



Scuttlebutt

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment
Incorporated 1991

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

1914 1915



Commandant Jim Flynn
Email: flynnelectric@yahoo.com

Volume XXX, Issue 6
August 2020

Dan Luty, editor

Commandant's Report August 2020

While time keeps passing us by, it appears the COVID virus is not. The Detachment is doing what we were all trained to do, improvise, and overcome. We have had to cancel some of our annual get-togethers such as the scholarship dinner and our summer picnic. We were able to kick off the 2020 HUHO Campaign, thanks to the relentless pursuit of locations by our Junior Vice Commandant, Jerry McGuckin. Despite the hard times many are experiencing, the donors have been generous. Contrary to what we see on the nightly news, it appears most people still believe in our great nation and are more than willing to help veterans in need. We can always use more help with HUHO. We have lost a lot of volunteers the last couple of years due to illnesses and death. It is tough calling on the same men and women each week to carry out this mission. Shifts are always available on Saturdays and Sundays, are 2 1/2 hours long, and can be both entertaining and rewarding. If you would like to Help Us Help Others, please contact Jerry McGuckin or myself.

The honor guard will be participating in 2 COVID19 delayed funerals for Detachment Members. On 31 July, John Haynal will be laid to rest. There will be a viewing and Funeral Mass starting at 1000 at Annunciation BVM Church in Havertown followed by burial at Saint Peter & Paul Cemetery. The following Friday, 7 August, there will be an Honor Guard ceremony for John Cook at Holy Cross Cemetery in Yeadon. Report time for this is 1145. Let us honor these two great men with a good turnout.

Please join us at our August General Meeting at The Knights of Columbus in Newtown Square on Tuesday, 4 August at 1930 hours. The Knights' Hall is large enough to spread out and keep a safe distance. Temperatures will be taken at the door and masks will be worn. If anyone needs a ride to the meeting or help of any kind, do not hesitate to ask. That is what we're here for.

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!

AUGUST BOOSTERS

Bud Davis
Joe Direso
Jim Flynn
Bill Inverso
Dominick Longhi
Dom Mattioni
Con McGinley
Gerald McGuckin
Bob Spano

Thank You Boosters!

Bob Spano

Paymaster

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

Birthday Greetings for August

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

Wayne Barner
Christopher Bush
Paul Donohue
Thomas Higgins
William Inverso
Norman Lynch
George McCaughan
Robert Paul
Wayne Williams



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	Dom D'Alessandro
Color Guard	Wayne Williams
Flag Collection	Dominic D'Alessandro
Historian	OPEN
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	Dominic D'Alessandro
Property	Bob Spano
Communications	John Burfete
Scholarships	Wayne Williams
Scouting	Ed Seidl
Toys-For-Tots	Paul Ferguson
V.A.V.S.	Jim Herbst & Claude Falcone
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

*****NOTE - SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS*****

August

- 4 MCL General Meeting at Knights of Columbus Hall, Rt. 252 in Newtown Square at 1930.
- 7 John Cook funeral, St. Louis Church, 821 Cobbs Creek Pkwy, Lansdowne, 1000.
- 25 Staff Meeting at Marple Memorial Post #805 at 1930.

September

- 1 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.

Other Organizations' Events (Cont'd.)

Delaware County Detachment MCL, Breakfast, 3rd Sun of the month (except Jun, Jul & Aug), 0800-1130, \$10.00/person. DELCO Detachment, Upland, PA.

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!!!

Veteran's Picnic: **CANCELLED**
Det. Birthday Ball: Saturday, 7 November
Toys4Tots Dinner: Tuesday, 1 December

Dominick Mattioni
610-692-4335

SICK CALL

John Burfete Earle Drake Paul Donahue	Joe Tier Rich Bortner
---------------------------------------------	--------------------------

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 July 2020

Commandant: Commandant Jim Flynn opened the meeting at 1930 and the regular opening ceremonies were conducted. Officers present were Commandant Jim Flynn, Senior Vice Commandant Dominick Mattioni, Junior Vice Commandant Jerry McGuckin, Judge Advocate Paul Ferguson (Absent), Paymaster Bob Spano, Adjutant Bud Davis, Chaplain Chris Bush, Service Officer Jim Herbst (Absent), Directors Paul Donohue, Ben Sides, Bill Kinney and Sergeant-at-Arms/Junior Past Commandant Dominic D'Alessandro (Absent).

