

# *Semper Fi*

## "THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

June 2015 Edition



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### 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 July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 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

July 4



2015 Mideast Division Conference will be hosted by the Department of Virginia on 26-28 June 2015 at the Hospitality House Hotel and Conference Center, 2801 Plank Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22401 Phone: (540) 786-8321 or (800) 682-1049. Room rate is \$89.00 per night plus tax and your host detachment will be the Jack Maas Detachment. Information on the hotel can be viewed on the following link:

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

2015 MCL National Convention will be held August 9th through the 15th, 2015 at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort, 7200 N. Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale, Arizona 85253. Room rate is 94 dollars plus room tax. Phone 480-948-5000. More information on the Scottsdale Plaza Resort is available on the following link:

<http://www.scottsdaleplaza.com/> As of 10/19/2014, the Scottsdale Plaza Resort is completely sold out. Overflow hotel information can be viewed on the following link:

[http://www.mcleague.com/mdp/pdf/2015\\_Convention-Additional\\_Accommodations.pdf](http://www.mcleague.com/mdp/pdf/2015_Convention-Additional_Accommodations.pdf)

Additional information on the Convention will be posted as it becomes available.

**"Sick or in Distress"**

MCL Members Jimmy Lee & Gloria HOWARD, 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>JULY "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u></b> 1st Terry HERLING      2nd Donna JONES 2nd John ROBINSON      12th Fran HEARTHWAY 13th 'Josh' KELLEY      16th Richard CARRILLO 16 <sup>th</sup> Kathleen HASTING      17th Madeline PARSONS 18th 'Doc' BRENNER      23rd Bill MARSICH 27th Tara CARRILLO      28th Leslye BRENNER	<b><u>JULY ANNIVERSARIES</u></b> 5th Cecelia & Jim SIEGEL (40 yrs) 8th Fran & Ed HEARTHWAY (9 yrs) 9th Donna & Louis JONES (41 yrs) 11 <sup>th</sup> Tracy & Gary REVEL (23 yrs) 31st Diana & Jeff MERRIT (11 yrs)
<b><u>JULY MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u></b> Eric WILK (3 yrs)	<b><u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE IN JULY</u></b> Eric WILK
<b><u>WELCOME ABOARD</u></b> None reported to your editor	<b><u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u></b> 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**

**First female Blue Angels pilot to fly at OC Air Show**



The first female pilot ever to fly with the U.S. Navy Blue Angels will fly for hometown fans at the OC Air Show on June 13-14 in Ocean City.

Marine Capt. Katie Higgins, a third generation military aviator, is originally from Severna Park, Maryland, and she is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. She then went to Georgetown University for a Masters in International Security and later started flight school training in Pensacola, Florida, in 2009.

She is one of three Blue Angel pilots who fly the C-130 Hercules, known as "Fat Albert," and Higgins will take the controls during the Ocean City show. The cargo plane carries all the necessary personnel and supplies for the Blue Angels performance and performs a demonstration for the crowd on Saturday and Sunday during the air show as well.

Higgins has flown almost 400 combat hours in support of numerous operations and exercises in Afghanistan, Djibouti, France, Greece, South Sudan, Spain and Uganda. She joined the Blue Angels in September. She has accumulated more than 1,000 flight hours. Her decorations include five Air Medals, and various unit and personal awards.

"We are excited to welcome Katie to Ocean City and we know all of Maryland is proud of her," said Bryan Lilley, President of the OC Air Show. "She will add even more excitement to this amazing lineup with the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, the Breitling Jet Team, and the F-22 Raptor Demo Team. Those are three of the biggest acts in the air show industry, all performing in the same year."

### Saigon's Fall Still Echoes Today

Myths about the Vietnam War persist, weakening America's role in the world.

By ROBERT F. TURNER

April 29, 2015 7:07 p.m. ET

Four decades ago this week, in what was then Saigon, I was trying to facilitate the evacuation of orphans as North Vietnam's armed forces approached the city. I had left the U.S. Army after two tours in Vietnam and had returned to do what I could to help as America fled a war—a fight for freedom—that it had shamefully chosen to forfeit.

As the nation marks the 40th anniversary of the fall of Saigon on April 30, we would do well to clear away the myths that still adhere to that bloody conflict and understand why America got involved, what went wrong and what the consequences were.

We went to war because by ratifying the United Nations Charter in 1945 and the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (Seato) treaty a decade later, the U.S. pledged to oppose armed international aggression. Critics have long claimed that the State Department lied when it said the U.S. was responding to North Vietnamese aggression. That charge is baseless. After the war, Hanoi repeatedly acknowledged—including in its official history, "Victory in Vietnam"—its decision in May 1959 to open the Ho Chi Minh Trail and send vast numbers of troops, weapons and supplies to overthrow its neighbor by armed force. That was every bit as illegal as when North Korea invaded its southern neighbor in June 1950.

