



# LISTEN UP!

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

**Commandant: ELLIS M. PEARCE III**

**Editor: DON H. GEE**

VOLUME XII, Number 11

NOVEMBER 1999



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

**PAYMASTER:**  
ROBERT C. CODY

**JUDGE ADVOCATE:**  
BOB MOMORELLA

**QUARTERMASTER:**  
ROBERT DUFF

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

**WEBMASTER:**  
TRACY BROCKMAN

**CHAPLAIN & P. R. OFFICER:**  
DON H. GEE, PC




### A Message from the Commandant of the Marine Corps

As we gather to celebrate the Marine Corps' 224th Birthday, we find ourselves at a crossroads between the past and the future, at a time where we serve as both guardians of our heritage and torchbearers committed to writing the next chapter of our Corps' history. The 20th century was a period of national definition and immense global change. It is both fitting and appropriate that we recognize and celebrate the role Marines played during these dramatic times.

As the United States evolved into the role of superpower during the often turbulent events of the last 100 years, Marines were ever present; exerting influence far beyond that expected of a Corps so few in number. Marines protected America's interests, struggled against foes who attempted to do our country harm, and they remained at the forefront of the Nation's efforts to maintain global peace and stability. From the defense of the Peking Legation to operations in Kosovo, the 20th century witnessed Marines "In ev'ry clime and place," helping the United States grow from a fledgling world power to become the only remaining superpower. In two World Wars, the Corps marched to victory against powerful enemies. In Korea, Vietnam and Kuwait, Marines assisted in providing freedom for people who sought to live in peace. In hundreds of distant lands, from Nicaragua to Lebanon to Somalia, Marines restored and maintained order, aided people in distress, provided protection for the weak, and upheld the values that have come to define our country on the world stage.

The Americans who accomplished these noble deeds came from our society as ordinary men and women. They became extraordinary by earning the title "United States Marine." Many made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country, and we honor their memory. Others returned to our society where they continue to serve by living exemplary lives as men and women of character and dedication. Finally, many Marines remain in uniform, always on the watch, that Americans may live in peace. On this day--the final Marine Corps Birthday of the 20th century--I offer warmest regards to all who have worn the Eagle, Globe and Anchor, and to the families who also serve by supporting them. You represent all that is wonderful about our Nation, and I am proud to serve with you.

Semper Fidelis,

  
J. L. JONES  
General, U. S. Marine Corps

**THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE AT 1930 ON 10 NOVEMBER 1999  
AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST, 315 NORTH ST., DOYLESTOWN**

# COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

We had a very good turn-out to help at the rodeo. The Shriners were very happy with the job we did on the gates. We have been offered the job again next year. I hope all those who helped out had a good time, like I did. The Detachment received a donation of \$300 for our efforts. Thanks to everyone who came out to help--and a special thanks to our Judge Advocate Bob Momorella for getting us involved. We also got a donation of \$300 for the Hot Dog Cart that we could never get off the ground. Outstanding job, Bob, thanks!

The Detachment has its annual Birthday Ball coming up on November 6. If you haven't gotten your tickets and made your plans to be there, why haven't you? This is our main social event of the year, not to mention it's held to honor our Corps. Our Detachment can boast of a 45-50 percent turn-out at our meetings, a 35-45 percent turn-out for all of our other activities, but we can only get about 156-20 percent to come to the Birthday Ball. Pardon my French, but that STINKS! This is a night of coming together in the name of the United States Marine Corps--the organization to which you all offered up your lives. The organization that you all are so proud to have served in that you joined the Marine Corps League, attend the meetings, and for which you clean-up highways. So, show your pride by coming to the Ball. You can't go out to dinner and have drinks and dance for \$35 each anywhere else anyway. I truly hope to

see you there. I'll be the guy in the red jacket and bow tie.

