

KEYSTONE LEATHERNECK

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SUMMER 2011

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Department Newsletter Editor Liz McCleaster (lmccleaster@ltk.com or 267-736-5066)

Fall Staff Meeting - New Cumberland, PA, October 14 -15 , 2011

DEPARTMENT COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank the members of the Department of Pennsylvania Marine Corps League for electing the Officers that you have. I look forward to working with this team that you selected.

We are going to continue most of the programs from last year with the intention of expanding these programs that continue meeting the needs of the Department membership. Communications is a must from the top down, but don't kid yourself, we also need to hear from the body in the form of constructive input to make a better Department and improve the Detachments. Please be constructive in your conversations with the Board so that we can work together for the good of all.

One of the things that need attendance is our membership, especially those that are not renewing. You have done a great job in the past year between conventions with the new membership being 450 plus which helps replace those who were called home. Now we must continue that and really put a push on trying to get those who have not renewed back in the fold. Go back ten years and pull up all those Marines and try to make contact to bring as many back as are willing. Yes I know it is not an easy task but it might behoove each detachment to put a committee together just to work on that.

You have elected 10 District Vices and now I hope that every detachment can be visited at least once a year if not more, no detachments should be left without a visit. I am requesting that if you wish to pass something on to the Board please keep your Detachment Commandant and District Vices informed. Also when it is time to install officers for the year and according to the bylaws you are required to request an installing officer through the Department Commandant. I have noticed this is not happening and at times we are not even being informed when these installations are taking place. Follow the bylaws and in most if not all cases your choice will be granted. At the same time I may want to visit there so that I may get to meet the members present without my interfering with your installation. Give the Board a chance to work with you at all levels. Once the installation is done it is the installing officers responsibility to see that the installation form is filled out signed and sent to those as indicated on the bottom of the form, and this should take place within just a couple of days not weeks or months.

We are looking forward to seeing some new faces at the quarterly meetings and this could be done by the detachment possibly paying the mileage to the meetings, especially if members carpool. When we contract for hotels for the January Quarterly Meeting and the Convention we do so by guaranteeing so many rooms. If we do not have that many rooms booked we could be required to pay a penalty, so we are asking you to please use the hotel that we have contracted.

We have already been able to help a Marine in the Milford, Pa area on the same day that we attended the funeral for Marine Dick Brown. This was something that Dick would be proud of since he wanted the Foundation of Pa. Inc. to be formed and that is where we were able to make the donation from. So, we are looking forward to a good year which will be one that continues to make our Marine Corps League of Pa. what we are proud of.

Neil B. Corley
Commandant
Department of Pennsylvania

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.PAMCLEAGUE.ORG

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Department Newsletter Award Winners

First Place: [General Smedley D. Butler Detachment](#) "Scuttlebutt"; Editor: Dan Luty

Second Place: [Chester County Detachment](#) "The Chester County Marine"; Editor: Debby Mundy

Third Place: [All Divisions Detachment](#) "The Scuttlebutt"; Editor: Linda S. Chamberlain

Department Americanism Award Winners

Category 1	First Place:	Carbon Mountaineer Detachment #996
	Second & Third Place:	NONE
Category 2	First Place:	Allegheny Valley Detachment #827
	Second Place:	MGySgt John W. Zaengle Detachment #1023
	Third Place:	Schuylkill-Carbon Detachment #626
Category 3	First Place:	Bethlehem Detachment #284
	Second Place:	Russel M. Butterweck Detachment #465
	Third Place:	Northampton County Detachment #298

Finding ways to be mentally STRONG-Hero Marines of 3/5



Lisa Jennison says if she could trade places with her son, Lance Cpl. Tommy Parker, who lost his legs and a hand in an IED blast, she'd do it "in a heartbeat."

"The requirements one has to meet to become a Marine are set fairly high and we don't lower our standards. The Marines of 3rd Bn 5th Marines have all returned home from their deployment in Afghanistan. 3/5 had the highest casualties of the Afghan war: 25 Marines died and more than 150 were wounded — many of those wounded were double and triple amputees.

I kept a close eye on 3/5 deployment and knew the ground they were on from my previous deployments. I watched 3/5 because my nephew was in 3/5. Every KIA report I received (I get them all) made me begin to think how I would react if his name came up. Then I stopped thinking about it, ignoring the possibility for the time.

