

Semper Fi

"THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

February 2012 Edition



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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 Vice Commandant: Ed Elder

Junior Past Commandant: Jim Siegel

Judge Advocate: Ed Hearthway

Paymaster: Jim Siegel

Adjutant: Richard Hyson

Sgt-At-Arms: Walt Cohee

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 March 14th, 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

March 10 th	March 17 th	March 20 th
<p>Spring ahead</p> <p>Set your clocks an hour ahead before you go to bed tonight. Daylight-saving time starts tomorrow.</p> 		<p>First Day Of Spring... March 20th</p> 

Department of Maryland Marine Corps League 2012 Convention

Princess Royale

Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center

Ocean City, Maryland

April 26 thru April 28, 2012

Full information is available on the following link

[2012 Convention Announcement](#)

Hotel Information can be viewed on the following link

<http://www.princessroyale.com/>

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. More information can be found on the following link.
<http://www.mobilemarines.org/2012Natl.html>

"Sick or in Distress"

MCL Members Ralph SMITH and 'Missy' HYSON wife of our Adjutant Richard HYSON are 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)

<p><u>MARCH "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u> 14th Paul TOMKO 23rd Barb EBAUGH 25th Nicole HEBERLE 31st Diana MERRITT</p>	<p><u>MARCH ANNIVERSARIES</u> 24th Renee & 'Josh' KELLEY (5 yrs)</p> 
<p><u>MARCH MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u> Warner SUMPTER (12 yrs) Carl EBAUGH (9 yrs) Kevin GRIFFIN (7 yrs) Richard HYSON (3 yrs) Thomas MIFFLETON (3 yrs) Jeff MERRITT (2 yr) John ROBINSON (1 yr) Raymond SITES (Unk)</p>	<p><u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE IN MARCH</u> Carl EBAUGH Kevin GRIFFIN Richard HYSON Jeff MERRITT Thomas MIFFLETON John ROBINSON Raymond SITES</p>
<p><u>WELCOME ABOARD</u> None</p>	<p><u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u> None</p>

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**

"The Gun Is Civilization"

THIS IS THE BEST WORDED PRO-GUN ARGUMENT I HAVE EVER READ. Very good article, and of course, from a Marine!!!!

As the Supreme Court heard arguments for and against the Chicago, IL Gun Ban, this man offered you another stellar example of a letter (written by a Marine), that places the proper perspective on what a gun means to a civilized society.

Interesting take and one you don't hear much. Read this eloquent and profound letter and pay close attention to the last paragraph of the letter....

"The Gun Is Civilization" by Maj. L. Caudill USMC (Ret)

Human beings only have two ways to deal with one another: reason and force. If you want me to do something for you, you have a choice of either convincing me via argument, or force me to do your bidding under threat of force. Every human interaction falls into one of those two categories, without exception. Reason or force, that's it.

In a truly moral and civilized society, people exclusively interact through persuasion.

Force has no place as a valid method of social interaction and the only thing that removes force from the menu is the personal firearm, as paradoxical as it may sound to some.

When I carry a gun, you cannot deal with me by force. You have to use reason and try to persuade me, because I have a way to negate your threat or employment of force.

The gun is the only personal weapon that puts a 100-pound woman on equal footing with a 220-pound mugger, a 75-year old retiree on equal footing with a 19-year old gang banger, and a single guy on equal footing with a carload of drunken guys with baseball bats. The gun removes the disparity in physical strength, size, or numbers between a potential attacker and a defender.

There are plenty of people who consider the gun as the source of bad force equations. These are the people who think that we'd be more civilized if all guns were removed from society, because a firearm makes it easier for a [armed] mugger to do his job. That, of course, is only true if the mugger's potential victims are mostly disarmed either by choice or by legislative fiat--it has no validity when most of a mugger's potential marks are armed.

People who argue for the banning of arms ask for automatic rule by the young, the strong, and the many, and that's the exact opposite of a civilized society. A mugger, even an armed one, can only make a successful living in a society where the state has granted him a force monopoly.

Then there's the argument that the gun makes confrontations lethal that otherwise would only result in injury. This argument is fallacious in several ways. Without guns involved, confrontations are won by the physically superior party inflicting overwhelming injury on the loser.

People, who think that fists, bats, sticks, or stones don't constitute lethal force, watch too much TV, where people take beatings and come out of it with a bloody lip at worst. The fact that the gun makes lethal force easier works solely in favor of the weaker defender, not the stronger attacker. If both are armed, the field is level.

The gun is the only weapon that's as lethal in the hands of an octogenarian as it is in the hands of a weight lifter. It simply wouldn't work as well as a force equalizer if it wasn't both lethal and easily employable.

When I carry a gun, I don't do so because I am looking for a fight, but because I'm looking to be left alone. The gun at my side means that I cannot be forced only persuaded. I don't carry it because I'm afraid, but because it enables me to be unafraid. It doesn't limit the actions of those who would interact with me through reason, only the actions of those who would do so by force. It removes force from the equation... and that's why carrying a gun is a civilized act.

By Maj. L. Caudill USMC (Ret.)

So, the greatest civilization is one where all citizens are equally armed and can only be persuaded, never forced.

