

LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT

#636

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

VOLUME XXI, Number 3

MARCH 2008

Commandant: JAMES POWELL

Editor: DON H. GEE

CITY OF BERKELEY, CA, SHAMES ITSELF

BERKELEY, CA, Feb. 11--As six Senators devised a plan to yank \$2.3 million in federal funding for Berkeley programs, the mayor of this famously liberal city apologized Feb. 10 for his hard stance against a Marine recruiting center.

Two City Council members vowed to soften their stance as well.

At their Feb. 19 council meeting, leaders planned to discuss scrapping a letter that might be perceived as targeting the center or the Marines.

The letter said that the recruiting center was not welcome on Shattuck Avenue and that the Marines were

uninvited and unwelcome intruders.

"That letter will probably be pulled back and maybe more moderate language will be put in place which is appropriate I think," said Berkeley Mayor Tom Bates.

"Subtly stated in the resolution is perhaps an impugning of the soldiers fighting for us in Iraq and other places," Berkeley City Councilman Laurie Capitelli. "And that was never the intention but that really needs to be cleared up. As I walked to my car that night I realized I regretted it and I had made a mistake."

Bates said the city didn't mean to

offend anyone in the armed forces and the focus should have been on the war not the troops.

"There's really no correlation between federal funds for schools, water ferries and police communications systems and the council's actions, for God's sake," said Bates, a retired U.S. Army Captain. "We apologize for any offense to any families of anyone who may serve in Iraq. We want them to come home and be safe at home."

The letter was originally approved in January and has not been sent.

Turn to BERKELEY, Page 4

Nominations Committee Seeks Candidates for Detachment Offices

by Bill Miller, PC

Nominations Committee Chairman

It's that time of the year when we must nominate and elect a slate of officers for 2008-2009. At our February meeting, I gave a little pep talk to the members about the importance of becoming involved in the leadership roll in running our Detachment. I also explained that the term of office is one year for all offices elected and appointed and gave a brief description of each.

The elected offices are those of the Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant, Judge Advocate, Paymaster, and Ad-

jutant. The appointed offices include the Sergeant-at-Arms, Chaplain, Quartermaster, Public Relations Officer, Web Sergeant, and Mess Sergeant.

All of the offices are open to all members--including the newer members who joined this past year. There is no waiting period. You have all the rights and privileges to have a say in the operation of the Detachment.

During the meeting, I passed around a clipboard with all the offices both elected and appointed shown. The members interested in any of those offices wrote their name beside that office. I'm pleased to say that we

had a most favorable response.

To be fair to those of who did not make the meeting and are interested in serving your Detachment in an official capacity, I invite you to call me at 215-943-0133(h) 215-828-1974 (cell) or e-mail me at billjae@verizon.net. Your name will go on the list of nominations and we'll have a good election.

We have two appointed positions that really need to be filled, the Chaplain and Public Relations office. Please let me know if you can help out in that area.

Turn to NOMINATIONS, Page 4



COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

Our February meeting was well attended even though the weather was threatening to put a damper on things. You can always reply on Marines braving the elements and showing up and being counted.

During the past month, I attended the funeral for **John**



**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
DON H. GEE, PC**

**Jr. VICE COMMANDANT
ELLIS M. (BUDD) PEARCE III, PC**

**ADJUTANT
GARY SMITH**

**PAYMASTER
WILLIAM L. MICKELSON**

**JUDGE ADVOCATE
WILLIAM E. JERROM**

**QUARTERMASTER
COREY A. FISHER**

**CHAPLAIN
EDWARD W. HOTH, PDC**

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
BOB SUNDLING, PC**

**MESS SERGEANT
WIL HAAS**

**WEBMASTER
JAMES E. PEARCE**

Moyse, Past Department of Pennsylvania Commandant. The turnout for this Marine was enormous and his detachment gave him a moving ceremony before reporting to the Supreme Commandant. Also representing the Central Bucks Detachment were **Bill Miller PC, Budd Pearce PC** and **Don Gee PC**.

