

LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT

#636

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

VOLUME XXV, Number 8

AUGUST 2012

Commandant: JOSEPH M. KIER

Editor: DON H. GEE

Legion Post Receives Generous Gift from Baseball 'Family'

On the 4th of July the Doylestown Legion Baseball "family" made a \$10,000.00 donation to the Albert R Atkinson Jr. Post 210 Legion Veterans.

This donation is a gift of gratitude from a former Legion baseball player's family and the donor is contributing the generous amount in order to highlight the many good things that the American Legion does in support of the baseball team players and veterans in need of assistance. The donor does not want to be recognized or to have the limelight to fall on him so he has asked the Team to make the donation.

The donation was made at the July 4th Support the Troops Day baseball game. The presentation was made by former player and present Marine, **Matthew Ponente** and soon to be United States Merchant Marine, **Ben Tracy**, presently a pitcher on the squad. Tracy will be leaving the team after this game to start his USMMA training.

The players have always displayed a great deal of support for veterans and this has fostered a much greater understanding of the world around

Please see **GIFT**, Page 4

Database To Track Medals Planned

The Pentagon plans to establish a searchable database of military valor awards and medals, hoping for a technological fix to the problem of people getting away with lying about earning military honors.

Pentagon Press Secretary George Little said details have yet to be worked out, but the intention is to have a digital repository of records on a range of valor awards and medals going back as far in history as possible.

The move is in response to a June 28 Supreme Court ruling that invalidated a law making it a crime to lie about receiving the Medal of Honor and other military decorations. An authoritative database would make it easier to check on award claims, and perhaps would deter some who would make false public claims.

The high court ruled that the 2006 Stolen Valor Act infringes upon speech protected by the First Amendment.

Veteran's organizations and some in Congress have long argued that the Pentagon needs such a database. As recently as 2009 the Pentagon argued that it would be too costly and could pose Privacy Act problems. It also argued that any government database would be incomplete because a 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records

Center in St. Louis destroyed millions of personnel records; including those citing medals and awards, and that even a complete database would do little to reduce the number of false award claims.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., which had expressed sharp disappointment in the Supreme Court ruling, believes that publicizing the false claims of military valor can be an effective deterrent to others.

VFW spokesman Joe Davis said that his group welcomes the Pentagon's new approach.

"The cost is minimal compared to the verifiable proof it provides to honorable service members, veterans and all their families," Davis said.

Little said no final decisions have been made about the type of government database that would be created. He said the goal would to have it include information not only about recipients of the Medal of Honor, which is the nation's highest military award, but also those who hold other decorations for valor, such as the Silver Star and Bronze Star.

"There are some complexities involved in looking back into history," Little said.

Please see **MEDALS**, Page 5



**CENTRAL BUCKS
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Meets
7:30 p.m.
2nd Wednesday of Month
American Legion Post 210
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COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

I thank everyone who made it out to the Independence Day Parade in Chalfont. The float was decorated great and we put on a good show. And, a special thanks to our Color Guard--**Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, Chaplain Don Parzanese Jr., and Marine Bill McBride**--for marching on a very hot day. The Detachment Float has found a new home in Harleysville and we are expecting to do a complete overhaul on the float before the Memorial Day Parade next year.

We are moving full speed ahead with the Detachment Golf Tournament, scheduled for Sept. 24. It looks to be a great event and help from our members will make it even better. Hopefully, we can get the four-page flyer and registration/sponsorship form in the newsletter so everyone can print out a few copies and get them to their companies, or people they know who play golf and help us get some players and sponsors. Anyone who needs any help or has any questions do not hesitate to call or e-mail me and I will help in any way that I can.

Adjutant/Paymaster Jim Powell, District Two Vice Commandant Bill Miller, and I attended the Department Convention in Johnstown. It was held June 28-30. Some of the highlights were:

Ø We were recognized for participating in the Department Newsletter program and **P-R Officer/Editor Don Gee** received a Certificate of Appreciation for his efforts in producing our newsletter.