The U.S. made mistakes, but the two most decisive factors in the outcome of the war were incompetent micromanagement by President Lyndon Johnson and Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, and Hanoi's brilliant propaganda campaign, which fueled a gullible—and often disingenuous—global peace movement. Protesters, as angry as they were misinformed, ultimately persuaded Congress in May 1973 to prohibit spending on further U.S. combat operations in Indochina.

Following North Vietnam's "liberation" of South Vietnam and Cambodia, millions of people lost their lives and tens of millions lost any chance at freedom. Yale University's Cambodia Genocide Project concluded that the Communist Khmer Rouge killed 1.7 million Cambodians, more than 20% of that country's population—the worst per capita, per annum, genocide of the 20th century. Hundreds of thousands in South Vietnam died as "boat people" desperately searching for freedom. Countless others died by execution or in "re-education camps" and "new economic zones" operated by their new rulers.

This was not a military inevitability. As Yale University's John Lewis Gaddis wrote in *Foreign Affairs* in 2005, "Historians now acknowledge that American counterinsurgency operations in Vietnam were succeeding during the final years of that conflict; the problem was that support for the war had long since crumbled at home."

Other than the human consequences, the real tragedy is that on almost every major point of contention war protesters got the facts wrong. Ho Chi Minh was portrayed as a nationalist who would likely be a buffer

against Chinese expansion if we supported him. This ignored Hanoi's official biographies, which acknowledged Ho's role as a co-founder of the French Communist Party in 1920, his subsequent training in Moscow, followed by years traveling the world on behalf of the Communist International.

China? At Hanoi's Third Party Congress in 1960, First Secretary Le Duan declared: "It is precisely the Chinese Communist Party, headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, which has most brilliantly carried out the teachings of the great Lenin."

Another myth: The forces of the "National Liberation Front" or "Viet Cong" were independent of North Vietnam. Hanoi published the proceedings of the Third Party Congress in English, calling for "our people" in South Vietnam to establish a "national united front" three months before the NLF was proclaimed by Hanoi.

Still another myth: LBJ "lied" about a North Vietnamese attack on the USS Maddox in the Gulf of Tonkin on Aug. 2, 1964, as a pretext for escalating America's military involvement. In 1995 Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, Hanoi's former defense minister, admitted the attack occurred.

The U.S. went to war not because of a skirmish in the Gulf of Tonkin, but to stop five years of escalating aggression. Following the attack on the Maddox, Congress enacted a statute (by a vote of 416-0 in the House, 88-2 in the Senate) authorizing the president to use "armed force" in response to Communist aggression in Indochina (including Cambodia).

Perhaps the cruelest myth was that—in the long-ago words of the current U.S. secretary of state while addressing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on April 22, 1971— U.S. military personnel in Vietnam were regularly committing "war crimes" and behaving in a "fashion reminiscent of Genghis Khan." When Tim Russert questioned him about these charges on "Meet the Press" on May 6, 2001, then-Sen. John Kerry dismissed them as "the words of an angry young man," declaring that our soldiers in Vietnam "served as nobly, on the whole, as in any war." But he didn't apologize for defaming 2.7 million fellow veterans, and relatively few Americans heard his correction.

Though Congress ultimately snatched defeat from the jaws of victory, Americans' sacrifices were not totally in vain. By resisting Communist insurgencies in the region the U.S. bought time for vulnerable targets such as Thailand and Indonesia to become stronger. Soviet intervention in Angola, Afghanistan and Central America, encouraged by the U.S. withdrawal, would cost hundreds of thousands of lives. But had we abandoned South Vietnam in 1964, the outcome would almost certainly have been far worse.

America went to war in Vietnam with the overwhelming support of Congress and the public, to pursue a containment policy that had been embraced by both parties through four presidents. But a brilliant psychological warfare campaign by this country's enemies misinformed and divided the American people, with tragic consequences—a reflexive hostility, in many quarters, to the use of U.S. military power anywhere in the world—that still weaken the nation today.

Mr. Turner co-founded the Center for National Security Law at the University Of Virginia School Of Law and has co-taught an interdisciplinary seminar on the Vietnam War since 1990.

### Model for "Rosie the Riveter", Icon of Female Empowerment, Passes Away at 92



Mary Doyle Keefe, model for "Rosie the Riveter," passed away at the age of 92. Originally featured on the cover of the Saturday Evening Post in May of 1943, Rosie the Riveter has experienced several iterations, each symbolizing the same ideal: women's empowerment.

During WWII, Keefe's image was used in a national propaganda campaign encouraging women to enter the workforce to fill some of the many positions left open by men after the draft. Famously depicted flexing her right arm below the slogan, "We Can Do It!" Rosie became a cultural icon and inspired thousands of women, whose contributions to the war effort were essential to victory. Many of these "real-life Rosies" enjoyed the independence offered by working outside the home. As a result, many chose to maintain their jobs after the war ended, and the rates of women in the workforce never returned to their pre-wartime numbers. The image of "Rosie the Riveter" remains a symbol of strength and independence, and continues to inspire women more than seventy years later!

