

LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT

#636

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

VOLUME XXV, Number 9

SEPTEMBER 2012

Commandant: JOSEPH M. KIER

Editor: DON H. GEE

MARINES TO LOSE AIR & GROUND UNITS

The Marine Corps has finalized its plans for restructuring its force around a 182,100-person end strength that will result in steep cuts to aircraft squadrons, battalions and other parts of the force, and the service has briefed Congress and effected parties, a top Marine official said.

Marine Corps leadership decided to reduce the service's flight capability, going from 70 flying squadrons to 58, and cutting all three wing support group headquarters, according to information released by the Marine Corps Combat Development Command. The service will drop from 27 infantry battalions

to 23--eight infantry regiments to seven--10 tank companies to eight and 15 light armored reconnaissance companies to 12.

Marine logistics groups will be reorganized to adjust to the new force structure, and, despite not being able to accommodate the five region-specific Marine Expeditionary Brigades the Marine Corps had envisioned, leadership built three joint task force-capable MEB command elements for contingencies that may arise, **MCCDC Commanding General LtGen. Richard Mills** said during a telephone conference with reporters last month.

Mills said the cuts were difficult, but his team spent more than a year studying the capabilities the Marine Corps of the future would need to have and how to come down from a surge-level force as the war in Afghanistan winds down. **Marine Corps Commandant Gen. James Amos** did not suggest a number for the end strength, Mills said, but after arriving at 186,000 as an ideal force, budget constraints forced the team to cut a little deeper.

Assuming that infantry units were at the core of Marine Corps missions, the

Please see **CUTS**, Page 5

Marine Corps Picks Colt for New Pistol

The Marine Corps has tapped Colt Defense LLC to make more than 10,000 new Close Quarter Battle Pistols for the service's elite special operations troops.

The contract, which has a total value of \$22.5 million, brings an end to the Corps' exhaustive search for the top .45 caliber, 1911-style pistol to replace the fleet of worn-out Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command, or MARSOC, M45 pistols.

Colt Defense, based in Hartford, CT, was the original maker of **John Browning's** revered 1911 design -- a potent handgun that served all branches of the U.S. Military for more than 70 years until it was replaced by the M9

9mm pistol in 1985.

Marine officials, however, say they didn't play favorites.

"It was performance based. . . We picked the best-performing pistol," said **Charles Clark III**, who oversees infantry weapons requirements at the Corps' Combat Development and Integration office in Quantico, VA. "There were three candidates that made the final round of consideration," but Clark would not discuss the competitors.

In addition to Colt, Springfield Armory's Full Size MC Operator and Smith & Wesson's 1911 design were also contenders, sources tell *Military.com*.

Marine testers placed a high priority

on accuracy. The winner had to be capable of putting five-shot groups on target that "didn't exceed four inches by four inches at 25 yards" from an unsupported firing position, Clark said. Reliability and magazine life were other important factors in the decision.

The new Close Quarter Battle Pistols will be very similar to the M45s they are replacing this fall. They will have a rail for mounting lights, a custom trigger, a manual safety, improved ergonomics and glowing Tritium sights for low-light conditions.

The most visual difference is the Colt models will come in Coyote tan instead

Please see **PISTOL**, Page 4



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Marines Create Law Enforcement Battalions

CAMP PENDLETON--The Marine Corps has created its first law enforcement battalions--a lean, specialized force of military police officers that it hopes can quickly deploy worldwide to help investigate crimes from terrorism to drug trafficking and train fledgling security forces in allied nations.

The Corps activated three such battalions last month. Each is made up of roughly 500 military police officers and dozens of dogs. The Marine Corps has had police battalions off and on since World War II but they were primarily focused on providing security, such as accompanying fuel convoys or guarding generals on visits to dangerous areas, said **Maj. Jan Durham**, commander of the 1st Law Enforcement Battalion at Camp Pendleton.

The idea behind the law enforcement battalions is to consolidate the military police and capitalize on their investigative skills and police training, he said. The new additions come as every branch in the military is trying to show its flexibility and resourcefulness amid defense cuts.

Marines have been increasingly taking on the role of street cop along with their combat duties over the last decade in Iraq and Afghanistan, where they have been in charge of training both countries' security forces. Those skills now can be used as a permanent part of the Marine Corps, Durham said.

The war on terrorism has also taught troops the importance of learning how to gather intelligence, secure evidence, and assist local authorities in building cases against criminal networks.

Troops have gotten better at combing raid sites for clues to track insurgents.

