

LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT

#636

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

VOLUME XXI, Number 9

SEPTEMBER 2008

Commandant: JAMES POWELL

Editor: DON H. GEE

BUCKS COUNTY TO GET VETS COUNSELING CENTER

Bucks and Montgomery Counties are each getting a federally sponsored center to provide readjustment counseling for combat veterans and their families.

In part to meet the increasing needs of those who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Department of Veterans Affairs plans to establish 39 centers in 20 states by the end of next year. Specific sites for the two new facilities in the Philadelphia region

have yet to be selected, but most likely will be centrally located in the counties, said **Terry Luper**, spokesman for the Department's Mid-Atlantic office in Towson, MD.

The need for the centers is inarguable, Luper said, citing an estimated 58,000 veterans in Montgomery County and 51,000 in Bucks County who are "eligible for our services [but] aren't getting them."

The closest Vet Centers, as they are

called, are in downtown Philadelphia and the city's Olney section.

New Jersey will gain one new center, in Ocean County.

The expansion will bring the nationwide total of counseling centers to 271. The cost, to be covered by Congress, is not yet available.

In Pennsylvania, Montgomery County ranks third and Bucks County fourth in the number of veterans, said **Dan Fraley**, Director of Veterans Affairs for Bucks County.

The Vietnam vet used one word to describe the prospect of a center there: "Outstanding."

"Bucks County veterans . . . won't have to go into Philadelphia," he said. "It will be our local transition facility."

Fraley said an ideal location would be in the Doylestown or Warminster area. While Bucks County's lower end, particularly Levittown, had been home to most of the county's war veterans, especially from World War II, Fraley said that "when you look at the new generation of veterans, we're seeing the killed-in-action coming from all over Bucks County."

It is the federal government's "duty to make sure that veterans get the treatment and support they deserve," said **U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy**, a

MARINES' AFGHAN TOUR EXTENDED

The Pentagon has extended the tour of 2,200 Marines in Afghanistan, after insisting for months the unit would come home on time.

The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, which is doing combat operations in the volatile south, will stay an extra 30 days and come home in early November rather than October, **Col. David Lapan** confirmed.

Military leaders as recently as Wednesday stressed the need for additional troops in Afghanistan. **Adm. Mike Mullen**, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has often praised the worked of the 24th MEU in fighting Taliban militants in Helmand Province.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates, however, has repeatedly said he did not intend to extend or replace the

U.S. Marines in Afghanistan, calling their deployment there an extraordinary, one-time effort to help tamp down the increasing violence in the south.

Lapan said that commanders in Afghanistan asked that the Marines stay longer.

Pentagon Press Secretary Geoff Morrell said the longer tour does not open the door to an extension beyond the 30 days, nor to the possibility of replacing them with other U.S. troops when they come out in November.

"This is a slight addition to this tour and nothing more," he said.

He added that commanders in Afghanistan "asked for 30 more days to milk the fighting season to the bitter end and cement the gains they have made in the south."

Please see VET CENTERS, Page 4



COMMANDANT'S COLUMN

Hello Marines,

I hope everyone's summer has been going well. Unfortunately, I was unable to be at the Detachment Meeting for August because of my attendance at the 85th Marine Corps League National Convention and 69th Military Order of Devil Dogs Supreme Growl, in Orlando, FL. I was accompanied by Detachment Past Commandant and **Department Southeast Dis-**

trict Vice Commandant Bill Miller.

We had a great time with the Devil Dogs and this year they raised \$20,140 for the Florida Children's Hospital. The Department of Pennsylvania MODD also took 3rd place in recruiting for the Devil Dogs this year. If anyone in the Detachment has any interest in the Devil Dogs please come by and talk to me about it.

At the convention, as we discussed at our July meeting, there were a lot of ByLaws changes discussed and voted on. Many of our concerns about the Associate Member changes went down to defeat. So, I will go over all of them at our next meeting.

And, 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 warrants 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 all of the past Marine's of the Year. Bill Miller, being the most recent MOY is the Committee Chairman. Nominations should be to the committee in September as voting is at the October meeting.

Also, we will very quickly be looking at the Marine Corps Birthday Ball in November. **Junior Vice Commandant Ben Jones** is Committee Chairman for this, so if you have any ideas, pass them by him. We will be discussing this at the next few meetings.

I'd also like to thank **Senior Vice Commandant Bill Mickelson** for stepping in for me at the August meeting.

