

LISTEN UP!



VOLUME XXI, Number 7

JULY 2008

Commandant: JAMES POWELL

Editor: DON H. GEE

MEMORIAL DAY FUND-RAISER



Chaplain Budd Pearce (right) and Associate Member Larry Scheetz at the Cross Keys State Store.

Veterans Military Hand Salute

The President has signed the Amendment to Section 9 of Title 4 of the U.S. Code which was attached with the H.R. 4986 Bill under the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008. The amendment reads:

SEC. 594. CONDUCT BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS OUT OF UNIFORM DURING HOISTING, LOWERING, OR PASSING OF UNITED STATES FLAG.

Section 9 of title 4, United States Code, is amended by striking 'all persons present' and all that follows through the end of the section and inserting the following: 'all persons present in uniform should render the military salute. Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute. All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Citizens of other countries present should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.'

V-A REACHING OUT TO RECENT COMBAT VETERANS OFFERING HELP

WASHINGTON--The Department of Veterans Affairs began contacting nearly 570,000 recent combat veterans May 1 to ensure they know about VA's medical services and other benefits.

"We will reach out and touch every veteran of *Operation Enduring Freedom* and *Operation Iraqi Freedom* to let them know we are here for them," said Veterans Affairs Secretary Dr. James B. Peake, a retired Lieutenant General who served as Army Surgeon General. "VA is committed to getting these veterans the help they need and deserve."

A contractor-operated "Combat Veteran Call Center" will telephone two distinct populations of veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan, officials said. In the first phase, calls will go to an estimated 17,000 veterans who were sick or injured while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. VA will offer to appoint a care manager to work with them if they don't have one already. Care managers ensure veterans receive appropriate care and know about their VA benefits.

For five years after their discharge from the military, these combat veterans have special access to VA health care. The department screens combat veterans for signs of post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. VA personnel have been deployed to the military's major medical centers to assist wounded service members and their families during the transition to civilian lives.

The new call center's second phase will target 550,000 Afghanistan and Iraq veterans who have been discharged from active duty but have not contacted VA for services. Once contacted, veterans will be informed about VA's benefits and services. The initial calls will be made by a private contractor, EDS, which specializes in technology services to improve business. If needed, VA employees will make follow-up calls, officials said.

"We will leave no stone unturned to reach these veterans," said Dr. Edward Huycke, Chief of the Veterans Affairs-Defense Department Coordination Office.



COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

We had another busy month with our Memorial Day Fund Raiser and Parade. We also had our first meeting at the Applied Medical Solutions location.

Our Memorial Day fund raising weekend was successful again this year. But our A-Day fund raiser struggled again this year. We will need to do some thinking on what we can in place of A-Day. And I'd like to say "Thank You" to all who came out to help make these fund raisers and parade possible.

The Annual Doylestown Memorial Day Parade, again sponsored by the United

Veterans of Doylestown, was the 142nd. The parade was a huge success and was bigger in the number of participants than last year. The cemetery Veterans Honor Ceremony was by all accounts the best that's been done. Thanks to our **Judge Advocate Jim McComb** for doing a stellar job.

Bill Miller was nominated for Department of Pennsylvania Marine of the Year by our Detachment. The vote by the membership present was unanimous. The paperwork was delivered to the convention.

We sold 736 Department Youth and Veterans tickets and they were also delivered to the convention. We increased our tickets by 12% over last year and we sold the second most tickets in the South

East District. A great job was done by all and hopefully we can increase this again next year. I'd like to give special thanks to **Kenny Murray** and **Junior Vice Commandant Ben Jones** for their outstanding efforts to help the Detachment.

We have a few things coming up. First is the 4th of July parade in Chalfont. Everyone should meet at the Town Center on 202 South in New Britain. If you need further information please contact **Chaplain Budd Pearce**. Also, the Pennsylvania Department Rifle Match will be is September 26th thru the 28th. Anyone interested in coming out and shooting for the Detachment please contact the **R&P Team Captain, Budd Pearce**.

Please remember that our July meeting will also be at the Applied Medical Solutions location in Doylestown. That's it for now, enjoy your summer.