Ø **Adjutant/Paymaster Powell, Past Commandant Budd Pearce**, and I received a Certificate of Appreciation for "dedicated service in the interests of the Department of Pennsylvania

Marksmanship Program" and the 2012 Pistol Match.

Ø **Adjutant/Paymaster Powell** was awarded a Distinguished Citizens Award-Silver for efforts at the Department level.

Ø **Past Commandant Miller** received a Distinguished Citizens Award-Silver for efforts at the Department level.

Ø I received a Distinguished Citizens Award-Bronze for efforts at the Department level.

Ø **Adjutant/Paymaster Powell** took 1st Place in the Marksmanship class in the 2012 Department of Pennsylvania Pistol Match.

Ø We were recognized, again as a Detachment for maintaining 100% membership.

Ø The Department Staff was re-elected to a second term for all positions, except for the Department Chaplain.

Ø **Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster Powell** was reelected Department Junior Vice Commandant.

Ø **Past Commandant Miller** was re-elected as District 2 Vice Commandant.

Ø I was appointed Department VAVS Chairman, and reappointed to the Department Historian staff.

I thank everyone, because it is an outstanding effort by everyone, to have our Detachment recognized so often.

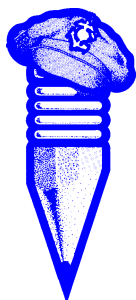
We won't see **Adjutant/Paymaster Powell** or **Past Commandant Miller** this month because they will be representing our Detachment at the National Convention in Mobile, AL. We look forward to hearing from them in September on how it went.

That's all for now. See you on Aug. 8 at the Legion Hall.

Semper Fi,

Joseph M. Kier

JUNE DETACHMENT MEETING



MINUTES

The regular meeting of Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held July 11, 2012, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 13 members present including officers except the Senior Vice Commandant and Chaplain. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Budd Pearce, Bob Sundling, Don Gee, and Donald Parzanese Sr.; Department Junior Vice Commandant/Past Detachment Commandant/Marine of the Year Jim Powell; Past Department of New Jersey and Past National Northeast Division Vice Commandant Ed Hoth.**

The **Minutes** of the June Meeting as published in *Listen Up!* were unanimously accepted.

Adjutant/Paymaster Jim Powell, PC presented the Paymaster's financial report. It was unanimously accepted. Paymaster Powell presented information on a new Marine Corps League Veterans Employment Opportunity Program was posted on the League Website. He also informed the membership that the Detachment had 22 Calendars from the Department Calendar Program and anyone interested in purchasing them should contact either the Commandant or him. The cost is \$30 per calendar.

SICK and DISTRESSED

The Public Relations Officer reported that he received a call from **Marine Wil Haas** that **Marine Bill Mickelson** was not doing well with congestive heart failure.

Commandant Joe Kier reported that Senior Vice Commandant Jack Gentile's wife was having back problems and that he was unable to be at the meeting due to taking her to the doctor.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Joe Kier reported on his attendance at the Department Convention in Johnstown in June.

***Past Commandant Bill Miller** was one of the winners of the Department Youth and Veterans Raffle this year.

***He** also reported that the Delaware County Detachment is sponsoring the 75th Anniversary celebration of the League Charter at 0800 in front of Independence Hall in Philadelphia on August 4th.

***He** reported on the official scores of the Department Pistol Match.

***He** reported on the progress of the Detachment Golf Tournament scheduled for Sept. 24.

***He** presented the request from Dublin Borough to participate in their 100th Anniversary Parade on Sept. 8. He also indicated that he had a home for the Detachment trailer and that there were plans to fix it too. This be done at no cost to the Detachment.

In the absence of the Senior Vice Commandant, Commandant Kier reported the Detachment had 37 regular members, 26 life members, 6 associates, 1 dual member and 1 honorary member for a total of 71.

Junior Vice Commandant Vince DeBella reported he was still working on prospects for our Marine Corps Ball. He is expecting to have locations and prices for next meeting.

