

Semper Fi

"THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

January 2020 Edition



Don Elseroad, Editor
355 Beaverview Drive
Bristol, VA 24201-1880
276-645-0482
53usmc73@bvunet.net



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 February 12th, 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/>

Department of Maryland

2020 Convention

May 7, 8 & 9, 2020

Link to Princess Royal Hotel

<https://princessroyale.com/>

The following link will take you to all the printable forms necessary to register for the convention

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

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 HYSO, 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>FEBRUARY "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u> 8 th Joyce QUILLEN 10 th Louis JONES 26 th Sylvia GOSLEE	<u>FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES</u> 17 th Sandra & Andy BOUMA (53 yrs) 23 rd Sharon & David MILLS (24 yrs) 28 th Nicole & Kyle HEBERE (13 yrs)
<u>FEBRUARY MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u> Roger MARTINSON (4 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

410-742-7505

plcmlind@juno.com

What Life Was Like 50 Years Ago Compared to Now

Getting cash required a trip to the bank.

Although Barclays introduced the world's first automated teller machine in London in 1967, ATMs didn't make their way across the big pond until 1969.

Humans hadn't walked on the moon..

In 1968, the Apollo program's second manned spacecraft orbited the moon and safely returned on Dec. 28—seven months before Apollo 11's actual moon landing.

Couples married much earlier in life.

In 1968, the median age of first marriage was 20 for women and 23 for men. Back then, close to 70 percent of American adults were married; today only 51 percent are, according to a Pew Research Center study from 2011. The modern bride is 26.5 years old on average and the groom 28.7.

Secret Service didn't protect presidential candidates.

After presidential hopeful Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated on the campaign trail on June 5, 1968, Congress passed legislation calling for Secret Service protection for major presidential candidates.

The drinking age was 18.

It became 21 when Congress passed the National Minimum Drinking Age Act on July 17, 1984.

Seat belts weren't mandatory.

The first federal seat belt law, requiring all new cars to have a belt for each seat, took effect in 1968, but it would be decades before the first state law that required *wearing* one—that happened in New York on December 1, 1984.

A gallon of gas cost 34 cents.

That's the equivalent of \$2.31 today when adjusted for inflation—very comparable to today's national average of \$2.48 a gallon.

9-1-1 didn't exist.

A single, nationwide phone number for emergency assistance was established in 1968 following a meeting between the FCC and AT&T. The digits 9-1-1 were chosen because they had never before been used as an area code or other service code.

Heart transplants weren't an option.

Although South African cardiac surgeon Christiaan Barnard completed the first successful heart transplant in 1967, the first adult heart transplant in the U.S. took place at the Stanford University Hospital in 1968. Of the roughly 100 heart transplants worldwide that year, only a third were successful beyond three months.

Dialing involved clockwise finger rotation.

Push-button phones became available commercially in 1963, but rotary phones remained popular for household use until well into the '70s.

Local calls were only 7 digits.

Calling someone in the same town didn't require an area code until the early 2000s, when, the New York Times reported, telecom regulators began facing "number exhaustion" due to an expanding population.

No U.S. president had ever resigned.

Although that would soon change: President Richard Nixon was elected in 1968.

Cigarette ads played on TV.

Prior to a ban that became effective September 1970, tobacco companies advertised on TV and radio for the general U.S. population to see and hear—including little eyes and ears.

The internet hadn't even been invented.

The internet's predecessor, ARPANet, developed as an alternative means of government communication should telephones fail, sent its first message in 1969.

Computers took up entire rooms.

Floppy disks and microprocessors made the devices more manageable in the '70s, but IBM's PC (1981) and Apple's Macintosh (1984) brought the computer home.

Walmart was a mom-and-pop.

The Walton Family had just 24 stores in 1967. Walmart became a publicly traded company in 1970.

'Made in China' items were hard to find.

The Korean War put a freeze on all U.S.-China trade and travel until the early '70s, when President Nixon's administration reestablished diplomatic relations.

There were only three major TV networks.

Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In, aired on one of them: NBC. ABC and CBS were the other two. (A previous contender, DuMont, shut down in 1956.) Fox joined the lineup in 1986 but didn't earn "major network" status until 1994.

The U.S. was at war in Vietnam.

Despite widespread protests, the Vietnam War continued until April 30, 1975, bringing the total conflict time to 19 years, 5 months, 4 weeks and 1 day.

Radio was the only means of portable music.

Until Stereobelt developed the first portable cassette player in '72, transistor radio was it.

The Sears Tower was the tallest building in the world.

The Sears Tower in Chicago became the tallest building in the world after it was completed in 1973.

Previously, New York's World Trade Center, which was also completed in 1973, held the title.

Minimum wage was higher than today.

The hourly minimum wage was \$1.60 back in 1968. With inflation that boils down to about \$10.74 an hour. Compared to today's current national minimum wage of \$7.25, families relying on hourly wages back then were much better off.

Sit-in protests were huge.

