



LISTEN UP!

Central Bucks Detachment
P.O. Box 1372
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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. 6

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1994

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MAY DETACHMENT MEETING

Twenty-one members were present including all officers except Jr. Vice Mike Waldron.

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

Commandant Pearce thanked everyone who attended the Memorial Service that was held for former Commandant Fran Meyers. There was an excellent turnout from the Detachment and Department of Pa.

There was one visitor present, Mike Farrell, who is on active reserve duty with Gulf Battery 214 which is attached to the 10th Marines. He is considering membership.

Application for membership from Russell W. Easley, Coopersburg, Pa. was submitted and a motion was made and passed to accept.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved however the Paymasters report will be held for until the next regular meeting in ~~July~~ ~~JUNE~~.

SICK BAY

Walt Roach, C.O. of the Young Marines, was in the hospital for surgery and is now at home recuperating.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a Detachment delegate at the State Convention in Erie, slated for ~~August~~ ~~JUNE~~, can contact Budd Pearce at 343-5609. A fee of seven dollars will be required.

All car raffle tickets must be turned in at the next Detachment meeting, at the latest. Remember, the Detachment gets to keep forty cents out of each ticket that is sold, it can be an easy moneymaker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SR. VICE - (Don Gee)

The Detachment has sixty-two member at the present, however, seventeen are delinquent in dues. We ~~hope~~ ~~HOPE~~ to have this number greatly reduced by the next meeting.

JR> VICE - (Mike Waldron)

Everything is proceeding nicely concerning the Birthday Ball in November. Details will be forthcoming when we are approaching the actual date.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY - (Mike Waldron)

The next clean up for our section of roadway will be in July. Time and exact date will be announced at the June meeting.

VAVS

A request was made by the Pendelphia Detachment for a donation to help offset the cost of a boat trip for the veterans from the Philadelphia V. A. Hospital. After some discussion it was decided that the Detachment could not make a donation at this time.

COLOR GUARD

The Detachment Color Guard participated in the 100th Anniversary Parade for the Doylestown Hospital VIA ,in Doylestown, on May 7th. Everything went very nicely and the Detachment congratulates the Color Guard members for a job well done.

YOUNG MARINES

Larry Sheetz has been acting C.O. during the absence of Walt Roach. A report detailing their activities is located elsewhere in this newsletter.

CAR WASH

Since our last scheduled date for the car wash was a "wash out" due to rain, a new date will be arranged with K- Mart according to Budd Pearce.

NEW BUSINESS

Ernie Ortiz has obtained permission from the State Store manager to set up a table outside the store and give away small flags to those making a donation to the Detachment. One thousand pins can be purchased for \$25.00. A motion was made and passed to proceed with this project.

Mike Waldron discussed the possibility of having a Casino Nite at the New Hope Fire House in October or November. Budd Pearce, Don ~~Parsons~~ and Mike Waldron have had a meeting on this already and will have more information to present at the next meeting.

Larry Sheetz is still attempting to acquire some rifles that the VFW in Lambertville, N.J. have available for use in parades and the firing range, if they are in working order.

STATE CONVENTION

The Dept. of Penna. State Convention will be held in Erie, Pa on June 23-25 at the Holiday Inn South. A trip to Niagara Falls is scheduled for Friday night and the traditional banquet will be on Saturday evening. A Devil Dog initiation and growl will be featured on Thursday nite. Pre-registration for all of these events is required. The charge for the banquet is \$25. and room rate is \$52. per night. The phone number for the hotel is (814) 864-4911. It would be best to register as early as possible.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

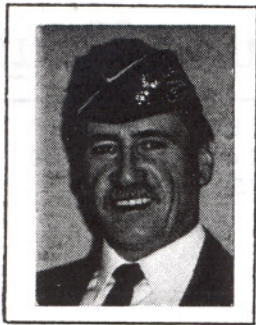
The MCL National Convention this year will be held at the Cherry Hill Hyatt Hotel in Cherry Hill, N.J. Several trips have been scheduled as well as a golf match . Also for your enjoyment, a free Country and Western Social will be held on Sunday night.

REUNIONS

The First Division Reunion will be held in Indianapolis, in August from the 10th to the 14th.

The Second Division will have their version of the same at the Valley Forge Sheraton from the 12th to the 18th of September.

THE NEXT REGULAR DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE 8 JUNE 94 (1994) AT THE AMERICAN LEGION HOME ON NORTH STREET, DOYLESTOWN, PA.



