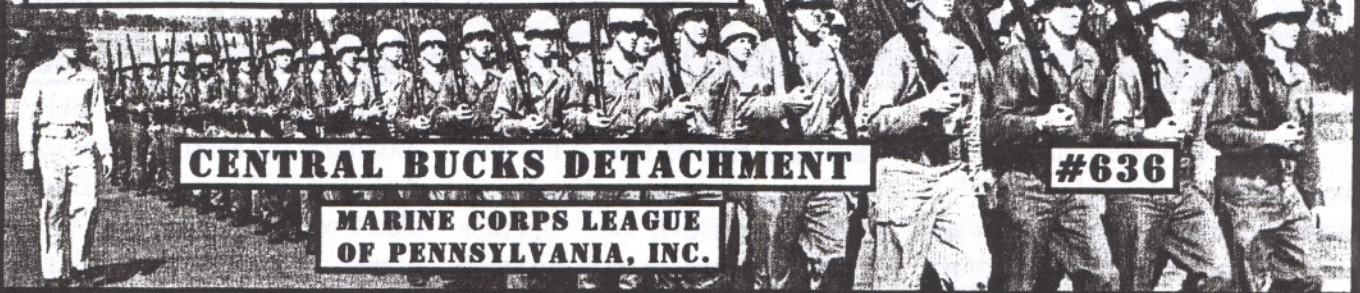


LISTEN UP!



VOLUME XX, Number 9

SEPTEMBER 2007

Commandant: JAMES POWELL

Editor: DON H. GEE

MARINE ENTRY-LEVEL TRAINING GOES 'BACK TO BASICS'

WASHINGTON--Marine entry-level training will reinvigorate its values-based approach, a top Marine official said here recently.

At both Marine Corps Recruit Depots--in Parris Island, SC, and San Diego, CA--senior drill instructors will hold "footlocker classes" with enlistees to strengthen the mentor-scholar relationship, Marine **MajGen. George J. Flynn**, the Commanding General of the Corps' Training and Education Command, told reporters at the Pentagon.

"The senior drill instructors will have their troops literally sit on the footlockers and will have that father-son, mother-daughter talk that really instills those values," he said. "That's where a lot of the values get reinforced and introduced to the recruits."

Discussion topics will depend on when the sessions occur during boot camp, and Flynn said talks could range from what new recruits might experience when first arriving to a unit and what leadership they can expect, to financial advice and how young Marines should behave during leave. Senior drill instructors soon will receive a guide on how to approach these footlocker sessions, he added.

Flynn said Marine Corps Commandant **Gen. James T. Conway** spurred the re-examination of entry-level training. "This stemmed from his belief that the transformation from civilian to Marine is a national treasure and one that we must preserve and guard," he said.

In addition, the Corps is considering an additional week of infantry training for both infantry and noninfantry Marines, which would likely include crew-served weapons training, plus convoy and counter-improvised-explosive-device training.

In about a month, officials at Marine Manpower and Reserve Affairs should render their judgment on whether the additional week is feasible. "All these things would provide a better-trained Marine to the operating forces," Flynn said.

The general also announced a scheduling change to the 12-week Marine boot camp, involving the 54-hour endurance exercise Marines call "The Crucible."

This month, recruits at Parris Island will undergo the crucible in week 11, instead of week 10, and in October the crucible exercise in San Diego will move from week eight to week 11.

"We want to make The Crucible the true culminating event that it was originally designed to be," he said. "At the end of this 54-hour event, you will be recognized as earning the right to be called a United States Marine."

The 12th and final week of training will be called "Marine Week," Flynn said.

"It's a transition from going to a very restrictive environment to learning about how you are going to function in the Marines when you reach the operating forces," he said. "You're going to get

POWELL GIVES PURPLE HEARTS; USPS REISSUES MEDAL STAMP

by John J. Kruzel
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7--Retired Army **Gen. Colin Powell** presented Purple Heart Medals to two wounded soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center here Aug. 7, as the U.S. Postal Service unveiled a new stamp honoring the medal and those who wear it.

