



Holcomb Gazette

General Thomas Holcomb Detachment Marine Corps League



Commandant Ray Snyder

October 2011

Commandant's Report for October 2011 for the Holcomb Detachment.

Progress is the watchword. We are back holding meetings at the Reserve Center; Blue Rocks season has concluded successfully; the new CO and 1st Sgt. are on board and have been welcomed; our Christmas Party is scheduled; we will clean the highway on the 15th and Penn's Landing Beirut Bombing Memorial service is on the 23rd, and Toys for Tots is just around the corner.

No "formal" welcome yet for Capt. Knapp and 1st Sgt. Dickson but we will invite them to a meeting soon to accomplish that. When I met, the word was passed that we are there for them should they need anything. Toys for Tots is not nailed down yet but Sgt. Diaz has been around long enough to know what's what. If the gym is finished with rehab we will again work there. Hopefully it will be.

Warner Jester had another operation and went back home on the 28th. He has around-the-clock care and would enjoy a visit from Marines. Things are looking up.

Speakers are scheduled for October and December with November's meeting being the USMC Birthday celebration. I am looking for suggestions for what or who to have at our January, February, or March meetings? April will be devoted to elections.

Oh yes! Eagle Scout program is now functional. Have presented four certificates so far and the word is out to the scoutmasters. Delaware is the 26th state participating.

Don't forget we want YOU to speak to US about who YOU are. We need to get to know each other. Take ten minutes, or five, or more and fill us in on your scoop.

Veteran's Day is 11 November. Watch for details on date and time for the bridge ceremony. Jim Thompson is heading up the program this year. Please attend.

Semper Fi,
Ray Snyder
Commandant

"What the hell did you expect, anyway?"Quote of Gen. T. Holcomb, CMC, in answer to newsmen who asked why the Marines unyielding defence of Wake Island contrasted so greatly with the debacles at Clark Field and Hong Kong

CURRENT OFFICERS

Commandant	Ray Snyder	328-1662	Oilworks32@msn.com
Sr. Vice Commandant	Dave Gryniewicz	378-2006	grunidr@aol.com
Jr. Vice Commandant	Roy Edler	995-2461	SilverFxx@aol.com
Judge Advocate	Neil Greenstein	547-8500	Jneil22@gmail.com
Adjutant	John Murphy	832-9569	Johnmurphy553@comcast.net
Paymaster	Roy Cathcart	636-0369	Rocky Cpt@live.com
Chaplain	Rev. John Bailey	652-4424	Jbailey70@yahoo.com
Sgt At Arms	Myron Smith	397-8956	Myronsmith508@comcast.net
VAVS Representative	Lee Taylor	328-9340	ltaylor1919@yahoo.com

Holcomb Detachment WebSite: www.HolcombDet.org

Holcomb Detachment email: THDet-MCL@hotmail.com

Minutes of Regular Business Meeting - 12 September 2011

Meeting called to order by Cmdt. Snyder at 1900. Opening ceremony, as per MCL Ritual, conducted by Sgt.-at-Arms Myron Smith and Chaplain John Bailey. 23 Members, including ALL Officers, and 4 Guests were present.

Nick Palazzo, Military Community of Vets addressed those present, briefly, announcing a Golf Outing, 24 Sept. 2011, and scholarships to be formed. For further information, call [\(610\)580-6245](tel:(610)580-6245).

Cmdt. Snyder reported having received a letter from the Hagley Museum, expressing appreciation for donation of \$500 previously made by Detachment.

The date of the Annual "Newark Day" has been learned, to be 18 Sept. However, to date, this Detachment has not been invited to participate.

A reminder of "Bierut Bombing" Remembrance, to be held on "Penns Landing", 23 October, was made by Cmdt. Snyder.

Cmdt. Snyder announced that on Saturday, 15 October, at 0800, (rain date 22 Oct.), we will fulfill our assignment to "clean the highway" on Limestone Rd.. near the "Lantana Shopping Center." He also announced that the Detachment Christmas party (Dinner), will again be held at the Cranston Heights Fire Hall (on Kirkwood Hwy.), 10 December 2011. The "charge" to each person was yet to be decided.

