



LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636

Marine Corps League Of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Commandant: ROBERT A. SUNDLING

Editor: DON H. GEE

VOLUME XV, Number 4

APRIL 2003



**CENTRAL BUCKS
DETACHMENT, Inc. #636
P. O. Box 1372
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372
Meets
7:30 p.m.
2nd Wednesday of Month
American Legion Post 210
315 North Street, Doylestown, PA**

**Sr. VICE COMMANDANT
WILLIAM R. MILLER**

**Jr. VICE COMMANDANT
DONALD D. PARZANEZE Jr.**

**ADJUTANT
GARY SMITH**

**PAYMASTER
ROBERT J. CODY**

**JUDGE ADVOCATE
BOB MOMORELLA**

**QUARTERMASTER
ROBERT DUFF**

**CHAPLAIN
BUDD PEARCE, PC**

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
DENNIS STANISLAW**

**MESS SERGEANT
WIL HAAS**

**WEBMASTER
JAMES E. PEARCE**

**MARINE OF THE YEAR
ELLIS M. "BUDD" PEARCE, PC**

23rd Commandant Dies in Virginia

General Wallace M. Greene, Jr., the 23rd Commandant of the Marine Corps, died March 10 in McLean, VA. He was 95. He served as Marine Corps Commandant from Jan. 1, 1964, until his retirement from active duty on Dec. 31, 1967.

Born on Dec. 27, 1907, in Waterbury, VT, he was graduated from high school in Burlington, VT, then attended the University of Vermont for a year before entering the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD. Upon graduation from the Naval Academy on June 5, 1930, he was commissioned a Marine Second Lieutenant and ordered to Marine Officers Basic School at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

After completing Basic School in June 1931, Lt. Greene served for a year at the Marine Barracks, Navy Yard, Portsmouth, NH.

During July 1932, he completed the Sea School at San Diego, CA, and joined the Marine Detachment aboard the battleship USS TENNESSEE.

Returning from Sea Duty in March 1934, he served briefly at Pensacola, FL, and Quantico, VA, before reporting to the Marine Barracks, Naval Air Station, Lakehurst, NJ, that November. He was promoted to First Lieutenant the same month.

Except for a temporary assignment at Edgewood Arsenal in Maryland, where he completed a course at the Chemical Warfare School, he remained at Lakehurst until March 1936.

After that, he served at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, until he sailed for Guam in October 1936. He was stationed there until June 1937, when he embarked for Shanghai, China, to join the 4th Marine Regiment.

During September 1937, the 4th Marines became part of the 2nd Marine Brigade and he was promoted to Captain.



Gen. WALLACE M. GREENE, Jr.

(See Gen. GREENE, Page 7)

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

This is the last column of my tour as Detachment Commandant. I was reluctant to take this position at first, but after a couple of months I really enjoyed it.

I'm stepping down due to working two jobs and not having the time to put in that I feel the position requires. I'd like to give it another shot in the future if you guys will have me.

I'd like to thank everyone for their support this past year. And a special thanks to two guys I called on for advice on many occasions – you know who you are!

I would encourage anyone to attend the Leadership School at Ft. Indiantown Gap. Even if you don't plan to run for office, it's very informational and was a lot of fun.

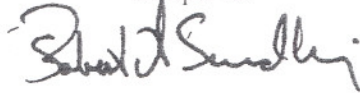
I know that a couple of weeks go by between our newsletter and the meeting but please try to bring a little something

to send to the troops. My wife, Peggy, is really committed to keeping this program going. It gets expensive when only the same two guys bring items to the meeting and I'm not upping Peggy's allowance!! Just try to remember how you felt when you were away from home. We have to let our troops know we support them – like with beef jerky, Tastykakes, hard candy, gum, etc. (hint, hint). Also, the paperback supply has run low if you have any around that you think they might enjoy, but paperbacks only please – hardbacks just up the postage!!

Please keep our guys overseas in your hearts and prayers.

See you at the next meeting on April 9th!

Semper Fi!



AGNES HAAS SUCCUMBS TO CANCER

Agnes Haas, wife of Marine Wil Haas, died peacefully in her sleep on Monday, Mar. 24, after a long, brave battle with cancer. She was 69.

Married to Wil for the past 49 years, Agnes was born in Baltimore City, MD, and was a 1953 graduate of Catholic High School of Baltimore.

She had been employed by Pennsbury School District for 19 years until retiring in 1988, first as a secretary and then as a teacher's aide working with learning disabled children. Previously, she worked as a secretary for several lawyers.