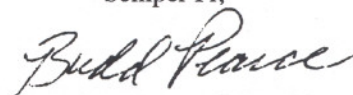
The Young Marines (about 30 of them) are coming to the November Meeting. This meeting, as you know, falls on The Birthday (Nov. 10). We will be having a cake-cutting ceremony, complete with sword. I feel it is our duty as League members to support these kids in some way. A piece of cake isn't much, but the chance for these kids to be around the years of Marine Corps history represented at our meeting, will be invaluable to them no matter what career they choose. Our job in the League is to aid and support the Corps. Well, these Young Marines will grow, and perhaps become Marines in the near future. Let's get dressed in our blazers and come out to the meeting and show the Young Marines that we Old Marines are still pretty sharp.

Please remember that, at the December Meeting, we will be collecting toys for the needy children again. Please bring a couple of new toys to the meeting. If our meeting falls before the Marine Corps Reserve "Toys-for-Tots"

deadline, we will be presenting them the collected toys. In case our meeting is after that deadline, we will have the toys distributed to various needy children in this area through an area shelter. Either way, a child who would have nothing else on Christmas day will benefit from your generosity. Every kid deserves a Christmas, let's give them one.

Detachment Webmaster Tracy Brockman has notified me our website has a new address. If you want to check it out, you will find it at [mclcb.tripod.com](http://mclcb.tripod.com). You do not have to put the www. in front of the mclcb. There is a bulletin board to make keeping track of upcoming events easier and a complete list of our members. Those members with e-mail addresses are in blue and you can reach them by just clicking on the name. If you have an e-mail address, let Tracy know and he will add it to the listing.

That's all for now...see you at the Ball.  
Semper Fi,



BUDD PEARCE

## Rose Honoring Veterans Unveiled

by Bill Ihle

ARLINGTON, VA--In a ceremony earlier this year at Arlington National Cemetery, Jackson & Perkins, the nation's largest producer of patented roses, unveiled a rose to honor the individuals in the Armed Forces whose contributions established and protect our nation.

Ten percent of the sales of each rose, named "Veterans' Honor," will be donated to a special account benefiting U.S. veterans which will be established by the Department of Veterans Affairs and supported by Jackson & Perkins. "Veterans' Honor" will join the ranks of numerous other commemorative roses offered by Jackson & Perkins, such as **John F. Kennedy, Billy Graham and Diana, Princess of Wales.**

**Bill Williams**, President and CEO of Jackson & Perkins remarked, "We were

pleased to work with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) on how to benefit veterans by developing this rose. The joint effort is an excellent example of a public/private partnership in which everyone wins--especially America's veterans."

"Veterans' Honor," a dark-red hybrid tea, was planted during the event in a special garden in the Cemetery. Military and civilian dignitaries were invited to attend, including members of the Veterans Affairs Committee from both the House and Senate.

The idea to create "Veterans' Honor" came from **Kenneth W. Kizer, M.D., M.P.H.**, the VA's Undersecretary for Veterans Health care.

To order the rose or to request a catalog, call (800) 292-4769 or visit the Jackson & Perkins Website at: [www.jacksonandperkins.com](http://www.jacksonandperkins.com).



### 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, was held October 13, 1999, at Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #213, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 23 members present including all officers. 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 Bob Sundling**. **Marine Dave Sullivan** of All Divisions Detachment was in attendance. He plans to transfer to our Detachment.

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

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

**Adjutant Gary Smith** read correspondence from the Department of Pennsylvania reminding Marines the Fall Staff & Members Meeting will be held October 29-30 in Wilkes Barre. He noted there would be a roast of **Junior Past Department Commandant Paul Semanco** on Saturday night, October 30. He also announced the Department will be holding a Birthday Ball on Saturday, November 6, at the Holiday Inn in Grantville. Deadline for reservations for the Department Ball is October 31. The Department is also planning a special Veterans Day Service at the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery on November 7.

**Commandant Budd Pearce** reminded the Detachment about the American Legion Post's Annual Turkey Dinner on November 7 beginning at noon.