Paymaster's Report read by P/M, and without question or correction, was accepted on motion of Dale Meyer, seconded by Sr.Vice-Cmdt Gryniewicz.

A letter received, from the "Ronald McDonald House" was read by Cmdt. Snyder. Letter described a need for Donations, and explanation (in part), where money goes. Adjutant Murphy reported that after examining ALL motions, contained in Detachment "Minutes", from 1993 to the present, ONLY two donations were made by the Detachment (1994), two donations made in 2009 (Jan.& Dec.). He explained further, that on 3 occasions money had been received from non-members, to be FORWARDED by Detachment, to the "Ronald McDonald House". On motion by Dick Miller, seconded by P/Cmdt. Fitzgerald, \$500 was to be donated to the "Ronald McDonald House", in two equal payments each (\$250), Now, and again in December. Motion carried.

Pete Grandell was welcomed back to meeting, after sorrowful Death of his Wife, "Kit", and thanked those that attended service. Orindo Di Buio was also welcomed back, after a long absence. Pete read two poems that he had written, one of which was dedicated to his Wife.

It was reported that Charlie Smith's Wife, Eleanor, suffering with "terminal Leukemia", is doing well, despite breaking her foot recently.

P/Cmdt. Jester recently underwent spinal surgery. All went well and he is presently (at time of this report) undergoing Therapy, at Christiana Center for "Rehab", in Wilmington.(for about 2 weeks).

Sr.Vice-Cmdt. Gryniewicz reported that his Wife, "Katy"s condition is improving

P/Cmdt. Fitzgerald provided the undersign, with a copy of "Program" he received, while attending "A Day to Remember", at Claymont's Interfaith Prayer Service, on 11 September 2011..

During meeting Amos Mc Carthy, Thomas Fisher and James Johnson, all of whom have had "claims" successfully handled by the Veterans Administration, gave suggestions, and reasons for handling claims, in certain ways. They emphasized registering with the "V.A.", etc. Written information was distributed.

At 2005 hours, following the playing of "Taps", in honor of Deceased Members, a proper closing ceremony was performed, and the meeting closed by Cmdt. Snyder until 10 October 2011.

Respectfully submitted:

John Murphy
Adjutant

Minutes of Regular Business Meeting 8 August 2011

Meeting called to order by Cmdt. Snyder at 1910 hours. Opening ceremony conducted by Chaplain Bailey and Sgt-at-Arms Smith, as per MCL Ritual.

All Officers present for Roll Call, except Sr. Vice-Cmdt. Gryniewicz, who was excused. P/Cmdt. Jester (accompanied by his Grandson), was welcome back, after personal medical problems.

LIFE Mebership Pin and "card" was presented to J/A Neil Greenstein, by Cmdt. Snyder.

New application for "Regular Membership" was submitted by ANTHONY SALDUTTI. All required documents

presented and approved. Motion to accept new application made by J/A Greenstein, seconded Adj. Murphy. Motion approved, New Member Anthony Saldutti was sworn in by Cmdt. Snyder, followed by a brief 'History' of his "Service" in the Marine Corps AND later the U.S Navy. His Son is presently at "Parris Island".

Carl Hauser "returned" the Detachment Charter, in a "Beautifully - Respectfully" NEW Frame which HE had arranged for (and absorbed the cost).

A fitting recognition of Boy Scouts that have reached the rank of "Eagle Scout", at a "Blue Rocks game" is still pending, awaiting names of such Scouts

Cmdt. Snyder announced and reminded everyone present, that this (8 Aug.) will be the LAST Regular Business meeting to be held at the Cranston Heights Fire Company. Starting with SEPTEMBER 2011, future meetings will once again, be held at the Marine Reserve Center on Kirkwood Highway.

