



Scuttlebutt



1914 1915



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

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Volume XVIII, Issue 9
September 2008

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Commandant's Message September 2008

Just a little reminder that September's meeting is on Wednesday, September the third instead of the usual first Monday. This is because of the Labor Day Holiday that falls on Monday.

State Representative Tom Killian is holding a ceremony honoring the Vietnam veterans in his district on Thursday evening September 4 at the Media Theatre. All Vietnam Veterans in his district will receive a commemorative medal. The ceremony starts at 1900. Our Color Guard, led by Joe Conigliero, will be present. Report time for the Color Guard is 1830.

On October 23, 1983 our Marine barracks in Beirut,

Lebanon was viciously attacked by a suicide attack. At 6:20 a.m. a yellow Mercedes Benz truck crashed through a barbed wire fence around the parking lot, passed between two sentry posts, crashed through a gate and drove into the lobby of the Marine Headquarters. The Marine sentries at the gate were operating under rules of engagement which made it very difficult to respond quickly to the truck. By the time the two sentries had locked, loaded, and shouldered their weapons, the truck was already inside the building's lobby. The murderous driver detonated his explosives, which were the equivalent of 12,000 pounds of TNT. The explosive force of this cowardly attack caused the four story building to collapse, killing 220 Marines, 18 Navy personnel and 3 Army soldiers. Sixty Americans were injured.

It's hard to believe that 25 years have passed since that terrible day. It was the deadliest single-day death toll for our Marine Corps since the battle for Iwo Jima.

Our Detachment will have our Color Guard present for the ceremonies which will take place at 1000 on Sunday, October 26th, at Foglietta Plaza, Columbus Blvd. and Dock Street. This is the site of the Vietnam and Korean War monuments. Detachments of the Marine Corps League from far and wide will be present for the ceremonies. You are invited to come and participate or to observe.

Semper Fidelis
Earle E. Drake

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Jr. Vice Report

Contributions Solicitation

To date we have received 29 contributions from generous individuals and organizations that have exceeded the amount budgeted for 2008.

The purposes for which these contributions are granted are to financially assist wounded troops and their families, disabled or hospitalized veterans in need, and individual families facing financial catastrophes not of their making. Our Detachment disburses these funds **in their entirety within one year of their receipt!**

If any of our Members are interested in seeking contributions by way of friends, acquaintances or organizations to help these causes, I will be happy to assist in their efforts. Please contact me at 610-356-8893.

Drawing for Dollars, D4D

We will kick-off our Fall/Winter Campaign on August 30 with Store Sales at Super Fresh, Manoa and Pathmark, Broomall.

During our Store Sales, we have concentrated our efforts at seeking donations rather than raising funds by selling tickets chances. As a result, we have a supply of approximately 500 Ticket Chances, (part of an original order of 3000 tickets) that is unlikely to be sold during the remainder of our Campaign.

These tickets will be available for sale to Members at future Detachment Meetings or by phone order from me (after September 15). Bob Spano will have tickets for sale at our September 3rd Meeting. There is a **minimum order of \$10 for 7 tickets and a maximum order of \$100 for 100 tickets.** Alternative purchases can be made at \$20 for 16 tickets, \$50 for 45 tickets or a prorated price for orders falling between these price-points. **If Member demand to purchase tickets or to sell tickets to others is high, we may order additional tickets to meet this demand.**

Proceeds from these sales, as is the case with our D4D Sales at stores, will be used to fund our operations, but the majority of the funds will be used to help others in need.

Cash prizes of \$1000, \$500, \$250, \$150 and \$100 will be drawn for at Our Christmas Party.

D4D Store Schedule

Our Schedule for the remainder of our Campaign is:
*8/30: Super Fresh Havertown & Pathmark Broomall,
9/06: Pathmark Glenolden and Pathmark Folsom,
9/13: Wal-Mart Glenolden & Gentile's Market Newtown Square,
9/19 (Fri): Super Fresh Wynnewood & **tentative ACME Narberth**, 9/27: **tentative Wal-Mart Boothwyn**, 10/04: ACME Media & **tentative ACME Concordville**; 10/11-12 Helicopter Air Show West Chester & 10/11 ACME Broomall, 10/18: ACME Newtown Square & ACME West Goshen, 10/25: ACME Ridley (Folsom) & ACME Paoli, 11/01: Wal-Mart Eddystone & **tentative Super Fresh, Boothwyn**, 11/15: Super Fresh Havertown & Pathmark Broomall, 11/22: **tentative ACME Paoli & Wal-Mart Boothwyn** and 11/26 (Wed) Shop Rite West Chester.

