

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
CCMarineNews@Verizon.net
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April 2022

Hello All,

From the Commandant's Desk

We are ending our April with a tribute/roast of our current Marine of the Year Jerry Myers and our meal before our meeting on Monday, 25 April, will be provided by our friends at Mission BBQ! Following the meal at 1800 will be our abbreviated meeting, then roasting Jerry afterwards. I hope you can join us for what should be a great evening of food, fun and frivolity at his expense.

Looking forward, we have a very busy May. The Downingtown Memorial Day Parade is back and we are knee deep in the planning. We will provide a color guard for this parade. Additionally, we have a 2nd color guard (in dress blues) in support of the Applecross Country Club Memorial Day Golf Tournament. Our full schedule is below. Junior Vice David Keith oversees color guard, so if you can assist, contact him.

May 29th (Sunday)

Tribute to our first Commandant Samuel Nicholas in Philadelphia. Muster at the detachment at 0930 to carpool to begin the ceremony at 1100. We usually stop for lunch afterwards for those who want to join us.

May 30th (Monday)

- 0800 – St. Joseph's Cemetery (color guard)
- 0900 – Northwoods Cemetery (color guard)
- 1000 – Downingtown Parade start at Beaver Creek Elementary to Kerr Park
- 1100 – Kerr Park Ceremony and Flag raising
- 1200 – Flag Raising VFW 845 and Lunch

We will be setting up some dates for fundraising in the Month of June. This will include display with donation bucket outside Lions Restaurant in Downingtown and we are lining up a fundraising night at Texas Roadhouse and others. Please let me know if you are interested in signing up to help with any or all of these fundraisers.

Our 990 filing will be due again at the end of our business year, June 30th.

Our PA Department Convention will be June 22 to 26 in Camp Hill, PA. If you are planning to attend the convention this year, please let the Senior Vice Larry Samples know.

Semper Fi!
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:
May 23, 2022 @ 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 – March 28, 2022

Meeting Opened: 7:15 PM

Roll Call of Officers:

Officer	Member	Present
Commandant	Bonnie Shaw	X
Sr. Vice-Commandant	Larry Samples	X
Jr. Vice-Commandant	David Keith	X
Judge Advocate	Jim Copeland	X
Jr. Past Commandant	Jerry Myers	X
Adjutant	Jack Meighan	X
Paymaster/Trustee	Doug Forsythe	X
Chaplain	Rick Corbett	X
Sergeant at Arms	Ken Weaver	X
Service Officer		
Trustee	Chris Shaw	X
Trustee	Pat Powell	
Trustee	Emil Messikomer	X

Prior to the start of the meeting, Doug Forsythe on behalf of the detachment thanked the following members of the Exton Remax office: Lisa Light, Theresa Tarquinio, Tony DeSantis, and Maureen Denison for their generosity in donating \$900 to the detachment to aid veterans in our area. The Remas staff raised the money by sponsoring a Bowl-A-Thon every year at the Downingtown Bowling Palace. The event this year will take place on 11/12/2022. Doug explained that \$500 of the Remax donation will be given to Nicole Moore whose husband passed away the day after Christmas. Nicole is a regular at our bingo games, and the remaining \$400 to Virginia Rueber.

West Chester University History Department Chairman and advisor to the student veterans' group on campus Dr. Robert Kodosky spoke to the detachment about an oral history project on the Vietnam War. Kodosky said he has written about the Vietnam War and worked with Marines in the State Department, CIA, and a special operations group and is affiliated with the Helicopter Museum. He said the Pentagon is preparing a 50th anniversary commemoration of the Vietnam

to engage with Vietnam era veterans. The interviews will be collected and placed on a website before being included in a book. Kodosky is also working with VVA Post 436 and noted that since the end of WWII four Marine Corps generals graduated from West Chester State College and West Chester University. He encouraged interested Vietnam era veterans to contact him at his WCU e-mail address: rkodosky@wcupa.edu.

