



# LISTEN UP!

**CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636**  
Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.

**Commandant: ELLIS M. PEARCE III**

**Editor: DON H. GEE**

VOLUME XII, Number 3

MARCH 2000



**CENTRAL BUCKS  
DETACHMENT, Inc. #636**  
P. O. Box 1372  
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372

**Meets**  
7:30 p.m.,  
2d Wednesday of Month  
American Legion Post 210  
315 North Street, Doylestown, PA

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**Jr. VICE COMMANDANT:**  
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**ADJUTANT:**  
GARY SMITH

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BOB MOMORELLA

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**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:**  
ROBERT A. SUNDLING

**MESS SERGEANT**  
WIL HAAS

**WEBMASTER:**  
TRACY BROCKMAN

## FIRM SEEKS WWII VETS' STORIES

NORTHVALE, NJ--Glendale Industries continues to reach out to all World War II veterans to share their stories, letters, and narratives about their experiences during the war.

The stories will be compiled in a book entitled *Theaters of War: We Remember* and will be available in stores, in Glendale's catalogs, and to schools and libraries. The American Battle Monuments Commission, which is responsible for the creation of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC, has endorsed this project.

All profits from the sale of the book will be donated to the Memorial.

World War II veterans or families of World War II veterans wishing to be included in this important historical project should send their letters, comments, and narratives--short or long, paragraphs or pages--directly to Glendale. Please include name and address. Mail them to Glendale Industries, 192 Paris Ave., Northvale, NJ 07647-2016. FAX them to: (201) 767-3323. E-mail them to: [glendale@glendale.com](mailto:glendale@glendale.com).

Glendale is an international catalog company that outfits military, police and fire unit honor guards, color guards and drill teams.

The American Battle Monuments Commission is an independent agency of the

Executive Branch of government.

For more information on the Memorial or to make a donation, the American Battle Monuments Commission can be reached at (800) 639-4WW2.

## RVN Veterans Memorial Stamp Approved By Postal Service

The U. S. Postal Service recently unveiled a new Vietnam Veterans Memorial commemorative postage stamp to honor all veterans, particularly those who died in battle or are listed as missing.

The 33-cent Vietnam Veterans Memorial stamp portrays a veteran touching "The Wall," where more than 58,000 names of those killed or listed as missing are inscribed on black granite. The stamp was illustrated by **Robert Rodriguez** of Pasadena, CA, and designed by **Carl Herrman** of Carlsbad, CA.

"This stamp is for veterans everywhere. It's for the men and women, including many of our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and friends, who gave their lives to protect and serve others," said **Chief Postal Inspector Ken Weaver**, who unveiled the stamp at the memorial on the National Mall in Washington.

Joining Weaver at the unveiling of the  
(See *RVN STAMP*, Page 5)

THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE AT 1930 ON 8 MARCH 2000  
AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST, 315 NORTH ST., DOYLESTOWN

# COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

Spring is just around the corner and that means it's time for the Detachment to get active again. I know we are always active, but now it's time to do a little work.

First, we have "Adopt-A-Highway." The highway clean-up is set for Saturday, March 11. Then, we have the "A-Day" parking fund-raiser at the end of April. All of our members have been great about helping out on these activities in the past and I'm sure everyone will turn out for them again. Let's hope the rain gods are working someplace else on A-Day. If we get rained out on the road clean-up, the rain date is the following Saturday (March 18). Come to the March Meeting and get your name on the sign-up sheets.

Speaking of the March Meeting, it is on Mar. 8. This is the month we elect new officers. Or should I say, this is the month we give the same jobs back to the same people. Don't get me wrong, I truly like being Commandant, but that's no reason for other members not to try this job, or any other position. All of our officers enjoy the Detachment, the League and our offices. I'm sure I speak for all the nominated officers when I say "thank you" for honoring us with your nomination. Next year, we will all be honored to honor you with ours. Since we have all decided to stay, except for Junior Vice we have Don Gee on the ballot, there is no reason to hide, come out to the meeting!