Agnes was a member of St. Agnes Catholic Church, Sellersville. She was an active member and past secretary of the Church's Silver & Gold Club.

Agnes loved traveling with Wil across the United States and Canada. She enjoyed the changing seasons, especially fall and spring. An avid reader, she loved flowers, gardening and skiing.

In addition to Wil, she is survived by a son, Frank X. Haas and his wife, Melissa, of Wycombe; three daughters, Margaret M. Gunderson and her husband, John, of Winter Spring, FL; Helen A. Pierzga and her husband, Thomas, of Fairless Hills; and Donna M. Barnish and her husband, William, of Hilltown; eight grandchildren; two sisters; and a sister-in-law.

Family and friends are invited to attend her funeral Mass at 10 a.m. on Friday, Mar. 28, in St. Agnes Catholic Church, 445 N. Main St., Sellersville. Interment will be in St. John Neumann Cemetery, County Line Rd., Warrington Township.

A viewing will be held on Thursday, Mar. 27, at the Bernard Sues Funeral Home, 606 Arch St., Perkasie, PA [Ph: (215) 257-2144], from 7-8:30 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Agnes School Library, 395 N. Main St., Sellersville, PA 18960, the Fox Chase Cancer Center, 7701 Burholme Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111 or Doylestown Hospice, 595 W. State St., Doylestown, PA 18901.

We're Looking for a Few Good Marines

Marines,

Since I will be filling the position of Commandant for the coming year I am going to need some help.

There are several appointed positions in the Detachment that I would really like to see filled with some new faces.

If you have been in the Detachment for any period of time and have attended a few meetings, then you are qualified to help out. The following jobs need to be done, so think it over and call me as soon as possible, but before the April Meeting at home (215) 343-5609 or on my cell phone (215)262-2015. We need a Chaplain, a Sgt.-at-Arms and, depend-

ing on the availability of Wil Haas, we might need a Mess Sgt. Or at least an Assistant.

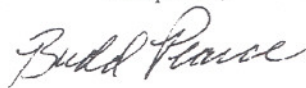
I am looking forward to seeing new people get involved in the operation of this Detachment. We have some new people joining and it is important that they get involved.

The best way to get the new members involved is for the present members to re-involve themselves and set the type of example that this Detachment has been setting for years.

Our reputation as a close knit group of Marines is known throughout the Dept. of PA and every member should be proud to be a part of the Central Bucks Detachment. Come to the meetings and the activities of the Detachment and show your pride by becoming more active.

Do it; make yourself feel good!

Semper Fi,



Budd Pearce

LISTEN UP!

LISTEN UP! is the internal information publication of the CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636, Inc. of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc. It is published monthly by and for the members of the Central Bucks Detachment.

Highlights

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held March 12, 2003, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 22 members in attendance including all officers except the Sergeant-at-Arms. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Don Parzanese Sr., and Frank Yohe; Past Commandant of the Department of New Jersey Ed Hoth; and Past Commandant and Marine of the Year Budd Pearce.** **Marine Mike Waldron's** daughter was a guest.

The Minutes of the February Meeting were unanimously accepted.

The Paymaster's Report was delivered by **Paymaster Bob Cody.** The report was unanimously accepted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Bob Sundling reported receiving a card from St. Paul's Lutheran Church thanking the Detachment for remembering Herb Krout. He announced the Department Leadership School will be held on Saturday, May 3. He also reported the National Marine Corps League Convention will be held in Spokane, WA, Aug. 3-9, and that the Marine Corps League has started a program to get former members back into the League.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Miller reported the Detachment strength at 60 members including 40 regular members, 16 life members and 4 associate members. There are 6 delinquent members. He also reported there will be a "Support Our Troops Rally" at Valley Forge on Mar. 16.

Junior Vice Commandant Don Parzanese Jr. reminded the members about the Department Raffle and asked the membership to give him any suggestions for this year's Birthday Ball.

Adjutant Gary Smith read correspondence related to the Spring Meeting and the Department of Pennsylvania Convention.

Judge Advocate Bob Momorella reported the Detachment had no legal problems.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adopt-A-Highway--Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Budd Pearce, PC, reminded the members the date for the highway clean-up was Saturday, Mar. 15. Marines taking part were to meet at Tilley's Restaurant for breakfast at 8 a.m.

Public Relations--The Public Relations Officer set Mar. 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the April issue of **Listen Up!**

Young Marines--Young Marines Liaison Bob Sundling reported on the unit's weekend aboard the battleship USS NEW JERSEY and the unit's Cold Weather Survival training on the Appalachian Trail.