I also attended the Department quarterly meeting and it was uneventful. The big thing was the announcement that the annual Leadership School will again be in May. If you would like to learn on how the League operates, this would be the class to attend. It's a one day event and well worth the time.

Our Junior Past Commandant, **Bill Miller**, addressed the membership about the upcoming Detachment elections. He outlined the duties of the Officers and encouraged anyone who had an interest in participating in leadership to step up. As of this column we have the following Marines stepping up to accept nominates for elective offices:

Commandant–Jim Powell
Senior Vice Commandant –
Junior Vice Commandant–Ben Jones

Judge Advocate–Jim McComb
Adjutant/Paymaster– Don Gee
Those who would like to represent the Detachment in the capacity of appointed offices are:

Sergeant-At-Arms – Bob Sundling
Chaplain–Budd Pearce/Ed Hoth
Quartermaster–Corey Fisher
Web Sergeant–Joe Doherty
Public Relations –
Mess Sergeant–Vince Hagan

As you can see there are still some vacancies. So, if you can find it within yourself to help out your Detachment and step up to fill one of these vacancies, please do not hesitate to contact **Bill Miller**.

Well, that's it for this month and I hope to see you for our March meeting, when we will be electing the Officers to represent the Detachment for the next year.

Semper Fi,

Jim Powell

FINAL ISSUE

LISTEN UP! Seeks Editor

Someone familiar with desktop publishing is needed to edit our Detachment newsletter. If you're interested in serving your Detachment as its P-R Officer, contact **Commandant Jim Powell** (215-862-6280) or **Senior Vice Commandant Don Gee** (215-822-6898).

FEBRUARY DETACHMENT MEETING



M I N U T E S

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held February 13, 2008, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 14 members present including all officers except the Paymaster and Judge Advocate. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Budd Pearce and Bob Sundling; Past Commandant of the Department of New Jersey Ed Hoth; and Past Commandant, Assistant Southeast Division Vice Commandant & Marine of the Year Bill Miller.** The **Minutes** of the January Meeting were unanimously accepted by the members.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Commandant Jim Powell reported on correspondence the Detachment had received since the last meeting and advised the members about the state's Veterans Property Tax. He also reported he, Senior Vice Commandant Don Gee, PC; Junior Vice Commandant Budd Pearce, PC; and Junior Past Commandant Bill Miller, attended the funeral service for Past Department John Moyse.

Senior Vice Commandant Don Gee, PC, reported the Detachment strength at 52 including 22 Life Members, 25 Regular Members, 4 Associate Members, and 1 Honorary Member.

Junior Vice Commandant Budd Pearce, PC, handed out Department raffle tickets.

Adjutant Gary Smith reported he had received no communications from either the National or Department organizations.

Chaplain Ed Hoth, PDC, reported his services were available but not requested since the last meeting.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC, reported there had been no requests for the Detachment Color Guard since the last meeting.

Quartermaster Corey Fisher reported there was only \$5.00 in Quartermaster sales in January.

The Public Relations Officer set Feb. 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the March issue of *Listen Up!* He also reminded the members the Detachment was looking for a Public Relations Officer/newsletter editor and the March issue would be the last issue if noone applied for the position.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominations Committee Chair Bill Miller solicited members for Detachment offices. He explained the duties of the elected and appointed officers and passed around a roster for members to apply for office.

Adopt-A-Highway Committee Chair Budd Pearce announced the next highway clean-up would take place in May.

Young Marines Coordinator Bob Sundling reported on the Young Marines Cold Weather Training.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously accepted to donate \$200 to the Department Scholarship Fund in the Name of John Moyse, PDC.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously accepted to have the Detachment donate a Dress Blues NCO stripe to **Marine Nicholas Guillen** who has been nominated for meritorious promotion to Corporal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marine Jim McComb announced the American Legion Post had been leased to a dance studio and that future meetings would have to be held in the basement. Commandant Powell asked members to explore possible new meeting sites for the Detachment.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed until 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Mar. 12.