***Tentative Store dates and other Schedule changes will be resolved in time to notify participating Members.**

Respectfully Submitted,

John B. McLeod

Junior Vice Commandant

Sr. Vice Report

Coming October 5, 2008, we have scheduled the long-awaited Marine Corps Museum trip. We will leave for Quantico at 0800 from the Knights of Columbus hall. Please park in the rear of the parking lot near the trucks. Be sure not to block in the trucks.

The cost of the Marine Corps Museum trip is \$45.00. Snacks and beverages (non alcoholic) are included. Lunch can be had at the mess hall or Tun Tavern. We hope you will bring your wife or guests. The Museum is reported to be one of the best in the world.

This year's Marine Corps Birthday Ball is being held at the Paxon Hollow Country Club on November 7, 2008. Cocktails are at 6PM. See or call John Cook to book your reservations. John's telephone number is: 610-852-3932.

Semper Fi!

Jim (JR) Robinson

Sr. Vice Commandant

**GENERAL SMEDLEY D. BUTLER
A DELAWARE COUNTY HERO**

*THE GENERAL SMEDLEY D. BUTLER
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE DETACHMENT*

Presents a library display during the month of September at the Springfield Township Public Library recalling the life and time of Smedley Butler, both his Military and Public Careers. After his Military career, he retired to his home on Goshen Road in Newtown Square and lectured throughout the country on behalf of veterans' causes and good government.

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

Commandant	Earle E. Drake
Sr. Vice Commandant	Jim (JR) Robinson
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	Paul Donohue
Director	Paul Ferguson
Director	Bernie McGinley
Jr. Past Commandant	Jerry Leon

**Marine Birthday Balls seem less sweet
When someone's irked about a seat,
We like to say it's been a task
To place people where they ask.
We'll praise the day that some inventor
Will plan a ballroom all dead center.
In short, a room so well designed-
There's none in front and none behind.**

~The Ball Committee~

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

Adopt-A-Highway	John Burfete
Americanism	Bob Matthews
	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	John Williams
Membership	Jim Robinson
Newsletter (Scuttlebutt)	Sandi Mauer
Newtown Twp Vets Park	
Nominations	Jerry Leon
Property	Bob Spano
Public Relations	
Scholarships	Wayne Williams
Scouting	John Gingras
Toys-For-Tots	Dan Luty
V.A.V.S.	Robert Matthews
Young Marines	Robert Stanton
Web Mistress	Sandi Mauer

Reservations are now being taken



for our
Detachment's Marine Corps Birthday Ball
being held on
Friday, 7 November 2008
at the Paxon Hollow Country Club.
Contact Member John J.V. Cook

**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

September

- 3 General Meeting, KOC Hall, 1930
- 4 Vietnam Veterans Medal Ceremony, Media Theatre, 7PM. Rep. Tom Killian presenting Medals.
- 6 D4D Fund Raising, Pathmark, 140 Mc Dade Blvd, Folsom
- 8 VAVS Bingo Coatesville Hospital
- 12 D4D Fund Raising, Wal-Mart, 50 N. Mc Dade Blvd., Glenolden
- 14 Crab feast, AMVETS, \$25.00
- 19 D4D Fund Raising, Super Fresh, 250 Lancaster Ave, Wynnewood
- 27 D4D Fund Raising, Wal-Mart, Boothwynne
- 30 Staff Meeting American Legion Post 805

October

- 26 Adopt-a-Highway

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.

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.

Other Organizations' Events (Cont'd.)

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.

Birthday Greetings for September

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

James Alleva
Thomas Bishop
Benjamin Cope
Robert Cosgrove
Earle Drake
John Gallagher
Timothy Gilligan
Michael Horne
John Lister
Michael McGinley
Lloyd Spangler, Jr.
Richard VanLuvender



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

*If your birthday was omitted,
please contact Adjutant Jack Kelly.*

“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!

AUGUST BOOSTERS

- *Joe Direso
- *Kay & Frank Greiser
- *Pat & Joe Mensack
- *Carole & Jack McLeod
- *Florence & Bob Spano

Thank you boosters!

