



Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment

Incorporated 1991

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1914 1915



Commandant Jim Flynn
Email: flynnelectric@yahoo.com

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February 2018

Dan Luty, editor

Commandant's Report February 2018

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to the membership for the trust you've placed in me. It will be an honor to serve as Commandant of the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment of the Marine Corps League. I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead, and will endeavor to follow the excellent example of the men who served before me. I would like to recognize Junior Past Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro for the great job he did as Commandant the past two years and thank him for his help and guidance during this transition.

The installation of officers and directors took place at our January 2nd general meeting.

District One Vice Commandant George Souder conducted the installation. Congratulations to all new officers and thank you to all outgoing officers.

Also at our January 2nd meeting, the 2017 Marine of the Year Award was presented to Dominick Mattioni, and Jack McLeod received the 2017 Commandant's Award. Both men are well deserving of these honors.

This is traditionally a slow season for the Detachment. Other than the Honor Guard, which is always busy and could use more help, we don't have many activities in the cold winter months. While we may not be busy with HUHO, Color Guards, flag raisings, etc., it's always a good time to recruit new members.

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Semper Fi,
Jim Flynn
Commandant



"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!

FEBRUARY BOOSTERS

George Boyajian
John Burfete
Russell Davis
Joe Direso
Bob Fitzgerald
Jack Kelly
Steve Kusner
Con McGinley
Jerry McGuckin
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 February

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

Joseph Beal
James Constien
Russell Davis
Harry Deaner
John D'Orta
James Dunlap
Jeffrey Elliott
Roger Godfrey
R. Stewart Hughes
John Keevill
John Kelly
William McCoy
Bob Spano
H. Weston Tomlinson



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

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

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Committee Chairmen

Adopt-A-Highway	Jim Flynn
Americanism Team	J. Mulhern, E. Drake, D. Fitzpatrick
Auxiliary Liaison	Chris Bush
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	Dominic D'Alessandro
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

February

- 6 General Meeting at KoC. Meeting starts at 1930
- 27 Staff Meeting, Marple Post #805, and start time is 1930.

March

- 6 General Meeting and at KoC. Meeting starts at 1930
- 27 Staff Meeting, Marple Post #805, and start time is 1930.

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.

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.

Other Organizations' Events (Cont'd.)

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.

MARK YOUR 2018 CALENDAR

- Scholarship Dinner - Tuesday, 5 June
- Annual Picnic - Saturday, 25 August
- Marine Corps Ball - Saturday, 10 November
- Toys4Tots/Holiday Dinner - Tuesday, 4 December

Dominick Mattioni
610-692-4335
Gen. Smedley D. Butler
Marine Corps League
Detachment #741

SICK CALL

Tom Kerrigan	Gerry McGuckin
Sam Samsel	Jack McLeod
Paul Donohue	Pete Patrucci

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 – 2 January 2018

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, and Junior Past Commandant Paul Ferguson.

Minutes: George Boyajian made a motion to accept the minutes of the 5 December 2017 general meeting as published in the *Scuttlebutt*. Ben Sides seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Junior Vice Commandant: Jack McLeod reported on three areas of fundraising activities for 2017. The first was the Help Our Heroes Campaign, in which members solicit donations from friends or acquaintances. This campaign had an objective of \$12,000.00 and it resulted in collections of about \$11,000.00. The second was the annual Birthday Ball Program Book, which had an objective of around \$4,000.00. This would be achieved by selling ads to local businesses to offset some of the expenses related to the Birthday Ball. This resulted in collections so far of approximately \$9,600.00 with some additional funds still expected to be received. The third area of income was from the Help Us Help Others (HUHO) Campaign, in which donations are sought from area shoppers at local supermarkets. Detachment members, Auxiliary members, and friends of the Detachment participated in collections at thirty-five store sites and three Wawa sites over thirty-five weekends from late March to early November. It was reported that \$153,000.00 was collected during the 2017 year, down just a little from what was achieved in 2016. However, Jack McLeod reported that starting from a small amount of \$13,000.00 collected in 2006, the total amount collected over the past twelve years has now grown to over \$1,300,000.00. This means that a large number of veterans have been helped by the Detachment's donations that are sent directly to those organizations that directly assist veterans. He reminded the members that still more than 300,000 veterans are waiting on claims with the Veterans Administration, and over 400,000 are waiting on appeals on disputed claims. Jack McLeod read the names of the participants in the HUHO program, including not only those who participated in the 2017 year, but also those who had participated in past years. Jack McLeod closed his report with a prayer in which he thanked the Lord for blessing the Detachment with all the results that were achieved. Jack McLeod received a round of applause for his report.

