

The Chester County Marine

Cpl Brandon Hardy, Chester County Detachment #286

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Commandant Larry Samples

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CCMarineNews@Verizon.net

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November 2024



A Message from the Commandant

AHOY! November was a very active month for our Detachment!

The Smedley Butler Detachment and our Detachment had the Memorial Sunday Ceremony on 11/3, at Oakland's Cemetery in West Chester at the grave site of Smedley Butler and others.

Several members celebrated The Marine Corps Birthday activities on 11/10, in Philadelphia; Flag Raising at Independences Hall, the Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Washington Square, the Samuel Nicholas Memorial at Friends Meeting House, and the Tun Tavern Ground Breaking Ceremonies and Block Party.

Our Detachment provided the Color Guard at Mission BBQ Veterans Day Ceremonies on 11/11.

Our 249th Marine Corps Birthday Ball was held on 11/16, at Whitford Country Club. Guest speaker was Air Force MSgt George Roach. Entertainment was provided by Silver Sounds DJ's. Our Junior Past Commandant/Adjutant was the Master of Ceremonies. The "Marine of the Year", Emil Messikomer, the "Associate Member of the Year", Phil Sears, and "Tom Tanner Award", Pat Powell were announced. Congratulations! We do "party" well!

Our 2025 Golf Outing is scheduled for September 15, 2025, at The Applecross Country Club. We are currently in the planning stages. If you would like to participate as a sponsor, golfer, or volunteer, please let us know. Your help would sincerely be appreciated.

We are saddened by the passing of Dan Fitzpatrick, our "famous bugler". Funeral Ceremonies are on November 22nd at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Coatesville. Viewing is at 0945-1045. Mass is at 1100. He will be laid to rest afterwards at All Souls Cemetery.

"Thanksgiving dinners take eighteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Half times take twelve minutes. This is not a coincidence." Erma Bombeck.

"If you think Independence Day is America's defining holiday, think again. Thanksgiving deserves that title, hands down." Tony Snow

Wishing you all a very "Happy Thanksgiving"!

Semper Fi,

Larry Samples - Commandant

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

12/07: Bingo, 1700

12/07: Mission BBQ Brunch, Toys for Tots (Chris Shaw)

12/07: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

12/08: Limoncello Chester Springs, Toys for Tots, 1200-1700, (Doug Forsyth)

12/14: MODD Growl, 1400

12/16: General Membership Meeting, 1900

12/18: Flag Retirement Ceremony, 1000 Muster (Joe Rubin)

12/20-22: Oaks Christmas Gun Show

12/21: Bingo, 1700

**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 16, 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 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
28 OCTOBER 2024**

Open: 1900

Bonnie Shaw gave us a presentation from the organization End Elder Finance Abuse ENDEFA.org

OPENING CEREMONIES: Dave Hetrick sworn in as Trustee.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS (ADJUTANT): 14 Officers Present (Full Compliment)

P	Commandant	Larry Samples	P	Paymaster	Doug Forsythe
P	Sr. Vice Commandant	Chris Shaw	P	Sergeant at Arms	Lawrence Garcia
P	Jr. Vice Commandant	Rich Corbit Jr.	P	Quartermaster	Chris Shaw
P	Jr. Past Commandant	Bonnie Shaw	P	Trustee	Emil Messikomer
P	Judge Advocate	Jim Copeland	P	Trustee	Bob Whetstone
P	Chaplain	Phil Sears	P	Trustee	Pat Powell
P	Adjutant	Bonnie Shaw	P	Trustee	Dave Hetrick

ACKNOWLEDMENT OF GUESTS AND DIGNATARIES: District 1 Vice Dennis Brown and Assistant Joanne Brown.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Newsletter): Correction: The Tun Tavern is called the TUN. We can't use the Tun Tavern Name due to copyright infringement.

- Motion to accept the minutes, subject to corrections. **Rich Corbit**
- Second to motion. **Steve Annan**
- All those in favor, say "aye".
- Motion passed, subject to corrections.

CORRESPONDENCE: VA appreciation letter. DAV donation and to us for the Flag Folding ceremony performed by Doug Forsythe and Yonas Reinholdson.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER (Forsythe): Report read by Doug and accepted.

