

# Semper Fidelis

## "THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

<http://www.mcltraecoheedet115.org/>

April 2010 Edition



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*SSgt Walter F. "Trae" Cohee III*  
*Detachment # 115*  
*Salisbury, MD*

### MEETING TIME & PLACE

Meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 1900 (7:00 P.M.) at the American Legion Post 64, 1109 American Legion Road, Salisbury, MD 21801. Please make every effort to attend.

### DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2010 - 2011

*Commandant: Andy Bouma*

Senior Vice Commandant: Bob Miller  
Junior Past Commandant: Jim Siegel  
Paymaster: Jim Siegel  
Sgt-At-Arms: Walt Cohee

Junior Vice Commandant: Ed Elder  
Judge Advocate: Ed Hearthway  
Adjutant: Richard Hyson  
Chaplain: Jim Siegel

Web Sergeant: Don Elseroad

Detachment Officers for 2010 - 2011 were installed by HCDD Jimmie Lee Howard at the Detachment meeting on April 14, 2010.



This Marine needs no introduction. He is a living legend. *Jimmie Lee Howard* has been a member of the Marine Corps League since 1970. That year he attended the Marine Corps Birthday Ball, liked what he saw, and signed on the dotted line with Detachment 115. For the past 40 years, Marine Howard accepted and willingly carried out every challenge that came his way. His exceptional dedication during his tour of duty and commitment to the League's values and principals has resulted in his active presence at the Detachment, Department, and National level of the Marine Corps League. Since 1975, Marine Howard has only missed four National Conventions. His recruitment effort on behalf of the Marine Corps League is the hallmark for today, and a solid foundation for continued growth for all Detachments in the future.

Marine Howard has served in each elected and appointed office within his Detachment; including several tours as Detachment Commandant. He was the first editor of the Detachment's Newsletter, '*The Scuttlebutt*'.

In 1976 and 1977, Marine Howard was twice elected Commandant, Department of Maryland. In 1984, he became the first Department of Maryland, Marine of the Year. Marine Howard served as the Department of Maryland Convention Chairman for two state conventions in 1974 and 1978, and was instrumental in having General Walt as the guest of honor in 1974. For many years, he was Editor of the Department of Maryland's newsletter.

In 1985, while attending the Marine Corps League National Convention in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Marine Howard was elected National Vice Commandant, Mideast Division. He served in this position for eleven years until 1996. His untiring efforts resulted in the development of four Detachments in Delaware, and the establishment of the Department of Delaware. In addition, the League has recognized Marine Howard, a life member in the Marine Corps League, with numerous Distinguished Citizen and Distinguished Service awards.

In the early '70's, Marine Howard became involved with the Toys for Tots Program. At this time, used toys were donated that required some minor and, at times, major repairs, a little paint, and on some occasions, sewing. Although Jimmie Lee possesses many skills and talents, compliments of the Marine Corps, sewing is not one of them. His lovely wife, Gloria, past National President, Marine Corps League Auxiliary and past Big Flea, contributed not only her sewing skills, but also her boundless energy and loyal companionship. This Holiday tradition continued within the Howard family for many years. When the Toys for Tots Foundation was established, Jimmie Lee applied for sponsorship on behalf of the Delmarva Detachment, and with Gloria's continued support, helped the program grow to the success it is today. After serving for many years as the Coordinator for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland's Toys for Tots Program, Marine Howard was appointed the Department of Maryland's Toys for Tots Liaison Officer in January of 2003.

Marine Howard was inducted into the Chapel of the Four Chaplains in 1986.

For three years, he served on the National Homeless Veterans Committee, as well as the Scholarship Committee, Corporate Membership Committee, and the Public Relations Committee. In 1995, Marine Howard represented the Marine Corps League at the White House Conference on Aging.

