

# 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 Chris Shaw

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

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

Volume XXIV Issue 2



## February 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

Members of the Detachment,

Thank you for your confidence in electing me as your Commandant. I will endeavor to do my duties to the best of my ability. We have a full year ahead of us and we will need assistance from as many members as possible. We will be having special events, fundraisers, and celebrations for the 250th Birthday of the Marine Corps at the Detachment and surrounding areas. Keep an eye on the newsletter and email traffic for more details on these events to come.

In the near future, we will need assistance with Bingos and Gun shows listed in this newsletter and meeting agendas. I've listed them below. Please contact the adjutant to be added to the list for an event.

**This day in history:** February 24th 1991 was the first day of the ground war during Operation Desert Storm, the first Gulf War. The coalition forces launched a major ground offensive, known as "Operation Desert Sabre," marking the start of the land campaign to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation, effectively beginning the ground war phase of the conflict; this offensive resulted in the rapid recapture of Kuwait City within a few days due to the overwhelming coalition forces against the Iraqi army.

I was with 3rd Tank BN, Task Force Ripper in Kuwait during this time. 24 Marines died in action or from wounds during Operation Desert Storm. 92 Marines were wounded during the operation. 14 of the Marine deaths were from friendly fire.

### March:

- 1- Bingo – The Shaw's will not be present so no Food Manager on site.
- 9 - Pound 179 Growl
- 13 - Staff Meeting @ 1800
- 14/15 - Dept Spring Meeting @ Ft Indiantown Gap HQ – Growl 1900 on 14th
- 15/16 - Morgantown Gun Show
- 15 - Bingo
- 24 - General Membership Meeting – Potluck @1800 – Meeting @1900

Semper Fi!  
Commandant Chris Shaw

**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:  
March 24, 2025 @ 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>

# Chester County Detachment Marine Corps League

## General Meeting Agenda

### 27 January 2025 @ 1900

Guest Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **OPENING CEREMONY: 1900**

Sgt-at-Arms to Post the Colors

Chaplain to lead in opening prayer

Presented Toy4Tots Chairperson with a Plaque for all he does for Toy4Tots.

Tim O'Hare was presented a check for \$500 from Remax Professionals for assistance as a veteran.

#### 1. Roll call of Officers: 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 (Sub)	Steve Annan
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
E	Trustee	Pat Powell
P	Trustee	Dave Hetrick

2. Acknowledge Dignitaries: District #1 Jr. Vice Commandant Dennis Brown, Asst. District #1 Jr. Vice Commandant, and Joanne Brown Aide de Camp.
3. Installation of New Officers
4. Applications for membership: NA
5. Ceremony of Initiation: NA
6. Introduction of new members and guests: NA

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Adjutant's Report: Acceptance of Minutes from the December Meeting
2. Correspondence: Many letters from the VA for donations over the Holiday Season
3. Paymaster's Report: Review and Acceptance  
Doug Forsythe read off the Paymaster's Report. Motion to Accept passes Subject to Audit.  
  
4. Chaplain's Report: Members Ailing & in Distress Report – Polly Ross broke her leg falling on the ice.
5. Report of the Officers: No Reports – Will resume in February due to Awards  
 Commandant:  
 Senior Vice Commandant:  
 Junior Vice Commandant:  
 Past Junior Vice Commandant:  
 Judge Advocate: Substituted by Steve Annan  
 Adjutant:

Paymaster:

Chaplain:

Sergeant-At-Arms:

Trustees:

## 1. Committee Reports

**Golf Outing (Sep 15th):** Jerry Myers & Committee Deadline for sponsors and registration is August 15<sup>th</sup>. NE Quadrant has been assigned to Mike Rapp and Phil Sears.

**Chicken BBQ (Oct 11<sup>th</sup>?):** Doug Forsythe/Bonnie Shaw

**Marine Corps Ball (TBD):** Bob Whetstone and Committee

**Rifle Meeting:** February 23<sup>rd</sup>

## Unfinished Business NA

## NEW BUSINESS

Trustees Audit of the Paymasters Report set for Wednesday Feb 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1800

## Good of the League

**16 Feb –** District Meeting at Tun Tavern Delaware County, meeting directly after the Breakfast.

Mid-Winter Conference 27 February to 1 March.

14-15<sup>th</sup> March PA Dept Spring Meeting

13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June – PA Dept Convention

PA Dept of State is changing the 5110 Form for Nonprofit Annual Report.

## Announcements: AWARDS!

- The Tom Tanner Award will be given to the recipient at his next attended meeting.
- Associate of the Year Phil Sears was given his engraved award and medallion.
- Marine of the Year Emil Messikomer was given his engraved award and medallion.
- Many Certificates of Appreciation and Distinguished Service Awards were given and received.
- Oaks Gun show in February. Need Volunteers 7-9 of February.

## NOTES

- Gina Cybator retiring from the VA. Ceremony for her
- Free College level Bee Keeping Class available to All Veterans
- All invites for the Major Samuel Nicholas events for the year have been mailed to the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Vice President JD Vance, & PA Dept Commandant.

**EVENT:** Detachment Bingo

**DATE:** Feb 1, 2025

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

**EVENT:** West Chester University Scholarship

**DATE:** Feb 5, 2025

**SUMMARY:** West Chester University Veterans Foundation check for \$2,500.00. The Detachment awards twice a year.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Doug Forsythe



**EVENT:** Swearing in of Pendelphia Commandant Marshall Huston

**DATE:** Feb 1, 2025

**SUMMARY:** District Vice Cmdt Dennis Brown conducting ceremony. District Vice Commandant Dennis Brown, Sgt at Arms Chris Shaw, & Chaplain Doug Forsythe conducting ceremony at Pendelphia Detachment Phila Pa.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Doug Forsythe



**EVENT:** Detachment HQ Maintenance

**DATE:** Feb 5, 2025

**SUMMARY:** Additional shelving for storage area and new lighting/rewiring in kitchen.

**MEMBERS:** Emil Messikomer, Joe Rubin & Doug Forsythe.



**EVENT:** Detachment Morgantown Gun Show Raffle Sales

**DATE:** Feb 19, 2025

**MEMBERS:** Emil Messikomer, Pat Powell & Doug Forsythe.



Volunteer Activity February 2025	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Chris Shaw	4	8
Staff Meeting	Chris Shaw	4	8
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	15	45
VA Bingo/ Popcorn/Picnic	Dan Condron		
Honor Guard	Doug Forsythe		
Golf outing	Bonnie Shaw	4	10
Flag retirement	Joe Rubin/Leo Burke		
Building maintenance/SAA	Emil Messikomer	12	18
Membership	Steve Annan	3	6
Financial	Doug Forsythe	4	4
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	3	6
Fundraising	Chris Shaw		
Bran. Hardy Mem	Mike Rapp		
Toys for Tots	Doug Forsythe		6
<b>Total</b>		49	111