Bob Spano
Paymaster

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

**THE LEGEND CONTINUES
On to Peking**

Peking was a city surrounded by walls. First came a great stone wall of the Rectangle City; then, the wall, forty feet high of the Square Tarter City; within the Tartar City, The Imperial City, also surrounded by its own Red Wall; and finally, enclosed by a very special wall of The Forbidden City containing the yellow roofed Palaces of The Empress Dowager of China. Peking was all walls and every wall held possible danger for the approaching Allied Force.

It was during this assault to capture the city, Butler was hit squarely in the chest by a bullet with such force that he was knocked unconscious. It was deflected by a brass button on his uniform so the wound was not mortal—although it reportedly did remove a chunk of Latin America from his tattoo.

The hard and brutal battle of the “Walls” continued and Peking was finally captured and the siege lifted and the Legation relieved on 14th August, 1900. The Empress and the Imperial Staff had already fled and the Allies paraded through the city as triumphant victors.

Butler’s regiment had the longest service in the China campaign but also had the highest casualties.

John J.V.Cook

Young Marines’ Report



12 Young Marines and 4 staff members went camping on July 31st to August 2nd at Hickory Run State Park in the Pocono Mountains. Other than a little rain on

Saturday morning, the weather was great and we actually sat around the fire at night to stay warm!!! Fortunately, we didn't encounter any bears, but had a family of skunks visit us at 2:00 AM the first night we were there!

As always, we thank you for your support. Without your help, these types of activities would not be possible.

Jeffrey Gunning
Delaware County Young Marines

SICK CALL

Craig Allen	Bill Charlton, Jr.
Bob Bunce	Jack Lister
Tom and Berenice Kerrigan	Matt Balfrey
Anthony Del Grippo	Henry Mumma
Jack Gingras	

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

Mark your calendar....

September 6, 2008 is
NJ Veterans Appreciation Day.

Free eats and entertainment from 1 to 5 PM.

To be held at the Mullica Hill 4H Fairgrounds
on Rt. 77 Off of Rt. 322,
Turn right at the Harrison House Diner.

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment #741
Marine Corps League
General Meeting Minutes
4 August 2008

Commandant: Commandant Earle Drake opened the meeting at 1930, and the normal opening ceremonies were conducted. Officers present were Commandant Earle Drake, 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 Donohue, and Director Paul Ferguson.

Minutes: Joe Hudson made a motion to accept the minutes of the 7 July 2008 General Meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Tony Fusto seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Commandant's Report: Earle Drake mentioned that he and Jack McLeod would be presenting a special plaque this week to Judith Spires, the President of Acme Markets, for the cooperation of Acme Markets in the Detachment's fund raising efforts. Earle reminded everyone that the Combined Veterans Alliance Picnic will be held on 24 August 2008 at Drexel Lodge on West Chester Pike, beginning at noon. Contrary to an item in the *Scuttlebutt*, Earle Drake announced the Veterans Museum in Media will not be receiving a list of Detachment members. At a recent Board of Directors meeting, it was decided that no outside organization should have a listing of names, addresses, and e-mail addresses of the Detachment's membership. Earle Drake mentioned that the Detachment's donation to the Broomall Fire Company will be presented this week. It was announced that shooters are needed for the Detachment's rifle team. It was also announced that attendance at the General Meetings remains strong, and eleven new members have joined the Detachment since December 2007.

Paymaster: Paymaster Bob Spano gave the Paymaster's report, as of 31 July 2008. George Boyajian made a motion to accept the Paymaster's report as received. Joe Mensack seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Jr. Vice: Jack McLeod reported that 29 individual contributions totaling \$6,655 have been received, surpassing our 2008 budget. In addition, in the Drawing for Dollars campaign, fourteen scheduled events have been conducted at various stores, and four sales events have been conducted at Gentile's Market in Newtown Square, PA. Donations and sales to date exceed the total amount received in our wagon campaign for all of 2007. The November Ball Program Ad Campaign is now underway.

Adjutant: Jack Kelly read a note of thanks from Russ

Philipp, one of the Detachment's scholarship recipients. A note of thanks was received from the Lt. Travis Manion Memorial Fund for the \$2,000.00 donation made by the Detachment to that Fund. A note of appreciation was also read from the family member of a deceased veteran, praising the efforts of the Honor Guard at the funeral of the deceased veteran.

