



# Scuttlebutt



**General Smedley D. Butler Detachment**

Incorporated 1991

P.O. Box 184 • Newtown Square, PA19073

Website • [www.genbutlerdet.org](http://www.genbutlerdet.org)

**Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro**

Email: [domdalessjr@gmail.com](mailto:domdalessjr@gmail.com)

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Dan Luty, editor

## Commandant's Report October 2017

Our Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2017, at the Paxon Hollow Country Club, from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The price for members, spouse, or significant other is \$50.00 per person, and the price for a guest is \$75.00 per person. Anyone planning to attend may pay Paymaster Bob Spano at our staff or general meetings, or send the full amount to:

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
GEN. SMEDLEY D. BUTLER DETACHMENT  
P.O. BOX 184  
NEWTOWN SQUARE, PA 19073-0184  
ATTN: BOB SPANO

I am pleased to announce the addition of two new associate members to our Detachment. Robert Holt, a Navy veteran who was sponsored by Steve Kusner and Robert Fitzgerald who was sponsored by Jack McLeod, were both sworn in at our general meeting on September 5, 2017. Welcome aboard gentlemen!

Nominations for Officers and Directors of our Detachment will be held at our general meetings in October, November, and December, with the election being held at our December general meeting. Also at this time, nominations and the election of the Marine of the Year Award will take place.

Please make every effort to attend these meetings and make your nominations and cast your vote.

NEW DUES SCHEDULE, dues for regular members and associate members, excluding Life members, are due on August 31 of each year. If you have not paid your dues, which were due on August 31, 2017, please remit them to Paymaster Bob Spano as soon as possible.

Due to Election Day being held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, and our meeting place being used as a voting location, our November general meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 8, 2017. Please make this note on your calendar.

On Saturday, November 4, 2017, at midnight, Daylight Savings Time will end and Eastern Standard Time will begin. As of November 5, 2017, the uniform for the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment of the Marine Corps League will be long sleeve white blouse with epaulets, black tie with clasp, star bursts on collars, Marine Corps League emblem on left sleeve, the American flag on the right sleeve, ribbons and name plate, black trousers and black shoes. Please keep this in mind for our November general meeting.

**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!

OCTOBER BOOSTERS

- George Boyajian
- John Burfete
- Russell Davis
- Joe Direso
- Tom Falgiatore
- Beth & Jim Herbst
- Jack Kelly
- Dan Luty
- Con McGinley
- Jerry McGuckin
- Florence & Bob Spano

Thank you boosters!

***Bob Spano***

Paymaster

**Birthday Greetings for October**

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

- Richard Bortner
- Charles Coombs
- Aaron Cabbage
- James Flynn
- James Herbst
- Leon Huzzard
- Lewis Neumann
- Edgar Speer



***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
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**

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

**Our Marine Corps Ball will be held on Saturday, 18 November, 2017.**

**Place: Paxon Hollow Country Club from 1800 to 2200.**

**The prices for members are \$50 per person, (\$50 for spouse or significant other), and \$75 for guests. Reservations can be made by calling or Email:**

