

The Chester County Marine

Cpl Brandon Hardy, Chester County Detachment #286

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Commandant Larry Samples

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Volume XXIV Issue 1



January 2025



Elected Officers (eff: 1/27/2025)

Commandant	Chris Shaw
Sr. Vice	Frank Marshall
Junior Vice	Ian Dugas
Jr. Past Com	Larry Samples
Judge Adv	Jim Copeland

Appointed Officers

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

A Message from the Commandant

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Here's wishing you a "GREAT ONE"!

The Oaks Gun Show held on Dec. 20-22, was another great success. Our participants were Yonas Reinholdson, Doug Forsythe, Emil Messikomer, Jim Copeland, myself, Ian Dugas, July Wiley, Bonnie Shaw, Chris Shaw and special thanks to Pat Powell and Mike Rapp.

"Toys for Tots" wrapped up. We thank Jeff Smith, Doug Forsythe and many others for making this a great success. Over 36,000 toys were donated in Chester and Montgomery Counties.

The "2025 Veterans Benefits Guide for Veterans, Dependents, Survivors, and Caregivers" handbook" is now available.

Our Detachment's Officers Installations for 2025 will be held at the January 27th General Membership Meeting. Elected and appointed officers are Chris Shaw (Commandant), Frank Marshall (Sr. Vice), Ian Dugas (Jr. Vice), Jim Copeland (Judge Advocate), Larry Samples (Jr. Past Commandant), Phil Sears (Chaplain), Bonnie Shaw (Adjutant), Doug Forsythe (Paymaster), Lawrence Garcia (Sergeant at Arms) and Trustees Pat Powell, Emil Messikomer, Bob Whetstone, and Dave Hetrick.

CONGRATULATIONS!

MCL-PA VA and Scholarship Tickets and our Rifle Raffle Tickets are available and will be sold at the January meeting. Get yours! Our Golf Outing on 9/15/25, needs your support. Pick up our golf brochure and promote the outing. Tell your friends.

In a recent USMC ad, "You don't join the Marines. You become one!"

To close, I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to serve as Commandant and been part of a great team for the last two years. I wish the Detachment, Chris Shaw, our new Commandant, and the officers the very best for the future. Thank you!

Semper Fidelis!

Larry Samples

Commandant

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Feb. 13: Executive Board Meeting, 1800
- Feb. 16: District One Meeting at Tun Tavern Delaware County Detachment, 1400.
- Feb. 24: General Membership Meeting, 1900 (Potluck at 1180)

**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:
February 24, 2025 @ 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
16 DECEMBER 2024**

OPENING CEREMONIES:

Opening: 1900

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

P	Commandant	Larry Samples
P	Sr. Vice Commandant	Chris Shaw
P	Jr. Vice Commandant	Rich Corbit Jr.
P	Jr. Past Commandant	Bonnie Shaw
P	Judge Advocate	Jim Copeland
P	Chaplain	Phil Sears
P	Adjutant	Bonnie Shaw

P	Paymaster	Doug Forsythe
P	Sergeant at Arms	Lawrence Garcia
P	Quartermaster	Chris Shaw
P	Trustee	Emil Messikomer
P	Trustee	Bob Whetstone
P	Trustee	Pat Powell
E	Trustee	Dave Hetrick

ACKNOWLEDMENT OF GUESTS AND DIGNATARIES: MOY'24 Chris Shaw, MOY'25 Emil Messikomer, AOY'24 Mike Rapp, AOY'25 Phil Sears, 1st District Vice Dennis Brown and his Aide De Camp Joanne Brown, and 2nd District Vice Gene Irvin and his Aide De Camp Sue Irvin.

UNFINISHED BUISNESS:

- Nominations for Officers (Bonnie Shaw)
- Elections: Elections were not necessary as there were no multiple candidates. The Adjutant cast one vote to accept the entire slate of officers and the approved by members. 2025 Slate of Officers is as follows:

Commandant: Chris Shaw	Adjutant: Bonnie Shaw
Senior Vice: Frank Marshall	Chaplain: Phil Sears
Junior Vice: Ian Dugas	Paymaster: Doug Forsythe
Judge Advocate: Jim Copeland	Sergeant at Arms: Lawrence Garcia
Junior Past Commandant: Larry Samples	Quartermaster: Chris Shaw
Trustee: Emil Messikomer	Trustee: Bob Whetstone
Trustee: Pat Powell	Trustee: Dave Hetrick

Installation of Officers will take place at the January 27 meeting. Awards from the outgoing Commandant Larry Samples will be announced after installation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS:

12/20-22: Oaks Gun Show Mike Guyer 4-7 Friday 20th; Jim Copeland, July Wiley, Saturday 21st; Chris and Bonnie, Sunday 22nd.

- Signup Sheet (Need Volunteers)

12/21 Bingo, 1700 **CANCELLED**

01/17-18: MCL-PA Meetings, Indiantown Gap

01/22: Flag Retirement Ceremony, 1000 (Joe Rubin)

01/27: General Membership Meeting: 1900 (Potluck 1800) **Installation/Awards**

02/16: District 1 Meeting @ Tun Tavern Delaware County Detachment 1400

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Next Meeting 27 January 2025

EVENT: Detachment Bingo

DATE: Dec 7, 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: Food donations to Lincoln's Promise Pantry

DATE: Dec 17, 2024

SUMMARY: The league collected Food during bingos, membership meetings and received financial donations. Food pantry serves any veteran in need of food and worried about food security. Veterans living in the community but also veterans who are homeless, living in hotels or who have newly moved into housing.

SUBMITTED BY: Steve Annan



GySgt Murphy @JRM5850... · 11h :
Does this bring back memories of the fun times.



214 119 821 16.1K



Buck Miller (1921-2018) · 12h :
Do you know why no one has ever met an average US Marine?

It's because there's absolutely nothing average about US Marines.

Semper Fi



23 70 309 2.5K

Volunteer Activity January 2025	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Larry Samples	4	4
Staff Meeting	Larry Samples	4	4
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	30	30
VA Bingo/ Popcorn/Picnic	Dan Condron		
Honor Guard	Doug Forsythe		
Golf outing	Bonnie Shaw	6	6
Flag retirement	Joe Rubin/Leo Burke		
Building maintenance/SAA	Emil Messikomer	6	6
Membership	Steve Annan	3	3
Financial	Doug Forsythe		
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	3	3
Fundraising	Larry Samples		
Bran. Hardy Mem	Mike Rapp		
Toys for Tots	Doug Forsythe	6	6
Total		62	62