

# The Chester County Marine

Chester County Detachment #286  
P.O. Box 828, Downingtown, Pa 19335-0828  
Detachment HQ's: 610-518-5375 (leave message)  
**Commandant Bonnie Shaw**

[www.chestercountymcl.com](http://www.chestercountymcl.com)  
[CCMarineNews@Verizon.net](mailto:CCMarineNews@Verizon.net)

Volume XVIII, Issue 7



Hello All,

## From the Commandant's Desk

We have a busy couple of months ahead. From Fall State of PA meeting to our much anticipated Marine Corps Birthday Ball.

First to catch you up, we had our Open House and rededication at the Detachment Home today, September 25th. Our open house was well attended, but we hoped for more. The point was to rededicate our building and we did accomplish just that. Chaplain Robert McGonigle of VFW 287, Coatesville, was our visiting Chaplain blessing our detachment home. Thank you to everyone who assisted us this past year or so with all our renovations and assistance. You are all very much appreciated.

The Chicken BBQ is coming up on October 9th from Noon to 5pm. Tickets are on sale now and we encourage you to order in advance. We can accept cash, check or credit card. Contact Doug Forsythe for credit card payments. There are no tickets this year, so we are maintaining a spreadsheet of tickets and payments. We will have a limited number of dinners to purchase the day of the event up to 4pm, while supplies last. Dinners are \$13 this year due to increased prices.

Bingo will be October 2nd and 16th. The more players the higher the payouts. Hope to see you there. Bingo will be a few people short on October 16th, so if you can help out let us know.

The Fall State of PA meeting including a growl will be on October 15th and 16th at the State of PA Headquarters building at Fort Indiantown Gap.

We have the Major Samuel Nicholas ceremony on November 10th in Philly, Veteran's Day ceremony on November 11th at Kerr Park.

Bingo in November is the 6th and 20th.

The Marine Corps Ball is November 13th. Tickets are on sale now and we want to make this our greatest ball yet. We have a fantastic guest speaker, Mark "Pete" Peterson. He was an aide to President Reagan while on active duty as a LtCol. Very excited to meet him and hear about his time with the President. Our entertainment will be the tribute band of Bill Haley Jr. and the Comets. The lead is the son of the original Bill Haley. Looks to be a very exciting evening. Tickets on sale now, while they last. \$50/pp or \$90/couple. Hope to see you all there.

Thank you to everyone who helped in this past year to help to take care of and renovate our Detachment home. We have a great space and I appreciate you all.

Semper Fidelis  
Commandant Bonnie Shaw

**Meetings: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday  
of every month @1900**  
430 Chestnut Street  
Downingtown, Pa 19335  
Entrance on Chestnut St.  
Also park in rear of bldg



**Next Meeting:  
October 25, 2021 @ 1900**

VA Welcome Kit  
[https://www.va.gov/va\\_welcomekit\\_color.pdf](https://www.va.gov/va_welcomekit_color.pdf)

Dave Buckta (editor) is publishing the CC Marine Newsletter. Please send all your newsworthy items, including photos and links to [CCMarineNews@Verizon.net](mailto:CCMarineNews@Verizon.net)

#### **NEWSLETTER POLICY**

Chester County Marine, the only publication paid for by Chester County Detachment MCL #286, is published monthly as a service to the membership and other interested organizations. We will reprint any article deemed to be newsworthy and not political. The editor reserves the right to modify any items selected for printing.

The views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of National MCL, Inc., Pennsylvania MCL, Inc. or the Chester County Detachment. All members and other interested parties are invited to submit articles for publication.

#### **Summer Uniform**

Summer uniform is in effect as follows:

- Red Cover
- Short Sleeve White Shirt
- Black Trousers
- Black Shoes & Socks
- Red Blazer or Satin Jacket when appropriate

**Marine Corps League Uniforms available online:**  
<https://www.mclnational.org/store.html>

**EVENT:** LEGION OF HONOR Chapel of Four Chaplains

**DATE:** June 28, 2021

**LOCATION:** VA Coatesville, Bldg 59A

**SUBMITTED BY:** Doug Forsythe

**MEMBERS:** Jerry Myers, Bonnie Shaw

**PURPOSE:** Awarded to Jerry Myers June 28th for his Service beyond self to Others. Senator Carolyn Comitta & Representative Katie Muth presented citations



**EVENT:** Detachment Bingo

**DATE:** September 18, 2021

**LOCATION:** CC MCL Chestnut Street

**MEMBERS:** Leo Burke, Jim Copeland, Joanne Brown, Dennis Brown, Deb Allen Mundy, and Lisa Sundin, Mario & Della Sheryl, Polly Ross and Pat Grubb, Bonnie Shaw. Doug Forsythe, Mike and Jeanne Rapp, Charmaine, and Ruth Thompson

