

We got your back "Skipper"

In ALL directions

THE BULLDOG BULLETIN

Apr, May, Jun 2022 Edition



Marine Corps League



Commandants Corner

Spring is finally upon us and we can start hopefully putting COVID behind us. It looks like we will be attempting to go back to a more normal time, a time before this virus that has plagued us for more than 2 years. I am excited and looking forward to the upcoming year for our detachment.

We should be having a few Rose campaigns this year to build up funds to help in the local and veteran community. We have already scheduled one for the end of June at Casti Village in Castle Shannon. This is a big event that takes place there before the 4th of July for local vendors to set up booths.

In the 1st quarter this year we helped a family in need that had a flood in the home. Senior and Junior vice with the coordination of our new member Kevin Goughan loaded 2 full dumpsters of all matter of destroyed household goods. Thank you all for the help. This is what we do.

If you missed our meeting in February it was a good one, we had 2 special guests, Jack Wagner who spoke on behalf of "Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs" with whom our rose campaign funds were donated. We also had a veteran that was a recipient of the program brings his companion Foxy. It was very informative as to what these service dogs can do. We will continue to give to this program for it is very important we take care of veterans in need.

We are getting into our most busy time for parades and color guard activity, Bob Malley has done a great job for us being the head of this group but he needs our help... We are running short of volunteers for this detail and I am hoping the detachment will step up. For me there are few finer details that give me the opportunity to show pride in our detachment and the country, by carrying the flags that represent freedom fills my chest with pride. Please think of volunteering for this detail.

Matt Popovich
Commandant
South Hills Det#726

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The Detachment has a new hanging sign for outside the Post



Old

New

I would like to introduce to you the two
Brains who put this together for us

Stan

Orzechowski

Graphic Designer



Bekah

Lane

Printer of
Designs at

FAST SIGNS

A special thank you to **Kevin Gaughan** our newest member
of our Detachment for the diligent effort to put this together

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 29th, Parade in Carnegie at 2 pm. Attendees arrive at 1:15 pm for belts and harnesses

May 30th, Bethel Park Parade at 9 am

June Friday 24th Rose Program to be held at Castle Fireworks

(some information subject to change)

Here is a story for ya

Again, Kevin Gaughan and assistance with the Lions Club steps up assisting a family in dire need this family was distraught, the basement was flooded, boiler and hot water tank, washer and dryer out of working order and a basement with debris that should have been tossed out years ago. Kevin, a Marine, gave guidance to the younger members of instruction on cleaning the mess up and out of the basement and to disinfect everything. Once the basement was cleared appliances replaced or back in working again, one other detail need to be met, Marines to the rescue. All the debris that was removed from the basement and into the back yard had to go, and in two hours, two dumpsters were filled and hauled off due to the efforts and muscle provided, the property is now livable again.

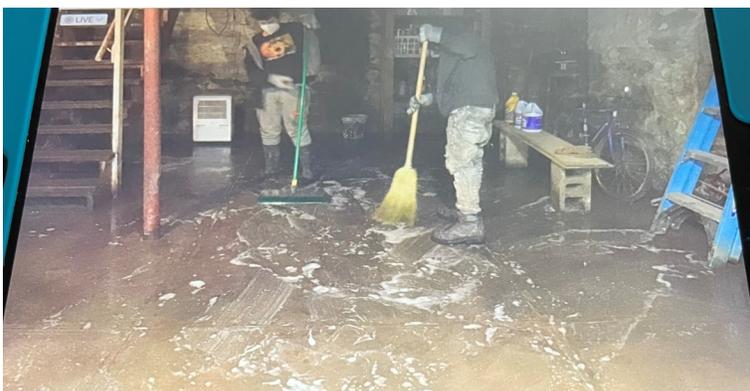


Photo to the right The Dumpster Loading Crew



From L-R Daelan and Shawn (family members) Sr. Vice Commandant Gary Woodside, Commandant Matt Popovich and Jr. Vice Commandant Chuck Burrow

