

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

www.chestercountymcl.com

CCMarineNews@Verizon.net

Volume XXIII, Issue 2



February 2024



Elected Officers (eff: 1/1/2023)

Commandant	Larry Samples
Sr. Vice	Chris Shaw
Junior Vice	Richard Corbit
Jr. Past Com	Bonnie Shaw
Judge Adv	Jim Copeland

Appointed Officers

Adjutant	Bonnie Shaw
Service Officer	Doug Forsythe
Paymaster	Doug Forsythe/Phil Sears
Chaplain	Phil Sear
Sgt. at Arms	Lawrence Garcia

A Message from the Commandant

We want to thank all of you who participated in the Oaks Gun Show on February 9-10-11, and the Shady Maple Fund Raiser on February 10. Both were great successes. There will be other opportunities coming up in the near future. Please step up and volunteer. We need your support.

One of our members, Thaddeus J. Atkin, Jr., recently passed away. The funeral was held on Thursday, February 22nd. Our detachment participated in the services.

Two of our members, Mike Rapp (Associate of the Year) and Chris Shaw (Senior Vice Commandant), are recuperating from their surgeries. Both are doing well but are still on "light duty".

This month, "Rosie the Riveter Day" is celebrated on March 21. It is to recognize the part American women played in America's victory in World War II. "The Medal of Honor Day" is celebrated on March 25. The Medal of Honor is the United States Armed Forces' highest military decoration and is awarded to recognize American soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, guardians and coast guardsmen who have distinguished themselves by acts of valor. "National Vietnam War Veterans Day" is celebrated on March 29, the day that the last of the troops were withdrawn in 1973.

"A ship without Marines is like a garment without buttons." Admiral David D. Porter, USN

March Calendar:

3/2 & 3/16: Bingo, 1700

3/9: MODD Growl, 1400

3/9-3/10: Morgantown Gun Show

3/10: Daylight Savings Time Begins

3/14: Executive Board Meeting, 1800

3/15-3/16: MCL-PA Department Spring Meetings
(Indiantown Gap)

3/25: General Membership Meeting: 1900
(Potluck 1800)

3/29: National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Semper Fi,

Larry Samples, Commandant

The Title

*It cannot be inherited
Nor can it be purchased at any price.*

*You and no one alive
Can buy it for any price.*

*It is impossible to rent
And it cannot be lent.*

*You alone and our own
Have earned it*

With your sweat, blood, and lives.

You own it forever

The Title

"United States Marine"

**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:
March 25, 2024 @ 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.

Winter Uniform

Winter uniform is in effect as follows:

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

Marine Corps League Uniforms available online:

<https://www.mclnational.org/store.html>

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA
22 JANUARY 2024**

Opened: 1901

OPENING CEREMONIES:

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS (ADJUTANT): 13 Present – 1 Excused

X	Commandant	Larry Samples	X	Paymaster	Doug Forsythe
X	Sr. Vice Commandant	Chris Shaw	X	Sergeant at Arms	Lawrence Garcia
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	Bob Whetstone
X	Chaplain	Phil Sears		Trustee	Pat Powell
X	Adjutant	Bonnie Shaw	X	Trustee	Joe Rubin

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: First District Vice Commandant Dennis Brown sworn in the above slate of Officers.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS AND DIGNATARIES: First District Vice Commandant Dennis Brown, Assistant Bonnie Shaw and Aide-de-Camp Chris Shaw

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: None

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Newsletter):

- Motion to accept the minutes, subject to corrections. Rich Corbit Jr.
- Second. All those in favor, say aye. Joe Rubin
- Motion passed, subject to corrections.

CORRESPONDENCE: Letter from the VA for our assistance with Coffee & Donuts at the West Norriton CBOC, Pretzels, Fundraising and Bingo.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER (Forsythe):

- Motion to accept Paymaster's Report, subject to audit. Jim Copeland
- Second. All those in favor, say aye. Joe Rubin
- Motion passed subject to audit.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS (Chaplin):

- Report of any members or member's family sick and in distress. Mike Rapp had his open-heart surgery to replace is valve. Recovering well. Tom Logan should be discharged from the Rehabilitation Center Saturday. Brian Brody is not well and could not make it to the video call this evening.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

- Commandant (Larry Samples)
- Senior Vice/Quartermaster (Chris Shaw): Challenge Coins are in the Safe Room. For Sale for \$10 each.
- Junior Vice (Rich Corbit): No report
- Junior Past Commandant/Adjutant (Bonnie Shaw): No report
- Judge Advocate (Jim Copeland): No report
- Sgt. at Arms (Lawrence Garcia): No report
- Trustee (Emil Messikomer): We Need Volunteers! Gun Shows and Fundraisers. If we don't get more members participating and younger people joining the detachment, this detachment will cease to exist in 5 years.
- Trustee (Pat Powell): Absent

- Trustee (Joe Rubin):
- Trustee (Bob Whetstone):

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- Rifle/Pistol (Dennis Brown): 1st Marksmanship meeting was yesterday 21 January. 1400, 25 February is the next indoor snap-in meeting.
- Bingo: January Bingos were cancelled due to weather.
- Rifle Raffle: Tickets available
- Golf (Don Ascolese): A few certificates remain. Ron Bannisters email sent to Don Ascolese.
- Fund Raisers:
 - Shady Maple: 2/10, 0800-1600
 - Oaks Gun Show:
 - Friday 2/9: 1300-1900
 - Saturday 2/10: 0900-1700
 - Sunday 2/11: 0900-1600
 - Walmart Parkesburg: 5/11, 1000-1700

