

LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636

Marine Corps League Of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Commandant: ELLIS M. PEARCE III

Editor: DON H. GEE

VOLUME XVI, Number 3

MARCH 2004



**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**

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**Jr. VICE COMMANDANT
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GARY SMITH**

**PAYMASTER
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**JUDGE ADVOCATE
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ROBERT DUFF**

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**WEBMASTER
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**MARINE OF THE YEAR
ELLIS M. "BUDD" PEARCE, PC**

Retired Military Handbook Available

For 2004, The Retired Military Personnel Handbook has been COMPLETELY REVISED AND EXPANDED AND IS STILL ONLY \$9.95!

The Retired Military Personnel Handbook is now in its fifth year and has been distributed to military installations and federal government agencies all over the world! It is specifically written for all military personnel and retirees and their families and is designed to guide you through every aspect of your retirement, explaining what benefits you may qualify for and how to get them, as well as providing a context for making many of the important decisions that lie ahead. Here's a look at just some of what's NEW in the 2004 edition:

TRICARE Plus program--A complete, down-to-earth explanation of the eligibility requirements and the covered benefits.

Federal LTC Insurance program--Contains the eligibility, benefit choices, and premium considerations, including how the program differs for active employees versus retirees, tax considerations and other aspects of the program.

Tax Policies--The latest information affecting your retirement accounts, estate tax treatment and long-term care premiums.

New Retirement Lifestyle Information--Including how to evaluate continuing care communities and nursing homes.

Incapacity Planning--New important information on protecting your heirs.

Pay and Benefit Policies--The latest on COLAs, health and life insurance, Medicare and Social Security, Veterans Affairs and Defense Department programs, and a look at key legislative initiatives affecting retirees.

Important Points of Contacts--Just updated points of contact, benefit rates, addresses, tax treatment of annuities, status of

important legislation and other vital material.

New SGLI family coverage option--What it will cost you and what it will provide.

Survivor Benefits--The latest information on survivor benefit policies and rates.

Moving in Retirement--Special considerations for those moving in retirement.

PLUS, COMPLETELY REVISED INFORMATION ON--

Retired pay and benefits--how the latest changes affect you and your family.

Disability retirement--qualifying, compensation, implications

Medicare and Social Security benefits--eligibility and requirements.

Re-employment with the Government--the veterans' advantage.

Financial planning--maximizing your military retirement income.

Taxes in retirement--minimizing your tax burden.

A plain-English explanation of TRICARE for Life--what it does and doesn't cover, eligibility rules and how to make in prescription drug policies.

The new Senior Pharmacy Program--who is eligible, and how you can use it to save money on your prescription drugs.

Tricare dental benefits--what's covered and what's not.

VA health benefits--eligibility and facilities.

Survivor benefits--spouses and family members, divorce.

VA retirement compensation--types and how much.

Life Insurance--USGLI, VSLI and other Government plans.

Other VA programs--assistance with loans, income, education, etc.

And much, much more!

<http://www.fedweek.com/Publications/default.asp>

COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

The list of candidates for the upcoming election was announced at the January meeting. The only position left open is the Senior Vice Commandant job. If you, or someone you know, would like to fill this position, please call **Bob Sundling**, PC or **Don Gee**, PC. It is not too late to get your name on the list for any of the other positions either. What makes an election interesting is when you have more than one person seeking an office. Every year we seem to have a one vote election. Get yourself involved and let's make this a real election! Whatever you do be sure to come to the February meeting and find out who wins what. News about the first highway clean-up and our A-day fund raiser will also be discussed. I truly hope to see you there.

Spring is just around the corner and with the warmer weather we start to think about the truly important things in life. In this case I am speaking of parades. Now you know we all look forward to the parade season, after all every Marine loves a parade. **Bob Sundling** says he will take care of greasing the bearings on the float. Then we will make arrangements to getting it ready to be reassembled for duty. As help is needed you will be notified. Remember to keep Memorial Day and Jul 4th open, I'd like to see a record turn out for both of these parades. Our Detachment

always looks really good and the more Marines on the float the better we look. We will have a new sound system this year that will knock your socks off. My son is burning us a new CD (all Marine Hymn) so we will sound as good as we look.

