



THE BULLDOG BULLETIN



Jul, Aug, Sep 2021 Edition

Monthly meetings are held at

2409 Bethel Church Road

Bethel Park, PA 15102

7:30 pm the first Wednesday of each month.

Commandant's Corner

OK here we are, as the virus has finally loosened its grip on humanity things are starting to go back to normal for our organization. I have waited to pen this edition so I can give the detachment a better report to show we are healing.

Memorial Day was what I think a bell weather event to show we are back; we performed a memorial service in Beechview organized by our Jr. Vice that went very well. The parade in Bethel Park was a resounding success. It was stated by the Mayor (Jack Allen) that this was the largest participation of the public in 6 years. The Young Marines did an excellent job representing our detachment. Thank you to our color guard leader.

We have had the first in person meeting of the MCL by the state in over a year and our district 10 Vice gave the state a great accounting of what our district can do. Detachments from the district provided the hospitality room, a great success which we were a part of. As for the meeting itself during the commandant's council where we hear from other detachments I come to realize we were not as bad off during this pandemic as others. Most detachments did not have a Ball last year. It is a testament to our membership that we not only survived but continued to accomplish our duties as a MCL organization. Thank you all.

Thanks to our Sergeant at Arms for attending the meeting with me your attendance is greatly appreciated and look forward to your report at the next meeting.

One of the things I hope we can get back to is our fund raising we need to push hard, for that is the most important part of our mission. We can't help the community or our veterans without funds. We are still being represented at the local food bank at SHIM (South Hills Interfaith Ministries) in Bethel Park, Whitehall and Baldwin. I know we can do more.

Look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting. Keep the faith.

Semper Fi

Commandant Matt Popovich

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Color Guard

South Hills Pittsburgh MCL Detachment 726 attending the Beechview Memorial Dedication.

L to R: Joe Turba, David Luikart, Joe Spinnenweber, Bob Malley

Keystone Young Marines



Young Marines attending the dedication in Beechview of a new Memorial.

Also attending the dedication was the South Hills Veterans Honor Guard



Young Marines placing a wreath at the WWI Memorial.

It's Picnic time again

The Marine Corps League, South Hills Detachment 726 will host a pig roast at the August 1, 2021 Summer Picnic, Hamilton Park, Castle Shannon, PA. We will roast a +40-pound pig over a charcoal/wood fire using an electric spit. We will use an apple/garlic marinade, developed from +10 years of pig roasts. Please bring your favorite side-dish, dessert, and beverage. The start time is 12 noon, location will be at the lower pavilion this year.



Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania 2021 Veterans and Youth Raffle

	Prize	Ticket Number	NAME on Ticket	Selling Detachment
1 st	\$ 5,000.00	M 4605	TOM BRUSH	First Capitol
2 nd	\$ 1,000.00	L 1052	Gregory Shew	Landis-McCleef Aux.
3 rd	\$ 500.00	B 8646	Thomas Hildreth	R.M. Butterweck
4 th	\$ 100.00	M 3110	Rob Kiehl	First Capitol
5 th	\$ 100.00	K 1189	Joe Spinnenweber	South Hills Pittsburgh
6 th	\$ 100.00	M 5441	Dan Dagney	All Divisions
7 th	\$ 100.00	C 2301	Aristides	R.M. Butterweck
8 th	\$ 100.00	G 2395	Tabetha Chester	Det. #294
9 th	\$ 100.00	C 2352	Jamal Taylor	R.M. Butterweck
10 th	\$ 100.00	D 1318	Det. #298	Det. #298
11 th	\$ 50.00	D 11421	Richard Cameline	Northampton County
12 th	\$ 50.00	L 9573	Newberry Independent Club	Det. #388
13 th	\$ 50.00	C10819	Theresa Simmons	R.M. Butterweck
14 th	\$ 50.00	C 5430	Charles Good	R.M. Butterweck
15 th	\$ 50.00	B 10255	Ray Babik	MODD Pound #229
16 th	\$ 50.00	D 8950	Det. #298	Det. #298
17 th	\$ 50.00	B 5772	Cheryl Gill	R.M. Butterweck
18 th	\$ 50.00	G 8836	Dave Berkhimer	Lancaster County
19 th	\$ 50.00	B 8979	Mary Jane Dunleavy	R.M. Butterweck
20 th	\$ 50.00	L 2855	Cameron Weller	Landis-McCleef Aux.
	\$7,700	THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT		

Congratulations to:

Joe Spinnenweber
the 5th prize winner
of the Youth Raffle.
Joe is our detach-
ment Sergeant-at-
Arms.



TIDBIT FROM THE EDITOR

The Marine Corps Has a War Dog Graveyard on Guam



Guam has been an American territory since the United States took it from Spain in 1898, with only one interruption -- the brutal three-year occupation by the Japanese Empire during World War II.

