

The Chester County Marine

Cpl Brandon Hardy, Chester County Detachment #286

P.O. Box 828, Downingtown, Pa 19335-0828

Detachment HQ's: 610-518-5375 (leave message)

Commandant Larry Samples

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CCMarineNews@Verizon.net

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June 2023



STAND BY . . .

From the Commandant's Desk

We made through May. YAY! A special "Thanks" to everyone for participating in all the many events: SE Veterans Center, Lionville Middle School Ceremony, Samuel Nicholas Ceremony Philadelphia, Marahallton Memorial Day Parade, and Downingtown Memorial Day Activities.

A reminder . . . Honor Flight Philadelphia, a local non-profit organization, is currently looking for World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War veterans who would like to travel with them to Washington, DC on September 9, 2023 where they will have the opportunity to visit the memorials dedicated to honoring those who have served and sacrificed for our country. Transportation, breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as a USO show will be provided at NO COST to the veterans. For more information please contact: Andrew (610) 662-1812, email (andrew@honorflightphiladelphia.org).

A "Casket Watch" Ceremony was held on 6/16, for Richard Morrow. He was a Life Member of our Detachment. Attendees were Jerry Myers, Fred LeClair, Rich Corbit, Steve Annan, Dennis Brown, and myself. At 95, he lived a full and active life. He was also a former Drill Instructor. This reminded me of the training and dedication that Drill Instructors need to go through to teach raw recruits about Ethics and the Marine Corps Values of "Honor, Courage and Commitment". There is a sign in entering Parris Island, "We Build Marines!" And, we all remember our Drill Instructors, don't we!

Coming up . . .

- TBD Major Samuel Nicholas Ceremony - Philadelphia
- 7/4 Independence Day Celebration
- 7/13 Staff Meeting 1900
- 7/24 French Creek Golf Club Color Guard (D. Forsythe), 0915 muster.
- 724 General Membership Meeting/Dave Buckta Tribute/Mission BBQ: 1800.
- 7/27 National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

Here's wishing you a HAPPY, JULY 4TH!

Semper Fi,
Larry Samples
Commandant

**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:
July 24, 2023 @ 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>

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA
22 MAY 2023**

GUEST SPEAKER: Mike Rapp, “History of American Flag” - Great presentation!

OPENING CEREMONIES:

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS (ADJUTANT): 12 Officers Present – 1 Excused

X	Commandant	Larry Samples	X	Paymaster	Doug Forsythe
X	Sr. Vice Commandant	Chris Shaw	X	Sergeant at Arms	Ken Weaver
X	Jr. Vice Commandant	Rich Corbit Jr	X	Quartermaster	Chris Shaw
X	Jr. Past Commandant	Bonnie Shaw	X	Trustee	Emil Messikomer
X	Judge Advocate	Jim Copeland	X	Trustee	Fred LeClair
X	Chaplain (Substitute)	Rich Corbit Jr		Trustee	Pat Powell
X	Adjutant	Bonnie Shaw			

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS AND DIGNATARIES: District #1 Jr Vice Commandant Doug Forsyth, MOY Bonnie Shaw, & Associate MOY Dave Buckta. Mason Delpino (Guest) plays the Trumpet & Bugle.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: Richard B. Corbit, Jr. – Jr. Vice Commandant

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: N/A

- Balloting of applications for membership. Approved for Membership by the majority
- Ceremony of Initiation.
- Introduction of new members

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Newsletter):

- Motion to accept the minutes, subject to corrections. Motion, Dan Condron
- Second. Brian Brody
- Motion passed, subject to corrections.

CORRESPONDENCE:

REPORT OF PAYMASTER (Forsythe):

- Motion to accept Paymaster’s Report, subject to audit. Motion, Brian Brody
- Second. Chris Shaw
- Motion passed subject to audit.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS (Chaplin):

- Report of any members or member’s family sick and in distress. Martha Myers was in the hospital and ER but she is on the mend. Prayers for Chris Eric’s (Stage 3 Cancer) last Friday. “Van” Van Gorder is wheeling around in his scooter, having surgery on his back soon.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

