

# 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](http://www.chestercountymcl.com)

[CCMarineNews@Verizon.net](mailto:CCMarineNews@Verizon.net)

Volume XXIII, Issue 10



## October 2024



### A Message from the Commandant

Greetings and well wishes from "The Bounty of Chester County"!

The Detachment held our Flag Retirement Ceremony on 10/12. A whole bunch of flags were formally retired. Our many thanks of Joe Rubin and his crew; Doug Forsythe, Dennis Brown, Chris Shaw, Steve Annan and myself. Great job, Marines!

Our annual Chicken BBQ was held on 10/12. It was voted the "Best Chicken BBQ" in Chester County . . . by our Detachment. Our thanks to Doug Forsythe and his crew. They all had a good time. Doug ate most of the potatoes, however.

Our fund raiser at Walmart in Parkesburg on 10/12, was another success. Participants were Joe Rubin, Jack Meighan and myself

Our Detachment participated in the Oaks Gun Show held on Oct. 18-20. Rifle Raffle Tickets were sold and donations were made by several attendees. Our thanks to Pat Powell, Ken Plummer, Dave Hetrick, Jim Copeland, Doug Forsythe, Bonnie Shaw, Chris Shaw and myself. This is one, great show!

November 10<sup>th</sup> is our Marine Corps Birthday! We bus ride to Philadelphia; there is the Flag Raising at Independence Hall, a Ceremony at Washington Square at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Samuel Nicholas (Father of the Marine Corps) Ceremony, and other events.

The ground breaking for Tun Tavern at 19 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. is also scheduled on Nov. 10th at 1000. A block party follows from 1100-1800. There also will be live music, birthday celebration, food and beverage tents and more.

Our Marine Corps Ball is scheduled on Saturday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> at the Whitford County Club Cost is \$70 per person, Please sign up with Doug Forsythe or Bonnie Shaw and plan to attend.

"Time is what keeps everyt hing from happening at once." Roy Cummings, American Writer

#### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

11/02; Bingo, 1700

11/03: Marine Sunday, Oaklands Cemetery in West Chester (Doug Forsythe) Time TBD

11/07: Golf Committee Meeting, 1800

11/10: USMC Birthday and Philadelphia Activities.

11/10: Tun Tavern Ground Breaking, 1000

11/10: Veterans' Day Parade in West Chester

11/11: Veterans' Day

11/11: Mission BBQ in King of Prussia, Color Guard 11:15 (Doug Forsythe) Muster at TBD

11/12: Coffee Cup Veterans' Breakfast in Downingtown, 0700

11/13: SEVC Awards, 1400 (Doug Forsythe)

11/14: Executive Board Meeting, 1800

11/15: MC Ball Rehearsal, Whitford Country Club, 1800

11/16: Marine Corps Ball, Whitford Country Club, 1700-2200

11/25: General Membership Meeting 1900 (Potluck 1800)

Semper Fi

Larry Samples, Commandant

**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:  
November 28, 2024 @  
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.

**Winter Uniform**

Winter uniform is in effect as follows:

- Red Cover
- Long Sleeve White Shirt with 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>

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, DET. 286**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA**  
**23 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**OPENING CEREMONIES:**

**Opening: 1900**

**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	E	Trustee	Emil Messikomer
X	Judge Advocate	Jim Copeland	X	Trustee	Bob Whetstone
X	Chaplain	Phil Sears	X	Trustee	Pat Powell
X	Adjutant	Bonnie Shaw	X	Trustee	Open

**ACKNOWLEDMENT OF GUESTS AND DIGNATARIES:** District 1 Vice Commandant Dennis Brown and his Aide de Camp Joanne Brown. District 2 Vice Commandant Gene Irvin and Assistant Sue Irvin. Delaware Dept Commandant Rich Corbit Jr. Chris and Bonnie Shaw Kennel Operations Dogs

**APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:** **None**

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Newsletter):**

- Motion to accept the minutes, subject to corrections. **Rich Corbit jr.**
- Second. **Doug Forsythe**
- All those in favor, say “aye”.
- Motion passed, subject to corrections.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** **Three letters of appreciation from the Coatesville VA for donations.**

**REPORT OF PAYMASTER (Forsythe):**

- Motion to accept Paymaster’s Report, subject to audit. **Jim Copeland**
- Second. **Chris Shaw**
- All those in favor, say “aye”.
- Motion passed, subject to audit.