I will be attending the Spring Quarterly Meeting in the new Headquarters



## LISTEN UP!

LISTEN UP! is the internal information publication of the CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636, Inc. of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc. It is published monthly by and for the members of the Central Bucks Detachment.

Building on Ft. Indiantown Gap in March. If any of you want me to look for something on the sale tables while I'm there, let me know. I will have a complete update on the latest info and gossip of the Department at the April Meeting.

Our Detachment Webmaster, **Terry Brockman**, has asked for input on what we would like on our Web Page. The page is already outstanding, but he is always interested in any new ideas you might have. I will be sending him some pictures to put on the page, so go "online" and check them out. If you have pictures or info about the Detachment Tracy could use, contact him. You can

## Shelter-Halves Go Into the Past

The new two-man tents replacing shelter halves are being issued to combat units and put to the test.

Reviews are in, and fans are raving.

Marines from the 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, used the tents for the second time in December. They first put them to use at Big Bear, then at Camp Pendleton.

"It beats the (expletive) out of the shelter half," said **SSgt. Kevin Mendel**, Weapons Company.

The tents are larger than the shelter half, better accommodating Marines of all sizes. "I like that there's enough room for your feet and all your gear." Mendel said.

The tents are also easier to set up and take down, Mendel said. "One man can set them up. Set up is fast and easy. You can spend more time concentrating on other things."

"They're warmer than shelter halves," said **LCpl. Marquette S. Howard**, "B" Co. "Blocking the wind from all directions is a plus."

The tents are made of nylon and feature a dome that overlays the tent to keep out water. The base is also waterproof to protect Marines from ground moisture.

The weight of the tent, including rainfly, stakes and poles, is 8-1/2 pounds. It comes in a pouch that can be attached to an ALICE or MOLLE pack.

Although the tents are receiving great reviews, Marines pointed out a few

get in touch with Tracy on the Web Page. Our Web Page address is [www.mclcb.tripod.com](http://www.mclcb.tripod.com).

That's it for now. See you on Wednesday, March 8.

Semper Fi,

**Don't forget to come to the Legion's Turkey Dinner on Mar. 5. The Legion can use your help with this fund-raiser...or just bring the family for a great dinner.**

problems.

Nylon tents are dangerous around fire or high levels of heat, Howard said. "If you flick a cigarette butt or something, it'll melt right through or start a fire."

Another problem--the stakes are not sturdy enough and bend easily. "Sometimes the stakes bend," Mendel said.

"They are definitely not Marine-proof. But you can make stakes out of anything."

All in all, after weighing the "pros and cons," Marines said they are pleased with the tents.

"The tents are far and away much better," said **Cpl. Robert Owen**, "B" Co.

"There's not even a comparison," Owen said. "These are 100 percent better."

## **2000 MEETING SCHEDULE**

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY  
MARCH 11**

**SPRING DEPARTMENT  
MEETING  
MARCH 17-19  
HOLIDAY INN  
GRANTVILLE, PA  
RATE \$62.00  
(717) 469-0661**

**DETACHMENT MEETING  
APRIL 12**

# Highlights

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, was held February 9, 2000, at Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 18 members present including all officers except the Adjutant. Distinguished members in attendance included **National Director of Public Relations** and **Past Commandant Don Gee**, **Past Commandant Frank Yohe**, **Past Department of New Jersey Commandant Ed Hoth**, and **Marine of the Year Wil Haas**.

The Minutes of the January Meeting were unanimously approved.

The Paymaster's Report was presented by **Paymaster Bob Cody**. The report was unanimously accepted.

**Commandant Budd Pearce** reported he had attended the Department Staff & Members Meeting. He gave a brief overview of the business discussed at the meeting including the approved use of the Department's Tax ID Number for making tax-free purchases for the Detachment and the new rules for the safe-guarding of ceremonial rifles. He also brought to the Detachment's attention the **EXTREMELY LATE RECEIPT** of the Department's annual raffle tickets. He stated he would be corresponding with the Department leadership about this matter.