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
WILLIAM L. MICKELSON**

**Jr. VICE COMMANDANT
BEN JONES**

**ADJUTANT-PAYMASTER
DON H. GEE, PC**

**JUDGE ADVOCATE
JAMES McCOMB**

**QUARTERMASTER
COREY A. FISHER**

**CHAPLAIN
ELLIS M. (BUDD) PEARCE, PC**

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
BOB SUNDLING, PC**

**MESS SERGEANT
VINCENT J. HAGAN**

**WEB SERGEANT
JOSEPH F. DOHERTY**

DID YOU KNOW ...

That Iraq's Air Force consists of three operational squadrons, which includes 9 reconnaissance and 3 US C-130 transport aircraft (under Iraqi operational control) which operate day and night, and will soon add 16 UH-1 helicopters and 4 Bell Jet Rangers?

There are more than 1100 building projects going on in Iraq ?

They include 364 schools, 67 public clinics, 15 hospitals, 83 railroad stations, 22 oil facilities, 93 water facilities and 69 electrical facilities?

That Iraq has a counter-terrorist unit and a Commando Battalion? That the Iraqi Police Service has more than 55,000 fully trained and equipped police officers?

AUGUST DETACHMENT MEETING



M I N U T E S

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held August 13, 2008, at Advanced Medical Solutions, 54 E. Oakland St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 13 members present including all officers except the Commandant, Adjutant/Paymaster, Chaplain, and the Public Relations Officer. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandant Bob Sundling** and **Past Commandant of the Department of New Jersey Ed Hoth**.

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

The **Paymaster's Report** was presented by **Quartermaster Corey Fisher** (in the absence of the Paymaster) and was unanimously accepted.

New Members: **Marine Ryan J. Gregan** of Washington Crossing was present and an application from **Marine Vincent DeBella** of Warminster was received. Both were unanimously approved for membership. The Marine Corps League Oath will be administered at the September Meeting.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Jim Powell sent correspondence from Don Maurer of the Seagoing Marines Association concerning a project to erect a monument to LtGen. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. **Senior Vice Commandant Bill Mickelson** reported the Detachment strength at 53 including 23 Life Members, 25 Annual Members, 4 Associate Members, and 1 Honorary Member. There are four members delinquent. He also reported he had contacted the Women Marines Association and was planning to recruit local members of that organization for the Detachment.

Junior Vice Commandant Ben Jones reported he would distribute Department Raffle tickets at the next meeting and he was still exploring sites for the Birthday Ball.

Judge Advocate Jim McComb reported the Detachment had no known legal problems.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC, reported the Color Guard had been requested to participate in a ceremony at the Grange Hall but could not participate. The Lower Montgomery County Detachment Color Guard represented the Marine Corps league at their event in our place.

Quartermaster Corey Fisher reported he had nothing new to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Young Marines Coordinator Bob Sundling reported about the Young Marines visit to a State Park. He also reported about the planned trip to 8th & I for the last Evening Parade of the year and a visit to the National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico. He also reported the Unit is planning a trip to Gettysburg during the third weekend in September.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sergeant-at-Arms Sundling reported a donation had been received from the VFW Post for the "Goodies for the Troops" effort.

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

GREAT COMEBACK

If you ever testify in court, you might wish you could have been as sharp as this policeman. He was being cross-examined by a defense attorney during a felony trial. The lawyer was trying to undermine the policeman's credibility...??

Q: 'Officer -- did you see my client fleeing the scene?'

A: 'No sir. But I subsequently observed a person matching the description of the offender, running several blocks away.'

Q: 'Officer -- who provided this descrip-

tion?'

A: 'The officer who responded to the scene.'

Q: 'A fellow officer provided the description of this so-called offender. Do you trust your fellow officers?'

A: 'Yes, sir. With my life.'

Q: 'With your life? Let me ask you this then officer. Do you have a room where you change your clothes in preparation for your daily duties?'

A: 'Yes sir, we do!'

Q: 'And do you have a locker in the room?'

A: 'Yes sir, I do.'

Q: 'And do you have a lock on your locker?'

A: 'Yes sir.'

Q: 'Now why is it, officer, if you trust your fellow officers with your life, you find it necessary to lock your locker in a room you share with these same officers?'

A: 'You see, sir -- we share the building with the court complex, and sometimes lawyers have been known to walk through that room.'

The courtroom EXPLODED with laughter, and a prompt recess was called. The officer on the stand has been nominated for this year's 'Best Comeback' line.