Public Relations Officer Don Gee, PC, set July 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the August *Listen Up!*

***He** reported that the Detachment was invited to attend the Nockamixon Day Celebration in Revere, PA, on Sept. 15.

***He** received an address change for Ray Krout who is now at Neshaminy Manor in Warrington.

Judge Advocate Don Parzanese Sr., PC, reported that he had submitted the Detachment 2012 IRS 990N form and received acceptance confirmation back.

*He also reported that he gave a copy to the Paymaster and that it needs to be submitted to National.
 *He also reported that the Detachment Bylaw changes still need to be sent to the Department Judge Advocate for approval.
Assistant Chaplain Budd Pearce, PC, reported that he had sent a get well card and flowers to **Marine Bill Mickelson**. He also received a thank card back from him to the Detachment.
 *Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC, reported he had received no requests for the Color Guard s.
Quartermaster Corey Fisher reported sales of \$51.00 since the last meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pistol Committee - Report give previously by Commandant Kier.
Young Marines Liaison Bob Sundling reported on his attendance at the National Young Marine Leadership Conference in Reno, Nevada in May.
 *He also reported about his attendance of the high school graduation of three of his Young Marines in June. One went into the U. S. Marine Corps two days later.
 ***Young Marine Corporal Luke Sliwinski** will be receiving the second highest award from the Young Marine National Headquarters.
 *He also announced that the Young Marines were sponsoring a bus trip to the Marine Corps Night Parade at 8th and I on Aug. 31. They still had a few seats available and anyone interested it going should contact him.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussed the need to send the accepted Bylaw changes to the Department for approval. The Paymaster will get them sent in.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was unanimously approved to donate \$150 Giant gift card to a family having financial troubles. Commandant Kier presented awards received at the Department Convention. Along with several Detachment awards, members receiving awards were P-R Officer Don Gee, Past Commandant Budd Pearce, Past Commandant Jim Powell, and Commandant Kier. Jim Powell, PC, took first place in the MarksMan Class at the Department Pistol Match in June.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The Public Relations Officer announced he had received an e-mail from Becky Krout, one of Ray Krout's grand-daughters, that he has been moved to Neshaminy Manor on Bristol Road in Warrington as of July 11.
 *Sergeant-at-Arms Sundling announced that the Gary Sinese's "Lt. Dan Band" will be playing in Easton, PA, on Sept. 13. The Band will be playing as part of a fund raising effort to help a triple amputee from Easton.
 *Past Commandant Pearce requested that anyone who needed a a separate room or wanted to stay in the Base Barracks for the rifle match should contact him to make arrangements.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 1900 on Wednesday, August 14.

MEDALS

from Page 1

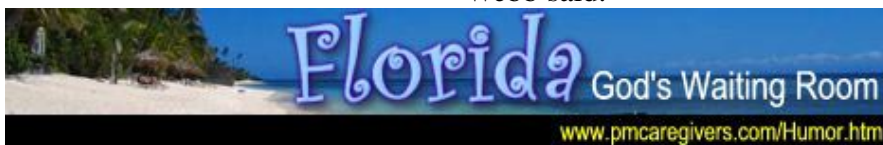
"We would obviously hope to be able to go as far back as possible, but we also want there to be integrity in the data. So these are factors that are being weighed, and we're in the process of exploring those options. So the door is open."

Members of Congress, meanwhile, are taking their own steps to address the problem of fraudulent claims.

Sen. Jim Webb of Virginia, who served in Vietnam as a Marine officer, announced after the court decision that he will introduce legislation which could bring criminal penalties to any individual making a false claim to have served in the military or to have been awarded a military medal or decoration in order to "secure a

tangible benefit or a personal gain."

"Profiting from the misrepresentation of military service or the award of a decoration or medal for personal gain undermines the value of service and is offensive to all who have stepped forward to serve our country in uniform," Webb said.



