

# Semper Fi

## "THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

August 2012 Edition



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*SSgt Walter F. "Trae" Cohee III*

*Detachment # 115*

*Salisbury, MD*

*Original Charter Date May 10, 1970*

### DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2012 - 2013

*Commandant: Bill Marsich*

Senior Vice Commandant: Bob Miller

Judge Advocate: Ed Hearthway

Paymaster: Andy Bouma

Sgt-At-Arms: Walt Cohee

Junior Vice Commandant: Ed Elder

Junior Past Commandant: Andy Bouma

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 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012 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 Upcoming Dates & Events

<p>September 3</p> <p>Labor Day</p>	<p>September 9</p> <p>HAPPY GRANDPARENTS DAY</p>	<p>September 11</p> <p>PATRIOT DAY</p>
<p>September 21</p> <p>POW/MIA YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN</p>	<p>September 22</p> <p>First Day of Fall!</p>	<p>September 30</p> <p>To Honor Gold Star Mothers</p>

August 30, 2012: Detachments monthly social dinner. More details to be announced at a later date.

August 31, 2012: Seafood platter w/slaw \$10.00 at the American Legion Post 64.

**September 3, 2012:** Shorebirds Beer Tent fundraiser. More information will be provided at a later date.

**September 8, 2012:** The Department of MD Fall Staff Meeting will be hosted by Shangri-la Detachment at American Legion Post 11, 1450 Taney Avenue, Frederick, Md.

**Modern Day Marine Expo – 25-27 September 2012 – Quantico, VA**

For complete info go here: <http://www.marinemilitaryexpos.com/modern-day-marine.shtml>

**2012 Presidential Election**

Election Date: November 6, 2012

**Marine Military Expo West – 13-14 February 2013 – Camp Pendleton, CA**

For complete info go here: <http://www.marinemilitaryexpos.com/modern-day-marine.shtml>

**Marine Military Expo South – 11-12 April 2013 – Camp Lejeune, NC**

For complete info go here: <http://www.marinemilitaryexpos.com/modern-day-marine.shtml>

**"Sick or in Distress"**

MCL Members Jimmy Lee HOWARD, Ralph SMITH and Jeanie COHEE wife of member Walt COHEE are having or have 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 or omissions)**

<b><u>SEPTEMBER "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u></b> 9th Sandra BOUMA 10th Sharon MILLS 17th Danny PARSONS	<b><u>SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES</u></b> 5th Jeanne & Walter COHEE (41 yrs) 11th Sally & Terry HERLING (43 yrs)
<b><u>SEPTEMBER MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u></b> Bob MILLER (10 yrs) Louis JONES (7 yrs) David MILLS (4 yrs) Diana MERRITT (2 yrs)	<b><u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE IN</u></b> <b><u>SEPTEMBER</u></b> Louis JONES Diana MERRITT Bob MILLER David MILLS
<b><u>WELCOME ABOARD</u></b> Thomas F. CORCORAN, Sr. (Westover, MD) Eric WILK (Princess Anne, MD)	<b><u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u></b> None reported to your editor

**DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE**

Please send your \$22.00 checks made payable to "MCL Det 115" to our paymaster. Also note we have a new paymaster....

Andy Bouma, Paymaster  
32175 Bonhill Dr  
Salisbury, MD 21804-1464

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**

## RAO Bulletins

Each month your editor attempted to review all RAO Bulletins and put articles deemed important to veterans into our newsletters.

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 links below that will take you to THE current bulletins so that you might look them over. The below bulletins are dated July 15<sup>th</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup>. 2012.

<http://sicvets.zymichost.com/Bulletin%20120715%20PDF%20Edition.pdf>

<http://sicvets.zymichost.com/Bulletin%20120801%20PDF%20Edition.pdf>

**COLA 2013 Update 01:** Veterans will receive a cost-of-living increase in their disability benefits if the bill passed 9 JUL in the House receives the same treatment in the Senate. The Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2012 passed the House on a voice vote. It would provide a cost-of-living boost equal to that given to Social Security recipients. Rep. Jon Runyan (R-N) introduced the bill. After it passed, he said, "Congress knows that veterans are dependent upon us acting in a timely manner with regards to their needs. By acting on the yearly COLA this summer instead of waiting until the last minute, we tell America's veterans that we remain dedicated to ensuring that they are given the benefits they were promised when they signed up to serve." If passed by the Senate and signed by the president, the law will go into effect 1 DRC 2012. A press release from the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs estimates the COLA for this year will be approximately 1.9 percent. Runyan has also introduced the American Heroes COLA Act, which would put in place a permanent COLA like that for Social Security recipients. That legislation has been passed out of the Veterans' Affairs Committee and is awaiting vote by the full House. [Source: NGAUS Washington Report 10 Jul 2012 ++]

### The Old Man

I had an interesting experience the other day. It might be one of those "you just had to be there" kind of things, but I will never forget it. I was in Home Depot in Marietta, Georgia, looking at some tool or the other, when I heard a soft voice off to my right. It was a weak, raspy voice, and as I turned to see who it was coming from, I saw a very, very old man, so bent and aged, he seemed barely able to stay upright in the wheelchair he was occupying, doing his best to hold up his head so he could look at me.