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: West Chester University Foundation \$5K donation will be conducted in January and June of each year for 5 years per the contract that Doug Forsythe and Emil Messikomer signed with WCUF. This is strictly contingent on our ability to pay over that period. This will be through a pledge card in the hopes that we can cover that pledge, but no obligation if we cannot. Further discussion was had with Lawrence Garcia and Rhino about how the scholarship will be used. We do not want to reduce the GI Bill contribution, so we will talk to the foundation.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Installation of Officers: Completed by First District Vice Commandant Dennis Brown

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE: WaWa will not allow fundraising, but we filled out a grant and are awaiting word on a \$2500. Don Ascolese spoke up about the needing more attendance and participation. Steve Annan spoke up about the budget needing to be published in the newsletter so that those that receive it will see what we need to do with those fundraisings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Bingo: 2/3 & 2/17
- Executive Board Meeting: 02/08, 1800
- Toy 4 Tots: Great year and over 16K children were served.
- Oaks Gun Show: 2/9-2/11
- Shady Maple Fund Raiser: 2/10. 0800-1600
- District #1 Meeting at Upper Darby Detachment, 2/18. 1400
- General Membership Meeting: 02/26, 1900 (Potluck 1800)
- MODD Growl: 03/09, 1400

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Next Meeting: 26 February 2024 @ 1900

EVENT: Ceiling Tile Replacement
DATE: Feb 20, 2024
PURPOSE: Thank you, Joe & Emil.
Four hours of replacing 3.5 bundles soiled tiles.
SUBMITTED BY: Doug Forsythe



EVENT: Flag
DATE: Jan 26, 2024
PURPOSE: Authentic flag flown over the
Tomb of the 1000 Unknowns at
Washington Square Park Phila. PA
SUBMITTED BY: Doug Forsythe



EVENT: Sweetheart Lunch
DATE: Feb 14, 2024
PURPOSE: On Wednesday February 14th,
the Coatesville V.A., Community Living Center,
held their annual Sweethearts Luncheon,
sponsored by the Knights of Columbus,
for the Residents and their Wives or Husbands.
Dan Condron was a Server, and
Detachment Members,
Cathy VanGorder and Husband, Elmer(Van),
were one of the couples.
SUBMITTED BY: Dan Condron



EVENT: VA Bingo

DATE: Feb 2024

PURPOSE: Bingo was held at the VA. Leo Burke, Dan Condron and Jim Copeland

EVENT: Detachment Bingo

DATE: Feb 3 & 17, 2024

MEMBERS: Bingo resumed after the January snow cancellations. Jim Copeland, Leo Burke, Steve Annan, Polly and Patti, Don Ascole, and Ruth provided logistical support and Bonnie and Chris Shaw, Dennis and Joanne Brown ran culinary operations.

EVENT: Casket Watch

DATE: Feb 22, 2024

PURPOSE: A casket watch was held for Thadeus Adkin, USMC and MCL member. Larry Samples, Emil M, Steve A, Leo Burke, and Jim Copeland.

EVENT: Camp Shady Maple Fundraiser

DATE: Feb 10, 2024

PURPOSE: Here are a couple of pics from the fund raiser we had at Shady Maple Farm Market in East Earl on 2/10. Participants were Joe Rubin, Emil Messikomer, Jim Copeland, Leo Burke and Larry Samples. Great fund raiser and many great people!

SUBMITTED BY: Larry Samples, Joe Rubin, and Doug Forsythe



EVENT: Detachment Officer Installation

DATE: Jan 22, 2024

PURPOSE: Brandon Hardy/Chester County Marine Corps League Detachment 286 held its 2024 officer installation Refer to the minutes for participant names and offices

SUBMITTED BY: Yonas Reinholdson



Membership Update

January 5, 2024

Happy New Years to all! As we head into 2024, we have 174 members in our Detachment. This includes Life, Multiple Detachment, Annual Dues Paying and Honorary members.

I'd like to recognize William Belanger (Cochranville) as our newest Detachment members. Please welcome aboard and congratulate Bill at your earliest opportunity.

Current Detachment Life Members

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

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

If you're in good standing and interested in becoming a Life Member, please contact Bob Strehl (Det. Membership Chair) at (215) 421-2465, strehlrl@gmail.com or Doug Forsythe (Dey. Paymaster) at (610) 656-1389, dforsythe007@gmail.com

Volunteer Activity February 2024	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Larry Samples	4	8
Staff Meeting	Larry Samples	4	8
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	30	30
VA Bingo/ Popcorn/Picnic	Dan Condron	6	6
Honor Guard	Doug Forsythe	6	10
Golf outing	Bonnie Shaw		
Flag retirement	Leo Burke		
Building maintenance/SAA	Emil Messikomer	4	6
Membership	Robert Strehl	3	6
Financial	Doug Forsythe	3	6
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	3	6
Fundraising	Larry Samples	24	24
Bran. Hardy Mem	Mike Rapp/Ken	-	
Toys for Tots	Doug Forsythe		
Total		87	110



**\$1800
Value**

RIFLE RAFFLE

To Assist the Chester County Detachment of the Marine Corps League to carry out their mission to serve Veterans, their Families and the Community.

DEADLINE to Purchase: 24 March 2024

DRAWING: 25 March 2024

- Must be able to Pass a Background Check.
- If you do not pass the background check another winner will be selected
- Must be a PA Resident to Win the Rifle, but will be eligible for Cash Prizes.

Payment QR Code



GOOD LUCK!

(Need Not be Present to Win—Notified With 24 Hours)