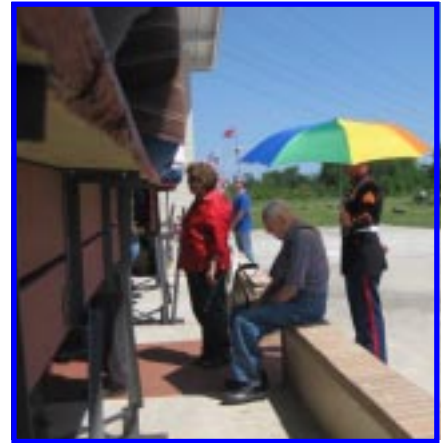
A FEW GOOD MEN

At the Golden Triangle Veterans Memorial Park on Highway 87 in Port Arthur, TX, on Memorial Day 2012. My wife and I arrived at 2 p.m. as the band began to play and the service started at 2:30p.m.

When we got there the pavilion was full but we were able to squeeze into the back left hand corner under the roof in the shade. While the program was going on, I was listening to a friend of mine, retired **Col. Chris Lamson**, with 25 years active duty in the Marines, and I looked over my right shoulder and noticed the old veteran sitting on the wall. His wife had been holding the umbrella over his head and laid it down to stand up where she could see the speaker and hear what was being said. When I turned to look the

second time I noticed a Marine had stepped forward, picked up the umbrella and was holding it over the older gentleman. You can tell by the shadow that only the left shoulder and arm of the Marine was in the shade. Notice his right hand behind his back standing at parade rest in full dress blues. Not once did he flinch. The temperature forecast that day was predicted to be 90 degrees or more in the shade. In Southeast Texas the humidity can also match the temperature. If you have ever worn a set of dress blues you would understand how hot they are. He stood there until the service was over. When it was over I walked up to him and said, "Thank you for such a kind act for the old veteran." He just looked at me and

nodded as if to say, "it was my duty."



As I walked away with a tear in my eye and my heart swelling it made me proud to know that the old traditions are still carried on.

It was 57 years ago this summer that I joined the Marines.

*Cpl. Bill Feidler
Port Arthur, TX*

GIFT from Page 1

them by getting them to know these guardians of our Freedom. Year after year, Coach Ruane hears from the parents that "their sons come to us as boys and leave as men." The coach adds, "These are wonderful young men and we are so honored to be part of the overall Legion Family."

Below you will find an excerpt of the letter from the donor:

Dear Coach Ruane:

When my son joined the Doylestown Legion Post 210 Baseball Program, I remembered specifically two things you said:

You stated that our son would participate in a highly competitive league and he would learn a lot of baseball, and you mentioned how supportive the Post was toward the baseball program to the point of giving a large percentage of their operating budget

to you for the team. I remembered both points very clearly and made a promise to myself that if I were ever in a position to help the Post out with their expenses I would do so.

Clearly you and your staff succeeded with the first point too as I've watched boys turn into men right before my eyes. Over the past four or five years that you've been running the program, I've been impressed with the level of commitment that you demand from the players not only on the field but off the field as well. (Not to mention the level of commitment you demand from the parents too!)

In choosing your team, you not only look for how well a player hits, fields and throws but whether he has the character that is necessary to fulfill the obligation required of a Post 210 player. They not only have to perform in a team environment but perform

community service as well and that has always stuck with me.

*Well, here I find myself in a position to help the baseball program give back to the Post for all of the selfless support that they've given to the team over the years. I am aware of the very tight operating budget that they exist under and I am hoping this donation can lessen the worry of existing from month to month. I prefer to keep this donation not from me but from the **Doylestown Tigers** as the attention should be given to the Post membership for all they do to not only support the team but the community at large. I am hoping that news of this donation may spawn others to step up and support these "American Heroes" as well. Once again, many thanks for helping to make my son the man that he is today and my thanks to Post 210 for affording you and your staff the opportunity to do just that.*



Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament

Dear Supporter of Veterans and Youth:

The Central Bucks Detachment Marine Corps League Inc. is hosting the Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament on Monday September 24th, 2012. The purpose of the tournament is to provide a day of golf for the community, to raise awareness of the Marine Corps League in the community, and raise money to support the Central Bucks Detachment, the Young Marines program, the Marine Corps League Foundation of Pennsylvania, our new scholarship program, and many other veteran and youth community based projects.

