



Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

Incorporated 1991

P.O. Box 184 • Newtown Square, PA19073

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Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro

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1914 1915



Volume XXVII, Issue 3
March 2017

Dan Luty, editor
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Commandant's Report

March 2017

Detachment awards were given out at our February meeting. All members, Auxiliary members and friends of our Detachment who participated in our Detachment activities during the 2016 year were eligible for awards. Thank you to all our awardees. Without your participation, our Detachment could not function the way it does. (Any member not present for the awards meeting will receive his or her award at a future meeting, or by contacting Jim Herbst.) Special thanks go out to Jim Herbst and Bob Spano for their hard work in arranging the awards presentation.

Now is a good time for all our newer members to take a look at our Detachment programs and activities and decide which program or activity you would like to participate in. There is a listing, along with the names of the chairmen, on page two of the *Scuttlebutt*. Please contact a chairman or a staff member with your questions or decisions.

The final audit was performed on the Paymaster's records

for 2016 on January 31, 2017. The Detachment Directors, Bill Kinney, Paul Donohue and Jim Flynn, found everything to be in order and no discrepancies were found. Many thanks to Bob Spano for his thoroughness as Paymaster.

On Tuesday, April 18, 2017, the Villanova NROTC will hold its annual Spring Review at Mendel Field at Villanova University. There will be a reception at 1400 hours and the actual ceremony will begin at 1500 hours. During the ceremony, awards will be distributed to members of the senior class. At this time the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment will award its "Gung Ho" Award to a deserving midshipman. All members are invited to attend, but we need an actual count of those planning to attend. Please contact Jack Kelly or Earle Drake if you plan to attend. The uniform for this event is red blazers, if you have a blazer. Otherwise, the red satin jacket should be worn.

On Sunday, February 19, 2017, the 72nd annual Iwo Jima flag raising commemoration was held at the Delaware County Detachment in Upland, PA. Iwo Jima veterans Lou Camilli, Joe Hinderhoffer and Al McCauly were honored. Awards were given to the honorees and everyone had a great time. The ceremony was well attended by our Detachment members and Auxiliary members.

For those members needing scholarship applications, please contact Wayne Williams. Detachment scholarship applications need to be completed and submitted by April 15, 2017.

Semper Fi,
Dominic D'Alessandro
Commandant

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"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!

MARCH BOOSTERS

John Burfete, Jr.	Joe Daly
Bud Davis	Russell Davis
Tom Falgiatore	Beth & Jim Herbst
Jack Kelly	Dominick Mattioni
Con McGinley	Jerry McGuckin
Rosemarie & Lloyd Spangler	Dan Luty
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 March

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

James Donegan
 John Griffis
 Richard Guyer
 Albert Harper
 Anthony Terence Jones
 Henry Kaufman
 Samuel Mayer
 Gerald Powlus
 Edward Seidl
 Charles Sexton
 Lloyd Spangler
 Paul Turner
 Paul Vergalla



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

Commandant	Dominic D'Alessandro
Sr. Vice Commandant	Dominick Mattioni
Jr. Vice Commandant	Jack McLeod
Adjutant	Jack Kelly
Paymaster	Bob Spano
Judge Advocate	Earle Drake
Sergeant-At-Arms	Charles (Bud) Davis
Chaplain	Christopher Bush
Service Officer	Jim Herbst
Director	Bill Kinney
Director	Jim Flynn
Director	Paul Donohue
Jr. Past Commandant	Paul Ferguson

