



# Scuttlebutt



## General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184 • Newtown Square, PA 19073  
Website • <http://members.bellatlantic/~brimdaev>

Commandant Steve Neri • 610.853.8717



Volume XII, Issue 6 Sandra Mauer, editor June 2002



### Attention All Leaguers:

As we all know this weekend is a very special holiday for all Veterans, although too many of our citizens forget the real meaning of Memorial Day. Let us set the example by flying the colors and participating in as many of the meaningful ceremonies as each of us can.

On Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>, at 0900 hours, we will assemble in the parking lot of the American Legion Post 805. From the Post we will then proceed to Glenwood Cemetery to place flags on the graves of all of the veterans. All three Veterans' groups plus the Young Marines, and the Boy Scouts will do this as a joint venture. After all the flags have been placed, everyone will return to the Legion Post for lunch.

Then on Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> we will join the American Legion and perform two memorial services at Arlington Cemetery in Drexel Hill. We will meet at the Legion

Post at 1230 and leave from there.

The Township Memorial Day Parade will once again start from the old Chi school at Malin Rd. & West Chester Pike. You should be there between 0915-0930 hours. The Parade will end in Glenwood Cemetery, where we will have a memorial service at the main monument. From there we will go to the Legion



Post for a wreath laying ceremony and then on to Veterans' Memorial Park on Lawrence Rd. All three veterans' groups will participate in a wreath laying ceremony here and a firing squad salute and the playing of taps.

The uniform for Saturday is work clothes, but for Sunday and Monday we will wear our standard summer uniform. This will be s/s white shirt, open collar, collar emblems, black trousers and shoes, and red garrison cap.

I urge all members to attend as many of these functions as you can.

### Semper Fi Steve Neri

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### Attention To Orders:

The Detachment's Annual Spring Pre Meeting Dinner is Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2002. Dinner will begin promptly at 1800 hours. There will be a free open bar from 1800 – 1900 hours. I urge all members to attend with their spouse or significant other. The cost per person is \$10.00, for dinner, drinks and desert. The open bar is compliments of Joe Caramano, Stewart for the Knights of Columbus. Please remember to thank Joe. I promise everyone that the food will be excellent, the music ideal and the



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Attention to Orders, continued from page 1

camaraderie great. You really do not want to miss this event.

Please contact our Sr. Vice, Dave Brimble, as soon as possible and tell him if you are coming and how many will be with you. Dave needs this information so he can advise the caterer of how many people will be attending. Dave's phone number is 610-356-0851.

**Semper Fi**  
**Steve Neri**



## Commandant's Message...

Leaguers, I must tell you how encouraged both the staff and I have been by both the verbal support we have received and by the large number of members who have been attending the meetings. The staff and I have been working very hard on all of the detachment's bylaws, administrative procedures, records and programs. I would assume by the feedback that we are receiving that the membership is pleased with the job we have done so far. You have our word that we will continue to do the best we can in leading this detachment. We will always remember that we have the privilege and the honor of leading and serving in the finest detachment in the Marine Corps League.

Remember leaguers that we can never rest on our laurels and we must always strive to do our best in matters concerning this Detachment. Each and every member is to be congratulated for his part in the growth and honors this detachment has and will continue to achieve.

Let us always remember all the fine men and women who are serving in our military and especially those in harm's way.

**Semper Fi**  
**Steve Neri**

## The Legend Continues...

After 2 ½ years in China, Smedley Butler returned to the United States aboard the President McKinley when the ship docked in San Francisco on 7 February 1929. He then proceeded to the Marine Base at Quantico, Virginia, where he assumed the position of Base Commanding Officer. On 5 July 1929, he was promoted to the rank of Major General (2 stars) and became the youngest (48 years old) Major General ever to have been in the Marine Corps.

One of his first steps as C.O. was to clean up the town of Quantico which was operating with the sale of illegal bootleg alcohol resulting in many discipline problems on the Marine Base. Butler had the town placed "off-limits" and soon because of the loss of business, the legitimate businessmen drove the bootleggers out of town and the town resumed normal operation.

He put the base on a "spit-shine" routine and morale rose once again. The labor on the base continued with the stadium construction and work began on a clubhouse for the troops.

It was at this time that Butler became a sought after public speaker and a writer for magazines and newspapers. With the extra income from these and the Major General's salary, he purchased an old farmhouse on Goshen Road in Newtown Square and his family settled there.

Some of his speeches concerning our foreign policy in dealing with other countries, especially, China and Caribbean nations caused concern among our elected officials. The fallout from these public speaking events began to affect his military career.