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

Marines,

As you all know by now, Fran Meyers passed away last month. The Detachment turn out would have made him proud! I want to thank everyone that made it to the memorial service. We held, what I thought was quite a tribute. Along with the normal service we had a bugler, a firing squad and a bag piper. Since Fran was always one to do things with a flair, I think the piper was a fitting tribute. The only thing we didn't do was to display our Detachment flag at the service. It was a shame that we forgot that part as Fran was the one who donated the flag in the first place. Fran Meyers will be remembered by all for quite some time. He will always hold a special place in the hearts of everyone in the Central Bucks Detachment. As my son, Jimmy, said when he heard about Fran's death, "God has one heck of a body guard now".

Speaking of the Detachment flag, we did get a chance to display it on Saturday 7 May. The detachment color guard marched at the head of the parade in Doylestown. The parade honored the 100th Anniversary of the Doylestown Hospital. Bob Sundling, Don Parzanese Jr., Mike Waldron and Budd Pearce were the Marines that made up our color guard. They managed to stay in step most of the way (at least when the camera was pointed in our direction). The detachment will be participating in the annual Memorial Day parade in Doylestown again this year. I sure would like to see everyone fall out for this. Not only will you show your pride in the detachment, and the Corps, when you make the Memorial Day parade, you will get a chance to loosen up for the 4th of July. We will be leading the Chalfont/New Britian parade on the 4th. After the parade on Memorial Day we will be holding a detachment picnic at Pat Parsanese's new place. She is now located in Revere and has plenty of room for us to have quite a picnic!

The turn out for the meetings has been increasing, and I thank you all for that. Let's keep up the good work and make our June turn out a record! We will be having a report from the pistol team on their efforts at the pistol match (June 4 & 5). It takes a lot of time and money for these guys to go and represent us at these matches, let's all turn out and thank them for their efforts! Don't forget that there is a rifle match coming up in September, so if you want to come out this year get signed up now!!! We have our A Team (last year's team) but if we can get 5 more people interested enough I would like to field a second team this year. It's fun and brings us closer together as Marines, so come out and give it a shot (pun intended).

That is all for now. See you on 8 June!!!

Semper Fi,
Budd Pearce
Commandant



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ACTIVITIES OF THE YOUNG MARINES

The young marines have been quite active since the weather broke and we have been able to get out and about. There have been promotional examinations as well as final boot camp testing. On May 7th the young marines participated in the 100th Anniversary Celebration Parade for Doylestown Hospital.

May 11th drill was held at the 157th Army Reserve in Horsham. The young marines were instructed in self defense tactics.

May 14th there was a drill for selected personnel held at the 14th Marines Golf Battery in West Trenton, N.J. This was an overnight drill and was very productive in that it gave perspective NCO's a chance to demonstrate whether or not they could lead and direct other troops.

May 21&22 the young marine coin toss fund raiser was held in New Hope, Pa. We were very lucky with the weather and a lot of traffic on both days.

May 25th drill was held at MAG 49 at Willow Grove NAS, where the Physical Fitness Test was administered by Sgt. Laney Bankhead; USMC also a young marine staff officer.

May 30th the young marines participated in the Memorial Day Parade at Doylestown.

Commanding Walt Roach is recovering from his illness and expects to be back on the drill deck real soon. As a true marine Walt has maintained control of his command during his illness and things have remained on course in a forward motion overtaking any and all obstacles.

In closing I have been setting here trying to think of words to pay tribute to Fran Meyers, but in knowing Fran for as long as I have, beginning as a kid growing up in Lambertville, I know Fran enjoyed life and loved being a marine, so I think the best tribute I could pay him is summed up in one phrase----- FRANCIS J. MEYERS -----
MARINE!!!