The event will be held at The Bucks Club on York Road in Jamison, PA. Tournament play is set at the very affordable rate of \$125.00 per player, team and sponsorship opportunities are also available and described on the attached sheet. The Tournament features a scramble start format and will have several contests during the course of play and throughout the day. The three Award categories are as follows;

Men's and Women's Division for:

- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin
- Low Gross Scores

We also will have a "play against the Pro" competition where (for a small fee) you will be able to play a certain hole against **John Diamond** PGA Golf Pro at The Bucks Club.

We are fortunate to have the use of The Bucks Club and all participants are requested to abide by their dress code of collared shirts, no denim and no cargo shorts. The Bucks club is a "Spikeless" facility the club will provide replacement spikes for \$15.00 for each pair of shoes. Golf Carts are required and provided while on the course, and use of them is restricted to persons 16 years of age who possess a valid state driver's license each cart will accommodate two golfers. Players will have full access to the driving range and locker room facilities and will receive a **10% discount** for items purchased from the Pro Shop. Discounts are only available for non-sale items.

Please find enclosed with this packet, an event schedule, registration material and information on sponsorship opportunities.



Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament

September 24th 2012

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:45 a.m. Registration

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Buffet Lunch

Hotdogs, Hamburgers, Beverages, and Snacks

12:15 p.m. Scramble – Shotgun Start

Cash Snack/Beverage cart available on course

5:30 p.m. Banquet

Buffet Style with Meat, Poultry, Pasta, Vegetables, and Dessert

6:30 p.m. Awards and Silent Auction

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Medal of Honor Sponsor (\$2,500)

Includes four players and sponsorship sign near the first tee.

Sponsorship sign on the Golf Course.

Special recognition in the Banquet Program.

Navy Cross Sponsor (\$1,000)

Includes four players and sponsorship sign near the first tee.

Special recognition in the Banquet Program.

Silver Star Sponsor (\$750)

Includes two players and a tee box sign on the course.

Special recognition in the Banquet Program.

Bronze Star Sponsor (\$500)-contest sponsor.

Sponsorship sign at the longest drive hole for Men and Women or Sponsorship sign at the Closest to the pin holes for Men and Women.



Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES (CONTINUED)

Purple Heart Sponsor (\$200)

Tee Box or Hole sponsorship sign.

National Defense Sponsor (\$125)

Individual Player sponsor.

ALL SPONSORS WITH SIGNAGE NEED TO PROVIDE ARTWORK

I am looking forward to the Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament at The Bucks Club on Monday, September 24th 2012 and would like to contribute at the following level:

Medal of Honor Sponsor (4 players)	\$2,500	_____
Navy Cross Sponsor (4 players)	\$1,000	_____
Silver Star Sponsor (2 players)	\$750	_____
Bronze Star Sponsor (contest sponsor)	\$500	_____
Purple Heart Sponsor	\$200	_____
National Defense Sponsor (indv.player)	\$125	_____

I am not able to attend, but would like to make a Donation _____

TOTAL DUE

PLAYER 1/CAPTIAN _____

PLAYER 2 _____

PLAYER 3 _____

PLAYER 4 _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone/Email _____



Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament

Return the Sponsorship /Registration Form, any artwork for tee box/hole signs and checks Payable to the **"Central Bucks Detachment, Marine Corps League"** to:

Central Bucks Detachment #636

P.O. Box 1372

Doylestown, PA 18901-1372

For more information please call Joe Kier at 267-249-4882 or email to joseph.kier@verizon.net

2600 York Road, Jamison, PA 18929

From Philadelphia or Southeast (via I-95)

- North to exit for Route 132 (Street Road) Westbound.
- Route 132 West about 13 miles to Route 263 (York Road).
- Right onto Route 263 North. BCCC is 4 1/2 miles ahead on the left.

From South Jersey

- Take any Delaware River Bridge to I-95 North; follow directions above.

