

Semper Fi

"THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

June 2017 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

2017 - 2018

Commandant: Bob Miller

Senior Vice Commandant: James Siegel	Junior Vice Commandant: Roger Martinson
Judge Advocate: Andy Bouma	Junior Past Commandant: Ed Elder
Paymaster: Andy Bouma	Adjutant: Richard Hyson
Sgt-At-Arms: Jeff Merritt	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 12th, 2017 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



2017 Mideast Division Conference will be June 23-25, 2017 hosted by Department of North Carolina at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport at Research Triangle Park, 4810 Page Creek Lane, Durham, North Carolina, 27703. Tel: 1-919-941-6000 after May 17, 2016 for reservations. Room rate: \$99.00 plus room tax. Free breakfast and parking provided. Check out the hotel on the following link:
<http://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/north-carolina/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-raleigh-durham-airport-at-research-triangle-park-RDUDADT/index.html>

2017 MCL National Convention

August 13 - 18, 2017

At the Sheraton Overland Park at the Convention Center, 6100 College Boulevard, Overland Park, KS, 66211. Sheraton Web-Site: <http://www.sheratonoverlandpark.com/>

Book By Phone: 1-866-837-4214. Room rate: \$115.00 with 18% tax, free parking, free breakfast and free wifi.

<http://www.2017mclnationalconvention.com/reg.-form---agenda---ad-form.html>

"Sick or in Distress"

MCL Members Ed ELDER, Lee HOLLOWAY, Gloria HOWARD, Walt and Jeanne COHEE are having or have recently had various health problems. It was with a heavy heart that I heard Marine Ed HEARTHWAY answered the final rollcall on 5/14/2017 and my thoughts and prayers are with Fran and the entire family. Please keep these folks and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

"Membership Happenings"

(Please advise the Editor of any errors or omissions)

<p><u>JULY "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u></p> <p>1st Terry HERLING 2nd Donna JONES 3rd Ric LINDSTROM 12th Fran HEARTHWAY 13th 'Josh' KELLEY 16th Richard CARRILLO 16th Kathleen HASTING 17th Madeline PARSONS 18th 'Doc' BRENNER 21st Lizanne WALLACE 23rd Bill MARSICH 28th Leslye BRENNER</p>	<p><u>JULY ANNIVERSARIES</u></p> <p>5th Cecelia & Jim SIEGEL (42 yrs) 9th Donna & Louis JONES (43 yrs) 11th Tracy & Gary REVEL (25 yrs) 31st Diana & Jeff MERRIT (13 yrs)</p>
<p><u>JULY MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u></p> <p>Eric WILK (5 yrs)</p>	<p><u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS</u></p> <p>In the past members were required to renew their membership each year during the month prior to the month they originally joined the league (i.e., joined in April renew by the end of March). National HQ has revised this so that <u>ALL</u> paid members will need to renew their membership by the end of August each year and the expiration date on your new membership card will be September 1st of the following year. National will also no-longer send members a notice (reminder) their dues need to be renewed. Therefore, starting with the next issue (July) of our newsletter your editor will list the names of those members that need to renew their membership. That list will also appear in the August issue of our newsletter. Thereafter the list will appear periodically less the name of those members that have renewed their membership.</p>
<p><u>WELCOME ABOARD</u></p> <p>Clifford FRIDLIND (Eden, MD) Ray E. GRANT (Eden, MD) William E. "Bill" WALLACE (Salisbury, MD)</p>	<p><u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u></p> <p>None reported to your editor</p>

DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE

Because of recent changes made by National HQ, if your name appears above to renew your dues, please contact your paymaster shown below and he will advise you of the amount you would need to send him to renew your dues. Then make your checks made payable to "MCL Det 115" and send it to our paymaster

Andy Bouma, Paymaster
32175 Bonhill Dr
Salisbury, MD 21804-1464
410-341-4616
aboumajr@gmail.com



TRICARE, military pay raise and more, what's on congressional plate this session

The military personnel system is going through a crisis according to some of the most notable former military officials in the nation and in the midst of those choppy waters, two new lawmakers are taking the helm.