Liberating Guam required the United States [Marine Corps](#) to call in a couple of platoons filled with special operators: jungle fighting dogs of war. They were the Devil Dogs' devil dogs. But the island would become the final resting place for many of them.

To honor their sacrifice, the U.S. military established the National War Dog Cemetery there, where it is to this day.

Not long after the surprise attack on [Pearl Harbor](#), the Japanese assaulted American forces on Guam, taking the island in just two days. They would hold it until it could be recaptured by U.S. Marines in 1944.



When the Marine Corps returned to the island after three years of brutal Japanese occupation, they brought with them the 2nd and 3rd War Dog Platoons. These uniquely trained dogs, mostly Doberman Pinschers, were able to counter Japanese defense tactics, which wreaked havoc on the Marines assaulting them.

Dogs were used to sniff out land mines obscured by the jungle floor. They warned Marines of ambushes in caves and woods, found booby traps and snipers and kept watch over their troops at night, when the Japanese liked to sneak up on sleeping positions.

Hundreds, maybe thousands of Marines owe their lives to their four-legged scouts. The memorial itself features the names of 25 war dogs who landed on Guam and gave their lives protecting U.S. troops from harm.

Their service to the Marines was so effective on Guam that every Marine division in the Pacific was assigned a war dog platoon.

After the island was secured, the 25 dead dogs were buried at the initial landing area. Their remains were eventually moved to the Marine cemetery on the island and white headstones were added to the cemetery.

In the 1980s, retired veterinarian William W. Putney traveled to Guam. He had helped train the dogs as a Marine captain and served as the commanding officer of both platoons during their heroic effort to retake Guam from the Japanese.

What Putney found was disheartening for their old skipper and trainer. The graves were unkept and overgrown with weeds and other plants. The sacrifices of these canine Marines who paved the way for dogs to serve in every conflict since World War II seemed completely forgotten.

Putney was able to raise funds to restore the War Dogs Cemetery and build a monument to all military working dogs -- past, present and future.

The main monument features a Doberman Pinscher named Kurt who saved the lives of 250 Marines on Guam by warning them of a Japanese ambush in the jungle. On the monument, Kurt's ears are upright as he maintains his watch over his resting fellows. The base of the monument is inscribed with the names of the 25 dogs who lost their lives in the battle to retake Guam.



SEMPER FIDELIS

Biography of State Senator Devlin Robinson

Senator Devlin Robinson was elected in November 2020 to serve residents of the 37th State Senatorial District, which includes parts of Allegheny and Washington counties in southwestern Pennsylvania.

His top priorities as state Senator include reducing crushing taxes and regulatory overreach that have stifled economic opportunity and holding the line on spending and taxes. He also is committed to full, fair, and consistent funding for school districts and supports reforming Pennsylvania's public pension system.

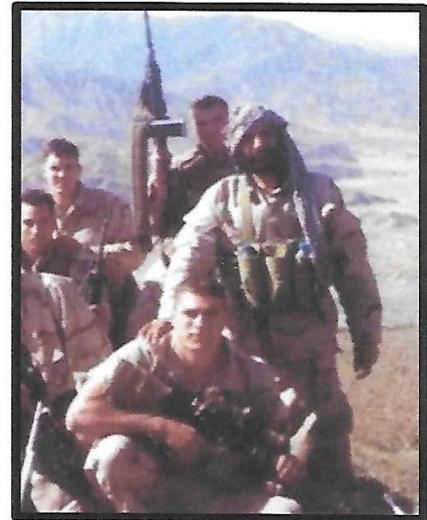
A native of southwestern Pennsylvania, Robinson was raised in the working-class Brookline neighborhood of Pittsburgh and attended Central Catholic High School. After graduation, he joined the United States Marine Corps – continuing a family tradition of military service dating back four generations.

Following the 9/11 attacks, Robinson requested assignment to the infantry, ensuring him a spot on the front lines. He served one combat tour in Afghanistan and two in Iraq, where as an infantryman in Nasiriyah (“ambush alley”) Devlin’s unit fought door-to-door to rescue Army POW Jessica Lynch. He also later served in Fallujah.

Upon his honorable discharge, Devlin returned home to Pittsburgh and founded his own company, Veterans Medical Technology. Under the GI Bill, Devlin earned a business degree from Robert Morris University and an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh’s Katz School of Business.

A resident of Bridgeville PA, Robinson is active in several philanthropic groups – including the Semper Fi Odyssey, Bridgeville/South Fayette International Rotary, Knights of Columbus, Ancient Order of the Hibernians, Peters Township VFW, Bridgeville American Legion, Bethel Park Marine Corps League, and St. Barbara Catholic Church.

Robinson volunteers with numerous veterans’ organizations in and around the 37th District.



