

KEYSTONE LEATHERNECK

Department Commandant Neil B. Corley (nbcorley@mchsi.com)
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Winter Staff Meeting - Grantville, PA, January 6 - 7 , 2012

DEPARTMENT COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

From the desk of Commandant Corley, Department of Pa. Marine Corps League

HAPPY 236TH BIRTHDAY MARINES

We have been busy on your behalf and I am proud to announce to you that we stood up a new Detachment on the 8th of November. The detachment's name is the Leatherneck Square and it was great to obligate approximately 18 new members into the Marine Corps League after presenting the Charter.

I have traveled many miles since taking office both for the Department and National. I attended the National Convention and was present at all the meetings as were the members from the Department who also attended.

As I'm sure every Commandant of our Department has done in the past, what I am also doing is asking as many of the Officers of Detachments to attend all Quarterlies. Those who do not attend are missing out on a lot of good information.

We are looking for a couple of Marines to step up to the plate since we have had a couple step aside due to health. We are looking for a Marine to take over the Ships Store. This person must be able to move the Ships Store at least twice a year from the Headquarters Building to our winter meeting at the Holiday Inn and to the Convention.

Next, we are looking for someone who has an interest in history. We have the need for a Marine to take over the position of historian. That person needs to contact James Powell, Jr. Vice Commandant of the Department who has assisted in the past, for more information.

This is being written prior to Thanksgiving and Christmas and I would like to take this time to wish you all good tidings during these holidays.

Now you are involved with Toys for Tots and I wish all the Detachments who work so hard to help those in need good luck. And this is the time I want to say thank you for the efforts that you put forth on helping where you can.

Those who attended the rifle match had a good time and we would like to see more of you attend both the rifle and pistol matches even if it is just to spend some time with your fellow Marines.

I am requesting that you all look for Marines and FMF Corpsman to become members. It would be nice if we all could get at least one new member for the year. Do I know it is hard to do that...YES, but we have something to offer and to learn what we have joining and attending a meeting would help the learning process.

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Newly elected List of Department Officers:

Commandant:

Neil B. Corley nbcorley@mcnsi.com

Sr. Vice Commandant:

Gorden Sheriff GESheriff1812@comcast.net

Jr. Vice Commandant:

James Powell usmc80@comcast.net

Judge Advocate:

Ben Cero begecero@pa.net

Adjutant:

Leanna Dietrich shortdevildog99211@comcast.net

Paymaster:

Alan Ferguson fergie1713@embarqmail.com

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District 7

Edward Forster MARINEFORSTER@verizon.net

District 8

David Radaker kdradaker@verizon.net

District 9

Ben Witt (814.434.3403)

District 10

James Walters waltersusmc@comcast.net

All Detachment Newsletter Editors should take note of Department of Pennsylvania M.C.L. By-Laws (Enclosure Two), which spell out the criteria for newsletter recognition at the state level.

Especially note that copies of Detachment Newsletters are to be sent to the Department Commandant, the Department Senior Vice Commandant, and the Department Public Affairs Officer.

Also send newsletters to the Keystone Leatherneck Editor via e-mail or snail mail.

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Gettysburg, PA 17325

Russell Blessing the son of Andrea Cats of Newburg Pa , who turned 7 years old on November 1st had his birthday party guest bring new unwrapped toys to be donated to toys for tots. He donated 18 toys for boys and girls between the ages of 18 months to 12 years old.



Veteran Legislation Status 13 NOV 2011: For a listing of Congressional bills of interest to the veteran community introduced in the 112th Congress refer to the Bulletin's "**House & Senate Veteran Legislation**" attachment. Support of these bills through cosponsorship by other legislators is critical if they are ever going to move through the legislative process for a floor vote to become law. A good indication on that likelihood is the number of cosponsors who have signed onto the bill. Any number of members may cosponsor a bill in the House or Senate. At <http://thomas.loc.gov> you can review a copy of each bill's content, determine its current status, the committee it has been assigned to, and if your legislator is a sponsor or cosponsor of it. To determine what bills, amendments your representative has sponsored, cosponsored, or dropped sponsorship on refer to <http://thomas.loc.gov/bss/d111/sponlst.html>.