Together We Can UNLEASH THE POWER TO HEAL



MedicalServiceDogs.org

JOIN US AND BECOME A PART OF SOMETHING TRULY SPECIAL

At Guardian Angels, we regard each recipient as a unique individual with very specific medical needs and challenges. That's why, no matter the combination of challenges they're facing, our trainers work with each dog to meet each individual recipient's exacting requirements including:

- Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Mobility Assistance
- Diabetic Alert
- Seizure Alert
- and More



Last year our detachment donated \$1,000.00 to this organization to train and pair a Service Dog with a veteran in need. This is a worthy organization and our detachment has elected to donate again this year through donations from the Rose Program and other donations . Property has already been purchased to build a new facility for training these dogs.



Matt Popovich Bio

Born in 1955 to a middle class family in New Jersey I had a somewhat normal childhood as normal as the son of a WWII south pacific Marine could be. My father's brother was in the Army fighting in Europe during the battle of the bulge, the discipline for us growing up was tough to say the least but it made me and my sibling's stronger people. I have 2 older brothers and a younger sister, my oldest brother is a Vietnam veteran of the Navy and served on the USS Ticonderoga aircraft carrier. My oldest son served in the Army so you can see I come from a family of service to the country.

My military career spanned 12 years from 1976 to 1988 these were mostly peacetime years with very few conflicts but I had the opportunity to see a great deal of the world with my comrades. Even though we were attached to the air wing we were field Marines for my MOS was surface to air missile systems called HAWK which meant "Home All the Way Killer.

In my fledgling days our firing battery was attached to NATO exercises in Germany with other nations involved in the biggest joint services operation to date. This was when we were still an amphibious service. We took an Atlantic boat ride over and back and had ports of call in France, Scotland, England and Demark. Best time of my young life.

My career since then has also been challenging with a lot of training including cold weather at the mountain warfare center in Bridgeport California also called "pickle meadows" one of my other favorite field excursions. We were in constant training mode spending many months of live missile firing in many desert locations including the test ranges at White sands and other notable locations in Nevada. And no I didn't get to see any aliens or weird space craft although we were part of the first Stealth aircraft in service, trying to track those aircraft was impossible.

I have a great fondness for my time in service and because of that I hold what I continue to do in my senior years a bonus. Serving with all the other heroes of the Corps past and present I cannot put a price on.



OHIO VALLEY MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DETACHMENT 882 - GLENFIELD, PA

**INVITES ALL MCL MEMBER SHOOTERS
& ASSOCIATE MEMBER SHOOTERS
TO COMPETE IN THE
1st ANNUAL SPRING MCL DETACHMENT
#882 RIFLE MATCH**

**THIS MATCH WILL QUALIFY AS ONE OF THE 2022
PA MCL MARKSMANSHIP RIFLE MATCHES**

Saturday, April 30th

(Back-up/Overflow date Sunday May 1st)

Registration

Online @ <https://www.ohiovalleymcl882.com>
or Mail-In

Registration Opens on Saturday, February 12th
& Closes on April 30th

(walk-ins welcome if space is available)

Cost: \$20 per shooter

(food will be provided at the conclusion of the shoot)

Sign-ups begins at 0800

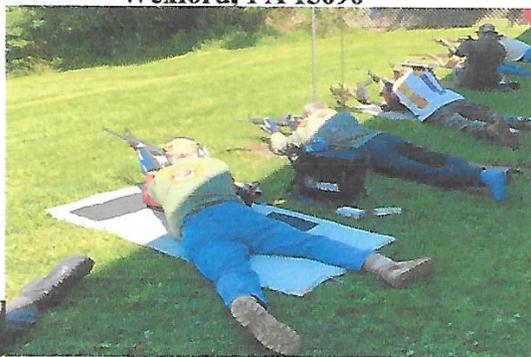
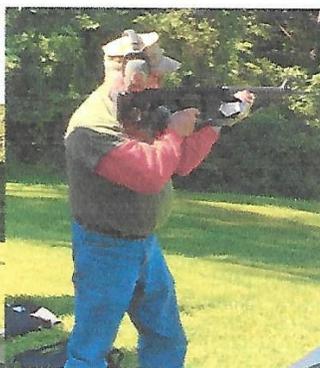
Shooting commences at 0900