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Committee Chairmen

Adopt-A-Highway	Jim Flynn
Americanism Team	J.Mulhern, E. Drake, D. Fitzpatrick
Auxiliary Liaison	Tony Fusto
Awards	James Herbst
Ceremonies	Charles (Bud) Davis
Color Guard	Wayne Williams
Flag Collection	Dominic D'Alessandro
Historian	Jack Gallagher
Home Association	Tom Kerrigan
Honor Guard	OPEN
Honor Guard Assistant	Mike Milliken
Locker Box	Paul Ferguson
Marksmanship	Gene Kern
Membership	James Herbst
Newsletter (Scuttlebutt)	Dan Luty
Newtown Twp Vets Park	Bill Kinney
Nominations	Paul Ferguson
Property	Bob Spano
Communications	John Burfete
Scholarships	Wayne Williams
Scouting	Ed Seidl
Toys-For-Tots	Dan Luty
V.A.V.S.	Jim Herbst
Young Marines	Sgt Uwe Esser and Dan Luty
Web Master	Ilene Silvers

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

General & Healthcare Benefits

VA Hotline	800-827-1000
Veterans' Healthcare	877-222-8387
Education	888-442-4551
Grave Markers	800-697-6947
Life Insurance	800-669-8477
Website	www.va.gov

Looking Ahead

DETACHMENT EVENTS

March

- 7 General Meeting, Knights of Columbus Hall, Rt. 252, Newtown Square, 1930.
- 8 Bingo, Coatesville Veterans Health Center. Contact Jim Herbst for additional information.
- 11 St. Patrick's Day Bingo, Coatesville Veterans Health Center at 1300.
- 17,18 Spring Department Staff Meeting. Headquarters Bldg., Fort Indian Town Gap.
- 28 Staff Meeting, Post #805, West Chester Pike, 1930.

April

- 4 General Meeting at KoC, 1930 start time.

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 1900.

American Legion Nunan-Slook Post #338, Meets the second Tuesday at 7:00 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.

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 MCL, Third Sunday of the month: Breakfast: 0800-1130, \$10.00/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

Joe Conigliaro
Tom Falgiatore

Anthony Fusto
Peg Curley

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 February 2017

Commandant: Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro opened the meeting at 1930 and the regular opening ceremonies were conducted. Officers present were Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro, Sr. Vice Commandant Dominick Mattioni, Jr. Vice Commandant Jack McLeod, Judge Advocate Earle Drake, Paymaster Bob Spano, Adjutant Jack Kelly, Chaplain Chris Bush, Sergeant-at-Arms Charles (Bud) Davis, Service Officer Jim Herbst, Director Paul Donohue, Director Jim Flynn, Director Bill Kinney, and Junior Past Commandant Paul Ferguson.

Minutes: George Boyajian made a motion to accept the minutes of the 3 January 2017 general meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Ben Sides seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Adjutant: Jack Kelly reported that letters of thanks for donations made by the Detachment had been received from a number of organizations. Letters of thanks had been received from the Semper Fi Fund in Oceanside, CA, The Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Coatesville, PA, from the Fisher House Foundation in Rockville, MD, from Operation Homefront, San Antonio, TX, and from The USO of Philadelphia and South Jersey, Philadelphia, PA. The Detachment had donated \$2,000.00 to each of these organizations. Jack Kelly also mentioned that a card of thanks had been received from a local family whose loved one had been honored by the Honor Guard. The veteran's family expressed their appreciation for the Honor Guard that had served at the veteran's funeral. It was also mentioned that the date of this year's Spring Review for the NROTC unit at Villanova University is 18 April 2017. More information will be provided at the March general meeting.

Sr. Vice Commandant: Dominick Mattioni provided information on steps he had followed recently to determine if the Detachment could receive a waiver of the fee from the township for the Detachment's annual picnic at Drexel Lodge Park in Newtown Square, PA. He pointed out to the Township Supervisors some of the positive things that the Detachment does for the Township. The Board of Supervisors mentioned that some renovations would soon be completed at the police station and municipal offices and asked if the Detachment could supply a new American flag for that location. The Supervisors also asked if the Detachment would honor the flag with the first raising of the flag with a Color Guard. Dominick Mattioni indicated that he answered with a positive reply, and he also indicated that we would also supply a new POW flag as well. The date and time for the need for the Color Guard will be announced at a later date. Dominick Mattioni also provided information on steps to effectively plan and execute the annual June Spring Dinner event. He read from a prepared text which, if approved by the membership, would result in the process being added to the Detachment's Administrative Reference Manual. This was the first reading of the addition, and it must be read at two more general meetings before it can be voted on for adoption.