A-Day Parking--A-Day Parking Coordinator Bob Momorella reminded the members that A-Day will take place the last weekend in April. He will have more information at the April Meeting.

Grocery Receipts--Genuardis Receipts Coordinator Don Parzanese Sr., PC, explained the new system being used by Genuardis (see clip-out form, Page 8). Simply complete the store's form and mail it in and the Detachment will automatically receive a percentage of your receipt each time you shop and use your Genuardis card.

Rifle & Pistol Team--Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Bill Rosenberger reported the Department Pistol Match is set for the last weekend in May and that the Detachment Team is always looking for new members.

Advertising--Advertising Coordinator Bob Momorella reminded the members to start renewing ads for **Listen Up!** The current advertisers expire with the April issue.

Nominating Committee--Committee Chair, Junior Past Commandant Budd Pearce, reported the slate of officers recommended by the Committee. Those nominated were: **Budd Pearce** for Commandant, **Bill Miller** for Senior Vice Commandant, **Don Parzanese Jr.** for Junior Vice Commandant, **Bill Jerome** for Judge Advocate, Gary Smith for Adjutant, and **Bob Cody** for Paymaster.

NEW BUSINESS

Election--Detachment Adjutant Gary Smith cast a single vote (signifying unanimous vote) for the slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee. The newly elected officers will be installed at the April Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9.



Presidential Memorial Certificates available from Department of Veterans Affairs

The Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased veterans who have not been convicted of a capital crime.

This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by all subsequent Presidents. Statutory authority for the program is Section 112, Title 38, of the United States Code.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers the PMC program by preparing the certificates which bear the President's signature expressing the country's grateful recognition of the veteran's service in the United States Armed Forces.

Eligible recipients include the deceased veteran's next of kin and loved ones. More than one certificate may be provided. Eligible recipients, or someone

acting on their behalf, may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail only. Requests cannot be sent via email. All requests must be in writing. There is no form to use when requesting a PMC however, a copy of the veteran's discharge and death certificate must be included with the request. These documents will not be returned. You can Fax your request and supporting documents to (202) 565-8054 or mail it to: Presidential Memorial Certificates (402E12), National Cemetery Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420-0001.

If you have any questions about a certificate you have received, a request you have already sent in, or about the program in general, you may call (202) 565-4964 or email: PMC@mail.va.gov.

[Source: www.cem.va.gov/pmc.htm 11 DEC 02]

Department of Veterans Affairs pays Insurance Dividends

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced its distribution of more than \$568 million in dividends to 1.5 million active policyholders of veterans life insurance.

Over the next year, veterans will receive the payments on the anniversary date of their policies, with the specific dividend amount varying according to age, type of insurance and length of time the policy has been in force. Recipients will automatically receive their annual dividend through one of the nine payment options they have selected in advance.

For current active-duty service members and reservists covered by Service members' Group Life Insurance, no dividend is paid. Dividends cover only veterans with government life insurance policies who served between 1917 and 1956. Veterans of subsequent eras are covered by government insurance programs that do not pay dividends. Only those with policies that have been kept in force when premiums were required are eligible for the payout.

Inaccurate stories periodically surface suggesting that those who have not maintained insur-

ance are eligible for a special distribution if they contact VA, but this is false. Dividends are automatically sent to eligible policyholders.

The largest group receiving 2003 payments will be 1.3 million veterans of World War II with National Service Life Insurance ("V") policies. Total payments are expected to reach \$461.5 million. Dividends totaling \$2.2 million will be paid to the 12,499 veterans holding U.S. Government Life Insurance ("K") policies. Some 206,367 veterans who have maintained Veterans Special Life Insurance ("RS" and "W") policies can expect to receive dividends totaling \$88 million.

Veterans who hold Veterans Reopened Insurance ("J", "JR" and "JS") policies, currently numbering 57,048, will share a \$17.2 million dividend.

Although VA also administers a special life insurance program for disabled veterans and a program offering mortgage life insurance coverage, neither pays dividends.

