

LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT

#636

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

VOLUME XXII, Number 11

NOVEMBER 2009

Commandant: JAMES POWELL

Editor: DON H. GEE



A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

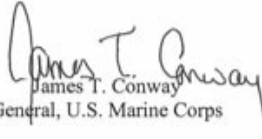
United States Marines represent the best young men and women our Nation has to offer. To be a Marine is to be a member of America's warrior class — to be one of the few who steps forward with the courage and conviction to face whatever dangers await. Our Nation expects her Marines to be ready when the Nation calls; to leave family and the comforts of home behind; to march into battle and thrive under austerity; and to come home under a victory pennant.

From Al Anbar in the west of Iraq, to Helmand Province in the south of Afghanistan, our Corps of Marines can always expect to be found where the fight is toughest. Such is our history. Today, as we write the final chapter on our victory in Iraq, we will increasingly take the fight to the enemy in Afghanistan and add new pages to our legacy in places called Delaram, Now Zad, and Garmsir. One day, we will return to our naval heritage and patrol the high seas with our Navy brothers. Such is our future.

As we celebrate our Corps' 234th Birthday, we first pause to reflect and pay tribute to those Marines who have given the last full measure in defense of freedom. We extend our deepest gratitude to our Marine Corps families — the unsung heroes who endure hardship and sacrifice so that we are able to go forward and accomplish any mission. We extend our appreciation to our countrymen who have answered our every need. And we celebrate the magnificent men and women who willingly and selflessly continue to go into harm's way to protect this great Nation.

To all who have gone before, to those who wear the uniform today, and to the families that give us the strength to forge ahead — I wish you all a heartfelt Happy 234th Birthday!

Semper Fidelis,


James T. Conway
General, U.S. Marine Corps

Central Bucks Area Activities Marking Veterans Day Listed

Veterans Day activities in our area include "A Salute to Women Who Served" sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Bucks County will be held in the Pearl S. Buck Room in the Free Library, 130 S. Pine St., Doylestown. Featured will be a panel of women who served their country and will be moderated by **Doreen Stratton**. Program begins at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 11.

New Britain Township will dedicate a Veterans Monument on Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. The ceremony will be held at North Branch Park, 207 Park Ave., Chalfont.

The annual **Veterans Day Observance** at Plumstead Christian School in Plumsteadville will begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 14. All veterans are invited to attend.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Our quarterly highway clean-up will be held this Saturday, Oct. 24, starting at 8 a.m. with a free breakfast at **Back to the 50s** restaurant at Old York Rd. & Furlong Rd. in Furlong.



**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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COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Hello Marines,

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer and now that fall is here, we have a few points of business to finish up.

Again this year, the **All Divisions Detachment** will be sponsoring the annual Beirut Memorial Ceremony to honor those killed in the Marine Barrack bombing in Beirut, Lebanon in 1983. It will take place at Fogleitta Plaza in Penns Landing in Philadelphia on Sunday Oct. 25. It will begin at 10 a.m. and our Detachment which has participated the past three years will take part again this year. If your schedule permits, please try to find the time to attend. The ceremony is fairly short and usually well attended by many Marine Corps League Detachments. It would be nice to have a large contingent from our detachment on hand. Please contact me if you are going to attend.

The 234th Marine Corps Birthday and Veterans Day are fast approaching. Even though we are not having our own Ball this year, there are options if you want to attend one.

The **MGySgt John W. Zaengle Detachment** is having their birthday ball on Nov. 6 at Joseph's Catering in Horsham, PA. There is an open invitation to anyone wishing to attend. It will begin at 7:30 p.m. and run until 11:30 p.m. Cost is \$45 per person which includes an open bar. Please contact **Jim Fay** at 215-887-9738 or jsfay@msn.com if you are inter-

ested.

There is also an open invitation to all Marines from the **Hunterdon County Bulldog Detachment** in Flemington, NJ. They are holding their ball at the American Legion Post 159, 41 Route 31 South, Flemington, NJ. It begins at 6 p.m. and goes to 8 p.m. The cost is \$45 per person or \$85 per couple. You can contact **Marine Don Mack** at (908) 203-3777, (908) 240-4194 (cell) or by email at HCBulldogs927@aol.com.