Minutes: Ben Sides made a motion to accept the minutes of the **4 March 2020** (No meetings April, May or June) Detachment general meeting as published in the **Scuttlebutt**. Bill Kinney seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Annual Remembrance Ceremony: Each year the Detachment and Auxiliary membership usually pauses during the Detachment's May general meeting to remember and honor those members who have passed away in the past twelve months. The Detachment and Auxiliary members who have passed away during this period are: Bob Wells (5/19), Louis Camilli (6/19), Bob Cervino (8/19), Phil Bannan (9/19), James Ed Bailey (10/19), Peg Curley (2/20), John Haynal (4/20), John Cook (4/20), Hank Velardi (4/20) and Nancy Dodge (5/20). The Detachment and Auxiliary Officers and membership send out their thoughts and prayers to the families and friends of these past Detachment and Auxiliary members that are no longer with us.

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 letter from Sara Barstow of the newly formed **Semper Fi & America's Fund**. "We have a new name and logo. We have combined the Semper Fi Fund and America's Fund to create the Semper Fi & America's Fund. This change reflects a more inclusive brand that we hope will resonate with all of our service members and valued donors, regardless of which service they are affiliated with." Sara also wanted to thank the Detachment membership for providing over \$225,000 since 2007. Bud reminded the Detachment members that if anyone cannot make a staff/general meeting and has a report/news they would like in the **Scuttlebutt** to please forward them to him or Dan Luty. Bud's email: **CBJDAVIS@COMCAST.NET**

Senior Vice Commandant: Dominick Mattioni reported he has the dates for the annual Detachment events scheduled and posted in the **Scuttlebutt**. If any Detachment member has suggestions for any of these events, please contact Dominick. Dominick discussed the annual **Combined Veterans Alliance** picnic scheduled for **22 August**. It was decided by the Detachment membership and the Auxiliary to cancel the picnic for this year. This November will be the **Detachments 30-year anniversary**, if anyone has suggested on a celebration/honoring of this event, please share with the Detachment.

Junior Vice Commandant: Jerry McGuckin mentioned that he is working on the **Help Us Help Others (HUHO) Campaign** schedule. The season will kick off the weekend of **18 July** and the Detachment will be at Shop Rite of West Chester and the Shop Rite of Brookhaven the weekend of **25 July**. Jerry has also been in contact with Acme Markets, and currently they are not allowing any collecting events. He is also waiting to hear back from WAWA. Any questions or ideas about the program should be directed to Jerry.

Paymaster: Bob Spano provided the Paymaster's report as of **30 June 2020**, reviewing income and disbursements for the month. Bob reported that no funds would be made available to any charitable organizations at this time. This was discussed at the recent Detachment staff meeting, and the Detachment membership will be updated monthly. Paul Donohue made a motion to accept the Paymaster's Report as received. Bill Kinney seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Judge Advocate: Paul Ferguson (Absent), no report.

Sgt. - At - Arms: Dominic D'Alessandro(Absent), no report

Chaplain: Chris Bush mentioned he spoke with several members of the Detachment and their families. Chris asked the Detachment members to keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers. Chris asked that if any Detachment member knows of someone that is ill or needs help to please contact him.

Director/Newtown Twp Vets Park: Bill Kinney reported that the **Freedom Medal Dinner** scheduled for November 2020 has been canceled. The new date will be 18 November 2021. Bill also reported on a **Welcome Home for the Holidays** event schedule **12 December**. This event is being planned by "Visit Delco". Bill will have further information as the event gets closer. It was also reported that the kiosks at the **DCVMA** will remain covered and closed until further notice.

Director/Honor Guard Sides: Ben Sides gave the report for the Honor Guard. They participated in 2 funerals for veterans for the month of June. Total year to date for 2020 is 31 funerals. Ben mentioned that the Honor Guard could use help. Anyone who can volunteer their time to the Honor Guard it would be greatly appreciated. Ben also stated that any Detachment member who would like to take over the Honor Guard program to please contact him. Ben is willing to help bring that individual up to speed.

