



Fifty-five Years
1945-2000

Delaware County Detachment



**3602 Sixth Street
Upland, Pennsylvania**

CHARTER MEMBERS

Delaware County Detachment, Marine Corps League

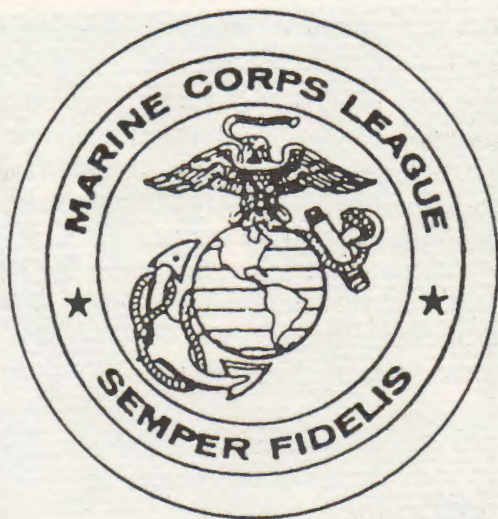
The following named are listed as Charter Members of the Delaware County Detachment of the Marine Corps League, as of January 14, 1946:

John J. Yarnall, *Commandant*

James F. Thomas, *Senior Vice Commandant*

John B. Ashby	Thomas A. McDermott	Raymond S. Hampton
Paul Jenkins	Edward F. Keenan	Francis A. Preztrak
S. Lane Anderson	William F. Lykens	James R. Graf
Charles M. Phillips	William R. Wetten Jr.	Joseph A. Field
Waiter F. Layer	Lawrence Conner Jr.	Robert R. Moffett
James B. Adams	Milton J. Larison	Blair A. Moffett
Abraham Chazin	Francis J. McKinney	Henry D. Nacrelli
Francis H. Ferguson	Edmund R. Bogan	Charles Harris
Robert J. Freeman	Henry Guthound	George Tinion
Peter Plisko	Joseph V. DiCarlantonio	Raymond Dawson
Robert V. Forrest	Thomas C. Wiggins	John E. Carroll
Walter C. Cuddy	Harold R. Herman	Howard C. Blackburn
Floyd E. Rontzbon Jr.	Samuel A. Ruben	Stanley F. Lucas
John J. Leary	Ralph E. Fetter	Bartholomew A. Flanigan
Joseph A. Miele	Joseph F. Connally	Alfred B. Whittington
Edward P. McCrudden	Willis E. Shimmer	Robert D. Sheppard
Russell Davis	William J. Draper, Jr.	Armonis D. Crisanti
Hugh Feeley	Albert J. Jurich	Charles J. Lohrman
William H. Jillard	Harry E. MacGlaughlin	Herman J. Michael
Howard E. Ferro	Joseph J. Halscher Jr.	Eugene D. McGee
Harold J. Vossen	John J. Dillis	Mary Jane Blythe
Bruno E. Basara	John H. Shellenberger, Jr.	Allen R. Locke
William H. Rutkoski	Chester A. Renda	Vincent J. Papi
Andrew Stevenson, Jr.	John W. Degnan	Monroe M. Silvey
Michael Plisko	Edward Ternace	Newman M. Baird
John Ralston	Thomas A. Hayes	David M. Hayes
John L. Oberday	William H. McShea	Robert L. Holland
Charles F. Reeps	John H. Stockman	Charles R. Watson
John D. Seymour	Charles R. Gove	John R. M. Decker
Robert R. Welsh	Thomas C. Taylor	Albert E. Richardson
John C. Tomlinson	William C. Wood	

HIGHLIGHTS
OF OUR
HISTORY
1945 - 2000



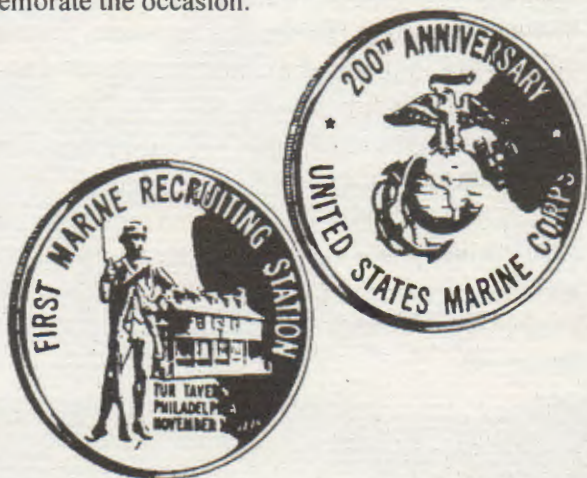
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
Delaware County Detachment
3602 Sixth Street
Upland, Pennsylvania

HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

- 1945** The Delco Detachment was founded in Council Chambers of Chester City Hall in November 1945. Fifteen Marines who served in World War I and World War II accepted the oath of membership. Meetings held in the old Hanley Fire Hall at 5th & Crosby in Chester.
- 1946** Charter was granted - 96 members.
- 1950** Some old salts were called back into the Korean War and a period of inactivity took over.
- 1953** New interests took over and the first Detachment home was purchased for \$3,250.00. Members pledged private money to find the down payment and a move to the old Upland Boro Hall was made May 30, 1957.
A Birthday Ball with 300 in attendance celebrated our 182nd Marine Corps Birthday.
- 1959** The building improvement committee renovated the old Boro Hall and brought new life to the league.
- 1960** Membership grew to 30. New and old enthusiasm brought about many Detachment-sponsored community activities:
V.A.V.S. visits to Coatesville Veterans Hospital
Christmas baskets to needy local families
Christmas party for the children
Sponsorship toward the local Easter Egg Hunt
Support for youth activities: basketball - baseball - football
Social events also were part of the agenda
Color Guard and Marching Unit were formed



- 1963** Awarded Pennsylvania M.C.L. trophy for the most outstanding Color Guard at the State Convention. A party on June 1, 1963, was highlighted with the burning of the mortgage.
- 1971** A devastating flood provided a spontaneous and positive reaction from the membership. A complete renovation brought the building back to respectability.
- 1975** This was the year that the United States Marine Corps celebrated its 200th Birthday—one of the many milestones achieved by the Corps. This same year the Delco Detachment undertook the responsibility of hosting the National Convention of the Marine Corps League. This year marked the 52nd anniversary of the Marine Corps League. Members from all over the nation came and paid tribute to their hosts. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals were minted to commemorate the occasion.



- 1978** Growing pains made the members think about expansion or moving to a new location.
- 1980** The membership approved the most ambitious undertaking in the Detachment's 35 years. The Home Acquisition & Renovation Committee got into intense selling and buying negotiation. The old home was sold 20% higher than the realtor's optimistic expectations. With the Upland City Fathers' approval, the Wynhurst Mansion was purchased on June 25, 1980. "The Impossible Dream" came true. A property appraised at \$280,000 was purchased for \$62,000. The new facility, dormant for three years, had most recently been a nursing home. Heavy and extensive restoration work was needed and the league members knew from experience just what they had to do. Working parties often numbered 25 to 30 persons.

An apartment was completed on the 3rd deck.

The electrical system was upgraded to modern code. The heating system was redesigned and installed.

The interior was completely remodeled.

The exterior was completely refurbished.

The main deck was improved with an up-to-date bar and was the hub for most of the activities.

August 5, 1980, a catastrophe in the form of a fire gutted the topside apartment and resulted in \$70,000 in damages. This undid all the good that many manhours had put into restoration. The flames of destruction only fanned the momentum of the members and some good non-members.

- 1982** Memorial Day dawned with new anticipation. The dedication ceremonies attended by hundreds of members, families and friends, participated in raising the Colors on our new flagpole, over our refurbished post home.
- 1983** Membership continued to grow and everyone took full advantage of the new upscale facilities.
- 1989** Our showcase museum started to take off and two rooms topside were decorated and made secure. New carpets, drapes, valances, and display cases were installed. A large quantity of artifacts were brought out of storage and artfully put on display for all to see and appreciate.



1991 A new serving table was installed outside to accommodate our cookouts and replaced many makeshift tables. The new redwood table was much needed and proud to say it was made in the U.S.A. Five new offices were constructed in our basement to accommodate our house chairman - electrician, our museum storage, our paymaster, and service officers. A very fine addition.

A dream of Gunny Mac's was fulfilled with the addition of our picnic pavilion. The property was surveyed and posted. A 22' x 36' pavilion was erected through the efforts of many. Some seemed to think the working parties had more fun working than they were entitled to. The property named McGrainer-Simpson Pavilion was dedicated with the installation of Officers, Memorial Day, 1992.



1992 This year about two acres of park ground adjacent to our property was leased from the Delaware County park Commission for one dollar per year.

1993 Associate memberships were voted into being with a maximum of 50 at the time.

1994 Our league property was enhanced with the enlargement and paving of our parking area and driveway. The new accommodations were indeed an asset for everyone coming to and from the League.