They also have changed their approach, realizing that marching into towns to show force alienates communities. Instead, they are being taught to fan out with interpreters to strike up conversations with truck drivers, money exchangers, cellphone sellers, and others. The rapport-building can net valuable information that could even alert troops about potential attacks.

But no group of Marines is better at that kind of work than the Corps' military police, who graduate from academies just like civilian cops, Durham said. He said the image of military police patrolling base to ticket Marines for speeding or drinking has limited their use in the Corps. He hopes the creation of the battalions will change that, although analysts say only the future will tell whether the move is more than just a rebranding of what already existed within the Corps.

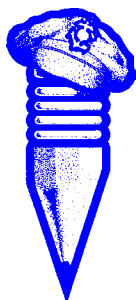
The battalions will be able to help control civil disturbances, handle detainees, carry out forensic work, and use biometrics to identify suspects. Durham said they could assist local authorities in allied countries in securing crime scenes and building cases so criminals don't end up back out on the streets because of mistakes.

"Over the past 11 years of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, some lessons learned painfully, there has been a growing appreciation and a demand for, on the part of the warfighter, the unique skills and capabilities that MPs bring," Durham said.

"The deadliest weapon in the world is a MARINE and his rifle!"

Gen. "Black Jack" Pershing, U. S. Army

AUGUST DETACHMENT MEETING



M I N U T E S

The regular meeting of Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held August 8, 2012, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA. There were 11 members present including all officers except **Judge Advocate Don Parzanese Sr.** and **Chaplain Don Parzanese Jr.** Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Bob Sundling** and **Don Gee**, **Department Junior Vice Commandant/Past Detachment Commandant/Marine of the Year Jim Powell**, **Department 2nd District Vice Commandant/Past Detachment Commandant William Miller** and **Past Department of New Jersey and Past National Northeast Division Vice Commandant Ed Hoth.**

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

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Joe Kier reported that on Aug. 4 he, along with **Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC**, **Adjutant/Paymaster Jim Powell, PC**, attended the 75th Anniversary of the signing of the Marine Corps League Charter in Philadelphia at Independence Hall. The Detachment Colors were present at the ceremony. He reported that he received a letter from Township of Northampton that the USO of Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey were announcing the upcoming Liberty USO Dinner Dance fund raiser on Friday, Nov. 9. He also informed the membership that the Detachment now has a Facebook Page. He indicated that the Detachment Golf Tournament was still moving forward and he is talking to several people and businesses for sponsorship opportunities. He brought a birthday card to be signed by the members present as requested by the Department for a Marine who is celebrating his 90th birthday.

Senior Vice Commandant Jack Gentile reported the Detachment had 38 regular members, 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 his work finding a place for the Detachment Birthday Ball. He presented four choices to the membership--Warrington Country Club, Brookside Manor, the Plumsteadville Inn and a private caterer. After he presented the menus, floor plans and prices, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to hold the event at Brookside Manor.

Adjutant/Paymaster Jim Powell, PC, presented the Paymaster's financial report. He reported that all 20 of our Department Calendars were sold and that the two free calendars were still available and that we would discuss what to do with them under new business. He also reported that while trying to set up online banking that it came to light that the Detachment had two EINs and that explained why the Detachment had issues with the IRS on the EIN reporting. He will be correcting this situation with the Bank and the Judge Advocate who worked with the IRS getting our EIN situation squared away. He also reported that we received a thank you letter from the Philadelphia Comfort House for our donation. And finally, announced that there will training to be a certified Service Officer at the National Convention.

Public Relations Officer Don Gee, PC, set Aug. 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the September *Listen Up!* Also he reported that the Detachment had not made a decision on the Dublin 100th Anniversary parade on Sept. 8. After discussion it was decided that the Detachment would not be participating. He also brought up Nockamixon Day in Revere,

PA, on Sept. 15 and it was decided that the Detachment would be sponsoring a booth at the event.

Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC, reported that the weekend of Aug. 18 will be the Young Marines boot camp at Lakehurst Naval Air Station in New Jersey. They are also making a trip to the Marine Corps Museum and attending the Evening Parade at 8th & I on Aug. 31 and there a few tickets still available at \$45 per person. Anyone wishing to go should contact him ASAP.

Quartermaster Corey Fisher reported on his sales since the last meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Commandant Kier then discussed the situation with the Detachment Trailer. It was moved to Commandant Kier's brother's barn and they will be working on refurbishing it in the near future. The initial plans are to possibly using diamond plate for the floor, installing tubular railing and tin sides. It will also be painted in Marine Corps colors.