**Senior Vice Commandant Bill Miller** reported the Detachment strength at 50 members: 13 Life Members, 33 Regular Members, and 4 Associate Members. There are three members delinquent in their dues.

**Junior Vice Commandant Paul Caprio** reported he had just received the Raffle Tickets for the Department's annual raffle. The tickets were distributed following the meeting.

**Judge Advocate Bob Momorella** reported the Detachment had no legal problems.

**Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling** reported he had received no new requests for the Detachment Color Guard. **Marine Ray Krout** reported he had received a request for the Color Guard from the LuLu Temple Shriners for sometime in June. He said he would get specific information and provide it to the Sergeant-at-Arms.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Rifle & Pistol Team--Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Bill Rosenberger** reported the Department Pistol Matches will be held on June 3-4. Anyone interested in joining the Pistol Team should contact him at: (215) 348-7275.

**Public Relations--Public Relations Officer Don Gee**, PC, set February 20 as the deadline for submission of materials for the March *LISTEN UP!*

**Adopt-A-Highway--Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Budd Pearce** reported the next highway clean-up will be on Saturday, Mar. 11. All members participating will meet at Lu's Place in Furlong at 8 a.m. for breakfast prior to the clean-up.

**Nominations Committee--Nominations Committee Chair Don Gee**, PC, presented the slate of officers to be voted upon at the Match meeting. The nominees include: **Budd Pearce** for Commandant, **Bill Miller** for Senior Vice Commandant, **Don Gee** for Junior Vice Commandant, **Gary Smith** for Adjutant, **Bob Cody** for Paymaster, and **Bob Momorella** for Judge Advocate.

## GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

**Commandant Pearce** reported the Detachment had received a "Thank You" note from **Frank and Alice Yohe** for the wedding gift given them by the Detachment.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Marine Ray Krout** announced there will be a Korean War Memorial dedication ceremony at the Bucks County Courthouse on June 23. The project is being funded through the purchase of commemorative bricks (\$100 each). He also reminded the Detachment of the American Legion's Turkey Dinner on Mar. 5. Marine Krout also reminded the members about sending donations to the World War II Monument in Washington, DC.

**Marine Bruce Sergeant** announced there is a display of agricultural art by artist **Brenda Lawson** at Delaware Valley College. The display ends at the end of the month.

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, March 8, at 7:30 p.m.**

# Why Join the Marine Corps League?

by Bill Plant, PC

Have you ever been asked "What is the purpose of the Marine Corps League?" Or, "Why join the League?"

The Department of Pennsylvania Bylaws say that the purposes are:

(a) to preserve the traditions and to promote the interests of the United States Marine Corps;

(b) to band those who now are serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service together in fellowship that they may effectively promote the ideas of American freedom and democracy;

(c) to fit its members for the duties of citizenship and to encourage them to serve as ably as citizens as they have served the Nation under arms; to hold sacred the History and memory of the men who have given their lives to the Nation;

(d) to foster love for the principles which they have supported by blood and valor since the founding of the Republic;

(e) to maintain true allegiance to American institutions;

(f) to create a bond of comradeship between those in the service and those who have returned to civil life;

(g) to aid voluntarily and to render assistance to all Marines and former Marines as well as to their widows and orphans;

(h) to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of peculiar interest to Marines.

Now remember all that because there will be a quiz.

You have the purpose of the Marine Corps League. Now, what has our Detachment done in the years past? The answer is much longer than I can put in the newsletter. But, there are a few things we have done and keep doing year after year:

(1) We helped a former Marine family of five with food and shelter after their house burned down;

(2) We helped other families of former Marines--way too many to list

here.

(3) We sponsor a very large Young Marines program every year;

(4) More than one of our members put in many hours working with the Veterans hospitals and other veteran's organizations;



(5) We help many homeless and underprivileged people with food and shelter;

(6) We help the battered women program whenever we are able;

(7) We support the Vietnam Veterans of America, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Purple Heart Society, and other veterans organizations;

## 29 PALMS GIVES 'MAINSIDE' TO CITY

The Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of San Bernardino has approved the City of Twentynine Palms' plans for annexation of a portion of the Marine Corps Ground Combat Center.

