

Scuttlebutt

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment 1914 1915

Incorporated 1991

P.O. Box 184 • Newtown Square, PA19073

Website • www.genbutlerdet.org

Commandant Jim Flynn

Email: flynnelectric@yahoo.com



Volume XXXV, Issue 04
April 2025

Dan Luty, editor

Commandant's Report April 2025

Our Detachment has lost another beloved member. Dominic D'Alessandro passed away on 24 February 2025. Dom served in the Marine Corps from 1966-1972. He was an active member, participating in all the Detachment activities. He was our Judge Advocate, a post he was well suited for because he had the courage to speak his mind and make the sometimes-controversial decision.

He was our flag retirement chairman, a loyal HUHO fundraiser, and always showed up for the Adopt-a-Highway program. Dom was well liked and respected by all. Dom served 2 years as Detachment Commandant. During my first term as Commandant, I would ask his advice and he would tell me, "Don't rock the boat". Dom will be sorely missed not just for the work he did, we're going to miss his guidance and friendship, as well. May he rest in peace.

At our March meeting I was honored to swear in our newest member, Bernard Fernandez. Bernie served in the Marine Corps Reserve for six years.

Bernie is also a member of Post 805 and has been participating in veteran's funerals with the Honor Guard. If his name sounds familiar it's because Bernie was a writer for the Philadelphia Daily News for many years, mostly covering boxing. He had a speaking role in one of the Rocky movies. He's an interesting character with many stories to tell. I had the opportunity to read one of the books he's written and would recommend it. I believe Bernie will be an asset to the Detachment. Welcome aboard Sir!

Our color guard led the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in Springfield last week. While the weather wasn't the best, the crowd was great, and it felt good to get out marching again. We're about to start getting busy. The casket flag ceremonies start in April. These are held on the second Sunday of the month at 1700 hours at the Veterans Memorial. Jerry Nail will be taking on a larger role with these events, with the possible addition of a rifle salute. We will need more help. If you would like to participate, please arrive by 1630. I'm sure we'll have more information on this at the April meeting. Our annual HUHO fundraising drive will also begin this month, and again we will need help, and we'll have more on that at the meeting. Please try to attend on 1 April at 1900 hours at Post 805.

Semper Fi,

Jim Flynn
Commandant

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"SCUTTLEBUTT" BOOSTER CLUB



Help support our award-winning newsletter and become a member of the Booster Club!

Any monetary contribution helps offset the cost of publication and mailing. We wish to thank our current boosters. With their assistance, we can continue our **award-winning** newsletter!

APRIL BOOSTERS

Bud Davis
Jim Flynn
Jim Herbst
Bill Inverso
Dominick Longhi
Bob Spano

Thank You Boosters!

Bob Spano

Paymaster

If you are interested in being a "Scuttlebutt" Booster, please see Bob Spano.

Birthday Greetings for April

The Detachment staff sends best wishes to the following members who are celebrating a birthday this month:

Arthur Caldwell

Joseph Diresio

Donna Moisiades

Ben Sides

Leslie Turner



Happy Birthday...and many, many more!

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Officers

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Commandant | Jim Flynn |
| Sr. Vice Commandant | Jim Herbst |
| Jr. Vice Commandant | Ed Seidl |
| Adjutant | Bud Davis III |
| Paymaster | Bob Spano |
| Judge Advocate | Open |
| Sergeant-At-Arms | Joe Beal |
| Chaplain | Christopher Bush |
| Service Officer | Claude Falcone |
| Director | Bill Kinney |
| Director | Mike Burbo |
| Director | Jerry McGuckin |
| Jr. Past Commandant | Bud Davis III |

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment Committee Chairmen

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Adopt-A-Highway | Jim Flynn |
| Auxiliary Liaison | Chris Bush |
| Awards | James Herbst |
| Ceremonies | Joe Beal |
| Color Guard | Wayne Williams |
| Communications | Gene Kern |
| Flag Collection | Bob Spano |
| Home Association | Bob Spano |
| Honor Guard | Mike Milliken |
| Honor Guard Assistant | Open |
| Marksmanship | Gene Kern |
| Membership | James Herbst |
| Newsletter (Scuttlebutt) | Dan Luty |
| Newtown Twp Vets Park | Bill Kinney |
| Nominations | Bud Davis III |
| Property | Bob Spano |
| Scholarships | Wayne Williams |
| Scouting | Ed Seidl |
| Toys-For-Tots | Jim Flynn |
| V.A.V.S. | Claude Falcone |
| Web Master | Ilene Silvers |