**Senior Vice Commandant Bill Miller** reported the Detachment strength at 47 members including 13 Life Members, 32 Regular Members, and 4 Associate Members. There is one member delinquent.

**Junior Vice Commandant Paul Caprio** reminded the Detachment about our Birthday Ball on Saturday, Nov. 6, at the Orion Club, at NAS, Willow Grove. Cost for the Ball is \$35 per person. So far, only 23 reservations have been received. Deadline for reservations is October 26.

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

**Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling** reported the Detachment had received no recent requests for our Color Guard.

**Public Relations Officer Don Gee**, PC, set October 20 as the deadline for the November issue of "Listen Up!"

## Standing Committees

**Advertising--Advertising Coordinator Bob Momorella** reported he had received three new ads for "Listen Up!"

**Grocery Receipts--Redner's Coordinator Gary Smith** reported the Detachment had received a check for \$211.18 from Redner's. He reminded the Detachment members they must get a "Save-a-Tape" card from Redner's or tapes will not be accepted after November.

**Adopt-A-Highway--"Adopt-A-Highway" Coordinator Budd Pearce** reminded the members the next highway cleanup was scheduled for Saturday, October 16. Members will meet at Lu's Place in Edison for breakfast prior to the cleanup.

## Old Business

**Judge Advocate Momorella** reported the Detachment received a \$300 donation from the Shriners for providing gate security at their recent rodeo. The Shriners also donated an additional \$300 to the Detachment for our Hot Dog Cart. The Judge thanked all of the Detachment members who assisted at the rodeo.

## Good of the League

Marine Herb Krout thanked those members of the Detachment who helped refurbish the trailer we use for our parades.

Sergeant-at-Arms Sundling motioned we cancel the 50-50 Raffle for November since the Young Marines will be in attendance. Motion passed unanimously.

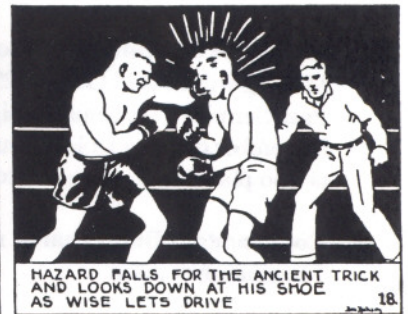
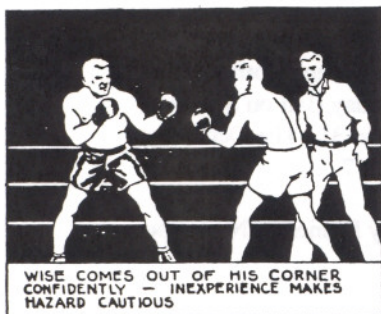
### Announcements

Commandant Pearce announced our annual "Toys-for-Tots" drive. New toys should be brought to the December Meeting for distribution to needy children.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, November 10, at 7:30 p.m.

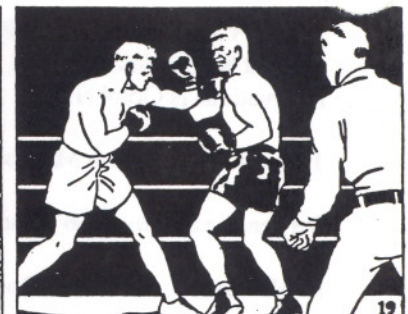
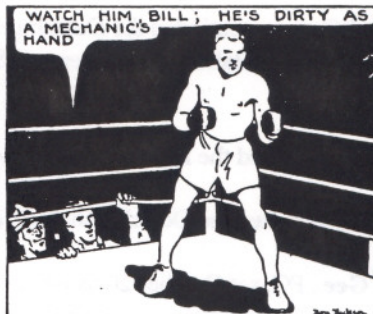
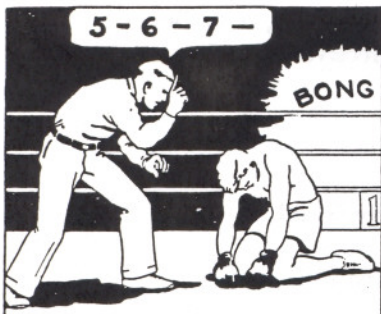
#### SERGEANT STONY CRAIG—Hazard Is Floored