Director Donohue: Paul Donohue had no official report but did talk about Detachment members that were not doing well. Paul stated that he stays in contact with these members and asked that the Detachment membership keep them in their prayers.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Jim Flynn reported that the first of four clean ups were held on **14 June**. Jim thanked the members and their family for a great turn out. Jim reminded members that if they are interested in participating in any clean up, the meeting time is around 0830 at the Wolff Company parking lot on Bishop Hollow Road. All supplies are provided for this event. After the cleanup, Jim Flynn the Adopt-a-Highway Chairman provides coffee and donuts.

Americanism: Earle Drake (Absent), no report.

Auxiliary Liaison: It was reported that the Ladies Auxiliary will be announcing their Nomination Committee during their July general meeting.

Awards: Jim Herbst (Absent), no report.

Ceremonies: Dominic D'Alessandro (Absent), no report.

Color Guard: Wayne Williams reported due to the country shut down the Color Guard has been on a well-deserved break. Wayne did state that they are ready when needed.

Flag Collection: There are five **Flag Collection Boxes** in Marple/Newtown Townships. The location of these Flag Collection Boxes is the American Legion Post #805, Marple Township Building, Marple Veterans Park, Newtown Township Building and the Delaware County Veterans Memorial. Detachment members may also bring unserviceable flags to a Detachment staff/general meeting for Dominic D'Alessandro to collect.

Historian: POSITION OPEN, this very important position is available to any Detachment member. If someone would like to step up and take on the duties of Historian, please contact Commandant Jim Flynn.

Home Association: Bob Spano, no report.

Marksmanship: Gene Kern (Absent), per email Gene mentioned that he will be looking for shooters (pistol) for an upcoming event. More details will be made available as Gene receives them.

Membership: RECRUIT - RECRUIT - RECRUIT
Detachment members please keep looking for new members. We need to continue to fill our ranks to participate in the many events the Detachment is involved in throughout the year. Also, if you have not been to a meeting lately make a note and stop by the next one.

Newsletter: If Detachment members have articles/photos for the **Scuttlebutt**, please direct them to Dan Luty by the 15th of the month.

Property: Bob Spano reported that progress is being made. Bob also reminded members that they can support the **Scuttlebutt** newsletter by becoming a monthly booster.

Communications: John Burfete (Absent), John through email shares with the Detachment membership many MCL events and news that are going on not only locally but nationally in the Marine Corps League.

Scholarships: Wayne Williams mentioned that he has the **National MCL Scholarship** forms, these forms are **due by 13 July**. If any Detachment member needs a copy, please contact Wayne. These forms can also be printed from the National MCL Scholarship website. Wayne also stated that the Detachment has 10 scholarship applicants and asked the Detachment to approve all applicants. Wayne read the names of the students and after a brief discussion all 10 were approved. The students are Katherine Combs, Kimberly Donohue, Maura Kern, John Cawley, Justine Davis, Jordan Connor, Madeline Werndl, Alex Rendon, Christopher Milliken and Ava Dodge. It was decided at the Detachment staff meeting that for 2020 the sponsors for the applicants would be mailed the Scholarship funds since the spring dinner was canceled.

Scouting: Ed Seidl reported through email that all Scouting ceremonies have been on hold since March. As of June 30th scouting in Pennsylvania continues to meet virtually. Scouting summer camps are also not operating. Ed did report that Eagle Scout projects may continue under certain guidelines.

Toys-For-Tots: Paul Ferguson (Absent), no report.

VAVS/SERVICE OFFICER: Jim Herbst/Claude Falcone (Absent), no report.

Unfinished Business: Dues (Reminder) under the program instituted by National MCL, for regular/associate members, excluding Life members, are **due on or before 31 August** of each year. If you need to pay your dues, please remit **\$30** to Paymaster Bob Spano so that your membership will not be interrupted.

Make checks payable to: MCL #741

Send to: Bob Spano

1528 Honeysuckle Court West Chester, PA 19380-4287

New Business:

1. **National Convention**, 9 – 14 August at Daytona Beach Florida.
2. **Department of PA Convention**, 15 – 17 October at Indiantown Gap Pa.
3. **Dept Winter 2021 Meeting**, 15-16 January at New Cumberland Pa.