The subject of the upcoming 2011 Detachment Christmas party was discussed. On motion of P/Cmdt. Jester and seconded, motion to make arrangements for said party to be again held, on 10 December at the Cranston Heights Fire Company, was carried. Cmdt. Snyder will confer with said entity, and also the Caterer used last year.

Chaplain Bailey reported on a group of Veterans who had successful experiences with obtaining claims/benefits from the V.A. Members of this group will be present at September meeting to discuss their experiences and "expertise". P/Cmdt. Jester reported his success with the DAV as well.

P/M report offered by P/M Cathcart. Motion made by P/Cmdt. Fitzgerald to accept P/M report as offered. Adj. Murphy attempted to second the motion. P/C Fitzgerald stated this was not necessary, due to said report subject to audit.

Cmdt. Snyder announced that on 23 Oct. 2011, the Annual "Remembrance" of those killed in "Beirut Bombing", will be held at "Penns Landing".

Following the playing of "Taps", in memory of "Deceased Members", meeting was adjourned, as per MCL Ritual.

Respectfully submitted:

John Murphy
Adjutant

Special Luncheon to Veterans at the Community Living Center, Elsmere, DE 23 September 2011

On 23 Sept., 2011, members of the Detachment VAVS offered and served a Special Luncheon to the Veterans at the V.A. Comfort Living Center, Elsmere, DE..

Lunch was served in the Dining Room to 26 Veterans who could eat what was on the menu. In addition, 6 more Veterans were served in their individual rooms. In addition, several Staff Members, and the 10 VAVS Members present, were also served.

The menu served was "Sub Sandwiches"; macaroni salad, small fruit cups, various packages of "chips", and Diet Soda. Chicken Salad sandwiches, provided by CLC, were served to those with restricted diets.

VAVS Members present, were Mary Sowden; Mary Ann and Bob Palute; Lynn and Ray Snyder; Lee Taylor; Al Sosienski; Pete Grandell, and his Daughter, Kristen Grandell, John Murphy.

Mary Ann and Bob Palute handed out a mixture of Blue Rocks hats, and/or Univ. of Delaware T-shirts.

Respectfully submitted;

John Murphy
Adjutant

Eagle Scout Awards

On Wednesday evening, 31 August, 2011, the General Holcomb Detachment presented an Eagle Scout with the Marine Corps League Good Citizenship award, prior to a Blue Rocks game at Frawley Stadium. The scout's name is Marcus Miller. Marcus's mother and father as well as his Cub Scout leader (who has

mentored him ever since) were present. For the League were: John Murphy, Dave Gryniewicz, the Commandant and Gary Greenstein. The before game crowd was not very large but we did get the public exposure. The photo taken on the field during the presentation was just acquired from the Blue Rocks.



A few weeks prior we recognized two Eagle Scouts (Steven Willard Hartman and Eric Walter Hartman, twins) at a ceremony at St. Paul's Lutheran church in Newark. One additional certificate was given to the family of Shain Diebold who had already left to attend college in Colorado.,

Delaware is now the 26th state to participate in the Eagle Scout Program which is a National MCL program. We report to Department on a quarterly basis. Now that the word has gotten out to all troops located in New Castle County we should begin to hear ahead of time when a Court of Honor is to be held for the awarding of the Eagle rank. We would like to have 60 to 90 days to arrange our schedule for someone to attend and present the MCL award at that time, not at some later date. Joe Fitzgerald is our Detachment's Eagle Scout coordinator and he is the contact person for the scout troops and scout masters.

CLEAN OUR ADOPTED HIGHWAY

WHEN? SATURDAY, 15 October 2011. Please make an effort to help with the cleanup. Starts at 8 AM sharp. We can be done in about one hour if we get enough help. After the work detail, join us for breakfast at Friendly's. Each pays their own way.

LOCATION? Route 7 (Limestone Road) at the Lantana Square Shopping Center. Go North past Old Baltimore

Road/Brackenville Road and down the hill to the shopping center on your right. Friendly's is just on your right as you enter the parking lot.