That's about all I have for this month. Besides, I have to save something for

next month as it will be my last letter as Commandant. After the new Commandant takes office you'll have to come to the meetings to take advantage of my charm and natural wit. See you in March!

Semper Fi,

Budd Vance

Confederate Marine Corps: They Also Served

by Kevin P. Gallen

The study of the Civil War has been approached from nearly every conceivable angle, however, the distinguished service rendered by both the United States and Confederate States Marine Corps was essentially overlooked. This is particularly true of the Confederate Marine Corps.

The Confederate Marine Corps was established in the spring of 1861 and was authorized to have a maximum complement of 990 officers and enlisted men. The Corps was plagued by recruiting difficulties throughout the war and reached its largest point in October of 1864 when there were 571 Marines at arms. The Marine Corps was commanded by **Col. Lloyd James Beall**. In 1862 the Marines established a base at Drewry's Bluff, Virginia, and named it Camp Beall.

The Confederate Marine Corps duties included policing the Confederate Naval Bases and nearly every gunboat, ironclad and commerce raider had a detachment of Marines on board to serve as guards, boarding parties and as artillery gunners. The Marines developed a reputation as expert gunners. Marines served with distinction in the naval battles of Port Royal, Hampton Roads, Mobile Bay and Fort Fisher.

The Confederate Marines were also called upon for special service which in two instances involved Missourians. In February of 1863, the Naval Dept. authorized a plan to train Army, Navy and Marine units to destroy ironclads by boarding them. This was in anticipation of a Union attack of Charleston which occurred in April of 1863. The Marine unit was commanded by **Captain Tho-**

mas S. Wilson of Missouri. The attack was repulsed and the Marines were not called into service.

Likewise, in July of 1864, **General Robert E. Lee** devised a plan where a battalion of Marines were to slip through the naval blockade and make an amphibious landing at Point Lookout above Washington D. C. to free the Confederate Prisoners of War there. This was to be done in support of General Jubal Early's raid on Washington. The force was led again by **Thomas S. Wilson** and included **2ndLt. Henry H. McCune** also of Missouri. The ships carrying the Marines were called back and the mission aborted due to perceived leaks regarding their activities.

Another interesting footnote of history involves Confederate Marine **Sgt. George Stephenson** of the infamous commerce raider CSS Sumter. After a long career the CSS Sumter was abandoned at Gibraltar and a small force was left behind including a Marine Guard commanded by Sgt. Stephenson. The Commanding officer, **Midshipman Williams Andrews**, was killed in October 1862 by a seaman and Sgt. Stephenson became the only Marine Federal or Confederate to command a ship of war in the Civil War.

As the fortunes of the Confederacy grew dark in the spring of 1865, Navy and Marines personnel were brought to Drewry's Bluff and formed into fighting units such as Tucker's Naval Battalion which fought with distinction at the battle of Saylor's Creek. In addition, when **Robert E. Lee** surrendered his Army at Appomattox Court House, it included four Marine officers and 21 enlisted Marines.

2004

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**DETACHMENT MEETING
MARCH 10**

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.

Highlights

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held February 11, 2004, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 18 members present including all officers except the Paymaster and Chaplain. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Don Parzanese Sr., and Bob Sundling;** and **Past Commandant and Marine of the Year Budd Pearce.**

Sick Call: **Paymaster Bob Cody** is recuperating at home. Chaplain Ed Hoth is recuperating at home from a heart attack. The Minutes of the January Meeting were unanimously approved.

New Member: **Marine Stephen Cupitt** of Jamison was unanimously accepted for membership.

Guest: Jerry Regan of Warrington, PA.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Budd Pearce reported the Detachment had received communication from the Department of Pennsylvania about the Department's Scholarship Program (see Pages 5 & 6) and reminding the members about the Department's Leadership School for prospective officers or anyone interested in learning more about the League's operations and procedures. He also reported there will be a Northeast Division Meeting at the Holiday Inn in Bethlehem on Apr. 2-4. A communique from the Department Southeast Division Vice Commandant urges the Detachments renew their efforts to renew memberships. He pointed out there are 110 unpaid members in Pennsylvania.

Senior Vice Commandant Bill Miller reported the Detachment strength at 58 including 23 Life Members, 31 Regular Members and 4 Associate Members. There are four members delinquent in their dues.