Staff Sergeant Yonas “Rino” Reinholdson, a Marine recruiter in Downingtown and a detachment member, introduced John Kobell a senior at Downingtown East High School. John has enlisted in the Marine reserves and will be leaving for boot camp in July. John plans to enroll at Penn State and hopes to earn a commission upon graduating from Penn State.

Eleven officers present.

New Members:

None.

Minutes from Previous Meeting:

The minutes from 2/28/2022 were provided to members prior to the start of the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Jerry Myers and seconded by Gene Irvin. The motion passed.

Correspondence:

None.

Paymaster Report:

Doug Forsythe presented the paymaster’s report as of 6/30/2022. The General Smedley D. Butler Memorial Foundation Fund balance is \$5,345.58. Our twelve-month CD balance is \$48,208.41 and our business (checking) account balance is \$18,649.91.

A motion to accept the paymaster’s report subject to audit was made by Rich Corbitt and seconded by Gene Irvin; the motion passed.

Members or Family Members Sick or in Distress:

Pat Powell is hospitalized in West Chester with kidney disease which is affecting his congestive heart issue but hopes to be out of the hospital by the end of the week.

Jim Miller’s daughter has advised that Jim had his leg amputated below the knee and will be fitted for a prosthetic limb.

Detachment Life Member Hank Detering is no longer able to attend meetings because of his Parkinson’s Disease. It is anticipated that Hank and his wife will be moving to Wisconsin in the future to be closer to his daughter.

Despite rumors of his demise, it has been confirmed that Dave Mundy is alive and well.

Get well cards will be sent to Pat Powell, and Jim Miller as well as a “Happy to hear you’re alive card” to Dave Mundy.

Report of Officers:

The Commandant advised that the detachment renaming paperwork is ready to be signed. The family of Brandon Hardy has given their permission for their son’s name to be included to rename our detachment; the new name of the detachment will be “Cpl. Brandon Hardy Chester County Detachment 286.” The final paperwork will be signed tonight and will be submitted with the Hardy family’s permission letter.

Jerry Myers said the current newsletter contains an application for the Smedley Butler Society. Tom Tanner made another contribution and there is a Marine who will match the first \$1,000 we receive. Every member is encouraged to contribute as our goal is to get to \$100,000 as quickly as we can. At that point, we can start giving away the interest.

Bonnie said our April general membership meeting will be catered by Mission BBQ. Since Jerry does not wish to have a separate banquet for being Marine of the Year, his roast will take place prior to next month’s meeting.

Doug Forsythe provided an update re Nicole Moore. Nicole is a regular at bingo and always brings in spring rolls and other Asian dishes. When Nicole’s husband passed away on 12/26/2021, she was left clueless regarding bills, benefits because her English is not good. She fell behind in her mortgage and other bills so our detachment stepped up and paid her mortgage and gave her a donation. Also, Remax donated \$500 toward those costs.

We also contacted Representative Chrissy Houlihan’s office and the VA. Nicole has received her back pay and half of her late husband’s disability benefits. Now we are working on her citizenship status, and her social security. She has not been receiving her husband’s social security or death benefit. Nicole had given up her job three years ago to take care of her husband but has recently resumed working at the Chick-Fil-A in Lionville.

Sergeant-at-Arms Weaver said 27 members and 8 guests were present. One member participated remotely. The 50-50 pot was \$143.

Chris Shaw provided an update on the Ship’s Store.

Standing Committees:

Jim Copeland (Bingo): Proceeds for January were over \$413.

Special Committees:

Les Rouse said there will be another trip to Independence Hall on 11/10/2022. Les will arrange for a bus from Hershey’s Mill.

Doug Forsythe said this year's Marine Corps Ball will take place on 11/12/2022 at the Whitford Country Club. Doug, Bonnie and Jerry will meet with the club this week to go over the menu and other details. Additional information will be provided at the April meeting. A speaker is still needed.

