



# LISTEN UP!

Central Bucks Detachment  
P.O. Box 1372  
Doylestown, PA 18901

Meets 7:30 P.M. 2nd Wednesday of Month  
American Legion Post 210  
315 North Street  
Doylestown, Pa.

"ONCE A MARINE - ALWAYS A MARINE"

COMMANDANT - BUDD PEARCE

EDITOR - BOB SCHAFFER

VOL 7 NO 1

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1994

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DECEMBER DETACHMENT MEETING

Nineteen members were present including all officers, along with one visitor, Scott Hamilton.

A membership application for Ernie Ortiz was presented and accepted by vote of those present

Past Commandants Bill Plant, Don Parzanese and Frank Yohe were recognized.

Paymaster's report and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### CORRESPONDENCE

The 2nd Quarter Staff Meeting will be held in Grantville, Pa. on 1/22/94. The Rifle and Pistol Awards will be presented at the dinner.

### SR. VICE - DON GEE

Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion Of Honor Awards were presented to Bill Plant and Walt Roach. The third recipient, Don Gee received his award earlier at a ceremony in North Philadelphia.

### JR. VICE - TONY KIMES

Tony thanked everyone who helped with the Birthday Ball and also those who attended. It turned out to be a very nice evening for everyone and hopefully next year's ball will be equally successful.

### GENUARDI TAPES

Jim Marckstein is taking over for Don Parzanese as coordinator for the register tape refund program. In the future, please send or give your collected tapes to him. If you wish to mail them his address is: 1771 Palomino Drive, Warrington, Pa. 18976. Please try to collect as many tapes as you can since it is money in the bank for the Detachment.

### ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

The next clean-up date will be sometime in January or early February depending on the weather. A firm date will be announced at the January Detachment meeting.

### NEWSLETTER

Any pictures or news items that you may have available will be more than welcome. Please submit them to Bob Schaffer or Budd Pearce at any time and we'll get it in the next newsletter, if possible. The winners of the monthly trivia questions will receive five tickets for the 50-50 drawing at the following Detachment meeting.



POW-MIA - BILL PLANT

There seems to be lots of double talk from everyone one this issue. It's hard to know who to believe. Bill receives a publication from Michael Venatta which he feels is pretty good. A lengthy discussion ensued as to whether the Detachment should pay for a subscription to this particular publication. A motion was made and defeated.

VAVS

Don Gee reported that the Birthday Ball celebration at the VA Hospital in Phila. went very well along with the presentation on the following day to Major Snell of the Distinguished Service Medal for long and faithful service to the Corps.

NEW BUSINESS

Ray Krout made a motion to make a donation to the Xmas Make-A-Wish Program sponsored by the Daily Intelligencer newspaper in Doylestown. Motion was carried.

The Commandant presented certificates for awards that were announced at the Birthday Ball. They are as follows: Meritorious Commendation to Bob Schaffer; Distinguished Service Award to Don Gee, Bill Plant, Bob Sundling, Bob Cody, Pat Paronese, Mike Waldron and Larry Scheetz Sr..

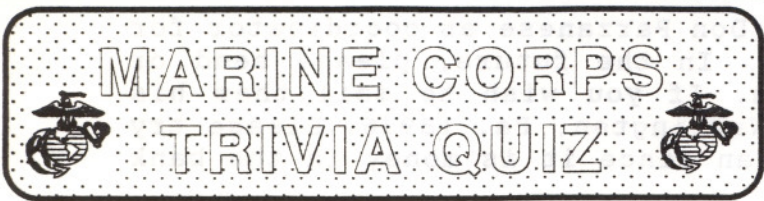
Toys that were brought to the Detachment meeting will be given to needy families for Xmas.

MARINE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Starting in 1994, the annual Marine of the Year Award will be announced the Marine Corps Birthday Ball. In order to make an adjustment for this year, the 1994 recipient will be announced at the January Detachment meeting.

SPECIAL NOTICE.....Mike Waldron is missing a miniature brass cannon that was used as a decoration at the Detachment Birthday Ball. If anyone picked it up by mistake or knows who might have, please contact Mike at 672-7095 since it is part of his collection of Marine Corps mementos.

THE NEXT REGULAR DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE 12 JANUARY 94 (1930) AT THE AMERICAN LEGION HOME ON NORTH STREET, DOYLESTOWN, PA.