### HOW JOHN WAYNE SAVED THE MARINES

John Wayne was born on May 26, 1907, in Winterset, Iowa, as Marion Morrison, weighing 13 pounds. His birthplace is a museum. There is a guest book, opened to a page with the entry, in the entrant's handwriting, Name: Ronald Reagan, Address: 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington DC.

To celebrate the birthday of a truly great American, let me tell you how John Wayne saved the Marine Corps. In the aftermath of World War II, the psychological letdown after years of war and bloodshed, the huge demobilization of servicemen, the desire to slash military spending, and the antipathy towards the military by the leftist liberals in the Democrat Party.... all combined in a call by a number of Senators and Congressmen to abolish the Marine Corps.

In this, they were supported by the Doolittle Board, created by Harry Truman, which called for the Marine Corps to be "disbanded" as a separate military force, and "unified" with the Army [[yes, the board was headed by Air Force General Jimmy Doolittle](#)].

A group of enterprising Marines – you can always depend on Marines to be enterprising – with Hollywood connections, thought a movie made around the most famous photograph of World War II, Joe Rosenthal's photo of the Marines raising the flag on Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima, could help sway public opinion against their disbandment.

They approached Hollywood director Allan Dwan, who agreed to commission a script. The movie was to be called "The Sands of Iwo Jima," and everybody agreed there was only one man who could play the lead role of Sergeant Stryker: John Wayne.

To their great surprise, Wayne turned it down. He didn't like the script, and he wasn't enamored of the character of Stryker. The Marines came to the rescue again. The Marine Corps Commandant, General Clifton B. Cates, got on an airplane and flew from Washington to California to personally request Wayne make the picture. When General Cates explained the stakes involved – the very existence of the Marine Corps – Wayne immediately changed his mind, promising the general he would do everything in his power to have the movie be a success.

The Sands of Iwo Jima was released in 1949 and quickly became a runaway blockbuster, with millions of moviegoers packing every theatre showing it. Wayne was nominated for a Best Actor Oscar, establishing him as Hollywood's Number One box-office star. The Doolittle Board folded its tent, and no politician on Capitol Hill ever again said a word about disbanding the Marines. So let's all say "Semper Fi" to the memory of John Wayne.

To further celebrate his birthday, here's a treat and some advice. The treat is this link: [A biography of John Wayne written by Ronald Reagan, in the October 1979 Reader's Digest.](#)

The advice is this: *Don't ever trust a man who doesn't like John Wayne.* A man's opinion of John Wayne is a good rule-of-thumb test of his character and moral values. To admire John Wayne is to admire the heroic and the morally noble. To sneer at John Wayne is to admire the opposite. It's revealing that you find very few liberals among his admirers, and very few conservatives among his detractors.

And John Wayne's famous quote? "Sgt Stryker: Life is tough, but it's tougher if you're stupid."

### 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 June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 and needs to view before June 15<sup>th</sup> or the link will no longer work.

<http://www.nhc-ul.com/Bulletin%20150601%20PDF%20Edition.pdf>

### 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."

*The Final Roll Call*



The following Marines and/or Corpsman paid the ultimate sacrifice for God, Country and Corps since the last Newsletter  
NONE

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](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/embed/ie3SrlLcUY>

[https://www.youtube.com/embed/vcnH\\_kF1zXc](https://www.youtube.com/embed/vcnH_kF1zXc)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TepT0Ttwz7M&feature=youtu.be>

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

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/FeTCkoXslsE?rel=0>

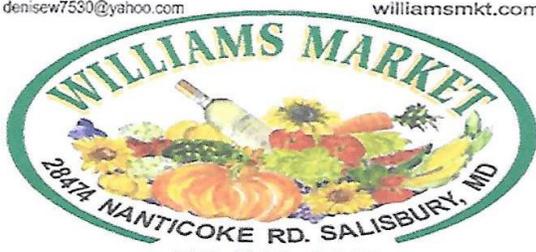
[https://www.youtube.com/embed/0dFIZX\\_RXuU](https://www.youtube.com/embed/0dFIZX_RXuU)

**GOD BLESS AMERICA**

-- Once a Marine, Always a Marine --



**THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES ARE OWNED/OPERATED BY MARINES ON THE LOWER EASTERN SHORE. IF THE NEED ARISES, CHECK THEM OUT.**

<p>Carl P. Hoffman, Jr. President</p> <p><b>Carl Hoffman &amp; Associates</b> <i>Accounting and Tax Service</i></p> <p>913-B Snow Hill Road Salisbury, Maryland 21804</p> <p>410-749-7555 Fax 410-749-2038 www.choffmanassociates.com</p>	<p>ROUTE 13 NORTH &amp; 101 ALEXANDER AVE SALISBURY, MD 21801</p> <p><b>DAVID GRANT</b></p> <p><b>410-742-3243</b></p> <p> • COMPLETE AUTO &amp; TRUCK REPAIR • 24 HOUR TOWING &amp; ROADSIDE SERVICE </p> <p><b>Grant's SERVICE CENTER</b> <i>Truck &amp; Auto Repair</i></p>
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