

Semper Fi

"THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

August 2016 Edition



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

DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2016 - 2017

Commandant: Bob Miller

Senior Vice Commandant: Ed Elder
Judge Advocate: Ed Hearthway
Paymaster: Andy Bouma
Sgt-At-Arms: Jeff Merritt

Junior Vice Commandant: Roger Martinson
Junior Past Commandant: Ed Elder
Adjutant: Richard Hyson
Chaplain: Rhuel Goslee

Web Sergeant: Don Elseroad

Original Charter Date May 10, 1970

MEETING TIME & PLACE

Meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next regularly scheduled meeting would be held on September 14th, 2016 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.

Upcoming Holiday's & Events

<u>September 5</u>	<u>September 11</u>	<u>September 16</u>	<u>September 23</u>	<u>September 25</u>
<p>Labor Day</p>	<p>To Unforgettable Grandparents Happy Grandparent's Day!</p>	<p>AMERICA DOES NOT FORGET!</p>	<p>First Day of Autumn</p>	<p>Gold Star Mothers</p>

All 2016 Conventions are now history. 2017 Conventions will be added as information becomes available.

2017 Mideast Division Conference will be June 23-25, 2017 hosted by Department of North Carolina at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport at Research Triangle Park, 4810 Page Creek Lane, Durham, North Carolina, 27703. Tel +1-919-941-6000 after May 17, 2016 for reservations. Room rate: \$99.00

plus room tax. Free breakfast and parking provided. Check out the hotel on the following link:
<http://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/north-carolina/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-raleigh-durham-airport-at-research-triangle-park-RDUDADT/index.html> More information will be provided as it becomes available.

"Sick or in Distress"

MCL Members Lee HOLLOWAY, Ed HEARTHWAY, Gloria HOWARD, Walt & Jeanne COHEE and Tom CORCORAN are having or have recently had various health problems. Barbara MERRITT the mother of our member Jeff MERRITT passed away on June 12, 2016. Please keep these folks and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

"Membership Happenings"

(Please advise the Editor of any errors or omissions)

<u>SEPTEMBER "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u> 9th Sandra BOUMA 10th Sharon MILLS 17th Danny PARSONS	<u>SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES</u> 5th Jeanne & Walter COHEE (44 yrs) 11th Sally & Terry HERLING (46 yrs)
<u>SEPTEMBER MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u> Louis JONES (10 yrs) David MILLS (7 yrs) Diana MERRITT (5 yrs)	<u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE IN SEPTEMBER</u> Louis JONES Diana MERRITT David MILLS
<u>WELCOME ABOARD</u> None reported to your editor	<u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u> None reported to your editor

DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE

Please send your \$24.00 checks made payable to "MCL Det 115" to our paymaster.

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



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

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INTEGRITY AND DISHONESTLY

Phillip Jennings is an investment banker and entrepreneur, former Marine Corps Captain who flew missions in Vietnam and, after leaving the Marine Corps, flew for Air America in Laos. He won the Pirate's Alley Faulkner Society short fiction award in 1998. He has a degree in business administration and is the CEO of Mayfair Capital Partners. He is the author of two novels and one non-fiction book.

He authored the following article which appeared in the May 26, 2016 edition of USA Today. It is short and should be required reading for everyone.

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Secretary without honor.

When I hear people say Clinton emails don't matter, I remember a young Marine captain who owned up to his career-ruining mistake.

Apologists for Hillary Clinton's alleged criminal mishandling of classified documents say that it doesn't matter, that she really did nothing wrong, or nothing significant. But the real question is not so much what she did as how she has responded to being found out.

Once during the mid-1960s when I was on active duty in the Marine Corps, I was the air liaison officer for a battalion of Marines aboard 11 ships in the Mediterranean. As the air officer and a senior captain, I had a rotating responsibility for the nuclear code book, kept in the safe in the operations room of the lead amphibious squadron command ship. I shared that duty with another captain, a squared away young man, liked by all he commanded and the son of a very high-ranking Marine.

