

LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT

#636

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.**

VOLUME XXV, March 3

MARCH 2012

Commandant: BUDD PEARCE

Editor: DON H. GEE

DETACHMENT CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Central Bucks Detachment marked its 25th anniversary with a dinner on Jan. 28 at the Waterwheel Inn in Doylestown, PA.

More than 30 members and guests attended the event celebrating 25 years of service to the Marine Corps League and the Central Bucks County community. Since its chartering on Jan. 7, 1987, the Detachment has grown from 19 members to 74.

As part of the dinner program,

three of the six living charter members were presented special acrylic awards by **Detachment Commandant Budd Pearce** and Department 25-year Tenure Plaques by **National Northeast Division Vice Commandant Denis Tobin** and **Department of Pennsylvania Commandant Neil Corley**.

Receiving the awards were **Past Commandant Donald D. Parzanese Sr.**, **Past Comman-**

Please see DINNER, Page 5

'Gathering of Heroes' Slated for Feb. 29 in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, PA--On Feb 29, the Irish Pubs and the Marine Corps Law Enforcement Foundation will be hosting a "Gathering of Eagles" Celebrity BarTender Event.

The celebrities scheduled to attend are Medal of Honor recipients; **Barney Barnum**, **Jon Cavaiani**, **Brian Thacker**, and **Mike Thornton**. Other M-O-H recipients, **Thomas Norris**, **Dakota Meyer** and **Salvatore Giunta** have been invited and we are awaiting their responses.

Additional celebrity bartenders will include prominent local personalities and some Marine General Officers.

The entry fee is \$20 that includes an event shirt. Guest are invited to bring their cameras. Also there will be several fine auction items available for bids.

The event kicks off at the Irish Pub at 12th & Walnut Sts. on Wednesday, Feb. 29, at 4 p.m. Then, at 6 p.m., the event moves to the Irish Pub at 20th & Walnut St.



CHARTER MEMBERS--Displaying awards presented at the 25th Anniversary Dinner by Commandant Budd Pearce (right) are Detachment Charter members Don Parzanese Sr., Pat Parsonese and Bob Sundling. (Photo by Joe Kier)



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2nd Wednesday of Month
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COMMANDANT'S COLUMN



Marines,

It's that time of the year again...so get your name in to **Past Commandant Jim Powell** as soon as you can or you might miss out on being an officer for the Detachment.

April is the election of officers for the next year. If you haven't been an officer or if you have and can't wait to do it again make that call now! No kidding now, the Detachment needs people to step up and do work or it can't function. I know how easy it is to sit back and let the few do the "officer thing" but what happens when those few get tired? Are you Marine enough to step in and give other Marines a hand? Get involved, in the running of YOUR Detachment, call Jim and talk to him about what help you can be. Also, don't forget to come to the March meeting for the elections and the April meeting for the installations. Thanks Marines!

The Department of Pennsylvania's Annual Pistol Match is going to be held on June 1-3 this year. If you want to get involved in that please contact **Senior Vice Commandant Joe Kier** as he is the Pistol Team Captain. Also, if anyone wants to get together for some

pistol practice starting in April, let Joe or me know. Once the teams are set reservations for rooms can be made. The match fills up quickly so our forms **MUST** be in by April 1 to make sure we have a slot. This is a lot of fun and most of you would really enjoy yourself. If you like to shoot, or want to give it a try for old times sake, give me a call.

Please don't forget that we will be having our most profitable fund raiser on the Memorial Day weekend. We are at the State Store on Thursday evening, Friday evening, and all day Saturday and Sunday from Noon until 5 p.m. As you can imagine this takes a lot of manpower. This is the time when the Detachment needs your help. Check your calendar and reserve some time that weekend for your fellow Marines. Memorial Day weekend is our time to shine a bit, so try to make the fund raiser and the parade, you won't be sorry for either.

