

# Semper Fi

## "THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

February 2016 Edition



*Don Elseroad, Editor*  
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*SSgt Walter F. "Trae" Cohee III*  
*Detachment # 115*  
*Salisbury, MD*

### DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2015 - 2016

*Commandant: Ed Elder*

Senior Vice Commandant: Bob Miller

Judge Advocate: Ed Hearthway

Paymaster: Andy Bouma

Sgt-At-Arms: Walt Cohee

Junior Vice Commandant: Gene Powell

Junior Past Commandant: Bill Marsich

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 March 9<sup>th</sup>, 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

|  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <p><u>March 13</u></p> <p>Don't forget to set all of your clocks one hour ahead!</p> | <p><u>March 17</u></p> <p>Happy St Patrick's Day!</p> | <p><u>March 19</u></p> <p>Spring is here!</p> | <p><u>March 20</u></p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> | <p><u>March 27</u></p> <p>Happy Easter!</p> |
|--|---|---|---|---|

### MID-WINTER NATIONAL CONFERENCE

MARCH 3 - 5, 2016

MARRIOTT FAIRVIEW PARK

3111 Fairview Park Dr., Falls Church, VA 22042

Phone: (703) 849-9400 \$103.00 per night

Registration information

ALL DEADLINES ARE 8 FEBRUARY 2016

**Department of Maryland Convention**

**April 28, 29 & 30, 2016**

Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center

9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842-2745

Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-4-ROYALE or 1-410-524-7777

For hotel information click here: <http://princessroyale.com/>

Complete convention information with fillable form can be found on the following link

<http://www.deptofmdmcl.org/Conventions/default.htm>

**2016 Mideast Division Conference**

**June 24 through 26, 2016**

To be held at the Wilmington- Christina Hilton, 100 Continental Drive, Newark DE 19713.

Telephone to make reservations at 800-348-3133 or 302-454-1500

It is conveniently located off I-95 exit 4B

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

Room rate is \$124.99 a night and includes full breakfast buffet

Banquet is \$34.00

If you need a registration form, you can email Evie Remines at [mclichick@hotmail.com](mailto:mclichick@hotmail.com)

A few unique destinations nearby include Delaware Park Raceway & Casino, Longwood Gardens, Delaware

Museum of History, the Christiana Mall and Colonade

**93<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Convention – Tulsa, OK**

**August 7 through 12, 2016**

Hyatt Regency Tulsa, 100 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Tulsa, OK (918) 234-1234

Online reservations: <https://aws.passkey.com/event/14080583/owner/55460/home>

More information coming soon!

**Overflow Hotel**

**8 - 12 August 2016**

Courtyard by Marriott - Tulsa Downtown

415 South Boston Avenue, Tulsa, OK

(800) 721-7033 or (918) 508-7400

**Online reservations**

*Rate \$107.00 per night (plus tax)*

*Standard King or Double Queen*

*includes valet parking and breakfast*

**Group code is MCL**

**"Sick or in Distress"**

MCL Members Gloria HOWARD, Walt & Jeanne COHEE and Tom CORCORAN 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>MARCH "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u></b><br>14th Paul TOMKO<br>23rd Barb EBAUGH<br>31st Diana MERRITT  | <b><u>MARCH ANNIVERSARIES</u></b><br>24th Renee & 'Josh' KELLEY (9 yrs)   |
| <b><u>MARCH MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u></b><br>Warner SUMPTER (16 yrs)<br>Carl EBAUGH (13 yrs)<br>Richard HYSON (7 yrs)<br>Jeff MERRITT (6 yr)<br>John ROBINSON (6 yrs)<br>Thomas GORMAN (1 yr) | <b><u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE IN MARCH</u></b><br>Carl EBAUGH<br>Thomas GORMAN<br>Jeff MERRITT<br>John ROBINSON |
| <b><u>WELCOME ABOARD</u></b><br>None reported to your editor  | <b><u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u></b><br>Rhuel GOSLEE      William HOBBS   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <b>Dena &amp; Lee HOLLOWAY</b><br><b>Diana MERRITT      Gene POWELL</b><br><b>William WHEATLEY      Eric WILK</b> |
|--|---|

### **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**

### **A Great Jewish Bronx Tale**

The South Bronx in 1950 was the home of a large and thriving community, predominantly Jewish. In the 1950s the Bronx offered synagogues, mikvas, kosher bakeries, and kosher butchers - all the comforts one would expect from an observant Orthodox Jewish community.

The baby boom of the postwar years happily resulted in many new young parents. As a matter of course, the South Bronx had its own baby equipment store, Sickser's.

Sickser's was located on the corner of Westchester and Fox and specialized in "everything for the baby" as its slogan ran.

The inventory began with cribs, baby carriages, playpens, high chairs, changing tables, and toys. It went way beyond these to everything a baby could want or need. Mr. Sickser, assisted by his son-in-law Lou Kirshner, ran a profitable business out of the needs of the rapidly expanding child population.

The language of the store was primarily Yiddish, but Sickser's was a place where not only Jewish families but also many non-Jewish ones could acquire the necessary for their newly arrived bundles of joy.

Business was particularly busy one spring day, so much so that Mr. Sickser and his son-in-law could not handle the unexpected throng of customers.

