

# *Semper Fi*

## "THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

August 2011 Edition



*Don Elseroad, Editor*  
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*SSgt Walter F. "Trae" Cohee III*

*Detachment # 115*

*Salisbury, MD*

*Original Charter Date May 10, 1970*

### DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2011 - 2012

*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

### MEETING TIME & PLACE

Meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on September 14th, 2011 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.

### Important September Dates

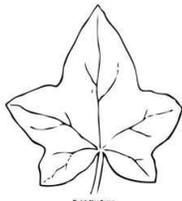
**September 5**

*Have a safe Labor Day*



**September 23**

**First Day of Fall**



### "Calendar of Events"

**February 16 thru 18, 2012:** The Marine Corps League Mid-Winter National Staff Conference will be held at the Tysons Corner Marriott in Vienna, VA.

The room rate is \$95 per night, single or double. Please make your room reservation directly to the Tysons Corner Marriott no later than January 20, 2012 at (703)734-3200. Be sure to tell them you are with the Marine Corps League.

More information will be provided when it becomes available.

**August 12 thru 18, 2012:** The P.L. Wilson Detachment #447 of the Marine Corps League will host the 2012 National Convention in Mobile, AL. Initial information can be found on the following link.

<http://www.mobilemarines.org/2012Natl.html>

More information will be provided as it becomes available.

### "Sick or in Distress"

MCL Members Ed MIHALIK, Louis SLOWIK, Ralph SMITH, Don ELSEROD, 'Missy' HYSON wife of our Adjutant Richard HYSON and Dorothy HORTIE wife of member Bob HORTIE is having or has recently had various health problems. Please keep these folks and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

### "Membership Happenings"

(Please advise the Editor of any errors)

#### SEPTEMBER "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"

9th Sandra BOUMA  
10th Sharon MILLS  
17th Danny PARSONS

#### SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

5th Jeanne & Walter COHEE (40 yrs)  
11th Sally & Terry HERLING (42 yrs)

#### SEPTEMBER MCL ANNIVERSARIES

Bob MILLER (9 yrs)  
Louis JONES (6 yrs)  
David MILLS (3 yrs)  
Diana MERRITT (1 yr)

#### WELCOME ABOARD

None

#### MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED

Danny PARSONS  
Raymond SITES

#### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE IN SEPTEMBER

Louis JONES  
Diana MERRITT  
Bob MILLER  
David MILLS

#### 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.



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

#### Life Membership Dues

AGE GROUP	AS OF 01/01/2009
0 - 35	\$500
36 - 50	\$400
51 - 60	\$300
61 - Over	\$150

To become a Life Member, you must already be a "Member in Good Standing". That means becoming a member and paying your initial dues first. Yes, according to the Bylaws, you could join the League, pay your dues and then pay your Life Membership Dues all in the same day.



The Spring Edition of the Woof-O-Gram can be viewed on the following link.

<http://moddkennel.org/portals/11/Woof-O-Gram/Woof-O-Gram%20Spring%202011%20Complete.pdf>

#### CHANGE OF COMMAND

General John Allen USMC took over command of American and coalition forces in Afghanistan on Monday July 18 from General David Petraeus, assuming responsibility as Afghanistan's international allies draw up exit plans from the nearly 10-year conflict.

Allen said that the drawdown of U.S. forces that started earlier this month and the transition of some areas to Afghan control this week does not mean that international forces are easing up in their campaign to defeat the Taliban insurgency.

"It is my intention to maintain the momentum of

the campaign," Allen said at the handover ceremony in the Afghan capital. He said however, that he does not expect the fight to be easy. "There will be tough days ahead. I have no illusions about the challenges ahead," he said.

Allen, who was promoted to a four-star general shortly before the handover ceremony, takes over from Petraeus, who commanded international forces in Afghanistan for one year and is retiring from the military to become the director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

### Army's Famed Hospital Closes After More Than a Century

Walter Reed Army Medical Center, the Army's flagship hospital where privates to presidents have gone for care, has closing its doors after more than a century.

Hundreds of thousands of the nation's war wounded from World War I to today have received treatment at Walter Reed, including 18,000 troops who served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

President Dwight Eisenhower died there. So did Gens. John J. Pershing and Douglas MacArthur.

It's where countless celebrities, from Bob Hope to quarterback Tom Brady, have stopped to show their respect to the wounded. Through the use of medical diplomacy, the center also has tended to foreign leaders.

The storied hospital, which opened in 1909, was scarred by a 2007 scandal about substandard living conditions on its grounds for wounded troops in outpatient care and the red tape they faced. It led to improved care for the wounded, at Walter Reed and throughout the military. By then, however, plans were moving forward to close Walter Reed's campus.