Rep. Mike Coffman (R-Colo.) and Rep. Jackie Speier (D-Calif.) took over as chairman and ranking member of the House Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee this year. This responsibility comes as a slew of issues plague the military. TRICARE, talent management, sexual assault and housing allowance, among others, are all at the forefront of the personnel realm.

A daunting task, considering former Sen. Jim Talent (R-Mo.) told Congress the underlying problem is “that the current military personnel system was developed in World War II” and is now terribly antiquated.

In an exclusive interview with Federal News Radio, Coffman and Speier explain their priorities over the next legislative session.

TRICARE

TRICARE is a big spender when it comes to the military budget. The most recent Congressional Budget Office report on military health care from 2014 stated DoD spent \$52 billion in health care for service members, retirees and their families in 2012.

Coffman didn't rule out the possibility of premiums going up to cover those costs in the future, but said he wants to protect those currently in the military from rising premiums.

“If there are changes in premiums I want to look at bifurcating the system, just like we did in the retirement system, and say these changes are applicable to new enlistees, new accessions into our military and not existing personnel,” Coffman said.

Coffman's predecessor, former Rep. Joe Heck (R-Nev.), proposed adding enrollment fees and copayments to active-duty family members on TRICARE. The premiums ranged from \$180 to \$650. Heck bifurcated the system, as Coffman suggests, by only proposing the fees apply to family members of military personnel that joined after 2018.

Heck's provisions were taken out of the final 2017 defense authorization act and never actually made it into law.

Despite the costs of TRICARE, Speier said it may not receive too many changes in the near future.

“I'm not sure how much we are going to be tinkering with TRICARE. I think way we need to look at is the pharmacy copays and whether or not there is a modest copay that should be pursued,” Speier said.

PAY RAISE

The 2017 defense authorization act gave the military a 2.1 percent raise. The military is supposed to receive an increase each year that is tied to the bump in private sector wages, but that hasn't always happened in the past.

As for 2018, Coffman said he thinks the pay raise will stay with what the law requires.

“There may be a temptation to go above that and a temptation to go below that particularly on the Senate side, but I don't see that happening, I think we are going to stick with current law,” Coffman said. Speier was a little more open to changing the rates.

“I think we will have to look at it. In the end we are increasing the budget for the Department of Defense. I always wonder how much of that trickles down to the service member and how much is really padding for those who are providing spare parts or developing the next weapons system and I want to make sure we continue to provide a sound salary and benefits, but consistent with what our budget is,” Speier said.

UP OR OUT

The military is struggling to recruit and retain the talent it needs.

The Air Force’s pilot shortage, the lack of Navy’s nuclear qualified officers and the Marine Corps’ shortfall in sniper scouts can all be tied to the rigidity of the military’s personnel system.

“If the military is going to recruit and retain a volunteer force with the necessary skills, it needs to do two things. It needs to recruit, assign and promote in a way that develops and retains value across a wide range of skills including the highly technical skills, and it needs to better accommodate the evolution of American society and the American family. And it needs to do those things without sacrificing the aspects of the system that are working well,” Talent said last week.

The up or out system requires service members to promote to the next rank within a certain amount of time or leave the military.

But, sometimes that ends up pushing out extremely talented service members who don’t take the traditional military career path.

Both Coffman and Speier said Congress needs to look more deeply into the up or out system.

“The military is different than it has historically been. ... It’s such an up or out system when it comes to promotion that we are forcing good people out of the system that we would never have forced out in previous generations of our military. I think we have to reexamine that whole question to say, ‘Is our up or out system too aggressive?’” Coffman said. “There is a training cost associated with you let talented people go because they are certainly good enough to do their job well, but not competitive enough for promotion and you’re training new people to take their place.”

Speier is also taking the issue to heart and said the issue reaches beyond talent.

“I think it’s very important for us to look at that. Up or out creates all kinds of additional conduct and behavior that is not consistent with our interests. If up or out is what’s motivating you, you may be reluctant, for instance, to disclose that there is a problem within your unit regarding sexual assault or drug abuse. You can’t ignore those kinds of circumstances. ... I think there is much we can learn on having a series of hearings on up or out,” Speier said.