Junior Vice Commandant Don Parzanese Jr. announced he still had tickets available for this year's Department Raffle and encouraged all members to do their share in this fund-raising effort. He set the May Meeting as the deadline for submitting funds collected from the sale of raffle tickets.

Adjutant Gary Smith reported he had received no correspondence other than that which had already been announced.

Judge Advocate Bill Jerrom reported the Detachment had no legal problems..

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE--Committee Chair **Bob Sundling, PC,** announced the slate of nominees for next month's election: **Bill Miller, Commandant; Jim Powell, Junior Vice Commandant; Gary Smith, Adjutant; Bob Cody, Paymaster; Bill Jerrom, Judge Advocate; Bill Mickelson, Sergeant-at-Arms; Quartermaster, Bob Duff; and, Ed Hoth, Chaplain.** There is still a vacancy for Senior Vice Commandant.

YOUNG MARINES--Young Marines Commanding Officer **Harold Heald** briefed the members on the current status of the Liberty Young Marines Unit and plans for future activities and outings. The Liberty Young Marines meet each Wednesday at RTB, Willow Grove.

PUBLIC RELATIONS--The Public Relations Officer set Feb. 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the March *Listen Up!*

NEW BUSINESS

Commandant Pearce appointed **Past Commandant Bob Sundling** as committee chair and **Past Commandant Don Gee** and himself as members. Anyone desiring to serve in any office with the Detachment should contact any member of the committee.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

Visitor **Jerry Regan** made a presentation about his computer project which puts Vietnam KIAs with their units--something which was not done when the Vietnam Memorial was erected in Washington.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was announced that **Senior Vice Commandant Bill Miller** will turn 65 on Saturday, Feb. 14.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, February 11, at 7:30 p.m.



**Northeast Division Meeting
April 2 & 3, 2004
Holiday Inn, Routes 22 and 512
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania**



Room Rates have been confirmed at \$84.00 plus 9.5% room tax, per night from one to four persons per room. Reservations can be made at (610) 866-5800. Please inform the reservations desk that you are with the MARINE CORPS LEAGUE in order to get the group rate established. Deadline is 1 March 2004.

Banquet Selections: Filet Mignon or Baked Salmon En Crouete with appetizer of Soup du Jour, Caesar Salad, Baked Potato, and Mixed medley of vegetables, dinner rolls, Coffee, Tea, Herbal Tea or Decaffeinated Coffee, followed by dessert of Ice Cream Roll with Raspberry Sauce and whipped cream.

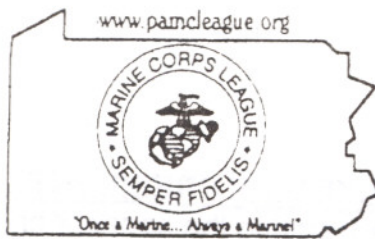
The meeting schedule will be as follows:

Friday, April 2, 2004	1500 – 1700 2000	Registration MODD Growl/MODDF Scratch
Saturday, April 3, 2004	0800 – 0900 0900 – 1000 1000-1130 1130-1300 1300 1500-1600 1900	Registration Joint Open session (Lehigh Room) Presentation and Memorial Service League/Auxiliary Meetings Lunch on your own! League & Auxiliary meetings Class(s) “Dining In” Banquet

If you have any questions or problems, feel free to contact one of us! The National Commandant Helen F. Hicks will be our Guest of Honor.

Paul F. Hastings
PAUL F. HASTINGS, PNC
National Vice-Commandant
Northeast Division, MCL
Phasti4321@aol.com

Tracey G. Killinger
TRACEY KILLINGER
National Vice-President
Northeast Division, MCLA
ktracey@zoomlynx.com



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

1 January 2004

TO: SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS
From: Ernest J. Simmons, Department of Pennsylvania Scholarship Chairman
Subject: Eligibility Requirements