By Frank H. Rentfrow and Don Dickson



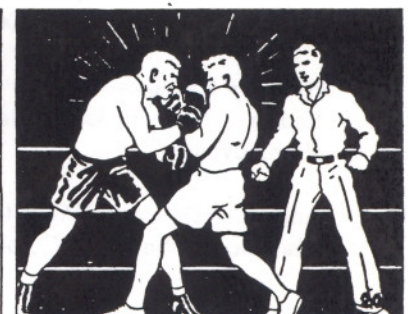
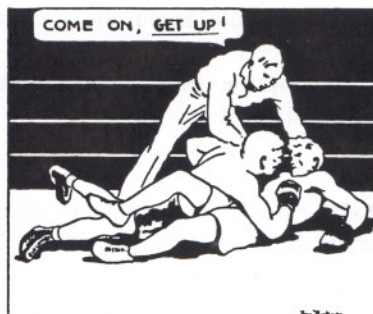
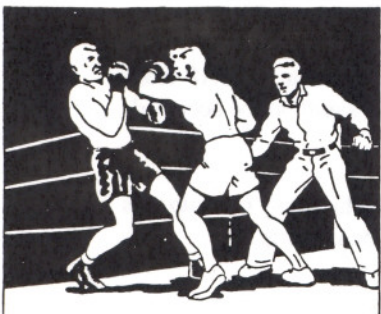
#### SERGEANT STONY CRAIG—Saved By the Bell

By Frank H. Rentfrow and Don Dickson



#### SERGEANT STONY CRAIG—The Springing Rope

By Frank H. Rentfrow and Don Dickson



# U. S. Marine Corps Getting New Combat Tents

MARINE CORPS BASE, QUANTICO, VA--There's going to be no more sleeping in a cramped shelter-half while in the field for fleet Marines in the near future.

The new two-man combat tent, which is currently beginning to replace the shelter-half has already received rave reviews from Marines in the fleet. The new tent is a large step up from the shelter-half, according to **Maj. David McCord**, project officer, Individual Combat Clothing and Equipment Section of Marine Corps Systems Command.

"Generally, Marines have given us very positive feedback," said McCord. "(They've said) It's easy to set up, easy to tear down, it's keeping me dry, it's keeping the wind off of me, and I've got plenty of room to store gear."

When broken down, the tents are lighter than shelter halves and are easier to carry because the components fit into their own bag which can be attached to an ALICE or MOLLE pack. The total weight of the tent (which includes the tent, rain-fly, poles, and stakes) is only 8-1/2 pounds, which can be split into separate loads or carried as a whole.

In decent weather, the tent usually takes less than 10 minutes to set up, said McCord. It has a much larger living space, with pockets on both sides as well as overhead, and has a larger area inside

as well. Packs and other gear can be stored inside the fly, which wraps around the "livable" part of the tent. It stands up much better to the rain than the shelter halves because the entire tent is water resistant, and the bottom is waterproof.

"Right now we're looking to procure roughly 49,000 for the active forces, and about 16,000 for the reserve component," said McCord.

The active Fleet Marine Force currently has approximately 20,000 of the tents, and the reserve forces have approximately 6,400 according to McCord. MarCorSysCom received the task to find a better tent from the Requirements Division at Marine Corps Combat Development Center, who in turn gets their input on gear and equipment from the FMF.

"They said we need to replace this thing," said McCord about the feedback from the FMF regarding the shelter half. "It's old, it's not getting the mission done, Marines don't carry it half the time because it doesn't work and it's heavy. We can do a lot better."