On the day our ships were leaving the Mediterranean, we met the new amphibious squadron near Gibraltar and made preparations to transfer security codes and other sensitive material to the incoming Marine battalion. The young captain was on duty and went to the operations office to pick up the code book. He was alone in the office. He removed the code book and placed it on the desk while closing the safe. In a rushed moment, he stepped across the passageway to retrieve something he needed from his quarters. Seconds later, he stepped back into the operations office and found the operations sergeant having just entered, looking down at the code book.

Against all regulations, the code book had been out of the safe and unattended. It mattered not that it was unattended for only seconds, that the ship was 5 miles at sea, or that it was certain no one unauthorized had seen the code. The captain could have explained this to the operations sergeant. He could have told the sergeant that he “would take care of it.” He could have hinted that his high-ranking dad could smooth it over.

But the Marine Corps’ values are honor, courage and commitment. Honor is the bedrock of our character. The young captain could not ask the sergeant to betray his duty to report the infraction, no matter how small. Instead, the captain simply said, “Let’s go see the colonel.”

That captain had wanted to be a Marine officer all of his life. It was the only career he ever wanted. When he reported the incident to the colonel, he knew he was jeopardizing his life’s dream. But he did it.

The results went by the book. The amphibious squadron stood down. Military couriers flew in from NATO. The codes were changed all over Europe. The battalion was a day late in leaving the Mediterranean. The captain, Leonard F. Chapman III, received a letter of reprimand, damaging his career. He stayed in the corps and died in a tragic accident aboard another ship. **[For those interested, Captain Chapman's father was Gen. Leonard F. Chapman Jr., the former Commandant of the Marine Corps.]**

I saw some heroic acts in combat in Vietnam, things that made me proud to be an American and a Marine. But that young captain stood for what makes our corps and our country great.

Clinton is the antithesis of that young captain, someone with no honor, little courage and commitment only to her endless ambition. This has nothing to do with gender, party affiliation, ideology or policy. It is a question of character — not just hers, but ours. Electing Clinton would mean abandoning holding people accountable for grievous errors of integrity and responsibility. What we already know about her security infractions should disqualify her for any government position that deals in information critical to mission success, domestic or foreign. But beyond that, her responses to being found out — dismissing its importance, claiming ignorance, and blaming others— indict her beyond anything the investigation can reveal. Those elements reveal her character. And the saddest thing is that so many in America seem not to care.

### **Police shootings strike a nerve among Marines, vets**

Published July 20, 2016

Associated Press

Back-to-back attacks on police in Texas and Louisiana by former military men have touched a nerve among veterans who traditionally share a close bond with law enforcement.

Veterans and active-duty troops started posting messages on social media almost immediately after the news broke last weekend that a masked ex-Marine had ambushed law enforcement along a busy highway, killing three officers -- including a fellow former Marine.

Seeing one Marine kill another Marine after both had returned home safely from the battlefield in Iraq has been especially painful for the military's smallest branch, which considers service life-long membership among a force that goes by the motto: "The Few. The Proud."

"In the Marine community, we don't believe in 'ex-Marines'. However that is not the case when one decides to break the moral and ethical values we hold dear. The ex-Marine that opened fire on officers is everything we swear to protect our Nation from," Marine Cpl. Eric Trichel wrote on a Facebook page with about 25,000 mostly Marine members.

In an email to The Associated Press, he emphasized he was not speaking on behalf of the Marine Corps.

Many veterans fear the service records of the gunmen will feed a false perception that combat veterans are volatile and violent, turning back years of efforts to change such stereotypes.

The Baton Rouge shooting came less than two weeks after five Dallas police officers were killed in an ambush by an Army Reserve veteran who had served in Afghanistan.

Gavin Long was based in San Diego with the Marine Corps from 2005 to 2010, according to military records.

He was deployed in 2008 for about eight months to Iraq as a data network specialist. People in those jobs are technicians dealing with computers and generally do not see combat.

One of his victims, 41-year-old Matthew Gerald, was a former Marine who enlisted in the Army after the Sept. 11 attacks and also served in Iraq in 2009.

And the Dallas victims included a Navy veteran who did three tours in Iraq.

It is not uncommon for military veterans to join police forces and vice versa. Both jobs offer a strong sense of teamwork and reliance on others in life-or-death situations -- in platoons and out on patrol.