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

General & Healthcare Benefits

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| VA Hotline | 800-827-1000 |
| Veterans' Healthcare | 877-222-8387 |
| Education | 888-442-4551 |
| Grave Markers | 800-697-6947 |
| Life Insurance | 800-669-8477 |
| Website | www.va.gov |

Looking Ahead

DETACHMENT EVENTS

April

- 01** General Meeting, MMP #805, Broomall, 1900.
- 09** American Legion Meeting, MMP #805, Broomall, 1900.
Dinner at 1700 for \$10 per member.
- 10** Bingo Party – Coatesville V.A.M.C. at 1400.
- 12** Spring cleanup of Medal of Honor Grove, 1601 Valley Forge Rd, Phoenixville, 0830-1330. Waiver required.
- 28** Casket Flag Ceremony, DCVMA, West Chester Pike, Newtown Sq., 1700. Report at 1630.

May

- 06** General Meeting, MMP #805, Broomall, 1900.
-

OTHER VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS REGULAR EVENTS

AmVets: Harold P. Saks Post #118, 211 N. Morton Ave., Morton, PA 19070. Meetings the first Wednesday of every month at 1900.

American Legion: Broomall Post #805, 2340 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA. Meetings the second Wednesday of every month, at 1900.

American Legion Nunan-Slook Post #338, Meets the second Tuesday at 7:00 PM of every month at the corner of Ralston & Graslynn Avenues, Havertown, PA.

Upper Darby Detachment #884 MCL, 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2000, 1026 Providence Rd. Secane, PA. 19018

Disabled American Veterans, Delaware County Chapter 113, meets the 3rd Monday at 1900 at the Nunan-Slook American Legion Post #338, corner of Ralston & Graslynn Avenues in Havertown.

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 67, AmVets, Harold P. Saks Post #118, 211 N. Morton Ave. in Morton, PA meeting is 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 PM - no meetings July or August.

Other Organizations' Events (Cont'd.)

Delaware County Detachment MCL, Breakfast, 3rd Sun of the month (except Jun, Jul & Aug), 0800-1130, \$15.00/person. DELCO Detachment, Upland, PA.

M.O.D.D. "Devil Dogs" Triboro Pound #19, Pack of Penna., Growls (meetings) are the second Wednesday of the month at 1930. Growls are held at the Upper Darby Detachment Home, 1026 Providence Road, Secane, PA 19018.

Veterans of Foreign Wars: Broomall Post #7390, Meetings the second Thursday of the month at 1930. Meetings are held at the Marple Twp. Municipal Building, Sproul & Springfield Roads, Broomall, PA.

Veterans of Foreign Wars: Herbert W. Best Post # 928, Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month except in September, it will be the day after Labor Day, the 2nd (Tuesday and the 3rd Monday) Meetings are held at Herbert W. Best Post # 928, VFW, MacDade Blvd. and Sutton Avenue, Folsom, PA.

MARK YOUR 2025 CALENDAR

03 June: Scholarship Awards Dinner. More information to come!

?? November: Combined Detachments Birthday Ball

02 December: Toys-4-Tots Holiday Dinner and General Meeting.

SICK CALL

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jim Mulhern Ben Sides | Pete Patrucci Jim Constien |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|

Please remember to notify Chaplain Chris Bush (610.353.5569) of an illness, or of a member or family member passing away.

General Smedley D. Butler Detachment #741
Marine Corps League
General Meeting Minutes – 4 March 2025

Commandant: Commandant Jim Flynn opened the meeting at 1900 and the regular opening ceremonies were conducted. Officers present were Commandant Jim Flynn, Senior Vice Commandant Jim Herbst (absent), Junior Vice Commandant Ed Seidl, Adjutant Bud Davis, Paymaster Bob Spano, Judge Advocate Bud Davis (acting), Chaplain Chris Bush, Service Officer Claude Falcone (absent), Sergeant-at-Arms Joe Beal, Junior Past Commandant Bud Davis, Directors Bill Kinney (absent), Jerry McGuckin and Mike Burbo.