Finding a new and better tent was a fairly easy mission, said McCord, because of the progress the outdoor equipment industry has made over the past several years. "What we did was we went out with a performance specifica-

tion," said McCord. "We tell the industry this is what we want, these are the requirements we have for this piece of gear, show us what you've got. The industry comes back and we evaluate what they submit."

The new tents will increase a Marine's survivability in the field, according to McCord. "It keeps a Marine warmer, drier and ready to perform a mission," he said. "Plus it's a morale booster when you go to the field and you go back to your tent and it's a little more comfortable."

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# Agency Seeks Families Stationed at CLNC from '68-'85

by **Rochelle Converse**  
*Daily News*

An agency affiliated with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is planning a study to determine if families who lived aboard Camp Lejeune (NC) between 1968 and 1985 were adversely effected by cleaning chemicals released into the water supply.

The Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry--a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services--has already identified 12,500 people who were either born or conceived during that time and lived at Tarawa Terrace or Hospital Point. Chemicals were released into their water systems in the early 1980s.

"What we're doing is attempting to locate and survey these families," said **Kathy Skipper**, Chief of Public Affairs for the agency. "It's to determine what type of health issues people have had if they were born or conceived at Camp Lejeune during that time.

"The most important thing is to determine if this population is experiencing any adverse health effects."

## **Oldest Marine Dies of Pneumonia in New Jersey**

TENAFLY, NJ--**Joseph Gold**, the nation's oldest living Marine and one of the few remaining World War I veterans, died recently of pneumonia. He was 107.

Gold, who served with the American Expeditionary Force in the Battle of Belleau Wood in June 1918, was one of two servicemen to receive France's Legion of Honor in July 1999.

Just a few weeks ago, interviewers from the U. S. Marine Corps Research Center arrived at Gold's nursing home to record his thoughts on the war he fought and his service in the Marines.

Marine records show Gold was the oldest living Marine.

He is one of only a few who remembered fighting during World War I.

After the war, Gold remained in Europe until 1919 to help with postwar construction.

The chemicals originated from an off-base dry cleaner, located across the street from Camp Lejeune, where trichloroethylene (TCE), tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and dichloroethylene were released into the base water systems, Skipper said.

The contaminated site at ABC One-Hour Cleaners, at 2127 Lejeune Blvd., made the Environmental Protection Agency's National Priorities List--commonly known as the "Superfund" list--in 1989 after being linked to the 1985 well contamination on base. The 12 effected well sites were closed in 1985.

During that time, the owners of ABC said they were unaware of the damages caused by dumping the cleaning fluids behind their store.

So far, studies involving TCE and PCE are limited and health officials are still trying to determine how they may effect human health. TCE, however, has been linked to childhood leukemia in some cases, she said.

"These are compounds associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes," Skipper said.

"Obviously, it's something that people who lived at Camp Lejeune need to be aware of. We don't want to scare them but we certainly want to identify people who lived there and that they will want to participate."

A small-scale study completed in 1998 by ATSDR found that children, primarily boys, born to mothers who lived at the Camp Lejeune housing sites during the 1980s were smaller in size because of exposure to TCE.

In addition, the infants of mothers age 35 or older or mothers who had a history of infant or fetal death had an increased rate of low birth weight as a result of being exposed to PCE, Skipper said.

The current study, estimated to take about a year, is broader and will have more open-ended questions to determine if any health problems may be linked to exposure to the chemicals.

The study is focusing primarily on people who were born or conceived because health officials believe children are more vulnerable to the chemicals than adults.

"We are most sensitive before we're actually born," Skipper said. "That is when people are most sensitive to these chemicals. The rationale is, most people are vulnerable when they're in vitro." The primary chemical involved in the incident was TCE, a degreaser or chemical cleaner. PCE is commonly used as a dry cleaning solution.