The **Tun Tavern Detachment** is also holding a Birthday Ball on Nov. 7 at Mancini's Catering of Philadelphia. Please contact **Marine Tony Evangelista** at 610-583-5308. The cost is \$55 per person which includes a Cocktail Hour. Formal dress is required.

At the last meeting we decided to hold a Holiday party in lieu of a Birthday Ball in December. Details will be forthcoming. Anyone wishing to help can contact **Junior Vice Commandant Ben Jones**.

Remember our next meeting is on Nov. 11. Hope to see you there.

Semper Fi,

Jim Powell

**VETERANS EAT FREE AT
APPLEBEES ON VETERANS DAY**

Please check this link for details:

<http://www.applebees.com/vetsday/>

OCTOBER DETACHMENT MEETING



M I N U T E S

The regular meeting on the Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held October 14, 2009, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 20 members present including all officers except the Mess Sergeant. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Budd Pearce and Bob Sundling, Past Northeast Division Commandant and Past Department of New Jersey Commandant Ed Hoth, and Marine of the Year Jim McComb.**

The **Minutes** of the September Meeting were unanimously accepted.

The **Paymaster's Report** by the Adjutant/Paymaster and was unanimously accepted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Jim Powell reported on various communications received since the last meeting including requests for support from the Marine Corps League Auxiliary and the "Moms for Marines" program.

Senior Vice Commandant Jim McComb reported the Detachment strength at 61 members including 28 Life Members, 26 Regular Members, 2 Dual members, 4 Associate Members, and 1 Honorary Life Member. Two members are delinquent in paying their dues. He also reported on the Veterans Day "New Britain Veterans Park" dedication.

Junior Vice Commandant Ben Jones reported on plans for the Detachment Birthday Ball. The Detachment has opted to hold a Birthday Ceremony with cake-cutting during our November Meeting. In place of a formal Birthday Ball, the Detachment will hold a Holiday Party in December. The Junior Vice Commandant will research and report at the next meeting.

Judge Advocate Bill Mickelson reported the Detachment had no known legal problems.

The Public Relations Officer reported the Detachment participated in the annual "Nockamixon Community Day" on Sept. 19. **Marine Bill Jerrom, Judge Advocate Bill Mickelson and Quartermaster Corey Fisher** manned the table. He set Oct. 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the November *Listen Up!*

Chaplain Budd Pearce, PC, reported his services were available but not requested since the last meeting.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC, reported the Color Guard had not been requested since the last meeting.

Quartermaster Corey Fisher had nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adopt-A-Highway: The next highway cleanup will be held on October 24. More participation from Detachment members is necessary if the Detachment is to continue in the program.

Young Marines Unit: The Liberty Young Marines Unit traveled to **Seamus Garrity's** home in Gettysburg for a weekend outing on September 26-27. The Unit members toured the Gettysburg Battlefield (guided by **Marine Bob Sundling**) and then camped out for the night at Garrity's. The Unit will be hold a cion toss fund-raiser on Saturday, Oct. 24. The Unit has also volunteered to assist the Travis Manion Foundation with its fund-raiser on Sat., Oct. 17. The event, a motorcycle ride, will be held in Lahaska.

Marine of the Year Committee: **Committee Chairman Jim McComb** announced the Marine of the Year Committee would meet following the Detachment Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Toys for Tots--Commandant Powell reported he had communications from the Zaengle Detachment concerning this year's "Toys for Tots" program. He will forward meeting info to Public Relations Officer so he can follow up.

Goodies for the Troops--Peggy Sundling has resumed mailing packages to our troops in harm's way.

Audit Committee--The Audit Committee will meet at 7 p.m. before the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

2012 Department Convention--Marine Mike Waldron and the Adjutant/Paymaster will represent the Detachment at a preliminary 2012 Convention meeting with the All-Divisions and Zaengle Detachment. Time & Date TBA.

Marine Corps League Auxiliary--A motion was made and unanimously accepted to donate \$15 to the MCLA's fund-raiser.

Moms for Marines--A motion was made and unanimously accepted to donate \$25 to the "Moms for Marines" program.

