



Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Detachment
Incorporated 1991

1914 1915



P.O. Box 184 • Newtown Square, PA19073
Website • www.genbutlerdet.org

Commandant Jim Flynn
Email: flynelectric@yahoo.com

Volume XXX, Issue 1
January 2020

Dan Luty, editor

Commandant's Report January 2020

This was to be my last Commandant's report, as there has always been a 2-year term limit. However, the bylaws have been changed, our elections have been held, and now you're stuck with me for another year. All officers were nominated and elected to serve another year in their current positions. Installation of 2020 Detachment Officers will be held at our 7 January 2020 General Meeting. The Installation will be presided over by District Vice Commandant, George Souder. We will also have the Marine of the Year and Commandant's Award presentations to two deserving Detachment Members. Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

Our Toys for Tots dinner was a great success. Thanks to Senior Vice Commandant Mattioni for organizing this affair.

The Detachment presented a check to the Folsom Reserve unit to help with the costs of the Toys for Tots Campaign. I'm sure the children who received the toys on Christmas are most grateful for the time and effort put forth by Detachment and Auxiliary members for this important program.

As we begin the New Year, our number one priority must be recruiting new members so that we can continue with our mission of helping veterans and their families in need. I wish you all a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

Semper Fi,
Jim Flynn
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 can continue our **award-winning** newsletter!

JANUARY BOOSTERS

- Bud Davis
- Joe Direso
- Bill Inverso
- Dom Mattioni
- Con McGinley
- Jerry McGuckin
- Bob Spano
- Phil Spinelli

Thank You Boosters!

Bob Spano
Paymaster

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

Birthday Greetings for January

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

- James Cecchini
- Paul Drinkard
- Claude Falcone
- Nicholas Repino



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

Commandant	Jim Flynn
Sr. Vice Commandant	Dominick Mattioni
Jr. Vice Commandant	Jerry McGuckin
Adjutant	Charles (Bud) Davis
Paymaster	Bob Spano
Judge Advocate	Paul Ferguson
Sergeant-At-Arms	Dominic D'Alessandro
Chaplain	Christopher Bush
Service Officer	Jim Herbst
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	Bob Spano
Honor Guard	OPEN
Honor Guard Assistant	Ben Sides & 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 & Claude Falcone
Young Marines	LCpl Prella & 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

January

- 7 General Meeting, Installation of Officers, Marine of the Year, Knights of Columbus Hall, Rte. #252, Newtown Square.
- 8 Bingo, Coatesville VAMC. Contact Claude Falcone for information, 610-350-7391.
- 28 Staff Meeting at Marple Memorial Post #805 at 1930.

February

- 4 MCL General Meeting at Knights of Columbus Hall, Rt. 252 in Newtown Square at 1930.
-

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 Upper Darby Detachment Home, 1026 Providence Road, Secane, PA 19018.

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 2020 CALENDAR

Stayed tuned for this year's events!!!

Toys4Tots Dinner: Tuesday, 1 December

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

SICK CALL

John Burfete Wes Tomlinson	Joe Tier Rich Bortner
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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 – 3 December 2019

Commandant: Jim Flynn opened the meeting at 1800 and the regular opening ceremonies were conducted. Officers present were Commandant Jim Flynn, Senior Commandant Dominick Mattioni, Junior Commandant Jerry McGuckin, Adjutant Bud Davis, Paymaster Bob Spano, Judge Advocate Paul Ferguson, Chaplain Chris Bush, Service Officer Jim Herbst, Sergeant-at-Arms/Junior Past Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro, Directors Bill Kinney, Paul Donohue and Ben Sides.

Minutes: Jim Herbst made a motion to accept the minutes of the **6 November 2019** Detachment general meeting as published in the **Scuttlebutt**. Bud Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Adjutant: Bud Davis mentioned that several letters of appreciation have been received from organizations the Detachment has supported. These letters of thanks are from the following: **Fisher House Foundation** and **Semper Fi Fund**. Bud also read a thank you card from the Ladies Auxiliary for the donation made to them from the Detachment. The Detachment also received a letter from Joe Daly, (President of the DCVMA) thanking the Detachment and Bill Kinney for our continued support and contribution to the Freedom Medal Dinner.

Senior Vice Commandant: Dominick Mattioni reported this year's Christmas Staff dinner will be **17 December** (Tuesday) at **Charlotte's Restaurant** in Newtown Square. All Detachment members are welcome to attend. Dominick mentioned that the Detachment Birthday Ball was a great time and the Lamb Tavern was a good choice. Dominick also mentioned that he will start working on next year's events, and if anyone has suggestions for these events to please contact him.