VET CENTERS *From Page 1*

war veteran who has been lobbying Veterans Affairs for a counseling center in Bucks County.

A typical Vet Center is a storefront facility staffed by a team leader to handle administrative duties and some counseling, with two additional counselors and an office manager, Luper said. No medical care is provided.

The hours typically are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays, with occasional evening sessions offered.

The Department will soon start searching for sites. Anyone with suggestions on potential locations may e-mail Luper at Terry.Luper@va.gov.

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINES ON THE NET

CAPRIO, Paul	mibupe@aol.com
CODY, Bob	codyrj@att.net
CUPITT, Steve	scupitt@aol.com
	scupitt@motorola.com
GEE, Don	USMCCCA@aol.com
HOTH, Ed	Edhothusmc@aol.com
JONES, Ben	benjaminjones1@gmail.com
KELLER, Bruce	bruce@taylosbucks.com
McCOMB, Jim	jim_mccomb@verizon.net
MILLER, Bill	billjae@verizon.net
MOMORELLA, Bob	mombo@starlinxcom
PARZANESE, Don, Sr.	parzanese@quigleyco.com
PARZANESE, Don, Jr.	donald.parzanese@us.army.mil
PEARCE, Budd	Buddpearce@comcast.net
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	usmc80@comcast.net
SCOTT, Rich	richgscott@aol.com
SUNDLING, Bob	psundling@verizon.net
	sundling@tiniusolsen.com
WALDRON, Mike	waldron@quigleyco.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**DETACHMENT MEETING
10 SEPTEMBER**

**PATRIOT DAY
11 SEPTEMBER**

**CITIZENSHIP/
CONSTITUTION DAY
17 SEPTEMBER**

**POW/MIA DAY
19 SEPTEMBER**

**NOCKAMIXON DAY
20 SEPTEMBER**

**FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN
22 SEPTEMBER**

**ROSH HASHANANAH
30 SEPTEMBER**

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
8 OCTOBER**

**YOM KIPPUR
9 OCTOBER**

**COLUMBUS DAY
13 OCTOBER**

**DEPARTMENT
FALL STAFF
MEETING
17-18 OCTOBER**

**HALLOWEEN
31 OCTOBER**

**ELECTION DAY
4 NOVEMBER**

COMMON WAYS ID THEFT HAPPENS:

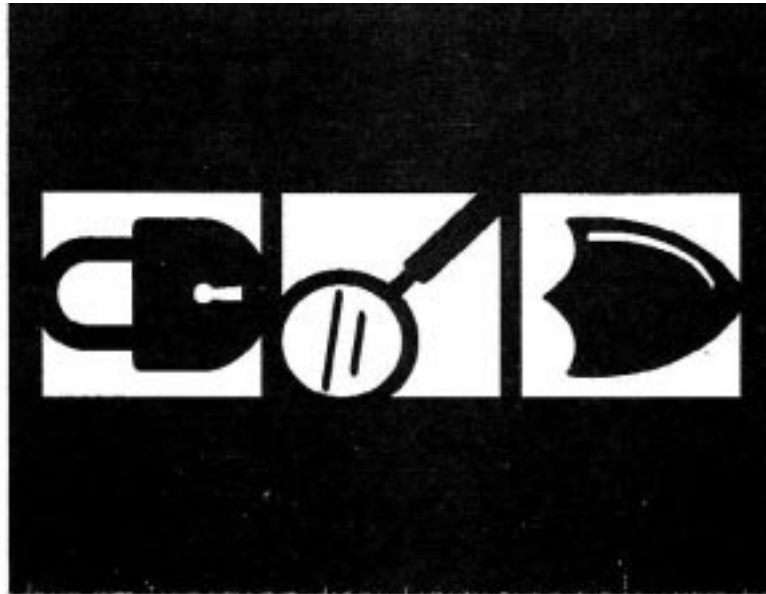
Skilled identity thieves use a variety of methods to steal your personal information, including:

1. **Dumpster Diving.** They rummage through trash looking for bills or other paper with your personal information on it.
2. **Skimming.** They steal credit/debit card numbers by using a special storage device when processing your card.
3. **Phishing.** They pretend to be financial institutions or companies and send spam or pop-up messages to get you to reveal your personal information.
4. **Guessing Your Address.** They divert your billing statements to another location by completing a "change of address" form.
5. **"Old-Fashioned" Stealing.** They steal wallets and purses, mail, including bank and credit card statements, pre-approved credit offers, and new checks or tax information. They steal personal records from their employers, or bribe employees who have access.