MESS SERGEANT NEEDED--The Commandant announced the Detachment is in need of a Mess Sergeant. Any member interested should contact him at 215-862-6280 or e-mail: usmc80@comcast.net.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

New Britain Veterans Park--The Public Relations Officer will attend a meeting on Oct. 20 concerning the dedication of a Veterans Park in New Britain and will report to the Detachment at the next meeting. He stated he does not have the time to devote to serving on this committee. If anyone in the Chalfont-New Britain area is interested in serving on this committee, contact him at 215-822-6898 or e-mail: USMCCCA@aol.com.

ANNOUCEMENTS

Birthday Ball--Marien Mike Waldron announced the 3rd Battalion, 14th Marines, will hold its Birthday Ball on Saturday, Nov. 7, at Dugan's Restaurant, 7900 Roosevelt Blvd., Philadelphia. Cost: E-5 & Below (\$45) E-6 to E-9 (\$50) Officers (\$55) Civilian Guests (\$60). Contact: David Pierson (215-934-6555 ext. 141); e-mail: david.pierson@usmc.mil.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until October 14 at 7:30 p.m.

**CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT
MARINES ON THE NET**

- CAPRIO, Paul midupe@aol.com
- CUPITT, Steve scupitt@aol.com
- DeBELLA, Vincent vincdebe@aol.com
- DOHERTY, Joe joedog7@verizon.net
- DUFF, Bob duffrft@verizon.net
- GEE, Don USMCCCA@aol.com
- GREGAN, Ryan ryangregan@comcast.net
- HAGAN, Vincent vincent.hagan@pnc.com
- HOTH, Ed Edhothusmc@aol.com
- JONES, Ben benjaminjones1@gmail.com
- KELLER, Bruce bruce@taylorsbucks.com
- KOHLER, Bill mustangcaptbill@aol.com
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- POWELL, Jim usmc80@comcast.net
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- SUNDLING, Bob sundling@tiniusolsen.com
- WALDRON, Mike waldron@quigleyco.com
- WIMER, Lee leewimer@aol.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**FALL STAFF MEETING
23-24 OCTOBER**

**HALLOWEEN
31 OCTOBER**

**ELECTION DAY
3 NOVEMBER**

**MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY
10 NOVEMBER**

**VETERANS DAY
11 NOVEMBER**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
11 NOVEMBER**

**THANKSGIVING DAY
26 NOVEMBER**

**DETACHMENT MEETING
9 DECEMBER**

**CHANUKAH
12 DECEMBER**

**FIRST DAY OF WINTER
21 DECEMBER**

**CHRISTMAS DAY
25 DECEMBER**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE
31 DECEMBER**



VA HEALTH CARE

Relaxation of Priority Group 8 Enrollment Restrictions

Description

Public Law 110-329 provides VA additional funding to allow expanded enrollment opportunity for certain Priority 8 veterans who may have been previously denied enrollment in VA's health care system because their income exceeded VA's means tests thresholds.

The new regulation, which became effective June 15, 2009, enables the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to relax income restrictions on enrollment for health benefits. While this new provision does not remove consideration of income, it does increase income thresholds, making it easier for more veterans to enroll in VA's health care system.

Impact

A veteran who applies for enrollment on or after June 15, does not qualify for a higher priority group and whose income exceeds VA's means test threshold (MTT) or geographic means test threshold (GMTT) by 10% or less will be placed in Priority Group 8b (if the veteran is noncompensable 0% service-connected). or 8 d (if the veteran is nonservice-connected) and enrolled in the VA health care system.

VA is automatically reassessing the enrollment status of veterans who applied on or after January 1, 2009, rejected due to income and placed in 8e or 8g. These veterans will be notified if these new provisions permit their enrollment.

Veterans who applied but were rejected for enrollment prior to January 1, 2009, may complete a VA Form 10-10EZ (Health Benefits Renewal form) to have their eligibility for enrollment reassessed against the new enrollment threshold.

Veterans may also self-assess their eligibility for enrollment under this new provision by entering their information into VA's on-line calculator AT:

www.va.gov/healtheligibility/apps/enrollmentcalculator/

Additional Information

* Veterans are encouraged to contact VA's Health Resource CENTER AT 1-877-222-VETS (8387); or

* Visit the VA health eligibility website at: www.va.gov/healtheligibility

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**