



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 - DON GEE

EDITOR - BOB SCHAFFER

VOL. 9 NO. 7

NEWSLETTER

JULY 1996

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JUNE DETACHMENT MEETING.

The regular Detachment meeting was held on June 12, 1996 at the American Legion Home on North Street, in Doylestown, Pa.

There were sixteen members present including all officers except the Sr. Vice, Adjutant and the Paymaster.

One visitor was present: Chuck Flanagan of Doylestown, Pa.

Past Commandants Don Parzanese, Budd Pearce and Frank Yohe were recognized along with the Marine of the Year, Bob Schaffer.

Minutes of the May Detachment meeting were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was correspondence from the Department of Pa. concerning the proposed uniform changes that will be proposed at the National Convention, in August. The major changes are as follows:

SUMMER SERVICE UNIFORM - "A"

Black trousers, white shirt, MCL garrison cap, ribbons, badges and collar devices.

SUMMER SERVICE UNIFORM - "B"

Khaki shirt, dress blues trousers, MCL garrison cap, ribbons, badges and collar devices.

If you have an objection to this, you must let the Department Uniform Chairman know.

There was a request from the American Legion concerning a blood drive on June 29th at the Fort Washington Expo Center. They are attempting to gain entry into the Guinness Book of Records for "the most blood donated in a twelve-hour period" from 8AM to 8PM. Anyone interested in participating should call 1-800-BLOOD for an appointment.

The Detachment Color Guard was requested to be present for the Special Olympic Softball Tournament, on June 22, (10AM), at the Colledgeville Campus of the Rhone- Poulenc Rorer Pharmaceutical Company. Every effort will be made to be present at this function.

The Toys for Tots program has suffered greatly since a much publicized scandal several years ago and many Detachments have separated themselves from the Marine Reserves and the Toys for Tots Foundation. They now collect money and toys and distribute them within their Detachments and the surrounding areas, to needy families. If this is the practice that the Central Bucks Detachment wishes to follow, a formal letter must be sent to the Commanding General, Fourth Marine Corps Division in Louisiana to get official permission to continue doing this.

PAYMASTER

Since the paymaster is absent, there will be two paymaster's reports submitted for approval at the July meeting.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

COMMANDANT - Don Gee

The Detachment took part in two parades last month; one in Sellersville and one in Doylestown, on Memorial Day. It seems that the same the same dozen or so people turn out for these events. The Detachment would certainly be grateful if more of the members would manage to give their support by participating in these group activities.

YOUNG MARINES - Budd Pearce

On Sunday, June 9, 1996, the Young Marines held short a graduation ceremony for four recruits that completed their "boot camp." However, only two "boots" were able to be present. The commanding officer of the Young Marines Detachment told the parents that were present that they appreciated all the support, financial and otherwise that the Central Bucks Detachment has given them over the years and he hopes that this will continue in the future.

Anyone who would possibly be interested in working with the Young Marines, would be most welcome and they would be more than happy to have you join their ranks. See Don Gee or contact Walt Roach (369-6242) if you would like to volunteer.

COLOR GUARD - Bob Sundling

The Detachment would like to have six members on the color guard; four permanent and two alternates. This would insure that we would always have enough people to staff the four man color guard.

QUARTERMASTER

At the present time we need a new Quartermaster. Don Parzanese Jr. has indicated that he would possibly be interested in the job. We will know for sure next month.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

No date has been set for the next cleanup. Members will be notified at a later meeting of the exact date that is selected.

NEWSLETTER

Bob Schaffer is anxiously searching for a replacement as the news editor. Anyone who is interested in becoming the Public Relations Officer for the Detachment please contact Bob Schaffer or Don Gee as soon as possible. Bob's new job with New Britain Borough is so time consuming that he cannot find sufficient hours to do the job properly. A replacement is needed as soon as possible.

VAVS

Don Gee has contributed forty-eight (48) hours at VA Hospital in Philadelphia in the last month.