Junior Vice Commandant: Jerry McGuckin reported our **Help Us Help Others (HUHO) Campaign** was a great success this year. He thanked all Detachment members for their support. He mentioned that he will be looking at next year's calendar and start putting together a schedule. Any questions or ideas about the program can be directed to Jerry.

Paymaster: Bob Spano provided the Paymaster's report as of **26 November**, reviewing income and disbursements for the month. Bob suggested that the Detachment membership review the list of charitable organizations listed in the agenda. These charitable organizations were reviewed at a recent Detachment staff meeting and were being suggested to the Detachment membership for approval. The organizations will be considered for approval later in the meeting. Bill Kinney made a motion to accept the Paymaster's Report as received. Ben Sides seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Judge Advocate: Paul Ferguson, no report.

Sgt-at-Arms: Dominic D'Alessandro reminded everyone to sign the logbook and that extra copies of the **Scuttlebutt** were on the

table in the back of the room. Dominic also asked members to help clean up after the meeting/dinner and thanked them in advance.

Chaplain: Chris Bush mentioned that he had spoken with several members of the Detachment and their families who are experiencing some health issues. He stated that he will continue to update the Detachment on their health. Chris also asked that if any Detachment member knows of someone that is ill to please contact him.

Director/Newtown Twp. Vets Park: Bill Kinney reported on the **Freedom Medal Dinner** that was held on **14 November**. Over 550 people attended this event. Bill stated what a great job our Color Guard did again this year. They were Wayne Williams, Jim Cook, Jim Herbst, Terry Jones and Jim Flynn. Bill also reported on the upcoming **National Developers Luncheon on 20 December** (Friday) at 1130. Wayne Williams and the Color Guard will be on hand for this event. If anyone is interested in this event, please contact Bill or Wayne.

Director/Honor Guard Sides: Ben Sides gave the report for the Honor Guard. They participated in 14 funerals for veterans during the month of November. Total year to date is now at 106 funerals. It was also mentioned that anyone who can volunteer their time to the Honor Guard it would be greatly appreciated.

Director Donohue: No report.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Jim Flynn, no report.

Americanism: Earle Drake (Absent), no report.

Auxiliary Liaison: The Auxiliary will be having their annual visit to the **Walker House on 12 December** (Thursday). They are again requesting the following items for the tote bags: underwear, socks, outerwear, toiletries etc. If you can donate any of these items, please contact the Ladies Auxiliary.

Awards: Jim Herbst asked that the committee chairmen submit their list of members to be recognized for their participation in Detachment events during 2019 ASAP. Jim mentioned that these awards will be given out at the February Detachment general meeting.

Ceremonies: Bud Davis, no report.

Color Guard: Wayne Williams thanked the members of the Detachment who took part in the many events that the Detachment were involved in during the busy month of November.

Flag Collection: Dominic D'Alessandro, no report.

Historian: Jack Gallagher, (Absent) no report.

Home Association: Bob Spano, no report.

Marksmanship: Gene Kern (Absent), no report.

Membership: It was brought up at the staff meeting to consider developing a flyer to draw interest in the Detachment.

Newsletter: Please direct any submissions for the **Scuttlebutt** to Dan Luty by the 15th of the month.

Property: Bob Spano, no report.

Communications: John Burfete (Absent), per email John passed along information on the passing of PNC Richard Gore.

Scholarships: Wayne Williams mentioned that he will have the 2020 Detachment Scholarship forms at the January Detachment meeting. He is also working on getting information about the State/National scholarship forms.

Scouting: Ed Seidl reported that the Detachment had one Eagle scout ceremony in Broomall on **1 December** (Sunday).

Toys-For-Tots: Bill Kinney mentioned the toys collected were taken to Videon dealership on West Chester Pike. Along with the toys collected tonight all toys will be taken to the Folsom Marine Corps Reserve Training Center.

Toys for Tots Presentation: Marines from the Folsom Marine Corps Reserve Training Center were on hand for the Detachment Christmas Dinner. They were presented with a check from the Detachment for the annual **Toys for Tots** program.

VAVS/SERVICE OFFICER: Jim Herbst/Claude Falcone, Claude reported that the VA is always looking for volunteers. Many volunteer positions are available, if you do volunteer a Flu shot is needed. Also, it was reported that the clothing donation drive will start up again in January.

Unfinished Business: None to report.

New Business: Copies of a letter from General David Berger, Commandant of the Marine Corps, to George Boyajian were left on the tables for Detachment members to read. George is a member of the "Greatest Generation" and was part of the invasions on the Gilbert Islands and Okinawa. He has spent over 35 years in the 8th Defense/Anti-Aircraft Battalion Association and the Smedley Butler Detachment raising funds and supporting wounded heroes. The Commandant's letter in short wanted to thank George for his service and lifelong dedication to Veterans and the Marine Corps.