Bring gloves and wear leather shoes because the grass is always wet. If you have a yellow DelDot vest, bring it. They are tight with new ones.

See you Saturday morning. (Originally sent as an email to the detachment)

Home of the Brave in Milford

We can always use household items to take down to the Home of the Brave in Milford. Contact Ray Synder at 328-1662 if you have anything to donate.

Detachment Christmas Party

Our Detachment Christmas dinner party is scheduled for Saturday 10 December at 7 PM. It will be held at the Cranston Heights Fire Co. hall (same location as last year) and will be catered by Appleton Catering (same as last year).

The cost to members is \$15 per person (\$30 per couple) payable by check. PLEASE, NO CASH. Make check payable to General Thomas Holcomb Detachment or Marine Corps League.

Mail to: R. Cathcart,
5104 Woodmill Drive,
Wilmington, DE, 19808.

The ABSOLUTE DEADLINE IS 25 NOVEMBER.

Pictures



From event at Hagley Museum in July.

On the occasion of the presentation of the check in the amount of \$500.00 which the Detachment pledged to support the Hagley Kids in their sending of care packages to Delaware Air National Guard deployed in Afghanistan. Detachment Members present are: John Murphy, Dave Gryniewicz, the Commandant Ray Synder.



Installation of 2011 Officers:

Chaplain- Rev. John Bailey,

Sr. Vice Commandant –Dave Gryniewicz,

Judge Advocate – Neil Greenstein,

Jr. Vice Commandant – Roy Edler,

Commandant – Ray Synder

EPA Rules Lejeune Water Contaminant Causes Cancer

From Veterans Today Sunday, October 2nd, 2011

A long-anticipated report by the Environmental Protection Agency determined this week that exposure to the chemical degreaser TCE causes cancer in humans. In the [Camp Lejeune](#) community, this means that those who lived and worked on base between the 1950s and 1980s, when solvents including TCE contaminated the water supply, may have finally proved what was making them sick.

The report, released Thursday, found that exposure to TCE, short for trichloroethylene, is convincingly linked to kidney cancer, non-Hodgkin lymphoma and liver cancer, with more limited evidence that it causes bladder, esophageal, prostate, cervical, and breast cancers, as well as childhood leukemia.

According to the findings, all routes of exposure can be carcinogenic to humans. Read Full Story at [Jdnews.com](#)



Marine fights for you with one hand.

Posted 9/12/2011

Sgt. Ricardo Ramirez, a combat replacement for 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, wades through an irrigation canal to move into a night observation post in Sangin, Afghanistan, Aug. 5. In February of 2006, Ramirez was wounded in action while serving in Iraq with 3rd Bn., 5th Marines and two years later became the first hand-amputee to re-enlist in the Marines Corps. Since then the multiple-tour combat veteran of both Iraq and Afghanistan has served as an urban warfare instructor, attended the pre-sniper course at division schools and stayed close to his infantry roots. Photo by Cpl. Benjamin Crilly

Final Report - Blue Rocks 2011 Fund Raiser

The 2011 Blue Rocks Season is now over. WE covered all of the 65 games played at home, except for two "rain outs", and two other "School Day/Campout Games."

Unfortunately, our "Commission" was **reduced this year to 5%** (a big cut from last year's 8%). Never the less, we made **\$3051.43** in " Commissions", and **\$2667.22** in Tips, for a TOTAL of **\$5718.65**.
REMINDER - Other than Dues, this is the ONLY "income and/or "Fund Raiser" we depend on. (Last year with the 8% commission, we realized approximately \$8,000). We are going to try and negotiate a higher rate of commission, next year.

National reports we have 103 Members in the Detachment. Of these 103 Members, **only 16 Members**, and the Son of one of our Members, "worked the games." Due to the Dedication, Self -Sacrifice of time away from their families; the cost of gasoline, etc., THEIRS was the example of the meaning of 'SEMPER FI' , and their commitment to the "GENERAL THOMAS HOLCOMB DETACHMENT-MCL" .