**SICKNESS AND DISTRESS (Phil Sears):**

- Report of any members or member’s family sick and in distress. **Emil is improving after his surgery, but he is back home. Ken asked for a card to be sent to his friend in Hickory House. John Taylor is recovering from Brain Surgery.**

**REPORT OF OFFICERS:**

- Commandant (Larry Samples) **The PA Senate sent us a citation to mark the 50th anniversary of the Detachment.**
- Senior Vice/Quartermaster (Chris Shaw) **Many activities coming up. We need many volunteers. \$187 received from sales at the Golf Outing.**
- Junior Vice (Rich Corbit) **250 Celebration update: Sep 3<sup>rd</sup> Zoom Meeting. Navy/Marines will celebrate their 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Philadelphia together. Many events are planned. Tours of facilities and ships will be available. Salute to service Parade. Service Bands at Independence Hall. Celebrations on the Philly and Camden sides of the Delaware. 100<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Ball will be celebrated in the same location as in 1925, but John A. Lejeune. [www.homecoming250.org](http://www.homecoming250.org).**
- Judge Advocate (Jim Copeland) **NR**

- Junior Past Commandant/Adjutant (Bonnie Shaw) – Raffle Ticket Sales Begin – Scouting Code of Honor Ceremony (Sam Corcoran)
- Sgt. at Arms (Lawrence Garcia) NR
- Trustee (Emil Messikomer)
- Trustee (Pat Powell) NR
- Trustee (OPEN)
- Trustee (Bob Whetstone) NR
- District #1 Vice (Dennis Brown) Delaware County Det having their Pig Roast on October 5<sup>th</sup> (12-5pm)

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- Golf Outing 2025: We need a new chairperson to step-up
- Membership: We need a new chairperson to step-up
- Rifle/Pistol (Dennis Brown, Mike Rapp) 27 October next shoot. Meet at Mike's as always.
- Marine Corps Birthday (11/10) – Philadelphia Channel 29 Fox will be present.
  - Hershey Mills Bus departs at 0630; \$35 pp
  - Flag Raisings 0800
  - Samuel Nicholas Ceremony 0930
  - Other events TBD
- Bingo (Jim Copeland) 28 players \$358 revenue
- Building Maintenance (Doug Forsythe, Emil Messikomer) Kitchen Sink Sprayer installed
- Marine Corps Ball 11/16, (Bob Whetstone); Speaker George Roach; \$70 pp Bob meeting with Jacqueline in October
- Fund Raisers:
  - Walmart Parkesburg: 10/12, need volunteers!
  - Chicken BBQ: 10/12 (Doug Forsythe, Bonnie Shaw); \$15
  - Raffle Ticket Sales (Bonnie Shaw); tickets on sale Sept.-Apr
  - Oaks Gun Show 10/18-10/20; Need volunteers!
- October 2<sup>nd</sup> Flag Retirement? May have to be postponed.
- Other Committee Reports

#### UNFINISHED BUISNESS:

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:** October 20<sup>th</sup> Beirut Memorial 1000. Need Food donations ongoing for the Food Pantry at the VA.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 09/28: MODD Growl, 1400
- 10/02: Flag Retirement Ceremony, Muster at 1000 at Detachment (Leo Burke, Joe Rubin)
- 10/05: Bingo, 1700
- 10/10: Executive Board Meeting, 0800 (Thursday)
- 10/12: Chicken BBQ, 0800-1700
- 10/12: Walmart Parkesburg Fund Raiser, 0800-1600
- 10/19: Bingo, 1700
- 10/18-10/20: Oaks Gun Show
- 10/20: Beirut Memorial Ceremony: Color Guard 1000; muster at 0845 at detachment
- 10/26: Veterans Expo: Philadelphia Expo Center, 1000-1400, (Bonnie Shaw)
- 10/27/2024

10/28: General Membership Meeting, 1900 (Potluck 1800)

**CLOSING CEREMONIES:**

**Adjournment: 1942**

**Next Meeting 28 November 2024 @ 1900**

**EVENT:** Detachment Bingo

**DATE:** Oct 5 & 19, 2024

**MEMBERS:** Jim Copeland, Leo Burke, Steve Annan, Polly and Patti, Don Ascole, Ruth, and Bonnie and Chris Shaw. Doug Forsythe, Dennis and Joanne Brown ran culinary operations.