The medal, which features George Washington's family crest and the first president's silhouette set against a purple heart, is awarded to U.S. servicemembers wounded by an instrument of war in an enemy's hands.

Powell received a Purple Heart after a booby trap wounded him in 1963 near the Vietnam-Laos border. The General today told the audience of nearly 150 servicemembers, families, friends, and hospital officials that the Purple Heart is unique because it's "the only decoration which you are entitled to as a wounded warrior."

"You may be recommended for other decorations, but this is the one that you are entitled to," he said. "It is something that is owed to all of our wounded warriors by a grateful nation, and is given in the name of the president."

"It's the least the American people can do to recognize those of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen who have been willing to step forward to serve the nation, serve

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COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Marines,

I hope everyone's summer has been going well. Unfortunately, I was unable to lead the detachment meeting for August because of my family vacation and attendance at the National Convention in Albuquerque, NM, to advance to Pedigree Devil Dog in the Military Order of the Devil Dogs. I

was accompanied by **Past Commandant Bill Miller** at the convention so that we could advance to Pedigree Devil Dog together. We had a great time with the Devil Dogs and met a lot of outstanding Marines. We now have our gold ribbons. I also spend the rest of the week there taking in much of what New Mexico has to offer. We visited several Pueblos, shopped in Santa Fe, checked out Taos and also did a rafting trip on the Rio Grande. We all had a great time.

As we head into the fall months, we have to start thinking about a few upcoming events.

The first is nominations for "Marine of the Year." If you believe that someone in the detachment has done things during the past year that warrant consideration for this great honor, please put together a nominating letter for that Marine. Then pass it onto the Marine of the Year Committee, which consists of any of the past Marines of the Year. **Budd Pearce, PC**, being the most recent MOY is the Committee Chairman.

Also, we will very quickly be looking at the Marine Corps Birthday Ball in November. Budd is also Committee Chairman for this as well. We will be discussing this at the next few meetings. So bring your ideas and get them out on the floor.

As I have told several Marines, I will be undergoing major left knee surgery on September 5 at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia. I will be laid up for several weeks, but I'm hoping I can get around enough on crutches to make the September 12 meeting. If not, I will be back for the October meeting.

As an informational announcement, **Marine Bill Mickelson** will be performing the duties for **Paymaster Bob Cody** in an ongoing basis.

Have a great Labor Day weekend!!

Semper Fi,




**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
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SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
BOB SUNDLING, PC

MESS SERGEANT
WIL HAAS

WEBMASTER
JAMES E. PEARCE

ONLY 6 ISSUES LEFT

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).

AUGUST DETACHMENT MEETING



MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held August 8, 2007, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 16 members present including all officers except the Commandant and the Paymaster. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Don Gee, Budd Pearce, and Bob Sundling** and **Past Commandant of the Department of New Jersey Ed Hoth**.

Sick Call: Paymaster Bob Cody is still recuperating. **Past Commandant Don Parzanese** had a relapse from his recent heart attack. **Marine Ray Krout** had cataract surgery.

The **Minutes** of the July were unanimously accepted by the members.

The Paymasters Report was presented by **Acting Paymaster Bill Mickelson**. The report was unanimously accepted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Senior Vice Commandant Don Gee, PC, reported the Detachment had received a Request for Transfer from Tony Parzanese to return to the Central Bucks Detachment from the Black Diamond Detachment in Nevada. The transfer was unanimously approved by the members. The Bucks County Department of Veterans Affairs is seeking a part-time driver to transport veteran patients to and from the V. A. Medical Centers in Coatesville and Philadelphia. The Detachment strength was reported at 50 members including 22 Life Members, 23 Regular Members, 4 Associate Members, and 1 Honorary Member. We have four members delinquent in their dues.