* He also reported that he had received pictures from **Marine Ray Krout's** grand daughter from past parades. He posted them on the Detachment Facebook Page.

NEW BUSINESS

* The membership discussed the two free Department Calendars and a motion made to table further discussion until a future date was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

* A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to purchase a full-color Detachment Banner with a limit of \$200.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **Marine Jessica Clymer** was recently promoted to Staff Sergeant.

* Commandant Kier reported that he quit smoking and it has been more than a month since he last smoked.

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

PISTOL

from Page 1

of gunmetal, Clark said.

The Corps began issuing custom 1911 .45 pistols to its elite Force Reconnaissance units in the 1990s. Gunsmiths at the Quantico Weapons Training Battalion Precision Weapons Section hand built them from old 1911s that had been replaced by the M9 in the mid 1980s.

The creation of the first MARSOC units in 2006 caused the requirement to grow from 400 pistols to 4,000 pistols. Finding enough surplus 1911s for

the Precision Weapons Section's custom rebuilds became impractical.

"We realized that hand building 4,000 guns was not sustainable," Clark said.

Marine officials would not discuss the individual price for each new pistol. But the \$22.5 million contract to Colt will allow the Corps to buy replacements for the new pistols as they wear out, Clark said. The contract also includes some money for spare parts.

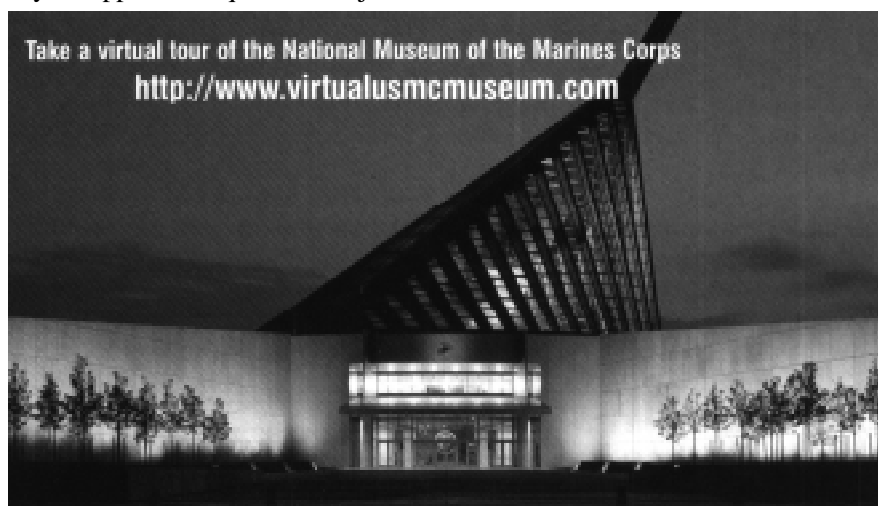
"The contract is built so we can rebuy the approved acquisitions objective

three times, so we can buy 4,000 guns three times," Clark said. "These pistols will be getting used a lot; deployed a lot so the guns are going to get shot out."

MARSOC operators stay on a rigorous deployment cycle, "so they fire a lot of rounds. It's a 15,000-round plus [training] work-up to a deployment," Clark said.

"It's more efficient to replace the guns over time instead of attempting to completely rebuild them."

Check Out Our
Detachment
Web Site
at:
www.mclcb.org



Take a virtual tour of the National Museum of the Marines Corps
<http://www.virtualusmcmuseum.com>

HONORING THE BATTLE OF OKINAWA

by LCpl. Matthew Manning
Marine Corps Bases Japan

ITOMAN CITY, Okinawa, Japan—More than 5,000 Okinawans, as well as service members from both the Japan Self-Defense Force and the U.S. armed forces, took part in a remembrance ceremony at Peace Memorial Park in Itoman June 23.

Erected in 1995, Peace Memorial Park is located at the site of the last recorded fighting during the Battle of Okinawa during World War II in southeastern Okinawa.

“We remember the sacrifices made during the Battle of Okinawa and this is why we, generations living in time after the war, have untiringly pursued eternal peace, and have diligently striven to build an Okinawa where people can lead full and satisfying lives,” said **Hirokazu Nakaima**, Governor of Okinawa Prefecture.

“Today’s ceremony gives us an opportunity to reflect on a crucial part of history and to remember those who gave their lives for the freedoms we enjoy today,” said **LtGen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr.**, III Marine Expeditionary Force Commanding General. “It is great to be here and see everyone

join together to honor those who died during the Battle of Okinawa.”

