

The Chester County Marine

Cpl Brandon Hardy, Chester County Detachment #286

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Commandant Frank Marshall

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CCMarineNews@Verizon.net

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A Message from the Commandant

Marines and Associates:

Fundraising supports our Detachment's programs for veterans, families, and our community. We need more members to step into leadership roles and help keep these efforts moving forward.

We also need a **backup Bingo caller and members willing to handle bingo money billets**. Having more trained volunteers ensures these responsibilities are covered when needed.

Whether you lead an event, coordinate volunteers, or serve as a backup, your help makes a difference. **When more members step up, no one has to carry the load alone.** Please consider how you can contribute. Your fellow Marines—and the veterans and families we serve—will appreciate your commitment.

**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:
Sept 28, 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>

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Minutes
27 JULY 2026**

Prior to the meeting: N/A

OPENING CEREMONIES: Open: 1901

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS (ADJUTANT): Present: 12 Excused: 2

P	Commandant	Frank Marshall	P	Paymaster	Doug Forsythe
P	Sr. Vice Commandant	Bob Whetstone	P	Sergeant at Arms	Lawrence Garcia
E	Jr. Vice Commandant	Dave Hetrick	P	Quartermaster	Chris Shaw
P	Jr. Past Commandant	Chris Shaw	P	Trustee	Emil Messikomer
P	Judge Advocate	Anthony DeBello	P	Trustee	Jim Copeland
P	Chaplain	Phil Sears	P	Trustee	Rich Corbit
P	Adjutant (acting)	Anthony De bello	E	Trustee	Jerry Myers

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS AND DIGNITARIES: District One Vice Commandant Dennis Brown and his Aide De Camp Joanne Brown, Jr. Past Delaware Dept Commandant Rich Corbit, MCL AOY Joanne Brown. Motion to dispense with this each month by D Forsythe. Motion failed.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: Dale McLure and Jeff Rusk Both sworn in by Doug Forsythe

AWARDS: N/A

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Newsletter):

- Accept the minutes, subject to corrections. Motion by: R Corbit
- Second, Bob Whetstone. All those in favor, say aye.
- Motion passed, subject to corrections.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you note from Costesville VA for all the donations of non-perishable items for the food pantry.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER (Doug Forsythe): General Checking Account

Balance \$17816.48 • Motion to accept Paymaster's Report subject to audit. Motion by: Rich Corbit Second, Lawrence Garcia.

All those in favor, say aye.

- Motion passed; subject to audit.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS (Chaplin Phil Sears): Jimmy J Casella appreciated the card sent to him (Per C Shaw) Bill White recovering from back surgery. Dan Condon in rehab after the surgery.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

- Commandant (Frank Marshall): The Chester County Marine Corps League Foundation has been approved as a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization.
- Senior Vice/Quartermaster: (Bob Whetstone) Reminded of the Detachment Dues to be paid by September 1.
- Junior Vice (Dave Hetrick) N/R
- Junior Past Commandant (Chris Shaw) Quartermasters report, started with \$519.28 in the box. \$300 given to Paymaster, \$218.28 left, in the box
- Judge Advocate (Anthony DeBello III) N/R
- Adjutant: N/R
- Sgt. at Arms: Lawrence Garcia 23 members present

- **Trustee (Emil Messikomer):** We need bodies for our upcoming fundraisers. There will be plenty of opportunities in the next few months.
Emil requested members to step up and take a team leader role in fundraising activities.
- **Trustee (Rich Corbit) N/R**
- **Trustee (Jim Copeland) N/R**
- **Trustee (Jerry Myers) N/R**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- **Rifle/Pistol Mike Rapp:** July 26th Live Fire had 8 shooters. 23 August 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) Startup** in September Jim & Leo will obtain the Bingo License for the next year prior to our next bingo.
- **Building Maintenance:** N/R
- **Marine Corps Ball:** The DJ has been retained for the evening. Looking for a 15-Minute Speaker. We need a member to step up as Ball Coordinator. And set Final Ball Price.
- **Golf Outing:** Now on 31 August at Applecross. We need to get out and obtain Sponsors and Golfers.
- **Fund Raisers:** Recent Fundraisers were very successful at Ron's Grill, Lions and Walmart Parkesburg.
- **Rifle Raffle:** Pat Powell is building a rifle for next year's raffle. Gun Shows now run by Eagle
- **Flag Retirement:** TBD in June 1000 muster to load at detachment. 1200 ceremony at the Emergency Services Training Center.
- **VAVS:** (Jim Copeland) went to the quarterly VAVS meeting. Funds of \$3000.00 were allocated to homeless Veterans and the purchase of gift cards at WAWA and Walmart to be provided in \$25.00 increments for homeless veterans. We sell pretzels every Tuesday and the proceeds stay with the VAVS for use for the Coatesville VA Veterans. Pretzel sales at the VA are cancelled for August 2026 due to shutdown of our vendor, they will resume in September.
- **Committees:** Need Volunteers

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: N/R

NEW BUSINESS: Gun Shows will be upcoming we will need volunteers to man the stations.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE: A Motorcycle Rally benefiting the Brandon Hardy Foundation was held July 18th Jill Hardy (Brandon's Mom has raised funds for her foundation).

CLOSING CEREMONIES: Adjournment: 2006

Next Meeting 24 August 2026 @ 1900

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS:

<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>
5: Bingo 1700	3: Bingo 1700	7: Bingo 1700
11: Staff Meeting 1800	8: Staff Meeting 1800	12: Staff Meeting
17: Bingo 1700	17: Bingo 1700	21 Bingi 1700
19-20 Morgantown Gun Show	16-18 Oaks Gun Show	
26: General Meeting (1900, Potluck 1800) Minimum \$5 donation if you don't bring a dish.	26: General Meeting (1900, Potluck 1800) Minimum \$5 donation if you don't bring a dish	23: General Meeting (1900, Potluck 1800) Minimum \$5 donation if you don't bring a dish

Bingo resumes
September 5th

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.



Douglas Forsythe

Aug 14 · 🌐

🔒 Group expert

Another outing at LIONE'S with Dave & Emil



Volunteer Activity August 2026	Point of Contact	Monthly Hours	Year to Date
Monthly Meeting	Frank Marshall	4	32
Staff Meeting	Frank Marshall	4	32
Bingo	Jim Copeland & Leo Burke		165
VA Bingo/ Popcorn/Picnic/pantry	Dan Condron	6	48
Honor Guard/events	Doug Forsythe		66
Golf outing	Bonnie Shaw	15	66
Flag retirement	Joe Rubin		36
Building maintenance/SAA	Emil Messikomer		150
Membership	Bob Whetstone	2	16
Financial	Doug Forsythe	3	31
Newsletter/website	Dave Buckta	1	12
Fundraising	Frank Marshall		
Bran. Hardy Mem	Mike Rapp		
Toys for Tots	Doug Forsythe		
Total		35	654