Visit our web site

www.marinecorpsleague726.com



OHIO VALLEY MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DETACHMENT 882 - GLENFIELD, PA

**INVITES ALL SHOOTERS
To Compete in the 3rd ANNUAL MCL
DETACHMENT #882 RIFLE MATCH**

This year the match will also qualify MCL Members
and MCL Associate Members as the
PA MCL MARKSMANSHIP RIFLE MATCH

Saturday, September 18th

(Back-up/Overflow date Sunday September 19th)

Registration

Online @ <https://www.ohiovalleymcl882.com>

or Mail-In

Registration Opens on July 5th
& Closes on September 10th

Cost: \$30 per shooter

Sign-ups begins at 0800

Shooting commences at 0900

- 200 yards firing point
- 10-X Targets
- MCL rules will apply
- Pit duty is required



Millvale Sportsman's Club

170 Sunny Hill Road

Wexford, PA 15090



Classifications

- Iron Sights & Open Class
- Optics (4x max) are permitted and will compete in Open Class
- Match Teams any Class (MUST have 5 shooters)
- PA MCL Teams Iron Sights **ONLY**

Firing Position

- 3 - Sighters
- 10 - Offhand
- 15 - Sitting or Kneeling
- 15 - Prone
- **All Single Load Firing**

882 MATCH AWARDS

All Shooter Eligible

- 1st,2nd, 3rd Team Scores
- 1st,2nd, 3rd High Shooters – Iron Sights
- 1st,2nd, 3rd High Shooters – Open Class

PA MCL AWARDS

MCL Members and MCL Associate Members ONLY

- 1st,2nd, 3rd Team Scores – Iron Sights ONLY
- 1st,2nd, 3rd High Shooters – Iron Sights
- 1st,2nd, 3rd High Shooters – Optics Class

Detachment 882 Committee

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As we are all aware, May through September are months with holidays symbolized around the American Flag (Flag). I recently participated in a Flag replacement at the Bethel Park Cemetery, organized by American Legion Post 760, Bethel Park, PA. Before we started our project, we were reminded the reason we were there was not a maintenance task to replace old flags but to **show respect** for our lost warriors.

The origin of the first Flag is unknown. Some historians believe it was designed by New Jersey Congressman Francis Hopkins and sewn by Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross.

The original design of our Flag is based on the so-called Grand Union Flag, also known as the Continental Colors Flag. The Grand Union Flag had 13 red and white stripes but instead of stars in the upper right-hand corner it had the Union Jack, Great Britain's flag. The Flag Resolution of 1777 replaced the Union Jack with the 13 white stars on blue background.

The Flag's nick name, OLD GLORY came from Massachusetts Sea Captain William Driver's large 10-by-17-foot flag, which he called OLD GLORY. Capitan Driver's flag is said to have survived multiple attempts to deface it during the Civil War inspiring the common nickname.

The Flag has another familiar nickname "The Red, White and Blue". This nick name comes from Flag's colors starting with a **red** top strip, which symbolizes hardness and valor, followed by a **white** stripe, which symbolizes purity and innocence, with a **blue** background for the fifty stars, which symbolizes vigilance, perseverance and justice.

Between 1777 and 1960 Congress passed several acts which changed the shape, design and arrangement of the Flag allowing the stars to be added to reflect the admission of each new state. Today the Flag consists of 13 horizontal stripes, seven red and six white. The stripes represent the original 13 Colonies and the stars represent the 50 states of the Union. The stars are arranged with six columns of five rows and five columns of four rows.

The thirteen original colonies include (1) New Hampshire, (2) Massachusetts, (3) Connecticut, (4) Rhode Island, (5) New York, (6) New Jersey, (7) Pennsylvania, (8) Delaware, (9) Maryland, (10) Virginia, (11) North Carolina, (12) South Carolina, and (13) Georgia.

The National Museum of American History has taken a long-term project to preserve the 1814 Flag that survived the 25-hour shelling of Fort McHenry in Baltimore by British troops and inspired Francis Scott Key to compose "[The Star-Spangled Banner](#)", which is our national anthem. The Flag is stored at a 10-degree angle in a special low-oxygen filtered light chamber and is periodically examined at a microscopic level to detect signs of decay or damage within its individual fibers.

On a side note, "The Star-Spangled Banner" was composed on September 14, 1814 and became our national anthem in 1931.

G. Woodside, Historian, 5/16/2021.

DETACHMENT'S MISSION STATEMENT

Members of the Marine Corps League join together in camaraderie and fellowship for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps, banding together those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been honorably discharged from that service that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy, voluntarily aiding and rendering assistance to all Marines, FMF Corpsmen and former Marines and FMF Corpsmen and to their widows and orphans; and to perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.



#0001/1775

ALWAYS FAITHFUL
SERVING PROTECTING



TAPS

*No Report of
fallen Brothers
Or Sisters*