The next step in the annexation process requires the City of Twentynine Palms to hold a protest hearing.

The portion proposed for annexation

(8) We help our community, other Marine Corps League Detachments, plus many other things we do for the good of Marines and former Marines.

So, it might seem that our Detachment is large and everyone is working and helping...wrong!

We get a 50% or less turnout at our meetings. Some people may say that's good because other organizations only get a small number of members to come to their meetings.

I say, because we are Marines, we can lead the way and do much better than that.

Our thanks goes out to the Marines who show up at the meetings and those who help at our duties but, to those of you who read this and don't help us, I say, "Get into the swing of things."

Try getting to a meeting. Come out to our highway clean-up. Help us with the "A-Day" parking. Act like a Marine. Aid voluntarily and render assistance to all Marines and former Marines. You'll be glad you did!

by the city comprises 3.00 square miles of the area generally known as "Main-side." Annexation would nearly double the city's population, and bring in an extra \$500,000 a year in state money to the community.

"We're pleased that the city isn't experiencing any problems with the annexation process," said **Capt. Vincent Bosquez**, the Combat Center's Public Affairs Officer. "This is a win-win situation for everyone involved. The city gets additional revenue and the base population gets better city services."

Annexation of the Mainside portion of the Combat Center by the city does not bear any major negative consequences for the base, according to Capt. Bosquez. It allows MCAGCC to maintain good community relations, fosters a spirit of cooperation, and allows the base to become even closer neighbors with the community.

The Department of the Navy's policy is generally to remain neutral in an annexation process.

### CLOTHING DRIVE

**Marine of the Year**  
**Wil Haas** will be collecting used (clean) clothing for the needy at the next meeting. Please bring your clothing donations to the meeting to support this annual effort.

# Insurance Hoax About SGLI Dividends Rises Again

The Inspectors General of the Department of Veterans Affairs (V-A) requests the assistance of all veterans in attempting to put an end to an insurance hoax that has plagued V-A for many years.

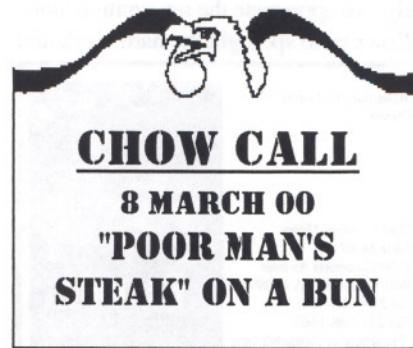
Veterans are being told by mimeographed fliers or articles in locally distributed publications to apply for Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) dividends, even on lapsed policies. The fliers did not originate with V-A and do not reflect V-A policies.

The Department of Veterans Affairs does not pay dividends on lapsed SGLI policies. Dividend payments are automatic to those veterans who have participating policies and who continue to pay premiums. The dividend is usually paid on the anniversary date of the policy and no application is needed.

Veterans and their families can render a great service by providing V-A's actual policy on SGLI dividends, as described above, to veteran friends and their families and the management of

any publication which carries the insurance hoax notice.

Some recent versions of the hoax have included offers to assist the veteran in obtaining the "dividend" for a small fee. Since there is no such dividend, you should not give any money to individuals who make this offer to you. If you are approached with such an offer, you should immediately report it to the V-A Officer of Inspector General (VAOIG), providing all available identifying information (such as name, address, and telephone number) on the individual.



## RVN STAMP

*(From Page 1)*

stamp were U. S. Senator **Chuck Hagel** of Nebraska; **Jan C. Scruggs**, founder and President of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund; and **Arnold Goldstein**, Superintendent of National Capitol Parks-Central.

"The Vietnam Veterans Memorial has been a source of reflection and inspiration for millions of Americans. In choosing to commemorate this memorial, the Postal Service honors those who sacrificed for our nation and their families," Hagel said.