**EVENT:** Flag Retirement

**DATE:** Oct 2, 2024

- Flag Retirement Ceremony, completed as planned and scheduled.
- Next Flag Retirement Ceremony scheduled for Wednesday, December 18th.
- Special thanks to:
- Larry, Dennis, Chris, Steve, Doug, and Dale (WCFD).
- Joe Rubin (OIC)

**EVENT:** Color Guard

**DATE:** Sept 11, 2024  
Mission BBQ



**EVENT:** Walmart Fundraiser. Parkesburg, PA

**DATE:** Oct 12, 2024



*Congratulations!*

**Mr. Douglas Forsythe** has been recertified to serve as the DAV VAVS Representative for another two-year term at the Coatesville VA Medical Center. Congratulations Doug!!!

**EVENT:** Oaks Gun Show

**DATE:** Oct 18-20, 2024

Oak, PA Raffle Ticket Sales



# Membership Update

October 12, 2024

Currently, we have 170 members listed on our Detachment roster. This includes Life, Multiple Detachment, Annual Dues Paying and Honorary members. 149 are in "good standing" as 2024 dues expired on September 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are one of the 21 members whose dues have expired and desire to maintain your memberships and remain in "good standing" with the League and Detachment, please send a check for \$37 payable to the Detachment at:

CPL Brandon Hardy/Chester County Det 286  
PO Box 828  
Downingtown, PA 19335

You can also pay Doug Forsythe (Detachment Paymaster) during the next meeting. If you have any questions regarding your membership status or may be experiencing a hardship which is affecting your renewal. Please contact Bob Strehl (Membership Chair) at (215) 421-2465, [strehlrl@gmail.com](mailto:strehlrl@gmail.com) or Doug Forsythe (Pay Paymaster) at (610) 656-1389, [dforsythe007@gmail.com](mailto:dforsythe007@gmail.com)

## Current Detachment Life Members

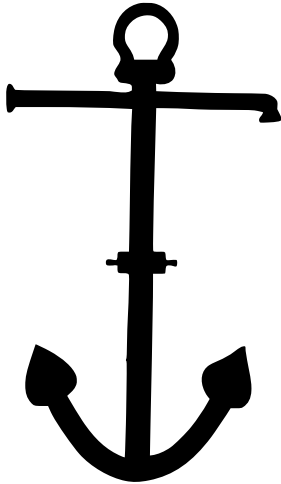
John Abitabilo	Rogers C. Flanigan	Jim McIlhenney	Chris Shaw
Stephan Annan	Gary N. Fay	Charles G. McMahon	Raymond E. Sheldon
Cheryl Armstrong	Daniel V. Fitzpatrick Jr.	Emil Messikomer	William F. Shields
Tony C Armstrong	Douglas R. Forsythe	David B Messinger	Walter W. Simcox, Jr.
Lee C. Beyer	Eric Fussenegger (M)	Dave Mundy	Andrew Smyles
Brian L Brody	Lawrence Garcia	Phillip Murray	James G. Snyder
Dennis Brown	Jamie W. Goncharoff	Jerry D. Myers	Bob Spano (M)
Shaun Brown	Donald Goodwin	Louis Stephen "Lou" Netta	William E Stellfox
Daniel W. Bullock III	Bob Gross	John F. O'Brien	Robert G. Stone
Leo Burke	Louis Guernsey Jr MD	George R Partridge Jr	Robert L. "Bob" Strehl
Gerard (Jed) F. Burns	Michael Guyer	Mark A. Peterson	Ryan Strehl
Thomas Cain	David Hetrick	Micheal Pollock	Peter R. Supplee
John J. Ceschan	John E. Hinckley	Patrick B. Powell	Steven W. Talley
Daniel J. Condron	Mark Holton	Michael Rapp	Tom Tanner
James Copeland	Eugene Irving Jr. (M)	Jack Ribble	William H. Tomlinson
Richard Corbit Jr.	Leif Jacobsen	John M Ross	Kathy A. Van Gorder
William J. Corcoran	Steven Jackson	Les Rouse (M)	Elmer S. "Van" Van Gorder
Kay M. Croll	Joseph J. Kay	Joe Rubin	Robert D Wagner III
Henry A. "Hank" Detering	Walter Kutz	Patrick Rundel	Mark A. Wahn
John DiMatteo	Fred LeClair	Robert Saenz Jr.	Dennis P. Walsh
Gerry DiNunzio	Glenn Lewiski	Larry L Samples	Kenneth Weaver
Dominic DiSciullo	Bill Mackey	Jeff Sanders	Charles T. Wertz Jr.
James Donegan	Michael B. Maginnis	Mario M. Scherl	Robert Whetstone
Robert F. Donovan	George March	Kenneth Schweitzer	William E. Woodward
Robert L. Dormer	James Mazzone (M)	Phil Sears	James Yocum
Joseph E. Dulin Jr.	Mike McCarty	Bonnie Shaw	Allen Yusko
Craig S. Evans	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 (Membership Chair) at (215) 421-2465, [strehlrl@gmail.com](mailto:strehlrl@gmail.com) or Doug Forsythe (Pay Paymaster) at (610) 656-1389, [dforsythe007@gmail.com](mailto:dforsythe007@gmail.com)

