



# LISTEN UP!

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

VOLUME XI, Number 9

SEPTEMBER 1998

## Highlights

The regular meeting of the Central Bucks Detachment of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held August 12, 1998, at Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post #210, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 17 members present including all officers except Chaplain Don Parzanese Jr. and Adjutant Gary Smith. Distinguished Marines in attendance included: **National Public Relations Officer Don Gee**; **Past Commandants Don Parzanese Sr., Frank Yohe and Don Gee**; **Past Department of New Jersey Commandant Ed Hoth**; and, **Marine of the Year Paul Caprio**.

**All-Divisions Commandant Ray Devlin** was a guest.

The minutes of the July Meeting were unanimously approved.

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

Members sick and in distress: **Commandant Budd Pearce** reported **Marine Joe Hazen** passed away early this morning (Aug. 12). Arrangements had not been finalized. The Detachment was informed the following day that a Marine Corps League Service would be held at Lambertville Rescue Squad on Friday, Aug. 14 at 7:30 p.m. A funeral ceremony was held on Saturday. As far as the Detachment has been informed, **Marine Charles Quinter** is still in Texas undergoing specialized treatment for cancer.

**Commandant Budd Pearce** reported on the service for former Detachment Junior Vice Commandant Ernie Ortiz. He stated he thought the service went well and thanked the Detachment members for attending and participating.

**Senior Vice Commandant Don Gee**, PC, reported the Detachment strength at 49 including 15 Life Members, 29 Regular Members and 5 Associate Members. We have four members delinquent in their dues.

**Junior Vice Commandant Paul Caprio** reported plans were underway for the Birthday Ball (see pages 5 & 6) and that reservation forms are now available. He is also seeking a replacement as "Listen Up!" Advertising Coordinator. Anyone interested in taking on this position should contact him at: (215) 674-4111. He reported that the Detachment's "Town & Country"

*(Continued on Page 3)*

**THE NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE AT 1930 ON 9 SEPTEMBER 1998  
AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST, 315 NORTH ST., DOYLESTOWN**





## LISTEN UP!

**LISTEN UP!** is the internal information publication of the **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT #636** of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc. It is published monthly by and for the members of the Central Bucks Detachment.

**CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT**  
**Marine Corps League**  
**of Pennsylvania, Inc.**  
P. O. Box 1372  
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372  
Ph: (215) 822-6723  
FAX: (215) 822-0163

**Meets**  
7:30 p.m.,  
2d Wednesday of Month  
American Legion Post 210  
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DON PARZANESE JR.

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ROBERT DUFF

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

**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**  
**& EDITOR:**  
DON H. GEE, PC

## VA Federal "Benny" Book Available

One of the federal government's all-time best-selling publications, "Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents," has been updated for 1998 and is now available from the U.S. Government Printing Office.

Published by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the 96-page handbook describes federal benefits for veterans and dependents such as medical care, education, disability compensation, pension, life insurance, home loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation, and burial assistance.

It also explains eligibility requirements for the different benefits and outlines claims procedures.

The handbook, which sells for \$3.75, also includes the latest information on

benefits for Persian Gulf veterans, homeless veterans and women veterans and contains special sections on veterans benefits administered by other departments including Defense and Labor.

Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents ranks third in total sales of publications by the U.S. Government Printing Office. Including the 1997 edition, more than 3,200,000 copies have been sold.

The handbook is available postpaid from the Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250. The GPO stock number for the booklet is 051-000-00214-8 and can be purchased by check or credit card. To order with your VISA, Discover or MasterCard, call (202) 512-1800.

## Monuments to Honor D.I.s Planned

by Mike West  
National President  
USMCDIA

SAN DIEGO, CA--The Marine Corps Drill Instructors Association is a non-profit association operating under section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code since April 1986.

One of our first orders of business, when we began operations, was to honor all individuals who have or are now training the future of our Corps.

Since then, we have been working on a monument to be placed at each Recruit Depot to do just that. This has been a long and enduring project; at last we can see the end. It is our hope that both monuments will be in place and dedicated this Fall.

The monuments will be placed in a 40'x40' square. At the monument you will see two bronze statues approximately six feet tall, standing on a 20'x30' granite slab. The background will be a 5'x7' granite slab with our logo in brass and the "Drill Instructors Creed" etched in gold with the Marine Corps emblem at the bottom.

There will be a walkway around the monuments with brass footprints in the center. There you may "report" or just reminisce. Bricks with the names of all who purchase or want to purchase a brick with their own wording will be laid in

front of both monuments. Once these are completed and dedicated they will be given to the Recruit Depots.

We chose Mr. John Chalk of "War and Peace, Inc." in Pottstown, PA, to sculpt the statues. John is a former Marine and has been working on this project for more than a year.