ABC One-Hour Cleaners designation as a Superfund site has directed two types of cleanup at the cleaner's location. The process of cleaning groundwater is still underway and is estimated to take seven more years to complete, said **Luis Flores**, EPA Project Manager.

Groundwater will be pumped and treated but is not currently used as drinking water, he said.

The second cleanup project will include a vapor extraction process of the contaminated soil where air will be pumped into the soil and chemical particles will be captured.

The soil extraction is estimated to begin next year and should take one year to complete.

"The contaminated soil is basically under the building," Flores said.

Superfund sites receive money from a federal tax on the production and sale of hazardous chemicals and is used to pay for environmental cleanups when businesses or people cannot afford to do so.

"We've had a number of calls from people who have received calls from ATSDR and are concerned about this," said **Maj. Scott Fazekas**, Deputy Public Affairs Officer at Camp Lejeune. "We are very concerned about it and we want to give people as much information as we can."

A host of information regarding the chemicals is available for family members through the ATSDR, which can be reached at (888) 42ATSDR.

Camp Lejeune is also offering information and can be reached toll-free at (877) 261-9782.

Anyone who lived at one of the housing locations between 1968 and 1985 or knows of someone who did is encouraged to call (800) 639-4270 to become a part of the study, which is being conducted by the National Opinion Research Center.

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**By October 29**

# THE ORIGIN OF VETERANS DAY

In 1921, an unknown World War I American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. This site, on a hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, became the focal point of reverence for America's veterans.



Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an unknown soldier was buried in each nation's highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe). These memorial gestures all took place on Nov. 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I fighting at 11 a.m., Nov. 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). The day became known as "Armistice Day."

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through Congressional action.

If the idealistic hope had been realized that World War I was "the war to end all wars," Nov. 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But only a few years after the holiday was proclaimed, war broke out in Europe.

Sixteen and one-half million Americans took part. Four hundred seven thousand of them died in service, more than 292,000 in

battle.

An answer to the question of how to pay tribute to those who had served in this latest, great war came in a proposal made by Representative Edwin K. of Kansas: Change Armistice Day to Veterans Day, and make it an occasion to honor those who served America in all wars.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day.



On Memorial Day, 1958, two more unidentified American war dead were brought from overseas and interred in the plaza beside the unknown soldier of World War I. One was killed in World War II, the other in the Korean War.

In 1973, a law passed providing interment of an unknown American from the Vietnam War, but none was found for several years. In 1984, an unknown serviceman from that conflict was placed alongside the others.

To honor these men, symbolic of all Americans who gave their lives in all wars, an Army Guard, The 3d U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), keeps day and night vigil.

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Mon-

day in October. It soon became apparent, however, that Nov. 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978, Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

The focal point for official, national ceremonies for Veterans Day continues to be the memorial amphitheater built around the Tomb of the Unknowns. At 11 a.m., on Nov. 11, a combined color guard representing all military services executes "Present Arms" at the tomb. The nation's tribute to its war dead is symbolized by the laying of a presidential wreath. The bugler plays "Taps." The rest of the ceremony takes place in the amphitheater. Veterans Day ceremonies in Arlington and elsewhere



are coordinated by the President's Veterans Day National Committee. Chaired by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the committee represents national veterans organizations.

Governors of states and U.S. territories appoint Veterans Day chairpersons who, in cooperation with the National Committee and the Department of Defense, arrange and promote local ceremonies.



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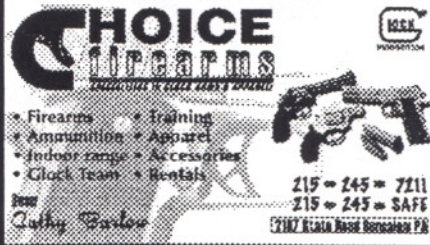
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## Application for Membership Marine Corps League

\_\_\_\_\_ (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 (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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**  
**Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc.**  
P. O. Box 1372  
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