Semper Fi,



**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 L. MICKELSON

Jr. VICE COMMANDANT
BEN JONES

ADJUTANT-PAYMASTER
DON H. GEE, PC

JUDGE ADVOCATE
JAMES McCOMB

QUARTERMASTER
COREY A. FISHER

CHAPLAIN
ELLIS M. (BUDD) PEARCE, PC

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
BOB SUNDLING, PC

MESS SERGEANT
VINCENT J. HAGAN

WEB SERGEANT
JOSEPH F. DOHERTY

CHINA PHONE BOOK

China will no longer publish a phone directory due to chaos... there are so many Wing's and Wong's in THE DIRECTORY, people were always winging wong numbers.

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINES ON THE NET

CAPRIO, Paul	mibupe@aol.com
CODY, Bob	codyrj@att.net
CUPITT, Steve	scupitt@aol.com
	scupitt@motorola.com
GEE, Don	USMCCCA@aol.com
HOTH, Ed	Edhothusmc@aol.com
JONES, Ben	benjaminjones1@gmail.com
KELLER, Bruce	bruce@taylosbucks.com
McCOMB, Jim	j_mccomb@verizon.net
MILLER, Bill	billjae@verizon.net
MOMORELLA, Bob	mombo@starlinx.com
PARZANESE, D. Sr.	parzanese@quigleyco.com
PEARCE, Budd	Buddpearce@comcast.net
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	usmc80@comcast.net
SCOTT, Rich	richgscott@aol.com
SUNDLING, Bob	psundling@verizon.net
	sundling@tiniusolsen.com
WALDRON, Mike	waldron@quigleyco.com

JUNE DETACHMENT MEETING



MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held June 11, 2008, at Advanced Medical Solutions, 54 E. Oakland St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 22 members present including all officers except the Adjutant-Paymaster. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Budd Pearce and Bob Sundling**; **Past Commandant and Marine of the Year Bill Miller**; and **Past Commandant of the Department of New Jersey Ed Hoth**.

The Minutes of the May Meeting were unanimously accepted.

The Paymaster's Report was not presented.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Jim Powell reported on the correspondence received since the May Meeting and reminded the members the Department Convention would take place this weekend.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Mickelson reported the Detachment strength at 52 including 23 Life Members, 24 Annual Members, 4 Associate Members, and 1 Honorary Member.

Junior Vice Commandant Ben Jones reported he would like to organize a fund-raiser for the Birthday Ball. He then deferred to **Chaplain Budd Pearce, PC**, who reported about the Department Raffle Ticket sales and the fund raiser at the State Store in Cross Keys over the Memorial Day Weekend.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC, reported the Color Guard had not been requested since the May Meeting.

Chaplain Budd Pearce reported his services were available but not requested since the last meeting.

Quartermaster Corey Fisher reported on last month's QM sales.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Budd Pearce reported on the Department Pistol Match and reminded the members the Department Rifle Match was scheduled for September.

Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Budd Pearce reported the next highway clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, July 12.

OLD BUSINESS

Commandant Powell inquired about the status of the Detachment Float. Chaplain Pearce brought the members up-to-date.

Chaplain Pearce made a motion to amend 1st month's motion to provide free League blazers to elected officers. His motion was to amend the approved motion from "provide a red blazer to officers at the end of their first term in office" to "provide a red blazer to officers at the beginning of their first term in office." Motion was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Commandant Powell asked the Detachment to affirm the nomination of our Detachment "Marine of the Year," Bill Miller, as Department of Pennsylvania "Marine of the Year." Motion carried unanimously.

Chaplain Pearce made a motion for the Detachment to donate \$200 to the Department Scholarship Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sergeant-at-Arms Sundling asked the members to keep in mind he was trying to coordinate a trip to Washington, DC, the last Friday in August to attend the final "Evening Parade" of the season at 8th & I. The trip will include a visit to the National Museum of the Marine Corps, dinner, and the Evening Parade.

Chaplain Pearce reminded the members about the July 4th Chalfont-New Britain Parade. The Detachment will assemble at the Town Center Shopping Center on Route 202 in New Britain at 8:30 a.m. to put the finishing touches on the Float.

Department Assistant SE District Vice Commandant Bill Miller announced he will be running for the office of SE District Vice Commandant would appreciate the Detachment's support.