Although he was the senior ranking officer in the Marine Corps and normally, the next in line for Commandant, he was passed over for the post, when Commandant Wendell C. Neville, suddenly dies and the vacancy was open. Neither his rank, experience or career service records were considered. The selection board went half way down the list of candidates and selected a Brigadier General (1 star), Ben H. Fuller.

### **POST NOTE...**

Butler remodeled his recently purchased farmhouse and one of the new features was a large open family room with high ceiling and balcony. It was here that he was able to mount and display his two Chinese Blessing Umbrellas and various flags from his campaigns. Detachment members were able to view these when invited, in later years, to the home by his son, Tom.

*submitted by John Cook*

## SICK CALL

George Curley, member of the Delaware County Detachment, and the husband our auxiliary's president, is recuperating at home from two broken bones in his leg.

Jimmy "Wags" Wagner is recuperating at home and continues to need your prayers.

*If you know of a Detachment member who is sick or in the hospital, please let me know as soon as possible.*

*Note: The Chaplain's phone number is 610.353.5569.*

**Chris Bush, Chaplain**

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## SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The nominees for the Detachment Scholarships were selected at our May meeting. The students receiving awards are as follows:

- ✧ Ryan Lister
- ✧ Douglas Green
- ✧ Eileen Horne
- ✧ Tim Kerrigan
- ✧ Kathleen Cleary
- ✧ James Harkins

Congratulations to all! They, and their parents, will be invited to our Pre-Meeting Dinner to receive their checks.

Those members wishing to submit eligible students for National Scholarship consideration can obtain the necessary applications from me at the June meeting. These applications must be submitted by July 1, 2002.

### **Harry Kaufman**

Scholarship Chairman  
610.353.2863



## FROM THE SENIOR VICE...

Our bus trip to 8th and "I" was a great success. We had good weather, great food, a safe bus ride, and most of all terrific camaraderie. The Evening Parade, as usual, was outstanding.

Don't forget our pre meeting dinner on June 4th at 1800. For those of you who have not signed up, please call me at 610.356.0851 to make your reservation. For those of you who have not paid, please contact me about payment. The cost of the dinner is \$10.00 per person. Marines, this would be a good time to bring your wives or significant others. They could sit in on the auxiliary meeting after dinner.

Semper Fi

**Dave Brimble**

## Did you know...?

### Medal of Honor (gold plated)

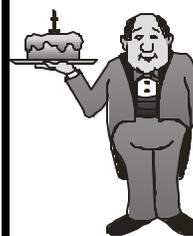
The nation's highest military award, the Medal of Honor, is made of solid brass and then gold-plated, which costs about \$30. The equivalent civilian award, known as the Congressional Gold Medal, is made of solid gold and costs about \$30,000. Currently legislation has been proposed to make the M.O.H. out of solid gold instead of gold-plated brass.

(Military.... May....2002)

*submitted by John Cook*

## Birthday Greetings for June

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



Michael Anastasi, Anthony Bernardini, George Boyajian, Anthony Delgrippe, Frank DiBonaventuro, Christopher Esteban, William Kinney, Richard Kline, Norman Lynch, Joseph Mealey Anthony Medaglia, Aloysius O'Connell, Sheppard Snell and Tom Tanner.

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

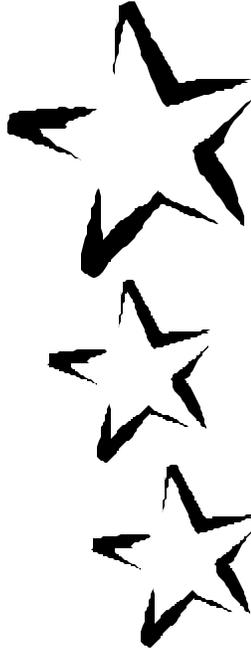
THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS  
OF THE DETACHMENT SAY,  
"WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS"!

James A. Alleva  
7769 Parkview Road  
Upper Darby, PA 19082-1412  
610.789.3755  
610.996.8261 (cell)  
e-mail merc4652@aol.com

Steve Fuimano  
555 Timberlake Road  
Upper Darby, PA 19082-5026  
610.259.4037  
e-mail stf112@comcast.net

Joseph Romano  
3406 Embarcadero Court  
Springfield, PA 19064  
610.604.0188  
W 610.356.4040 ext. 314

Lloyd W. Spangler  
604 St. Andrews Dr.  
Media, PA 19063  
610.565.2554



Please add their names to your membership list.  
**Dave Brimble**

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"SCUTTLEBUTT" BOOSTER CLUB  
Help support our newsletter and become a member  
of the Booster Club! Your \$10.00 contribution helps  
offset the cost of publication and postage.