At first, I couldn't make out what he was saying, and then I realized that he was responding to the USMC T-shirt I was wearing. He was saying "Semper Fi", the universal greeting of one Marine to another.

He spoke with obvious difficulty, but managed to say it twice, and the second time, had a big grin on his battered and deeply-lined face. Then he lifted his trembling right hand, pointed to himself to indicate that he was a Marine too, and then he did the best fist pump he was capable of.

I walked over, put my hand on his shoulder, and quietly said "Semper Fi, Marine". He reached up with that same trembling hand, patted my own hand on his shoulder, smiled, nodded and whispered "Semper Fi!" one more time in that weak, raspy voice.

As I took my hand from his shoulder, a younger man (his son maybe?) came and wheeled him away as I stood there looking after him. For reasons I can't begin to explain, tears came welling up in my eyes, something I am definitely not prone to. Why this encounter touched me so deeply, I couldn't say, but it most certainly did.

I felt very privileged to have met this gentleman, and I felt as though I'd been given a very valuable lesson. This old man probably didn't have a lot of time left, but while it was clear that age had taken his vitality, his energy, and would eventually claim his life, it was even more clear that age would never take his spirit or his pride in his Marine Corps service. I hope to face my own mortality with as much courage someday.

Semper Fidelis Sir, wherever you are and thank you for the gift.

Joe W. Harden  
Sgt., USMC ('69-'73)

## West Virginia kid joins the US Marines (now undergoing Recruit Training at MCRD

Dear Ma and Pa,

I am well. Hope you are. Tell Brother Walt and Brother Elmer the Marine Corps beats working for old man Minch by a mile. Tell them to join up quick before all of the places are filled.

I was restless at first, because you get to stay in bed till nearly 6 a.m. But I am getting so I like to sleep late. Tell Walt and Elmer all you do before breakfast is smooth your cot, and shine some things. No hogs to slop, feed to pitch, mash to mix, wood to split, fire to lay. Practically nothing.

All men got to shave but, .. it is not so bad, there's warm water.

Breakfast is strong on trimmings like fruit juice, cereal, eggs, bacon, etc., but kind of weak on chops, potatoes, ham, steak, fried eggplant, pie and other regular food, but tell Walt and Elmer you can always sit by the two city boys that live on coffee. Their food, plus yours, holds you until noon when you get fed again. It's no wonder these city boys can't walk much.

We go on 'route marches,' which the platoon sergeant says are long walks to harden us. If he thinks so, it's not my place to tell him different. A 'route march' is about as far as to our mailbox at home. Then the city guys get sore feet and we all ride back in trucks.

The sergeant is like a school teacher. He nags a lot. The Captain is like the school board. Majors and colonels just ride around and frown. They don't bother you none.

This next will kill Walt and Elmer with laughing. I keep getting medals for shooting. I don't know why. The bulls-eye is near as big as a chipmunk head and don't move, and it ain't shooting at you like the Higgett boys at home. All you got to do is lie there all comfortable and hit it. You don't even load your own cartridges. They come in boxes.

Then we have what they call hand-to-hand combat training. You get to wrestle with them city boys. I have to be real careful though, they break real easy. It ain't like fighting with that ole bull at home. I'm about the best they got in this except for that Tug Jordan from over in Silver Lake . I only beat him once. He joined up the same time as me, but I'm only 5'6' and 130 pounds and he's 6'8' and near 300 pounds dry.

Be sure to tell Walt and Elmer to hurry and join before other fellers get onto this setup and come stampeding in.

Your loving daughter,

Alice

### EVERY DAY PRAYER REQUEST

Life in 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 Final Roll Call*



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

[Ahsley, Cpl. Joshua R.](#)  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA  
[Hansen, Sgt. Justin M.](#)  
Traverse City, MI

[Price, Gunnery Sgt. Daniel J.](#)

Holland, MI

[Gifford, Gunnery Sgt. Jonathan W.](#)

Palm Bay, FL

[Duarte, Lance Cpl. Curtis J.](#)

Covina, CA

[Linnabary, Cpl. Daniel L.](#)

Hubert, NC

[Beauchamp, Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> aka "Doc" Class Clayton R.](#)

Weatherford, TX

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

### Quotes about Marines

*We signed up knowing the risk. Those innocent people in New York didn't go to work thinking there was any kind of risk.*

Pvt. Mike Armendariz-Clark, USMC; Afghanistan, 20 September 2001

As reported on page 1 of the *New York Times*

### LINKS TO CHECK OUT

[http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=IRGWUFEeXZw&vq=medium](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=IRGWUFEeXZw&vq=medium)

<http://youtube.googleapis.com/v/RUIoB8sGvYM>

<http://stg.do/91qb>

<http://www.apacheclips.com/media/40283/2> *Apaches Kill a Platoon of Taliban/*



-- Once a Marine, Always a Marine --