LADIES AUXILARY - Paul Caprio

There will possibly be a meeting at Paul's house on the second Saturday in July to see if there are enough potential members interested. They must have at least ten women to get started. If that number is secured then the District representative, Sally Bergman will come and talk to them and give them all the necessary information. From there on, it will be up to the auxiliary to proceed if they want to or disband, if not. It was suggested that possibly if the names of those women who are interested were published in the Newsletter, it might generate more interest among the women who have not committed, to date.

Those who have signed up so far: **Evelyn Caprio, Paula Caprio, Suzanne Pearce, Cathy Rosenberger, Tammy Gee, Peggy Sundling, and Susanne Smith.**

NEWSLETTER ADS

More letters will be sent out in an effort to attract new advertisers.

FLEA MARKET - Paul Caprio

The Detachment Flea Market will be held in August. The tables will be \$10.00 per table and the location will be in New Britain, Pa. There will be an ad in the Intelligencer to attract potential dealers and customers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nominations for "Marine of the Year" must be submitted to Bob Schaffer listing the potential candidate and why you are recommending them.

MESS SERGEANT - Will Haas

Donations for food and brew after the meeting have been running short. There is no reason why the members can't contribute enough to make it pay for itself and not make it necessary to take money out of the Detachment funds to pay for this.

Herb Krout reported that the Mayor of Doylestown had to pay \$100 out of his own pocket for the sound system that was used for the ceremonies at the cemetery. A motion was made to donate \$25 to reimburse the mayor. There was no second to the motion.

GENUARDI AND REDNER TAPES

Please keep sending in the Genuardi register tapes that are sent to the market for a percentage reimbursement to the Detachment.

In the future all Redner tapes should give to Gary Smith since he will be taking care of those.

NEW BUSINESS

VAVS - Under the Ambassador Program volunteer's are needed at the VA Hospital to sit at the front desk to help those visitors who need wheelchairs or other aids to get around the hospital. See Don Gee if you can help.

We may have a recruiter at the next meeting to show a film and give a little talk

The Detachment would like a nice turn out for the Fourth of July parade in New Britain and Chalfont. The parade will start at 10AM but members are asked to report at 8:30AM to help decorate the float. The uniform of the day will be black trousers, white shirt, MCL cover, ribbons and collar ornaments.

An operator is needed for the food cart before we can put it into operation. Anyone interested please contact Don Gee

Any suggestions for the Marine Corps Ball should be submitted to Ernie Ortiz. He is looking for input.

A motion was made and passed unanimously that the uniform of the day for all Detachment meetings is optional and at the discretion of the individual member.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

Don Parzanese requested that anyone who hasn't previously turned in a DD214 form, please do so.

THE NEXT REGULAR DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE 10 JULY 96 (1930) AT THE AMERICAN LEGION HOME ON NORTH STREET IN DOYLESTOWN, PA.



*"Once a Marine,
Always a Marine"*

*Recruit a New Member
for the League Today!*



COMMANDANT'S COLUMN



Marines,

By the time this is published, we will have attended the Department of Pennsylvania Convention in Valley Forge and led the Annual 4th of July Parade in Chalfont/New Britain.

One of the highly controversial items which will have been discussed at the Convention will be the current proposal concerning Marine Corps League uniform changes to be voted upon at the National Convention next month. The 1/2-inch thick proposal can be boiled down to the main issue of adopting or not adopting the khaki shirt as part of the League uniform. Opinions on this item are polarized. There seems to be no middle ground. The opposing elements within the League on this change are either vehemently against adopting the "brown shirt" or steadfastly dedicated to its being added to the various "official" League uniforms. After reading the proposal, adoption would result in two basic changes: Summer Service "A" uniform would be the short-sleeved, white aviator shirt with black trousers and Summer Service "B" would be the short-sleeved, tropical/khaki shirt with Dress Blues trousers.

Believe it or not, this is such a volatile issue among League members that one Detachment withdrew from the League and started its own para-Marine Corps unit because its membership refused to give up wearing the khaki shirt. More on this issue as it develops.