In 1975, Marine Howard was invited to join the Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League, the Military Order of the Devil Dogs. Starting off as a Kennel stray, he very shortly found a permanent home, Pound 154. He welcomed other stray dogs from throughout Maryland to join Pound 154. As the membership in Pound 154 grew, Marine Howard encouraged and assisted those Dogs to form their own Pound. PDD Howard served as the first Pack Leader of Maryland for three years, and at the end of this tour of duty was presented with a Life Membership in the MODD for recognition of being "Father of the Pack". Not bad for starting off as a stray. In January 2004, at the National Mid Winter Conference, Marine Howard won the first MODD Costume Contest. For ten years, Marine Howard served on the Kennel Staff as the Kennel Barking Dog. He has been awarded numerous citations including Chief Devil Dog Individual Commendation, Pound Dog of the Year, and Pack Leader Commendation. In February 2010, Marine Howard was awarded the Kennel's highest award, Honorary Chief Devil Dog. Marine Howard is only the third Devil Dog to receive this honor in the 70 year history of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs.



Above left. PDD Jimmy Lee Howard is introduced to the dogs assembled at the Mini-Growl by the 49th Chief Devil Dog and Executive Secretary Doug Fisk moments before being presented with his new cover designating him as an Honorary Chief Devil Dog. Above right. PDD Jimmy Lee Howard receives congratulations upon being selected as an Honorary Chief Devil Dog during the Mid-Winter Mini-Growl in Falls Church, VA. PDD Howard published the Woof-O-Gram for nine years while serving as Kennel Barking Dog. Woof, Woof, PDD Howard! L to R: Junior Vice Chief Ken Travis, Honorary Chief Howard, 43rd Chief Clif Williams, 52nd Chief Laurel Hull, Senior Vice Chief Mike English.

Marine Howard has served the Marine Corps League with pride, dedication and a steadfast commitment to the tradition and values of the League and the United States Marine Corps. His purpose of country and Corps has extended to the community in which he lives as evidenced by the following activities and associations: Guest of Honor at numerous Veteran's Day Parades, keynote speaker on many occasions, Charter President of the American Red Cross and President of the Mental Health Association in Somerset County Maryland, member of the Board of Directors of the Blood Bank of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, President of the Republican Club of Wicomico County Maryland, a teacher in the public school system for 25 years, numerous other civic organizations, and a reputation for being the MARINE "to go to" whenever there were questions that no one could answer.

Marine Howard, following a Fleet Appointment to the United States Naval Academy, proudly served in the United States Marine Corps and Air Force Reserve, and for over 40 years has been a paramount force within the Marine Corps League. Semper Fi Marine Jimmy Lee Howard.

### "Calendar of Events"

**April 28 thru May 1, 2010:** The Department of MD convention will be held at the Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center in Ocean City, MD. Suite Rates: \$92.00 (plus tax) Ocean-view/Pool-view or Ocean Front: \$129.00 (plus tax) per night. Call the hotel direct at 1-800-4ROYALE or 1-410-524-7777 to make your reservations and mention the MCL Department Convention in order to get these room rates.

All information and forms can be found on the following link: <http://deptofmdmcl.org/>  
Information on the hotel can be found on the following link: <http://princessroyale.com/>

**June 25 - 26, 2010:** Mid-East Division Conference, to be held at the Westin Hotel in Virginia Beach, VA and will be hosted by the Department of Virginia, MCL. Complete information can be found on the following link.

<http://www.virginiamarines.org/pdf/Mideast%20info.pdf>

**August 8 thru 14, 2010:**



To be held at the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel / Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, NC. Call for reservations at 1-800-242-6556. The reservation block includes check-in on Friday, 6 August, for the "early birds". Be sure and mention "MCL 87th National Convention" when making your reservation.