1995 Our entrance was rebuilt. Paneling and tile were installed and stucco siding applied to blend in with our building. Outside lights, flags and plaques welcome all guests to our league home. Parking bumpers were installed by a working detail and our lot now has some sort of organization.

1996 New sub-flooring and tile were installed in the galley, providing better footing for our breakfast workers and much easier to keep clean.



The foyer was decked out with oriental rugs and throw rugs along with French doors to our poolroom. With our original Fox Hunt mural and oak paneling, our entrance is something special.

1997 A library to house all our donated books, tapes, cassettes and records was needed. The old parlor was sacrificed. Wall-to-wall shelving



was installed, library chairs and tables were obtained along with carpets and curtains – a new room everyone should take advantage of.

Our Membership also sent a thousand dollar donation to the WWII Memorial. Our cold box which is the mainstay of our league was rebuilt with new insulation and should last awhile.

- 1998** November 10th, our Marine Corps Birthday is always celebrated with an open house. A detachment has been going to Independence Hall each year to raise our Colonial flag at 0800 and retire same at 1600. Our "Marine of the Year" is always recognized at the Birthday Ball as a member who exceeds his responsibilities and does a little bit more.



- 1999** A new third room was added to our museum and houses mannequins in full dress uniforms including Lady Marines, Colonial Marines and some Band uniforms. Our locker box has been expanded to include new and attractive items and are displayed throughout the league.
- 2000** A new electronic door opener was installed to aid our bartenders in their many duties.



Memorial Day. A memorial monument was unveiled and dedicated to all fallen Marines, to show our feelings toward our brothers-in-arms.

Our V.A.V.S. program is now directed toward the Veterans at the Elsmere Hospital. A group from the league supports this effort every month.

We continue to work with the Upland Fire Company and the folks at the Upland Borough Hall. Many civic and social events are shared.

Sunday morning breakfast continues to grow. A lot of work by many make it possible.

We support Brookhaven youth baseball and our Christmas party for the Children is well received.

Our "8th, I" trip to Washington, D.C. to see the Evening Parade has always had a spine-tingling effect on the very appreciative group.

Our new members-only summer picnic in appreciation for their loyal and dedicated service seems to be well received.

The Pig Roast held this year in the Fall, was enjoyed by everyone but the pig.

Through the tireless efforts of the Ladies Auxiliary over these many years, a sum in excess of thirty-six thousand dollars has been turned over to our Marine Corps Detachment. We're sorry to say our Auxiliary had to relinquish their Charter for various reasons. They were appreciated by many and will be missed by all. *Thank You, Ladies.*

Over these fifty-five years, your Marine Corps
Detachment has achieved many goals.
Our back cover story tells it all.

Deceased Members

Richard K. Swallow
William S. Pennypacker
Howard E. Ferro
Ralph Frank
James Gillespie, Jr.
Francis H. Ferguson
Paul Lauretta
W. J. Lower, Sr.
Carl B. Schoenman
James H. Gorbey
Michael G. Plisko
Samuel Green
Robert A. Smith
Chester A. Renda
James M. Kiley
William Burn
Robert Swanson
Guy C. Smith
Alex Stewart
Joseph Donovan
Joseph Golden
Anthony Cocozza
Anthony Yelanich
William Boughman
Edward McGrainer
Joseph Morgan
John Gunsalus
John Plummer
Emil Studzinski
Donald Hines
William Kelly
Joseph Zerby
John Bradley
Paul Simpson
Bertie DeVirgilio
Emil Studzinski

Mike Stevens
Thomas Wright
Duane Frazier
Lewis Levey
Robert Shatz
Francis Cardwell
Leo Carroll
Donald Albany
Anthony D'Angelo
John DiSalvia
Vincent Papi
Mike Mortimer
James Thomas III
Joe Thomas
Harry Hitchcock
George Witting
Peter Plisko
Stacy B. Cartledge
William R. Farrell
R. W. Dillion
John Munley
R. J. Sernyak
Daniel W. Green
Henry Nacrelli
Joseph Cashmere
Ralph Amatuzio
Edward Hughes
Robert H. Hake
James E. Jones
Robert Fike
Samuel G. Hobaugh
John F. Giles
Francis McKenney
Donald Sleighter
Joseph A. Miele
Joseph A. Daley



There is a theme to the Delco Detachment. People made this success story happen over many years. A blend of people with determination to work the problems of the day and the foresight to consider the future, people who worked together with a high degree of perseverance, people who came along and picked up people — MARINES.

Semper Fidelis