Back in the 1960s, one of the most effective protests were sit-ins. The form of protest quickly became a favorite for college students and activists for civil rights or against the Vietnam War. (There was a lot to fight against back then.)

Children of the Greatest Generation

Born in the 1930s and 40s, we exist as a very special age cohort. We are the Silent Generation. We are the smallest number of children born since the early 1900s. We are the "last ones."

We are the *last generation, climbing out of the depression*, who can remember the winds of war and the impact of a world at war which rattled the structure of our daily lives for years.

We are the last to remember ration books for everything from *gas to sugar to shoes to meat from the butcher*. We saved tin foil and poured fat into tin cans to be used to make ammunition. We hand mixed white stuff with yellow stuff to make fake butter. We stood in line at the grocery store when it was learned a tub of real butter had just arrived, and as kids holding a place in line to await a mother in trail, we learned after being pushed aside by an adult stranger who was also in line, to push ourselves back in line. We saw cars up on blocks because tires weren't available. We can remember milk being delivered to our house early in the morning and placed in the milk box on the porch.

We are the last to hear Roosevelt's radio assurances and to see gold stars in the front windows of our grieving neighbors. We can also remember the parades on August 15, 1945, VJ Day. We saw the "boys" home from the war build their Cape Cod style houses, pouring the cellar, tar papering it over and living there until they could afford the time and money to build it out.

We are the *last generation who spent childhood without television*. Instead we imagined what we heard on the radio. As we all like to brag, with no TV, we spent our childhood "playing outside until the street lights came on."

We did play outside and we did play on our own. There was no Little League. Ball games were "pick-up" and played on vacant lots sharing baseball mitts because only the few had them. No kid had a two-wheeler bike until about 1946 when "Victory Bikes" were sold (no chrome, flimsy frame, very thin wheels). There was no city playground for kids. To play in the water, we turned the fire hydrants on and ran through the spray.

The lack of television in our early years meant, for most of us, that we had little real understanding of what the world was like. Our Saturday afternoons, if at the movies, gave us newsreels of the war and the Holocaust sandwiched in between westerns and cartoons.

Telephones were one to a house, often shared and hung on the wall. Computers were called calculators and were hand cranked. Typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage, and changing the ribbon.

The Internet and Google were words that didn't exist. Newspapers and magazines were written for adults. We are the last group who had to find out for ourselves.

As we grew up, the country was exploding with growth. The G.I. Bill gave returning veterans the means to get an education and spurred colleges to grow. VA loans fanned a housing boom. Pent-up demand coupled with new installment payment plans put factories to work.

New highways would bring jobs and mobility. The veterans joined civic clubs and became active in politics. In the late 40s and early 50s the country seemed to lie in the embrace of brisk but quiet order as it gave birth to its new middle class (which became known as Baby Boomers).

The radio network expanded from 3 stations (NBC, ABC, CBS) to thousands of stations. The telephone started to become a common method of communications and "Faxes" sent hard copy around the world. A neighborhood television set was a rare phenomenon (circular B&W 10" screen). Most families could not afford such a luxury, so as kids, we'd head to the closest TV appliance store, which always had a TV in the sidewalk display window, where we would watch Milton Berle and his Texaco Comedy Hour and, sometimes, even a major league ball game from New York City.

Our parents were suddenly free from the confines of the depression and the war and they threw themselves into exploring opportunities they had never imagined.

We weren't neglected but we weren't today's all-consuming family focus. They were glad we played by ourselves "until the street lights came on." They were busy discovering the post war world.

Most of us had no life plan, but with the unexpected virtue of ignorance and an economic rising tide we simply stepped into the world and started to find out what the world was about.

We entered a world of overflowing plenty and opportunity, a world where we were welcomed. Based on our naïve belief that there was more where this came from, we shaped life as we went.

We enjoyed a luxury. We felt secure in our future. Of course, just as today, not all Americans shared in this experience. *Depression poverty was deep rooted. Polio was still a crippler.* The Korean War was a dark presage in the early 50s, and by mid-decade, school children were ducking under desks. Russia built the Iron Curtain and China became Red China. Eisenhower sent the first "advisors" to Vietnam, and years later, Johnson invented a war there. Castro set up camp in Cuba and Khrushchev came to power.

We are the last generation to experience an interlude when there were no existential threats to our homeland. We came of age in the 40s and early 50s. The war was over and the Cold War, terrorism, civil rights, technological upheaval, global warming, and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life with insistent unease.

Only our generation can remember both a time of apocalyptic war and a time when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty.

We have lived through both. We grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better, not worse.

We are the Silent Generation, "the last ones." *The last of us was born in 1945, more than 99.9% of us are either retired or dead, and all of us believe we grew up in the best of times!*

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 January 1st, 2020.

[http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20200101%20\(PDF%20Edition\).pdf](http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20200101%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.

LINKS TO CHECK

Many of you if not all skip over these links. If you do you are missing out on some good stuff.
None this month

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 "Chesty" wherever you are

