

# *Semper Fi*

## "THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

June 2018 Edition



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

### DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2018 – 2019

*Commandant: Ed Elder*

Senior Vice Commandant: Norris Barnes

Junior Vice Commandant: Gene Powell

Judge Advocate: Clifford Fridlind

Junior Past Commandant: Bob Miller

Paymaster: Andy Bouma

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 would be held on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 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



2018 MCL National Convention will be held August 12<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Buffalo Hyatt, Two Fountains Plaza, Buffalo, NY 14202. Phone: (716) 856-1234. Reservations open 0801 20 August 2017. Room price \$113 for one and \$130 for 2 people plus room tax.. Free parking, breakfast and wifi. More info will be made available if National ever publishes it.

### Upcoming Detachment Events

July 11, Wednesday, detachment meeting, Post 64, 1900

August 25, Saturday, Maryland MCL State Quarterly Meeting, 0800-1200, Salisbury Post 64 (SSgt Cohee Detachment is hosting)

**"Sick or in Distress"**

MCL Members and/or family members Paul TOMKO, Karen MILLER, Rhuel GOSLEE, Missy HYSON, Don ELSEROAD, Ed ELDER, Gloria HOWARD, Walt 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)

<p><b><u>JULY "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u></b>          1st Terry HERLING      2nd Donna JONES          3<sup>rd</sup> Ric LINDSTROM      3rd Bill JONES          12th Fran HEARTHWAY      13th 'Josh' KELLEY          16th Richard CARRILLO      16<sup>th</sup> Kathleen HASTING          17th Madeline PARSONS      18th 'Doc' BRENNER          21<sup>st</sup> Lizanne WALLACE      23rd Bill MARSICH          28th Leslye BRENNER</p>	<p><b><u>JULY ANNIVERSARIES</u></b>          5th Cecelia &amp; Jim SIEGEL (43 yrs)          9th Donna &amp; Louis JONES (44 yrs)          11<sup>th</sup> Tracy &amp; Gary REVEL (26 yrs)          25<sup>th</sup> Mary Alice &amp; Bill JONES (59 yrs)          31st Diana &amp; Jeff MERRIT (14 yrs)</p>
<p><b><u>JULY MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u></b>          Eric WILK (6 yrs)</p>	<p><b><u>WELCOME ABOARD</u></b>          Bill JONES (Salisbury, MD)          Mary Alice JONES (Salisbury, MD)          Recruit...Recruit...Recruit</p>
	<p><b><u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u></b>          None Reported to your Editor</p>

**DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE**

**Check the expiration date on your membership card and if it reads November 1, 2017 or earlier you are due to renew.**

Please send check made payable to "MCL Det 115" to our paymaster.

Andy Bouma, Paymaster  
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**The US Marine Corps just got its most powerful helicopter ever**

The most powerful helicopter ever fielded by the U.S. was recently delivered to the Marine Corps.

The CH-53K King Stallion aircraft touched down at Marine Corps Air Station New River in Jacksonville, North Carolina on Wednesday May 16<sup>th</sup>.

The helicopter, which has been in development since 2006, will replace the Marine Corps' nearly 40-year-old CH-53E Super Stallion fleet.

Wednesday's delivery is the first of an expected 200 aircraft from Sikorsky, a unit of Lockheed MartinLMT.

The CH-53K is not only considered the most powerful but also one of the most expensive with an initial estimated unit cost of approximately \$122 million.

The new heavy-lift chopper can carry triple the weight of its predecessor at a colossal 27,000 pounds. With that type of lift capacity, the CH-53K can transport up to four Humvees more than 100 miles.



"I am very proud of the work accomplished to deliver the most powerful helicopter ever designed into the hands of our Marines," said Lt. Gen. Steven Rudder, deputy commandant for aviation, in a statement.

Rudder noted that the Marine Corps will continue testing the chopper and hopes to declare it ready for deployment by the end of 2019.

The second CH-53K helicopter is slated for delivery to the Marine Corps early next year.

### **This Marine Will Be The Corps 1st Female Lt. General In 9 Years**

Marine Maj. Gen. Loretta Reynolds, currently head of Marine Corps Forces Cyber Command, has been nominated to be the Corps' first female three-star general in nearly a decade, officials announced recently.

The last female three-star general in the Marine Corps was Lt. Gen. Frances Wilson, who served from 1972 to 2009. The Marine Corps' first female three-star general was Carol Mutter, who served from 1967 to 1999. Her last assignment was as head of Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

Her nomination was announced on May 18. If confirmed by the Senate, Reynolds would become the new deputy commandant for information leading the Corps' information operations – a concept that the Marines are still trying to figure out.

"Information is power," Marine Corps spokesman Capt. Christopher Harrison told Task & Purpose in an email. "The speed and reach of information has fundamentally changed the character of modern warfare, and has presented opportunities for the MAGTF [Marine Air-Ground Task Force] is inherently designed to exploit."

"As militaries across the globe increasingly rely on technology and information flow to function, it becomes even more important for the Marine Corps to be able to operate and maneuver in this complex and chaotic environment while reducing our own vulnerabilities," he added."

