

Nittany Leathernecks



December 2004

"Valiant service is not limited to combat."

From the Commandant



November marked a great month for the detachment. The NROTC/MCL Ball at the Penn Stater was a success. The guest of honor, MGen Frances took a great deal of time talking about (and introducing) various members of the detachment in her remarks. We had a very good turn-out also, although I hope next year will be even better. Four days later we conducted our own detachment birthday celebration at Celebration Hall in State College. We had great attendance with over 70 participants. There was a ceremony, cake cutting, special awards, and a "guest" speaker. Special thanks to Dallas Lyken for making all the arrangements. Special thanks also goes to Deborah Baier for her support.



Detachment Birthday Ball Celebration



Some of many at NROTC/MCL Birthday Ball Celebration

Later in the month we had our annual Toys for Tots Kick-off Breakfast at the Atherton Hotel. More than 100 showed up for this event, which was covered by the local TV network. Check our wrapping schedule out on the web site, and also in this newsletter, relative to December Toys for Tots events.

Also don't forget to give Gene Weller a call if there is something special you'd like to do for him in terms of volunteering your time and talent. Since the kick-off breakfast, we have already been actively engaged in the program effort. This remains a 10 month planning effort followed by 2 months of grunt work. We need your support

Detachment 302

Department of Pennsylvania

United States Marine Corps League

Chartered 1974 / Incorporated 2002

<<http://marines.centreconnect.org>>

DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA



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and involvement. Lend a hand.

As we close out 2004, I would like you all to start thinking about our upcoming officer elections in February. Nominations will be considered at the January meeting. Elections will be held in February with an installation dinner being held in March. We need to continue to interject new blood into the leadership as we move forward, so I ask you to seriously consider serving in one capacity or another. We have much to offer the community. Many of you have much to offer the detachment. It doesn't take a big commitment to make a difference. We have enough horsepower in the detachment to spread the work load out so that the bulk of the burdens do not fall on a few.

From Central/State

There were numerous VA-related messages passed to us from State this month. Space does not allow us to print all of it this month. Check the state web site. We will also put the information on our own site.



VAVS

This month, some members of the detachment will be participating in a visit to the James Van Zandt VA Hospital in Altoona. Give Greg Johnson a call if you would like to help.



Eagle Scout Awards

2004 Presentations: Matthew S. **Burkett**, Troop 370 (1-18-04) -Det rep: D. Joyce; William H. **Weaver IV**, Troop 66 (1-18-04) -Det rep: D. Joyce; Christopher J. **Ritter**, Troop 367 (1-25-04) -Det rep: G. Johnson; Paul **Falkenstern**, Troop 44 (2-08-04)-Det rep: Lykens; James S. **Bickle**, Troop 370 (2-8-04) -Det rep: Lykens; Jacob D. **Lucas**, Troop 45 (2-14-04); Justin S. E. **Helms**, Troop 375 (2-15-04)- Det r ep: Lykens; Eric J. **Nordberg**, Troop 380 (2-25-04)- Det rep: G. Johnson; Norman O. **Wenrick, IV**, Troop 20 (3-14-04) -Det rep: Lykens; Justin **Wilson**, Troop 44 (3-27-04) -Det rep: Lykens; Christopher B. **Lentz**, Troop 32 (4-18-04) - Det rep: TBD; Joshua A. Belcher, Troop XX (5-10-04)-Detrep: Lykens; Kevin P. **Ward**, Troop 31 (5-23-04) - Det rep: Lykens; D. Luke **Marion**, Troop 31 (5-23-04) - Det rep: Lykens; Joshua T. **Beben**, Troop 20 (5-23-04) - Det rep: Bechdel; Ryan E. **Griffin**, Troop 83 (5-23-04)-Det rep: Weller; Vincent F. **Fiore**, Troop 83 (5-23-04)- Det rep: Weller; Jameson L. N. **Whitehill**, Troop 399 (5-23-04)- Det rep: Bechdel; Kevin **Dobash**, Troop 32 (7-3-04)- Det rep: Lykens; Kevin **Dobash**, Troop 32 (7-3-04)- Det rep: Lykens; Tyson J. **Daniels**, Troop 83 (8-22-04)- Det rep: Lykens; Benjamin T. **Reddington**, Troop 83 (8-22-04)- Det rep: Lykens, Matthew J. **LeRoy**, Troop 83 (8-22-04)- Detrep: Lykens; Robert J. **Regan**, Troop 83 (8-22-04)- Det rep: Lykens; William J. **Waugh**, Troop 34 (11-21-04)-Detrep Lykens; Matthew S. **Bell**, Troop 32 (12-05-04)-Detrep Lykens; Rodney L. **Solt, Jr.** Troop 45 (12-18-04)-Detrep TBA.