City officials said they got a flood of e-mails, many asking them to reconsider their position.

Councilmembers have said they would replace the "intruder item" with words expressing their support for the troops but not the war in Iraq.

The Senators' plan would give the funds, intended for a school lunch program, UC Berkeley and ferry service, to the Marines instead.

"Patriotic American taxpayers won't sit quietly while Berkeley insults our brave Marines," said one of the Senators.

The recruiting center opened about a year ago and quickly became a target of anti-war protesters including the group Code Pink.

The previous week the council passed resolutions giving Code Pink a place to park out front. Some have said that meant the city giving was giving the group a place to continuously protest the Marines.

"What we're doing is we're announcing a bill that we intend to get on the floor to strip transportation from the city of Berkeley," said East Bay Assemblyman **Guy Houston**. "What they have done in Berkeley is they have set aside a parking spot and in my opinion a public right of way, a public transportation corridor, specifically for a private organization -- in this case Code Pink -- to harass and annoy the United States Marine Corps and their recruiting efforts.

NOMINATIONS From Page 1

The slate of nominees will be announced at the March Meeting and will be followed immediately by the election.

Installation of officers will be held at the April meeting.

Lets have a big turnout at both and keep this wonderful detachment running like a well-oiled Marine machine.

"We think that playing around and having an agenda with the public right of way is subject to ramifications. There is \$2.3 million in proposition 1B transportation dollars. We think that should be in jeopardy."

Sen. Barbara Boxer and **Rep. Barbara Lee** said they plan to fight the bill.

Code Pink announced they would have what they called a "24-hour peace-in" leading up to the Feb. 19 city council meeting. They will be camping out but will have a lot of company. A group of pro-troop protesters will also be there.

"I was under the impression that we have the right of free speech," said **Xanne Joi** of Code Pink. "To me, I thought free speech meant you get to say what you want without recrimination."

Group members have made their organization infamous by intentionally getting arrested at protests and congressional hearings.

Berkeley City Councilman **Gordon Wozniak** extended an olive branch to the Marines. He went to breakfast with a recruiter Feb. 14.

"Berkeley is supposed to celebrate diversity and free speech and we welcome homeless people here. We welcome illegal immigrants. We give them sanctuary. We should welcome the Marines. I mean they're basically dedicating their lives to protect their country."

Wozniak said he does not support the harsh language of the letter to the Marines originally authorized by the city.

Ann Cooper with the Berkeley Unified School District wants both sides to play nice.

"Senators sitting 3,000 miles away are trying to take food away from the children of Berkeley," said Cooper. "Why? Because the Marines and the city aren't playing nice -- and that's just not OK."

MARINES OUT? ME, TOO!

Good Morning "Code Pink Corps",

Our company has just completed an analysis of the funds we have spent during 2007 within the city limits of Berkeley. The number was larger than I expected: \$230,716. This amount is broken down in the following categories:

Meals and meeting expenses: \$43,807;

Printing, copies and imaging services: \$36,954.

Shipping expenses \$18,534;

Temporary employment \$103,954;

Office supplies and equipment purchases: \$27,467.

Our expenses above in Berkeley increased by about 12% this past year. We have budgeted a similar increase for 2008.

Because of the actions of "CodePink" and the Berkeley City Council we find that we must now exercise our 'freedom to act' and not do business within the City of Berkeley any longer. Over the next five years, the City of Berkeley will lose just from our organization from \$1.4 to \$1.7 million in business.

We will still grow our business successfully but we will fulfill our service needs, including meals and meeting expenses, at locations OTHER THAN BERKELEY. We are also encouraging our colleagues and business associates to do the same. Many will not be as direct as we are in communicating to you our actions.