Grassroots lobbying is perhaps the most effective way to let your Representative and Senators know your opinion. Whether you are calling into a local or Washington, D.C. office; sending a letter or e-mail; signing a petition; or making a personal visit, Members of Congress are the most receptive and open to suggestions from their constituents. The key to increasing cosponsorship on veteran related bills and subsequent passage into law is letting legislators know of veteran's feelings on issues. You can reach their Washington office via the Capital Operator direct at (866) 272-6622, (800) 828-0498, or (866) 340-9281 to express your views. Otherwise, you can locate on <http://thomas.loc.gov> your legislator's phone number, mailing address, or email/website to communicate with a message or letter of your own making. Refer to http://www.thecapitol.net/FAQ/cong_schedule.html for dates that you can access your legislators on their home turf.

TRICARE Data Breach (SAIC) Update 03: A loss of computer tapes by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) may have placed TRICARE patient data at risk. There is no evidence that any of the data has actually been accessed by a third party, and analysis shows the chance any data was actually compromised is low, but proactive measures are being taken to ensure that potentially affected patients are kept informed and protected. SAIC is a contractor for the TRICARE Management Activity. On 14 SEP TMA learned that an SAIC employee reported that on 12 SEP computer tapes containing personally identifiable and protected health information (PII/PHI) of 4.9 million military clinic and hospital patients in Texas, or those patients who had laboratory exams sent to the military hospitals in Texas, were stolen. The data contained on the tapes may include names, Social Security numbers, addresses and phone numbers, and some personal health data such as clinical notes, laboratory tests and prescriptions. There is no financial data, such as credit card or bank account information, on the backup tapes. "We take this incident very seriously," said Brigadier General W. Bryan Gamble, TMA deputy director. "The risk to our patients is low, but the Department of Defense is taking steps to keep affected patients informed and protected."

TMA has directed SAIC to provide **one year of credit monitoring and restoration** services to patients who express concern about their credit. SAIC will also conduct analysis of all available data to help TMA determine if identity theft occurs due to the data breach. "These measures exceed the industry standard to protect against the risk of identity theft," Gamble said. "We take very seriously our responsibility to offer patients peace of mind that their credit and quality of life will be unaffected by this breach." The risk of harm is judged to be low despite the sensitive data involved. Retrieving data from the tapes requires knowledge of and access to specific hardware and software and knowledge of the system and data structure. However, as a standard practice individuals may protect their personal information by taking the steps suggested by the Federal Trade Commission at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/idtheft/idtheft04.shtm>. Concerned patients may contact the SAIC Incident Response Call Center, M-F 09-1800 EST, at (855) 366-0140 (toll free) for United States callers and (952) 556-8312 (collect) internationally. [Source: TRICARE News Release 11-58 dtd 4 Nov 2011 ++]



Members Bob Spano, Barry Reese, Commander of the VFW and I represented the General Smedley Butler Detachment and the VFW. at the dedication of the New County Veterans Affairs office at the Government Services Building in Media. This photo is of Bob Spano and Earle Drake, with LCPLs John Quinn and Chris Showman.

After the ceremony at the Beirut Memorial, several of us visited the Scottish Memorial at Front and Chestnut Streets. Shown is Terry Jones, the sculptor and Bob Spano, both of the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment.



For those Marine Corps League members that wish to "Go Life" with their membership, saving money over the years, eliminating having to remember to renew each year, and saving your overworked Detachment Paymaster/Adjutant much paperwork and time, these are the rates, depending on your age:

From January 1, 2009 and thereafter

- Up to 35.....\$500.00
- Age 36 to 50.....\$400.00
- Age 51 to 60.....\$300.00
- Age 61 and older.....\$150.00

To become a Life Member, you must already be a "Member in Good Standing". That means becoming a member and paying your initial dues first. Yes, according to the Bylaws, you could join the League, pay your dues and then pay your Life Membership Dues all in the same day.