- Motion to accept Paymaster's Report, subject to audit. **Jim Copeland**
- Second to motion. **Dave Hetrick**
- 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. **Prayers to Fred and Nancy LeClair for their recovery from the Hurricane. Leo Burke has an episode, but he is recovering. He hopes to be calling bingo this Saturday 11/3.**

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

- Commandant (Larry Samples) **March 24 – 31 Iwo Jima tour \$3600/pp with Military Historical Tours Inc.**
- Senior Vice/Quartermaster (Chris Shaw) **\$197 in box. Any MOY/AOY stay after for a meeting**
- Junior Vice (Rich Corbit) **NR**
- Judge Advocate (Jim Copeland) **NR**
- Junior Past Commandant/Adjutant (Bonnie Shaw) **Report prior to the meeting**
- Trustee (Pat Powell) **NR**
- Trustee (Emil Messikomer) **NR**

- Trustee (Bob Whetstone) NR
- Trustee (Dave Hetrick) NR
- District #1 Vice (Dennis Brown) under good of the league.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- Golf Outing 2025: (Jerry Myers) Venue for next year will be Applecross. Requires \$2500 deposit. First Monday in September (8th). Menu is Bears BBQ Buffet.
- Membership:
- Rifle/Pistol (Dennis Brown, Mike Rapp) 27 Oct – light turnout. Next 24 November meet Mike Rapps 0900.
- Marine Corps Birthday (11/10) – Philadelphia The bus trip, how many are signed up. 0630 bus leaves from Hershey Mills. Flag raising at 0800. Washington Park 0830. Samuel Nicholas at 0930. Then to the Groundbreaking at 1000. Tun block party 1100 to 1800. Flag swapped back at 1600.
- Veteran’s Day: Mission BBQ at 1115 with ceremony at 1200.
- Veteran’s Breakfast: 12 November 0700 to 1100.
- Bingo (Jim Copeland) \$450 with fewer players
- Building Maintenance (Doug Forsythe, Emil Messikomer) Drain in the parking lot has ashes dumped in it from the BBQ
- Marine Corps Ball 11/16, (Bob Whetstone); Speaker George Roach; \$70 pp (15 Nov Rehearsal 1800) Jacqueline has left Whitford Country Club so we are working with the director.
- Fund Raisers:
 - Raffle Ticket Sales (Bonnie Shaw); tickets on sale Sept.-Apr 250 tickets went to Mike Rapp. Gonna blast out a poster about the Ball.
- Other Committee Reports
- December Christmas Party, Nominations & Elections
- Toys for Tots: Kicked off 1 October. Limoncellos will have their collection this year again. Date TBD.

UNFINISHED BUISNESS: The Adjutant and Senior Vice Chris and Bonnie Shaw will not be present at the November General Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE: Dennis Brown: Dave Buckta received a Newsletter certificate and Bonnie Shaw received the 2nd Place Americanism Award. PLM due in December. ROI will be submitted in January. Old Cookies party is to be celebrated at the Tun Tavern Delaware County Detachment on 10 November.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS:

11/02: Re/Max Bowl-A-Thon. 1900-2000

11/02: Bingo, 1700

11/03: Marine Sunday, Oaklands Cemetery in West Chester (Doug Forsythe) Time 1000 muster at the cemetary

11/07: Golf Committee Meeting: 1800

11/10: USMC Birthday and Philadelphia Activities.

- Muster at Hershey Mills; Bus leaves at 0630, \$35 pp
- Flag Raising Ceremony at Independence Hall, 0800
- March to Washington Square (Tomb of Unknown Soldier), 0845
- Samuel Nicholas Ceremony, 0930
- Tun Tavern Ground Breaking Ceremony, 1000; Block Party 1100-1800
- Other Activities TBD
- Flag Lowering, 1600

11/10: Veterans' Day Parade in West Chester, 1400

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 CC, 1700-2200, Speaker George Roach (Bob Whetstone)

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

12/14: MODD Growl

12/18: Flag Retirement Ceremony, 1000 (Joe Rubin)

12/20-22: Oaks Gun Show

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Closed: 2027

Next Meeting 23 NOVEMBER 2024 @ 1900

EVENT: Color Guard

DATE: Sept 11, 2024

Mission BBQ

Rich Corbit, Doug Forsythe,
Bonnie Shaw, Chris, Shaw,
Dave Buckta



EVENT: Detachment Bingo

DATE: Nov 2 & 23, 2024

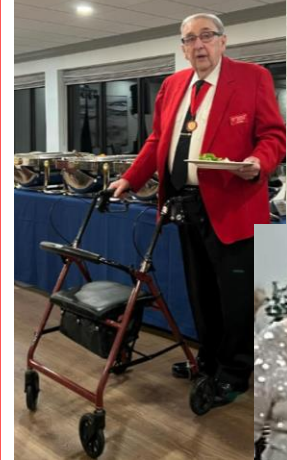
MEMBERS: Jim Copeland, Leo Burke, Steve Annan, Polly and Patti, Don Ascole, Ruth, and Bonnie and Chris Shaw. Doug Forsythe, Dennis and Joanne Brown ran culinary operations.