While we regret that this action will hurt many worthy individuals and businesses in Berkeley, we are sure to gain a more friendly business environment elsewhere as our business continues to thrive. Gee, ain't freedom and free markets great?

You've made your decisions ... we have made ours.

Karl G.

VETS PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION SEES DELAYS

Since the passing last year of Pennsylvania State Senate Bill #19 which expanded property tax exemption criteria for 100 percent service-connected disabled veterans, there has been a serious delay in approving applications with the Pennsylvania Department of Veterans Affairs, according to Bucks County **Director of Veterans Affairs Dan Fraley**.

“On Jan. 4, I personally attended the State Veterans Commission meeting at Ft. Indiantown Gap and presented this issue before the Commission,” Fraley states.

“No action was taken. However, the PA Adjutant General stated the issue would be addressed,” he continues.

In an effort make this issue a priority, the County Veterans Affairs Office has contacted every government agency--State Legislatures, State Senators, and Congressmen.

“This office will continue to work on this issue everyday until it is resolved and the applications are processed in a timely manner,” Fraley pledges. “Until this issue is resolved, we suggest you contact your legislative leaders in your district.”

(Check www.va.gov/stateva.htm to link with Pennsylvania Veterans Affairs Office and obtain state benefits information.)

BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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District 8 Gordon Wozniak

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The Mayor and all Council members may be reached by mail at: 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704

[Note: Among the below listed contacts, only Gordon Wozniak from District 8 voted against defaming the Marines. Treat him kindly.]

Members of the Berkeley City Council are elected by district. Councilmembers in Districts 1, 4, 7, and 8 serve until November 30, 2010.

Councilmembers in Districts 2, 3, 5, and 6 serve until November 30, 2008. The Mayor serves a four-year term. The next election for Mayor will be November 4, 2008.

The City Council also serves as the Redevelopment Agency, which plans and carries out redevelopment projects, borrows money, buys and sells land, and enters into contracts for public improvements; and as the Joint Powers Financing Authority. The Authority is formed pursuant to a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement between the City of Berkeley and the Berkeley Redevelopment Agency for the purpose of providing financing for various public capital improvements, working capital and other costs.

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINES ON THE NET

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME BEGINS
9 MARCH**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
12 MARCH**

**PALM SUNDAY
16 MARCH**

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY
17 MARCH**

**1ST DAY OF SPRING
20 MARCH**

**GOOD FRIDAY
21 MARCH**

**EASTER
23 MARCH**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
APRIL 9**

**2007 INCOME TAX
FILING DEADLINE
APRIL 15**

**MOTHER'S DAY
MAY 11**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
MAY 14**

**ARMED FORCES DAY
MAY 17**

**MEMORIAL DAY
PARADE
MAY 26**

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HOW TO PROPERLY WEAR RIBBONS AND MEDALS

- * No pins, medals or any other devices shall be worn on the MCL Cover other than the EGA.
- * **Either** DOD **or** MCL ribbons to be worn one-eighth inch above the left breast pocket of white short sleeve aviator shirt. **DO NOT INTERMIX!**
- * Shooting badges will not be worn with MCL ribbons.
- * MCL Ribbons **ONLY** on the MCL Ceremonial Uniform (khaki shirt). No DOD ribbons or Shooting Badges to be worn.
- * Miniature medals may be worn on the Blazer as part of the MCL Formal Uniform (tuxedo shirt, bow tie).
- * Large medals may be worn on the MCL Mess Jacket.



USMC TRIVIA QUIZ



ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1. The Germans in Belleau Wood, France, during WWI, were the first to call Marines, "Devil Dogs."
2. The Korean Conflict began in June 1950.
3. Lieutenant Colonel Anthony "Mad Anthony" Gale was the only Marine Commandant convicted at a General Court-Martial and expelled from the Corps.
4. The Uniform Code of Military Justice was established in 1951.
5. Marine recon-pilots in Vietnam were known by the code name, "The Yankee Team."