

The Chester County Marine

Chester County Detachment #286
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Commandant Bonnie Shaw

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November 2021

Hello All,

From the Commandant's Desk

WHEW! We made it through our very busy November! I am so grateful for all the support by our members for our many events this month. Our Birthday in Philadelphia was an all-day event and so worth it. From our raising the flag at Independence Hall, to the Revolutionary Tomb of the Unknown, to our ceremony at Major Samuel Nicholas graveside and our lunch/tour at the Union League, it was a fantastic day.

Our Birthday Ball was a great success. Our guest speaker Pete Peterson could have held us in his grip for many hours and we hope to have him back to the detachment to continue hearing about his service and time with President Reagan. Our entertainment, Bill Haley Jr. and the Comets, was extremely enjoyable and we had many boogying on the dance floor. Thank you to all who participated in the ceremony and assisted with planning this event.

As the holidays approach, we think about those we have lost over the past year, and we miss them. Please buddy check your family, friends, and neighbors to make sure they know there is someone who cares for them. Know that my door is always open, and I can have coffee or other adult beverage at the ready should anyone need help. We have all lost loved ones over the years, some unfortunately to suicide. The holidays are the worst time for depression, and I want to see all your smiling faces come the New Year.

On that note, our staff meeting will be December 9th @ 1900 and our regular membership meeting will be early due to the holiday schedule. December 20th we will meet for our December membership meeting. We will have an abbreviated meeting beginning @ 1830. This will include our election of officers for 2022, followed by our Holiday Party. Please let me know if you will be bringing a dish, as this is a Holiday Potluck meal. I hope those of you who haven't been to our detachment in a while, will be able to come by and celebrate the end of 2021 and celebrate the holidays with us.

Semper Fidelis
Commandant Bonnie Shaw

**Meetings: 4th Monday
of every month @1900**

430 Chestnut Street
Downingtown, Pa 19335
Entrance on Chestnut St.
Also park in rear of bldg.



**Next Meeting:
December 20, 2021 @
1900**

VA Welcome Kit

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

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>

Minutes From Meeting on – October 25, 2021

Meeting Opened: 7:08 PM

Roll Call of Officers:

Officer	Member	Present
Commandant	Bonnie Shaw	X
Sr. Vice-Commandant	Larry Samples	X
Jr. Vice-Commandant	Dan Fitzpatrick	X
Judge Advocate	Jim Copeland	X
Jr. Past Commandant	Jerry Myers	X
Adjutant	Jack Meighan	X
Paymaster/Trustee	Doug Forsythe	X
Chaplain	Dan Condron	X
Sergeant at Arms	Ken Weaver	X
Service Officer		
Trustee	Chris Shaw	X
Trustee	Pat Powell	X
Trustee	John Abitabilo	

Eleven officers present. The presence of Division Vice-Commandant Mike Wallach was acknowledged.

Pamela Kubczak, President of the Women Marines Association and Chapter Chaplain gave a short talk on the career of Lt. General Lewis Burwell “Chesty” Puller, USMC on the 50th anniversary of his death prior to the sa

New Members:

Stephen Charles Annan, who honorably served in the Marines in the early 1970s, applied for membership, provided a copy of his DD-214, and paid his dues. Steve was sponsored by John Abitabilo. A motion to approve Steve for membership was made by Jerry Myers and seconded by Chris Shaw, the motion passed, and he was sworn in as a member of the detachment.

Minutes from Previous Meeting:

The minutes from 9/27/2021 were provided to members prior to the start of the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Dan Condron and seconded by Jim Copeland. The motion passed.

Correspondence:

The detachment received a thank you from Sister Bernadette of St. Mary's Franciscan Shelter for Homeless Families in Phoenixville for the donation of dinners from our Chicken BBQ fundraiser on 10/9/2021.