Complete information and forms are available on the following link: <http://www.mcl2010.org/> with hotel information on the following link: <http://www.sheratongreensboro.com/meetingrooms.shtml>

### "Sick or in Distress"

MCL Members Ed MIHALIK, Paul WARD, Jr., Walt COHEE and family member Barb EBAUGH are having or have recently had various health problems. Please keep these folks and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

### "Membership Happenings"

#### May Happy Birthday's

22nd Renee KELLEY  
27th Kyle HEBERLE

#### May Anniversaries

None

#### May MCL Anniversaries

None

#### Welcome Aboard

Carl EBAUGH (Taneytown, MD)  
Danny PARSONS (Salisbury, MD)

Membership's Renewed

None

Membership Renewals Due in May

None

Membership Renewals Overdue

Wilber BOLTON  
Kevin GRIFFIN  
Richard HYSON  
'Josh' KELLEY  
Thomas MIFFLETON

Once again Fair warning. If I list you as overdue and you don't renew timely I will be a thorn in your backside. I forgot to mention that I am probably the only holder in the MCL and/or MODD of not 1, not 2, but 3 PIA medals.

DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE

Please send your \$22.00 checks made payable to "MCL Det 115" to our paymaster  
Jim Siegel, Paymaster  
30245 Southampton Bridge Rd  
Salisbury, MD 21804-2475

Initial dues for a new member are \$27.00 for the first year, thereafter yearly renewal dues are \$22.00.

OUR DETACHMENT

Our Detachment is involved in the Adopt-A-Highway Program. On Saturday April 3rd detachment members cleaned a designated section of Route 13, north of Salisbury and South of the DE state line. Future dates for this endeavor will be announced in "*The Scuttlebutt*" with a contact name and phone number if you can assist in this program.

Our Detachment recently purchased a Marine red tent/canopy from Sgt Grit. The canopy will be used at the upcoming 28th Salisbury Festival to be held April 23 through April 25 at Riverwalk Park. Detachment members will be on hand recruiting new members and in general spreading the Marine story. Come out and join us. The uniform of the day will be MCL covers if you have them and anything with a Marine Corps logo on it.



Walt and Jeannie Cohee recently returned from a gathering of Gold Star Mothers in Ohio.

**What's Going to be When and Where?**

In that same light, please check the Detachment Calendar of Events frequently to keep track of what events are coming up, not only in the near future, but in some cases several months out. This way you can mark your calendar and participate in the planned activities.

Maintaining the calendar is a never ending chore, but it can be rewarding for all of us. The *Calendar of Events* cannot, however, be maintained adequately by one person. As you come across events that could be of interest to Members of the Detachment, let me know the standard information – **Who, What, When, Where, Why and How** – and please provide complete data as best you can, or a contact where I can get the information. We try to keep up to date, but we really do need your assistance to make this as complete as possible and really make it work for all of us.

There is always something of interest to Marines floating around somewhere out there, and I will try to post all that I can, but sometimes you have to provide a source. The best way to pass the information along to me is by E-Mail, or even Snail Mail. It should always be in writing, because sometimes, when there is a bunch of stuff going on, my memory takes a short vacation from time to time

RECRUITING NEW MEMBER'S

Any time a member recruits a new member into the league the recruiter is obligated to verify that the new member serviced Honorable in the U. S. Marine Corps. The applicant should be asked to show you a DD-214, the last one if they had more than one periods of service, an Active duty, reserve or retired ID card will also suffice if they fall into one of these categories. When you sign off

on the membership application as their sponsor, you will be certifying that you have verified their Honorable service and that that person is in fact a Marine.



**DON'T DELAY...JOIN TODAY  
THEN CONSIDER GOING 'LIFE'  
NOW IS THE TIME TO DO IT**

| <u>Age</u> | <u>Cost</u> |
|------------|-------------|
| Up to 35   | \$500       |
| 36 to 50   | \$400       |
| 51 to 60   | \$300       |
| 61 & Over  | \$150       |

#### **FROM A DOC'S POINT OF VIEW**

Excellent poem from a member of Det. 955

As a Corpsman in green and not navy blue,  
I offer this poem from a Doc's point of view.  
We've been honored by stories, poems and such,  
by Marines we have served with and respected so much.