- Commandant (Larry Samples) – Honor Flight in September. Namesake Cpl Brandon Hardy honors at his graveside with a Dress Blues Color Guard and a wreath laying. Walmart fundraiser was well staffed and raised almost \$800 (average \$120/hr). See Doug to sign up for Walmart.
- Senior Vice Commandant (Chris Shaw) - \$129 sales for Ship Store. Old Polos on Sale \$10. Nametags Available.
- Junior Vice Commandant (Rich Corbet) – No Report

Junior Past Commandant (Bonnie Shaw) – No

- Judge Advocate (Jim Copeland) – Bylaws will be signed then Submitted.
- Sgt. at Arms (Ken Weaver) – Memorial for Brandon Hardy wreath Vicky Robinson, Phillips Florist in Oxford donated. Steve Annan remarked that he took a bunch of pictures and gave them on a CD to Dave Buckta (Newsletter Editor). 27 Member Present, 2 Guests.
- Quartermaster (Chris Shaw)
- Trustee (Fred LeClair) – No Report
- Trustee (Emil Messikomer) – No Report
- Trustee (Pat Powell) - Excused

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- Bingo (Jim Copeland/Leo Burke) – Pausing Bingo for the Summer. Resuming September 16th.
- Flag Retirement (Leo Burke) – Monday 15 May.
- Flag Placements at Cemeteries (Dan Condron) – Marshallton Cemetery Flag Placement Volunteers Wed. May 24 @1000 (521 Northbrook Rd, Marshallton PA
- Rifle/Pistol (Dennis Brown/Mike Rapp) June 25th Pistol (Kimberton) 0900, July 9th Rifle (Uncle Bobbies) muster Planet Fitness Parkersburg 0900
- By-Laws Update (Jim Copeland/Bonnie Shaw) Being submitted after signature.
- Budget Committee (Doug Forsythe/Phil Sears) – Phil Sears: met and discussed a budget for the next physical year.
- Building Maintenance (Ken Weaver/Emil Messikomer) – additional light fixtures have been approved and will be installed as time permits. AC service being scheduled.
- Fundraisers (Emil Messikomer): (Don Ascolese) 5 Guys Burgers willing to do a fundraiser. Walmart/Lowes in Morgantown willing to do fundraisers. \$120/hr rate of income
- South East Veterans Center: Color Guard was performed for the Memorial Day period.
- Memorial Day Sunday 5/28 – Samuel Nicholas 1100 in 4th and Arch Friends Meeting House Cemetery
- Memorial Day Activities (Bonnie Shaw): 0800 Northwood Cemetery, 0900 St. Joes Cemetery, 1000 Downingtown Parade Start (Muster @ Beaver Creek 0930) Ceremony Start 1100
- Duck Race 7/04 (See Jerry Myers for tickets)
- Golf Outing (08/28/23): (Jerry Myers/Don Ascolese) Don: 100 Contacts, 30% committed donations \$5000 raised in donations/gifts. Need more Golfers.
- Chicken BBQ (10/14): (Doug Forsythe)
- MC Birthday Activities (11/10/23):
 - Samuel Nicholas Ceremony
 - Philadelphia Events
- MC Birthday Ball (11/18): Whitford Country Club

UNFINISHED BUISNESS:

- Defibrillator, CPR Training (Joe Rubin) hung on the wall with the First Aid Kit behind the reception desk. Classes Scheduled June 4th & 18th. Only one session necessary.
- By-Laws (Jim Copeland, Bonnie Shaw)

NEW BUSINESS:

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Col. Philip Ash: Change of Command Ceremony 06/30/23; (Bonnie Shaw)
- May 5th Mid-Shipment visited the detachment awarded them before their commission before leaving Villanova.
- Dept Convention June 1-4 in Monroeville PA
- Birthday of Kathy VanGorder 83 years young. Cake available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Lionville Middle School Memorial Day Ceremonies: 5/25 at 0810
 - Flag Raising, Wreath Laying, & Bugler
- Major Samuel Nicholas Ceremony – Philadelphia 05/28, Muster at 0930 at Detachment
- Marshallton Parade 05/28; 1300
- Memorial Day Activities 05/29:
 - Color Guard & Rifle Ceremonies: Northwood (0800) & St. Joseph's (0900)
 - Memorial Day Parade 1000; Muster at Beaver Creek Elementary
 - Memorial Day Ceremonies 1100 Kerr Park
- Staff Meeting 06/08 at 1900
- General Membership Meeting 06/26 at 1900 (Potluck at 1800); Dave Buckta Roast

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Next Meeting: 26 June 2023 @1900

EVENT: Detachment Bingo

DATE: Summer Vacation

PURPOSE: Bingo paused for the summer.

