



# THE BULLDOG BULLETIN



Apr, May, Jun 2023 Edition

## Commandant's Corner



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The February 12, 2023 Super Bowl LVII (57) between the Philadelphia Eagles and Kansas City Chiefs was a nail biter to the very end. The underdog Chiefs won in the last few seconds of the game with a 38 to 35 victory after being down in the first half.

During the post-game interview, Chief's quarterback Patrick Mahomes stated the Chiefs won because they played as a team. After my first quarter as the Detachment Commandant, I can say we are successful because of our team of dedicated officers and members.

On January 14, 2023, the Detachment Trustees consisting of myself, SR Vice Commandant Chuck Burrow, JR Vice Commandant Joe Turba (JT) , Judge Advocate Michelle Prokopchak, Sgt-at-Arms Joe Spinnenweber (Spinn) and past Commandant Matt Popovich met to discuss our 2023 goals and activities .

We set the 2023 Birthday Ball for Saturday, November 11, 2023, the annual picnic for Saturday August 12, 2023. We are planning two Rose Campaigns in 2023. Watch for details as we get close to the dates. So far, we have 25 members (30%) who have opt-in to receive the quarterly newsletters by email.

Matt Popovich, and Spinn represented our detachment at the January 21, 2023, Department of PA Marine Corps League Winter Conference at Camp Hill, PA on Saturday, January 21, 2023.

Don and Joyce Bailey represented our detachment at the February 2023 Marine Corps League National Mid-Winter meeting, Norfolk, VA.

District 10 Jr. Vice Commandant Andy Burch in several emails complemented Detachment 726 for our participation in the quarterly district meetings, Department PA conferences, and the Purple Heart event.

The 2023 Department of PA Convention is scheduled for June 1-4, 2023 at the Double Tree Hotel, Monroeville, PA. We will provide details as they come in. We need to provide volunteers to work the Convention, if you are interested please let me know. I put my name in the hat to volunteer.

Thank you all for your support.

Semper Fi

Gary Woodside

Commandant South Hills Detachment #726

**Starting off a new term of Officers**  
**“NEW TEAM, SAME MISSION”**  
**New Leadership, On Board!**



**L-R, SVC Chuck Burrow**  
**CMDT, Gary Woodside**  
**JVC, Joe Turba**



**We**  
**Are**  
**Ready!**

**Two new members, left Alex Papiernik and right Associate member Jessica Farrari**







**Plaque presentation to  
now Past Commandant  
Matt Popovich presented  
by Don Bailey National  
Assistant Sgt-At- Arms.**



**Matt,**  
*Put on your soft cover  
and take off your  
pack. There is a new  
“Skipper” on board.  
Now you can lay on  
the porch and watch  
the Big Dogs run.  
**OOHRAH!***

**Leadership, Honor, Respect**



**From the Sr. Vice/Communications Officer/Newsletter Editor**

*From time to time it was mentioned that the newsletter will be going digital and more so now due to prices of materials have increased like everything else so, if I have received your email information you will receive the newsletter by email and hopefully those who did not respond to a call that was left on your answering machine you will elect to do so as we do not want you to miss out on the detachments latest information as we are accomplishing more than you are aware of.*

*You do have a choice of Opting “IN” or Opting “OUT” if you elect to Opting “OUT” you will still receive the newsletter but may take longer for you to receive it. Just like everything else we do need to evolve and get to what is happening everywhere else, things always change and we need to do the same.*



## ROSE PROGRAM

Started by U.S. Marine Eddie Gallagher from New York, The **Marine Rose Program** was designed to parallel the VFW "Poppy" program to provide funds for Marine Corps League Detachments to assist veterans and youth and provide miscellaneous other services to the community.

We as a detachment follow suit of traditions and responsibilities of providing assistance of those in need and the need is great in all areas. With the assistance of our membership we are able to fulfill some needs but not all, we do what we can and it helps. Again we are reaching out to members who will be able to assist as we do plan for a year at a time in advance. Not to worry, we have your back, but we also need yours with this endeavor.

## SCHEDULED

On Saturday May 13, 2023 there will be a gathering of members who participate in this program at the Busy Beaver establishment on Rt. 88 near McNeilly Road. The times of attendance are 10am-2pm but those who would like to participate we do need to know who would attend as we may be able to extend the times of donations.

As we continue to move forward to give you the best that we can do to make a Birthday Ball Celebration more successful a guest speaker has been secured for Saturday November 11, 2023 at Gianna Via's Social Hall in Baldwin just like last year, it was a great event.