The Battle of Okinawa started on Easter and was the bloodiest battle in the Pacific campaign, according to Glueck.

“As a child, I only learned about the U.S. military attacking Okinawa and how we lost so many lives,” said **Miki Diebert**, Operations Clerk for USO Okinawa. “After learning the history of World War II, I found out how this battle helped bring an end to the fighting. I also learned how the U.S. military helped the civilians after the war. I hope future ages can learn both sides of the story.”

Throughout the park, pathways are lined with rows of stones bearing the 240,931 names of those killed, civilian and military, during the battle.

Those paying their respects to the fallen placed flowers, origami cranes, food and bottles of water under their loved ones’ names.

“I was born and raised on Okinawa, and I have grandparents who were alive during the battle,” said Diebert. “This is my second time going to the ceremony, and I recently found out I have relatives whose names are on the

wall.”

Service members’ names on the wall represent heroic actions performed during the battle, according to Glueck.

“The names of the service members engraved on the walls here provide us with a solemn statement of their selfless courage and indomitable spirit,” said Glueck. “They are the heroes, and we are eternally grateful for their contribution to peace. I am truly thankful that we, the citizens of the United States and Japan, are able to come together here as devoted friends and allies to remember the fallen.”

This friendship shows itself during times of tragedy such as the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami.

“As recently demonstrated during Operation Tomodachi, our nations have come together in a very special relationship,” said Glueck. “Once divided, we are now bound together by history, culture and mutual devotion to peace and stability. I extend my sincere appreciation to the brave veterans of the Battle of Okinawa and it is a privilege to share this day of remembrance with everyone here.”

CUTS

from Page 1

team went back and analyzed the enablers and determined how many logisticians, engineers and more were really needed to support the infantry, Mills said. On the aviation side, the Marines found duplications of missions, allowing for further cuts there.

As promised, the new force will also boost the Marine Corps’ cyber and special operations capabilities, with more than 250 Marines being added in the cyber realm over the next several years and 821 being added to Marine Corps Special Operations Command, Mills said.

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina will face the steepest

cuts, losing 5,800 Marines, including some at nearby Marine Corps Air Station New River. MCAS Cherry Point in North Carolina will lose 2,100. In California, Twentynine Palms will lose 2,500, MCAS Miramar will lose 1,200 and Camp Pendleton will lose 2,300.

Mills said the cuts were not made with the assumption that any other service would make up for lost capability. However, he said the Army and Marine Corps were in talks lately about how to continue working closely together even after the war in Afghanistan ends. He cited the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle as one example of similar needs in equipment being a good starting point for inter-service cooperation, and Mills said that they were working

on joint doctrine for areas like forcible entry. Joint training exercises are being planned that would incorporate amphibious and air assault phases, but Mills declined to give a time line for when those exercises could start.

In drawing down to this new force, no Marine will be forced to end his or her contract early, which was a primary concern for Amos, Mills said. The Marine Corps is still looking at options for voluntary early separation, though Mills said he didn’t think that would be needed. Marine Corps spokeswoman Maj. Shawn Haney told Inside the Navy last week that Amos would look at the personnel drawdown plan after his last congressional testimony in June.



Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament

Dear Supporter of Veterans and Youth:

The Central Bucks Detachment Marine Corps League Inc. is hosting the Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament on Monday September 24th, 2012. The purpose of the tournament is to provide a day of golf for the community, to raise awareness of the Marine Corps League in the community, and raise money to support the Central Bucks Detachment, the Young Marines program, the Marine Corps League Foundation of Pennsylvania, our new scholarship program, and many other veteran and youth community based projects.

The event will be held at The Bucks Club on York Road in Jamison, PA. Tournament play is set at the very affordable rate of \$125.00 per player, team and sponsorship opportunities are also available and described on the attached sheet. The Tournament features a scramble start format and will have several contests during the course of play and throughout the day. The three Award categories are as follows;

Men's and Women's Division for:

- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin
- Low Gross Scores

We also will have a "play against the Pro" competition where (for a small fee) you will be able to play a certain hole against **John Diamond** PGA Golf Pro at The Bucks Club.

We are fortunate to have the use of The Bucks Club and all participants are requested to abide by their dress code of collared shirts, no denim and no cargo shorts. The Bucks club is a "Spikeless" facility the club will provide replacement spikes for \$15.00 for each pair of shoes. Golf Carts are required and provided while on the course, and use of them is restricted to persons 16 years of age who possess a valid state driver's license each cart will accommodate two golfers. Players will have full access to the driving range and locker room facilities and will receive a **10% discount** for items purchased from the Pro Shop. Discounts are only available for non-sale items.