We wish to thank our current Boosters, for with  
their assistance we are able to continue our award-  
winning newsletter! If you are interested in being a  
"Scuttlebutt" Booster, please see Bob Spano.

**MAY BOOSTERS**

Jim Donahue, Nick Repino, Steve Neri, Larry  
Doyle, Tony Fusto, June & Ben Cope, and Pat &  
Joe Mensack.

**Thank you boosters!**



## Remembering Korea

Tuesday, 25 June 2002 marks the 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary  
of the beginning of the Korean War. Let us  
remember and pray for the 54,000 Americans who  
were killed in those 3 years and the 8177, who are  
still listed as missing.

Those of us who did come home would appreciate  
it.

## Did you know...?

### The war in Korea was:

- ? the first war in which helicopters played a  
significant role. There weren't gunships  
yet! Any Marine who got a ride in a  
helicopter wasn't going into combat—he  
was leaving it....wounded or dead.
- ? the first war we didn't win.
- ? the first war of the United Nations.
- ? the first war with aerial dogfights between  
jet airplanes---our Sabre F-86's versus  
their MIG-15's.
- ? the first war in modern times to use body  
armor.

*submitted by John Cook*



## Marine Corps Display

Throughout the month of June, the Newtown  
Square Library will have a display about the  
Marines in Korea.

*submitted by John Cook*

# Looking Ahead

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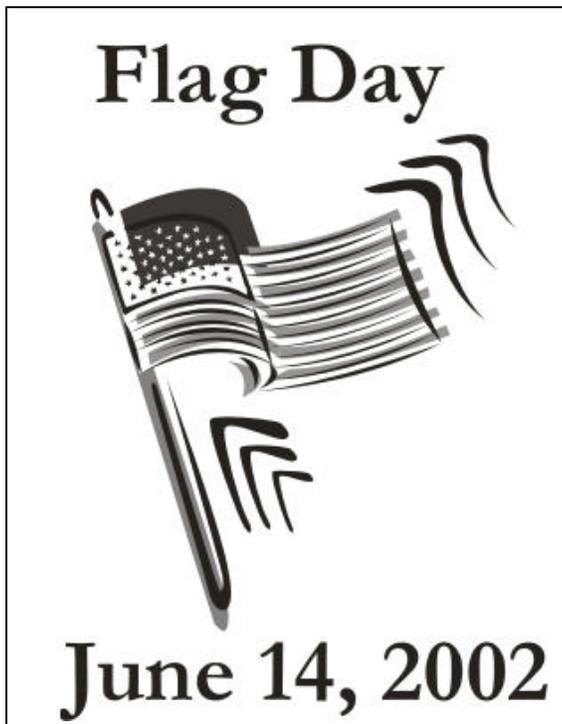
## DETACHMENT EVENTS

### JUNE

- 04 Det. Spring Pre-Meeting Dinner—1800
- 04 Det. General Meeting—1930
- 10 VAVS – Bingo Party at Coatesville VA Hospital— 1830
- 15 Flag Retirement Ceremony – Marple Veterans' Memorial Park – 1000
- 20-22 MCL Dept. Convention – Pittsburgh, PA at Holiday Inn – (Greentree)
- 21 Southeastern PA Military Vehicle Campout KOA Campground, Rte. 162, Unionville, PA
- 22 Korean War Memorial Dedication – 1100 Penn's Landing, Phila. PA
- 25 S.D. Butler detachment Staff Meeting – 1930
- 29 1<sup>st</sup> Wagon detail ticket sales – see Jr. Vice

### JULY

- 02 Det. General Meeting – 1930
- 04 Marple Twp. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – 0900 assemble at M.A.B store on W.Chester Pike in Newtown Square Shopping Center.
- 06 Wagon detail ticket sales
- 13 Wagon detail ticket sales
- 20 Wagon detail ticket sales
- 27 Wagon detail ticket sales



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## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS' EVENTS