Adjutant: Jack Kelly reported that letters of thanks had been received from organizations that had received donations from the Detachment. Letters of thanks had been received from The Semper Fi Fund, Oceanside, CA, from the Fisher House Foundation, Rockville, MD, and two letters were received from Operation Home Front.

The first was received from Operation Home Front locally in Doylestown, PA, and the second was from Operation Home Front at the national level, from San Antonio, TX. A letter of thanks was also received from the Upper Darby Detachment of the Marine Corps League, to which we had donated funds for its program to help send a high school fitness team to a competition at a Marine Corps Base in San Diego, CA. The team they sponsored finished in fifth place among twenty-two teams from around the country, and they had one individual who had won a bronze medal.

Senior Vice Commandant: Dominick Mattioni provided dates for several social events for the coming year. The annual scholarship awards dinner is scheduled for 5 June 2018, the annual Combined Veterans Alliance picnic is scheduled for 25 August 2018, and the Detachment's annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball is scheduled for 10 November 2018. In addition, the annual Christmas Toys for Tots dinner is scheduled for 4 December 2018. Other general information was also provided.

Judge Advocate: Earle Drake did not have a report as Judge Advocate or in his role as Americanism Chairman. He did, however, mention that a pistol shooting match is being planned for either April or May of this year at Delaware County Field and Stream. Once details are known, he will be able to report to the Detachment with further information.

Paymaster: Bob Spano reviewed the paymaster's report as of 31 December 2017. He reviewed incoming funds as well as disbursements, mentioning specifically two donations of \$500.00 each to needy families (who would remain un-named). He also suggested that the members should review the list of organizations listed on the back of the agenda. These organizations would be considered later in the meeting to receive donations made by the Detachment. George Boyajian made a motion to accept the paymaster's report as received. Chris Bush seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Chaplain: Chris Bush mentioned that Bill Kinney was in Riddle Hospital and Tom Kerrigan was in Bryn Mawr Hospital. He asked the membership to keep these two members in their thoughts and prayers.

Committee Reports:

Honor Guard: Although he is no longer the Honor Guard chairman, Ben Sides reported that the Honor Guard had participated in one hundred forty-five (145) funerals for deceased military veterans during 2017. He also mentioned that there had been one more funeral that day. There is still a need for someone to take over the Honor Guard chairmanship.

Young Marines: Dan Luty mentioned that Staff Sergeant Esser of the Folsom Reserve Center would be transferred to another duty station in the next month or so. His replacement is not yet known.

Property: Bob Spano mentioned that two new banners have been ordered for the trailer that members ride in, making the banners more up to date. He also mentioned that the appropriate medals and ribbons have been ordered for the upcoming awards program at the February general meeting.

Scholarships: Wayne Williams was not present as he was ill, but Dominick Mattioni mentioned that Wayne Williams would have the Detachment scholarship applications at the February general meeting.

Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro - Presentation of Awards:

Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro presented two individual awards for member performance during 2017.