NOTICE: Bingo operations will be paused during the summer months and resume September 16

SUBMITTED BY: Leo Burke (0 hours)

EVENT: Memorial Day Parade

DATE: May 29, 2023

LOCATION: Kerr Park, Downingtown, PA

MEMBERS: Jim Copeland, Dennis Brown, Bonnie Shaw, Chris Shaw, Doug Forsythe, Mike Rapp, Emil Messikomer Rich Corbitt, Jack Meighan, Dan Condron, Les Rouse (Grand Marshal), Kathy Van Gorder, Tom Logan, Larry Samples, Dave Buckta

Purpose: Remember the Fallen

SUBMITTED BY: Dave Buckta (15 hours)



EVENT: Brandon Hardy Memorial Service

DATE: May 24, 2023

LOCATION: Calvary Monument Bible Church Cemetery

PURPOSE: ROn 24 May 2023, the Cpl. Brandon Hardy, Chester County Detachment #286, participated in a memorial service for Cpl. Brandon Hardy, the Marine for whom our Detachment is named at the Calvary Monument Bible Church Cemetery. The ceremonial team consisted of Ken Weaver, Rob Eldridge, Chad Hardy, and Doug Forsythe pictured with Brandon's mother, Jill Hardy. (See Photos). Emil Messikomer and Larry Samples assisted the Hardy family with the wreath laying ceremony. Fred LeClair played taps. Other Detachment members attending were Peter Supplee, Bonnie Shaw, Steve Annan, Don Ascolese, as well as Brandon's parents, Jill and Warren Hardy, his sister and other members of the family. Several members' wives also attended.



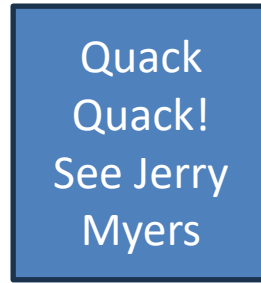
EVENT: Duck Race Tickets!!

DATE: Now through July 4, 2023

LOCATION: CC MCL Chestnut Street

PURPOSE: We have 300 tickets available. Please include the information in our next newsletter. The cost of each ticket is \$5.00. and there will be 100 chances to win a prize, for a minimum of \$25.00. The drawing will be held on July 4th. Please contact Jerry Myers for tickets by e-mail or in person. The Detachment will receive \$4.00 for each ticket sold. Our goal is to sell all 300 tickets . We will accept check or cash. Jerry will have tickets available at our regular meetings.

SUBMITTED Jerry Myers



EVENT: Walmart Fundraiser

DATE: June 11 & 17, 2023

LOCATION: Fundraising

PURPOSE: Dan Condron, Doug Forsythe, Emil Messikomer, Steve Annan and Larry Samples. 6/17 proceeds went to Devil Dogs, Pound 179 (Larry Samples, Fred LeClair and Jerry Myers (no pictures).

SUBMITTED: Larry Samples



EVENT: Richard Morrow Service (MCL Life Member)

DATE: June 16, 2023

LOCATION: CC MCL Chestnut Street

PURPOSE: Jim Donegan was at St. Peter & Paul Cemetery today as a member of the Marple Newtown Combined Veterans Alliance. We cover Military Honors for all cemeteries in Delaware County. He was also there as a member of Chester County MCL Detachment 286. People say Marines have friends in high places. We all sat in our cars with torrential rain, thunder, lightning and a tornado watch. As soon as the hurst pulled into the cemetery, it all stopped, and the sun came out. The Marine Corps sent three active-duty Marines. They folded the flag, presented the flag and played taps. Marple Newtown provided the rest of the military honors including a rifle salute. In dress blues, Jim offered the family condolences on behalf of all the Officers and Marines of the Chester County Detachment. Jim finished with a reading of the Final Orders.