Bonnie (Golf Tournament): Eventcaddy.com has been chosen as the website for handling the golf tournament which will take place on 8/15/2022. The website will be up on 4/1/2022 so golfers can start making their reservations, sponsors can register, etc. There is also an online store there. Two members of the Pottstown Rotary Club were kind enough to help Bonnie, Doug and Jerry with eventcaddy.com. We will also be using PayPal and Stripe to handle payments.

Proposed fund raisers for this year include:

Downingtown Fall Fest on 9/25/2022 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM;
Texas Roadhouse dinner;
Car show at the Freedom Foundation, a table has already been secured;
Possible information/donation table in front of Leoni's Restaurant in Downingtown; and
Downingtown Mac & Cheese Cook Off.
Still waiting to hear from Walmart.

Bonnie asked if any member had contacts with local gun shows to contact her so she can look into setting up information and fundraising tables there.

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

Jerry Myers made a motion to pay Larry Mitchell \$200 to cover travel and material for additional work on the detachment's floor. Brian Brody seconded the motion which passed.

Doug said that the department Commandant has challenged all eight of the District's Vice-Commandants to each make a \$100 donation towards the Marine Corps League Foundation. This challenge has gone out all over the country to all detachments. He made a motion for our detachment to make the \$100 donation which was seconded by Chris Shaw. Les Rouse asked what the foundation does and Bonnie advised that the foundation provided national scholarships, aid and comfort to members' families, as well as other veterans. Doug said foundation scholarship pool is \$250,000 but it might only get half a dozen applicants a year. Applications have been recently shortened down to one page. The state also has a scholarship program.

Good of the League:

Emil Messikomer was thanked for building shelving in the detachment and participating with other members in reupholstering the detachment chairs. Ken Weaver was also thanked for removing a post in the detachment which provided more room to fit chairs.

Dennis Brown said the Military Order of the Devil Dogs recently had their growl. The Devil Dogs is a “fun and honor” society within the Marine Corps League. There are four growls (meetings) a year. A kennel (national) growl is coming up in August and a pack (state) growl will be held in June. A local growl is a pound. All proceeds go to the local children’s hospitals in the city where the national event is held. The last kennel growl was held in Springfield, IL and \$70,000 was donated to the children’s hospital in Springfield. The only requirements for membership are a year as a member in the MCL, be a regular member who is recommended by the detachment commandant. Woof, woof?

Jerry Myers has issued a challenge to the detachment in which he will meet or beat any donation up to \$1,000 to the Smedley Butler Foundation. The current Foundation amount is \$5,345.58.

Announcements:

The Pennsylvania Department convention will be held in Camp Hill from 6/22/22 to 6/25/22; so far, the Commandant, Trustee Shaw and Dennis Brown are scheduled to attend.

Closing 8:10 PM.



EVENT: Detachment Bingo

DATE: April 02 & 16, 2022

LOCATION: CC MCL Chestnut Street

MEMBERS: Leo Burke, Jim Copeland, Joanne Brown, Dennis Brown, Mario & Della Sheryl, Polly Ross and Pat Grubb, Bonnie Shaw. Chris Shaw, Doug Forsythe, Mike and Jeanne Rapp, Charmaine, and Ruth Thompson, Steve Annan

PURPOSE: Bingo was held in April with 36 and 41 players.

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

SUBMITTED BY: Leo Burke (30 hours)

EVENT: Pistol Team Practice
LOCATION: CC MCL HQ
PURPOSE: Marksmanship practice
MEMBERS: Various
SUBMITTED BY: Jeanne Rapp

DATE: March 26, 2022



EVENT: Annual Golf Classic
LOCATION: Applecross Country Club
PURPOSE: In Memory of Brandon hardy
LINK: [Event home page - Annual Golf Classic - Marine Corps League of \(eventcaddy.com\)](https://eventcaddy.com)
SUBMITTED BY: Bonnie Shaw

DATE: August 15, 2022



EVENT: Re/Max Donation
LOCATION: Detachment
MEMBERS: Doug Forsythe
PURPOSE: Donation
SUBMITTED BY: Doug Forsythe