Marines in particular carry an almost religious zeal for their branch of the military that they compare to an exclusive brotherhood.

"Seeing the gunman in Baton Rouge brought a certain stinging embarrassment to something I hold very dear, being a United States Marine," said former Marine Staff Sgt. Chad M. Robichaux, who also worked as a law enforcement deputy for the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office, about an hour's drive from Baton Rouge.

Robichaux said he was proud of the police victims who served in combat zones, so the shooting "tears you both ways." One of the slain Dallas officers was a military contractor who worked in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Robichaux was a Force Recon Marine -- the Marine equivalent of a Navy SEAL -- and said both gunmen seemed to effectively use the element of surprise in their attacks but that he has seen no evidence they were highly trained killers.

There also is no evidence that has been made public suggesting either gunmen suffered from post-traumatic stress, said Robichaux, who runs the Mighty Oaks Warrior Programs that helps veterans deal with the syndrome known as PTSD. But he said he wished he had met Long while both were posted in Southern California.

"There's no excuse for what he did and I'm not sympathizing with him, but he was obviously hurting in some capacity and needed help," he said. "Somebody may have been able to show him a different way."

The military prides itself on its race relations and its history of opening jobs to blacks long before other institutions. Troops often say their only color is "green."

Marine veteran Elvin Carey, who is black, said he had no doubts both of the gunmen endured racism in and out of the military.

Carey, 31, said he also confronted racism in the service, with tension easing in combat but racist comments resuming after he returned to the U.S. The decorated Marine sergeant said he was asked at his first job out of the military if he was a high school dropout and had been in a street gang.

"I understand his frustration but I'm disgusted by what he did," the Iraq veteran said of Long. "Anywhere you go, for the rest of your life, every Marine is your brother so that's why I feel more ashamed of it."

### **Parris Island Through the Eyes of New Recruits**

4/10/2009 by Lance Corporal Ed G., MCRDPI.

As the air brakes hiss, hearts beat faster, palms sweat, breaths become shorter and a bus of hopeful recruits are unified by the fear of the unknown.

These are the experiences of so many recruits who have passed through Parris Island's main gate.

Upon arriving, recruits are greeted by a drill instructor and ordered to get off the bus and onto Parris Island's legendary yellow footprints.

"It's a privilege to be the first drill instructor they see and to give them the yellow footprints speech," said a receiving senior drill instructor with Recruit Processing Company, Support Battalion.

These are the words all recruits hear once they are on the yellow footprints: "You are now aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island South Carolina, and you have just taken the first step toward becoming a member of the world's finest fighting force, the United States Marine Corps."

While standing on the yellow footprints, the recruits also receive a brief on how to stand at the position of attention, the difference between civilian laws and the Uniform Code of Military Justice, what it means to be a Marine and finally how thousands of Marines have stood on those very same yellow footprints before they have.

The new recruits then walk very quickly to two large, silver doors. They will pass through these doors one time and never again. As the silver hatches close behind them, a chapter of their lives closes too and a new chapter begins.

Recruits have been stepping on the yellow footprints and walking through the silver hatches for countless cycles. It is their official threshold into a new reality.

"I think that the tradition of the yellow footprints and the silver doors is important," said another receiving senior drill instructor. "It's what Parris Island is known for. It's important for them to know that once they enter through those hatches they begin the transformation from civilian to Marine."



The yellow footprints as seen in the evening just prior to the bus load of recruits arriving at MCRD San Diego. —USMC photo.

**Once a Marine... ..Always a Marine OOORAHHH !!!!!**

**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 a link below that will take you to the current bulletin so that you might look it over. The below bulletin is dated August 1st, 2016 and must be viewed by August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 when it will go off-line.

[http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20160801%20\(PDF%20Edition\).pdf](http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20160801%20(PDF%20Edition).pdf)

**EVERY DAY PRAYER REQUEST**

"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."

**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

**LINKS TO CHECK**

Many of you if not all skip over these links. If you do you are missing out on some good stuff.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfRtbIQ1kTw&feature=youtu.be>

**-- Once a Marine, Always a Marine --**

**GOD BLESS AMERICA**



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ARISES, CHECK THEM OUT.**

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