They speak of our honor, bravery and skill,  
and the cry, "Corpsman up!" still gives me a chill.  
When a Marine goes down, what will it be? A  
trachea? Tie off bleeders? Start an IV?

Only one thing is certain as we rush to the scene,  
our brothers in green will cover our ass. You see  
we're adopted, "Sons of the Corps". No more  
"Anchors away" - "Semper Fi" evermore!

Its true when you're wounded, your life's in our  
hands, and we'll treat and protect you to the very  
last man. For you are our point man, our cover,  
our shield, and we count on your skills all our  
days in the field.

Many a grunt laid his life on the line to make sure  
Doc got to the wounded in time. So, my brothers, I  
thank you, as all us Docs should. It's YOU who  
make us Corpsmen look good!



Semper Fi

#### **DADDY'S POEM**

Her hair was up in a pony tail,  
her favorite dress tied with a bow.  
Today was Daddy's Day at school,  
and she couldn't wait to go.

But her mommy tried to tell her,  
that she probably should stay home  
Why the kids might not understand,  
if she went to school alone.

But she was not afraid;  
she knew just what to say.  
What to tell her classmates  
of why he wasn't there today.

But still her mother worried,  
for her to face this day alone.  
And that was why once again,  
she tried to keep her daughter home.

But the little girl went to school  
eager to tell them all.  
About a dad she never sees a dad  
who never calls.

There were daddies along the wall in  
back, for everyone to meet.  
Children squirming impatiently,  
anxious in their seats

One by one the teacher called  
a student from the class.  
To introduce their daddy,  
as seconds slowly passed.

At last the teacher called her name,  
every child turned to stare.  
Each of them was searching,  
for a man who wasn't there.  
"Where's her daddy at?"  
She heard a boy call out.  
"She probably doesn't have one,"  
another student dared to shout.  
And from somewhere near the back,  
she heard a daddy say,  
"Looks like another deadbeat dad,  
too busy to waste his day."

The words did not offend her,  
as she smiled up at her Mom.  
And looked back at her teacher, who  
told her to go on.

And with hands behind her back,  
slowly she began to speak.  
And out from the mouth of a child,

came words incredibly unique.

"My Daddy couldn't be here,  
because he lives so far away.  
But I know he wishes he could be,  
since this is such a special day.

And though you cannot meet him,  
I wanted you to know.  
All about my daddy,  
and how much he loves me so.

He loved to tell me stories  
he taught me to ride my bike.  
He surprised me with pink roses,  
and taught me to fly a kite.

We used to share fudge sundaes,  
and ice cream in a cone.  
And though you cannot see him.  
I'm not standing here alone.  
"Cause my daddy's always with me,  
even though we are apart  
I know because he told me,  
he'll forever be in my heart"

With that, her little hand reached up,  
and lay across her chest.  
Feeling her own heartbeat,  
beneath her favorite dress.

And from somewhere there in the crowd  
of dads, her mother stood in tears.  
Proudly watching her daughter,  
who was wise beyond her years.

For she stood up for the love  
of a man not in her life.  
Doing what was best for her,  
doing what was a right..  
And when she dropped her hand back  
down, staring straight into the crowd..  
She finished with a voice so soft,  
but its message clear and loud.

"I love my daddy very much,  
he's my shining star.  
And if he could, he'd be here,  
but heaven's just too far.

You see he is an American Soldier  
and died just this past year  
When a roadside bomb hit his convoy  
and taught Americans to fear.

But sometimes when I close my eyes,  
it's like he never went away."  
And then she closed her eyes,

and saw him there that day.  
And to her mother's amazement,  
she witnessed with surprise.  
A room full of daddies and children,  
all starting to close their eyes.  
Who knows what they saw before them,  
who knows what they felt inside.  
Perhaps for merely a second,  
they saw him at her side.

