

LISTEN UP!



VOLUME XXVIII, Number 1

Commandant: Joseph M. Kier

January 2015

Editor: Alexandra M. Kier

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON JAN 14TH 2015 AT 1930

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

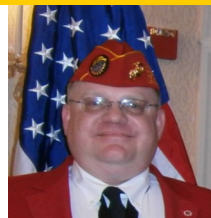
Marines,

As we wrap up 2014 I would like to say we had a great year, we were recognized at the Department Convention, if not the most in the top five Detachments in the Department. We received several Membership and Recruiting awards, and a first place award for the Newsletter and it has been many years since we were recognized for "Listen Up!" as I said it was a great year for the Central Bucks Detachment.

A great concern I do have is the shrinking numbers we have at the regular meetings, even though we do have different attendance in different times of the year compared to this time last year we have fewer member at the meetings. According to the By-laws we need to have 13.5 members at a meeting including two elected officers to have any kind of official meeting, we had some confusion on this issue on the 10th of December when there were only eight members in attendance for the meeting. I had to cancel the meeting and some of the members

stayed to hang out with each other for a little bit. Some of the members there had some misinformation about the By-Laws as acting Judge Advocate (the JA was excused) I made a ruling on the By-Laws and decided that there were not enough members in attendance. I had prior knowledge of this due to several members letting me know that they would not be able to attend and in the interest of saving time I cancelled the meeting, also there was a report of bad weather, which did not occur. I did let everyone know that I would be at the Legion Hall either way to help collect toys for the family in need we had decided to help this year.

The bottom line is that if you have an issue with an official decision you should really read the most current By-Laws, if it is not in our By-Laws we then refer to the Department and then National By-Laws if needed. If there is no mention of the issue in any By-Law we refer to the most updated version of Roberts Rules of Order, these are the documents that you need to quote to argue an issue. This is where all of my information comes from, and when another member who does not have the



correct information opposes these documents they are nothing but wrong and out of order, even if they really disagree or it used to be the other way. It is what it is, as long as members are attending my meetings and I am Commandant the rules will be followed, and either the JA or myself will address any questions on these documents.

I have contacted many of the Members over the past several years to see if we could increase attendance, and the most frequent response for not attending is that several years ago they joined and attended two meetings and they stated that they felt like an outsider and not part of the group. I have had several of these members come back and they said they felt welcome by me and several others but still felt like they were being ignored by others.

When I spoke to those members and some of the new members

(continued on p 3.)

Dept. Meeting Schedule

2015 WINTER STAFF MEETING
9-10 JANUARY 2015
HOLIDAY INN GRANTVILLE, PA

2015 SPRING DEPT. STAFF MEETING
20-21 MARCH 2015 FORT
INDIANTOWN GAP, PA

2015 DEPARTMENT PISTOL
CHAMPIONSHIPS
30-31 MAY

2015 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
24-27 JUNE
DAYS INN STATE COLLEGE
STATE COLLEGE, PA

Inside this issue:

CHAPLIN'S CORNER/OFFICERS	2
DETACHMENT INFORMATION	3
DETACHMENT CALENDAR	4
DETACHMENT MEMBER EMAILS	5
QUARTERMASTER	6



**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

COMMANDANT

Joseph Kier Sr.
215-822-1036
joseph.kier@verizon.net

SR. VICE COMMANDANT

Don Gee, PC
215-822-6898
usmccca@aol.com

JR. VICE COMMANDANT

Vincent DeBella
215-514-2237
vincdebe@aol.com

PAYMASTER

James Powell, PC
215-801-0432
usmc80@comcast.net

ADJUTANT

VACANT

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Thomas Spoltore
215-491-2997
tomspoltore@verizon.net

QUARTERMASTER

Corey Fisher
215-822-6898
cbquartermaster@aol.com

CHAPLAIN

Samuel DiValentino
215-718-6944
samathome1218@yahoo.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Robert A. Sundling, PC
215-348-8925
bsundling@tiniusolsen.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS/NEWSLETTER

Alexandrea M. Kier
215-822-1036
9alex96@gmail.com

WEB SERGEANT

James Powell, PC

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

BY CHAPLAIN SAM DIVALENTINO

Happy New Year Marines! I made a bunch of resolutions for 2015, and this year I aim to keep them.

Stop using bad language. Well I kept this one until the guy in the white Mercedes cut me off in the parking lot. Not only did I call him an anal orifice, I also gave him some sign language using a certain finger held high in the air. So much for resolution #1.

Stop looking at the opposite sex with lust in my heart. "WOW, did you see the set on her!" Oops, another resolution down the drain.

Be patient with my wife when she is not ready on time, or has to go back into the house as we are backing out of the driveway. "Why in the (expletive deleted) do you have to make us late by not remembering to get your (expletive deleted) coat!" I not only broke this resolution, but also broke resolution #1 again. (And made my wife mad at me.)

Contribute a tithe (10%) of earnings to my church. "I am robbing Peter to pay Paul, so I can't give the church any money this week." What a sad sack I am for breaking this resolution. Shame on me!