Jr. Vice Commandant: Jack McLeod provided information on the final results of the 2016 Help Us Help Others (HUHO) Campaign. The final count of the funds collected during 2016 amounted to approximately \$175,000.00. Over the past eleven years, a total of \$1,150,000.00 has been collected from area shoppers.

This has resulted in assisting, through the Detachment's donations to a number of organizations that help veterans and active duty personnel, approximately 1,000 to 3,000 individuals or families. Jack McLeod then outlined the steps that are being taken to proceed with the HUHO Campaign for 2017, and the first weekend of solicitation could begin in mid-March 2017. Jack McLeod reported that he is in the process of contacting store management and he will be visiting individual stores to confirm solicitation dates. Thirty-five members have participated in the HUHO Campaign, and more could be added.

Judge Advocate: Earle Drake mentioned that he had reviewed the proposed addition to the Detachment's Administrative Reference Manual submitted by Sr. Vice Commandant Dominick Mattioni, and he did not see any conflict with existing Detachment By-Laws or Administrative Procedures. Earle Drake will also have to review State and National procedures to determine if the proposed change violates any procedures at the State and National level. In his responsibility of Americanism chair, Earle Drake mentioned that the Americanism team would be making an Americanism/Flag History presentation around President's Day at the Chester County Youth Center. The date of this event was yet to be confirmed. Earle Drake also mentioned that the tentative date for the Spring pistol match is 23 April 2017.

Paymaster: Bob Spano provided the paymaster's report as of January 2017. He reviewed the income as well as the disbursements, and he mentioned the assets that the Detachment has on hand. The proposed budget for 2017 was also mentioned. He also suggested that the members should review the list of organizations on the back of the agenda. These organizations would be considered for donations later in the meeting. George Boyajian made a motion to accept the paymaster's report as received. Bill Kinney seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Chaplain: Chris Bush mentioned that he had spoken by telephone with the wife of Roger Godfrey recently, and it was reported that Roger Godfrey was resting but he was feeling stronger. Chris Bush also mentioned that he had spoken by telephone to Joe Conigliaro and that he was feeling stronger. Chris Bush mentioned that he had been able to distribute approximately one hundred copies of the New Testament to local law enforcement personnel in the past month. Chris Bush expressed his appreciation to the members for giving him this opportunity.

Service Officer: Jim Herbst provided information on a Valentine's Day Party at the Coatesville Medical Center, as well as the date and time for the monthly bingo party there. He also mentioned that Detachment awards for activities during 2016 would be distributed later in the meeting. He also asked the membership to continue to look for new recruits.

Director Kinney: Bill Kinney mentioned that in addition to the certificates to be distributed to members, Certificates of Appreciation are also needed for those commercial establishments that assisted the Detachment in the recent Toys for Tots campaign. Bill Kinney also mentioned that the three Directors had recently completed an audit of the Paymaster's records for 2016, and it was reported that everything was in order and satisfactory. Director Paul Donahue mentioned that Paymaster Bob Spano maintains excellent records.

Jr. Past Commandant Ferguson: Paul Ferguson introduced a guest, Brian Loughlin, Director of the Liberty USO at the Philadelphia International Airport. Brian Loughlin expressed his appreciation to the Detachment members for the number and amounts of donations

made to the Liberty USO, and he said "Thank you, thank you, thank you." He presented the Detachment and Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro with a Certificate of Appreciation for all of the financial assistance made to the Liberty USO. He mentioned that more than 88,000 service personnel had visited the Liberty USO during the past year and the Detachment's donations certainly assisted in meeting this need. The Detachment members provided a round of applause for Brian Loughlin.