From Philadelphia or the West (via I-76)

- I-76, The Schuylkill Expressway, West to the Blue Route, I-476. I-476 North toward Plymouth Meeting and the Pennsylvania Turnpike.
- Pennsylvania Turnpike East, toward New Jersey, 2 exits
- Route 611 North 4 1/2 miles to Route 132 (Street Road).
- Right turn onto Route 132 East, 2 1/2 miles to Route 263 (York Road).
- Left turn onto Route 263 North. BCCC is 4 1/2 miles ahead on the left.

From Central or Northern Jersey

- Route 202 South through Flemington and across the Delaware River.
- At Peddler's Village, 6 miles beyond the River, Route 263 joins Route 202.
- Go straight ahead on Route 263. BCCC is about 7 more miles south on the right, next to the Middle Bucks Technical Institute.

From Northeastern Pennsylvania

- Route 611 South, using the Doylestown bypass.
- Left turn (East) onto Almshouse Road at the Regal Cinemas Theater.
- Almshouse Road 2 1/2 miles to Route 263, York Road.
- Left (North) onto Route 263. BCCC is 1/2 mile ahead on the left.

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINES ON THE NET

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 GEE, Don H. USMCCCA@aol.com
 GENTILE, David..... dgentile1985@gmail.com
 GENTILE, Jack jgentile@singerequipment.com
 GENTILE, Joseph joeypgentile@gmail.com
 GENTILE, Steven sgentile89@aol.com
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 McCOMB, Jim jim_mccomb@verizon.net
 McGINNISS, Hugh ginniss2@comcast.net
 McSTAY, James F. jmcstay@comcast.net
 MICKELSON, Bill billmickelson@verizon.net
 MILLER, Bill billjae2@verizon.net
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 SCOTT, Rich richgscott@gmail.com
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 WEIR, Steve moonrocket48@aol.com
 WIMER, Lee leewimer@aol.com
 YEASTED, Vince vyeasted@comcast.net

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
8 AUGUST**

**LABOR DAY
3 SEPTEMBER**

**PATRIOT DAY
11 SEPTEMBER**

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
12 SEPTEMBER**

**AUTUMN BEGINS
22 SEPTEMBER**

**DETACHMENT
YOUTH & VETERANS
GOLF TOURNAMENT
24 SEPTEMBER**

**YUM KIPPUR
BEGINS
25 SEPTEMBER**

**COLUMBUS DAY
8 OCTOBER**

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
10 OCTOBER**

**HALLOWEEN
31 OCTOBER**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME BEGINS
4 NOVEMBER**

Quartermaster Store

DETACHMENT STRIP



\$5.00

USMC SATIN JACKET



\$55.00

**LIFE MEMBER
BLAZER CREST**



\$25.00

COVER



\$22.00

**DETACHMENT
T-SHIRT**



\$15.00

MCL PATCH



\$3.50

ANNIVERSARY PATCH



\$5.00

To order any of these items or any other Marine Corps League items or Marine Corps items and have them ready for pick-up at the next Detachment Meeting, contact
Quartermaster COREY FISHER
at

ph: 215-822-6898

e-mail: cbquartermaster@aol.com

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, Inc.
P. O. Box 1372
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"

Application for Membership
Marine Corps League

(Date)

Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Date of Enlistment/Commissioning _____

Date of Discharge/Separation/Retirement _____ SSN _____

Type of Application -- New () Renewal () Associate () Phone (____) _____

E-mail: _____

I hereby apply for membership in the **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT**, Marine Corps League, and enclose **\$35.00** for one year's membership (which includes subscription to **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MAGAZINE**).

I hereby certify I have served as a U.S. Marine for more than 90 days, the character of my service has been honorable and, if discharged, I am in receipt of an Honorable Discharge. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of Honorable Discharge/service upon request.

(Sponsor - where applicable)

(Applicant's Signature)



Remit this form with check or money order (made payable to **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, MCL**)
to: **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, P. O. Box 1372, Doylestown, PA 18901-1372**