## BRAIN TEASER

How many have watched **"TOPGUN, MAVERICK"**? The part of the desert low level flight. The actual pilot was a Naval Aviator who flew the F/A-18 Hornet # 5 of low level maneuvers with the Blue Angels. He is our guest speaker... more to follow, in the next newsletter.





**Let's play "Who is this *Marine*"**

**CLUES**

**He is a member of this detachment, can you guess what his duties entailed?**



Basic Infantry



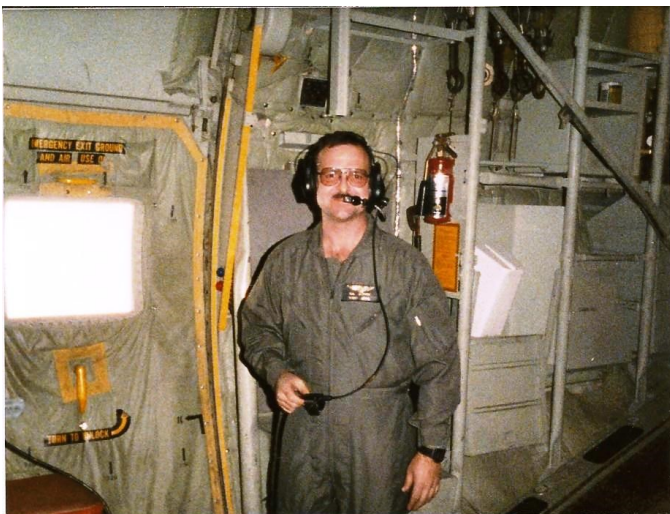
Communications



Aircraft Hydraulic/Pneumatic Mechanic



Field Wireman



Flight Mechanic



Aircraft Maintenance Chief of a Harrier  
Jet Squadron

## **Membership, What does that mean to you?**

A formal membership organization is a nonprofit that grants its members specific rights to participate in its internal affairs. These rights are established in the articles of incorporation and defined in more detail in the bylaws. Usually in a formal membership organization, members elect the board and/or the officers; approve changes in the bylaws; and authorize major transactions such as mergers and dissolution of the organization. In short, members have a strong interest and voice in the future of the organization and not only in the tangible benefits that they may receive as members. For example, trade associations and business leagues are membership organizations in which the members rely on the organization to advocate for better business opportunities for their line of business.

Our Marine detachment organization is no different from other organizations as we conduct business that support the needs of others also known as a VSO (Veterans Service Organization) and that is who we are and which you a part of as well, never forget that. We need your participation of attendance.



### **Speaking of Membership**

***Are your dues paid up?***

***All dues must be paid up by the end of September of the present year for the following year.***

### **Young Marines Mission Statement**

The mission of the Young Marines is to positively impact America's future by providing quality youth development programs for boys and girls that nurtures and develops its members into responsible citizens who enjoy and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

**Bettina Radcliff Young Marines Liaison**



***Young Marines***



## HISTORICAL SECTION

### The Buffalo Rangers

Beginning with World War II, opportunities were created for African Americans to enter specialized units that had previously been off-limits to them, such as the Marines and Air Corps. Under pressure from labor leader A. Phillip Randolph and the NAACP, President Franklin D. Roosevelt instructed the armed forces to provide training for more Black Officers and to create all-Black units throughout the military.

The most famous were the 332<sup>nd</sup> Fighter group (The Tuskegee Airmen) and the 761<sup>st</sup> Tank Battalion, later known as “Patton’s Panthers” for their exploits during the Battle of the Bulge. While the 332<sup>nd</sup> and 761<sup>st</sup> were disbanded after World War II, as the Army dragged its feet on integration another specialized unit – the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Infantry Company (Airborne) – served with distinction in Korea.

Organized in 1950, the “Buffalo Rangers” as they called themselves, were made up of numerous World War II combat veterans, including some who had served in the famous “Triple Nickel” all-Black paratroop Battalion. In Korea, members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> distinguished themselves on numerous occasions dropping behind enemy lines, most notably as part of the Operation Tomahawk in the liberation of Seoul in March 1951. Later that year, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger Company was disbanded, having earned four campaign streamers.

Historical by

Matt Popovich

Detachment 726



## Mission Statement

*The mission of the Marine Corps League is to promote the interest and to preserve traditions of the United States Marine Corps; strengthen the fraternity of Marines and their families; serve Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and FMF Chaplains who wear or have worn the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor; and foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism.*



The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is now: 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. 988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. While some areas may be currently able to connect to the Lifeline by dialing 988, this dialing code will be available to everyone across the United States starting on July 16, 2022.



## TAPS

*No Casualties to report*

**Hey! Devil Dawg, find another bone to chew on. I'm busy. Go play with the Commandant, he will play with you. (the editor)**

