

LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT

#636

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

VOLUME XXV, Number 10

OCTOBER 2012

Commandant: JOSEPH M. KIER

Editor: DON H. GEE

LEGISLATORS RESPOND TO 'STOLEN VALOR' DECISION

In response to the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision (*United States v. Alvarez*), which struck down the original "Stolen Valor Act of 2005," **Senator James Webb** (VA) announced he will offer a Senate floor amendment to the Senate version of the FY 2013 Defense Authorization Act (S. 3254).

His bill would bring criminal penalties to any individual for making a false claim to have served in the military or to have been awarded a military medal, decoration, or other device in order to secure a tangible benefit or a personal gain. The amendment was drafted to comply with the Supreme Court decision.

Also in response to the Court decision **Rep. Joe Heck** (NV) is working to expand support for consideration of his legislation, "The Stolen Valor Act," (H.R. 1775), which would make it illegal for individuals to benefit from lying about their military service, record, or awards. It is believed that this more narrowly focused bill would pass constitutional review on the grounds that

its impact is limited to individuals who benefit from fictional accounts of military service. Rep. Heck's bill was introduced last year and has 52 bipartisan cosponsors. **Senator Scott Brown** (MA) has introduced the Senate

companion bill, S. 1728.

In related news the Defense Department announced that it will launch a digital database of military awards and medals to make it easier to verify claims of military awards.

Agent Orange Clean Up Begins in RVN

BANGKOK--In August, the United States began cleaning up in Vietnam leftover deposits of the toxic chemical dioxin from the herbicide *Agent Orange* sprayed by U.S. forces on vegetation during the Vietnam War. The toxin was found at former U.S. air bases and has been linked to disease and birth defects. On the significance of the cleanup and the health consequences of dioxin still felt in Vietnam today.

Vietnamese and U.S. officials in August launched a project to clean up a contaminated former American airbase at Da Nang.

The Vietnam War-era base was one of many used to store *Agent Orange*, an herbicide with an unintended but highly toxic byproduct, dioxin.

During the Vietnam War U.S. air

forces sprayed millions of liters of *Agent Orange* to clear vegetation in search of Vietnam's communist forces.

The defoliant killed off millions of acres of vegetation and has been linked to diseases such as diabetes, cancer and birth defects.

But, due to doubts about scientific evidence, and concerns about liability and diplomatic relations, efforts to clean up the toxin have been slow.

Charles Bailey, Director of the Agent Orange in Vietnam Program at the Aspen Institute, a co-chair of the U.S.-Vietnam Dialogue Group on Agent Orange, says the clean-up marks a historic turning point and both governments deserve credit.

Please see **ORANGE**, Page 4



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COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

We are entering into the holiday season and have some exciting things coming up in the near future.

First, I hope that between **Junior Vice Commandant Vince DeBella** and myself we can put together some Rose Program fundraising locations before the Birthday Ball.

Secondly, we have a very exciting Birthday Ball planned for this year at the Brookside Manor, and we are able to celebrate on Nov. 10 due to it falling on a Saturday this year. We all need to give thanks to Junior Vice Commandant DeBella for all the hard work he did on the Ball this year, and for being able to keep the cost at \$40.00, which is no easy task in this economy. I hope everyone can come to the Ball and have a great time with the Detachment. Please do try to get your forms and payment into us as soon as possible.

We had another successful highway cleanup on Sept. 15, and I was glad to hear that our newest member **Marine Aldo Monticello** was able to attend, thanks to all who went out.

We have our largest group going out to the Rifle Match at the end of this month. If you are going and still haven't received your hotel confirmation number, make sure you contact me to get it. Also, if it is your first year shooting remember you need to be out at the Department Headquarters at 1900 on Friday night for the safety brief-

ing.

I mentioned at the meeting that anyone who wants to put someone in for an award needs to get a recommendation letter in to me as soon as possible. This includes any nominations for "Marine of the Year" which need to go to 2011 Marine of the Year Jim Powell, PC. Instructions on nominations for Detachment MOY are in the ByLaws. If you have any questions concerning recommending someone for an award, contact me by phone or email.