For the second year, our Detachment Color Guard (Sgt.-at-Arms **Bob Sundling**, Chaplain **Budd Pearce** and Marine **Steve Weir**) had the opportunity (for the second year) to participate in the opening ceremony of the Pennsylvania Special Olympics Invitational Softball Tournament in Collegeville on June 22. The Color Guard was augmented by Pennsylvania State Trooper **Bob Glad**, who carried the Commonwealth flag. It was indeed a unique experience. The event featured about 200 athletes of varying ages. There were carnival-like individual games for the competitors while they waited their teams' turns to play softball; there were hot dogs, hamburgers and grilled chicken sandwiches and soft drinks; and, there was a spirit of camaraderie and enthusiastic competition which one had to see to appreciate. We can be proud our Detachment has been a part in this annual event.

Our Auxiliary Unit is about to become a reality. **Paul Caprio**, our Auxiliary Liaison, and his wife, **Evelyn**, have tentatively scheduled an initial meeting of the ladies at their home this month. Department Auxiliary President **Sally Bergman** is expected to attend to help get the Unit up-and-running. If your wife, daughter, granddaughter, step-daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, etc., is interested in joining the Unit, contact Marine **Caprio** at (215) 674-4111 for more details.

Hope to see you at this month's meeting. It's **your** Detachment.

Semper Fidelis,

DON H. GEE

Chaplain's Corner

I am sorry to have to report that our Sr. Vice Bill Rosenberger injured his knee recently. He has undergone some tests, but I have not heard what the outcome was yet. He was hobbling around on crutches the other day. He will be at the 4th of July parade in Chalfont, but I believe that he will be riding on the float for this one. You can march next time Bill, just get that knee better before the rifle matches begin!!! (You don't need any more excuses for your shooting than you already have.)

One bit of news that I did pick up on is that our fellow member Larry Scheetz had a run in with a water pipe recently. It seems that he was clearing some debris from a large pipe that takes excessive water from his father-in-law's yard to the nearby creek, when he was caught by the current and ended up in the pipe himself. Fortunately for Larry, his son Chad was nearby and jumped in to save him. Chad managed to get his father out before the current could take Larry far enough into the pipe that he couldn't be helped. Larry has good reason to be proud of Chad for this act of unselfish heroism. Well done Chad, you are a credit to yourself and your proud parents!

That's all I have for now. I hope to see you all at our next meeting!

MARINE CORPS TRIVIA QUIZ

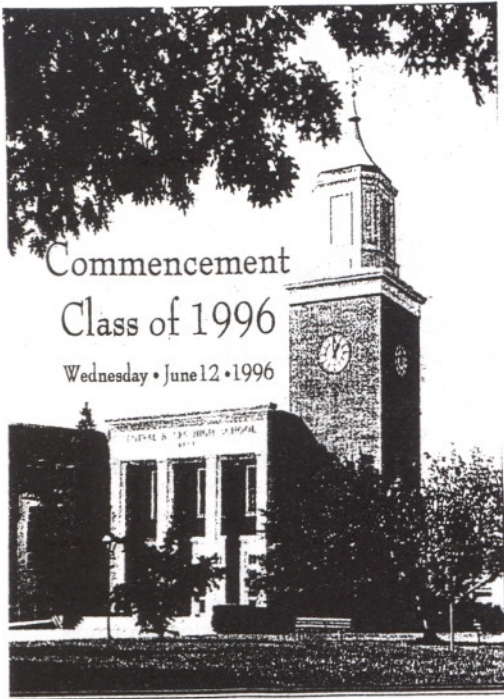


1. How many gallons of "Agent Orange" were dumped on Vietnam?
2. Which Marine Corps Commandant was nicknamed "Sunny Jim"?
3. Who was the first Marine MEDEVAC pilot?
4. When the Marines landed in the Bahamas in 1776, which colors were raised when they reached shore?
5. Who was the first black Woman Marine officer?

Answers in Next Month's Newsletter

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1. Corporal William T. Perkins was the only Marine Corps Combat Correspondent to win the Medal of Honor (post-humously, during Vietnam).
2. Major Stephen Pless was the first Marine helicopter pilot to earn the Medal of Honor (during Korea).
3. The first Vietnam battle to be fought only by Marines was "Operation STARLITE."
4. Gunnery Sergeant Dan Daly said, "Any officer can get by on his Sergeants. I'd rather be an outstanding Sergeant than just another officer."
5. "The Yankee Team" was the code name used in Vietnam to identify Marine recon-pilots.