Please find enclosed with this packet, an event schedule, registration material and information on sponsorship opportunities.



Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament

September 24th 2012

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:45 a.m. Registration

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Buffet Lunch

Hotdogs, Hamburgers, Beverages, and Snacks

12:15 p.m. Scramble – Shotgun Start

Cash Snack/Beverage cart available on course

5:30 p.m. Banquet

Buffet Style with Meat, Poultry, Pasta, Vegetables, and Dessert

6:30 p.m. Awards and Silent Auction

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Medal of Honor Sponsor (\$2,500)

Includes four players and sponsorship sign near the first tee.

Sponsorship sign on the Golf Course.

Special recognition in the Banquet Program.

Navy Cross Sponsor (\$1,000)

Includes four players and sponsorship sign near the first tee.

Special recognition in the Banquet Program.

Silver Star Sponsor (\$750)

Includes two players and a tee box sign on the course.

Special recognition in the Banquet Program.

Bronze Star Sponsor (\$500)-contest sponsor.

Sponsorship sign at the longest drive hole for Men and Women or Sponsorship sign at the Closest to the pin holes for Men and Women.



Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES (CONTINUED)

Purple Heart Sponsor (\$200)

Tee Box or Hole sponsorship sign.

National Defense Sponsor (\$125)

Individual Player sponsor.

ALL SPONSORS WITH SIGNAGE NEED TO PROVIDE ARTWORK

I am looking forward to the Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament at The Bucks Club on Monday, September 24th 2012 and would like to contribute at the following level:

Medal of Honor Sponsor (4 players)	\$2,500	_____
Navy Cross Sponsor (4 players)	\$1,000	_____
Silver Star Sponsor (2 players)	\$750	_____
Bronze Star Sponsor (contest sponsor)	\$500	_____
Purple Heart Sponsor	\$200	_____
National Defense Sponsor (indv.player)	\$125	_____

I am not able to attend, but would like to make a Donation _____

TOTAL DUE

PLAYER 1/CAPTIAN _____

PLAYER 2 _____

PLAYER 3 _____

PLAYER 4 _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone/Email _____



Annual Veterans and Youth Golf Tournament

Return the Sponsorship /Registration Form, any artwork for tee box/hole signs and checks Payable to the **"Central Bucks Detachment, Marine Corps League"** to:

Central Bucks Detachment #636

P.O. Box 1372

Doylestown, PA 18901-1372

For more information please call Joe Kier at 267-249-4882 or email to joseph.kier@verizon.net

2600 York Road, Jamison, PA 18929

From Philadelphia or Southeast (via I-95)

- North to exit for Route 132 (Street Road) Westbound.
- Route 132 West about 13 miles to Route 263 (York Road).
- Right onto Route 263 North. BCCC is 4 1/2 miles ahead on the left.

From South Jersey

- Take any Delaware River Bridge to I-95 North; follow directions above.

From Philadelphia or the West (via I-76)

- I-76, The Schuylkill Expressway, West to the Blue Route, I-476. I-476 North toward Plymouth Meeting and the Pennsylvania Turnpike.
- Pennsylvania Turnpike East, toward New Jersey, 2 exits
- Route 611 North 4 1/2 miles to Route 132 (Street Road).
- Right turn onto Route 132 East, 2 1/2 miles to Route 263 (York Road).
- Left turn onto Route 263 North. BCCC is 4 1/2 miles ahead on the left.

From Central or Northern Jersey

- Route 202 South through Flemington and across the Delaware River.
- At Peddler's Village, 6 miles beyond the River, Route 263 joins Route 202.
- Go straight ahead on Route 263. BCCC is about 7 more miles south on the right, next to the Middle Bucks Technical Institute.

From Northeastern Pennsylvania

- Route 611 South, using the Doylestown bypass.
- Left turn (East) onto Almshouse Road at the Regal Cinemas Theater.
- Almshouse Road 2 1/2 miles to Route 263, York Road.
- Left (North) onto Route 263. BCCC is 1/2 mile ahead on the left.

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT MARINES ON THE NET

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 WEIR, Steve moonrocket48@aol.com
 WIMER, Lee leewimer@aol.com
 YEASTED, Vince vyeasted@comcast.net

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**LABOR DAY
3 SEPTEMBER**

**PATRIOT DAY
11 SEPTEMBER**

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
12 SEPTEMBER**

**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**

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**