Veterans who have questions about their policy may call the VA Insurance number: 1-800-669-8477, or can send their email to: VAinsurance@vba.va.gov <<mailto:VAinsurance@vba.va.gov>>. [Source: VA News Release dtd 10 DEC 02]

Reasons to File VA Disability Claim

It is most important that a veteran file a disability claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs to service connect those disabilities, diseases, or injuries or residuals thereof, which were incurred in or aggravated by military service. Compensation is payable to any veteran with a service connected disability rated (10) percent or more, provided that his/her service was under conditions other than dishonorable. Although there is no time limit for filing a VA claim, it should be done at the time of separation or as soon thereafter as possible. Following are some of the reasons a veteran should file a VA compensation claim:

1. Compensation is payable to a veteran for service-connected disabilities rated from 10% to 100%, with additional amounts for statutory awards or certain multiple disabilities plus additional amounts for dependents when a veteran is rated 30% or more.

2. VA compensation is not subject to Federal or State taxes.
3. Many states have special programs and benefits for veterans with service-connected disabilities.
4. Filing a disability claim establishes a VA file, which will help expedite other claims and applications, which may be filed at a later date.
5. VA will consider a rating for all disabilities diagnosed and treated during military service, when such disabilities are included within the claim.
6. If a service-connected disability worsens, VA will reconsider the rating upon receipt of medical evidence showing an increase in severity.
7. Certain chronic and tropical diseases have presumptive periods ranging from 1 to 40 years. Service-connection may be granted if diagnosed within the proper period and rated to a compensable degree of at least 10%.

8. If service-connected disabilities rated at 60% or above and unemployable, the veteran may be rated 100% by VA.

9. If a veteran is hospitalized for 21 days or more or undergoes major surgery for service-connected disabilities, he/she is entitled to a temporary 100% rating during the period of hospitalization and/or convalescence.

10. Certain severe disability conditions, e.g., blindness, paraplegia, loss of limbs, carry special VA ratings and payments.

11. VA pays an annual clothing allowance to veterans whose prosthetic devices or service-connected disabilities tend to wear or tear their clothing.

12. A service-connected disability rating provides preference points for State and Federal employment under certain conditions.

13. Retirees with service-connected disabilities may waive the net amount of VA compensation from military retired pay for federal income tax purposes.

14. Educational benefits are available to the spouse and other dependents (to include dependent parents) of a veteran who dies as the result of a service-connected disability, regardless of the rating percentage.

15. DIC and Educational benefits are payable to eligible survivors of veterans rated totally disabled by VA from service-connected disabilities continuously for ten years preceding death, or rated totally disabled on retirement and for the following five years, regardless of the cause of the veteran's death.

16. A veteran with a service-connected disability is eligible for a maximum of \$10,000 of National Service Life Insurance (NSLI). A totally disabled veteran is eligible for a maximum of \$20,000 of National Service Life Insurance (RH).

17. Premiums for NSLI may be waived by VA Insurance Center if the veteran is considered totally disabled and this condition has existed six months or more prior to the 65th birthday.

18. Veterans rated 10% or more service-connected and in need of training may apply for Vocational Rehabilitation Training (Chapter 31).

19. Outpatient dental care is authorized for veterans rated 100% service-connected, including those rated 100% due to unemployability.

20. Veterans (not retired military which are eligible for full ID card benefits) rated 100% service-connected and their dependents are eligible for military ID cards (commissary and exchange privileges). Dependents may also be eligible for CHAMPVA benefits.

21. Payment of burial benefits up to \$2,000 if a veteran dies from service-connected disability; or up to \$600 if the veteran was in receipt of VA compensation at the time of death and death is rated as non-service connected.

22. Filing a claim and establishing service-connected disabilities provide advantages in obtaining medical care at VA expense. These advantages include:

a. Instant proof of eligibility for medical care, thereby expediting the receipt of treatment.

b. Establishes eligibility for treatment of nonservice-connected disabilities on a space-available basis at VA hospitals and clinics.

c. If rated 50% or more for service-connected disabilities, may be treated for all nonservice-connected disabilities.

d. Retirees may use both VA and military medical facilities for care.

e. The VA may pay for emergency hospitalization in private

facilities for service-connected disabilities if VA facilities are not available. The VA medical facility of jurisdiction should be notified within 72 hours of admission to the private facility.

f. The VA may pay for outpatient medical treatment from private doctors for any service-connected disability, and for all disabilities if the veteran is rated 50% or more for service-connected disabilities, if the veteran resides outside a certain miles radius, which is determined by the nearest VA medical facility.

g. The VA furnishes free of

charge medicines required for treatment of service-connected disabilities, and for all disabilities if the veteran is rated 50% or more for service-connected disabilities.

h. Prosthetic appliances and services are available at VA expense for eligible veterans.

i. Medical care is provided for any condition while a Veteran is enrolled in Vocational Rehabilitation Training (Chapter 31).

