

# The Chester County Marine

Cpl Brandon Hardy, Chester County Detachment #286

P.O. Box 828, Downingtown, Pa 19335-0828

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Commandant Frank Marshall

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Volume XXV Issue 6



## June 2026



Marines and Associates:

### A Message from the Commandant

Subject: All Hands on Deck: Support for the Annual Cpl Brandon Hardy Golf Tournament

As we continue our mission to support the Coatesville VA Medical Center and the veterans who reside there, I am reaching out to ask for an "all hands on deck" effort from each of you for our upcoming annual golf tournament.

To ensure this event is a success, I am asking every member to assist in one of two ways:

**Secure a Sponsor:** Please stop by and pick up a trifold brochure or print the attached trifold flyer enclosed to use when soliciting potential sponsors. Your personal connection is often the most effective way to secure the support we need, and these materials will provide all the necessary details to prospective donors.

**Become a Tee Sponsor:** If your personal means permit, I invite you to consider purchasing a Tee sponsorship for \$250. You may also pick up a trifold brochure for more information on how to register your sponsorship.

Every dollar raised goes directly toward our efforts to provide comfort and care for our fellow veterans. We have a goal to meet, and with your active participation, I am confident we can make this our most impactful tournament yet.

Please reach out to me or Doug Forsythe directly if you have secured a sponsor or if you would like to sign up for a Tee sponsorship. Thank you for your continued dedication to our Detachment and our mission.

Semper Fidelis,

**Semper Fi,**

**Frank Marshall, Commandant**

**Meetings: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month @1900**

430 Chestnut Street

Downingtown, Pa 19335

Entrance on Chestnut St. and rear. Park in rear of bldg.



**Next Meeting:**

**July 27, 2026 @ 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.

**Summer Uniform**

Summer uniform is in effect as follows:

- Red Cover
- Short Sleeve White Shirt
- Black Trousers
- Black Shoes & Socks
- Satin Jacket when appropriate

**Marine Corps League Uniforms available online:**

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

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA  
18 May 2026**

**Prior to the meeting:** We had the Huf family give a presentation from Donahue Funeral Home. They let us know what we are entitled to as Veterans when it comes to our funeral arrangements.

**OPENING CEREMONIES:**

**Open: 1900**

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS (ADJUTANT): Present: 9 Excused: 5**

P	Commandant	Frank Marshall
E	Sr. Vice Commandant	Bob Whetstone
P	Jr. Vice Commandant	Dave Hetrick
P	Jr. Past Commandant	Chris Shaw
P	Judge Advocate	Anthony DeBello
P	Chaplain	Phil Sears
P	Adjutant	Bonnie Shaw

E	Paymaster	Doug Forsythe
P	Sergeant at Arms	Lawrence Garcia
P	Quartermaster	Chris Shaw
E	Trustee	Emil Messikomer
E	Trustee	Jim Copeland
E	Trustee	Rich Corbit
P	Trustee	Jerry Myers

**ACKNOWLEDMENT OF GUESTS AND DIGNATARIES:** District One Vice Commandant Dennis Brown and his Aide De Camp Joanne Brown, Jr. Past Delaware Dept Commandant Rich Corbit, MOY Dave Hetrick & AOY Joanne Brown.

**APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:**

**AWARDS:**

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

- Accept the minutes, subject to corrections. Motion By: Jerry Myers
- Second, Chris Shaw. All those in favor, say aye.
- Motion passed, subject to corrections.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Insurance was paid for the detachment. Chester County Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol gave us a patch for including them

**REPORT OF PAYMASTER (Doug Forsythe): The Audit Report and Budget is always available to review at the detachment upon request.**

- Motion to accept Paymaster's Report subject to audit. Motion by: Tony DeBello
- Second, Dave Hetrick . All those in favor, say aye.
- Motion passed; subject to audit.

**SICKNESS AND DISTRESS (Chaplin Phil Sears):** Jerry's wife is doing better.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS:**

- Commandant (Frank Marshall):
- Senior Vice/Quartermaster: (Bob Whetstone) N/R
- Junior Vice (Dave Hetrick) Test Fired all the weapons for rifle detail. 5 fired perfectly, 3 had issues. Given to Gordon's to be repaired. We have 6 good weapons to use.
- Junior Past Commandant (Chris Shaw) Quartermasters report, started with \$367.71 in the box
- Judge Advocate (Anthony DeBello III) Reviewed the Bylaws to see if they are in line with National Bylaws.
- Adjutant (Bonnie Shaw): Change in attitude for the detachment. National would like us to make our detachments more attractive to Younger Marines with Families to carry us into the future.
- Sgt. at Arms (Lawrence Garcia): N/R
- Trustee (Emil Messikomer):
- Trustee (Rich Corbit): N/R
- Trustee (Jim Copeland): N/R
- Trustee (Jerry Myers): Duck Race Tickets for sale now. See him to purchase.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

- **Rifle/Pistol** (Dennis Brown) Meeting at the detachment May 18th Live Fire with 6 shooters. 21 June is the next live fire. Muster at Mike Rapp's house for donuts and coffee. Anyone can shoot if you are a member or their spouse.