What is the use of making resolutions that I fail to keep? The honest truth is that it is difficult for me to keep any resolution, or to be the least bit good of my own free will. If I were good, then I would be like our Supreme Commandant. I am only a man, and only through the Grace of God can I do anything that resembles good.

No matter how much you and I strive to be good, we will fail at some point. Keep on striving, ask for grace and try to live like He would want you to live. Remember this, if you fail, you are forgiven. Keep striving and working at being good. It is a process, and you will get close but never reach perfection. Only one man was perfect, and we nailed Him to a cross.

LIBERTY YOUNG MARINES

A message from Liberty Young Marines CO. SSgt. Bob Sundling: Remember we are always looking for new recruits, if anyone has any questions about the Young Marine program please contact Bob at usmc82986@gmail.com. A great way to support the Detachment is to help support the Young Marines, Semper Fi.



DETACHMENT INFORMATION

There was no meeting in December due to a lack of a Quorum.

(Commandants Column Con't from p 1.)

they said they were not going to attend the meetings again because they felt some members were rude and didn't let others talk, or make facial gestures to dismiss what some were saying. We are really going to need to think on how to correct this, this is a volunteer organization and our members must be treated as such. If they are treated like they are at a job or back in the Marine Corps they just aren't going to come back and in turn we will not be able to have meetings. The other answer would be for anyone who thinks it is necessary to try to get a By-Law change to remove the need of a Quorum or reduce it as we get more members we need more for a quorum. In the mean time we need to be understanding to everyone's situation for example; the requirement of a specific uniform for a regular Detachment function puts too much pressure on a member who cannot afford an entire uniform, that is why (as the Commandant) I made a decision that as long as the Member is wearing the proper uniform they can wear whatever uniform they wish as long as they are not in a firing detail or a color guard. This is just one example of how I will conduct Detachment business but anything I do will be fair to everyone, or as fair as it can possibly be, and we will welcome all change as it comes. I would suggest to the Members that do not want to change with the times, to take a real good look at what is going on because change is like a bus rolling down the street, either get on it or you will get run over. Have a Great New Year, Semper Fi.

Check this out from Sgt at Arms Bob Sundling

Even though he was 73 years old and serving as President of the United States at the time, Ronald Reagan received a letter from the Marine Corps asking him if he would like to enlist in 1984. It may have been a clerical error or just a practical joke from the service to its commander-in-chief, or in the words of Reagan in his response, the result of "a lance corporal's overactive imagination." In any case, on Tuesday the U.S. Marine Corps Historical Company shared on its Facebook page the letter he sent back to then-Commandant Gen. Paul X. Kelley on May 31, 1984, and well, it's classic.

"I regret that I must decline the attached invitation to enlist in the United States Marine Corps," Reagan writes on official White House letterhead. "As proud as I am of the inference concerning my physical fitness, it might be better to continue as Commander-in-Chief. Besides, at the present time it would be rather difficult to spend ten weeks at Parris Island."

With his trademark wit, Reagan noted the Democrats would probably appreciate it if he left The White House, but had to pass since his wife Nancy loved their current residence and Reagan himself was "totally satisfied with his job."

"Would you consider a deferment until 1989?" Reagan wrote. (It's worth noting that Reagan served stateside in the U.S. Army Air Force's first motion picture unit during World War II).

<http://www.wearethemighty.com/ronald-reagan-marine-corps-recruiting-letter-2014-11>



DETACHMENT CALENDAR

JANUARY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31 New Years Eve	1 Happy New Year!	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Department of PA Staff Meeting 1730 Headquarters Building Ft Indaintown	10 Commandants Council and Con't Staff Meeting
11	12	13	14 Regular Detachment Meeting 1930 Doylestown, PA	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT ON THE NET