"Losing your legs is kind of like becoming a little kid again," says Marine Lance Corporal Tommy Parker

Many of those wounded Marines are still in the fight. Perhaps not in Afghanistan but in the fight to get their bodies to do what their minds are telling them to do. I can't imagine their frustration or of their spouses, parents or families frustrations especially when they see their loved one fighting to regain control of their body. One person that was there when 3/5 came home was Mark Soto, a high school football coach from Granite Bay, Calif., and the father of a Marine. He wanted to get these Marines story "out there." Armed with a camera he has developed a documentary called *The Day Remembered* (below).

Some are [finding ways](#) to overcome their physical challenges some are simply refusing to be beaten and continue to attack their challenges with the same spirit that made them become Marines in the first place. Those high requirements we set to become a Marine were set for a reason. To test the physically and mentally strong. We knew they were physically strong, now our wounded warriors from 3/5 are proving that they are also mentally strong. Keep attacking heroes. That's what each one of you are, heroes!

Time for a CGar!"

From the Blog: One Marine's View (onemarinesview.com)

Warrior Ride helps bring healing to central Pa.



Michael Bupp/The Sentinel Carlisle Marine Corp League members, from left, Roger Fugere, Dick Grove and Jim Grove listen to Warrior Ride race director Bob Racine explain how a three wheeled bicycle operates.

IN FOCUS

The Warrior Ride started Wednesday with an initial registration and bicycle fitting at the Fairfield Inn & Suites outside Carlisle. The event continues today with an opening ceremony this morning at 9 a.m. at the clock tower in Boiling Springs.

The riders will travel to the Appalachian Harley Davidson dealership on the Carlisle Pike for a pit stop lunch sponsored by Federal Employed Women and the Middlesex Diner. They will then proceed to the state Capitol building where they will be greeted by State Sen. Pat Vance and State Rep. Scott Perry. Harrisburg Area Community College will sponsor the evening meal for them.

On Friday, the wounded veterans travel to the Army War College and Army Heritage and Education Center at Carlisle Barracks before taking a ride to City Island to board the Pride of the Susquehanna on a trip sponsored by Carlisle VFW Post #477. The Mt. Holly Springs VFW is sponsoring supper.

Full Story

Ashleigh Corby could see a change for the good in her neighbor's smile.

One look and she knew Ray Schroeder (**Ray is a member of Lewis B Puller Jr. MCL**) was benefitting from his involvement in the Warrior Ride program.

"It gave him a new sense of purpose to rebuild his mind, body and soul," the South Middleton Township woman said Wednesday. "Ray is happier at home."

In May 2002, Schroeder suffered a traumatic brain injury when an improvised explosive device detonated close to where he was standing at an airfield in Afghanistan.

Schroeder was a senior master sergeant in the Air Force supervising a construction crew building a paved area for fuel trucks when the wheel of a grader triggered the device hidden just beneath the topsoil.

The explosion hurled Schroeder 5 to 10 feet and caused his brain to violently shift within his skull damaging the memory and cognitive centers of the frontal lobe.

"It pushed my brain into my nasal cavity," Schroeder said. The device so damaged his ears Schroeder lost some sense of balance along with 75 percent of his hearing.

The head trauma would eventually force Schroeder to retire after 28 years of military service. On Sept. 11, 2001, Schroeder was in the Air Force reserve while working as a New York City police officer.

He was among those who participated in the search-and-rescue effort at Ground Zero before taking on the grim work of recovering human remains for over four months. He would later move to South Middleton Township.

Warrior Ride helps bring healing to central Pa. (Cont.)

Learning to adapt

"When I came home from Afghanistan, I went from being in charge of people to doing nothing but vegging out on the couch," Schroeder said. That changed in October 2009 when Schroeder had his first experience participating in a wounded veteran bicycle ride through the Warrior Ride program.

A non-profit organization, Warrior Ride equips wounded veterans with adaptive bicycles for event rides throughout the country. Since leg injuries hamper Schroeder from riding a traditional bicycle, he uses a bicycle designed to be peddled with his hands.

"It has been a blessing for me and my family," Schroeder said. "I'm on the road to recovery. Without the support of my wife and family, I don't know where I would be."

Schroeder is just one example of how Warrior Ride participants are working to rebuild their lives by forging bonds of friendship with fellow wounded veterans, program founder Bob Racine said. "We have moved people in different directions. Once they realize they can ride bike, it leads to other things."