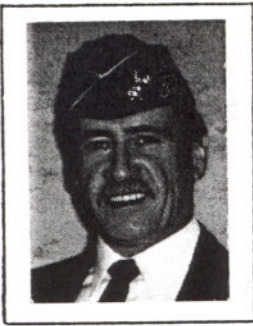
1. What do the seven trouser belt loops on a Marine's uniform represent?
2. What is the name of the Doylestown Marine who won the Medal of Honor?
3. What are the three types of bleeding?
4. Name a national holiday which rates a 21-gun salute?
5. What are the three main effects of a nuclear explosion?

Answers in Next Month's Newsletter

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1. "Bloody Nose" Ridge is on Peleliu Island.
2. The maximum speed of the UH-1N Huey helicopter is 126 mph.
3. A shooting badge is centered 1/8 of an inch above the left breast pocket.
4. The cadence for "double time" is 180, 36-inch step
5. The most effective way to warn of an NBC attack is by sounding a vocal alarm.





From The Desk Of BUDD PEARCE, Commandant  
Central Bucks Detachment, Marine Corps League

Marines.

With the Holidays, I have been so busy that I forgot to get this letter written. Bob Schaffer will be on my tail if I don't get it to him today, so here it is. Sorry if it seems kind of thrown together, it is.

I was very glad to see the amount of toys brought in by the members at the December meeting. The toys all went to children that would not be getting much without them. Thanks guys, you all continue to come through when you are called on and you make me very proud to be associated with you. I hope all of you had a good holiday season.

It is now the new year and time to get back to work. The work I am talking about is the work of making our Detachment bigger and better than ever before. Our membership is growing, and that is good. I would like to see it grow a bit faster, but at least we are gaining. Don't forget to carry a couple of membership applications in your wallet, you never know when you might meet another Marine. If you need any brochures about our detachment, business cards or applications for membership, please see Don Gee. New brochures are being printed now and should be available at the January meeting. Don Gee and I will be putting

together membership information packets that will contain information on the League and our Detachment. These packets will be ready in the near future.

I don't have anything else for now except to remind you to come to the January meeting. The Marine of the Year committee will be making their presentation at the meeting this month. This award will be given at the annual Ball from now on. Please make every effort to be there for the presentation this month, this Marine has served us well and deserves your personal attention. The Marine of the Year award is not just some joke award. This award is given to a Marine that has served his Country, his Corps and his League with honor, dignity and loyalty. To be honored by your fellow Marines as the Marine of the Year is something of which to be proud. Show your pride in that Marine and come to the meeting and congratulate him yourself. I'll see you there on 12 January at 1930 hours.

Semper Fi.

*Budd Pearce*

Commandant

This assessment appeared in our newsletter some time ago, however, with the start of a new year it might be good to read it again and make some New Years' Resolutions.

#### 15 WAYS TO WRECK AN ORGANIZATION

1. DON'T ATTEND MEETINGS, BUT IF YOU DO, ARRIVE LATE
2. BE SURE TO LEAVE BEFORE THE MEETING ADJOURNS.
3. NEVER SAY ANYTHING AT A MEETING; WAIT UNTIL IT'S OVER
4. VOTE TO DO EVERYTHING AT MEETINGS, BUT NEVER DO ANYTHING.
5. FIND FAULT WITH OFFICERS AND FELLOW MEMBERS.
6. TAKE NO PART IN ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS.
7. NEVER INVITE NEW PEOPLE TO JOIN.
8. SIT IN THE BACK AND GRIPE WITH OTHER MEMBERS ABOUT THE MEETING.
9. GET ALL YOU CAN, BUT NEVER GIVE ANYTHING.

10. AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY THREATEN TO RESIGN AND TRY TO GET OTHERS TO DO THE SAME.
11. TALK COOPERATION, BUT DON'T COOPERATE.
12. IF ASKED TO HELP NEVER HAVE THE TIME.
13. NEVER ACCEPT AN OFFICE, BUT CRITICIZE ANYONE WHO DOES.
14. IF APPOINTED TO A COMMITTEE, NEVER GIVE TIME OR SERVICE.
15. DON'T DO ANYTHING MORE THAN YOU HAVE TO, AND WHEN OTHERS WILLINGLY AND UNSELFISHLY USE THEIR ABILITY TO HELP THE CAUSE ALONG, HOWL BECAUSE THE ORGANIZATION IS BEING RUN BY A CLIQUE.