Commencement
Class of 1996

Wednesday • June 12 • 1996

CENTRAL BUCKS HIGH SCHOOL WEST

United States Marine Corps The "Semper Fidelis" Award for Musical Excellence	Sarah Jimmerson
United States Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award	Todd Batson Krista Hofmann
United States Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award	Jeffrey D'Angelo

Krulak touts virtues of excellence

By Gidget Fuentes
Times staff writer

The Marine Corps commandant's latest call to Marines asks them to commit to "unwavering excellence."

Excellence, Gen. Charles C. Krulak wrote April 2, is embodied in the Marine Corps' "core values" of honor, courage and commitment.

"In work, excellence is competence and dependency. In friendships, excellence is honesty and loyalty. In marriage, excellence is fidelity and unwavering commitment," Krulak wrote in a Marinewide message, ALMAR 128/96.

"Excellence goes hand in hand with sound moral character because Marines committed to excellence make the right moral decisions in all aspects of their lives," he wrote. "Marines pursue excellence because we embrace enduring standards of right and wrong, of courage and commitment, of honor and self-sacrifice."

Krulak has trumpeted a morality theme since taking over as commandant last summer. The latest chapter follows earlier messages on the general theme of morality

he's preached in speeches, interviews and messages to Marines, such as: ■ **Ethics:** "Our core values of honor, courage and commitment are at the very soul of our institution," Krulak wrote in the Commandant's Planning Guidance. "There is no room in our Marine Corps for either situational ethics or situational morality."

■ **Truth:** "I don't think you can have an effective fighting organization if you have people who lie to themselves, to their fellow Marines, because that's an issue of moral courage," Krulak told *Navy Times* in December. "The Marine Corps knows right now that the standards set are that there will be no lying, cheating and stealing."

■ **Ethos:** "One of the [things] that sets us apart is this strong sense of ethos of what it means to be a Marine," Krulak said. That ethos, he said, is embodied in the virtues of honor, courage and commitment, the "core values" touted by his predecessor.

■ **Fidelity:** "Part of our problem is that [infidelity] used to be almost acceptable," he said. "That kind of attitude can't exist anymore in the Corps today. That just

breeds the wrong type of thing."

■ **Respect:** "Respect is something that we're trying to inculcate to every Marine," he said.

Down to the boots

Even boots at recruit training are getting the word. The Marine Corps has expanded its "core values" training to 20 hours that includes lessons and group discussions on ethics and morality.

It's that similar theme in Krulak's latest message. "Excellence," he wrote, "doesn't just appear in our lives; it must be learned and practiced. Marines must demand excellence in themselves and require excellence from one another," he wrote. He quoted the classical thinker, Aristotle, who wrote, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

Krulak expanded on that thought: "Our quest, therefore, must be constant — seeking it in our personal relationship, our leadership and our personal activities."

He added: "No goal less than excellence in our lives is worthy of our calling."

Oxymoron on Horseback: The Marine Corps Polo Team

By JOAN TARSHIS

Special to the Times

"I'd like an order of jumbo shrimp, please."

"Well, that's just my humble opinion"

"The silence was deafening."

Oxymorons — two contradictory words creating one idea. We all like 'em. So here's a new one:

"Did you see the Marine Corps polo team?"

Marine Corps polo team? That's not an oxymoron. That's "When World Collide!"

But hang on, we're serious. There is a Marine Corps polo team. Polo, like with horses and white britches, and Marines, like, uh, Marines. And it's not as outrageous as it may sound . . .

Though the Marine Corps is famous for many other intramural teams and sporting activities, such as their rifle and pistol team, wrestling, football and basketball teams, until 1995 they were polo-less.

That was when Lt. Col. Carl R. Bott, assistant chief of staff, G-2, intelligence officer for the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing at MCAS El Toro in California decided it was time to change that status.