If any Detachment member is interested in attending one of these events, please contact Bob Spano or Bud Davis for further details.

Good of the League: Each year in April the Smedley Butler Detachment awards a Villanova University NROTC midshipman with the Detachment's **Gung Ho Award**. This year's award went to **Midshipman I/C Michael Corbett**, USMCR. Midshipman Corbett studied business management at Villanova along with excelling as a leader in the NROTC program mentoring underclass midshipman. He surpassed expectations during his time with Villanova NROTC and his outstanding performance made him an ideal candidate for our Gung Ho Award this year. Because no spring classes were held at Villanova this year, the Detachment decided to mail Midshipman I/C Michael Corbett his well deserved award.

Charitable Contributions: Bob Spano notified the Detachment membership that all veterans and charitable donations will be suspended until further notice due to the lack of fund raising at this time. A month to month review of this policy will be talked about at the Detachment staff meeting. All members are welcome to attend this meeting on the last Tuesday of the month at 1930.

Commandant Jim Flynn asked for a motion to adjourn. Bob Spano made a motion and Wayne Williams seconded and the motion passed. After the regular closing ceremonies, the Detachment general meeting for July was adjourned at 2010.

Logbook:

Members: 15

Guests: 0

50/50 Winner: Jim Flynn

Respectfully submitted,

Bud Davis III

Adjutant



SERGEANT MAJOR OF THE MARINE CORPS

MEMORANDUM



Ball Celebration Memo 24 July 2020

SEPAC MEMO 01-20

What Matters Most. Marines, unique to the Marine Corps is how we celebrate the legacy and history of our Corps; specifically, the Marine Corps Birthday. With the fall comes the time to intentionally reflect and focus on what is most important to us as Marines. We do this wherever we are in the world and in every operational state. This year, that state likely will be in one of a global pandemic.

First, we must continue to train, to fight in order that we continue to win! Leaders are trusted to ensure safety of training, pandemic or no. Second, we must maintain our long legacy and traditions as the world's finest fighting force. One of our most cherished traditions is the celebration of the birth of the Corps. Under normal circumstances, this time of year sees commands all over the Marine Corps well into the planning of their Marine Corps Ball ceremonies. The planning consists of looking for formal occasion venues that offer dinner, dancing, and the space to celebrate with our fellow Marines, friends, spouses, and significant others. We relish "going big" and making a grand celebration of the founding of our Corps. Like you, I enjoy these occasions, and look forward to when we are not challenged by COVID mitigation measures such as travel restrictions, social distancing, and size restrictions on gatherings.

Although health protection measures may alter this year's festivities, the most meaningful aspects will remain untouched. Allow me to share with you my most memorable marking of our birthday. In 2005, I was a 1stSgt in G Company, 2d Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment conducting combat operations in Iraq. On the evening of November 10th, a week into offensive operations, my company commander and I patrolled through the streets of Husabayah to each platoon's defensive position. We had a small formation with each platoon, we cut an MRE Pound Cake, we presented a piece to the oldest and youngest Marine in the platoon, and we read General Lejeune's Birthday Message. We did all this by flashlight. As we spent the night moving from position to position, I was reminded of what is most unique and most important to us as a Corps, that is: being with Marines, accomplishing the mission, and staying true to our customs and courtesies, even in the midst of our shared adversity.

I would ask that no matter the situation, no matter the restrictions, we ensure that we mark the occasion of the birth of our Corps. Although many celebrations this year will be conducted differently, we still have the opportunity and obligation to do what Marines all over the world have done in years past - recognize the birth of our Corps no matter where we are and no matter what we are doing.

Lastly, I ask that each unit and command maintain the required safety measures when determining how you will celebrate the birth of our Corps. Remember, the only required elements are a troop formation (it can be a socially distanced one), recognition of the oldest and youngest Marine, cutting of a traditional cake, and reading of General Lejeune's birthday message.

Be safe, be wise, and always, TRAIN TO FIGHT AND WIN!

Mission First, Marines Always,

TROY E. BLACK



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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

Honor-Courage-Commitment



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