Lastly, I wanted to mention that I was honored to finally get to meet **Department of Nevada Junior Vice Commandant and 25-year Detachment member Tony Parzanese Sr.** at the September meeting. If anyone else hasn't met Tony, he will also be at the October meeting before returning to Nevada.

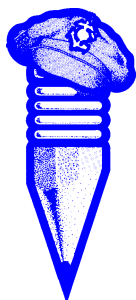
Well, that's all for now hope to see you all at the meeting on Oct. 10 and Semper Fi,

JOE KIER
Commandant

Check Out Our
Detachment
Web Site
at:

www.mclcb.org

SEPTEMBER DETACHMENT MEETING



MINUTES

The regular meeting of Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held September 12, 2012, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA. There were 16 members present including all officers except the Senior Vice Commandant and Chaplain. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Budd Pearce, Bob Sundling, Don Gee, Don Parzanese Sr.; Department of Pennsylvania Junior Vice Commandant/Past Detachment Commandant/Marine of the Year Jim Powell; Department of Nevada Junior Vice Commandant Tony Parzanese and Past Department of New Jersey & Past National Northeast Division Vice Commandant Ed Hoth.**

NEW MEMBER: Marine Aldo Martusciello (of Warminster) was accepted and sworn in as a new member of the Detachment.

The **Minutes** of the August Meeting as published in *Listen Up!* were adopted.

SICK and DISTRESSED

* **Marine Bill Mickelson** is still not doing well and his condition is worsening.

* Commandant Kier reported that his wife fractured her leg, is on the mend and it will take some time to recuperate.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Joe Kier reported that the Detachment Golf Tournament was probably going to be cancelled due to not enough teams entering. He will be talking to the club Pro on the 13th and making a final decision at that time.

* He also discussed awards for this year and reiterated that anyone can submit requests for awards. If anyone believes that there are members who are deserving, they should submit a short write up to him on that awardee.

* Anyone wishing to submit a Marine of the Year nomination should follow the Detachment Bylaws Enclosure 1 to do the submission and send it to **Marine of the Year Committee Chairman Jim Powell**. In the absence of **Senior Vice Commandant Jack Gentile**, Commandant Kier reported the Detachment had 38 regular members of which 2 are dual, 26 life members, 6 associates and 1 honorary member for a total of 71 of which 2 are delinquent.

Junior Vice Commandant Vince DeBella reported on the Detachment Birthday Ball. It will be held Nov. 10 at the Brookside Manor in Feasterville. The price was set at \$40 and cocktail hour will begin at 6 p.m. and the Ball go until 10 p.m. He presented the menu choices to the membership and, after some discussion, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved. He also discussed a guest speaker, who will possibly be reservist **Major Arthur M. Czapka**.

Adjutant/Paymaster Jim Powell, PC, presented the Paymaster's financial report.

* He reported that all of our Department Calendars were sold except the six given to the Zaengle Detachment.

* He discussed National's Service Officer Program and that he submitted the requested information to National that we have no certified VSOs.

Public Relations Officer Don Gee, PC, set Sept. 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the October *Listen Up!*.

* He also reported **Marine Bob Momorella** had moved from Arizona to Florida.

Judge Advocate Don Parzanese Sr., PC, updated the members on his efforts with IRS resolve the Detachment's two EINs.

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

Quartermaster Corey Fisher reported there had been \$10.00 in sales since the last meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Young Marine Liaison Bob Sundling reported the Young Marines "boot camp" went well at Lakehurst Naval Air Station in New Jersey.

* He also reported about the Young Marines trip to the Marine Corps Museum and attending the Night Parade at 8th & I.

* He announced that the Unit's Commanding Officer **Marine Bobby Sundling** (Sgt., USMC) had been awarded his second Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Budd Pearce, PC, announced that the next highway cleanup would be Saturday, Sept. 15. Members will meet for breakfast (on the Detachment) at 8 a.m. at "Back to the 50's" restaurant.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Public Relations Officer displayed the new Detachment Parade Banner.

NEW BUSINESS

* A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to donate the annual \$400 stipend to the Liberty Young Marines Unit from the Rose Fund in one payment rather than \$100 quarterly payments.

* A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to donate the two remaining Department Calendars as door prizes at the Birthday Ball.