As a footnote please be aware that some Detachments have set up an "installment payment" plan to allow members to make payments in smaller increments. Please check with your Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster to see if such a plan is in place.

| <u>Office</u> | <u>Officer</u> | <u>Phone #</u> | <u>Email</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Commandant | Neil Corley | 302-934-1829 | nbcorley@mchsi.com |
| Senior Vice Commandant | Gordon Sheriff | 717-755-8108 | GESheriff1812@comcast.net |
| Junior Vice Commandant | James Powell | 215-801-0432 | usmc80@comcast.net |
| Judge Advocate | Benjamin Cero, Esq. | 717-737-1870 | begecero@pa.net |
| Adjutant | Leanna Dietrich | 610-256-2757 | shortdevildog99211@comcast.net |
| Paymaster | Allen Ferguson | 717-249-5395 | fergie1713@embarqmail.com |
| Chaplain | Johnny P. Gill | 610-437-9712 | Prd2BaNVN@aol.com |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Bill Foster | 717-319-3093 | Foster.Bill@comcast.net |

Marine Corps League License Plates ——— \$30.00



PENNSYLVANIA MARINE CORPS LEAGUE SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES

MAKE YOUR CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30.00 PAYABLE TO "MCL of PA, Inc.".

SEND APPLICATION TO: PAUL F. HASTINGS, PNC
1631 BRIDGE STREET
NEW CUMBERLAND, PA 17070-1174

Application Form MV-904SP (2-08) can be downloaded from the
Department of PA Website

APPLICATIONS SENT (directly) TO THE COMMONWEALTH WILL BE RETURNED TO THE SENDER AND NOT PROCESSED. CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO THE "PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION" WILL ALSO BE RETURNED NOT PROCESSED.

Processing to the Department of Transportation, then to the Bureau of Corrections to manufacture the plate takes approximately six weeks from date of mailing to the Department of Transportation. Applications are mailed in batches of at least 3.

TO ASK QUESTIONS BY PHONE:

CALL PNC HASTINGS : 800-747-1420 or email to: Phasti4321@aol.com

The following persons are eligible to apply for Marine Corps League Pennsylvania license plate:

1. Individuals who are members in good standing of the Marine Corps League.
2. Active duty Marines belonging to an out-of-state Marine Corps League detachment who have a vehicle registered in Pennsylvania.
3. Marine Corps League Auxiliary Members who have a vehicle registered in Pennsylvania.

Marines of the Upper Darby Detachment, Delaware County Detachment, and the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment at the 9/11 Ceremony, Rose-tree Park, PA.



Northampton Days Festival on Sunday, September 11th. The Detachment Color Guard led the parade as well as the flag raising ceremony. In the Color Guard are (L-R): John Heenan, Sean Ours, George Kelly and Pete Palestina.



Eagle Scout Recognition Program

I consider it an honor and privilege to have been recommended by National MCL Scouting Chair, Tom Minchin and approved by Commandant Neil Corley to serve as the Department's Scouting Chair. Having served over thirty years as a volunteer leader and former Scoutmaster in the Boy Scout program, I can appreciate the need and significance of providing these additional recognitions for America's future leaders, those young men who have earned the Eagle Scout Award. My personal goal, with the support of the individual Detachments, is to show an increase of 10% or more of Certificates presented and Detachment participation during the upcoming year.

Since the Department Convention, we have put in place several initiatives. The information on the Department website regarding the Eagle Recognition program has been consolidated and the Scouting webpage has been reformatted. Currently, four documents have been posted to help promote the program. For the Detachments that are considering participating in the Recognition Program, a start up guide detailing the goals, procedures, expense and expectations has been provided. Two administrative documents have also been added. They are an editable Quarterly Report form and a Yearly Summary of De- number of certificates presented submitted. To measure the ef- fectiveness and success of this pro- gram, all Detachments are re- minded and encouraged to submit their Quarterly Reports in a timely manner. It would also be appreciated if your Detachment would submit a Quarterly Report even if no certificates were pre- sented. It provides us feedback that you are still an active par- ticipant in the Eagle Recognition program.



