



LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT
Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.

VOLUME X, Number 8

August 1997

Highlights

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held July 9, 1997, at Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 25 members present including all officers. Distinguished Marines in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Don Parzanese Sr., Bill Plant, and Frank Yohe**; **Past Commandant of the Department of New Jersey Ed Hoth**; and **Marine of the Year Ray Krout**.

The Minutes of the June Meeting were unanimously approved.

Paymaster Bob Cody issued the Paymaster's Report. The report was unanimously accepted.

Marine Bob Schaffer is in the hospital with a heart problem.

Commandant Budd Pearce, PC, reported he, **Past Commandant Frank Yohe** and **Marine Steve Weir** comprised the Color Guard which opened the Special Olympics.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Rosenberger reported the Detachment membership strength was at 53 with 33 regular members, 6 associate members, 14 life members, and 6 delinquent members.

Junior Vice Commandant Paul Caprio reported on the Detachment's participation in the Willow Grove NAS Air Show. He suggested we make this an annual event. The motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Adjutant Gary Smith relayed correspondence received from Department of Pennsylvania.

Judge Advocate Bill Plant, PC, had nothing to report.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling reported the Detachment had donated a number of books to the Philadelphia VA Medical Center. We should be receiving an acknowledgement letter in the near future.

(Continued on Page 3)

THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE AT 1930 ON 13 AUGUST 1997 AT
THE AMERICAN LEGION POST, 315 NORTH ST., DOYLESTOWN



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

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT
Marine Corps League
of Pennsylvania, Inc.
P. O. Box 1372
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372
Ph: (215) 822-6723
FAX: (215) 822-0163

Meets
7:30 p.m.,
2d Wednesday of Month
American Legion Post 210
315 North Street
Doylestown, PA

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BILL PLANT, PC

CHAPLAIN:

FRANKLIN YOHE, PC

QUARTERMASTER:

DONALD PARZANESE Jr.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

ROBERT A. SUNDLING

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

& EDITOR:

DON H. GEE, PC

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

We had our highway clean-up July 12 and it went well. We did have a few less members turn out for this than we usually have, but we got the job done. I know that it is hard to make all of the clean-ups and I'm aware of the fact that we have mostly the same people turn out for them each time. I wish I knew some secret to getting the rest of the Detachment "Off it and on 'em," but I don't. So, I keep on writing these columns and making a plea for help at all the different functions we have. I may sound like I am harping on this volunteering thing a bit too much but, if you think about it, I guess that's my job. If you haven't ever been to a clean-up before, try to make the next one. I think you'll like it.

I was notified by **Mike Waldron** that the Marine Drum & Bugle Corps is going to be at MAG-49 on Aug. 23. I don't have any info yet as to whether or not it is open to the public or if tickets are required, but I will have at the August meeting. I will be in contact with **SgtMaj. Preiss** sometime between now and the meeting to see if I can get some tickets, or whatever, for anyone who wishes to go see this show.

I went up to Friendly's on Wednesday, July 17, to present a Certificate of Appreciation to the manager for all of the help they have been to us with our fund-raising. Friendly's has been good enough to donate 10 percent of their take on the third Wednesday of each month to our Detachment. I'm not sure all of our members are aware of this program, but it is an extremely easy fund-raiser for us. All we do is pick up the money. Since they are so generous in doing this for our Detachment, I would really like to see a few of our members go up there and show some support on those evenings. The time of the fund-raisers is from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. It might be nice to go up and have an ice cream or something—after all, we get back 10 percent of whatever you spend.

Before I end this month's missive, I want to thank the Detachment for the fine turnout on the 4th of July. Our float looked good and so did our members! The Color Guard is getting so good at staying in step we can't even make fun of anyone any more. No kidding, guys, you really looked GOOD!!! Thanks again to my wife **Suzanne** for making sure that all of the members and the Young Marines got fed after the parade. Speaking of the float, we are going to be redesigning it for next year. If you have any good ideas, please bring them to the August meeting. We will be putting together a Parade Committee and all ideas are welcome. If you can draw, make a sketch of your idea. I am thinking of a contest to see who can come up with the best design. I will let you know what the prize will be in the near future.

That will about do it for this month. With any luck, it will be cooler for our August meeting but, then again, we are Marines, so a little warm weather should not be able to stop us from having a record turnout. See you on Aug. 13 when we swear in a new member. Come out and welcome him.

Semper Fi,

Public Relations Officer Don Gee, PC, reported the deadline for submission of articles, photos, etc., for the August edition of "Listen Up!" would be July 20. **Advertising Chairman Paul Caprio** reported we had received a new advertiser and two advertising renewals.

STANDING COMMITTEES

VAVS--The VAVS Committee logged 18 hours since the last meeting. The Detachment also received \$150 from the Department of Pennsylvania for our VAVS Program.

POW/MIA--**POW/MIA Coordinator Bill Plant**, PC, discussed the POW/MIA annual report received at the Department Convention.

RIFLE & PISTOL TEAM--**Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Bill Rosenberger** reported the Detachment's high shooter at the recent Department of Pennsylvania Pistol Match was **Marine Ernie Ortiz**.