Paymaster Report:

Doug Forsythe advised the paymaster's report is currently in the hands of the audit committee and the First Resource statement will not be available until after 11/1/2021. The Commandant said the detachment's IRS 990 form as a nonprofit is due and that paperwork is being prepared which is why the paymaster's report is not available. Doug also thanked Jerry Ross for his assistance in preparing the 990.

Members or Family Members Sick or in Distress:

District II Vice-Commandant Gene Irvin was hospitalized with Covid and was just released today and is recovering at home.

Report of Officers:

Jerry Myers (Golf Committee): said he plans to put the leftover white bag items, which include several golf outings and hotel rooms, on-line with suggested bids and a cut off date. We also have to decide where to hold the golf tournament next year. French Creek Country Club has been suggested. It was pointed out that the Applecross Country Club has been very generous to us. The Commandant said that we held the tournament in August because we have few events in that month.

Sergeant-at-Arms Weaver advised that 31 members were present. Ken said that in the Spring the detachment approved the lighting to be changed to LED tubes which were to cost \$1,777.86. A check was received from the paymaster for that amount. All of the tubes purchased were not needed so we received a credit which was applied to the cost of recycling the old tubes which is required by law leaving a balance of \$139. Ken submitted an invoice for this amount. Doug Forsythe made a motion to pay this amount which was seconded by Dan Condron and the motion passed.

Dan Fitzpatrick said he has been in touch with the Commandant's Own regarding their recording of the Marines Hymn with a suggestion to make it easier to sing.

Chris Shaw (Ship Store): It will be a while before covers are available.

Standing Committees:

Jerry Myers (Nominating Committee): The nominating committee recommended the following members for detachment offices:

Commandant: Bonnie Shaw;

Senior Vice-Commandant: Larry Samples;

Junior Vice-Commandant: David Keith;

Judge Advocate: Jim Copeland;

Trustees: Pat Powell;
Chris Shaw; and
John Abitabilo.

Bonnie Shaw, Larry Samples, David Keith, Jim Copeland, Pat Powell and Chris Shaw agreed to serve if elected. Since John Abitabilo was not present, it was not known if he was interested in another term as trustee.

Dan Fitzpatrick is stepping down as Junior Vice-Commandant because of health reasons. Doug Forsythe nominated Emil Meiskomer for trustee. Emil said he would serve if elected. There were no other nominations from the floor.

Dan Condron said he would step down as Chaplain because of personal reasons. Ricky Corbitt, III said he would be willing to serve as Chaplain.

Jack Meighan said he would be willing to continue as Adjutant if no one else was interested. Ken Weaver said he had not made a decision about continuing as the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Doug Forsythe said he would continue as Paymaster.

Special Committees:

Jim Copeland (Bingo): The last bingo brought in \$612. The next bingo will be 11/6/21.

(Marine Corps Ball): It is scheduled for 11/13/2021 at the Coatesville Country Club. A Bill Haley tribute band will provide entertainment. Tickets are \$50 a person, \$90 a couple. The menu will feature salmon and carved beef. The social hour begins about 5:30 PM with the ceremony starting at 6:30 PM. Approximately 60 tickets have been sold so far. The featured speaker will be detachment member Lt. Col. Mark "Pete" Peterson, USMC retired who was a personal aide to President Reagan for three years and carried the nuclear football.

Dennis Brown (Marksmanship): The last live fire meeting was held in September at Kimberton. Plans to have a detachment match later this year have been shelved because we have so much going on. We will start all over again next year. In all state matches, shooters must be a member or an associate member, however anyone can practice with our team. Pat Powell said that he would provide ammo, targets and pasties to anyone who wanted to practice with our detachment; some weapons are also available. The last live fire meeting was held in September at Kimberton. Plans to have a detachment match later this year have been shelved because we have so much going on. We will start all over again next year. In all state matches, shooters must be a member or an

associate member, however anyone can practice with our team. Detachment members give a donation to Kimberton when we use their facility.