DETER-DETECT-DEFEND

AVO ID THEFT

www.ftc.gov/idtheft



FIGHTING BACK AGAINST
IDENTITY THEFT

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

DETER-DETECT-DEFEND

AVO ID THEFT

www.ftc.gov/idtheft

To learn more about ID theft and how to deter, detect, and defend against it, visit ftc.gov/idtheft. Or request copies of ID theft resources by writing to:



Consumer Response Center
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, H-130
Washington, DC 20580

**DETER****DETECT****DEFEND**

Identify theft is a serious crime. It occurs when your personal information is stolen and used without your knowledge to commit fraud or other crimes. Identify theft can cost you time and money. It can destroy your credit and ruin your good name.

Declar identify thieves by safeguarding your information.

- **Share** financial documents and paperwork with personal information before you discard them.
- **Protect** your Social Security number. Don't carry your Social Security card in your wallet or write your Social Security number on a check. Give it out only if absolutely necessary or ask to use another identifier.
- **Don't give out** personal information on the phone, through the mail, or over the Internet unless you know who you are dealing with.
- **Never click** on links sent in unsolicited emails; instead, type in a web address you know. Use firewalls, anti-spyware, and anti-virus software to protect your home computer; keep them up-to-date. Visit OnguardOnline.gov for more information.
- **Don't use** an obvious password like your birth date, your mother's maiden name, or the last four digits of your Social Security number.
- **Keep** your personal information in a secure place at home, especially if you have roommates, employ, outside help, or are having work done in your house.

Detect suspicious activity by routinely monitoring your financial accounts and billing statements.

Be alert to signs that require immediate attention:

- Bills that do not arrive as expected
- Unexpected credit cards or account statements
- Denials of credit for no apparent reason
- Calls or letters about purchases you did not make

Inspect:

- **Your credit report.** Credit reports contain information about you, including what accounts you have and your bill paying history.
 - ↳ The law requires the major nationwide consumer reporting companies—Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion—to give you a free copy of your credit report each year if you ask for it.
 - ↳ Visit www.AnnualCreditReport.com or call 1-877-322-8228, a service created by these three companies, to order your free credit reports each year. You also can write: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30368-5281.
- **Your financial statements.** Review financial accounts and billing statements regularly, looking for charges you did not make.

Disputed against ID theft as soon as you suspect it.

Place a "Fraud Alert" on your credit reports, and review the reports carefully. The alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures before they open new accounts in your name or make changes to your existing accounts. The three nationwide consumer reporting companies have toll-free numbers for placing an initial 90-day fraud alert; a call to one company is sufficient:

- ↳ **Equifax:** 1-800-525-6285
- ↳ **Experian:** 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742)
- ↳ **TransUnion:** 1-800-680-7289

Placing a fraud alert entitles you to free copies of your credit reports. Look for inquiries from companies you haven't contacted, accounts you didn't open, and debts on your accounts that you can't explain.

- **Close accounts.** Close any accounts that have been impeded with or established fraudulently.
 - ↳ Call the security or fraud departments of each company where an account was opened or changed without your input. Follow up in writing with copies of supporting documents.
 - ↳ Use the ID Theft Affidavit at the.gov/idtheft to support your written statement.
 - ↳ Ask for verification that the disputed account has been closed and the fraudulent debts discharged.
 - ↳ Keep copies of documents and records of your conversations about the theft.
- **File a police report.** File a report with law enforcement officials to help you with creditors who may want proof of the crime.
- **Report the theft to the Federal Trade Commission.** Your report helps law enforcement officials across the country in their investigations.
 - ↳ Online: the.gov/idtheft
 - ↳ By phone: 1-877-ED-THEFT (438-4338) or TTY: 1-866-653-4261
 - ↳ By mail: Identify Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580

DETER-DETECT-DEFEND



www.the.gov/idtheft

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE., NW WASHINGTON, DC 20580

FTC.00V/IDTHEFT

1-877-10-THEFT (438-4338)

Quartermaster Store

DETACHMENT STRIP



\$5.00

USMC SATIN JACKET



\$55.00

**LIFE MEMBER
BLAZER CREST**



\$25.00

COVER



\$22.00

**DETACHMENT
T-SHIRT**

MCL PATCH



\$3.50

**DETACHMENT
LICENSE PLATE**



\$10.00

\$15.00

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



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**

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"