Wilfredo ACOSTA JR	wilfredoacostajr@gmail.com	Eric J. MARTINDALE	eimartindale1@yahoo.com
Lauren BEN	laurenbenusmc@gmail.com	Aldo MARTUSCIELLO	aldomartx@gmail.com
Geoffrey P. BURGESS	nofearmarine81@aol.com	Michael J. MATTIE	michael.mattie@lpl.com
Shane CAMARDO *	shanecanardo@gmail.com	William G. McBRIDE	jabcaat1016@comcast.net
Paul CAPRIO Jr.	midupe47@yahoo.com	James E. McCOMB	jim_mccomb@verizon.net
Carl J CASTELLANO	castellanoc1@gmail.com	Hugh J. McGINNISS	ginniss2@comcast.net
Chris CLAYTON	chrisclayton@gmail.com	Robert P. McPOYLE	r.mcpoyle@comcast.net
Jessica A. CLYMER	usmccf5@yahoo.com	William MICKELSON	billmikelson@verizon.net
Cyndy COLEMAN	IMNRN25@aol.com	William R. MILLER	billjae@verizon.net
Michael CONCORDIA	m.concordia@verizon.net	Robert MOMORELLA	mombo@starlinx.com
Scott J. CONDELLO	irongatemktg@yahoo.com	Frederick MONAHAN	fredmonahan@gmail.com
Vincent DeBELLA	vincdebe@aol.com	Kenneth M. MURRAY	kenmur1949@yahoo.com
Sam DiVALENTINO	samathome1218@yahoo.com	Justin ORTEGA	jortega@upenn.edu
Brian J. DONOVAN	Brianburns5@yahoo.com	Don PARZANESE Jr.	donald.parzanese@us.army.mil
Phillip D. EMERY	emeryperkasia@gmail.com	Don PARZANESE Sr	donparzsr1@verizon.net
Corey A. FISHER	cbquartermaster@aol.com	Tony PARZANESE Sr.	tonyparz@hotmail.com
Don H. GEE	usmccca@aol.com	Ellis M. PEARCE III	buddpearce@comcast.net
Joseph F. GENTILE	joeypgentile@gmail.com	Staci L. POPP	staci1978@yahoo.com
David GENTILE	dgentile1985@gmail.com	James J. POWELL	usmc80@comcast.net
Steven A. GENTILE	sgentile89@aol.com	William J. RODGERS	b.rodgers1@verizon.net
Anthony J. GENTILE	jgentile@singerequipment.com	David RUBIN	newlineelectric@gmail.com
Patrick A. GLOZZER	mrducks1@comcast.net	Larry SCHEETZ	scheetzsr@yahoo.com
Vincent J. HAGAN	vincent.hagan@pnc.com	Richard G. SCOTT	richgscott@gmail.com
Thaky A.J. HAQQ	thaky2@yahoo.com	Gary J. SMITH	sgarysemperfi@aol.com
Jason HOFFMAN	thehoffmans4@yahoo.com	John J. SPILLANE Jr.	spillane3@verizon.net
Thomas HOFFMAN	thoffm04@villanova.edu	Thomas SPOLTRE	tomspoltore1@verizon.net
Edward W. HOTH	edhothusmc@aol.com	Charles E. STOCKEL	
Ed JASIEWICZ Jr.	edjasiewicz@comcast.net	SSgt. Robert SUNDLING	USMC82986@gmail.com
Audrey J. KEATING	jeankeating85@gmail.com	Robert A SUNDLING	bsundling@tiniusolsen.com
John KETTERER	dep3541@cs.com	Robert TIMMONS	spartan1106@gmail.com
James KIER	skids75@comcast.net	Justin TUTILE	j_tutile85@yahoo.com
Alexandrea KIER	9alex96@gmail.com	Ben VANDEGRIFT Jr.	jarhead219@gmail.com
Joseph M. KIER Sr.	joseph.kier@verizon.net	Paul A. WALDRON	pwal534589@aol.com
Richard P. KLEVA	aquafun2@aol.com	Michael WALDRON	waldron@quigleyco.com
Thomas E. KLINE	tkline2304@msn.com	F. Donald WARNER	70tarry@gmail.com
William C. KOHLER	mustangcaptbill@cox.net	Roy G. WEIGAND	rgweigand@verizon.net
Marion KONOPITSKI	gailanz@verizon.net	Steve E. WEIR	moonrocket48@aol.com
Jacob T. KOPP	jkopp14@mac.com	Leland J. WIMER	leewimer@aol.com
Carl A. LEFEVER	carllefever@yahoo.com	Charles L. WURST	wwulph@aol.com
Anthony LOZZI	tonylozzi@yahoo.com	Vincent J. YEASTED	vyeasted@comcast.net

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



“ONCE A MARINE ALWAYS A MARINE”

Application for Membership—Marine Corps League

Full Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ + _____

Date of Birth _____ E-mail address _____

Date of Enlistment/Commissioning _____ Date of Discharge/Retirement/Separation _____

Type of Application – New () Renewal () Membership Type -- Regular () Associate () Dual ()

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? YES () NO () If YES is checked, I agree to waive my rights under the Privacy Act and disclose the nature of the felony conviction for consideration of membership in the Marine Corps League.

I hereby apply for membership in the _____ Detachment, Marine Corps League and enclose \$ _____ for one year's membership.

Further, I hereby certify that I am currently serving or have served honorably in the U.S. Marine Corps, on active duty, for not less than ninety (90) days and earned the Eagle, Globe and Anchor, * or have served or am currently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Credit Points or that I have served or am currently serving as a U.S. Navy Corpsman who has trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps Device or Warfare Device worn on the Service Ribbon authorized for FMF Corpsmen. If discharged, I am in receipt of a DD Form 214 or a Certificate of Discharge indicating "Honorable Service". ("Honorable Service" will be defined by the last DD Form 214 or Certificate of Discharge that the applicant received). *General Discharge under Honorable Conditions is acceptable.* By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of honorable service/discharge upon request. I hereby authorize the National Executive Director, Marine Corps League to obtain an un-redacted copy of my latest DD Form 214 from the Marine Corps custodian of Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF), and/or verification of honorable service if deemed necessary to verify my eligibility for regular membership in the Marine Corps League. I understand the DD Form 214 may contain information such as military awards, training, and character of service. * ("Korean War Era Marines See National Bylaws, Article 6, Section 600")

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