1. Applicants must be a **High School Graduate** and plan on attending a school of higher learning on a full time basis.
2. Member applicant or applicant's father, mother, grandparents, or guardian, (now to be called sponsor), must be a member in good standing in the **Department of Pennsylvania, Marine Corps League or Auxiliary**, for at least one year prior to the **May 31st** deadline of each award year. In the event the sponsor is deceased, membership in the League or Auxiliary at the time of death is a **MUST**.
3. Dependent students also qualify. If an applicant is other than son or daughter, a copy of page one (1) of the **Federal Income Tax Form 1040 must** accompany the application to prove dependency.
4. A letter of acceptance to a school of higher learning **WILL BE REQUIRED**.
5. Applicant must be accepted by an **ACCREDITED** Higher Education institution, College, University, or Trade School.
6. **THE STUDENT AND ONLY THE STUDENT MUST REQUEST AN APPLICATION BY LETTER FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN ERNEST J. SIMMONS. Include in your letter of request the name of the sponsor and the host Detachment. Also include a self addressed stamped #10 business 4 1/8 X 9 1/2 envelope.**
6. **STUDENT AND ONLY STUDENT MAY FILL OUT THE APPLICATION FORM PERTAINING TO THEM AND SUBMIT THE APPLICATIONS AFTER VERIFYING THE CHECKLIST. APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED BY THE STUDENT ANY TIME BETWEEN FEBRUARY 1ST AND MAY 31ST DEADLINE EACH YEAR.**
7. Scholarships will be awarded to **First, Second, Third and Fourth year Students**. Provided that the second, third, and fourth year students are successfully maintaining academic standards for continued higher education. Applicants must apply for an application each year that the student is eligible.
8. All applicants must submit a copy of the most recent grades in their possession with each application. **FOR NO REASON, DO NOT HOLD APPLICATION AWAITING FINAL GRADES, AS IT MAY DISQUALIFY YOU IF YOU MISS THE DEADLINE OF MAY 31ST OF EACH YEAR.** When the grades are obtained they should be sent to the Scholarship Chairman to be placed in the student's file.

“Once a Marine... Always a Marine!”

9. **SIGNATURE OF THE DETACHMENT COMMANDANT OR AUXILIARY PRESIDENT AND PAYMASTER** of the sponsoring Detachment or Unit is required, stating the sponsor or member is in good standing and dues have been paid. **THIS MUST BE PRESENT ON THE APPLICATION EACH AWARD YEAR.**
10. After entering your first term of school inform the **Scholarship Chairman** by letter, that you have started school, **include verification** from school and include the address **to where you wish the check to be sent**. Scholarship funds will be mailed directly to AWARD WINNER.
11. All eligibility requirements must be strictly adhered to or the applicant may be **REJECTED**. **STUDENT MUST PERSONALLY COMPLETE THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AND SUBMIT THE APPLICATION TO THE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN.** Type or print the application legibly and completely.
12. Successful applicants will be notified no later than **July 15th**. If you do not receive a notification within this time, you may assume you did not receive an award.
13. Department of Pennsylvania, Marine Corps League and Auxiliary Members will be eligible for this scholarship award. Members applying for a scholarship will be considered, but must attend school on a full time basis. **ALL OTHER GUIDELINES WILL ALSO APPLY TO MEMBERS.**
14. All decisions of the Scholarship Committee are **FINAL**.
15. Each Award must be claimed by **DECEMBER 31ST** or the monies will revert back to the scholarship fund.
16. **ALL CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE DIRECTED TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:**

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN
ERNEST J. SIMMONS
301 NORTH PINE CIRCLE

PHONE: (724) 625-9195
FAX: (724) 625-9195
Cell: (724) 272-6862
E-MAIL: ejhs@zbzoom.net

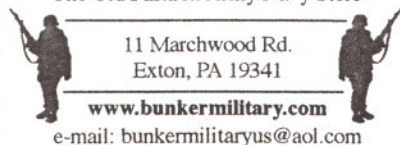
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Information can be obtained from the Scholarship Committee

Joan Hastings	Phone: 717-774-5892
Central Division	E-Mail: Nwcowls5@aol.com
Raymond Devlin	Phone: 215-679-0114
Southeast Division	E-Mail: rgdevlin@comcast.net
David W. Pavey	Phone: 570-265-2901
Northeast Division	E-Mail: Pavey92@epix.net
William E. Smith	Phone: 814-765-4475
Northwest Division	E-Mail: weamsmith@webtv.net

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(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 \$30.00 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.
Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.
P. O. Box 1372
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372



"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"