(Reprint from the Keystone Veteran Spring, 1992)





DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
2 NAVY ANNEX  
WASHINGTON, DC 20380-1775

1020

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Ser MCUB/250-93

1 Sep 93

Mr. William Siebel  
Commandant  
Marine Corps League,  
Department of New Jersey  
633 Watchung Road  
Bound Brook, New Jersey 08805

Dear Mr. Siebel,

The Commandant has asked that I respond to your letter requesting information on the proper wear of Marine Corps uniform items by Marine Corps League members.

Although it would be inappropriate for the Marine Corps to prescribe or officially endorse the uniforms worn by members of the League or its auxiliary, we can provide guidance in the interpretation of applicable laws and directives pertaining to the wear of the Marine Corps uniform or its components.

Determining appropriate wear of the Marine Corps uniform is a somewhat complicated issue. Basically, however, retired or honorably discharged Marines can wear the Marine Corps uniform on appropriate occasions such as patriotic ceremonies or parades, military weddings and funerals, and military social occasions, such as the Birthday Ball. When worn on such occasions our uniform regulations require that the uniform be worn in strict conformance with the same regulations prescribed for active service Marines. Regulations prohibit the wear of distinctive Marine Corps uniform items with non-Marine Corps items. Distinctive items are defined as those which contain any type of Marine Corps distinguishing accouterments, such as awards, emblem buttons, and rank or branch of service insignia.

The Marine Corps frame cap when worn with the Marine Corps emblem and/or emblem buttons would be considered a distinctive uniform item which could only be worn as part of the Marine Corps uniform on appropriate occasions by active, honorably discharged, or retired Marines. Since the French Fourragere is intended to be worn only by active members of the 5th and 6th Marines it would be inappropriate to wear it after detachment or discharge. The khaki short sleeve shirt is not a distinctive item in that it does not contain any distinguishing Marine Corps accoutrements if worn without rank or grade insignia and military awards or badges. While non-distinctive items such as the khaki shirt can be worn with non-Marine Corps items, the Marine Corps would prefer that Marine Corps League participants be attired in a uniform clearly distinguishable as a League uniform.

The Marine Corps values the continuing support of the Marine Corps League and appreciates all efforts to uphold the noble traditions of our joint heritage.

Sincerely,

W. S. JESSON  
Captain, U.S. Marine Corps  
Secretary-Recorder, Permanent  
Marine Corps Uniform Board

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
UNIFORM SURVEY

The National Uniform Committee would like you to give your comments on the current Marine Corps League Uniform and possible future uniform changes. This applies to both men and women.

With this survey, please refer to the letter from Headquarters Marine Corps dated 1 Sept. 1993 regarding the wearing of Marine Corps uniform parts.

Please answer the following to the best of your ability and honestly.

1. I approve of the current MCL Uniform as stated in the National Bylaws.

Strongly Disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Strongly Agree

2. I fully understand the National Bylaws as they pertain to the MCL Uniform.

Strongly Disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Strongly Agree

3. I would like the uniform for the Marine Corps League to be consistent and worn by all without exceptions.

Strongly Disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Strongly Agree

4. The Marine Corps league should allow for other than the prescribed uniform?

Strongly Disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Strongly Agree

5. If there are exceptions, how should they be addressed and to what degree, keeping in mind that we are no longer [generally speaking] active duty Marines.

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6. If so, why and what type. Give exact details.

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7. If I could change any part of the Marine Corps League uniform. I would change (check as many as apply)

Cover (Red hat)	Shirt/Blouse
Trousers	Blazer
Mess Jacket	Skirt
None of the above	

8. As a Woman Marine (WM), I would like parity with the male Marine uniform

Strongly Disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Strongly Agree

9. If I had an option of purchasing a "formal" Mess Jacket, I would like

Red \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Black \_\_\_\_\_ Dark Blue \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

10. If I had a choice of comberbund colors, I would like

Gold \_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_ Black \_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