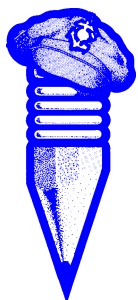
See you at the March meeting
Se,mper Fi,

GOODIES FOR THE TROOPS

Peggy Sundling, who continues to send "Goodies to the Troops," has provided a sampling of items which are needed for the shipments. She cautions, "NO CHOCOLATE!" Items include Moist Wipes--with or without aloe (some people are allergic); Beef Jerky/Slim Jims--very popular; Hard Candy--no lollipops; Lotions and Moisturizers; Lip Balm; Chewing Gum; Crackers/Snacks/Granola Bars--in individual packages for easy toting; Fruit Snacks/Raisins--in individual packages; Writing Tablets/Envelopes/Pens; Crossword Puzzles; Magazines--military, automotive, hunting, etc. (used, are fine); Drink Mixes--individual envelopes.

Thanks, Marines, for your continued support!

FEBRUARY DETACHMENT MEETING



M I N U T E S

The regular meeting of Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held February 8, 2012, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA

There were 22 members present including all officers. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Don Parzanese Sr. and Bob Sundling; Department of Pennsylvania Junior Vice Commandant/Junior Past Commandant & Marine of the Year Jim Powell;** and **Past Department of New Jersey Commandant/Past National Northeast Division Vice Commandant Ed Hoth.**

New Member: Marine Steve Weir (of Warminster) and **Samuel DiValentino** (of Chalfont).

Sick Call: Marine Bob Duff is undergoing treatment for several medical conditions. **Bill Jerrom** is recuperating at home. **Marine Mike Waldron's** wife, Dorothy, is still fighting cancer. **PDC Ed Hoth's** wife is recuperating from a traffic accident.

The **Minutes** of the January Meeting as published in *Listen Up!* were unanimously approved. The **Paymaster's Report** was presented and unanimously accepted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Budd Pearce, PC, reported he had made preliminary arrangements with the State Store in Doylestown to conduct our annual Memorial Day Week fund-raiser.

Senior Vice Commandant Joe Kier reported the Detachment strength at 72 including 28 Life Members, 36 Regular Members, 2 Dual Members, 5 Associate Members, and 1 Honorary Member.

Junior Vice Commandant Jack Gentile had nothing new to report.

The Adjutant/Paymaster reported the Detachment had received an acknowledgement from the Guardians of the National Cemetery for our donation to it and a similar note the "Make-A-Wish" Foundation for our donation to it.

*He also reported Warrington Township is seeking the names of Warrington veterans to be added to its memorial. Veterans who either entered service while residents of the township or resided in the township for at least 10 years after service are now eligible to have their names inscribed on the monument. This has been changed from the previous requirement permitting only Warrington residents at the time of entry into the service. Contact Warrington Township Veterans Affairs Office for more details.

Judge Advocate Don Parzanese Sr., PC, reported the Detachment's IRS Form 990N problems had been handled. His research affirmed the Detachment's EIN. The Detachment has no legal problems.

Sergeant-at-Arms Sundling reported he had received no new requests for the Coilor Guard since the last meeting.

Chaplain Don Parzanese Jr. reported his services were available but not requested since the last meeting.

Quartermaster Corey Fisher had nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

25th Anniversary Committee Chair Joe Kier reported the 25th Anniversary Dinner was a success and both Department Commandant Neil Corley and National Northeast Division Vice Commandant Denis Tobin had a great time at the dinner. Awards were given to Charter members Don Parzanese Sr., Pat Parzanese, and Bob Sundling at the dinner. They also received 25-year Tenure Plaques from the Department. Marines Mike Waldron, Ray Krout

and Leland Wimer will receive their awards at a future Detachment Meeting.

Young Marines Liaison Bob Sundling reported the Liberty Young Marines Unit will be undergoing Cold Weather Training on Feb. 18-19 in the Poconos.

