

Semper Fi

"THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

December 2019 Edition



Don Elseroad, Editor

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

DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2019 – 2020

Commandant: Ed Elder

Senior Vice Commandant: Andy Bouma

Junior Vice Commandant: William Jones

Judge Advocate: Thomas Kellar

Junior Past Commandant: Bob Miller

Paymaster: Clifford Fridlind

Adjutant: Richard Hyson

Sgt-At-Arms: Jeff Merritt

Chaplain: Rhuel Goslee

Web Sergeant/Scuttlebutt Editor: 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 will be held on January 8th, 2020 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



THE 2020 NATIONAL CONFERENCE PREVIOUSLY CALL MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

February 27-29, 2020 Norfolk, Virginia
SHERATON NORFOLK WATERSIDE HOTEL
777 WATERSIDE DRIVE, NORFOLK, VA 23510
RESERVATIONS: 1-800-325-3535 OR CALL THE HOTEL DIRECT AT (757) 622-666
SEE BELOW LINK FOR COMPLETE INFO

<https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/conference/>

2020 Mideast Division Conference - Hosted by the Department of Virginia June 19, 20 & 21, 2020

Holiday Inn, 5655 Greenwich Rd, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

<https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/virginiabeach/orfgr/hoteldetail>

1-757-499- 4400, once answered hit O to get reservations. Toll Free 1-800-567-3856 Code-MED \$138.00 a night total 15% discount on breakfast, Parking included. If ADA type of room is required, make sure you mention it when making reservations

97th National Convention

August 9 through 15, 2020

Hosted by Department of Florida

Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront 100 N Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach, FL

<https://www.daytonahilton.com/>

More info will be provided when it becomes available

"Sick or in Distress"

MCL Members and/or family members Richard HYSON, Paul TOMKO, Rhuel GOSLEE, Ed ELDER, Gloria HOWARD, Don ELSEROAD, and Jeanne 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)

<u>JANUARY "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u> 5th Ralph CAPEN 9th Missy HYSON 9th William WHEATLEY 23 rd Dena HOLLOWAY 24th Tara PARSONS 28th Sally HERLING	<u>JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES</u> 30 th Joyce & Whitely QUILLEN (33yrs)
<u>JANUARY MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u> Terry HERLING (8 yrs)	<u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWED</u> None reported to your editor <u>WELCOME ABOARD</u> None reported to your editor

DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE

ALL DETACHMENT MEMBERS THAT ARE NOT "LIFE" MEMBER'S NEED TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NLT AUGUST 31 EACH YEAR

Make your check for \$24.00 payable to "MCL Det 115" and send it to our paymaster

Clifford Fridlind, Paymaster
26267 Evesboro Lane
Eden, MD 21822-2112
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Should retirees be held to the UCMJ?

The subject of whether military retirees could still face prosecution for crimes committed after leaving the service is controversial. In February, the Supreme Court rejected hearing the case of retired Marine Staff Sgt. Steven Larrabee, effectively upholding the Pentagon's authority to prosecute retired service members.

After 20 years in the Marine Corps, Larrabee left the service and transferred to the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve but stayed in Iwakuni, Japan where he was last stationed to manage several local bars.

Court documents claim he sexually assaulted a bartender at one of those bars and filmed the incident on his cell phone on Nov. 15, 2015. He was later convicted by a court-martial on one counts of sexual assault and one count of indecent recording in violation of Articles 120 and 120c of the UCMJ, per court records.

Initially, he was sentenced to eight years' confinement, a reprimand, and a dishonorable discharge. But his prison term was cut to only 10 months due to a pre-trial agreement.

He then filed a petition in Sept. 2018 to overturn his conviction on appeal, claiming he should have been tried as a civilian and that it is “anachronistic” to view him still a member of the military.

“He receives pay in the form of his military pension, but he holds no active rank; he has no commanding officer or subordinates; he lacks the authority to issue binding orders; he has no obligation to follow orders; he performs no duties; and he participates in no regular military activities,” Larrabee’s petition said.

Larrabee’s appeals attorney Steve Vladeck also wrote in a Lawfare blog post that only a “tiny percentage of retired service members would be realistically subject to involuntary recall” because the reserve component is the military’s preference to assist active duty troops.

Meanwhile, others such as retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Charles Dunlap Jr. pushed back on Larrabee and Vladeck’s arguments.