11. For inclement weather, what type of rain gear would you like?  
Give Details including for parades.

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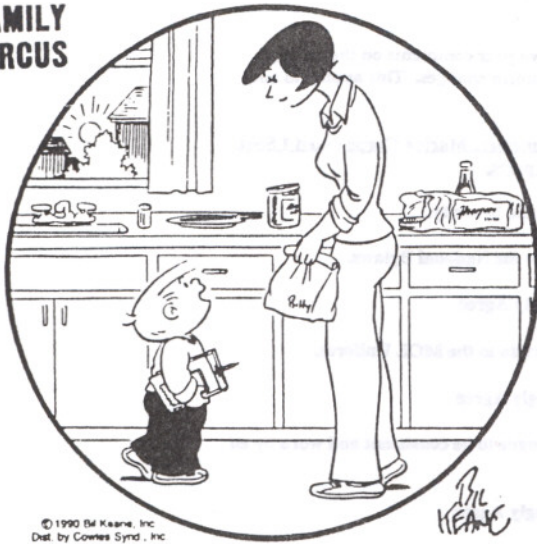
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Return to:

Bill Siebel  
Uniform Committee  
633 Watchung Rd.  
Bound Brook, N.J. 08805



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"If they make us wear uniforms to school, I wanna be a Marine."

*M KEANE*



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Bring a fellow Marine!  
Semper Fi!



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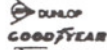
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# Marines to rebuild history

The nation's first Marines enlisted in a city bar. Tun Tavern is gone. The Marines want to create it anew.

By Michael Vitez  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Back in the 1960s, Ron Lankford was living in Michigan, and loaded up the kids in the station wagon for a pilgrimage to Philadelphia and Washington. He came here not for the Liberty Bell or Independence Hall, but for one reason — to pay homage to Tun Tavern, birthplace of the U.S. Marine Corps.

A former Marine, Lankford cruised the city's streets, looking for historical markers. He asked cops and cab drivers. "No one had ever heard of it," he said.

He left town unfulfilled.

But years later he returned, as an executive with the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. And now he is one of many former Marines involved with a nonprofit effort to rebuild Tun Tavern.

"From the day you join the Marine Corps — from the time you get off the bus at boot camp — the lore of Tun Tavern is drilled into you," Lankford added. "Every Marine I've ever known comes to Philadelphia as if it's Mecca and they try to find the birthplace of the Marine Corps ... and there ain't none!"

But he and other members of the Marine Corps Tun Tavern Foundation hope that they can break ground next fall on a new Tun Tavern. A group yesterday was out at the proposed site — at Spruce and Mattis Streets, a block south of the Society Hill Sheraton — to celebrate the 218th birthday of the Marine Corps.

Their dream is to build a replica of the original inn — constructed in 1693 by Samuel Carpenter — and have it serve as a monument, banquet hall, restaurant and magnet for the nation's three million active and former Marines.

The foundation has leased the proposed site from the city for \$1 a year, and hopes to raise the estimated \$3 million needed to construct and operate the new Tun Tavern with contributions from every Marine be-

tween the Halls of Montezuma and the Shores of Tripoli.

"We want grunts," said Lankford. "Not big contributors."

Organizers surely won't turn big contributors away. And so far, \$50,000 has been raised, primarily in corporate contributions.

According to Edgar J. Batten, a retired gunnery sergeant from Maple Shade, the American Marines were founded by an act of the Continental Congress on Nov. 10, 1775. Tun Tavern — a popular meeting place near the Delaware River — became the first recruiting station. It was there that the honor and legend and comradery of the U.S. Marines first took root. The tavern — named after tuns, or large beer casks — was near what is now the approach to the Ben Franklin Bridge. By the late 1700s, the tavern fell into disrepair.

In the 1950s, the Mary Curtis Louise Bock Foundation attempted to rebuild Tun Tavern on National Park Service property near Independence Hall, according to Batten. But the project was denied because accurate drawings or architectural plans for the original building could not be found, guaranteeing historical accuracy.

In the 1970s, a group of former Marines and city officials tried to rebuild Tun Tavern on the currently proposed site. The site was excavated and a foundation was even built, and an estimated \$400,000 was raised, but the funds dried up and the project died with it, according to R. Patrick Scully, a former Marine and chief fund-raiser for the current Tun Tavern project.

Those involved now say they are optimistic the money will be forthcoming. For pledges of as little as \$25 a year, said Scully, photographs and biographies of Marines and former Marines will be on computer at Tun Tavern, preserved for posterity. And through research, organizers say they have come up with a model of the tavern that is close — if not identical — to the original.