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

TEAM EVALUATES WOUNDED WARRIOR PROGRAMS

by American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, May 7--A joint team formed by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is looking at the broad range of care and support services for wounded warriors to find any gaps and tap into best practices to share across the force.

Navy Adm. Mike Mullen stood up the Joint Staff Wounded Warrior Integration Team in late April and appointed his strategic plans and policy chief, Marine Lt. Gen. John F. Sattler, to head it up.

The team will evaluate all programs that affect wounded warriors and their families to see which are working best, which can be improved, and how to make the services they provide easier to tap into, Sattler explained during an interview with the Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service.

"A lot of things are being done across the spectrum by a lot of great people. We just want to make sure that where there may be a duplication of effort, we can use those resources more wisely," he said. "And if there may be unintentional gaps and seams, we can overcome those."

Sattler noted big improvements in the care and support for wounded troops and emphasized that the task force wasn't formed to fix any particular shortcoming or problem.

"No commander stops raising the bar because they think they have hit the objective," he said. "Even if we're doing all we can do, the harder you look at things, the more often you find things you can do better."

Unlike the flurry of task forces and evaluation teams that convened last year after deficiencies at Walter Reed Army Medical Center came to light, the new joint task force will focus heavily on what's going right, Sattler said.

"This is taking a look at things that are going well -- things that don't normally attract attention because they are humming along -- [and asking] 'Are they humming at the rpm's that they should be? Could they be improved upon? Could we make life better [or] easier, could we facilitate for warriors and their families the ability to find out what they don't know?'"

Mullen dedicated "a lot of his best and

brightest across the Joint Staff" to answer these questions, Sattler said. The team consists of experts from the legal, legislative affairs, public affairs and personnel fields, as well as commanders with recent combat experience. The variety of perspectives reflects "the intent of making it the best we can for our men and women," Sattler said.

The team is approaching the challenge as an operational planning team would take on a challenge at any military command, he said. It's starting with Mullen's stated intent: "He wants to find, locate the best practices and facilitate the ability of our men and women and their families to have access to those best practices," Sattler said.

Now, the team is exploring all existing programs -- within the military, other government agencies as well as nongovernmental and nonprofit groups -- to see how they support that intent. The team will brief Mullen and the service chiefs on its findings at least every two weeks and assemble a "campaign plan" that

documents all services currently available and recommended changes or improvements.

Sattler conceded that wounded warriors and their families are a "hard-core crew" who don't ask for much as they try to move forward with their lives.

"They want to take their own destiny into their own hands and they want to advance their cause," he said. "Whatever their wound may be, they want to get back to where they can function in society. No one is looking for a handout."

But it's the Defense Department's responsibility, he said, to ensure programs for wounded warriors are the best they can be.

The issue, he said, isn't about "How high have we raised the bar to support our men and women?," but rather, "How can we raise that bar even higher?"

"Until we exhaust all those efforts, ... as long as our efforts produce results that are better for the men and women and their families or make it easier for [them], then we shouldn't rest," he said.

ABOUT AREA CODE 809

We actually received a call last week from the 809 area code. The woman said 'Hey, this is Karen. Sorry I missed you--get back to us quickly. I have something important to tell you.' Then she repeated a phone number beginning with 809 'We didn't respond'.

Then this week, we received the following e-mail:

Subject: DON'T EVER DIAL AREA CODE 809 , 284 AND 876

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION PROVIDED TO US BY AT&T. DON'T EVER DIAL AREA CODE 809

This one is being distributed all over the US . This is pretty scary, especially given the way they try to get you to call. Be sure you read this and pass it on.

They get you to call by telling you that it is information about a family member who has been ill or to tell you someone has been arrested, died, or to let you know you have won a wonderful prize, etc.

In each case, you are told to call the

809 number right away. Since there are so many new area codes these days, people unknowingly return these calls.

If you call from the US , you will apparently be charged \$2425 per-minute.

Or, you'll get a long recorded message. The point is, they will try to keep you on the phone as long as possible to increase the charges. Unfortunately, when you get your phone bill, you'll often be charged more than \$24,100.00.