Your Pet First Aid Kit

Nothing is more terrifying for pet parents than experiencing an emergency with their beloved pet. In fact, during emergency situations with my own pets, I need to gain my composure, calm down, and go back to my training. Emergencies are scary and stressful for everyone; even the most trained and prepared people. I am a firm believer in preparing for pet emergencies before they happen, which can help pet parents avoid the immediate panic that sets in. After reading this article, you should be able to put together your own “Pet’s First Aid Kit” and you will have more confidence and comfort if you ever experience an emergency with your pet at home. Let’s get started!



The first thing that I always stress to pet parents is to contact your veterinarian immediately with any pet emergency. First-aid is not a substitute for veterinary care; however, it may save your pet's life until you can reach your veterinarian. Any first aid administered to your pet should be followed by immediate veterinary care.

Your Pet First Aid Kit should include:

- Absorbent gauze pads
- Adhesive tape
- Blanket
- Cotton balls or swabs
- Flashlight
- Gauze rolls
- Ice pack
- Leash
- Muzzle (don't use this if your pet is vomiting, choking, or in respiratory distress)
- Non-latex disposable gloves
- Plastic eyedropper or syringe
- Petroleum jelly
- Pet carrier
- Rectal thermometer (your pet's temperature should not rise above 103°F or fall below 100°F)
- Scissors
- Self-cling bandage
- Sterile non-stick gauze pads for bandages
- Sterile saline solution
- Splints and tongue depressors
- Tweezers
- Towels

Pet emergency contact list

It is important to have any necessary contact information at your fingertips for dealing with a pet emergency. Even if you have memorized these numbers, in times of distress much of what we know is difficult to remember. Your list should include:

- Contact information for your pet's veterinarian.
- Contact information and driving directions for the nearest 24-hour emergency veterinary hospital.
- Contact information for the poison control center or hotline.
- An emergency contact. Either a loved one or friend who may be able to help during an emergency.

Pet emergency paperwork

It is always helpful to know your pet's latest vaccination status, and keep appropriate medical records. Many times, in a state of emergency, it is hard to remember everything you need. If your pet's paperwork is easily accessible in your Pet First Aid Kit, this will be helpful for your veterinarian for immediate treatment in an emergency. The records should include:

- Vaccination status
- Medical history of past illnesses
- Current illnesses
- A photo I/D of your pet

Pet emergency medications

Keeping some medications in your Pet's First Aid Kit can be helpful in emergency situations, but it is important to consult with your veterinarian regarding the appropriate dosing and whether these medications are safe or indicated for your pet:

- Benadryl (Diphenhydramine)- your veterinarian must tell you the correct dose before administering this medication
- Glucose paste or corn syrup (for diabetic dogs or small breed puppies with low blood sugar)- speak with your veterinarian before administering glucose paste or corn syrup to your pet
- Non-prescription antibiotic ointment
- Antiseptic wipes, lotion, powder or spray
- Valium (for pets that have seizures)- your veterinarian must tell you the correct dose before administering this medication
- Hydrogen peroxide (3%) (helpful to induce vomiting)- please speak with your veterinarian or local poison control center before inducing vomiting or treating an animal for poison or a swallowed object

I hope this helps everyone be a little more prepared and less panicked in case of a pet emergency. Having the essentials to deal with an emergency will help you feel more secure and ready to care for your beloved pet. Please update your Pet First Aid Kit every 6 months to make sure you have everything you need, and medications are not expired. And remember to keep the kit out of the reach of children. Keeping our pets safe and healthy is always my top priority.

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 15th, 2017 and must be viewed before July 1st, 2017 when it will go off-line.

[http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20170615%20\(PDF%20Edition\).pdf](http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20170615%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@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://vimeo.com/31123945>

<http://www.dignitymemorial.com/en-us/veterans/va-benefit-facts.page>

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

OOORAHHH !!!!!

GOD BLESS AMERICA