- **Bingo** (Jim Copeland) 20+ players. Not a great attendance.
- **Building Maintenance:** The display cases have had their locks replaced. A circuit breaker had to be replaced. Breaker was over in the Victory Brewing box. Front door closure was replaced.
- **Marine Corps Ball:** Good to Go. Tickets will go on sale through Zeffy.com.
- **Golf Outing:** Now on 31 August at Applecross. Golf Brochures have been completed and printed.
- **Fund Raisers:**
- **Rifle Raffle:** Will be Drawn tonight after the meeting.
- **Flag Retirement:** Civil Air Patrol joined our crew to learn how to properly retire flags. Next event June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1000. Civil Air Patrol will participate again.
- **VAVS:** (Jim Copeland)
- **Committees:** Need Volunteers

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** LMS on May 21 at 0800 for their Memorial Day Ceremony. Scholarships will be presented during May for DHSE and STEM Academy on 21 May. Commandant Marshall spent 2.5 hours with the IRS about establishing the 501c3 Foundation and clarifying its status.

**NEW BUSINESS:** We will be having a kickoff meeting of the Community Salutes committee on June 22<sup>nd</sup> after our general meeting. Ginnie will keep it to about 30 minutes. If interested, join us. Joe Rubin: Do we want to do a CPR class here? Let Joe know so we can get it scheduled, 2 weeks notice.

**GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:** We need to get our name out there. Frank has listed and suggests listing our events on the Downingtown Pulse. Put our Golf Brochure on display at the our local sponsors like Liones, Lou Beverage, etc. Dennis Brown: May 3<sup>rd</sup> was the District One Meeting. We had food and beverage after. We will continue to have it once a year. Open forum covered questions not covered under regular business. Encourages members to attend the Department Convention.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS:

##### May

25: Memorial Day Schedule

##### June

6: Bingo 1700  
 11 Staff Meeting 1800  
 13: Summer Pound Growl 1400  
 17-21: PA Dept Convention  
 20: Bingo 1700  
 22: General Meeting (1900, Potluck  
 1800) Minimum \$5 donation if you  
 don't bring a dish.

##### July

4: Bingo 1700  
 9: Staff Meeting 1800  
 18: Bingo 1700  
 27: General Meeting (1900, Potluck  
 1800) Minimum \$5 donation if you  
 don't bring a dish. Rifle Raffle Draw.

#### CLOSING CEREMONIES:

**Adjournment: 1950**

**Next Meeting 22 June 2026 @ 1900**

**EVENT:** Detachment Bingo **DATE:** June 6 & 20, 2026  
**MEMBERS:** Jim Copeland, Leo Burke, Steve Annan, Polly and Patti, Ruth, Emil Messikomer, and Bonnie and Chris Shaw and Nicole. Doug Forsythe, Dennis and Joanne Brown ran culinary operations.

**EVENT:** Building Maintenance

**DATE:** June 2026

**Summary:** Upholstery of 14 chairs. Dave Hetrick, Emil Messikomer & Doug Forsythe. Bldg maint fixing tv stand.

**Submitted by:** Doug Forsythe



**EVENT:** Volunteer Recognition

**DATE:** June 2026

**Summary:** Cmdt & Doug at Volunteer Recognition Luncheon Downingtown CC.

**Submitted by:** Doug Forsythe



**EVENT:** Rifle cleaning detail of M-1 Grands

**DATE:** June 2026

**SUMMARY:** After cleaning rifles, each was fired. Seven tested, three taking OOS for ejection/chambering & miss fires. All taken to Gordons for repairs.

**MEMBERS:** Emil, Dave and Doug



6/22/2026

CL Newsletter



**EVENT:** Scholarships

**DATE:** June 2026

**Summary:** DHS East award scholarship to Colton Woodward w/\$500.00donation. Presented Award to Elizabeth Brochet DHS STEM Academy w/ \$500.00. Presenting are Dave Hetrick, Emil Messikomer & Doug Forsythe.



**EVENT:** Scholarships

**DATE:** June 2026

**Summary:** Fundraiser at Lione's. Emil, Dave, Doug & Cmdt Marshall.



**EVENT:** Commissioning

**DATE:** June 2026

**Summary:** Villanova NROTC graduation with Emil Messikomer & Doug Forsythe. Was proud to have given him the first salute.



Volunteer Activity June 2026	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Frank Marshall	4	24
Staff Meeting	Frank Marshall	4	24
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke	30	165
VA Bingo/ Popcorn/Picnic/pantry	Dan Condron	6	36
Honor Guard/events	Doug Forsythe	40	56
Golf outing	Bonnie Shaw	12	26
Flag retirement	Joe Rubin		18
Building maintenance/SAA	Emil Messikomer	30	120
Membership	Bob Whetstone	2	12
Financial	Doug Forsythe	4	24
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	1	10
Fundraising	Frank Marshall		
Bran. Hardy Mem	Mike Rapp		
Toys for Tots	Doug Forsythe		
<b>Total</b>		133	515