[Source: Military Service Coalition Newsletter NOV 02]

Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs

CHAMPVA is the VA version of Tricare Standard. The VA shares with eligible beneficiaries the cost of covered health care services and supplies. Due to the similarity between CHAMPVA [administered by the VA] and CHAMPUS [administered by DoD] the two programs are easily and often mistaken for each other. Only the CHAMPVA Center, PO BOX 65023, Denver CO 80206-5023 is authorized to process applications, determine eligibility, authorize benefits, and process claims. Veterans can speak to a benefits counselor from 0900-1330 and from 1430-1700 EST at [800] 733-8387

The VA Outpatient Clinic, Manila is now authorized to provide medical care to CHAMPVA eligible beneficiaries on an outpatient basis. However, this care must be administered at the clinic and will not be provided through the Fee-Basis Care Program. The benefit of obtaining care from the clinic is that the cost to the patient will be limited to travel only. The VA will absorb the cost of pharmaceuticals and medical care. If you have any questions contact the VA Clinic Coordinator at (202) 833-4566 to 69 Ext. 201.

Eligibility - Those eligible for CHAMPVA benefits, providing they are not eligible for CHAMPUS or Medicare Part A as a result of reaching the age of 65 are:

- The spouse or child of a veteran who has been rated by a VA regional office as having permanent and total service-connected disability.

- The surviving spouse or child of a veteran who died as a result of a VA rated service-connected condition(s); or who at the time of death, was rated permanently and totally disabled from a service-connected condition(s).

- The surviving spouse or child of a person who died in the line of duty and not due to misconduct within 30 days of entry into active military service.

- Surviving spouses who remarried after age 55. There is a 1-year open season from date of enactment of the Veterans Benefits Act of 2002 for otherwise eligible spouses to apply for benefits. Effective date is 60 days after enactment of Act.

Note: Survivors of USAFFEE, Guerrillas and New Scouts are not eligible for CHAMPVA. Survivors of Filipinos with US service are eligible for CHAMP-



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7. Certain chronic and tropical diseases have presumptive periods ranging from 1 to 40 years. Service-connection may be granted if diagnosed within the proper period and rated to a compensable degree of at least 10%.

With this unit, Capt. Greene was commended for his performance of duty during the Sino-Japanese hostilities during 1937 and 1938 while attached to the defense forces of the International Settlement. Upon his return from China in August 1939, he entered the Junior Course, Marine Corps Schools, Quantico. He completed the course in May 1940, then took command of the 1st Chemical Company, 1st Marine Brigade, sailing with it in October for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. While there, the Brigade was redesignated the 1st Marine Division.

Returning with his unit in April 1941, Capt. Greene served at Quantico and New River (now Camp Lejeune), NC, as Assistant Operations Officer, 1st Marine Division. In November 1941, he was ordered to London, England, as a Special Naval Observer. During that assignment, he attended the British Amphibious Warfare School at Inverary, Scotland, and the Poyal Engineer Demolitions School at Ripon, York, England. He was promoted to Major in January 1942, and returned to the United States the following month.

Named Assistant Chief of Staff (G-3), for the 3rd Marine Brigade in March 1942, Maj. Greene sailed with the brigade for Upolu, Western Samoa, the following month. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in August 1942, and remained on Samoa until November 1943 when he joined the V Amphibious Corps in Hawaii.

For outstanding service as Assistant Chief of Staff (G-3), Tactical Group One, during the planning and execution of the Marshall Islands invasions, LtCol. Greene was awarded his first Legion of Merit with Combat "V." Following the disbanding of the group in March 1944, he joined the 2nd Marine Division as G-3, earning a second Legion of Merit for outstanding service in this capacity prior to and during combat on Saipan and Tinian. He remained with the Division until his return to the States in September 1944.

In October 1944, LtCol. Greene was appointed Officer-in-Charge, G-3 Operations, Division of Plans and Policies, Headquarters Marine Corps. He held

that post until July 1945, then served as Executive Officer, Special Services to Little Creek, VA, as G-3, Troop Training Unit, Amphibious Training Command, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. While there he was promoted to Colonel in February 1948, with rank from August 1947.

Detached from Little Creek in June 1948, Col. Greene reported to Pearl Harbor that August as G-3, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific. He returned from that assignment in June 1950, and for the next two years was Chief of the Combined Arms Section, MCS, Quantico. He also served briefly as Chief of the Coordination and Evaluation Section there, before entering the National War College, Washington, in August 1952. He was graduated in June 1953 and the following month became Staff Special Assistant to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for National Security Council Affairs. Prior to his departure from Washington, he was promoted to Brigadier General on Sept. 1, 1955.