I will be "praised" for my part in arranging coverage, etc., but as Charlie Manuel, of the "Phillies" said, "I get the credit, but it is the PLAYERS that do the work." I cannot thank them enough for being there, and VOLUNTEERING for each and every game that needed coverage.. THEY are, with the number of games and hours (5 hrs. per game) plus traveling, they "worked" (I MAY HAVE MISSED A FEW, IF SO, I APOLOGIZE);

Roy Edler - 2(10)
Bob Gleber - 29 (145)
Dave Gryniewicz - 10(50)
Garry Greenstein- 1(5)
Maureen & Dick Miller - 8(40)
Norman Miller - 1(5)
John Murphy - 12(60)
Bob Palute (& Wife at times)12(60)
Bill Persinger - 6 +1 (his Son)(35)
John Ricevuto - 29 (145)
Mike Rush - 1(5)
Charlie Smith - 2 (10)
Myron Smith - 2 (10)
Ray Snyder - 11 (55)
Lee & Bill Taylor - 12(60)
Bob Willoughby - 2(10)

I cannot say it enough. **THANK YOU FOR BEING THERE WHEN "HELP WAS NEEDED"**.

SEMPER FI!
John Murphy

Calendar of Events

October 2011

3	Monday	1900 hours	Detachment Officers meeting.
7	Friday	1130 hours	Detachment Get-together Luncheon, Hunter's Den Restaurant
10	Monday	1900 hours	Holcomb Detachment general membership meeting. THE RESERVE CENTER , 3920 Kirkwood Hwy
10	Monday		Columbus Day
15	Saturday	0800 hours	Highway Cleanup – meets at Lantana Square near Friendlys
28	Friday		VAVS Special Luncheon to Veterans

November 2011

4	Friday	1130 hours	Detachment Get-together Luncheon, Hunter's Den Restaurant
6	Sunday		Veteran's Day Story Telling at Pike Creek Park
7	Monday	1900 hours	Detachment Officers meeting.
10	Thursday	tentative	Marine Corps Birthday – Cake and SPECIAL Luncheon to Veterans
11	Friday		Veteran's Day -ceremony at the Delaware Memorial Bridge (wear covers and appropriate dress for the occasion)
14	Monday	1900 hours	USMC Birthday Ceremony for Holcomb Detachment THE RESERVE CENTER , 3920 Kirkwood Hwy
24	Thursday		Thanksgiving Day
25	Friday		Deadline for Christmas Party checks to Rocky

December 2011

2	Friday	1130 hours	Detachment Get-together Luncheon, Hunter's Den Restaurant
3	Saturday	0900 hours	Christmas Tree decorating and Special Luncheon to Veterans
5	Monday	1900 hours	Detachment Officers meeting.
10	Saturday	1900 hours	Detachment Holiday Party Cranston Heights Firehouse, Kirkwood Hwy
12	Monday	1900 hours	Holcomb Detachment general membership meeting. THE RESERVE CENTER , 3920 Kirkwood Hwy
23	Friday		Christmas

January 2012

1	Sunday		New Year's Day
2	Monday	1900 hours	Detachment Officers meeting
6	Friday	1130 hours	Detachment Get-together Luncheon, Hunter's Den Restaurant
9	Monday	1900 hours	Holcomb Detachment general membership meeting. THE RESERVE CENTER , 3920 Kirkwood Hwy
27	Friday		Tentative date for next SPECIAL Luncheon to Veterans

Marine Corps League

Gen. Thomas Holcomb Detachment

3920 Kirkwood Hwy

Wilmington, DE 19808

**Address Correction Service
Requested**



If you have pictures or written material that might be used in future Gazettes, please send to THDet-MCL@hotmail.com. We usually need material to fill five double sided pages.

Does the Detachment have your current email address? Providing your email address allows you to receive *The Holcomb Gazette* electronically (and saves the Detachment money!). You will also be able to receive any special notices for the Detachment members. We do not share your email address with anyone else, so you will not receive any spam.

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