Junior Vice Commandant Budd Pearce, PC, also reported the Detachment had received a "Thank You" card from Don Parzanese for the flowers we sent to him. He also reported he had sent a complaint letter to the company which produced the "picker-uppers" used in highway clean-ups.

Adjutant Gary Smith reported he had received no communications from either the Department or National Headquarters since the last meeting.

Judge Advocate Bill Jerrom reported the Detachment had no legal problems.

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

Quartermaster Bob Duff reported he had nothing new to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUNG MARINES--Young Marines Liaison Bob Sundling reported the Young Marines unit will be attending a "Trenton Thunder" game and will provide the Color Guard for the event. The unit will also be attending the Aug. 30 "Evening Parade" at 8th & I Sts. in Washington and will also visit the White House while there. Anyone interested in going along on the trip should contact Bob at 215-348-8925. Cost is \$50.00.

PUBLIC RELATIONS--The P-R Officer set Aug. 20 as the deadline for the September issue of *Listen Up!* He requested that anyone with pictures of the parade forward them to him for inclusion in this issue. The Detachment has been requested to again take part in the annual Nockamixon Days celebration on Sep. 22. Members who can help in manning our booth at the event or serving with the opening or closing Color Guard should contact the P-R Officer at 215-822-6898.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Liberty Bell Chapter of the 1st Marine Division Association is seeking volunteers to help out at the Association's Reunion at the Philadelphia Downtown Marriott (12th & Market Sts.) from Aug. 29-1 Sept. Anyone who can help out should contact Jerry Corrento at 215-743-6179.

The Marine Corps Combat Art Collection "Fire and Ice" from Afghanistan and Iraq is on display at Michener Art Museum until October 21. Admission is free.

The VFW Post will have a presentation on Afghanistan at the Atkinson Legion Post.

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

GOOD TIP

PUT KEYS BESIDE BED AT NIGHT

If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car.

The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this: It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation..

Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the

BASIC

(From Page 1)

accustomed to the leadership that you're going to experience out in the fleet and also understand the role of NCOs (non-commissioned officers) and Staff NCOs other than being drill instructors."

Borrowing a quote from former Marine Commandant **LtGen. John A. Lejeune**, Flynn said, "An individual should be better off for their service."

"And that's really what this is all about," he said. "It's a recommitment."

button on the key fob chain.

It works if you park in your driveway or garage.

If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break in your house, odds are the burglar or rapist won't stick around....after a few seconds all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the crimi-

nal won't want that.

And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in ANY parking lot, particularly one not well lighted and/or underground etc.

Seeing anyone "debatable" hit the button. The alarm can work the same way there.....

Maybe it could save a life or prevent a sexual abuse crime.

PURPLE HEART

(From Page 1)

the cause of peace, freedom and democracy around the world," the general said.

Powell presented Purple Hearts to two such servicemembers who were wounded by improvised explosive devices in separate incidents in Iraq: Army **Sgt. Robert Evans**, of 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, from Fort Benning, GA, and Army PFC **Marcus LaBadie** of 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry, from Fort Hood, TX.

"Because I have a Purple Heart now, and because I've been through it and I've walked in their shoes, I have more respect for the other soldiers who have Purple Hearts," Evans said after Powell pinned his shirt front with the medal.

Civilians who wish to honor Purple Heart recipients now need to look no further than their local post office. **John Potter**, postmaster general and chief ex-

ecutive officer of the U.S. Postal Service, and Powell unveiled an eight-foot replica of the Purple Heart stamp that today becomes available to the public.

"The reason that we're here today is because the stamp has touched this nation and its people so deeply, and they've let us know that," Potter said.

"It's not only the stamp itself that resonates so strongly, (but) it's what the stamp stands for, what it represents."

The stamp commemorates servicemembers' sense of duty, dedication to service, spirit of valor, and willingness to sacrifice, the postmaster general said.

"By using the Purple Heart stamp on their cards and letters, our citizens salute you and your role in protecting our great nation," Potter said.