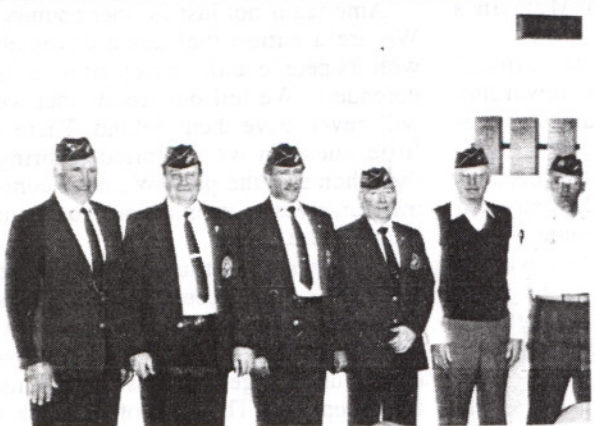
Semper Fi

Larry Scheetz Sr.
Liaison Officer



Honoring the nation's war dead with wreaths placed in front of the war memorial in Doylestown Cemetery on Monday are (from left) Sgt. Robert Foreman of the Buxmont Young Marines,

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class David Wiley and Cpl. Andrew Notarfrancesco of the Buxmont Young Marines.
(Staff photos by Nanette Kardaszkeski)



DETACHMENT OFFICERS FOR 1994-95 : L to R, RAY KROUT, Adjutant; DON GEE, Sr. Vice; BUDD PEARCE, Commandant; MIKE WALDRON, Jr. Vice; BOB CODY, Paymaster; BOB SUNDLING, Sgt-at-Arms.



COMMANDANT BUDD PEARCE BEING SWORN IN BY JIM BRADFORD, S.E. DIV. VICE.

AMERICA'S POW/MIA POLICY IS MISSING IN ACTION

HOW DO you make peace? Some say, in the case of Vietnam, America should lift its economic embargo and reward Hanoi for its "cooperation" on the POW/MIA issue.

I believe, however, that making such a unilateral concession is not characteristic of good diplomacy, but rather indicative of bad negotiating, and a willingness to break the faith with those who bore the battle.

When it comes to Vietnam, our failures at the table have continually — since the Vietnam War — negated our victories on the battlefield. Now we're once again putting our nation in position to come up on the losing end of this bargain with Vietnam.

It appears we are seeking business opportunities, not POW/MIAs.

The New York Times, for instance, editorialized that "The best reason to end the U.S. economic embargo on Vietnam is that it no longer serves American interests. With the rest of the world trading freely with Hanoi, the embargo punishes American businesses far more than it punishes the Vietnamese."

The American Legion believes that obtaining the fullest possible accounting of our POW/MIAs is the paramount American interest, not satisfying oil companies and big business. Placing profits above POWs is wrong and we will not support it. The Clinton administration, conversely, has praised Vietnam's cooperation on the POW/MIA issue and has begun to entertain the idea of rewarding Hanoi for its help. Here's why that's a bad idea:

- Vietnam's so-called cooperation on the POW/MIA issue is merely proof that they have continually lied to us in the past and are unworthy of our trust. They continue to trickle out remains of our MIAs and offer pomp



Nat'l. Cmdr. Bruce Thiesen

and circumstance tours of crash sites — all to sway America into pumping cash into their economy.

And why not? It's working. Last year, Clinton eased the U.S. embargo by allowing International Monetary Fund (IMF) monies to flow into Vietnam. This gift was our reward for their token cooperation, from tours of military museums that we already knew about to the less than magic return of former POW Sen. John McCain's flight helmet.

Every time a set of remains is recovered, we hear talk of rewarding Vietnam. Aren't the Vietnamese merely delivering — piecemeal — on a promise they made nearly two decades ago? They lied to us for 20 years and now that they trickle out some — but not all — of the truth, they want a reward. And it looks like we're going to give them one, even though we have never heard anything resembling remorse.

What type of message does this send to other nations who may hold our POWs in future wars?

- The \$1.9 million, 15-month investigation of the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs was subverted by those who wanted POW/MIAs to become a dead issue. Key testimony was stricken from the final report and conclusions were edited for political neutrality, rather than clarity. Perhaps the worst example of this committee's investigative mechanism was when all the senators except Sen. Bob Smith walked out on a briefing given by the committee's leading POW investigators. They weren't willing to hear the analysis of their own investigators because it was expected to show evidence of live POWs as late as 1989. (See "POW/MIAs: The Suffering and the Secrecy," Page 18.)

- The communist regime responsible for the treatment and fate of our POW/MIAs is still running Vietnam. It would be wrong to recognize this government. Mistakes have been made and promises broken. Our last opportunity to do the right thing is upon us.

Why should we continue to fight for a full accounting when our own government has given up on the men we left behind? What purpose does it serve to maintain an economic embargo on Vietnam when there is money to be made there and every other nation is doing business with Hanoi?