Included on the board of directors are Melanie Hopkins, who works for City Councilman W. Thacher Longstreth, a longtime supporter of the project, and Claire Griese, a former Marine captain, and member of the first class of women attending officer-candidate school in 1943.

"I think it was all those John Wayne movies, I don't know," said Griese, who lives in Haddonfield, when asked why she joined.

She is as impassioned about reviving Tun Tavern as any of the other Marines — all male — attending yesterday's cake-cutting and birthday celebration. And their formula for a successful fund-raising campaign is a simple one: If we build it, they will contribute — and come.



# A sense of humor and determination helped former Marine get through war in the Pacific

By Josh McHugh  
Staff Writer

*(Sixth in a series)*

Ed Ronnan of Lansdale is, without a doubt, a tough man. He invaded the Pacific islands of Guam and Okinawa with the United States Marine Corps in World War II.

Ronnan was a machine-gunner. He had been told that his stay in the Pacific would last no more than 24 months, but he ended up toting 30-caliber water- and air-cooled machine guns around the Pacific theater for 31 months.

"The Corps wasn't that big then," Ronnan says. "They needed every man they could get."

Sitting at the bar of the American Legion post on Second and Walnut streets in Lansdale, Ronnan, clear-eyed and alert, looks younger than his 69 years, and definitely younger than his participation in some of the fiercest battles in World War II might suggest.

During his tour of duty, Ronnan saw his share of rough times. On June 18, 1945, Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner was killed by a Japanese mortar while observing the 8th Marines' Second Marine Division's progress in the invasion of Okinawa.

Ronnan had joined the outfit shortly before the invasion began.

"They dropped that mortar right between his feet," Ronnan says, shaking his head. "There were all kinds of ambulances and guards hauling him out of there."

Such episodes aside, Ronnan generally expresses a fairly humorous view of much of his time in the Pacific.

He jokes that the best of times were "when a shipload of beer came in, which wasn't too often," and that the worst of times was "when a ship full of

our beer was sunk by a Japanese sub off Okinawa."

Ronnan says that, though the insects and large land-crabs that populated the islands were annoying, he and his fellow marines enjoyed the physical attributes of the south Pacific.

"The weather was beautiful," Ronnan recalls. "The days were hot, and the nights were cold; you had to sleep under three blankets. The water was crystal clear. You could see the coral 40 feet under the surface."

While the Marines were routinely served such delicacies as dehydrated potatoes and dehydrated eggs, they occasionally came up with some creative culinary techniques.

"We would drop a block of TNT into the water and detonate it," Ronnan says. "The fish would all float to the surface, and we'd go out in a boat and scoop them up. There were usually enough fish to feed about 15 men."

Once, on Guam, someone in Ronnan's outfit spotted a couple of wayward pigs, shot them, and brought them back to the base camp. "A couple of southerners skinned them and made chitlins out of them," Ronnan says, grinning. "They were delicious."

Ronnan says that the pigs' owners later inquired about the disappearance of their livestock. The unit's captain denied any knowledge of the pigs, Ronnan says, "but he ate pork."

After peace was declared in the Pacific, Ronnan joined the occupation forces in Nagasaki, Japan.

"The place was pretty washed out," Ronnan says. "All the buildings were leveled, just gone. The people . . . were all burned and scarred. You had to feel sorry for them — you really did. The civilians didn't ask for that."

The greatest thing he brought away from the war, Ronnan said, was the most obvious — his life. Ronnan says he feels very lucky to have never even been wounded in combat, especially considering the extended amount of time he spent in battle. "I never thought I'd make it," he says.

Many of his friends in the Corps were not as fortunate, Ronnan adds. He declines to discuss these losses. "Those are the things," Ronnan says, looking into the distance, "that you don't talk about."

After his discharge from the Corps in Chicago in the winter of 1945, Ronnan returned to his native Conshohocken and, soon after, moved to Lansdale, where he met his wife in 1946.

Ronnan has two daughters and a son, Ted, who recently completed a stint with the Marine Corps.

He says he immediately knew Lansdale was the place for him, and has lived and worked in the area ever since. "Lansdale was — and is — a great, clean town," he says.

Another Marine gets up and moves toward the door of the America Legion, stopping to shake Ronnan's hand on the way.

"Semper Fi," the Marine says on his way out.

"Semper Fi!" Ronnan barks in reply. Then, as if to himself, "Semper Fi."



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