

The Chester County Marine

Cpl Brandon Hardy, Chester County Detachment #286

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

Detachment HQ: 610-518-5375 (leave message)

Commandant Frank Marshall

www.chestercountymcl.com

CCMarineNews@Verizon.net

Volume XXV Issue 7



July 2026



Marines and Associates:

A Message from the Commandant

Golf Tournament:

Our Tournament on August 31 2026 is upon us. Please do your part to bring in Sponsors and Players. If you need brochures or have questions call Doug Forsythe (610) 656-1389 or Jerry Myers (610) 721-2112. Put a foursome together or donate to the cause.

Volunteers Needed: Take Charge of Our Next Fundraising Events:

Our detachment thrives on the dedication, energy, and commitment of our members. As we look ahead to our upcoming schedule of events and community outreach initiatives, we are in urgent need of volunteer event leaders to step up and take charge of our fundraising efforts.

Fundraising is the lifeblood of our detachment. It directly fuels our ability to support local Marines, their families, and our community programs. To make these events successful, we need organized and motivated leaders to handle the logistics from start to finish.

What the Role Involves:

As the Event Lead, you will be responsible for:

Gathering Materials: Securing all necessary equipment, folding table, signage, collection bucket and event supplies prior to the date.

Transporting Items: Ensuring that all materials are safely brought to and from the event site.

On-Site Coordination: Overseeing the setup and smooth operation of the fundraising station during the event period.

Why Step Up?

Taking the lead on a fundraiser is a direct way to make a tangible impact on our mission. You will play a critical role in ensuring our detachment remains strong, well-funded, and capable of answering the call when our community needs us most. You won't be doing it alone, either—our team is here to support you with guidance and helping hands.

Get involved Today!

Whether you have experience in event coordination or simply possess a strong drive to serve, we want to hear from you. Most events require a 3or 4 hour commitment. We all can find time to step up!

Please contact Trustee Emil Messikomer, 610-213-3035 to volunteer or learn more about upcoming events that need leadership.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our Corps and our community.

Marines, let's roll up our sleeves and get the job done!

Semper Fi,
Frank Marshall, Commandant

Meetings: 4th Monday of every month @1900

430 Chestnut Street

Downingtown, Pa 19335

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



Next Meeting:

August 24, 2026 @ 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.

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>

CPL BRANDON HARDY, CHESTER COUNTY DETACHMENT #286

General Meeting Agenda

22 June 2026

Start: 1900

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS: Present: 12 Excused: 2

P	Commandant	Frank Marshall
P	Sr. Vice Commandant	Bob Whetstone
E	Jr. Vice Commandant	Dave Hetrick
P	Jr. Past Commandant	Chris Shaw
P	Judge Advocate	Anthony DeBello III
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	Jim Copeland
P	Trustee	Rich Corbit
E	Trustee	Jerry Myers

OTHER ATTENDEES: District 1 Vice Commandant Dennis Brown and his Aide de Camp Joanne Brown. Associate of the year Joanne Brown.

AGENDA

Bingo Committee: Jim Copeland reports Bingo cancelled for the summer. Will be reconvened September 19.

Minutes of the Meeting:

Motion to accept the Minutes subject to correction.

1st Rich Corbit and 2nd by Jim Copeland. Motion Passed.

Paymaster Report: Checking. \$20,006.66

Motion to accept the Paymasters Report subject to audit:

1st Rich Corbit, 2nd Jim Copeland.

Chaplain: Jimmy G Casella had quadruple bypass surgery today. He is a good friend to many of us from the NE Detachment in Scranton. Recovering well in the ICU. Martha Myers is still in the hospital and isn't recovering as well as she should be.

Sr. Vice Commandant: Dues are due before September 1st if you are an annual dues payer.

Jr. Past Commandant: Quartermaster \$428.71.

Judge Advocate: Bob Whetstone asks if our Bylaws aligned with National Bylaws. Answer they are.

Sgt-at-Arms: 22 Present

Trustee: Rich Corbit NR

Finance: NR

Building Maintenance: (Emil) NR

Flag Retirement: 27 Jun, @1000 muster at the Det to caravan over to Fire Training Center. Dress in clothes you don't mind getting soot covered.