### JUNE

- 01 D.A.V. Recognition Day – Hosted by Phila. Phillies – Vets Stadium – Phila., PA Evening Game – 1900 hrs. – Special reduced rate tickets \$14.00. Call Steve Neri
- 01 Chester County Det. MCL – Downingtown, PA—Liberty Night – 1900 hrs. (kitchen opens 1730 hrs.)
- 05 AMVETS Meeting – Post Hall, Morton Ave., Morton, PA – 2000 hrs.
- 07 Chester Co. Det. MCL – Downingtown, PA Liberty Night – 1900 hrs. (kitchen opens 1730 hrs.)
- 10 Del. Co. Chapter 113 DAV – Meeting – AmVets Post, Morton, PA – 2000 hrs.
- 12 Devil Dogs Pound 19 – Growl – VFW 928, MacDade Blvd., Folsom, PA - 1930 hrs.
- 12 American Legion 805 – Meeting – Post Home, W. Chester Pk., Broomall, PA - 1930 hrs.
- 20-23 AMVETS State Convention – Pittsburgh, PA – Westin Hotel
- 24 Military Order Legion of Honor Meeting 1900 – Lulu Temple, Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA

### JULY

- 03 AmVets meeting – 2000 Post Hall, Morton Ave., Morton, PA
- 11-14 American Legion Dept. of PA Convention, Valley Forge, PA

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**  
**General Smedley D. Butler Detachment**  
**07 May 2002**  
Regular Meeting

Commandant Steve Neri called the meeting to order at 1935.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:** present were: Commandant Neri, Sr. Vice Brimble, Jr. Vice Alleva, Adjutant Horne, Paymaster Spano, Judge Advocate Mayer, Chaplain Bush, Sgt-At-Arms Stanton, Assistant Sgt-At-Arms Evangelista, Service Officer McGinley, Director Tallmadge, Director Repino, Director Powlus, Jr. Past Commandant Kaufman.

Commandant Neri acknowledged Mike Levitsky, a charter member, who we have not seen for some time. Mike is a Police Officer and also an officer in the National Guard; he will be attending meetings again. Bob Cervino a member of the Mickey Finn detachment of Quantico, VA. Bob has relocated to our area and is transferring to our detachment. Donald White Jr. a guest of Joe Knapp; Don will be joining our detachment next month.

**NEW MEMBERS:** A motion was made by Sr. Vice Brimble to accept Steve Fuimano as a regular member, Lloyd Spangler as an associate member, and Joe Romano as an associate member. Commandant Neri appointed Jim Alleva as Acting Junior Vice. The motion was seconded by Paymaster Spano. Motion passed.

**MINUTES:** A motion was made by Marine Mayer and seconded by Marine Spano to approve the minutes as published in the Scuttlebutt. Motion was passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Adjutant Horne read an invitation requesting our detachment's presence for the celebration of the Eucharist at 2:00 PM at St. Thomas of Villanova Church followed by the Commissioning Ceremony at 3:30 PM, Connelly Center, Villanova Room, on Friday, May 17, 2002. Adjutant Horne also read a letter of thanks from Fred Wales, DAV/HSC Coatesville VAMC, for our generous donation of \$100.00. Adjutant Horne also read a letter from Marple Memorial Post #805, The American Legion, inviting our detachment to participate in their Memorial Day parade and exercises on Monday, May 27, 2002, at 9:45 AM. He also read a letter from the Marine Corps League Foundation urging everyone to participate in the Marine Corps League scholarship program. If each detachment could contribute \$1.00 per member between now and June 30, it will ensure that this year's program will be successful.

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

**SR. VICE COMMANDANT:** Dave Brimble reported that the bus trip to Washington D.C. on May 10 and 11 was sold out. He also reported that there are 148 regular members and 16 associate members, for a total of 164 members.

**PAYMASTER:** Bob Spano gave a comprehensive financial report. Copies can be obtained. Also, those who have applied for life membership cards, please see him so that they can be obtained. Anyone needing an MCL lapel pin should see Paymaster Spano to obtain one. Motion to approve budget was made by Walter Tallmadge and seconded by Frank Mayer. Motion passed.

**CHAPLAIN:** Chaplain Bush read a letter of thanks from the daughter of Raymond Sukeena thanking the detachment for our participation in her father's funeral on 4/3/02. He received notification of the death of Colonel Wilson Peck, former National Marine Corps League Commandant and veteran of both World War II and Vietnam. It was also stated that Marine Wagner's tumor has returned. Please keep him in your prayers. Chaplain Bush was notified that Marine Curley from the Delaware County Detachment has a broken leg.

**JUDGE ADVOCATE** Frank Mayer is working on the administrative procedure for Scholarship Chairman and he will report on it at the next meeting.