America is not just another country. We are a nation that has a covenant with its people and a covenant with its defenders. We tell our troops that we will never leave them behind. There's little question we've failed to bring them home in the past. We must commit ourselves to keeping our covenant in the future.

To reward Vietnam is to declare our POWs to be acceptable losses. As our sons and daughters will find out, whenever we agree to acceptable losses, we usually get the losses we think are acceptable. The lives of America's POWs and their families must never be put in such a category. □

MARINE CORPS TRIVIA QUIZ



1. Which Marine Corps tank unit was the first to be deployed to Vietnam?
2. What does SNCOIC stand for?
3. Where was the 3d Marine Brigade activated?
4. Where was the first Amphibious Landing School located?
5. What is the length of the M16A1 rifle with the M7 bayonet attached?

Answers in Next Month's Newsletter

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1. General Holland M. "Howlin' Mad" Smith was largely responsible for developing the amphibious landing techniques in the Pacific during WWII.
2. Operation: FREQUENT WIND, Saigon, Vietnam, was the largest helicopter evacuation ever attempted.
3. Chesty Puller, the most decorated Marine in history, had 53 decorations, including five Navy Crosses.
4. There are five stars on the Medal of Honor ribbon..
5. President Thomas Jefferson was the President who first ordered Marines to guard U.S. ships.

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CELEBRATING AMERICA'S FREEDOMS

The Pledge of Allegiance

Thirty-one words which affirm the values and freedom that the American flag represents are recited while facing the flag as a pledge of Americans' loyalty to their country. The Pledge of Allegiance was written for the 400th anniversary, in 1892, of the discovery of America. A national committee of educators and civic leaders planned a public-school celebration of Columbus Day to center around the flag. Included with the script for ceremonies that would culminate in raising of the flag was the pledge. So it was in October 1892 Columbus Day programs that school children across the country first recited the Pledge of Allegiance this way:

**I pledge allegiance to my Flag and
to the Republic for which it stands:
one Nation indivisible, with Liberty
and Justice for all.**

Controversy continues over whether the author was the chairman of the committee, Francis Bellamy — who worked on a magazine for young people that published the pledge — or James Upham, who worked for the publishing firm that produced the magazine. The pledge was published anonymously in the magazine and was not copyrighted.

According to some accounts of Bellamy as author, he decided to write a pledge of allegiance, rather than a salute, because it was a stronger expression of loyalty — something particularly significant even 27 years after the

Civil War ended. "One Nation indivisible" referred to the outcome of the Civil War, and "Liberty and Justice for all" expressed the ideals of the Declaration of Independence.

The words "my flag" were replaced by "the flag of the United States" in 1923 because some foreign-born people might have in mind the flag of the country of their birth, instead of the U.S. flag. A year later, "of America" was added after "United States." No form of the pledge received official recognition by Congress until June 22, 1942, when it was formally included in the U.S. Flag Code. The official name of The Pledge of Allegiance was adopted in 1945. The last change in language came on Flag Day 1954, when Congress passed a law which added the words "under God" after "one nation."

Originally, the pledge was said with the right hand in the so-called "Bellamy Salute," with the hand resting first outward from the chest, then the arm extending out from the body. Once Hitler came to power in Europe, some Americans were concerned that this position of the arm and hand resembled the salute rendered by the Nazi military. In 1942 Congress established the current practice of rendering the pledge with the right hand placed flat over the heart.

Section 7 of the Federal Flag Code states that when not in military uniform, men should remove any headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, thereby resting the hand over the heart. People in military uniform should remain silent, face the flag and render the military salute.

The Flag Code specifies that any future changes to the pledge would have to be with the consent of the President.

The Pledge of Allegiance now reads:

**I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America
and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation
under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.**

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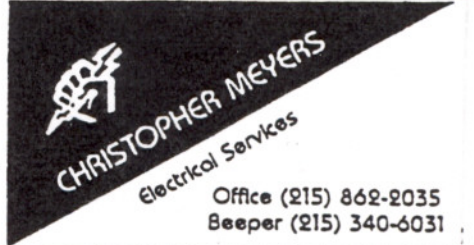
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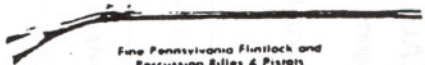
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I hereby certify that I have served as a U.S. Marine for more than 90 days, that the character of my service has been honorable, and if discharged, I am in receipt of an honorable discharge. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of honorable discharge/service upon request.

(Sponsor)

(Applicant's signature)

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