YOUNG MARINES--**Young Marines Liaison Bill Plant**, PC, reported the Bux-Mont Young Marines Unit had two meetings during June and that the Unit will be going to Quantico in the near future for a "mini-run-through" at OCS.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

FRIENDLY'S RESTAURANTS--No report.

BIRTHDAY BALL--**Junior Vice Commandant Paul Caprio** reported on Birthday Ball plans. A motion was made, seconded, and passed for the Detachment to underwrite the Ball expenses by \$1,000. This will put the cost per person at \$32.50.

AUDIT COMMITTEE--**Audit Committee Chair Bill Plant**, PC, reported the annual audit had been completed. He pointed out that "accountability" is lacking in submission of receipts, vouchers, etc., to the Paymaster. He emphasized this would no longer be tolerated.

OLD BUSINESS

MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT--**Marine Tony Parzanese** reported on the progress of this project to bring local recognition to Doylestown's only Medal of Honor recipient. He is working on having the man's photo reproduced.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION--**PR Officer Don Gee**, PC, reported on major items from the Department Convention in Pittsburgh. The Detachment received a 1st Place Award for our "Americanism" program, a 2d Place Award for our VAVS Program, and a Convention streamer for our Colors. **Marine Walt Roach** (who is Commanding Officer of the Pennsylvania Young Marines) was named the Department's "Appointed Officer of the Year" and was awarded the Distinguished Citizens Medal (Silver) by Department Commandant Dave Pavey. Gee received his second Distinguished Citizens Medal (Silver) for his service as the Department's Public Relations Officer.

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES--**PR Officer Don Gee**, PC, reported on plans to finalize the Board of Trustees for the Detachment. Since this involves a change in the Detachment By-Laws, it will be voted on during the August Meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY Coordinator **Don Parzanese Sr.**, PC, reminded the members the next "Adopt-A-Highway" Clean-Up was scheduled for Saturday, July 12.

Marine Mike Waldron announced the 3d Marine Division Association will be holding its reunion in Milwaukee from July 23-27. He also announced the Blood Mobile will be at Doylestown Hospital on July 10.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed until 1930 on Aug. 13, 1997.

THE ORIGIN OF 'TAPS'

It all began in 1862, during the Civil War, when a Union Army Captain, Robert Ellicomb, was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of this narrow strip of land.

During the night, Capt. Ellicomb heard the moan of a soldier who lay mortally wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

Crawling on his stomach through the gun fire, the captain reached the stricken

soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The captain lit a lantern, suddenly, he caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son! The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, he had enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, the heartbroken father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial despite his enemy status. His request was

partially granted.

The captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for the son at the funeral. That request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. Out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform.

The wish was granted. That music was the haunting bugle melody we now know as "Taps" used at all military funerals.

VA Reviewing Dependents' Education Claims

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is contacting 276 class members of a 1987 class-action lawsuit, filed on behalf of certain veterans in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, to ensure they are aware of the potential availability of educational assistance benefits for their dependents.

A settlement of the suit, which had challenged VA reductions in compensation benefits for mental disorders, was approved and publicized in 1993. Additional outreach is now being conducted because of concerns that dependents of the class members may not have taken advantage of education benefits to which they may be entitled.

The settlement in *Giusti v. the Department of Veterans Affairs*, approved Oct. 15, 1993, by the U.S. District Court in Puerto Rico, arose in a lawsuit alleging unlawful discrimination during a mass VA review of disability compensation claims. Plaintiffs charged that VA had used standards and procedures that were less favorable to those veterans than the department used in its review of cases from other geographic areas.

The original review of compensation claims began in 1982 and resulted in reducing the disability ratings of about 700 veterans. Following the court challenge, a special settlement review was conducted, resulting in restoring the ratings to 100 percent in more than 600

cases.

Of those 600, evidence is on file in 276 cases showing previous use by a spouse or child of VA's Dependents' Educational Assistance program, which provides payments to certain dependents of veterans who are permanently 100 percent disabled from a service-connected

condition. VA has determined that the class members in those 276 cases had 563 dependents. Dependents who attended school during the period in which the class member was receiving a less than 100% disability benefit and whose rating was restored may be eligible for retroactive educational assistance.



MARINE CORPS TRIVIA QUIZ



1. How many types of wounds are there?
2. Which cleaning agent is used to remove the quartermaster from the brass belt tip and buckle?
3. When entering a vehicle with an officer, who should enter first?
4. What does a silver star on the Marine Corps Battle Color represent?
5. How many numbers are needed in grid coordinates to locate a point to the nearest 100 meters?

Answers in Next Month's Newsletter

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1. The seven belt loops on a Marine's trousers represent the seven seas.
2. The highest rank held by Doylestown Medal of Honor recipient Charles Robert Francis was First Lieutenant. He is buried in Hollywood (CA) Cemetery. He retired as a Sergeant Major.
3. The three types of bleeding are: arterial, venous and capillary.
4. Washington's Birthday, Independence Day and Memorial Day rate 21-gun salutes.
5. The main effects of a nuclear explosion are: blast, heat and radiation.

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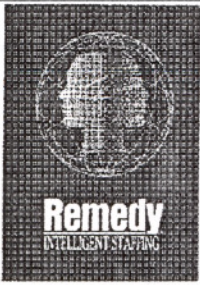
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