[Eagle Scout Awards Committee: Chairman- Dalls Lykens; Members: Bill Robison, Jack Bechdel, John Hammond, Greg Johnson, Denny Mains, Don Joyce.]

Girl Scout Gold Award

The following is a list of all presentations conducted for 2004: Megan **Brooks**, Troop 438 (11-21-04)
Detrep-TBA; Samantha H. **Masters**, Troop 438 (11-21-04)

Five-Year MCL Membership Medals

Jack **Bechdel** and Bill **Klaban** were awarded their 5-year Membership Medals during the November meeting. We will resume giving two medals out at each meeting beginning at the January 2005 meeting. You can't get one if you aren't there.



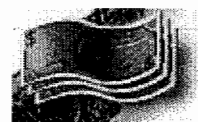
Detachment Birthday Ball Celebration

Seventy-two members and guest attended the detachment's annual birthday ball celebration, which was held at Celebration Hall in State College. Awards, prizes, and a speech rounded out the cake cutting by Gerry Russell and LCpl Todd Clark of the State College Marine Corps Recruiting Office. To make you all feel old, LCpl Clark was born 5 October 1983. We are not sure about Colonel Russell's age since his birth certificate was apparently destroyed during the War of 1812.



Meeting Cash Raffle

And the Winner is!...Marty **Kaschalk** was our meeting attendance winner for the November drawing. The drawing netted Marty \$166. Marty, however, chose to return half of his winnings to the detachment (for which we thank him). We will not have a cash award this month since there will only be a short get-together on the 14th at the Penn Stater Conference Center, during one of our Toys for Tots work nights. The cash take-home amount for the January meeting will be \$25, plus half of whatever is donated prior to the drawing.



Meeting Protocol Reminder

It was noted at the October meeting that detachment members have been violating Elks Club protocol at our monthly meetings. In all fairness to the membership, many do not recall being given any guidance about this. The issue of smoking in the facility came up. Interestingly enough, many of our members initially cited smoking as a reason they would not attend our meetings. So the transgression goes well beyond the Elks Club rules and regulations. It was made clear that detachment members should NOT pass through the galley on their way to the restrooms. From now on be sure to go through the bar area. Beginning in January, we will return to a buffet meal format for those interested in coming a little early. The Elks will provide a buffet meal for \$10 beginning January. To ensure this service, the detachment has guaranteed a minimum number of participants. Please think about this benefit in the future. Not only is the price right, you will receive a good meal and have pleasant company.



New Members

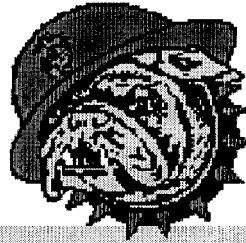
We would like to welcome aboard Marine David **Stiehler** and Navy Corpsman Joseph **Horvath**. David is currently serving in Kuwait. Joe is a researcher at the Pennsylvania Military Museum in Boalsburg. Dave was recruited by Bob Johnson. Gerry Lyons recruited Dave.