**Bob Spano at: 610-639-4464.**

**EMAIL: [bspano35@verizon.net](mailto:bspano35@verizon.net)**

**Dominick Mattioni at: 610-692-4335.**

**EMAIL: [dom2000@verizon.net](mailto:dom2000@verizon.net)**

**Payments are to be sent to our paymaster Bob Spano.**

**Make checks payable to and send to:**

**MCL-#741  
P.O. BOX 184  
NEWTOWN SQUARE, PA 19073-0184  
ATTN: BOB SPANO**

**ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, 4 NOVEMBER.**

**THIS IS A CONFIRMED DEADLINE.**

**Thank You,**

**DOMINICK MATTIONI, SVC  
610-692-4335  
[dom2000@verizon.net](mailto:dom2000@verizon.net)**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Store/Event</u>	<u>Address</u>
9/29	Ridley Acme 610-237-3800	124 Morton Ave Folsom, PA
9/30	Ridley Acme Glenolden Acme 610-586-0577	124 Morton Ave 503 S. MacDade Blvd Holmes, PA
10/1	Boothwyn Wal-Mart 610-494-2535 Eddystone Wal-Mart 610-447-1860	605 Conchester Hwy Boothwyn, PA 1570 Chester Pike Eddystone, PA
10/7	Brookhaven ShopRite 610-499-3030 Springfield Wal-Mart 610-605-3154	5005 Edgemont Ave Brookhave, PA 400 S. State Road Springfield, PA
10/8	Brookhaven ShopRite Springfield Wal-Mart	5005 Edgemont Ave 400 S. State Road
10/14	West Chester ShopRite 610-696-4066	115 West Chester Pike West Chester, PA
10/15	West Chester ShopRite	115 West Chester Pike
10/21	Boothwyn Wal-Mart 610-494-2535 Springfield Wal-Mart 610-605-3154	605 Conchester Hwy Boothwyn, PA 400 S. State Road Springfield, PA
10/22	Boothwyn Wal-Mart Springfield Wal-Mart	605 Conchester Hwy 400 S. State Road
10/28	Brookhaven ShopRite 610-499-3030 Eddystone Wal-Mart 610-447-1860	5005 Edgemont Ave Brookhave, PA 1570 Chester Pike Eddystone, PA
10/29	Brookhaven ShopRite Eddystone Wal-Mart	5005 Edgemont Ave 1570 Chester Pike
11/4	Eddystone Wal-Mart 610-447-1860 Glenolden Wal-Mart 610-583-2682	1570 Chester Pike Eddystone, PA 50 N. MacDade Blvd Glenolden, PA
11/5	Eddystone Wal-Mart Glenolden Wal-Mart	1570 Chester Pike 50 N. MacDade Blvd



# Looking Ahead

## DETACHMENT EVENTS

### October

- 1 Blood, Sweat & Cheers - DCVMA.  
**0900-1400 Blood Drive**  
**1000-1500 Trail Run/Yoga**  
**1000-1500 Fitness Festival/Beer Garden**
- 3 General Meeting at KoC. Meeting starts at 1930.
- 26 "Beirut Attack" Memorial: 1000 at Penn's Landing. Place any sort of Marine item on your dash so as not to be ticketed.
- 31 Staff Meeting, Marple Post #805, and start time is 1930.

### November

- 8 General Meeting at KoC. Meeting starts at 1930.  
**\*This is a Wednesday, meeting night moved due to elections!!!**

## 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**, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**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 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.

### DCVMA 2017 Casket Flag Ceremony Dates (all start times are 1700 unless otherwise noted):

- 8 Oct 11 Italian American casket flag raising – Italian Newspaper, Groups, and Individuals

### SICK CALL

Tom Falgiatore	Con McGinley
Tom Kerrigan	Gerry McGuckin
Sam Samsel	Anthony Fusto
Rich Bortner	Jack Mcleod
Peg Curly	

*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 – 5 September 2017

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

New Associate Members: Two new potential associate members were introduced to the membership. Robert Holt had served in the U.S. Navy. He had been recruited for membership by Steve Kusner. Robert Fitzgerald had served in the U.S. Army. He had been recruited by Jack McLeod. The DD214 Forms were in order and their dues were paid. George Boyajian made a motion to accept both men as associate members. Ben Sides seconded the motion and the motion passed. Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro administered the oath of membership and Robert Holt and Robert Fitzgerald were accepted as associate members of the Detachment.

Minutes: George Boyajian made a motion to accept the minutes of the 1 August 2017 general meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Bud Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed.

### Officer Reports:

Junior Vice Commandant: Jack McLeod reported that the Help Us Help Others (HUHO) Campaign had resulted in collections of approximately \$6,000.00 over the recent three day Labor Day weekend. A slight discrepancy will need to be adjusted between our record and that of the bank. This brings the year-to-date total to approximately \$115,000.00 for the HUHO Campaign with still more collection dates ahead. Jack McLeod mentioned that new member Robert Fitzgerald was his first recruit as a new member. He met him through the HUHO activity, and he had asked him if he would like to participate in this type of activity. This led Robert Fitzgerald to becoming an associate member. Jack McLeod mentioned that the Detachment should have a goal of attaining at least ten new members per year.