**PURPOSE:** Bingo was held in September with 40 players. Next jackpot is \$650.

**Attention:** Runners are needed for bingo, will take any sort of ambulatory movement. Kitchen needs help too – See Joanne.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Leo Burke (20 hours)

**EVENT:** Monthly Bingo - Shut Ins

**DATE:** No bingo

**LOCATION:** VA Coatesville, Bldg 59A

**SUBMITTED BY:** Leo Burke

**MEMBERS:** Dan Condron, Leo Burke, and Mike Rapp

**PURPOSE:** VA Popcorn and bingo suspended during the pandemic

**EVENT:** Annual Golf Outing

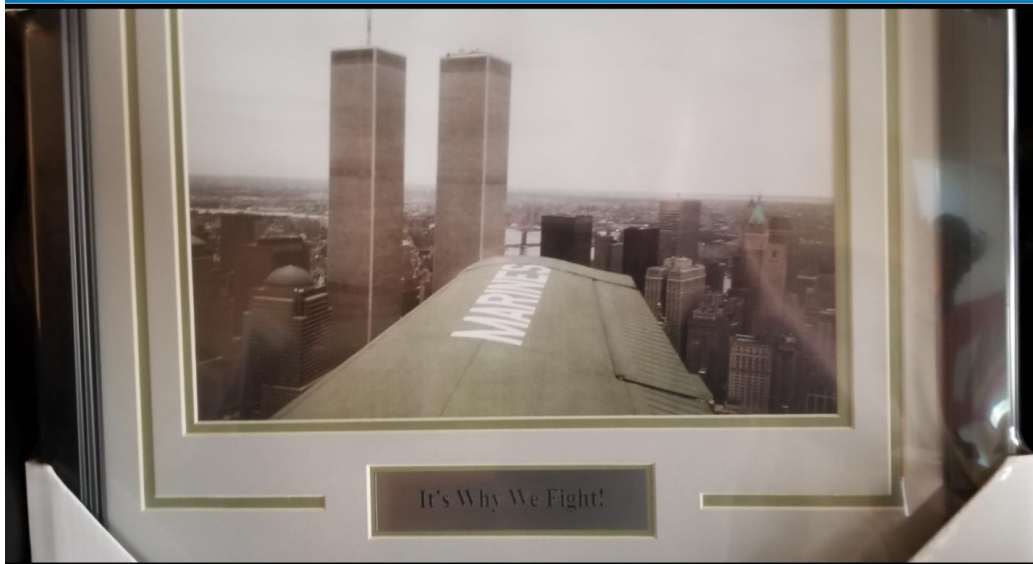
**DATE:** September 23, 2021

**LOCATION:** Various

**SUBMITTED BY:** Doug Forsythe

**PURPOSE:** This photo was a work of art given by Michael Whelan and was presented to MOPH Chptr 1777, VFW Post 845, Jeff D'ambrosio, Citadel Federal Credit union, First Resource Bank for their major sponsorship of the annual MCL Golf Classic August 16th 2021.

**MEMBERS:** Doug Forsythe



**EVENT:** Albert Wertz Funeral

**DATE:** September 17, 2021

**LOCATION:** St Mark's, Downingtown, PA

**PURPOSE:** Marine & Life mbr Albert Werts 101 yrs old honor ceremony. Attendees Leo Burke, Larry Samples, Fred LeClair, Dan Fitzpatrick, Jerry Myers & Doug Forsythe. Performed Casket Watch, EGA ceremony & Taps Sept 17th 1000.

**MEMBERS:** Jerry Meyers, Doug Forsythe, Leo Burke, Larry Samples, Fred LeClair, Dan Fitzpatrick

**SUBMITTED BY:** Doug Forsythe



# Attn: Membership

All non-life members...please pay your dues for 2022 by August 31, 2021 by sending a check for \$35, payable to "CCDMCL." Here is the mailing address:

Marine Corps League  
Chester County Detachment #286  
P.O. Box 828  
Downingtown, PA 19335-0828  
Attn: Paymaster

Don't forget that life membership is available to members in good standing at the following rates:

Up to age 35-\$500

36-50-\$400

51-64-\$300

65-over-\$200

Contact John Abitabilo at [johnabitabilo@gmail.com](mailto:johnabitabilo@gmail.com) for details.