The last document was posted to promote the Recognition program to non-MCL individuals. Parents and Leaders are always looking for additional recognition opportunities by using the Google Internet Search engine. We have created and posted a request form for the "Good Citizenship Award" certificate. Upon receipt of the request the Department Scouting Committee will contact the nearest Detachment and provide them the opportunity to perform the presentation, else the Department Scouting Committee will honor the request. So far, we have received one such request and the Central Bucks Detachment was able to honor and recognize 10 Eagle Scouts in September. Your Detachment's presence at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor Recognition ceremony is both a great public relations and recruiting tool. Think of how many Marines; fathers, relatives or leaders, all prospective Detachment members will be in the audience.

The Department Scouting Committee is always looking for ways to enhance and promote the Scout Recognition program. Any ideas and suggestions will be appreciated.

Yours in Scouting & Semper Fidelis
Jim Reed, Chair – Scouting Committee

Yesterday, on the 236 Anniversary of the Founding of the Marine Corps, we received a proclamation from Governor Corbett. In his proclamation, Gov. Corbett recognized and paid tribute to the dedicated service of the Smedley D. Butler Detachment of the Marine Corps League.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

GREETINGS:

I am honored to recognize the 236th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps and to pay tribute to the dedicated service of the Smedley D. Butler Detachment of the Marine Corps League.

Each of our military personnel, past and present, has been inspired by the very same call of duty and possesses a rare caliber of character and courage. Through exceptional dedication to our country and its citizens, our servicemen and women have been willing to give the greatest sacrifice to ensure the fundamental principles of liberty, security, and justice for future generations.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to honor the United States Marine Corps for courageously defending our country from the Revolutionary War to the present. It is my distinct honor to recognize the Smedley D. Butler Detachment of the Marine Corps League for its commitment to upholding your admirable mission, which includes preserving the traditions, promoting the interests, and perpetuating the history of the United States Marine Corps; enhancing the fellowship among those who are now serving in the U.S. Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged; assisting its members in fulfilling the duties of citizenship; holding sacred the memory and history of those who have given their lives for our nation; fostering love for the principles that the Marine Corps has supported by blood and valor; maintaining true allegiance to American institutions; and voluntarily aiding all Marines as well as their widows and children.

On behalf of all Pennsylvanians, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the 236th anniversary of the founding of the United States Marine Corps and to commend the Smedley D. Butler Detachment of the Marine Corps League and all of our military personnel, past and present, for your countless contributions to our nation's citizens.



Handwritten signature of Tom Corbett in black ink.

TOM CORBETT
Governor
November 10, 2011

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The **Keystone Leatherneck** is an official publication of the Department of Pennsylvania Marine Corps League. Newsletter articles, suggestions, and comments and/or Public Affairs/Relations correspondence may be sent to :

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(if needed)

2012 January Staff Meeting

6 - 7 January 2012
Holiday Inn, Grantville
604 Station Road
Grantville, PA
888-465-4329

or

717-469-0661

Room Rates: \$85.00

Deadline: 7 December 2011

2012 March Staff Meeting
WATCH THIS SPACE FOR DATES
and Accommodation Information

Meeting Location:

Meetings at Headquarters Building

National Northeast Region Conference 2012

30-31 March, 2012
Vernon Downs Hotel and Casino
Vernon, NY 13476-4516

More information will be forthcoming at a later date

Mid-Winter National Staff Conference 2012

February 16, 17 and 18, 2012
Tysons Corner Marriott
8028 Leesburg Pike
Vienna, VA
(703) 734-3200.

Room Rate: \$95 per Night, Single or Double

make your reservation directly to [Tysons Corner Marriott](#)
Tell them you are with the Marine Corps League.

Deadline: January 20, 2012