Senior Vice Commandant: Dominick Mattioni reported that the Combined Veterans Alliance picnic had gone well, although the attendance was down some from prior years. He mentioned that pictures of the event had been sent out to those with e-mail, and some pictures were also published in the *Scuttlebutt*. He asked the membership if there was any interest in having the picnic in September instead of August, but the result of his informal poll indicated that the membership would prefer to still have the annual picnic in August. Dominick Mattioni also mentioned that the Detachment's annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball is scheduled for 18 November 2017 at the Paxon Hollow Country Club. The cost is \$50.00 per person for members, and \$75.00 per person for non-members. Payments can be made to Bob Spano or Dominick Mattioni.

Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro complimented Dominick Mattioni on the work that he had put in for the picnic, and a round of applause was given for Dominick Mattioni. It was also reported that he had provided a new podium for the Detachment's general meetings.

Judge Advocate: Earle Drake did not have a report as Judge Advocate, but he provided a report in his role of Americanism Chairman. He reported that the Americanism team made three Americanism/Flag History presentations in August. All three presentations were at the Rocky Run Y in Media, PA. The presentations were made to campers aged between five and ten years old. Three additional presentations had been made to older groups. It was mentioned that a Flag History presentation may be made to the Broomall Rotary at Charlotte's Restaurant on 31 October 2017.

Adjutant: Jack Kelly reported that a thank you letter had been received from the USO of Pennsylvania and South Jersey, thanking the Detachment for its recent contribution of \$5,000.00. In addition, a card of thanks had been received from Matthew Bergh, thanking the Detachment members for the funds he had received in the Detachment's annual scholarship program.

Chaplain: Chris Bush mentioned that member Anthony (Tony) Fusto had passed away on 2 September 2017. It was mentioned that his funeral would be on Thursday, 7 September 2017. Chris Bush mentioned that it had been determined that member William Williams, who had been living in Florida, had passed away in March, 2016. Chris Bush also mentioned that Tom Kerrigan had fallen recently and had broken his hip. Other medical issues were also mentioned with Tom Kerrigan's health.

Paymaster: Bob Spano mentioned that dues for non-Life members were due as of 31 August 2017. Under the new program instituted by MCL National, all members' (non-Life members) dues will be due at 31 August of each year. He encouraged those that have not yet paid to pay their dues as soon as possible so that their membership would not be interrupted. Bob Spano also reviewed the paymaster's report as of 31 August 2017, reviewing the income and disbursements for the month. He also suggested that the members should review the list of suggested organizations to receive donations this month. The organizations, listed on the back of the agenda, would be discussed later in the meeting. George Boyajian made a motion to accept the paymaster's report as received. Bud Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Director Kinney: Bill Kinney mentioned that the flags at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial will need to be replaced twice a year, at a cost of approximately \$600.00 each time. Donors in the community are being sought to offset this expense. He mentioned that the next monthly flag ceremony at the Memorial would be this coming Sunday, 10 September 2017 at 1700. Eleven flags will be raised that day, with other details also provided. Due to the number involved, Bill Kinney mentioned that at least two teams of flag folders would be needed for this event. He also mentioned that TV Channel 29 in Philadelphia was having a salute to all veterans on 15 September 2017, from 0600 to 1000 at Fourth and Market Streets in Philadelphia. He mentioned that the next Blood, Sweat, and Cheer event is scheduled for 1 October 2017, and a Color Guard is needed for this event.

The report time is 1130. Bill Kinney also provided information on this year's Freedom Medal Dinner, scheduled for 16 November 2017 at the Springfield Country Club. He mentioned that the Detachment has again purchased two tables for members and their spouses/friends, and reservations are available on a first come, first served basis. Other details were also provided on several different subjects.

Director Flynn: Jim Flynn did not have a report as a Director, but he provided a report in his role as Chairman of the Adopt-a-Highway program. He mentioned that the third Adopt-a-Highway event had been held on 20 August 2017 and enough members were there to complete the job. The next Adopt-a-Highway event will be conducted in mid-October. An e-mail will be sent out closer to the date, announcing the date of the event along with other necessary details.