The Unit camped out in the Poconos the weekend of Oct. 22.

Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Joe Kier reported the Detachment Rifle Team had received a 1st Place Award for competing in the Department Rifle Match.

NEW BUSINESS

Commandant Pearce appointed Past Commandant Jim Powell at chair the Nominating Committee. The slate of proposed officers will be presented next month and elections will be conducted at that time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **Commandant Pearce** announced all veterans were invited to attend the 280th anniversary of George Washington's birth on Feb. 19 at a ceremony in Bristol, PA.

* It was also announced that the American Legion Post will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner on Feb. 11 at the Post.

* **Chaplain Don Parzaese Jr.** announced that his twins were born on Feb. 2.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Mar. 14, 2012.

A Lasting Legacy for Vietnam Veterans

2012 is an important year for Vietnam War veterans and their families. This is the year that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) will break ground to build an Education Center at The Wall designed to connect future visitors with the 58,272 names of the MIA/KIA's on the Vietnam Wall. The Education Center, to be constructed across the street from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, will contain photos and personal stories about those whose names are on The Wall. Congress has given the project its approval.

For the last few years, VVMF has conducted a campaign to collect photos of all the 58,000 + names on the wall and to raise private contributions to pay for the over \$85 million in projected costs. To assist VVMF staff with these efforts, VVMF founder and president **Jan C. Scruggs** has formed a National Campaign Committee with Honorary Chair-

man **General Colin Powell**, USA (Ret.), Advisory Board Chairman **General Barry R. McCaffrey**, USA (Ret.) and National Spokesman actor **Tom Selleck**.

Both of these tasks, the collection of 58,000+ photos and the raising of \$85+ million, are daunting. However, Scruggs faced and overcame an even more daunting challenge when he initially conceived the idea for The Wall in 1979, which he dedicated in 1982.

There are two important ways that supporters, many Vietnam Veterans, their families and their close friends, can assist Scruggs and VVMF. The first is with the photos.

First, the photos. The first step is to visit the website **www.vvmf.org/thewall** and search for your casualty by name. Once you find the right person, click on "profile" to see if there is a photo posted. If not, then you can add one as well as post a remem-

brance.

The easiest way to send a photo is as an email attachment scanned at 300 dpi or higher. If you cannot locate a quality studio portrait, preferably one in uniform, try to scan one from a high school or college yearbook, a group photo, or even a snapshot.

If you cannot produce a photo to send as an email attachment, a copy of a photo (VVMF does not want original photos and cannot be responsible for returning photos) can be sent to: Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund; ATTN: Call for Photos;

2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 104; Washington, DC 20037.

The directions at **www.vvmf.org/photos** link to a form you will need to complete and send with the photo.

If you have any questions, you can contact VVMF's National Project Manager by phone at 202-393-0090, ext 120.

dant **Robert A. Sundling**, and **Patricia Paronese**. Charter members **Raymond R. Krout**, **Michael Waldron**, and **Leland Wimer** will be presented their awards at appropriate ceremonies in the future. A Tenure Plaque was sent to Detachment member **Anthony J. Parzanese Sr.**, now residing in Henderson, NV.

Since the Detachment was formed, it has been active in both community and veterans activities and programs throughout central Bucks County.

Detachment members were instrumental in the forming of the United Veterans of Doylestown consisting of the Detachment and Doylestown's American Legion Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post, and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter. The UVD is responsible for conducting the annual Doylestown Memorial Day Parade. Now in its 146th year, it is the oldest such parade in Pennsylvania. The Detachment is also the lead unit in the annual 4th of July Parade in Chalfont, PA.

The Detachment sponsors the Liberty Young Marines Unit and is actively involved in conducting the annual "Toys for Tots" program in its area.

Central Bucks Detachment members have served on committees and had major roles in the funding for and construction of the Bucks County World War II Monument (at the Bucks County Courthouse) and the Doylestown Community Service & Veterans Monument (on Rt. 611 at the southern entrance to Doylestown).