Scruggs noted the new stamp is the second honoring and commemorating the memorial. The first was unveiled in November 1984 when "The Wall" was only two years old.

"What makes this stamp a little bit different from the first one is that people actually voted on the Internet about the most significant events of the 1980s," Scruggs said.

"Wherever you go--Beijing, Dublin, Berlin, Mexico City-- the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, or "The Wall," is an instantly recognizable symbol of Amer-

ica," he said. "That says a lot about how important this memorial is to our culture."

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial was designed by **Maya Lin** and dedicated on Nov. 13, 1982, during a weeklong national salute to Vietnam veterans.

The stamp is one of 15 commemoratives saluting the 1980s selected by the public during nationwide balloting on the Internet in February 1999. They are part of the Postal Service's 120-stamp "Celebrate the Century" series, which ends in May with the issuance of 1990s commemoratives.

The other 1980s commemoratives were issued in January. Those stamps included the top vote-getting Video Games, Fall of the Berlin Wall, San Francisco 49ers, the movie "E.T." The Extra-Terrestrial, Hostages Come Home, the TV comedy "The Cosby Show," the musical "Cats," Hip-Hop Culture, Figure Skating, Personal Computers, Compact Discs, Cable TV, Space Shuttle Program, and Cabbage Patch Kids.

The 1980s stamps and the rest of the series are on sale at Post Offices or by calling 1-800-STAMP-24 or online at [www.stampsonline.com](http://www.stampsonline.com).

The VAOIG Hotline Address & Phone Number are:

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Inspector General Hotline (53E)

P. O. Box 50410

Washington, DC 20091-0410

Ph: (800) 488-VAIG (8244)

e - mail: [VAOIG.HOTLINE@FORUM.VA.GOV](mailto:VAOIG.HOTLINE@FORUM.VA.GOV)

Although the insurance hoax is not generally accompanied by the offer to obtain the dividend for a fee, it is still harmful because it unnecessarily raises the hopes of individuals who could use the money. Furthermore, various sections of V-A have to expend valuable resources in responding to individuals who follow the instructions on the hoax flier in an attempt to collect what they believe is a legitimate dividend.

More information about the SGLI legislation hoax is available at the V-A Benefits page at: <http://www.va.gov/benefits/hoax.htm>.

## 'ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE!' STORY TOLD

"Yesterday I had the honor of presiding at the funeral of a World War II veteran," wrote Navy Chaplain **Victor H. Krulak**, son of retired Marine LtGen. **Victor H. Krulak**, in a letter to his brother, former Commandant Gen. **Charles C. Krulak**.

"He served in the Marine Corps as a tanker. He had made the landing on Iwo Jima and served on that island through most of the battle. He was discharged at the end of the war as a Corporal. Subsequently, he enlisted in the Army and served more than 20 years, eventually retiring from the Army in the grade of Captain.

"At his request and that of his family, the Marine Corps (Marines from MCRD, San Diego) provided the Funeral Honors Detail. More telling than that was when the family arrived with the urn in which his ashes were contained, the urn was emblazoned with a bronze Marine Corps Emblem.

"Once A Marine, Always A Marine!" he concluded.

# 'The Crucible' Wins Award in Video Competition

"Good-To-Go Video" (GTGV), a Beaufort, SC, based video production company whose programs focus exclusively on the United States Marine Corps, has been announced a winner in The Communicator Awards 1999 Video Competition.

The Communicators prestigious Award of Distinction was awarded to the Good-To-Go Video production titled "The Crucible: Making Marines for the 21st Century." This year's competition included 3,275 entries from 49 states and 7 other countries.

The Communicators Awards is a national awards program that recognizes outstanding work in the communications field. Entries are judged by industry professionals who look for companies and individuals whose talent exceeds a high standard of excellence and whose work serves as a benchmark for the industry.