The 41-cent stamp is the third issue of the Purple Heart postage stamp and goes on sale nationally today to coincide with two significant dates in the medal's history.

Today marks the 225th anniversary of the Badge of Military Merit, the predecessor of the Purple Heart Medal, which was first awarded 75 years ago.

Army **MajGen. Elder Granger**, deputy director of the Tricare Management Activity, thanked audience members for helping acknowledge one of the country's oldest military badges by witnessing the stamp's unveiling.

"This is truly a legacy in terms of the Postal Service and their support of our men and women in uniform services," he said.

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 Jim--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!

MEMORIAL DAY FUND RAISER



ON DUTY--Judge Advocate Bill Jerrom and Marine Mike Waldron at the Doylestown State Store.



FLAGS--Commandant Jim Powell and Marine Bruce Sergeant preparing to hand out flags at the State Store.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



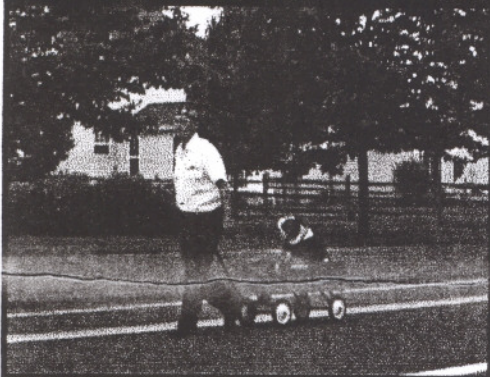
CROWD PLEASERS--Doylestown Parade onlookers applauding as the Detachment Float passes by.

AFTER THE CHALFONT PARADE



CAMARADERIE--Senior Vice Commandant Don Gee, Adjutant Gary Smith and Lance Corporal Bob Sundling after the Chalfont-New Britain Independence Day Parade.

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE



SEMPER FI--Our "drafted" mascot was a hit in the July 4th Parade.

**Photos
by
Budd
&
Suzanne
Pearce**



FORWARD MARCH--Detachment members aboard our Float in the July 4th Parade.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

LABOR DAY
3 SEPTEMBER

**GRANDPARENTS
DAY**
9 SEPTEMBER

PATRIOT DAY
11 SEPTEMBER

DETACHMENT MEETING
12 SEPTEMBER

**POW/MIA
REMEMBRANCE DAY**
21 SEPTEMBER

**NOCKAMIXON
COMMUNITY DAY**
22 SEPTEMBER

**FIRST DAY OF
AUTUMN**
23 SEPTEMBER

**GOLD STAR
MOTHERS DAY**
30 SEPTEMBER

COLUMBUS DAY
8 OCTOBER

HALLOWEEN
31 OCTOBER

**MARINE CORPS
BIRTHDAY**
10 NOVEMBER

DETACHMENT MEETING
14 NOVEMBER

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IRIS P. GEE
President

DON H. GEE
Vice President

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.

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USMC TRIVIA QUIZ



1. What is the casualty radius of the M16A1 Bouncing Betty mine?
 2. Which court-martial can a Marine refuse?
 3. What color is trinitrotoluene (TNT)?
 4. Which Marine Corps manual contains guidelines for assigning conduct & proficiency markings?
 5. What do you call a 6'4", 240-pound Marine Sergeant?
- Answers in next month's *LISTEN UP!*

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

1. The maximum effective burst rate of fire for the M16A2 is 90 rounds per minute.
2. The M69 Grenade is the one used for practicing throwing ytechniques.
3. The Navy Seabees are known as the soldiers in sailors' uniforms with Marine training, doing civilian work at WPA wages.
4. The leadership traits are: Justice, Judgement, Tact, Decisiveness, Initiative, Dependability, Loyalty, Integrity, Endurance, Knowledge, and Unselfishness.
5. The School of Infantry is the largest formal Marine Corps school.



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 \$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, Inc.
P. O. Box 1372
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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