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## New Member Spotlight

### Steve Wenzel

I enlisted in the Marine Corps while a senior at Downingtown HS on 120 delay with Aviation guarantee. After A school in Millington Tn. I reported to Cherry Point and was assigned to VMFA 323 flight line as a plane captain. Left for Vietnam Nam end of Oct. 65 and served with them in Iwakuni, DaNang, and Cu Lai until rotation back to Cherry Point in Jan. 68. Finished enlistment with VMFA AW 202. Discharged Apr. 68. Married with 2 sons. Living in Cochranville, Pa.

### Robert Whetstone

My wife (Joanne) and I have been residents of Chester County for 43 years and the Borough of West Chester for 34 years. I am originally from Delaware County. I attended Pennsylvania Military College (PMC, now Widener University) and Temple University. I am retired Pharmacist who spent his career in the pharmaceutical industry, as well as community and hospital pharmacy. I spent my military career in the Medical Service Corps. I was a Navy Corpsman (67-71) and served in Vietnam (69-70) with 1/11, 1st Marine Div., FMF; reserve/active duty with the Army (1982-2001) as Pharmaceutical Affairs Officer with mobilization for Desert Storm/Shield Dec 1990 to June 1991.

### SSgt Yonas Reinholdson (Downingtown Recruiter)

I enlisted into the Marine Corps in 2011 out of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Since that time, I have served in; Okinawa, Japan with the 3D MLG, Des Moines, Iowa with HQ RS Des Moines. Tampa, Florida, with U.S. Central Command and as a recruiter in West Chester, PA with RS Harrisburg. I am happily married to my wife Elinet, and have two kids, Michalia and Roman.

<b>Volunteer Activity September 2021</b>	<b>Point of Contact</b>	<b>Monthly Hours (Sep)</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Monthly Meeting	Bonnie Shaw	10	90
Staff Meeting	Bonnie Shaw	8	80
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	20	166
VA Bingo/ Popcorn	Dan Condron		
Honor Guard	Doug Forsythe	10	73
Golf outing	Jerry Myers	10	190
Flag retirement	Leo Burke		58
Building maintenance	Bonnie Shaw		270
Membership	John Abitabilo	4	32
Financial	Doug Forsythe/John Abitabilo	2	48
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	5	46
Other – Boy Scouts	Larry Samples		22
<b>Total</b>		69	1075

Marine Corps League Chester County Detachment  
Presents...

# 22nd Annual Chicken BBQ



**9 October 2021**  
**(Noon to 5pm)**

**\$13**

Meals Ready to Eat will include: Fresh Lancaster Half BBQ Chicken, Petite Potatoes, additional side, dinner roll, dessert, and a beverage.

**PREORDERS:**

Available by attending one of our upcoming Detachment Events & reserving in person, or by mailing a check/money order to:  
**CCD #285 Marine Corps League**  
P.O. Box 828  
Downtown PA 19335  
Please include your Name, Phone, & payment for the # of Dinners x \$13 each

**WALK-IN ORDERS:**

Available until 4pm Day of BBQ at our Detachment Headquarters located at 430 Chestnut Street, Downtown (around the corner from Victory Brewing)  
**WHILE SUPPLIES LAST**, so we encourage preorders if possible.

**BBQ Contacts:**

Doug Forsythe: 610-827-9281  
Bonnie Shaw: 267-934-0583



Prepared By:  
**Rockin' J BBQ**  
Jonathan Stolzfus, Owner  
Aiglen PA

**Cash, Check or Charge**

**Eat In or Take Out!**

**Semper Fi Marines and Thank You to our Community!**

All proceeds benefit the Chester County Detachment of the Marine Corps League for its many community activities supporting veterans and their families.



# Chester County Marine October 2021 EVENT Calendar

October 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 <b>Bingo 5:30pm</b> Jim Copeland/ Leo Burke
3	4	5	6	7 	8	9 <b>Chicken BBQ</b> 1200 – 1700 Bonnie Shaw
10	11	12	13	14 <b>CC MCL Staff Meeting</b> 7:00pm Bonnie Shaw	15	16 <b>Tunnel to Towers 5K Run</b> 0800 Hibernia County Park <b>Bingo 5:30pm</b> Jim Copeland/ Leo Burke
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 <b>Beirut Remembrance</b> Phila	25 <b>General Membership Mtg</b> 7:00 pm	26	27	28	29	30







# Chester County Marine November 2021 EVENT Calendar

November 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	<b>Bingo 5:30pm</b>  Jim Copeland/ Leo Burke
7	8	9	10	<b>CC MCL Staff Meeting</b>  7:00pm Bonnie Shaw	12	<b>USMC Birthday Ball</b>  Coatesville CC Bonnie Shaw
14	15	16	17	18	19	<b>Bingo 5:30pm</b>  Jim Copeland/ Leo Burke
21	<b>General Membership Mtg</b>  7:00 pm	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

End of Newsletter