RAO BULLETINS

Each month your editor has 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 February 1st, 2012.
http://z5.ifrm.com/9056/110/0/p1045756/Bulletin_120201_PDF_Edition.pdf

Fact or Fiction:

1) Members of Congress get full pensions for life after serving just one term.

Mostly Fiction. The Congressional retirement system is very similar to that of federal civilians. It's true that a member of Congress can become eligible for retirement benefits after a minimum of 5 years of service if they're age 62 or older, but only for a partial pension. To qualify for a pension a member of Congress must meet one of the following service and age requirements:

- 5 years of service and age 62
- 20 years of service and age 50
- 25 years of service at any age

Like the military retirement system, Congressional retirement pay is calculated on a combination of their average high-three years of salary and a multiplier based on their length of service. It's also worth pointing out that members of Congress contribute to their own retirement and pay Social Security taxes. Once retired their Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) are sometimes held artificially below the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which measures inflation. Since the Congressional retirement system was overhauled in 1984 (to be less generous) the average annual pension is roughly \$40,000.

2) Members of Congress don't pay for their healthcare.

Fiction. Members of Congress and their staffs are eligible for the same health insurance as federal civilians, and they pay the same premiums. They can enroll in any insurance program offered under the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). One of the most popular plans under FEHBP (the Blue Cross Blue Shield Standard plan) costs beneficiaries \$430 a month for a family, and \$185 a month for individual coverage. Starting in 2014, members of Congress and their staffs will be required to participate in the health care exchanges created under national health care reform.

3) Legislators receive free health care at military facilities such as Walter Reed.

Fiction. Members of Congress can receive care at the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, but the cost of such care is billed to their federal insurance.

4) Congress votes themselves pay increases every year.

Mostly Fiction. The law authorizes Congress a raise every year unless legislators vote to stop it. Congress voted to forgo a pay raise in 2010, 2011, and 2012. Congressional pay increases are capped lower than the military raise. While military raises are tied to the average American's (the Employment Cost Index), congressional raises are capped one-half percentage point below that. In 2012 members of Congress will collect a salary of \$174,000.

Remember Martha Raye?? Who knew!!

A lot of you may be too young to remember Martha Ray but we oldies remember her.

Most of the old time entertainers were made out of a lot sterner stuff than today's crop of activists and whiners. The following is from an Army Aviator friend who takes another trip down memory lane:

It was just before Thanksgiving '67 and we were ferrying dead and wounded from a large GRF west of Pleiku ,Vietnam. We had run out of body bags by noon, so the Hook (CH-47 CHINOOK) was pretty rough in the back. All of a sudden, we heard a 'take-charge' woman's voice in the rear.

There was the singer and actress, Martha Raye, with a Special Forces beret and jungle fatigues, with subdued markings, helping the wounded into the Chinook, and carrying the dead aboard. 'Maggie' had been visiting her Special Forces 'heroes'.

We took off, short of fuel, and headed to the USAF hospital pad at Pleiku. As we all started unloading our sad pax's, a 'Smart-Ass' USAF Captain said to Martha.... Ms. Ray, with all these dead and wounded to process, there won't be time for your show!

To all of our surprise, she pulled on her right collar and said.....Captain, see this eagle? I am a full 'Bird' Colonel in the US Army Reserve and on this is a 'Caduceus' which means I am a Nurse, with a surgical specialty. Now take me to your wounded.

He said, yes ma'am.... Follow me.

Several times at the Army Field Hospital in Pleiku, she would cover a surgical shift, giving a nurse a well-deserved break.

Martha is the only woman buried in the Special Forces cemetery at Ft. Bragg .

For more on this magnificent lady check out the following link.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martha_Raye

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."

MEET BABY LANDON

His father, Marine LCPL Andrew Carpenter of Columbia, TN, gave his life defending our country in Afghanistan on February 13, 2011, a month before his son was born. Baby Landon's Mom wants his story to be known. Take a moment to share this photo with your friends and reflect on the most precious ransom paid.



We must never forget: FREEDOM IS NOT FREE AND NEVER WILL BE!

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.

Bateman, Cpl. Jon-Luke
Tulsa, OK
Cochran, Lance Cpl. Kenneth E.
Wilder, ID
McGeath, Cpl. Phillip D.
Glendale, AZ
Stites, Cpl. Jesse W.
North Beach, IL
Riddick, MSgt. Travis W.
Centerville, IA
Reinhard, Cpl. Kevin J.
Colonia, NJ
McHone, Capt. Nathan R.
Crystal Lake, IL
Logan, Cpl. Joseph D.
Willis, TX
Bartle, Capt. Daniel B.
Ferndale, WA
Singer, Cpl. Christopher G.
Temecula, CA
Pairsh, Capt. Joshua C.
Equality, IL
Dycus, Lance Cpl. Edward J.
Greenville, MS

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 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 have two companies of Marines running rampant all over the northern half of this island, and three Army regiments pinned down in the southwestern corner, doing nothing. What the hell is going on?

Gen. John W. Vessey Jr., USA, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
during the assault on Grenada, 1983

LINKS TO CHECK OUT

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18lsxFcDrjo&feature=email>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nv9IBqPVuoE&feature=uploademail>

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