WHY IT WORKS:

The 809 area code is located in the British Virgin Islands (The Bahamas). The charges afterwards can become a real nightmare. That's because you did actually make the call. If you complain, both your local phone company and your long distance carrier will not want to get involved and will most likely tell you that they are simply providing the billing for the foreign company . You'll end up dealing with a foreign company that argues they have done nothing wrong.

Sandi Van Handel
AT&T Field Service Manager
(920)687-904

PENNSYLVANIA GULF WAR BONUS

**ATTENTION:
DESERT SHIELD/STORM
VETERANS!**



The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has launched a new benefit program to recognize your service:

THE PERSIAN GULF CONFLICT VETERANS' BONUS

The program provides a one-time payment to anyone who:

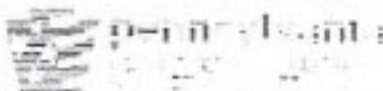
- Served on active duty (including mobilized Guard and Reserve) in the Persian Gulf theater between August 2, 1990 and August 31, 1991
- Received the Southwest Asia Service Medal
- Was a legal resident of Pennsylvania at the time of their service

Eligible veterans receive payment of \$75 per month (up to \$525) for every month of active Gulf War service. An additional bonus of \$5000 is available for surviving families of those killed in action.

To learn more about the program or how to apply, visit:

www.persiangufbonus.state.pa.us

Or call toll free: 1-866-458-9182



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**4TH OF JULY PARADE
4 JULY**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
9 JULY**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
13 AUGUST**

**LABOR DAY
1 SEPTEMBER**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
10 SEPTEMBER**

**PATRIOT DAY
11 SEPTEMBER**

**CITIZENSHIP/
CONSTITUTION DAY
17 SEPTEMBER**

**POW/MIA DAY
21 SEPTEMBER**

**FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN
22 SEPTEMBER**

**ROSH HASHANAH
30 SEPTEMBER**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
8 OCTOBER**

**YOM KIPPUR
9 OCTOBER**

**COLUMBUS DAY
12 OCTOBER**

**HALLOWEEN
31 OCTOBER**

Washington Crossing VA National Cemetery

• The new 268-acre national cemetery in southeastern Pennsylvania will serve veterans' needs for the next 50 years. The cemetery is located in Bucks County, north of the city of Philadelphia, about three miles northwest of Interstate 95, and less than three miles from Washington Crossing Historic Park.

• In January 2008, VA awarded a design contract to Calrose & Knapp, Inc. of Philadelphia. VA plans on completing a 12-acre early burial area with temporary facilities (Phase 1A) followed by the second construction stage of the project (Phase 1B). When completed, the 64-acre Phase 1 development will provide 15,800 full casket gravesites, including 13,500 pre-placed crypts, and 6,500 in-ground casket sites and 4,100 columbarium niches. The new cemetery will also include an administration and public information center complex

and public restroom, a maintenance facility, a cemetery entrance area, a flag assembly area, and ceremonial shrines for funeral services. Other infrastructure design elements include roadways, landscaping, utilities, and irrigation.

• VA anticipates burials to begin in 2009. The new cemetery will serve approximately 170,000 veterans who are not currently served by a nearby national or state veterans cemetery. The state's other VA cemeteries are Philadelphia National Cemetery, Indian Creek National Cemetery and National Cemetery of the Alleghenies.

• For more information, call the Memorial Service Network Office at (215) 381-3737. To make burial arrangements call (800) 535-1117.

• More information about VA's National Cemetery Administration is available on its website: www.va.gov.

DID YOU KNOW ...

That 47 countries have renounced their embassy in Iraq?

+++

That the Iraqi government currently employs 1.2 million Iraqi people?

+++

That 3,100 schools have been renovated, 364 schools are under rehabilitation, 268 new schools are now under construction, and 38 new schools have been completed in Iraq?

+++

That Iraq's higher educational structure consists of 39 universi-

ties, 46 institutes or colleges and 4 research centers, all currently operating?

+++

That 25 Iraqi students departed for the United States in January 2005 for the re-established Fulbright program?

+++

That the Iraqi Navy is operational? They have 8 - 500-foot patrol craft, 34 smaller vessels and a naval infantry regiment.

+++

That the Baghdad Stock Exchange opened in June of 2004?

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

**DETACHMENT
LICENSE PLATE**



\$10.00

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



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

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"