-200 yards firing point

-10-X Targets

-MCL rules will apply

-Pit duty is required



Range Location

Millvale Sportsman's Club
170 Sunny Hill Road
Wexford, PA 15090

Classifications

-Iron Sites & 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

Top 3 Overall Shooters

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

Michael Shaffer — Chairman

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Gary Farole — PA Department & Millvale Club Liaison

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Scott McBride — Vice-chairman

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Marine Corps League

Detachment 726

Historical March 2022

Lieutenant James E. Swett, United States Marine Corps Reserves (USMCR) was awarded the Metal of Honor on October 12, 1943 for extraordinary heroism and personal valor above and beyond the call of duty in action against enemy Japanese aerial forces in the Solomon Islands on April 1943. Lieutenant Swett was awarded the Metal of Honor at Espiritu Santo Island, New Hebrides by Major General Ralph J Mitchell.

Naval Advance Base Espiritu Santo or Espiritu Santo Naval Base, most often just called Espiritu Santo, was an advance Naval base that the U.S. Navy Seabees built during World War II to support the allied effort in the Pacific.

Espiritu Santo Naval Base was located on the island Espiritu Santo in the New Hebrides, now Vanuatu in the South Pacific. The base also supported the U.S. Army and Army Air Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, and US Marine Corps. Espiritu Santo Naval Base was the first large advance base built in the Pacific. By the end of the war it had become the second-largest base in the theater.

To keep ships tactically available there was a demand for Advance bases that could repair and resupply the fleet at advance locations, rather than bring ships back to the United States. Prior to December 7th, Pearl Harbor was the U.S. fleet's largest advance base in the Pacific.

Lieutenant Swett was the Division Leader of Marine Fighting Squadron 221 with Marine Aircraft Group 12, First Marine Aircraft Wing.

In a daring flight to intercept a wave of 150 Japanese planes, First Lieutenant Swett unhesitatingly hurled his four-plane division into action against a formation of 15 enemy bombers and personally exploded 3 hostile planes in midair with accurate and deadly fire during his dive.

Although separated from his division while clearing the heavy concentration of anti-aircraft fire, he boldly attacked six enemy bombers, engaged the first four in turn and, unaided, shot down all in flames. Exhausting his ammunition as he closed the fifth Japanese bomber, he relentlessly drove his attack against terrific opposition which partially disabled his engine, shattered the windscreen and slashed his face.

Despite serious aircraft wounds, First Lieutenant Swett brought his battered plane down with skillful precision in the water off Tulagi, Solomon Islands without further injury. The superb airmanship and tenacious fighting spirit which enabled First Lieutenant Swett to destroy seven enemy bombers in a single flight were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

First Lieutenant Swett was born June 15, 1950, Seattle, WA.

First Lieutenant Swett died January 18, 2009, Redding, CA and was buried at the Northern California Veteran's Cemetery, IGO, CA.

Gary Woodside, Detachment Historian



I think I will just stay on the porch for this run.



TAPS

**No
Causalities
Reported**

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.



The Keystone Young Marines are currently opening membership to new recruits and adult volunteers to join their mission providing community service, aiding veterans and giving back to local communities. For more information on how you could benefit from this program, visit: www.youngmarines.org or contact Bettina Radcliff at 412-884-5893

MARINES

Teaching, instructing values learned and able to pass on to the future generations of responsibilities and needs of others, supporting, an organization like none other from ages 8 to 18.