Created to showcase the grueling 54-hour Marine Corps boot camp training event known as "The Crucible," this 55-

minute production provides the viewer with a fly-on-the-wall peek at what many consider the toughest military training there is. Shot on location at the Marine Corps Recruit Depots at Parris Island, SC, and San Diego, CA, the video manages to take you on a thought-provoking and fast-paced journey across coastal marshlands and dusty mountain trails as it follows young recruits determined to become United States Marines.

"We're especially delighted to receive this award since it's presented by our peers and colleagues, but more importantly, we appreciate the recognition since it allows us to spotlight the hard work and

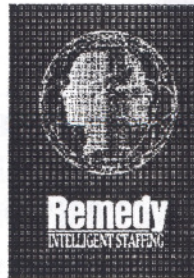
professionalism of the Drill Instructors and officers involved in the recruit training process and also draws attention to the fine young men and women who take up the challenge to become one of 'The Few, The Proud,'" stated **Ron Tucker** Executive Producer of the video.

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# MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (This survey will remain confidential. Answers may be published and/or reported at a meeting, but names will not be published or released.)

1. Are you satisfied with the administration of the detachment? Yes No

2. Would you run for an office to effect change? Yes No

If so, what office would you be interested in filling? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Are you satisfied with the time/date of meetings? Yes No

4. If you could change the meeting times/dates, what would you suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What comments or suggestions to you have to improve the Detachment? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Does the monthly newsletter give sufficient information on Detachment events, activities and programs? Yes No

7. What recommendations do you have to improve the content or quality of the newsletter? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you think there should be more family-oriented social events? Yes No  
If so, what type of events would you like to see? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Should the Detachment continue to hold an annual Birthday Ball? Yes No

9. Any additional comments, suggestions, criticisms, etc.? \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank You** for completing this survey. Please give to P-R Officer Don Gee at the next meeting or mail to:

**CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT  
Marine Corps League  
P. O. Box 1372  
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372**

# The DEPARTMENT of PENNSYLVANIA Needs You!



In order for the **Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania** to maximize the amount of money that Excel Communications is willing to give us, we need your support!

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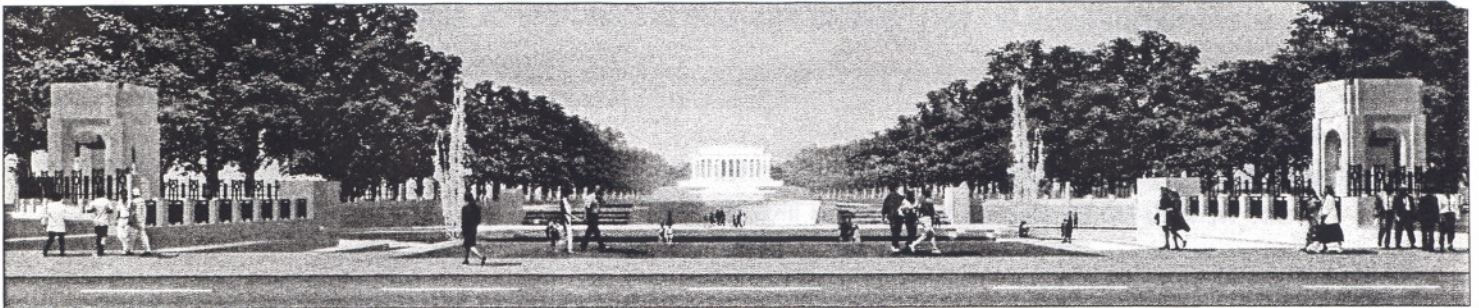
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**#2.** Tell the operator which calling plan you would like - either the *Dime Deal, Simply Seven* or the *Three-Penny Plan*. If you need help deciding which plan is right for you, call Bill Brower at 1-888-291-5497 pin #5727.

**#3. Most Importantly,** tell the operator your Excel Representative is the **M.C.L. of PA** and their I.D.# is **251313898**. This is necessary for the Department to get paid.

This program has the potential to earn a substantial amount of money for the Department (while saving you money at the same time), but it won't amount to anything without your support.

It's up to you!



## YOUR GIFT WILL HELP BUILD THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL!

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*Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

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