DATE: March 25, 2022



4/25/2022

Membership Update

April 21, 2022

Presently, we have 86 Life Members in our Detachment (80 Marine & 6 Associate members)

John Abitabilo	Dominic DiSciullo	Walter Kutz	George R Partridge Jr	Walter W. Simcox, Jr.
Cheryl Armstrong	James Donegan	Fred LeClair	Jay F. Patton	James G. Snyder
Tony C Armstrong	Robert F. Donovan	Thomas M. Logan	Mark A. Peterson	Bob Spano
Lee C. Beyer	Robert L. Dormer	Bill Mackey	Patrick B. Powell	William E Stellfox
Brian L Brody	Joseph E. Dulin Jr.	Michael B. Maginnis	Michael Rapp	Robert G. Stone
Dennis Brown	Craig S. Evans	James Mazzone	Jack Ribble	Robert L. "Bob" Strehl
Daniel W. Bullock III	Gary N. Fay	Jim McIlhenney	Jerry Ross	Peter R. Supplee
Leo Burke	Daniel V. Fitzpatrick Jr.	Charles G. McMahon	Patrick Rundle	Steven W. Talley
Gerard (Jed) F. Burns	Rogers C. Flanigan	John "Jack" Meighan	Robert Saenz Jr.	Tom Tanner
John J. Ceschan Jr.	Douglas R. Forsythe	Donald W. Meyer	Larry L Samples	William H. Tomlinson
Daniel J. Condron	Eric Fussenegger	James J. Miller	Jeff Sanders	Kathy A. Van Gorder
James Copeland	Jamie W. Goncharoff	Richard J. Morrow	Mario M. Scherl	Elmer S. "Van" Van Gorder
William J. Corcoran	Donald Goodwin	Dave Mundy	Kenneth Schweitzer	Mark A. Wahn
Kay M. Croll	Bob Gross	Phillip Murray	Bonnie Shaw	Dennis P. Walsh
Henry A. "Hank" Detering	Michael Guyer	Jerry D. Myers	Chris Shaw	Charles T. Wertz Jr.
John DiMatteo	Leif Jacobsen	Louis Stephen "Lou" Netta	Raymond E. Sheldon	William E. Woodward
Gerry DiNunzio	Joseph J. Kay	John F. O'Brien	William F. Shields	James Yocum
				Allen Yusko

I would also like to recognize Jerry Ross as our newest Life Member. Marine Corps League Life memberships are available (based on age) for members in good standing as follows:

Over 65	\$200
51-65	\$300
36-50	\$400
35 and below	\$500

Outstanding Dues

The following member's dues are in outstanding and need to be paid to restore their "good standing" in the League by sending a check to: **Chester County Detachment 286, Marine Corps League, Attn: Paymaster, PO Box 828, Downingtown, PA 19335-0828**

Current Year 2022 (\$35 total)

Clifford L. Barnett	Robert L. Concordia	Michael R. McCarty	Julie McKenrick (Wiley)
Bob Campagna	Frances "Fran" Digian	Tim O'Hara	Della Sherl
Val Cianci	John Fitzgerald	Pam Overkott	Robert Whetsone

2021 & 2022 (\$70 total)

Ray Crossan	Geogory W Everet	Richard Lorah	Russell Snyder
Timothy R. Delany	Jonathan E. Gilbert	Carol Scarfo	Robert Wagner III
Dan Dudrick	Frankie Light	Daniel C. Shappell	Lloyd "Chuck" Wimer
			William L. White

If anyone has any questions related to Life Membership applications or their individual dues. Please contact Bob Strehl (Membership Chair) at (215) 421-2465, strehlrl@gmail.com or Doug Forsythe (Paymaster) at (610) 656-1389, dforsythe007@gmail.com



Join Us..

... as we welcome home over
125 veterans from their
"Tour of Honor" in Washington, D.C.



Hug a Vet! Thank a Vet!
...for the freedoms
they preserved for us!