Good of the League: The Detachment received an email from Dennis Murphy, Vice President of the Broad at Delaware County Veterans Memorial. In summary he wanted to express the Association's and his deep appreciation for the Detachment's time, commitment and professionalism again this year performing the Flag Raising Ceremonies. Since 2014 roughly 130 veterans have been honored. Mr. Murphy quoted Ronald Regan describing the Detachment: "Some people live an entire lifetime wondering if they have ever made a difference in the world. Marines don't have that problem." Thank you and Semper Fi, Dennis Murphy

Nomination of Officers: Commandant Jim Flynn called on Junior Past Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro to conduct the final round of nominations of Detachment officers for 2020. Nominations for the following positions have been accepted by the following Detachment members:

Commandant - Jim Flynn
Senior Vice Commandant - Dominick Mattioni
Junior Vice Commandant - Jerry McGuckin
Adjutant - Bud Davis III
Paymaster - Bob Spano
Judge Advocate - Paul Ferguson
Sergeant-at-Arms - Dominic D'Alessandro
Chaplain - Chris Bush
Service Officer - Jim Herbst
Directors (3 needed) - Bill Kinney, Ben Sides, Paul Donohue

There were no contested positions, so Dominic D'Alessandro asked Adjutant Bud Davis to cast one vote for each person nominated. Bud cast one vote for each person nominated, thus electing the slate of officers for the 2020 year. The elected officers will be installed at the January 2020 Detachment general meeting.

Charitable Contributions: Bob Spano went over the list of organizations that were listed in the agenda. These organizations are being suggested to the Detachment membership for consideration and were discussed at the staff meeting. Bill Kinney made a motion to donate the funds as outlined. The organizations and amounts are: (1) **Fisher House Foundation** (\$5000) (2) **Semper Fi Fund** (\$5000) (3) **Operation First Response** (\$5000) (4) **Coatesville VA Medical Center** (\$5000) (5) **Homes for Our Troops** (\$5000) (6) **The MCL Foundation** (\$5000) (7) **Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society** (\$5000) (8) **Phila. Veterans House** (\$5000) (9) **Travis Manion Foundation** (\$5000) and (10) **Phila. Veterans Multi Service & Education Center** (\$5000). Jim Herbst seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The above listed Charitable Contributions were made possible by long time member **Jack McLeod** and his family. The Detachment and Jack's church were named in his "WILL" as beneficiaries. Jack thru his "WILL" wanted to continue to touch Veterans lives one more time. Jack and Carol McLeod had huge hearts and were a special couple.

Commandant Flynn asked for a motion to adjourn. Ben Sides made a motion and Paul Donohue seconded and the motion passed. After the regular closing ceremonies, the Detachment general meeting was adjourned at 1830.

At this time the Detachment was joined by the Ladies Auxiliary along with family and friends for the annual Christmas dinner catered by Justine's Cuisines.

Logbook:
Members: 25
Guests: 5

50/50 Winner: Phil Spinelli

Respectfully submitted,

Bud Davis III

Adjutant



12 November 2019

Dear Mr. Boyajian,

As our Corps celebrates 244 years of warfighting excellence, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your service and fidelity. The sacrifices you made and the commitment you displayed during your time as a Marine and since leaving our active ranks reflect the highest traditions and ethos of our Corps.

As a member of our Nation's "greatest generation," you answered our Nation's call with courage and devotion to duty. The spirit and fortitude you showed - especially as part of the invasions of the Gilbert Islands and Okinawa - played a key role in shaping the warrior ethos of our Corps. Marines serving throughout the world today take great pride in carrying on the illustrious legacy of valor, discipline, and steadfast fidelity you helped forge in battle. After leaving active duty, you remained faithful to our Corps and your fellow Marines. Through your 34 years with the 8th Defense/ Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion Reunion Association, your longstanding involvement in the Marine Corps League General Smedley D. Butler Detachment 741, and your invaluable contributions to raising funds on behalf of our wounded heroes, you truly epitomize our motto *Semper Fidelis*. As the "Last Man" of the 8th Defense/ Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion, you continue to represent all Marines who served in that battalion during World War II with utmost distinction.

On behalf of all Marines, I extend deepest gratitude for your service and your lifelong dedication to taking care of your fellow warriors. I hope you had an opportunity to enjoy celebrating the 244th birthday of our Corps, and I wish you the very best.

**David H. B
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps**

**Mr. George A. Boyajian
1209 Hollywood Ave., Apt. 7
Havertown, PA 19083**



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184

Newtown Square, PA19073-0184

Honor-Courage-Commitment



Next Meeting
7 January 2020, at 1930
Knights of Columbus
327 N. Newtown Street Rd.
(Route 252)
Newtown Square, PA 19073