Marine Ken Murray was presented a belated "Detachment Recruiter Bronze" award by Commandant Kier.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

* **Marine Tony Parzanese** spoke on the Devil Pup Program that was being used in Nevada.

* **Department Junior Vice Commandant Jim Powell** discussed his attendance at the National Convention in Mobile and some of the Bylaw changes that passed. The 2014 National Convention will be held in Charleston, WV, and that will also be the MODD 75th Anniversary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **Marine Mike Waldron** announced that the Marine Band would be performing in Philadelphia in October.

* **Junior Vice Commandant DeBella** announced that the Marine Corps Silent Drill Team will be performing on Sept. 30 at the Italian-American Club in Hamilton Township, NJ.

* The **Junior Vice Commandant** also announced the Trenton Detachment has four seats left for their bus trip to the Marine Corps Museum on Nov. 2.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 1900 on Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2012.

ORANGE

from Page 1

"Because, they've both come a long way from being, you know, unable to agree on most aspects of this subject to a point where they have successfully over a number of years done all the technical work to get to this point of saying 'ok, here's how we're going to destroy it once and for all'," he said.

The U.S. Agency for International Development, USAID, is overseeing the clean up at Da Nang, the most toxic of 28 dioxin "hot spots" in Vietnam.

The decontamination will involve testing and gathering affected soil and heating it to high temperature to burn off leftover dioxin.

Da Nang is still a working airport so the four-year, \$43 million, project has to be carried out carefully.

Other former air bases are expected to be cleaned-up within the next decade, erasing the most toxic traces of dioxin.

But, Bailey says even after decontamination the larger problem is helping people and their descendants whose health problems are associated with *Agent Orange*.

"For them, particularly for children and young adults who've been born with disabilities, the effort, the focus, has been on pro-

grams that will enable them to live lives of greater comfort and dignity and to achieve what they are capable of, and to assist their families," Bailey stated.

Vietnam says at least three million people living near the bases were exposed to *Agent Orange* and show higher incidents of disease and birth defects.

Families suffering from disabilities show a higher rate of poverty as health care expenses go up and family income goes down.

The U.S.-Vietnam Dialogue Group on Agent Orange/Dioxin estimates \$450 million is needed to completely eliminate dioxin "hot spots" and provide care, education, and economic opportunities to those affected.

So far, about \$100 million has been raised from American foundations, United Nations agencies, and governments including the United States.

DD-214s Now On-Line

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following web site for veterans to gain access to their DD-214s on-line:

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>



CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT
237 th BIRTHDAY
OF THE
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

DATE & TIME: Saturday, November 10, 2012, at 1800 (6 p.m.)

PLACE: THE BROOKSIDE MANOR
50 Bustleton Pike, Feasterville, PA

DINNER: Roast Sirloin of Beef
or Broiled Salmon
or Chicken Breast with Wild Rice Stuffing

PRICE: \$40.00 per person

RSVP: As Soon As Possible
but NOT LATER THAN 1 November 2012
to:

VINCE DeBELLA
Junior Vice Commandant
854 Phillips Rd.
Warminster, PA 18974-2765
215-514-2237
e-mail: vincdebe@aol.com

BY CHECK or MONEY ORDER MADE PAYABLE TO:
CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, MCL

Name: _____ **No. of People Attending:** _____

_____ **Roast of Sirloin Beef** (*How Many?*)

_____ **Broiled Salmon** (*How Many?*)

_____ **Chicken Breast** (*How Many?*)

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINES ON THE NET

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**AUTUMN BEGINS
22 SEPTEMBER**

**DETACHMENT
YOUTH & VETERANS
GOLF TOURNAMENT
24 SEPTEMBER**

**YUM KIPPUR
BEGINS
25 SEPTEMBER**

**COLUMBUS DAY
8 OCTOBER**

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
10 OCTOBER**

**HALLOWEEN
31 OCTOBER**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME BEGINS
4 NOVEMBER**

**ELECTION
DAY
6 NOVEMBER**

**VETERANS DAY
12 NOVEMBER**

**DETACHMENT
MARINE CORPS
BIRTHDAY BALL
10 NOVEMBER**

**THANKSGIVING
22 NOVEMBER**

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

ANNIVERSARY PATCH



\$5.00

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**