"I know you're with me Daddy,"  
to the silence she called out.  
And what happened next made believers,  
of those once filled with doubt.

Not one in that room could explain it,  
for each of their eyes had been closed.  
But there on the desk beside her,  
was a fragrant long-stemmed pink rose.

And a child was blessed, if only for  
a moment, by the love of her shining star.  
And given the gift of believing,  
that heaven is never too far.

#### EVERY DAY PRAYER REQUEST

Life in Iraq and Afghanistan is very difficult to  
bear right now. Our troops need our prayers for  
strength, endurance and safety. Stop for a  
moment each and every day and say a prayer for  
our troops around the world.

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.  
Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and  
their families for the selfless acts they perform for  
us in our time of need. Amen."



The following Marines paid the ultimate sacrifice  
for God, Country and Corps during March &  
April 2010.

[Gamble, Lance Cpl Garrett](#)

Sugarland, TX

[Porto, Jonathan](#)

Largo, FL

[Gilbert, Sgt Robert](#)

Richfield, OH

[Wilson, Lance Cpl Justin](#)

Palm City, FL

[Cottle, Sgt. Maj. Robert](#)

Whittier, CA

[Centanni, Lance Cpl Rick](#)

Yorba Linda, CA

[Ross, Lance Cpl Jacob](#)

Gillette, WY

[Swenson, Lance Cpl Curtis](#)

Rochester, MN

[World, Sgt Frank](#)

Buffalo, NY

[Griffin, Lance Cpl Tyler](#)

Voluntown, CT

[Heck, Lance Cpl Randy](#)

Steubenville, OH

If You Are Not Willing To Stand Behind Our  
Troops,

Please, Please Feel Free To Stand In Front Of  
Them!



I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States  
of America and to the Republic for which it  
stands,  
One Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty  
and justice for all.

#### THE GRATITUDE CAMPAIGN

Have you ever seen one of our military walking  
past you and wanted to convey to them your  
thanks, but weren't sure how or it felt awkward?

Recently, a gentleman from Seattle created a  
gesture, which could be used and has started a  
movement to get the word out.

Please everybody take just a moment to watch this  
video.... The Gratitude Campaign ....and then  
forward it to your friends! THEN START  
USING THE SIGN.

<http://www.gratitud ecampaign. org/shortmovie. php>

#### FROM YOUR EDITOR

Our Junior Vice Commandant Ed Elder has been  
gracious enough to send me the ROA bulletin for

several months. It contains mucho information  
regarding veteran's benefits, some of which may  
be of interest to the membership. It is too big to  
make a part of this newsletter and I have been  
unable to find a direct link to it that I could place  
on our web site so I continually check it over and  
should I find anything that I feel the membership  
should be aware of I will include those items in  
"The Scuttlebutt". However, on the "Other Links"  
page of our web site, I have links that will take  
you to Military.com and Military Connection. com  
both of which contain valuable veteran's  
information so you may want to check them out.

Again I would like to ask that if you are receiving  
this newsletter via "Snail Mail" and have email  
capability, please email me at  
[53usmc73@bvunet.net](mailto:53usmc73@bvunet.net) so that I can add you to my  
address book and we can cut down on the postage.

Any comments or suggestion on what should be in  
our newsletter! Articles/information you need!  
Let me know! The newsletter will go to press on or  
about the weekend following each meeting.

Don Elseroad, Editor



I recently came back from a tour of duty in  
Afghanistan.

Having not seen my wife for many months, I was  
looking forward to a night of hot passionate sex  
with her.

Unfortunately, she came out of the shower with a  
towel wrapped round her head..... so I shot her!!

# Semper Ji

and good night "Chesty" wherever  
you are

If you can read this thank a Teacher.  
If you're reading it in English thank the Military.

-- Once a Marine, Always a  
Marine --