Commandant: Commandant D'Alessandro introduced Anthony Evangelista, Commandant of the Tun Tavern Detachment in Philadelphia, PA. Anthony Evangelista provided a brief history of the Tun Tavern Detachment's assistance to veterans around the Christmas holidays, beginning with some modest endeavors in 2001 and then expanding each year since. The Tun Tavern Detachment is involved with the Community Living Center in Philadelphia, and with a donation from the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment in 2016, the Tun Tavern Detachment was able to provide gifts and other materials to more than 120 veterans in need. The Tun Tavern Detachment was also able to assist thirty-five more at the Snider House, a transitional house, in South Philadelphia. Commandant Anthony Evangelista expressed his appreciation for our Detachment's donation and he provided a Certificate of Appreciation to Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro. Mr. Evangelista received a round of applause from the members.

Committee Reports:

Color Guard: Wayne Williams reported that a Color Guard would be marching in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Springfield, PA. Members who had indicated that they would participate are Wayne Williams, Bob Wells, Jerry McGuckin, Jack Kelly, and possibly Bob Spano. Wayne Williams mentioned that other members would be welcomed also, if interested. The date of the parade is 11 March 2017.

Honor Guard: Ben Sides reported that the Detachment's Honor Guard had served at fourteen military funerals during January. Several more had been added in the first week of February. Ben Sides mentioned that a Detachment member, Joseph Rossetti, had passed away in January and the Honor Guard members had traveled to Mr. Rossetti's funeral location in Bear, DE for his Honor Guard. The Members of the Honor Guard for Mr. Rossetti's funeral were Dominic D'Alessandro, Bob Spano, Bill Kinney, Dan Fitzpatrick, and Ben Sides. Ben Sides also reviewed two changes to Honor Guard procedures.

Scholarships: Wayne Williams mentioned that he had the application forms for the MCL Department of Pennsylvania scholarship program. Interested members should contact Wayne Williams for the application forms. He also has the application forms for the Detachment scholarship program.

Scouting: Ed Seidl reported that there were three Eagle Scout awards presented in January 2017. Two more are scheduled for February.

New Business:

Awards for 2016: Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro called on Awards Chairman Jim Herbst to assist him with the distribution of awards for 2016. The Marine of the Year Award for 2016 had been presented to George Boyajian at the January 2017 general meeting, and Jim Flynn was presented with the Commandant's Award for 2016 at the January general meeting.

Dominic D'Alessandro and Jim Herbst then presented awards for 2016 to Detachment members. The awards were presented in alphabetical order to the members who were present at this meeting. Certificates of Appreciation, Certificates of Meritorious Commendation, and Distinguished Service Awards were awarded to those members who had made valuable contributions to the Detachment during 2016.

Charitable Organizations: Bob Spano reviewed the list of organizations being suggested to the membership for donations this month. These organizations were recently discussed at a recent officers' staff meeting, and were now being suggested to the membership for consideration. Bob Spano pointed out that instead of the usual \$2,000.00 donation to each organization, the amount for each organization had been increased to \$3,000.00. George Boyajian made a motion to donate the funds as outlined. The organizations and the amounts to be donated shown in parentheses are: (1) Fisher House Foundation, Rockville, MD (\$3,000.00); (2) The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Oceanside, CA (\$3,000.00); (3) Operation First Response, Inc., Culpeper, VA (\$3,000.00); (4) Hunts for Healing of the Luzerne Foundation, Luzerne, Pa (\$3,000.00); and (5) The USO, Philadelphia International Airport, Philadelphia, PA (\$3,000.00). Paul Donohue seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Good of the League: No items were raised under this category.

Announcements: Bill Kinney mentioned that there would be another "Rockin' With the Troops" event this year at Neumann University in Aston, PA. The date of the event is 22 April 2017, and the cost is \$65.00 per person.