Saturday, June 25, 2022

Sts. Simon and Jude Parish
8 Cavanaugh Ct
West Chester, PA 19382



Arrival Time: 6:15 PM

For Additional Information
Andrew 610-662-1812 andrew@honorflightphiladelphia.org

www.honorflightphiladelphia.org

This event is open to the public.



Welcome Home Cart



Veterans moving into housing are starting a brand new chapter in their lives. A New Home Welcome Kit will provide essential items to help our veterans transition to new housing. Each kit is estimated to cost about \$100.00-\$120.00. Your contribution will help a veteran settle in and begin their new chapter.

Welcome Kits Include:

- Shopping cart with wheels
- 1 box of Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
- 6 pack of Toilet Paper
- 2 rolls of Paper Towels
- 1 box of Tissues
- 1 Pack of Sponges
- 1 Bottle of All Purpose cleaner
- 1 Bottle of Glass Cleaner
- 1 Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- 1 Toilet Brush
- 1 Bottle of Dish Soap
- 2 Kitchen Towels
- Dust pan/hand broom
- 1 Set of Bath Towels
- 1 Pack of Paper Plates
- 2 boxes Plastic silverware
- 1 Pack of disposable cups



We are requesting completed Welcome Kits be brought to Voluntary Service Building 5. Monday -Friday 8-4:30. Please call 610-384-7711 ext.4228 with any questions.

Thank you!

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Columbus VA Medical Center



Smedley Butler Society

of the Marine Corps League of Chester County



The Chester County Detachment of the Marine Corps League is always striving to do more and be more to our surrounding community. The Smedley Butler Society (SBS) has been established to further enhance our commitment to our members, their families, friends, and our community. Donations to the SBS will give us the ability to continue to carry out this mission.

This giving opportunity is outside the realm of our regular dues and as these donations grow, the interest received will be used for community outreach, veteran's direct assistance, scholarships and other membership approved expenditures. We are also preparing for the future, including events beyond our control. For example, at some point we may need to relocate our detachment. This may involve leasing space or purchasing our own property and we must prepare for such possibilities. Our regular fundraising opportunities will continue as soon as we are permitted to do so and those funds will continue to be part of our outreach activities and current home maintenance funds. Funds collected under this SBS program will be deposited into our Smedley D. Butler Home fund account.

Our principle will not be spent. It will continue to build until \$100,000 is reached. Then any interest gained will be used towards our community programs and activities. Principle limits may be increased as needed.

Our future as a detachment, to carry out our mission as assigned, depends on our ability to be present in this community. We must be unwavering in our commitment and our duty is clear.

We ask that you consider donating to the Smedley Butler Society and becoming a sustaining member by pledging an Annual Monetary Contribution or a One Time Gift to assist us in this mission.

There are only two things we should fight for. One is the defense of our homes and the other is the Bill of Rights. ~ Smedley D. Butler

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Make Checks Payable to: **CCDMCL**

Annual Contribution

One Time Gift

\$100 \$200

\$500 \$1000

Other \$ _____

Please note that your privacy is of the utmost importance to us and we will not share your information and will only use it for official business. All Contributions are tax deductible where allowed by law. Once processed, a copy of this form will be returned to you for your records.

OFFICE USE:	Check#: _____	Check Date: _____	Check Amount: _____
	Deposit Date: _____	Donation Ltr Date: _____	

Volunteer Activity April 2022	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours (APR)	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Bonnie Shaw	10	30
Staff Meeting	Bonnie Shaw	8	28
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	30	60
VA Bingo/ Popcorn	Dan Condron		
Honor Guard	Doug Forsythe		
Golf outing	Jerry Myers	12	12
Flag retirement	Leo Burke		28
Building maintenance/SAA	Bonnie Shaw	5	15
Membership	Robert Strehl	6	10
Financial	Doug Forsythe	2	10
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	3	11
Other – Toys for Tots	Lee Beyer/ Doug Forsythe		
Total		76	234