### **USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor closed indefinitely**

Damage to the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor in Honolulu was worse than expected and it will remain closed indefinitely, officials said.

Boat transportation to the attraction was suspended May 6 after one of the vessel operators noticed a crack on the outside of the memorial, Hawaii News Now reported.

Tourists were allowed to disembark at the memorial after crews completed interim repairs. But the cracks reappeared hours later, indicating a more serious issue.

"There is a brow or an edge where the visitor ramp meets the memorial, and at that point, there's been some fissures located on the exterior," said Jay Blount, a spokesman for the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument. "After further investigation on the interior, it was determined that the structure is not supporting the loading ramp the way that we need."

Engineers are working to figure out possible long-term solutions.

"The amount of time needed to implement the repairs is unknown, but the (National Park Service) will continue to provide information to the public as our team of specialists works together to restore access as soon as possible," memorial staff said Friday in a news release.

Other areas of the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center remain open.

### **VA Commits \$17 Million to Expand Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program** Services address healing from physical, psychological and social effects of violence.

WASHINGTON — The U.S Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is taking action to address **Intimate Partner Violence** (IPV) by earmarking \$17 million in funds to support Veterans in need.

The funds will strengthen IPV Assistance Programs in VA facilities nationwide.

"VA recognizes that intimate partner violence is a health issue faced by many Veterans and their families," said Acting VA Secretary Peter O'Rourke. "We are giving careful attention to this program, ensuring it is integrated into clinical care and workplace safety. Both are important to the safety of Veterans and VA employees who report experiencing violence."

IPV affects millions of Americans. The term "intimate partner violence" describes physical, sexual or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse. This type of violence can occur among heterosexual or same-sex couples.

Awareness and identification of intimate partner violence among Veterans has increased. **Research** suggests Veterans may be at greater risk than their civilian counterparts, given the unique stressors posed by military life.

VA's IPV Assistance Program focuses on the individual and works on developing a culture of safety. This holistic approach involves understanding, recognizing and responding to the effects of all types of trauma. The ultimate goals are to end violence, prevent further violence and promote healthy relationships.

The Veterans Health Administration launched the IPV Assistance Program in January 2014 and has since established IPV Assistance Program Coordinators at more than 115 VA facilities to offer assistance to Veterans, their partners and VA staff. **Program Coordinators** use resources from mental health, primary care, women's health, Veterans justice outreach and employee occupational health and assistance programs.

The IPV program also offers intervention through VA and community partnerships that address housing, education and employment needs. This additional funding will allow VA to expand the program to all VA medical centers and build greater awareness of IPV as a serious health issue.

### **VA's Board of Veterans' Appeals** **resolves record number of claims to date for FY 2018**

WASHINGTON — Underscoring the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) pledge to reduce the wait time for those appealing disability benefits claims, the Board of Veterans' Appeals <<https://www.bva.va.gov/>>, as of May 27, has signed more than 53,650 decisions to date in fiscal year (FY) 2018, which is approximately 86 percent more than the 28,839 decisions signed through the same period last year.

The Board is currently on track to meet and exceed its FY 2018 total goal of reviewing a historic 81,000 appeals by Sept. 30, 2018.

This pace paves the way for implementation of the Appeals Modernization Act<<https://benefits.va.gov/benefits/appeals.asp>>, which has a target implementation date of Feb. 14, 2019, and will offer Veterans more choice and control over their claims and appeals process.

“I’m proud of the Board for its dedication and commitment toward resolving appeals decisions for Veterans, and striving to reach a historic fiscal year goal of 81,000 appeals decisions delivered to Veterans,” said VA’s Acting Secretary Peter O’Rourke. “The Board’s significant increase in results for Veterans and their families serves as another strong example of the department’s commitment to getting it right for Veterans.”

In FY 2017, Congress allocated the Board approximately \$42 million, which was used to hire additional staff, primarily more than 200 decision-writing attorneys and 24 Veterans law judges. The increase in staff, along with streamlining several processes, contributed to the result.

VA’s Board of Veterans’ Appeals’ mission is to conduct hearings and decide appeals in a timely manner. VA’s disability appeals process is a complex, multi-step adjudication process that uses “open records,” which allows Veterans to submit medical and lay evidence at any point from the beginning to the end of the process, including while the claim is pending on appeal; this may, in turn, require VA to develop further evidence on the Veteran’s behalf.

#### Know the warning signs

Do you know the warning signs of a stroke? May was Stroke Awareness Month, a perfect time to arm yourself with **information to help prevent and detect a stroke**—for both you and your loved ones.

Warning signs of a stroke include:

Weakness in the face, arm, or leg  
Speech difficulty  
Vision loss  
Dizziness  
Brief loss of consciousness

Are you or a loved one at risk for a stroke? Watch this short video to [learn the risk factors for stroke](#) and see how Medicare can help.

#### 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 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and must be viewed before July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 when it will be taken off-line.

[http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20180615%20\(PDF%20Edition\).pdf](http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20180615%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@bvn.net](mailto:53usmc73@bvn.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.

<http://www.mcltreacoheedet115.org/officers.htm>

<http://www.mcltreacoheedet115.org/members.htm>

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

**OOORAHH !!!!!**

**GOD BLESS AMERICA**