Desperate for help, Mr. Sickser ran out of the store and stopped the first youth he spotted on the street. "Young man," he panted, "how would you like to make a little extra money? I need some help in the store. You want to work a little?"

The tall, lanky black boy flashed a toothy smile back. "Yes, sir, I'd like some work."

"Well then, let's get started."

The boy followed his new employer into the store. Mr. Sickser was immediately impressed with the boy's good manners and demeanor. As the days went by and he came again and again to lend his help, Mr. Sickser and Lou both became increasingly impressed with the youth's diligence, punctuality, and readiness to learn.

Eventually Mr. Sickser made him a regular employee at the store. It was gratifying to find an employee with an almost soldier-like willingness to perform even the most menial of tasks, and to perform them well.

From the age of 13 until his sophomore year in college, this young man put in from 12 to 15 hours a week, at 50 to 75 cents an hour.

Mostly, he performed general labor: assembling merchandise, unloading trucks and preparing items for shipments. He seemed, in his quiet way, to appreciate not only the steady employment but also the friendly atmosphere Mr. Sickser's store offered.

Mr. Sickser and Lou learned in time about their helper's Jamaican origins and he in turn picked up a good deal of Yiddish.

In time the young man was able to converse fairly well with his employers, and more importantly, with a number of the Jewish customers whose English was not fluent.

At the age of 17, the young man, while still working part-time at Sickser's, began his first semester at City College of New York. He fit in just fine with his, for the most part, Jewish classmates, hardly surprising, considering that he already knew their ways and their language.

But the heavy studying in the engineering and, later, geology courses he chose proved quite challenging. The young man would later recall that Sickser's offered the one stable point in his life those days.

In 1993, in his position as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, two years after he guided the American victory over Iraq in the Gulf War, General Colin Powell visited the Holy Land. Upon meeting Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in Jerusalem, he greeted the Israeli with the words "Men kent reden Yiddish" (We can speak Yiddish).

As Shamir, stunned, tried to pull himself together, the Secretary Of State continued chatting in his second-favorite language. Colin Powell never forgot his early days working at Sickser's



***Jack Lucas Dies at 80; Earned Medal of Honor at 17***

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Jack Lucas, who at 14 lied his way into the military to serve in World War II and became the youngest marine ever to receive the Medal of Honor, died June 5, 2008 in Hattiesburg, Miss., where he made his home. He was 80.

Mr. Lucas had been hospitalized with leukemia and died after asking doctors to remove a dialysis machine, said his wife, Ruby.

Jacklyn Lucas, known as Jack, was just six days past his 17th birthday when, in February 1945, his heroism at Iwo Jima earned him the medal. He used his body to shield three members of his squad from two grenades and was nearly killed when one exploded.

“A couple of grenades rolled into the trench,” Mr. Lucas said in an interview with The Associated Press shortly before he received the medal from President Harry S. Truman in October 1945. “I hollered to my pals to get out and did a Superman dive at the grenades.”

But “I wasn’t a Superman after I got hit,” he added, recalling the scream he let out “when that thing went off.”

Mr. Lucas was left with more than 250 pieces of shrapnel in his body and had 26 operations in the following months. He was discharged as a private first class.

The youngest member of the military to receive the Medal of Honor in any conflict other than the Civil War, he became a symbol of patriotism in the ensuing decades, meeting presidents and traveling the world to speak with frontline troops and fellow veterans.

Mr. Lucas, born in Plymouth, N.C., on Feb. 14, 1928, was a 13-year-old cadet captain in a military academy when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor.

Big for his age and eager to serve, he forged his mother’s signature on an enlistment waiver that would have allowed him to join the Marines at 17 rather than the usual 18. But in fact he was by then only 14, though the military did not learn of that until censors discovered it through a letter he had written to his 15-year-old girlfriend.

“They had him driving a truck in Hawaii because his age was discovered, and they threatened to send him home,” said D. K. Drum, who wrote Mr. Lucas’s story with him in the 2006 book “Indestructible.”

Mr. Lucas eventually stowed away aboard a Navy ship headed for combat in the Pacific. He turned himself in aboard ship to avoid being listed as a deserter, and volunteered to fight.

The officers aboard “did not know his age,” Ms. Drum said. “He didn’t give it up, and they didn’t ask.”

After the war, Mr. Lucas earned a business degree from High Point University in North Carolina and raised, processed and sold beef in the Washington area. In the 1960s, he rejoined the military, becoming an Army paratrooper to conquer his fear of heights, Ms. Drum said.

On a training jump, both of his parachutes failed, she said, and Mr. Lucas later said his stocky build and a last-second roll as he hit the ground had saved his life.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Lucas is survived by four sons, a daughter, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Note: Your editor had the privilege of meeting this hero at several Marine Corps League conventions prior to his death.

### **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 February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 and needs to view before February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 or the link will no longer work.

[http://www.nhc-ul.com/Bulletin%20160201%20\(PDF%20Edition\).pdf](http://www.nhc-ul.com/Bulletin%20160201%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@bvnnet.net](mailto:53usmc73@bvnnet.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.

**[Senators scold Mabus for causing drama with Marine Corps](#)**

**<https://www.youtube.com/embed/70lkj1hZDnw>**

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

**GOD BLESS AMERICA**



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ARISES, CHECK THEM OUT.**

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