Dan Condron (VAVS): Last year (2019 -2020) we donated 7,050 in cash, \$46,580 in goods of which \$45,000 consisted of pastries brought in by Tom and Barb Logan. The Logans are unable to do this any longer. This year we did not donate any cash and only \$6,000 in goods.

On the fourth Tuesday of the month, our detachment sells pretzels and popcorn at the VA to raise money for the VAVS. This has just resumed.

Unfinished Business:

The locks for the detachment have been changed, anyone needing new keys should see Doug Forsythe.

New Business:

Regarding the replacement of the air conditioning and heating unit, Oliver Heating & Air Conditioning has provided a new quote about \$2,000 cheaper than Haley. Oliver's quote is \$13,025. Jerry Myers made a motion to accept the estimate from Oliver which was seconded by Doug Forsythe; the motion to spend \$13,025 for a new air conditioning and heating unit from Oliver passed unanimously.

Good of the League:

Marine Memorial Sunday will be held on 11/7/2021 at 10:00 AM in West Chester at General Smedley Butler's gravesite at Oakland Cemetery in West Chester.

On 11/10/2022, we will muster at the detachment at 5:30 AM then drive to Hershey's Mill where we will meet Les Rouse and board a bus arranged by Les and drive to Independence Hall in Philadelphia where we will join other detachments in hoisting a thirteen-star flag at 8:00 AM. After this ceremony, we will march to Washington Square Park where we will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown soldier of the Revolutionary War and play taps. From there we will break off and reassemble at the Friends' Meeting House at 4th and Arch Sts., and have another ceremony honoring Major Samuel Nicholas, the first Commandant of the Marine Corps. Joining us in attendance will be representatives of the USMC, Department of Pennsylvania Marine Corps League and other MCL detachments.

After the ceremony honoring Major Nicholas, we will board the bus and go to the Union League on Broad St. where Les has arranged for us to have lunch and a tour of the Union League.

Following the tour, we will visit the Vietnam and Korean War Memorials. We will return to Independence Hall and lower the thirteen-star flag at 4:00 PM. We will re-board the bus and return to Hershey's Mill. There is a requested donation of \$25 per person to ride the bus. (Uniform will be satin jacket, long sleeve white shirt, black tie, black shoes and black trousers). Doug Forsythe made a motion for the detachment to pick up the \$25 fee which was seconded by Rich Corbitt, Jr. the motion passed.

On 11/10/2021, Lionville Middle School is having their Veterans assembly at 8:00 AM.

Also in November, we will have a Veterans' Day ceremony at Kerr Park in Downingtown at 10:00 AM on 11/11/2021.

There will be a rehearsal for the Marine Corps Ball at the Coatesville Country Club on 11/9/2021 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

Pat Powell said he has a 1917 – 1918 era Marine Corps recruiting poster which he would like to donate to the detachment. It needs a frame.

The Beirut Memorial ceremony was held yesterday at Penns Landing in Philadelphia; Dan Fitzpatrick played taps and there were probably at least 150 people there.