#### Committee Reports:

Color Guard: Wayne Williams provided the dates of certain events where the Color Guard will be needed. The Blood, Sweat, and Cheer event is scheduled for 1 October 2107, with a report time of 1130. Marine Sunday is scheduled for 12 November 2017. Veterans Day is 11 November 2017, with the normal activities on that day, including the Veterans Day Parade in Media, PA. The Freedom Medal Dinner is scheduled for 16 November 2017 at the Springfield Country Club. The Detachment's annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball is scheduled for 18 November 2017. Those interested in participating in the Color Guard for these events should contact Wayne Williams.

Honor Guard: Ben Sides provided information on the service for Anthony (Tony) Fusto. His service was scheduled for Thursday, 7 September 2017, at Presentation BVM Church in Wynnwood, PA. The casket watch would be from 0900 to 1000, and the Mass would begin at 1000. The report time for the Honor Guard at the cemetery would be 1130. Ben Sides also mentioned that a second volunteer is needed to receive telephone calls from the funeral directors in reference to Honor Guard arrangements. John McCoombs, a member of the American Legion, is the primary contact, but at times he is not available, and a second contact person is needed. The person would need to have a home computer and the person would need to contact those individuals involved in the Honor Guard once the information is received from the funeral director. Anyone interested should contact Ben Sides.

Property: Bob Spano mentioned that a red satin jacket and a red blazer were available for anyone interested. Bob Spano also had golf shirts available for \$23.00 each and sweat shirts available for \$22.00 each. These items are available in red or gold colors, and the Detachment name is on each shirt.

Communications: John Burfete mentioned that it had been a routine month for him, as he has continued to forward those e-mails received from Liz McLeaster from the MCL Department of Pennsylvania. He has also sent out press releases on the activity of Earle Drake's Americanism team, and he also has sent this information to the Marple-Newton Patch.

Scholarships: Wayne Williams announced that the application forms for the 2018 Detachment scholarship program will be available at the January 2018 general meeting.

Unfinished Business: Bud Davis asked Ben Sides if anyone in the Auxiliary could be the second contact person for the Honor Guard needs. John Burfete also inquired about what the responsibilities would entail, and Ben Sides provided information on both of these inquiries.

#### New Business:

Charitable Organizations: Paul Ferguson, who volunteers at the USO facility in the Philadelphia Airport, mentioned that the USO had been flooded out some time ago, and the USO is now operating out of a temporary center. They are serving cold lunches, and although the USO may handle a good number of guests, in his opinion the USO does not need the \$5,000.00 per month that we have been sending to the USO. The new facility may not be ready until February or March of next year, so it was suggested to hold off on sending funds to the USO until their new facility is ready. Bob Spano then reviewed the list of organizations that were being suggested to the membership for donations this month. These had been reviewed at a recent officers' staff meeting. George Boyajian made a motion to donate the funds as outlined on the back of the agenda. The organizations and the amounts to be donated in parentheses are: (1) Fisher House Foundation, Rockville, MD (\$5,000.00); (2) The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Oceanside, CA (\$5,000.00); (3) The Wounded Warrior Regiment, Quantico, VA (\$5,000.00); (4) Operation First Response, Culpeper, VA (\$5,000.00); (5) Hurricane Harvey Relief: The Marine Corps League, McLemore Detachment #324, Houston, TX (\$2,000.00); The American Red Cross Society (\$2,000.00); and the Salvation Army (\$2,000.00). The total amount for these organizations for this month would be \$26,000.00. Bill Kinney seconded the motion and the motion passed

Good of the League: No items were discussed under the Good of the League.

Announcements: No announcements were made.

George Boyajian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ben Sides seconded the motion and the motion passed. After a moment of silence for deceased members Anthony Fusto and William Williams, the regular closing ceremonies were conducted. The meeting was adjourned at 2035. Earle Drake won the 50/50. Thirty-two members signed the logbook.

***Respectfully submitted,***

***Jack Kelly***  
Adjutant



## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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



Honor-Courage-Commitment



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