Two years earlier, a government commission, noting that Walter Reed was showing its age, voted to close the facility and consolidate its operations with the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., and a hospital at Fort Belvoir, Va., to save money. Most of the moving will occur in August.

### RAO BULLETINS

Each month your editor attempts to review all RAO Bulletins and put articles deemed important to veterans into our newsletters and I will continue to do so. However, what may be important to me may not be important to you and I may very possibly overlook something you as a

veteran might like to know about, so I am providing a link below that will take you to ALL current bulletins so that you might look them over. These bulletins are up-dated on or about the 1st and 15th of each month.

[http://post\\_119\\_gulfport\\_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html](http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html)

### Military Retirement Faces Overhaul

July 26, 2011 • [Terry Howell](#)

Some in the DoD are pushing to dump the current retirement system and replace it with a version of the "Thrift Savings Plan" similar to the one currently offered Federal Employees. This plan would allow DoD to save money by making contributions to a civilian style 401(k) retirement plan.

According to some reports, the DoD would also use the new retirement plan as leverage or incentive by offering increased contribution rates for those who opt for multiple deployments, hardship assignments, and high demand or unpopular military occupations. In addition, service branches could use it to entice service members to retire early or stay in longer.

Unlike past changes to the military retirement plan, which shielded current service members from the changes, the plan presented by the [Defense Business Board](#) would not grandfather current service members. The plan would go into effect immediately and includes current and future service members.

Under that plan, new recruits would start immediately earning TSP contributions, but, would have no incentive to stay in the military for 20 or more years since they would not get a fixed-benefit pension. Current service members would begin receiving TSP contributions immediately and would earn a graduated percentage of their pay if they stay in the military for 20 years or more years. Their fixed pension rate would be based on their years of service when the new plan kicks in. For example a service member who has 15 years of service would get 37.5 percent of their base pay at 20 years in addition to the new TSP contributions.

Some see this as a way to make the system more flexible or fair to those who serve less than 20 years and a great way to reduce the overall cost of military retirement.

[BLOGGERS NOTE: A 2010 Defense Business Board slide show presentation states that "Paying the military and their families for 60 years to serve for only 20 years" is unsustainable. Many retirees may find the point of view that "only 20 years" of service shouldn't earn benefits, trou-

bling. The same slide presentation also refers to the military retirement system as a "sacred cow." Seems to indicate the bias the board has toward military retirement.]

[Whether you support the overhaul plan or not, you should contact your elected officials to let them know how you feel about this issue.](#)

More details are available at the [Military Times](#).

Read more:

<http://militaryadvantage.military.com/2011/07/military-retirement-faces-overhaul-plans/#ixzz1TcQtzrJm>  
MilitaryAdvantage.Military.com

### 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/Corpsman paid the ultimate sacrifice for God, Country and Corps since the last issue of 'The Scuttlebutt' was published.

[Greniger, Lance Cpl. Robert](#)

[S.](#)

Greenfield, MN

[Ullom, Seaman Aaron D.](#)

Midland, MI

[Thompson, Lance Cpl.](#)

[Jabari N.](#)

Brooklyn, NY

[Camero, Lance Cpl.](#)

[Christopher L.](#)

Kailua Kona, HI

[Lucas, Staff Sgt. Leon H.](#)

Wilson, NC

[Gurr, Sgt. Daniel D.](#)

Vernal, UT

[Robinson, Sgt. Joshua J.](#)

Omaha, NE

[Patron, Sgt. Daniel J.](#)

Canton, OH

[Gonzales, Jr. Adan](#)

Bakersfield, CA

If You Are Not Willing To Stand Behind Our Troops,

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

*On behalf of a grateful nation.*

**FREEDOM IS NOT FREE**  
**Support Our Troops**



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.

From your editor

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 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

Remember These Saving's

'The taxpayer:

That's someone who works  
For the federal government  
but doesn't have to take the  
civil service examination.'

- Ronald Reagan

'Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases:

If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it.  
And if it stops moving, subsidize it'

- Ronald Reagan

'It has been said that politics is the second oldest profession.  
I have learned that it bears a striking resemblance to the first'  
- Ronald Reagan

### Quotes about Marines

*They told (us) to open up the Embassy, or "we'll blow you away." And then they looked up and saw the Marines on the roof with these really big guns, and they said in Somali, "Igaralli ahow," which means "Excuse me, I didn't mean it, my mistake".*  
Karen Aquilar, in the U.S. Embassy; Mogadishu, Somalia, 1991

### LINKS TO CHECK OUT

[http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=5MtdlO23MKM](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=5MtdlO23MKM)

<http://video.foxnews.com/v/1068023406001/medal-of-honor-goes-to-third-living-recipient>

# Semper Ji

and good night "Chesty" wherever  
you are



-- Once a Marine, Always a Marine --