EVENT: 249th Marine Corps Birthday Ball.

DATE: Nov 16, 2024

LOCATION: Whitford Country Club

SUBJECT: Detachment members celebrated the Marines Corps birthday in style and with flair at the Whitford Country Club. Emil Messikomer was selected as the Marine of the Year and Phil Sears was selected as the Associate Member of the Year. Leo Burke was the oldest Marine while Yonas Reinholdson was the youngest Marine present.



Membership Update

Bob Strehl, Membership Chair

November 10, 2024

Happy 249th Birthday Marines and associate members! I trust you have or are celebrating the birth of our Corps in style. Earlier this month, Kathy and I had the opportunity to celebrate our birthday with our son, Ryan (an active-duty Marine), his wife and about 1,000 of our best friends at the Marine Forces Pacific's Ball in Honolulu. It was our 1st Ball together with him and we had a splendid evening. More importantly, I can report, based on the countless Marines I met there and during or visit, our Corps and the "Tip of the Spear" are in superb hands. Although, they all did look very young. I also, had the honor of meeting Sgt. Dakota Meyer USMC, Afghanistan Medal of Honor recipient, at the Ball.

It's with a heavy heart, I pass along life member Dan Fitzpatrick (East Fallowfield, PA) reported to the Supreme Commandant earlier this month on November 6th. Dan joined the Marine Corps League in September of 2015 and was an extremely active member. He served as the bugler during countless functions and funeral details. While on active-duty Dan was assigned to Marine Barrack's 8th & I, Washington DC as a member of the famed United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps "The Commandant's Own". Fair winds and following seas Marine, you will be missed. Semper Fi!

Currently, we have 168 members listed on our Detachment roster. This includes Life, Multiple Detachment, Annual Dues Paying and Honorary members. We do still have a few members who have not renewed their dues for the new year. If you've received a message on your phone or a possibly a letter from me of late and desire to maintain your memberships, benefits and "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 or Doug Forsythe (Pay Paymaster) at (610) 656-1389, dforsythe007@gmail.com

Current Detachment Life Members

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 or Doug Forsythe (Pay Paymaster) at (610) 656-1389, dforsythe007@gmail.com

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

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

<u>Elected Officers:</u>	
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
<u>Appointed Officers:</u>	
Adjutant	Bonnie Shaw
Service Officer	Doug Forsythe
Paymaster	Doug Forsythe
Chaplain	Phil Sears
Sgt. At Arms	Larry Garcia
<u>Standing Committees:</u>	
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	Open
IT Sgt/Newsletter	Dave Buckta
Marksmanship	Dennis Brown
Medal of Honor Cemetery	Doug Forsythe
Membership	Bob Strehl
Memorial Day	Jim Copeland
Nominating	Open
Quartermaster (Ships Store)	Chris Shaw
Scholarships	Phil Murray
VAVS	Dan Condron
<u>Special Events:</u>	
Bingo	Jim Copeland
Chicken BBQ	Doug Forsythe
Fund Raising	Open
Golf Classic	Doug Forsythe
Marine Corps Ball	Bonnie Shaw
Marine of the Year	Chris Shaw
Rifle Raffle	Bonnie Shaw
Toys for Tots	Lee Byer



"Our oath never expires!"
United States Marines



Volunteer Activity November 2024	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Larry Samples	6	42
Staff Meeting	Larry Samples	6	42
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	60	297
VA Bingo/ Popcorn/Picnic	Dan Condron	3	42
Honor Guard	Doug Forsythe	10	86
Golf outing	Bonnie Shaw	5	110
Flag retirement	Joe Rubin/Leo Burke		32
Building maintenance/SAA	Emil Messikomer	2	38
Membership	Robert Strehl	3	27
Financial	Doug Forsythe	4	30
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	3	27
Fundraising	Larry Samples		108
Bran. Hardy Mem	Mike Rapp		15
Toys for Tots	Doug Forsythe	5	5
Total		107	859