**EVENT:** Navy Birthday

**DATE:** Oct 13, 2024  
Serving and celebrating the Navy's Birthday at West Norriton CBOC with our veterans.



**A Soldier's Whisper** @S... · 7h ·  
Wondering if a 20 year old kid today could handle what the 20 year old did back in nam.

Thank you for your service



558 926 4.8K 51.3K

<b><u>Elected Officers:</u></b>	
Commandant	Larry Samples
Sr. Vice Commandant	Chris Shaw
Jr. Vice Commandant	Rich Corbit Jr
Past Commandant	Bonnie Shaw
Judge Advocate	Jim Copeland
Trustees:	Emil Messikomer
	Pat Powell
	Fred LaClair
	Joe Rubin
<b><u>Appointed Officers:</u></b>	
Adjutant	Bonnie Shaw
Service Officer	Doug Forsythe
Paymaster	Doug Forsythe
Chaplain	Phil Sears
Sgt. At Arms	Larry Garcia
<b><u>Standing Committees:</u></b>	
Americanism	Dan Condron
Audit	Trustees
Budget/Finance	Larry Samples
Building Maintenance	Leo Burke
By Laws	Jim Copland
Color Guard	Doug Forsythe
Det. By Laws	Jim Copeland
Det. Donations	Doug Forsythe
Eagle Scouts	Larry Samples
Flag Retirement	Leo Burke
Investment	<b>Open</b>
IT Sgt/Newsletter	Dave Buckta
Marksmanship	Dennis Brown
Medal of Honor Cemetery	Doug Forsythe
Membership	Bob Strehl
Memorial Day	Jim Copeland
Nominating	<b>Open</b>
Quartermaster (Ships Store)	Chris Shaw
Scholarships	Phil Murray
VAVS	Dan Condron
<b><u>Special Events:</u></b>	
Bingo	Jim Copeland
Chicken BBQ	Doug Forsythe
Fund Raising	<b>Open</b>
Golf Classic	Doug Forsythe
Marine Corps Ball	Bonnie Shaw
Marine of the Year	Chris Shaw
Rifle Raffle	Bonnie Shaw
Toys for Tots	Lee Byer



Volunteer Activity October 2024	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Larry Samples	6	36
Staff Meeting	Larry Samples	6	36
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	60	237
VA Bingo/ Popcorn/Picnic	Dan Condron	3	39
Honor Guard	Doug Forsythe	12	76
Golf outing	Don Ascolese Bonnie Shaw		105
Flag retirement	Joe Rubin/Leo Burke	16	32
Building maintenance/SAA	Emil Messikomer	4	36
Membership	Robert Strehl	3	24
Financial	Doug Forsythe	4	26
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	3	24
Fundraising	Larry Samples	32	108
Bran. Hardy Mem	Mike Rapp		15
Toys for Tots	Doug Forsythe		
<b>Total</b>		149	794