**SGT-AT-ARMS:** Bob Stanton reported that 34 Young Marines attended an outing at French Creek State Park. Also, the Young Marines will be helping to place flags at Glenwood Cemetery and will be participating in the Memorial Day parade. Bob Stanton also stated that the cost of sponsoring a Young Marine went from \$100.00 to \$300.00. If anyone would be interested in sponsoring a Young Marine, please see Marine Stanton.

**SERVICE OFFICER:** Connie McGinley reported that the VA has approved a grant up to a maximum of \$8250.00 for necessary adaptation to service disabled veterans' residences. To be eligible, the veteran must be entitled to compensation for a permanent service-connected disability. He also stated that the VA has approved a grant of up to \$43,000.00 for building, buying, or remodeling adapted homes for certain disabled veterans. He also stated that the VA is studying vitamin E and selenium in preventing prostate problems.

**DIRECTOR:** Marine Tallmadge-no report.

**DIRECTOR:** Marine Powlus-no report.

**DIRECTOR:** Marine Repino-no report.

**JR. PAST COMMANDANT:** Marine Kaufman-no report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Americanism:** Chairman Lessig reported that six schools are scheduled to be visited for the month of May. Also, the flag retirement ceremony will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Rain date will be June 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Ceremonies:** Chairman Van Dusen stated that the Detachment has performed 69 funerals for the year so far. He also stated that he would like to donate \$300.00 for the family of Joe Rogers, who was killed at the Alpine Inn on March 2, 2002. He left a wife and four children. Motion was made by Ray Green for the Detachment to donate \$300.00 and seconded by Tom Kerrigan. Motion was approved. Harry Kaufman commented that the Ladies' Auxiliary is budgeted monies for donations to needy families. Commandant Neri stated that he will look into the matter.

**Pistol/Rifle Team:** Mike Bodle-absent.(Excused)

**Locker Box:** Chairman Lynch reported that all new members should apply for name tags. Marine Wagner donated ball caps and tee shirts to be sold and the proceeds to be given to the Young Marines. Chairman Lynch also reported that Korean War Memorial 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pins are available.

**Scholarships:** Chairman Kaufman reported that National scholarship applications are now available and can be picked up from him. Parents of scholarship winners, if not

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Minutes continued from page 6

members, are admitted free to the spring dinner on June 4. Harry Kaufman announced the Detachment scholarship winners. They were: Ryan Lister, Eileen Horne, Tim Kerrigan, Kathleen Cleary, James Harkins, and Douglas Green.

**V.A.V.S.:** Chairman Matthews reported that the bingo party is May 13. Meet in K of C parking lot by 6:30 PM.

**Home Association:** Tom Kerrigan reported that all new flags are up. He also stated that the Knights of Columbus at our next meeting dinner is donating one hour of open bar.

#### **COMMANDANT'S REPORT:**

Commandant Neri reported that he was privileged to present the "Gung-Ho" award to an outstanding Cadet at the Villanova University Spring Review. Also, he attended, along with other members, the Marine Corps Scholarships Association Annual Awards Banquet, where our own James "Daddy Wags" Wagner was presented with the Commandants Award by Gen. James Jones, Commandant of the United States Marine Corps. The commandant along with Jim Alleva represented the detachment at the rally held by Congressman Curt Weldon, who thanked the detachment for our support. With other members of the detachment he attended the National Day of Prayer Ceremony at Rose Tree Park. He also attended a few Military Funeral Honor Guards. Along with Paymaster Spano and Adjutant Horne, Commandant Neri attended the Departmental Officers' Leadership School on May 4, 2002 at Fort Indiantown Gap. The Commandant stated that whatever the event may be, this detachment is always there and looking sharp, and he has received quite a few compliments on behalf of the detachment.

Commandant Neri also reported that this is the beginning of our busiest time of the year. He would like all members to be aware of the calendar of events published in the Scuttlebutt and try to help out in any way possible. On June 4, the Detachment will have the annual spring pre-meeting dinner. This year, we will have the scholarship winners and their parents joining us for dinner. Also, we may have a very special guest. Commandant Neri reported that on June 15 at 1000 in Veteran's Park in Broomall, we will hold our flag retirement ceremony (rain date - Sunday, June 16). Also, the state convention will be held June 19-23 in Pittsburgh, PA. We will also be involved in the Fourth of July parade, and our wagon sales will start the last weekend in June and run for the next 23 Saturdays. The National Convention in Harrisburg will be held from August 3-10.