Minutes: Mike Burbo made a motion to accept the minutes from the February Detachment general meeting as published in the Scuttlebutt. Ed Seidl seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Senior Vice Commandant: Jim Herbst (absent), per email, Jim wanted to remind members that the next Detachment function will be the June Scholarship Dinner. Jim will have more information in the coming months.

Junior Vice Commandant: Ed Seidl reported that he is working with past Jr. Vice Jerry McGuckin to finalize the upcoming HUHO schedule. Jerry has a schedule laid out; he just needs to work with the locations. The program will run from April 4th weekend until the end of September.

Adjutant: Bud Davis reported that several letters of appreciation have been received from organizations the Detachment has supported. These letters of thanks are from the following: Tunnel to Towers Foundation and Fisher House Fund.

Judge Advocate: Open position. Rest in Peace Dominic D'Alessandro.

Paymaster: Bob Spano provided the Paymaster's report as of February 2025, reviewing income and disbursements for the month. Chris Bush made a motion to accept the Paymaster's Report as received. Jerry McGuckin seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Chaplain: Chris Bush reported that he spoke with several members of the Detachment and their families. Chris asked the Detachment membership to keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Chris asked if any Detachment member knows of someone that is ill or needs help to please contact Chris.

Sgt-at-Arms: Joe Beal, no report.

Service Officer: Claude Falcone (absent), no report.

Director: Vacant.

Director: Mike Burbo, no report.

Director: Bill Kinney (absent), per email, Bill reported the casket flag raising ceremonies at the DCVMA will be held on the second Sunday

of the month at 1700 starting in April. Bill would encourage all members to attend, as they are quite moving.

Junior Past Commandant: Bud Davis mentioned with the passing of Dominic D'Alessandro, the Detachment's Judge Advocate and Flag Chairperson positions are open. Anyone that is interested in either or both positions are asked to talk with Commandant Flynn. Bud stated he will be acting Judge Advocate for now, as per the bylaws one is needed to hold meetings.

Committee Reports:

Adopt-a-Highway: Jim Flynn reported that he hopes to have an event sometime in April.

Auxiliary Liaison: Chris Bush, no report.

Awards: Jim Herbst (absent), no report.

Ceremonies: Joe Beal, no report.

Color Guard: Wayne Williams (absent), per phone call, Wayne wanted to remind members that 15 March is the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Springfield.

Communications: Gene Kern (absent), no report.

Flag Collection: No report.

Honor Guard: Mike Milliken reported that the Honor Guard participated in 4 funerals for the month of February, bringing the 2025 year to date total to 11.

Membership: Bob Spano stated that there was an application for membership. He introduced Bernard Fernandez, who had served in the USMCR from 1966 to 1972. He was introduced to the Detachment by Jerry McGuckin. Ed Seidl made a motion to accept Mr. Fernandez as a regular member and Chris Bush seconded the motion. Mr. Fernandez was then sworn in as a regular member of the Detachment by Commandant Flynn.

Marksmanship: Gene Kern (absent), no report.

Newsletter: Dan Luty (absent), no report.

Property: Bob Spano reported that progress is being made. Bob also reminded members that they can support the Scuttlebutt newsletter (\$10) by becoming a monthly booster. Please see Bob before or after the meeting to support the newsletter.

Scholarships: Wayne Williams (absent), per phone call, Wayne reported that the Detachment Scholarship forms are available. He asked members to review the guideline / eligibility section of the form. He also stated that if you need the State or National Scholarship information to please contact him.

Scouting: Ed Seidl reported that he performed four Eagle Scout Awards in February. All four awards were for members of Devon Troop #50.

Toys for Tots: No report.

Unfinished Business: No Unfinished Business.

New Business: Each year the Detachment recognizes the achievement of a Villanova University NROTC midshipman. This year’s commissioning ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, 15 May at 1530. Any Detachment member who would like to attend, please notify Wayne Williams by the April Detachment meeting. Wayne is the Detachment liaison for this event. Mr. Spano is working on getting the award for this event made.

Good of the League: Daylight Savings Time begins on 9 March. Starting with the April Detachment general meeting until the end of daylight savings time in November, the uniform will be short sleeve shirt, proper collar pin, ribbons and name tags. Along with black trousers and black shoes.