Actually polo isn't new to the modern U.S. military or even to the Marine Corps.

Army General George S. Patton felt polo was a necessity in training a combat commander and even compared the playing of the game to "a good war."

Originating in ancient Persia, where it was used to train young cavalry members in aggressive team fighting, it later developed into a victory celebration.

But things have lightened up a bit since the game was first invented. In those days, instead of a plastic ball, the game was played by hitting the decapitated head of an enemy into a goal.

"It has always been a military game," says Bott. "It's almost made for the military. In fact, the Marine Corps had really fine polo teams up till 1939, then World War II started. From that point on, the civilian sector was more into it."

Customarily people have thought of polo as a game for people dressed in white, who sip tea, play cricket and have a royal title before their names.

But watch a few chuckers in the flesh, and you'll soon discover that polo is not a game for people who are afraid to sweat and get dirty. "You can't be afraid to mix it up with someone," Bott says with a smile.

"When we get in the arena, galloping out in the grass at 30 miles a hour, trying to hit a ball 3-1/4 inches in diameter and somebody's horse is banging up next to you, it isn't as effete as it may seem."

Upper torso strength is a requirement for all polo players. Though many muscle groups are used — upper and lower back, arms, thighs, lower legs and hands — no one denies that the real athletes are the horses.

And they are just as competitive as the players, if not more so. "That ball goes down the field and they're looking at it. They're looking right at it. And you'll see when a ball goes up, the horse's head goes up."

"He knows what he's supposed to be doing," says Bott.

The Colonel abruptly stops talking and laughs for a moment at himself. "I said 'he' when I talked about the horses, but most polo horses are mares."

"Mares give you 110% but not everybody can ride them," says Sue Sally Hale, the official trainer of the El Toro polo team. "Why? Because you have to command, not demand. When you put a mallet in a person's hand . . . the real person comes out. If they are a demanding person, the mare says, 'Hey, ask me, I'll do it. Don't tell me.'"

What Hale knows about polo could fill a stadium. Some people think she was born playing the sport, and when she first started playing she had to disguise herself as a man. "They wouldn't let women play at the beginning." She later became recognized as the first woman to become a "rated" player by the U.S. Polo Association, expected to score in every game.

Hale is assisting the team by letting them train with her horses and use her private practice grounds. The Marines make the 2-1/2 hour drive from El Toro to her ranch in Indio, Calif., every weekend on their time off.

"When the boys first came out, they needed help. But in the first four months they learned what it usually takes 18 months to achieve," she says.

"She had us posting without stirrups in the middle of the summer — in the middle of the desert. 'Come on, it's fun,' she said. And that's the way the team still looks at things," says team secretary Capt. Caryll J. Rice II.

How does Hale rate the Marines as players?

"They don't have anything to prove, that's the difference with Marines and regular people. They know who they are and they do what they're told without their egos getting in the way. That's why they've learned so fast," she says with pride.

With all they've learned about horsemanship, the team hasn't limited itself to polo. Last October, in the annual Celebration of the Horse in Santa Barbara, Calif., the team competed with British military teams in the European sport of tent pegging, in which a peg is removed from the ground with a lance or sword while riding a horse at full gallop.

One member of the team, Capt. J. Curtis Gwilliam, placed third, while Rice placed tenth. "They were competing against people that ride and peg for a living, so they did really well," Hale says.

"She's letting us use her horses, her equipment, she lets us use this place to practice," says Bott with affection. And the team, though it gets some donations, needs all the financial help it can get. "She gets lots of money for teaching polo but she does not charge the Marines anything," says Bott.

"She's teaching us how to play her way. To play correctly, to play safely and to have a good time. Our guys are learning to play hard but not to take chances and not hurt other people."

So does Bott see polo as a trend in Marine sporting activities or combat training? "I believe that if we had an arena set up at any base, you'd see a lot of Marines wanting to play this game," he says.

"It's exciting, it's tough and it takes guts. It's something that's built for Marines."

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I hereby certify that I have served as a U.S. Marine for more than 90 days, that 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)

(Applicant's signature)

Upon completion, turn into your Detachment sponsor with required payment.