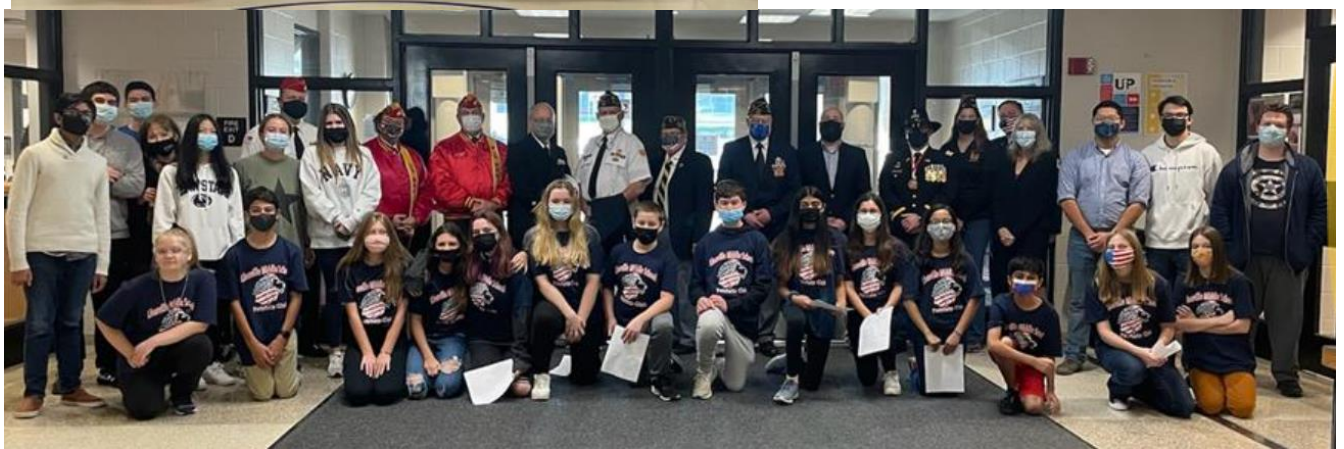
Announcements:

There will be a representative from the Veterans Administration at our next general meeting to discuss benefits and programs.

Closing 8:37 PM.

EVENT: Veteran Appreciation Day
LOCATION: Lionville Middle School
MEMBERS: Bonnie Shaw, Jerry Myers, Dave Buckta
PURPOSE: Veteran appreciation and breakfast

DATE: Nov 11, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: David Buckta



EVENT: Marine Corps Birthday Ball
LOCATION: Coatesville Country Club
PURPOSE: Birthday celebration
MEMBERS: Many

DATE: November 13, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Beverly Buckta



EVENT: Samuel Nicholas Ceremony
LOCATION: Philadelphia
PURPOSE: Remember

DATE: November 10, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Jerry Myers



EVENT: HVAC Replacement
LOCATION: CC MCL HQ
PURPOSE: Keeping cool
MEMBERS: Amy

DATE: Nov 19, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Amy



EVENT: Toys for Tots
DATE: Oct 18, 2021
LOCATION: Texas Roadhouse
SUBMITTED BY: Doug Forsythe



EVENT: Detachment Bingo
LOCATION: CC MCL Chestnut Street
MEMBERS: Leo Burke, Jim Copeland, Joanne Brown, Dennis Brown, Deb Allen Mundy, 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 November
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)

DATE: November 6 & 20 2021

Volunteer Activity November 2021	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours (Nov)	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Bonnie Shaw	10	110
Staff Meeting	Bonnie Shaw	10	100
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	40	246
VA Bingo/ Popcorn	Dan Condron		
Honor Guard	Doug Forsythe	35	108
Golf outing	Jerry Myers		190
Flag retirement	Leo Burke		58
Building maintenance	Bonnie Shaw		270
Membership	John Abitabilo	4	40
Financial	Doug Forsythe/John Abitabilo	4	56
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	4	54
Other – Boy Scouts	Larry Samples		22
Total		107	1254



Chester County Marine December 2021 EVENT Calendar

December 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	Bingo 5:30pm Jim Copeland/ Leo Burke
5	6	7	8	CC MCL Staff Meeting 7:00pm Bonnie Shaw	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	Bingo 5:30pm Jim Copeland/ Leo Burke
19 MODD Growl 1400 Larry Samples	20 General Membership Mtg 7:00 pm	21	22	23	24	25 
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Chester County Marine January 2022 EVENT Calendar

January 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Bingo 5:30pm Jim Copeland/ Leo Burke
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 CC MCL Staff Meeting 7:00pm Bonnie Shaw	14	15 Bingo 5:30pm Jim Copeland/ Leo Burke
16	 Martin Luther King Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 General Membership Mtg 7:00 pm	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

End of Newsletter