Bob Spano mentioned the annual Iwo Jima party at the Delaware County MCL Detachment in Upland, PA. The date of the event is 19 February 2017, and there is no cost for this event.

George Boyajian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Several members seconded the motion and the motion passed. Chris Bush asked for a moment of silence for our recently deceased member, Joseph Rossetti. After the regular closing ceremonies, the meeting was adjourned at 2030.

Jim Constien won the 50/50. Thirty-one members signed the logbook.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Kelly

Adjutant



Dear Commandant D'Alessandro and Detachment Company:

My name is Jeremy Edward Shiok and I'm writing from Anchorage, Alaska, to personally commend you on your selection of George Boyajian as the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment 741 Marine of the Year for 2016. George's son, Steve, sent me a message and photo of George holding the award. You could not have selected a finer Marine to honor, especially at this most reflective time in his life. I have shared the news with some of George's former brothers in arms, and they are equally as pleased by this meaningful recognition.



George served with my grandfather in the 8th Defense Battalion (which was redesignated the 8th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion in April 1944 prior to the Battle of Okinawa) during WWII. In 2010, I traveled their tour of duty through the Pacific, and for the last few years I have conducted extensive research about the battalion with the help of the U.S. National Archives, Marine Corps History Division, and many other archival repositories. Presently, I am writing a book about the 8th DB/AAA and the men who made up the battalion. George will be a prominent figure in my account.

Along the way, I've been fortunate to locate several veterans of the battalion, and I have crisscrossed the country many times to meet and interview them and get to know their families. George, of course, is a legend in the "8th Family." He's probably told you a bit about his exploits, both in the Corps and in the years after when the 8th DB/AAA Reunion Association gathered annually. Over the course of four decades, he and the reunion association gathered in locations across the country to preserve bonds forged in wartime and nurtured in peacetime. They were an active reunion group (the most active, in fact, among USMC Defense Battalions), and while George held many official posts over the years, he was best known to all as the chief rabble-rouser, bar manager, and social director. Having seen the pictures that prove it, I can say with confidence that George was absolutely the battalion's most lively member. Based on many accounts of his fellow Marines and their families, he was also among the most beloved.

George and I have corresponded through letters and packages for many years, and he has always bragged about your Marine Corps League Detachment and the many programs he's been involved in. This past April, I finally made my way to Philadelphia to meet George in person, and it was like meeting a long lost friend, someone whose early life and friends I have studied and known for so long on paper, in photos, and in the stories of other battalion veterans, especially those told by Bill Gilbert of Helena, Montana. When Bill talks about George he says, "He's the best friend you could have in the world." When George talks about Bill, he says the same exact thing. I'm honored to count them both as friends and I'm eternally grateful for what they have taught me about history and life and humor and so much more. George is one of my favorite people in the world, and much of my life's work is intended to honor him and Bill and those they served with long before I was born.

America is great, has always been great, and always will be great because of men like George. Though I am certain that your ranks include many other Marines deserving of Detachment recognition, I am pleased to know George was honored this year. Thank you for your time, consideration, and service.

Sincerely,

Jeremy

Jeremy Edward Shiok

Anchorage, Alaska

www.atolljourney.weebly.com



Wounded Warrior Paint Night

Enjoy food, drinks, fun and painting

Saturday, March 18, 2017

6:00 pm

Knights of Columbus

2 N Carol Blvd

Upper Darby, PA 19082

\$40/person



Enter to win "Spa in a Basket" door prize
All proceeds benefit Operation First Response

www.OperationFirstResponse.org

RSVP by March 1

Contact: Paula Marinello

610-212-8215

Sponsored by

Paula Marinello (Owner) RejuvaNew You Spa

Knights of Columbus



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Smedley D. Butler Detachment
P.O. Box 184
Newtown Square, PA19073-0184



Honor-Courage-Commitment



Next Meeting
7 March, 2017 @ 1930
Knights of Columbus
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.
(Route 252)
Newtown Square, PA 19073