Chaplain: Chris Bush updated the membership on several members who were recuperating from illness or injuries, including Bob Bunce, Tom Kerrigan, and Jack McHenry.

Service Officer: Connie McGinley read an article from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, reviewing the efforts of some people seeking compensation as victims of the Korean War.

Committee Reports:

Locker Box: Paul Ferguson indicated that some items are still available for purchase, such as hats, sweatshirts, and t-shirts.

V.A.V.S.: Bob Matthews indicated that the next bingo party at the Coatesville Veterans Hospital is scheduled for Monday, 11 August 2008.

Auxiliary Liaison: Tony Fusto reminded everyone to save their Acme Market receipts for the Auxiliary.

Color Guard: Earle Drake reminded everyone that Representative Tom Killian will be having a recognition event for Viet Nam veterans in his district on 4 September 2008, and the Detachment's Color Guard will be part of the evening's activities.

Flag Collection: Barry Reese reported that there is a need to burn or destroy the large quantity of old flags that have been collected.

Historian: Bob Cosgrove was not present, but John Cook indicated that there would be an historical display in the Springfield public library during the month of September.

Honor Guard: Wayne Barner reported that the Honor Guard served 12 funerals during July. The Honor Guard has served at 152 funerals throughout 2008.

Scouting: Jack Gingras was not in attendance, but Earle Drake announced that the Community Service Ribbon had been awarded to Jack Gingras at the Detachment's Staff Meeting in July.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business was discussed.

New Business:

Paymaster Bob Spano presented a Life Membership

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card and pin to Aleta Krauss.

George Boyajian encouraged members to make a Living Will. He has a sample of one, and he indicated that he would have copies made and distribute them at a later date to those interested.

Jerry Powlus shared some comments on the Wounded Marine project. He also made a motion that the Detachment assist the Upper Darby Detachment's Auxiliary with their project of sending materials overseas for the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. Jack McLeod recommended that this motion be discussed by the Detachment Officers at the August staff meeting before voting on it.

George Boyajian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bob Wells seconded the motion, and the motion passed. After the normal closing ceremonies, the meeting was adjourned at 2015.

Jack Gallagher won the 50/50. Thirty-seven members signed the logbook.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Kelly, Adjutant

A Lesson That Should Be Taught In All Schools

Back in September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a social studies school teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten.

On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks out of her classroom. When the first period kids entered the room they discovered that there were no desks.

Looking around, confused, they asked, 'Ms. Cothren, where're our desks?'

She replied, 'You can't have a desk until you tell me what you have done to earn the right to sit at a desk.'

They thought, 'Well, maybe it's our grades.' 'No,' she said.

Maybe it's our behavior.' She told them, 'No, it's not even your behavior.'

And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom.

By early afternoon television news crews had started

(continued next column)

gathering in Ms.Cothren's classroom to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk less classroom.

Martha Cothren said, 'Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he/she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.'

At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it.

Twenty-seven U.S. Veterans, all in uniforms, walked into that classroom each one carrying a school desk.

The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall.

By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, 'You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it.'

Guidelines for Submission of Articles & Photos for inclusion in "Scuttlebutt"

- All submissions must be received by the editor no later than the 15th of the month for the upcoming issue.
- The preferred format for written articles is a computer file (such as MS Word, or an email). Non-computer files will be considered and included in Scuttlebutt only if the editor is able to transcribe the article in a timely matter for publication.
- The preferred format for photos is digital in a high resolution JPG file (other file formats will also be considered). Traditional photos may be submitted as well, and will be included only if the editor is able to scan the photo in a timely matter for publication.
- All submissions must be the original work of the person submitting the piece. If the submitter is not the author of the work, the submitter should obtain permission from the author and submit that as well. No copyrighted materials can be used without permission from the appropriate parties.
- The editor reserves the right to include or exclude submissions as necessary according to these guidelines and as space in the publication dictates.
- Items may be submitted to the editor via email to sandi@lancasterpa.net



Marine Corps League

Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184

Newtown Square, PA 19073-0184

Honor-Courage-Commitment



Next Meeting

September 3, 2008

(WEDNESDAY)

1930 hours

Knights of Columbus

327 N. Newtown Street Rd.

(Route 252)

Newtown Square, PA 19073