One goal of Warrior Ride is to show the American public how those injured in war can recover physically, mentally and spiritually, Racine said. "Just because you are disabled doesn't mean you are unable to do something."

It was Schroeder who first suggested this week's wounded veterans ride through central Pennsylvania. The event started Wednesday with an initial registration and bicycle fitting at the Fairfield Inn & Suites just outside Carlisle. Schroeder's example inspired his neighbor Ashleigh Corby, who is the general manager of the Market Cross Pub and director of marketing for Rillo's. Both establishments served lunch to participants Wednesday and sold food for donations.

"I was able to see the change in Ray and his family," Corby said. She was involved in a charity golf tournament in May that raised \$3,600 for hotel fare for participants. Tom Davis of Reading, Mich., flew in Wednesday with his wife Jamie and 20-month-old daughter Lylli. It was his first wounded veterans ride.

Bringing hope home

Davis was wounded on June 3, 2006 during a night patrol in the Ramadi area of central Iraq. An Army sergeant, he was riding in the front passenger seat of a Humvee when the passenger side tire struck the pressure plate of a concealed IED.

The explosion hurled the vehicle some 20 feet in the air and killed the gunner when it landed back on top of him. As for Davis, the blast destroyed his left knee and broke both his shoulders. His left leg was later amputated below the knee.

Following 15 months of rehab, Davis returned to active duty as an instructor at Fort Benning, Ga., where he taught new recruits techniques on how to spot IEDs and what to do when they find one. Davis retired from the military in June 2008.

Since then, his life as a civilian has been a series of ups and downs. Lately, Davis has been training at home to ride a hand cycle in sporting events starting this August. "There is no reason to quit living," Davis said. "My life is not over. I can still do everything I could do before."

Once again the General Smedley D. Butler Detachment was invited to kick off the Memorial Day festivities at Dunwoody, an assisted living facility in Newtown Square, PA. The attached pictures show some of the members of the Color Guard preparing for the program.

The first picture shows Lloyd Spangler, Detachment Ceremonial Bugler, Jimmy McGuigan, a past Commandant and Jim Ross who happens to work at Dunwoody.

The second picture shows Jack Kelly and Bob Spano making sure their flags were at the correct height.



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:

<u>From January 1, 2009 and thereafter</u>	
<u>Up to 35.....</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>
<u>Age 36 to 50.....</u>	<u>\$400.00</u>
<u>Age 51 to 60.....</u>	<u>\$300.00</u>
<u>Age 61 and older.....</u>	<u>\$150.00</u>

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.

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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.



2011 Installation of Department Officers...



Department Commandant Neil B. Corley is sworn in by National Judge Advocate Dick Gore.



Recently, Walter Zamorski of the MGySgt John W. Zaengle Detachment was awarded the Mary Cody Award presented to any Dept of MCL member volunteer for outstanding participation in the VAVS Program

Mary Cody, a Woman Marine, and wife of Pat Cody, PNC, gave exceptional service to her fellow veterans and was a long time volunteer. This award was established in memory of her long and distinguished service.

Picture is (L to R) Walt receiving his award from PA Dept of Marine Corps League Commandant Neil Corley.

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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18 June 2011

Historic Marine base gets 1st-ever female general

By SUSANNE M. SCHAFFER, Associated Press - 17 hours ago

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) For the first time in its 96-year history, a female general is taking charge at the famed Marine Corps training depot at South Carolina's Parris Island.

Brig. Gen. Loretta Reynolds, who is also known as the first female Marine to ever hold a command position in a battle zone, takes charge Friday at the installation south of Beaufort.

Parris Island graduates about 20,000 Marines annually and is the only site where female enlisted Marines are trained to enter the service.

Reynolds is a native of Baltimore and a 1986 graduate of the Naval Academy. She has worn the Marine Corps uniform for 25 years.

She is taking over from Brig. Gen. Frederick Padilla, who is taking charge of the 3rd Marine Division in Okinawa, Japan.

In her new position, Reynolds also will be in charge of the Marines' Eastern Recruiting Region, which covers the 23 states east of the Mississippi River.

As a one-star general, Reynolds becomes only the third female general officer in the more than 200,000-member Marine Corps. The service has two two-star female generals, one in the active duty ranks and another in the Marine Corps Reserve.