The Detachment continues its service to the League and the Central Bucks community.



TENURE AWARDS--Don Parzanese Sr. (center, left), Pat Paronese and Bob Sundling with the Department of Pennsylvania "Tenure Plaques" they received from Department Commandant Neil Corley (left) and National Northeast Division Vice Commandant Denis Tobin. (Photo by Joe Kier)

VA Urges Vets Exposed to Agent Orange Be Screened for Prostate Cancer

"Veterans exposed to Agent Orange are at least twice as likely to develop prostate cancer; their recurrence rates are higher; and recurring cancers are more aggressive," noted **Dr. Thomas Berger**, Executive Director of VVA's Veterans Health Council, before today's Congressional Men's Health Caucus Prostate Cancer Task Force. Berger urged his fellow Vietnam veterans to get screened, noting "it's worth the fight."

Said Berger, "Some three million veterans served in Southeast Asia, and no one knows for sure how many of these veterans were exposed to Agent Orange." In

1996 the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences concluded there is "limited evidence of a positive association between prostate cancer and exposure to herbicides used in Vietnam, including Agent Orange." As a result of IOM's findings, **Jesse Brown**, then-Secretary of the Veterans Administration (VA), issued the final rule, recognizing prostate cancer as a service-connected, presumptive disease associated with exposure to Agent Orange and other phenoxy herbicides during military service, allowing such exposed veterans to become eligible for VA disability compensation and health care.

In 2008, University of California-Davis Cancer Center physicians released results of research showing Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange have greatly increased risks of prostate cancer and even greater risks of getting the most aggressive form of the disease as compared to those who were not exposed. The research was also the first to use a large population of men in their 60s and the prostate-specific antigen (PSA) test. More than 13,000 Vietnam veterans enrolled in the VA Northern California Health Care System were stratified into two groups, exposed or not exposed to Agent Orange between

1962 and 1971. Based on medical evaluations conducted between 1998 and 2006, the study revealed that:

§ twice as many Agent Orange-exposed men were identified with prostate cancer than non-exposed;

§ Agent Orange-exposed men were diagnosed two-and-a-half years younger than non-exposed; and

§ Agent Orange-exposed men were nearly four times more likely to present with metastatic disease than non-exposed.

Further buttressing this link, in 2009, a study of 1,495 veterans in five cities who underwent radical prostatectomy to remove their cancerous prostates showed 206 exposed to Agent Orange had a near 50 percent increased risk of their cancer recurring, despite the can-

cer seeming nonaggressive at the time of surgery. And the cancer came back with a vengeance. The time it took the prostate-specific antigen, or PSA, level to double – an indicator of aggressiveness – was eight months versus more than 18 months in non-exposed veterans.

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINES ON THE NET

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**ASH
WEDNESDAY
22 FEBRUARY**

**DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS TIME
BEGINS
11 MARCH**

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

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
14 MARCH**

**DEPARTMENT
SPRING STAFF MEETING
16-17 MARCH**

**SPRING
BEGINS
20 MARCH**

**NATIONAL
NE DIVISION
CONFERENCE
30-31 MARCH**

**PALM SUNDAY
1 APRIL**

Quartermaster Store

DETACHMENT STRIP



\$5.00

USMC SATIN JACKET



\$55.00

LIFE MEMBER BLAZER CREST



\$25.00

COVER



\$22.00

DETACHMENT T-SHIRT



\$15.00

MCL PATCH



\$3.50

DETACHMENT LICENSE PLATE



\$10.00

To order any of these items or any other Marine Corps League items or Marine Corps items and have them ready for pick-up at the next Detachment Meeting, contact
Quartermaster COREY FISHER
at

ph: 215-822-6898

e-mail: cbquartermaster@aol.com

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"

Application for Membership
Marine Corps League

(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 **\$35.00** 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**