Toys for Tots Work Schedule

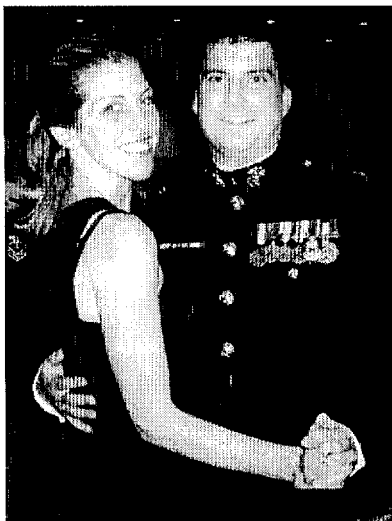
In addition to assignments that include emptying barrels, the following wrapping/logistics schedule is provided. Call Gene Weller if you would like to help with additional tasks...

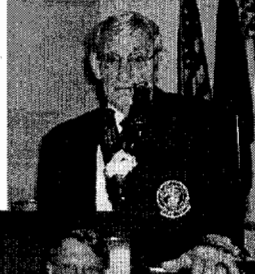


- 10 Dec. (Fri) 6 p.m. -set up Penn Stater
- 11 Dec. (Sat) 10-12 a.m. / 2-4 p.m. - Penn Stater
- 14 Dec. (Tue) 4-8 p.m. - Penn Stater (abbreviated mtg at 7 p.m.)
- 15 Dec. (Wed) 1-8 p.m. - Penn Stater
- 16 Dec. (Thur) 1 p.m. -when complete - Penn Stater
- 17 Dec. (Fri) -as directed clean-up if needed



For the Scrapbook...





Membership Renewals/Status

Total members: 146 Regular Members and 3 Associate Members for a total of 149 members. Of the 149 members, 64 are Life Members

Due December- Ashe, Carper, Etters, Mixer, McBride, Sager, Weller, Whitehill

Due January- Carfley, Garis, Spearing, Wheland, Yohn

Delinquent- Heckman, A.King, Tami Mondy, Risio, Manuel, Cassler, Ellis, Mazzara



Calendar of Events

Each Friday	Lunch at the Legion. State College American Legion Post 245. 1200 rain or shine
Dec	Webmaster annual payment.
10-17 Dec	18th Annual Centre County Toys for Tots Campaign. Penn Stater Conf Center
14 Dec (Tue)	Detachment Meeting. Abbreviated meeting will be held at Penn Stater Conference Center at 1900.

2005

11 Jan (Tue)	Detachment Meeting. Bellefonte Elks Club. 2005 Officer nominations. 1830 dinner; 1930 business meeting; 2030 adjourn
8 Feb (Tue)	Detachment Meeting. Officer elections.
28 May (Sat)	Spring Creek Cemetery Memorial Day Flag Placement
June - TBA	Pennsylvania Special Olympics
Jul	Lemont Post Office Box fee renewal
7-10 Jul	People's Choice Parking Detail, Pennsylvania Military Museum Boalsburg
Nov - TBA	Friends of the Nittany Leathernecks Dinner

Next Meeting:

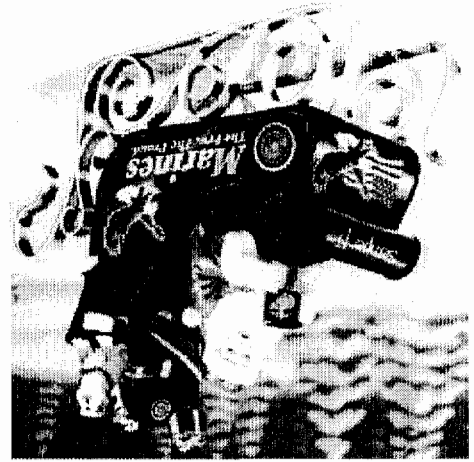


7 p.m., Tuesday, 14 November 2004

Penn Stater Conference Center at Penn State

★ TOYS FOR TOTS CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY -
CHECK WORK SCHEDULE TO HELP

December 2004



An Incorporated Nonprofit Organization

Nittany Leathernecks Detachment
United States Marine Corps League
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Just in case you can't think of that "something special" gift that will tell your editor just how much you appreciate him. (The ribbon will be a nice touch, but is not necessary!)