The statues will be fired and bronzed at Laran Fine Arts Foundry in Chester, PA. All granite work will be done by Chapel Rose Quarries in Elberton, GA, and shipped to each site.

Anyone who has been there as a Marine or civilian or maybe you would like to place a brick in remembrance of a loved one. You do not have to have been a Drill Instructor to participate. It is open to anyone.

You may want to be a part of this everlasting tribute. Contact the Marine Corps Drill Instructors Association at (619) 688-0864 for more details.

## DID YOU KNOW...

Guidon - literally "guide on" was a marker on which combatants depended for instructions in the days of smoky battlefields when ranks of soldiers faced each other. The Guidon would tell them which way to face, to prepare to fire, and to advance or retreat.



Theater show was successful and hoped we could make this an annual event. He also reminded the detachment that nominations for Detachment "Marine of the Year" will be voted upon at the October Meeting and the "1999 Marine of the Year" will be announced at the Birthday Ball on Nov. 7.

In the absence of the Adjutant, the Commandant reported the Detachment had received a letter from "The Bucks County Opportunity Council" requesting individuals support its "Adopt-A-Family" program for the coming holiday season. "Adopting a family may include but is not limited to providing a tree or candles, presents and food," according to the letter. Anyone interested in participating in the program should contact: B.C. OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL, INC.; 100 Doyle St.; Doylestown, PA 18901 or phone (215) 345-8175.

**Judge Advocate Bob Momorella** submitted his opinion pertaining to the membership application for W. F. Clark. Following a lengthy discussion, the Detachment voted unanimously to reject the application.

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

**Quartermaster Bob Duff** had nothing new to report.

**Young Marines--Young Marines Liaison Bob Sundling** reported the Young Marines were alive and well and back on track. Commandant Pearce asked the Sergeant-at-Arms to have the new Commanding Officer attend the next Detachment meeting and become a Detachment member in accordance with Marine Corps League regulations.

**Public Relations--Public Relations Officer Don Gee**, PC, set Aug. 20 as the deadline for submitting articles for the next issue of "Listen Up!".

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Past Commandant Don Parzanese Sr.** inquired if any further action had been taken to verify Medal of Honor recipient Charles Francis "township" birth. Senior Vice Commandant Gee stated he had not had the time to devote to researching this lately but would make every attempt to do some more research before the next meeting.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY--Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Don Parzanese Sr.**, PC, thanked those Detachment members who took part in the July clean-up. He set Saturday, Sept. 12, as the date for the next highway clean-up.

**RIFLE & PISTOL TEAM--Rifle & Pistol Team Captain Bill Rosenberger** reported the Rifle Team was ready for the match next month even though there were fewer members this year.

**VAVS--**The Detachment had no volunteer hours since the last meeting.

#### GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

**AAll-Divisions Detachment Commandant Ray Devlin** briefly addressed the Detachment. He stated he was "learning" about being a Commandant and that he had been able to gather a wealth of information from other Detachments and from attending the Department Convention. He thanked Commandant Pearce and the Detachment for having him as a guest.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Marine Mike Waldron** announced he would be traveling to Quantico in September and offered to get uniform parts for members who were interested. Contact Mike at: (215) 672-7095.

**Sergeant-at-Arms Sundling** reminded the Detachment members to bring in books for the Detachment. Senior Vice Gee informed the membership that **Marine Ted Wessel** of Orlando, FL, has been conducting an effort to send paperback books to Marines overseas. He suggested we send the leftover books to Marine Wessel for his program.

**There being no further business, the meeting was closed until 1930 on September 9.**



## Congress Loosens VA Healthcare Regulations

Congress recently moved to open the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care to more of this country's veterans. The Senate Veterans Affairs Committee approved by voice vote, a draft bill designed to loosen rules for those who seek VA outpatient care. Within a week, the House voted 416-0 to pass HR 3118, legislation similar to the Senate bill.

Under the provisions of both bills, they would cap VA health care appropriations at \$17 billion in FY 1999. VA would also set up a new priority system for treating veterans, with service-connected disabled veterans continuing to receive top priority and other categories of veterans receiving care as the budget allowed. Further,

VA would be given greater flexibility to treat veterans through outpatient care and by contracting services to the private sector. Veterans currently receiving priority care would be unaffected. They include service-connected disabled and indigent veterans, and veterans suffering from catastrophic illnesses. In addition, former prisoners of war and World War I veterans would be added.


While these bills together comprise an initial phase for VA health care reform, veterans groups are concerned about the impact these changes will have on services and treatment of priority category "C" veterans seeking VA health care. Supporters claim these changes will allow VA to treat veterans for less money and then be able to use the savings to expand treatment for veterans.



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**Cost: \$35.00 per person (includes Dinner and Open Bar)**

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Name of Person Attending

Dinner Choice: Beef

Chicken

Name of Person Attending	Dinner Choice: Beef	Chicken
_____	_____	_____
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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.

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