Commandant Neri stated that the Detachment has many worthy programs, and if each member could get two ads placed in this year's ad book, it will really make this program successful. Commandant Neri urged each and every one of us to make a commitment to help wherever and whenever we can in order to continue to make our programs successful.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Marine Kaufman reported that the appointing of temporary officers by the Commandant has been done in the past by previous Commandants. Marine Kaufman noted that former Paymaster Patrucci was appointed in the same manner.

Associate member Gerry Zell commented that there will be a Southeast Pennsylvania military vehicle camp-out on Friday, June 21 from 12:00 noon until Sunday, June 23, 12:00 noon. It will take place at the Philadelphia/West Chester KOA Campground of America. Anyone planning to attend should call him at 610-876-3711.

Marine Spano stated that the Detachment is sponsoring a golf tournament hole through the Knights of Columbus to be held at Pickering Valley Golf Club in Phoenixville, PA. Cost is \$50.00.

Commandant Neri stated that the Detachment is working on a set dollar value on placing ads in other organizations' ad books. The Staff will determine a dollar limit.

V.A.V.S. Chairman Matthews stated that the Detachment's flags and grave markers are ready for pickup from the VA Center in Media. Marines Neri, Kaufman and Alleva will pick them up for the detachment.

Lottery Chairman Repino stated that all ticket stubs and monies should be returned by May 15.

Marine Brimble stated that he would like a head count for the June 4<sup>th</sup> Spring Dinner. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Please see or call him if you are attending.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Marine Cleary stated that Cardinal O'Hara High School is participating in a program called "Treats for Troops," which sends care packages to our troops in Afghanistan. He stated that postage to send the packages is enormous and he would like to take up a collection at our next meeting to help offset these costs for the program.

Marine Lawson stated that he can get the Detachment access to Channel 22 on PBS and the Detachment will be trying to take advantage of some coverage for our programs. Commandant Neri will work on this.

Commandant Neri reported that Associate Member Charlton is working on the history of the Detachment and the Commandant stated that he would like all Charter Members interviewed for this.

Marine Bunce stated that Special Olympics will be held on May 18 and he asked to hear from anyone who was interested in helping.

#### **GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:**

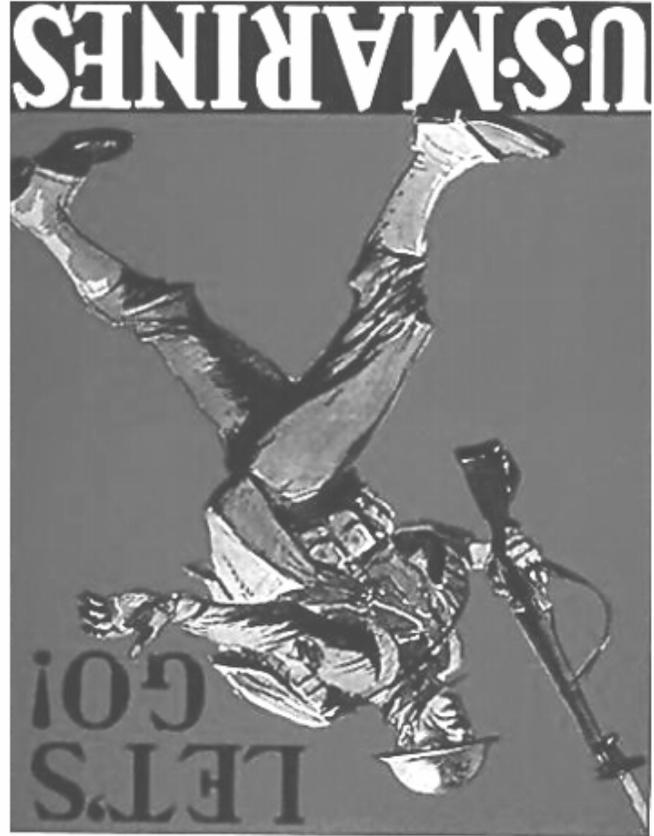
Marine Stanton stated that he was asked to be a guest speaker for a newly-formed unit of Young Marines in Greensburg, PA. This is the state's fourteenth Detachment of Young Marines.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2115.

Respectfully submitted by Marine Horne, Adjutant.

- 50/50 winner was Frank DiBonaventuro.
- Winner of the Lockerbox Gift Certificate was Lloyd Spangler.

Next regular meeting is:  
June 4, 2002  
1930 hrs.  
Knights of Columbus  
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.  
(Route 252)  
Newtown Square, PA



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