Overall, there are 12,339 enlisted females in the Marines, 108 warrant officers and 1,224 officers, according to Marine Corps figures. On its Parris Island website, the service said training for men and women is identical, and that roughly 2,400 female recruits go through it every year.

Reynolds trained as a communications officer and commanded Marines from platoon to battalion levels in her more than 20 years in uniform.

She has been posted in Okinawa, Japan; Quantico, Va., Iraq and Afghanistan, and was in command of the Marine Recruiting Station in Harrisburg, Pa.

She also worked with at the headquarters of the Marine Corps in its communications and computer division in Washington, D.C.

Reynolds' last posting was in charge of the Headquarters Group for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force based at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

While serving a yearlong tour of duty in Afghanistan, she oversaw five Marine battalions and military company from Bahrain. While there, she took a base that had "fed, housed and equipped more than 10,000 Marines and expanded the base to handle an additional 10,000 Marines and sailors," the website for the 1st Marine

Expeditionary Force said. The site added that the command slot position meant she was "recognized as the first female Marine to command battle space."

Before her time at Camp Pendleton, Reynolds was a division chief with the Joint Staff at the Pentagon.

Reynolds also has attended the Marine Corps University in Quantico, Va., the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., and the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa.





On June 14, 2011, the MGySgt John W. Zaengle Detachment mustered to participate once again in the Jarrettown Elementary School Patriot Day celebration to honor veterans, past and present. The Detachment performed a Flag Fold Ceremony. Bill Volz read the meaning of each fold while Jim Fay, Leroy Clark and Steve Phillips performed the Flag Fold and presented the flag to Drew Amic of the Glenside VFW Post #676. Jim Fay presented three flags and explained the difference and the meaning of each. He also provided a short history lesson on the beginnings of the American Flag. Joe Geeter of the Montford Point Marines Association was the keynote speaker, and spoke on the first Flag Day. He also taught the children how to properly salute. The Kindergarten class sang several songs. The Jarrettown choir sang several patriotic songs. It was a very stirring educational event.



(From L to R) Ben Warner, Jim Fay, Sr., Bill Volz, Joe Geeter, Drew Amici, Leroy Clark, Steve Phillips.

MGySgt Joe Geeter represents the Montford Point Marine Association proudly.




General Smedley Butler Detachment's Color Guard helped kick off **Navy Week** activities at the American Helicopter Museum and Education Center in West Chester, PA. USN Admiral Joseph F. Kilkenny, Captains Dan Bates and John Mills attended. From Wilmington, LCDR Emily Pulka also attended. Seaman Second Class, Cory, sang the National Anthem.

The Admiral gave a short speech and had his picture taken with those who were in the audience. Jerry Leone (Jerimyjetpilot) from the Detachment was the Detachment's photographer.



Marine Corps League representatives pose for a photo during the May 23rd Walk For The Wounded held at Rosetree Park. Great turnout. Upper Darby, Delaware County and General Smedley D. Butler Detachments in attendance



The Smedley D. Butler Detachment's "Women in the Military" exhibit has moved to the Springfield Library. It was installed in June 2011.

Take a few minutes to visit the library to see this interesting exhibit.

It includes WW2 and Korean era uniforms, posters, pictures and other items of interest. Featured is a picture of Marine Bea Lloyd, a member of our auxiliary.

9:00 AM Northampton Memorial Day ceremony at the Robert H. Dembowski, Jr Veterans Memorial Park. Patriot Detachment member Mike Lecker was the keynote speaker (photo with Lecker at podium extreme right).



Patriot Detachment's annual 8:00A M flag lowering ceremony in front of the Northampton Building's Veterans Memorial Flagpoles after which the Detachment members hoist the Marine Corps flag.



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Mailing Label

(if needed)

2011 Fall Staff Meeting

14-15 October 2011

Meetings at Headquarters Building

Sleeping Arrangements

Days Inn, Lickdale

3 Everest Lane, Jonestown/Lebanon, PA

717-865-4064

Room Rates: \$50.00 double

/ \$54.00 king

Deadline: 1 October 2011

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



On Sunday, May 1, 2011, Lewis B. Puller Detachment presented the MCL Eagle Scout Award to Douglas Kennedy of Troop #174. Pictured with Eagle Scout Kennedy is Assistant Scout Master Lou Biscuit and Allen Ferguson, both members of the Lewis B. Puller Detachment.