition can be made at the January 2010 general meeting.

Color Guard: Joe Conigliaro mentioned that the Color Guard had been involved in several recent events, including Marine Sunday, the Detachment's Birthday Ball, and the Veteran's Day parade in Media. Joe Conigliaro expressed his appreciation to those who participated in these events.

Flag Collection: Barry Reese mentioned that the scheduled flag burning had been rained out on 5 December 2009. It has been re-scheduled for 19 December, and it will be performed at the Upper Darby Detachment's location.

Home Association: Tom Kerrigan mentioned that the Knights of Columbus has begun construction of a storage shed. It is hoped that the Detachment will be able to use some of the storage space.

Honor Guard: Wayne Barner reported that 21 military funerals for veterans had been conducted during November. The number for the year is 221. Wayne Barner also mentioned the need for a volunteer to be the contact person for the various funeral homes and to get the necessary information to those participating in the Honor Guard. Wayne Barner will not be able to continue with this responsibility after this year.

Special Scholarship Committee: Earle Drake mentioned that three articles in the *News of Delaware County* had published information on the life of Smedley D. Butler. Earle Drake mentioned that he and Gene Kern had met with a representative of the West Chester Historical Society in order to provide information on the special scholarship that the Detachment will be awarding. The *West Chester Daily Local* will be contacted to provide some publicity for this scholarship.

Toys for Tots: Dan Luty reported that the collection boxes have been distributed. Some collections of toys are now underway. A representative from Carpenters Union #465 which also meets at the Knights of Columbus indicated that the union is collecting toys this year and would like to donate the toys to the Toys for Tots program. Several Detachment members indicated that they would attend the union's next meeting on 16 December 2009 to collect the toys donated to the union.

Marksmanship: Gene Kern mentioned that Paul Ferguson has volunteered to assist the members on the shooting team in training for future matches. He also mentioned that activity would start up again in February or March 2010.

Unfinished Business: Bob Spano mentioned the names of organizations that the officers had discussed at a recent staff meeting and were recommending to the membership for consideration for donations. Bob Spano made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 each to the following organizations: (1) Fisher House Foundation, Rockville, MD; (2) The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Oceanside, CA; (3) The Marine Corps League Foundation, Merrifield, VA; (4) Operation First Response, Culpeper, VA; and (5) The USO, Philadelphia International Airport, Philadelphia, PA. The motion was seconded and the motion passed. Bernie McGinley made a motion to donate \$1,000.00 to the Upper Main Line YMCA for its Y-Care program. Jim Robinson seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Jim Herbst made a motion to donate \$250.00 to Ride for Recovery, an organization that assists disabled veterans. This specific gift was to support a woman in her challenge in bringing awareness to this organization. Bernie McGinley seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Paul Ferguson made a motion to Donate \$1,000.00 to Operation Helmet, to provide special helmet liners to the troops serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. Dan Luty seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

New Business: Nick Constantino provided information on an event for veterans in February 2010. The event will take place at Anthony's in the Drexel Line Shopping Center. Additional details will be available at a later date. Harry Kaufman provided information on a Christmas party at the American Legion Post #338 in Havertown scheduled for 8 December 2009.

Good of the League: Earle Drake, assisted by Dan Luty, presented a check for \$2,000.00 to Sgt. Ackroyd and Sgt. Stoner of the Folsom Reserve Unit for its Toys for Tots drive.

Al Harper, Assistant Vice Commandant of the Southeast District, presented several award to Commandant Earle Drake. Included was a certificate from National Headquarters for exceeding membership goals, and a certificate from National Headquarters for participation in the newsletter competition.

Also awarded were two awards from the Department of

Pennsylvania for participation in the Americanism category, including a plaque for third place in the Americanism category.

Officer Nominations for 2010: This was the third and final month to nominate individuals for officers for the 2010 year. Nominations for the following positions for 2010 were accepted by:

Commandant: Dan Luty

Sr. Vice: Jim Herbst

Jr. Vice: Jack McLeod

Judge Advocate: Paul Ferguson

Adjutant: Jack Kelly

Paymaster: Bob Spano

Chaplain: Chris Bush

Sergeant-at-Arms: Jim Ross

Service Officer: Connie McGinley

Directors: (Three needed.) Bob Cosgrove, Ed Seidl, and Bernie McGinley. (Jerry Leon had previously agreed to serve as a Director, but he had voluntarily withdrawn his name from consideration.) Since there were no contested positions with two or more names nominated, Commandant Earle Drake asked Adjutant Jack Kelly to cast one vote for each office and for the three Directors. Adjutant Jack Kelly cast one vote for each person nominated, including the three Directors, thus electing this slate of officers for 2010.

Marine of the Year: Connie McGinley mentioned that the Marine of the Year would be voted on by the membership. The individuals who had been nominated and selected for consideration were Wayne Barner, George Boyajian, and Earle Drake. Paper ballots were distributed, and the vote was taken. The announcement of the Marine of the Year will be made at the Detachment's January 2010 general meeting.

Announcements: Dennis Morsa mentioned that the American Legion Post #805 would be having its Christmas party on 16 December 2009. Joe Conigliaro provided some additional information on the American Legion Post #338 and its Christmas party on 8 December 2009.

Bernie McGinley 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 1940.

Jim Robinson won the 50/50. Sixty 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*



Happy New Year!

Next Meeting
January 4, 2009
1930 hours
Knights of Columbus
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.
(Route 252)
Newtown Square, PA 19073