Marine of the Year for 2017: The Marine of the Year award is the Detachment's highest award. Commandant D'Alessandro mentioned that this award is a very prestigious award and has been awarded to some very significant members in the past. For 2017, one member stood out for his work in planning and running the various social programs of the Detachment, and as elected by the membership, the Marine of the Year Award was presented to Dominick Mattioni. Dominick Mattioni mentioned that it was "an honor and a privilege to receive this award" and that he "would do his best to live up to this award." He received a round of applause upon receiving his award.

Commandant's Award for 2017: Commandant D'Alessandro mentioned that the Commandant's Award is presented to the member who has shown an aggressive interest in the matters of the Detachment, and is one who goes above and beyond the duties that are required in performance of assigned duties. For these reasons, Commandant D'Alessandro awarded the Commandant's Award for 2017 to Jack McLeod. Jack McLeod mentioned that he was honored to work with so many men and women he has been associated with over the years in his responsibilities. He also received a run of applause upon receiving his award.

Installation of Officers for 2018:

Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro introduced District One Vice Commandant George Souder, who would conduct the installation of Detachment officers for 2018. He was assisted in the installation process by Earle Drake, who acted as Sergeant-at-Arms, and by Phil Spinelli, who acted as Chaplain.

The officers were sworn in by District One Vice Commandant George Souder. The officers for 2018 are Commandant Jim Flynn, Senior Vice Commandant Dominick Mattioni, Junior Vice Commandant Jack McLeod, Judge Advocate Paul Ferguson, Paymaster Bob Spano, Adjutant Jack Kelly, Chaplain Chris Bush, Sergeant-at-Arms Charles (Bud) Davis, Director Paul Donohue, Director Ben Sides, and Director Bill Kinney. George Souder had a separate challenge for incoming Commandant Jim Flynn, and then the officers were officially declared sworn in by Sergeant-at-Arms Earle Drake. The Detachment Colors were then transferred from former Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro to incoming Commandant Jim Flynn. Phil Spinelli, acting as Chaplain for this ceremony, closed in prayer.

Commandant Jim Flynn then presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Old Business: Jack McLeod mentioned that he may have neglected to mention the name of Paul Donohue in his earlier remarks, and he wanted to be sure that Paul Donohue received proper recognition.

New Business: Bob Spano reviewed the list of organizations listed on the back of the agenda. These organizations had recently been discussed at an officers' staff meeting and were being suggested to the membership for consideration. One organization, Hunts for Healing of the Luzerne Foundation, received additional explanation. Bob Spano asked Dan Luty to provide information on this organization. Dan Luty explained the purpose of the organization, which is to assist veterans in a special environment, especially those suffering from combat related injuries and PTSD. The veterans are treated to a number of outdoor activities, including hunting, fishing, canoeing, and others, with the hope that these experiences would assist in their recovery. This specific donation of \$2,000.00 would go to four individual veterans to offset their costs at an upcoming event at this location in upstate Pennsylvania. Dan Luty also mentioned that the woman who runs this organization has invited our membership to tour the facilities and to see what the programs are all about in helping veterans in the recovery process. This invitation will be discussed at a later date.

George Boyajian made a motion to donate the funds as outlined. The organizations and the amounts to be donated are: (1) The Fisher House Foundation, Rockville, MD (\$1,000.00); (2) The Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund, Oceanside, CA (\$1,000.00); (3) Operation First Response, Inc., Culpeper, VA (\$1,000.00); and (4) Hunts for Healing of the Luzerne Foundation, Luzerne, PA (\$2,000.00). Ben Sides seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Announcements: No announcements were made.

George Boyajian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Luty seconded the motion and the motion passed. After the regular closing ceremonies, the meeting was adjourned at 2025. Paul Donohue won the 50/50. Twenty-eight members signed the logbook.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Kelly
Adjutant





2017/12/26



2017/12/26



2017/12/26



2017/12/05



2017/12/05





MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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

Honor-Courage-Commitment



Next Meeting
6 February, 2018 @ 1930
Knights of Columbus
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.
(Route 252)
Newtown Square, PA 19073