Later that month, Gen. Greene assumed duties as Assistant Commander, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune. In May 1956, he was transferred to MCRD, Parris Island, SC, where he served as Commanding General, Recruit Training Command, until March 1957, when he became Commanding General of the Recruit depot. That July, he became Commanding General of the Marine Corps Base at Camp Lejeune.

In January 1958, Gen. Greene reported to headquarters Marine Corps as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3. While serving in this capacity, he was promoted to Major General in August 1958. Following this assignment, he served from March through December 1959 as Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans). On Jan. 1, 1960, he was designated Chief of Staff, with the rank of Lieutenant General.

He was nominated to be the 23rd Commandant by **President John F. Kennedy**. On Jan. 1, 1964, he was promoted to four-star General upon assuming the office of Commandant of the Marine Corps.

A complete list of the General's medals and decorations include: two Distinguished Service Medals, two Legion

of Merits, the Navy Unit Commendation, the China Service Medal, the American defense Service Medal with base clasp, the European-African-Middle East Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three battle stars, the American Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and two National Defense Service Medals. He was also awarded the Order of the Cloud and Banner, Grand Cordon, by the Republic of China; the Order of service Merit, First Class, by the Republic of Korea; the Brazilian Order of Naval Merit, Grand Official, from Brazil; and the National Order of Vietnam, 3rd Class, from the Republic of Vietnam.

He was buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery.

Say What?

1. WILL THE REAL DUMMY PLEASE STAND UP?

AT&T fired President John Walter after nine months, saying he lacked intellectual leadership. He received a \$26 million severance package. Perhaps it's not Walter who's lacking intelligence.

2. WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS:

Police in Oakland, CA, spent two hours attempting to subdue a gunman who had barricaded himself inside his home. After firing 10 tear-gas canisters, officers discovered that the man was standing beside them in the police line, shouting, "Please come out and give yourself up."

3. WHAT WAS PLAN B???

An Illinois man, pretending to have a gun, kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to two different automated teller machines, wherein the kidnapper proceeded to withdraw money from his own bank accounts.

4. THE GETAWAY!

A man walked into a Topeka, KS, Kwik Stop, and asked for all the money in the cash drawer. Apparently, the take was too small, so he tied up the store clerk and worked the counter himself for three hours until police showed up and grabbed him.

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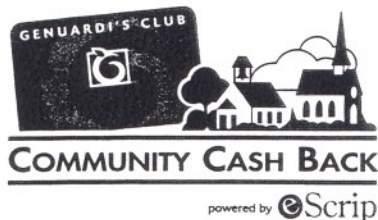
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When God Made Pennsylvania

Once upon a time in the Kingdom of Heaven, God was missing for six days.

Eventually, Michael the archangel found him, resting on the seventh day.

He inquired of God, "Where have you been?"

God sighed a deep sigh of satisfaction and proudly pointed downwards through the clouds, "Look Michael, look what I've made."

Archangel Michael looked puzzled and said, "What is it?"

"It's a planet," replied God, "and I've put Life on it. I'm going to call it Earth and it's going to be a great place of balance."

"Balance?" inquired Michael, still confused.

God explained, pointing to different parts of earth,

"For example, northern Europe will be a place of great opportunity and wealth while southern Europe is going to be poor; the Middle East over there will be a hot spot. Over there I've placed a continent of white people and over there is a continent of black people,"

God continued, pointing to different countries. "This one will be extremely hot and arid while this one will be very cold and covered in ice."

The Archangel, impressed by God's work, then pointed to a large land mass and said, "What's that one?"

"Ah," said God. "That's PENNSYLVANIA, the most glorious place on earth. There are beautiful lakes, rivers, sunsets and rolling hills. The people from PENNSYLVANIA are going to be modest, intelligent and humorous and they are going to be found traveling the world. They will be extremely sociable, hard working and high achieving, and they will be known throughout the world as diplomats and carriers of peace."

Michael gasped in wonder and admiration but then, asked "What about balance, God?" "You said there would be balance!"

God replied wisely, "Wait until you see the idiots I'm putting around them in New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia and Ohio."

[Submitted by Bill Quigley, LtCol., USMC (Ret)]

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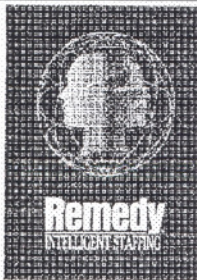
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