“Forecasting the future of warfare is highly problematic,” Dunlap wrote in February in a blog post. “In my view, it’s quite possible to envision a future where America must be ready to use all available manpower.”

Additionally, Dunlap noted that retirees are under no obligation to collect their retirement pay. Dunlap said Congress “rather clearly provided for military justice jurisdiction in cases like Larabee’s,” given that he was a member of the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve.

The Supreme Court’s rejection of the case means that retirees could still face prosecution for actions committed following their exit from the service.

Army proposes changes to who qualifies for burial at Arlington National Cemetery

The Army is proposing changes to who is eligible for burial at Arlington National Cemetery amid a nationwide effort to increase access to burial options for America's veterans as existing cemeteries, including Arlington, run out of space.

According to the proposed changes published by the Army last week, service members who die on active duty, but not in combat, would no longer be eligible for burial at Arlington. There are fewer than 95,000 remaining burial spaces there for nearly all of the 22 million living service members and veterans currently eligible, the Army said

The proposed changes come as a new Government Accountability Office (GAO) report found additional actions are needed to increase veterans' burial access across the country. Currently, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) estimates that 92% of veterans have reasonable access to burial options, defined as a national or state veterans' cemetery located within 75 miles of the veterans' home, the GAO said.

While the National Cemetery Administration has plans to establish 18 new national cemeteries in urban and rural areas to increase that access, the GAO described the office's progress as "limited" and "years behind its original schedule for opening new cemeteries." The primary challenge delaying the completion of cemeteries has been acquiring suitable land, the GAO found.

Arlington National Cemetery, the final resting place of more than 400,000 service members and their family members, is expected to break ground on a 37-acre expansion next year.

But that change will not be enough to address the shortage in burial sites there. Congress directed the Army to revise its eligibility criteria to ensure the cemetery could remain an active burial ground. At the current pace of burials, Arlington could be closed to new interments by the mid-2050s, including Medal of Honor recipients, the Army said.

The new guidelines proposed by the Army set aside 1,000 grave sites for current and future Medal of Honor recipients. Below-ground interment would be reserved for service members killed in action, recipients of the Silver Star and higher awards who served in combat, Purple Heart recipients, combat-related deaths and former prisoners of war.

Presidents and vice presidents, as well as "veterans with combat service who also served out of uniform as a government official and made significant contributions to the nation's security at the highest levels of public service," would also qualify.

"Arlington National Cemetery is a national shrine for all Americans, but especially those who have served our great nation," said Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy. "We must ensure it can honor those we have lost for many years to come."

The proposed changes will now begin the federal government's public rule-making process, which includes soliciting feedback from the public. The full list of proposed changes is available online.

The proposed changes would not affect previously scheduled services, veterans' burial benefits or veteran eligibility at VA national and state cemeteries, the Army said.

Marine walks more than 800 miles around Lake Michigan in 42 days to raise awareness for veteran suicide

A month or so back, a Michigan Marine veteran has been raising awareness for veteran suicide after the loss of one of his brothers.

Travis Snyder completed walking more than 800 miles in 42 days around Lake Michigan - walking close to 25 miles a day.

As the issue to help veterans returning from combat and keep them from committing suicide is growing nationwide, Snyder said his mission is to be a healer and do his part for the greater good.

"It's never wrong to run on faith and take a chance on something, especially if you believe in that," Snyder told FOX 17 at the start of the mission. "For those that are following and have been a part of this journey with me, if you are hurting, I want them to know that they have a purpose. They have a reason to stay. They are needed. They're wanted and they're loved."

Snyder, who served in Afghanistan as a corporal from October 2017 to April 2018, chronicled his journey on his Facebook page.

"I'm still getting messages and phone calls from people who just want to talk and share their story," Snyder told ABC News. "Just when I think I understand the magnitude, I learn more."

On Monday October 7, he arrived in Manistee accompanied by three fellow Marines and a small crowd of supporters who walked the last few miles with him.

In his final post, he wrote: "This is our main objective; to bring a light to a situation that needs answers, and needs attention. You and I are to be that light, and to help those that are combating those challenges every day. Together, we will make a tremendous difference."

RAO Bulletin

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 December 1st, 2019.

<http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin-191201-PDF-Edition.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 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

-- *Once a Marine, Always a Marine* –
OOORAHHH !!!!!

GOD BLESS AMERICA



Saepius Exertus, Semper Fidelis, Frater Infinias
Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever

Good night "Cherly" wherever you are