Fund Raisers: Lione's Fundraisers will be handled by Emil, Dave, & Doug. Ron's Schoolhouse and Texas Roadhouse can do Weekend fundraisers, but we need volunteers. Walmart 18 July (Parkesburg), 29 August (Parkesburg), & 26 September (Parkesburg), need volunteers. Emil explained the best way to do a Beg-o-Thon fundraiser.

Color Guard: No Report

Rifle/Pistol: (Mike Rapp) 4th Sunday, 28 July. Meet at Mike's house for coffee and Danish before caravanning to the range.

MC Ball 2026: (Doug/Bob) Need to line up the DJ and Guest Speaker.

Golf Outing: Frank asked members to assist us in getting sponsors for the Golf Outing.

Correspondence: West Chester University Veterans group thanking us for our scholarship. Cole Woodward sent a very nice card for the Scholarship he received in May.

VAVS: We need to continue to collect food. (Frank) up to \$10k for our VAVS veteran's organization account. We need to find ways to spend that fund for the VA.

Rifle Raffle: Pat Powell has consented to provide another rifle for this year.

Quarterly Report: Due September 1st.

Our Community Salutes: OCSCC meeting after the meeting to let everyone know what it is about and what needs to be done.

Good of the League: The lottery calendars from Dept are for sale (\$30) each. Based on the Pick3 evening lottery numbers. Also have the Veteran's and Youth Raffle Tickets. July 5th – Major Samuel Nicholas, muster at Detachment @1100. Blue Star meeting house 5 July in the afternoon.

June

11: Staff Meeting 1800
13: Pound Growl @1400
22: General Meeting (Potluck 1800)

July

3: Lioni's Fundraiser 1700 (Tentative)
4: BINGO CANCELLED
5: Samuel Nicholas 0900 muster at Det.
9: Staff Meeting 1800
18: Bingo CANCELLED
28: General Meeting 1900 (Potluck 1800)

August

1: Bingo CANCELLED
10-15: MCL National Convention
13: Staff Meeting 1800
15: Bingo CANCELLED
24: General Meeting 1900 (Potluck 1800)

Next Meeting: 27 July 2026 @1900
Potluck @ 1800

Adjourned: 2018

EVENT: Detachment Bingo

DATE: Paused for the summer

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: Flag Retirement**DATE: June 27, 2026****Summary:**

0815 hours: Load Flags to be Retired into pickup,

•5 large bags from storage shed

- Combined flags from Parkesburg Flag Box into Detachment Flag Bag
- Combined 2 Flag Bags from Detachment Storage Shed into other Bag
- 1 Box of Flags
- empty Flag Box, added to existing Bags

0920 hours: Team departs to West Chester Fire Training Center

0955 hours: Regroup at West Chester Fire Training Center, unload and ready for Ceremony

10:00 hours: Flag Retirement Ceremony begins

- Reading of the Honor,
- Salute and Playing of Taps,
- Retirement commenced,
- Flags not designated for retirement are properly folded and stored,
- Note, West Chester Fire Department added 3 Bags of Flags

11:15 hours Flag Retirement Ceremony Concluded

In attendance:

- Marine Doug Forsythe
- Marine Emila Messikomer
- Marine Dennis Brown
- Marine Robert Williams (representing Chester County CAP)
- Marine Kenneth Plummer
- Marine Joseph Rubin
- West Chester Fire Department Dale McClure

Next scheduled Flag Retirement Ceremony is Saturday, September June 26th**Submitted by: Joe Rubin**

Volunteer Activity July 2026	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Frank Marshall	4	28
Staff Meeting	Frank Marshall	4	28
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke		165
VA Bingo/ Popcorn/Picnic/pantry	Dan Condron	6	42
Honor Guard/events	Doug Forsythe	10	66
Golf outing	Bonnie Shaw	15	41
Flag retirement	Joe Rubin	18	36
Building maintenance/SAA	Emil Messikomer	30	150
Membership	Bob Whetstone	2	14
Financial	Doug Forsythe	4	28
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	1	11
Fundraising	Frank Marshall		
Bran. Hardy Mem	Mike Rapp		
Toys for Tots	Doug Forsythe		
Total		94	609