SUBMITTED: Jim Donegan

EVENT: Marshallton Parade

DATE: May 28, 2023

PURPOSE: Color Guard members included Fred LeClair, Dan Condron, Emil Messikomer and Doug Forsythe who led the parade. Color Guard and Riflemen all participated in presenting the colors. Riflemen members included Dennis Brown, Larry Samples and Rich Corbitt who participated in the wreath laying ceremony at the United Methodist Church Cemetery next to the event.

SUBMITTED: Steve Annan



Membership Update

(Bob Strehl, Det. Membership Chair)
June 14, 2023

Presently there are 161 members in our Detachment. This includes; Life, Annual Dues Paying and Honorary members and I'm proud to report, all of whom are in "Good Standing".

I'd like to welcome Marines Glenn Lewiski (Chester Springs) and Taylor Shelby (Pottstown) as our newest members. Also, I would like to welcome Richard Corbitt Jr. as our newest life member. Please welcome Glenn & Taylor to our Det and the League and congratulate Richard in becoming a life member at your earliest opportunity.

Lastly, I pass along that life member Richard J. Morrow (West Chester) reported to the Supreme Commandant earlier this month on June 8th. Richard joined the League in October of 2006. Fair winds and following seas Marine, you will be missed. Semper Fi!

A listing of life members associated with our Detachment follows.

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

(M) Denotes member of "Multiple" Detachments (per National)



Bob is always fishing for new members

Now Hear This!

MCL National is Doubling the Life Membership Costs at the end of this Month

If you've ever considered investing in a Marine Corps Life Membership (MCL) this is the time to do so before your current dues expire and the MCL National cost increase takes effect at the end of June.

MCL memberships are available for a 'one time' cost based upon your age (proof of age is required. (e.g., copy of driver's license, birth certificate, DD 214, etc.) for members who pay dues annually who are in "good standing" (meaning you need to have paid your current year dues) are as follows:

Current Age	Cost Until June 30	Cost after July 1	Cost after Aug 31
85 and over	\$200	\$ 100	\$ 135
65-84	\$200	\$ 400	\$ 435
51-64	\$300	\$ 600	\$ 635
36-50	\$400	\$ 800	\$ 835
35 and below	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,035

Please note: Payment MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 30th!

Heads up for Dues paying members

If you don't feel this is the time for a life membership. Please note your current memberships will expire August 31, 2023. To avoid any interruption in your "good standing" in the League. I encourage you to get a jump on them by paying your dues now.

All you need to do, is send a check for \$35 payable to the Cpl. Brandon Hardy/Chester County Det. 286 and giving it to Doug Forsythe our paymaster at the next meeting or mailing it to:

Cpl. Brandon Hardy/ Chester County Detachment 286
Marine Corps League
PO Box 824
Downingtown, PA 19335.

If you have any questions related to Life Membership applications or your individual dues. Please contact Bob Strehl (Membership Chair) at (215) 421-2465, strehlr1@gmail.com or Doug Forsythe (Paymaster) at (610) 656-1389, dforsythe007@gmail.com

Volunteer Activity June 2023	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Larry Samples	4	24
Staff Meeting	Larry Samples	4	24
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	--	135
VA Bingo/ Popcorn/Picnic	Dan Condron	15	55
Honor Guard	Kerr/Marshallton /Cpl Hardy	22	49
Golf outing	Jerry Myers	8	28
Flag retirement	Leo Burke	2	32
Building maintenance/SAA	Emil Messikomer	6	36
Membership	Robert Strehl	4	24
Financial	Doug Forsythe	4	24
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	4	24
Fundraising (Walmart, Duck Race)	Larry Samples, Jerry Myers	26	51
Bran. Hardy Mem	Mike Rapp/Ken	12	20
Toys for Tots	Doug Forsythe		2
Total		111	498

Chester County Detachment Marine Corps League



The Chester County Detachment of the Marine Corps League continues to proudly serve our community. Your donation supports the following:

- Wounded Warriors
- Support for Active-Duty Personnel and Veterans
- Help for needy families
- Hometown heroes
- Youth programs and scholarships
- Community groups
- Toys for Tots, Salvation Army Food Drive
- Many, many more!

Please help us serve these worthy causes!

Call (610) 518-5375 to learn how you or your business can serve with us!

**Scan QR Code
to Donate Now!**



Visit our website at chestercountymcl.com

6/25/2023

CC MCL Newsletter

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