Announcements: Bob Spano reported that contributions will be discontinued until the Detachment starts to collect funds through the HUHO program.

Adjournment: Commandant Flynn asked for a motion to adjourn. Chris Bush made a motion, Gerry McGuckin seconded, and the motion passed. After the regular closing ceremonies, the Detachment’s general meeting for March was adjourned at 1950.

Logbook: **Members:** 12 **Guests:** 0

Respectfully submitted,

Bud Davis III
Adjutant

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[Check us out on the web at:](#)

www.genbutlerdet.org



Friends of the Project to Document the 1979 Events at Camp Fuji:

I cannot overstate my gratitude for your patience as the University of Nebraska Press pushes through the production process the book you have helped create.

Two days ago, I returned corrected galley proofs to the publisher. The next steps: printing and binding.

While the official release date is June 1, you can pre-order *Fuji Fire: Sifting Ashes of a Forgotten U. S. Marine Corps Tragedy* at this link right now:

<https://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/potomac-books/9781640126459/fuji-fire/>

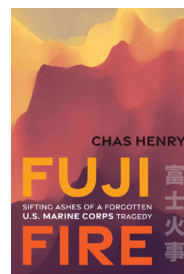
Advance orders can also be placed via Amazon, other online retailers, or through your favorite local bookstore. Just search “Fuji Fire” or ask your bookstore clerk to do so.

Note: Contact member Mike Burbo before ordering, he can get a significant discount.

I am told that purchasers who make advance orders could receive the book during April or May.

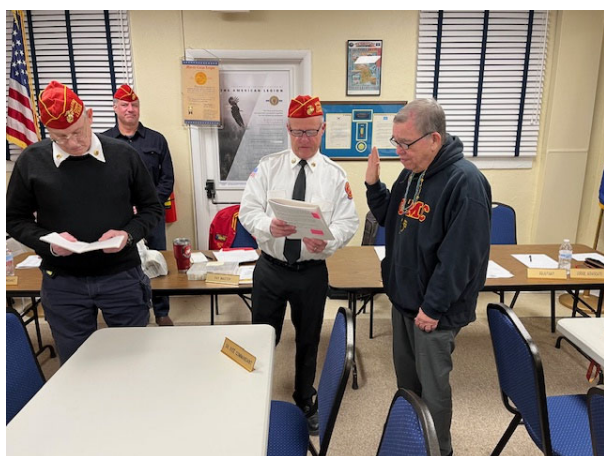
Meantime, project updates are now being posted here:

<https://chashenry.com/fujifire/>



Thank you again for your help ensuring a comprehensive documentation of events surrounding the typhoon, fuel spill and fire at Camp Fuji.

Gratefully, and Semper Fidelis,
Chas



New member Bernie Fernandez being sworn in during the March General Meeting



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Smedley D. Butler Detachment

P.O. Box 184

Newtown Square, PA19073-0184

Honor-Courage-Commitment



Color Guard, Springfield St. Patrick's Day Parade

Next General Meeting

1 April 2025 @ 1900

American Legion Post #805

Broomall, PA 19008

Ms Scuttlebutt



General Smedley D. Butler Marine Corps League Auxiliary #264

Department Meeting



Ruth Moyse and Evelyn Brimble attended the Department Spring Meeting at Ft. Indiantown Gap.

Happy Birthday

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Donna Moisiades | 4/14 |
| Sissy Hudson | 4/27 |
| Evelyn Brimble | 5/1 |
| Betty Andruss | 5/12 |

If you're able, send them a card or give them a call on their special day.



VA St. Paddy's Party



Polly Bush, Evelyn Brimble and Robin Sheeran served refreshments at the Coatesville VA St. Patrick's Day party.

April



Evelyn Brimble
President
610-356-0851
brimdaev2@verizon.net

Sissy Hudson
Sr. Vice President

Polly Bush
Jr. Vice President

Janet DeSantis
Judge Advocate

Jackie Ciminera
Treasurer

Jo-Ann DelVacchio
Secretary

Sandi Maurer
Correspondent

*Our next meeting is
Tuesday, April 1, 2025
7:00 p.m.*

*American Legion
Marple Memorial Post 805
2340 West Chester Pike
Broomall, PA*

Forms

Forms workshop and potluck will be held at Evelyn Brimble's home on Saturday April 26th @ noon.