

# Semper Fidelis

## "THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

March 2010 Edition



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

### MEETING TIME & PLACE

Meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010 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.

### DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2010 - 2011

*Commandant: Andy Bouma*

Senior Vice Commandant: Bob Miller  
Junior Past Commandant: Jim Siegel  
Paymaster: Jim Siegel  
Sgt-At-Arms: Walt Cohee

Junior Vice Commandant: Ed Elder  
Judge Advocate: Ed Hearthway  
Adjutant: Richard Hyson  
Chaplain: Jim Siegel

Web Sergeant: Don Elseroad



From your editor. Welcome to the first edition of "The Scuttlebutt". For those of you that don't know me my name is Don Elseroad, born in 1935 and raised in Baltimore, MD. I joined the Marine Corps in 1953 and retired as a Staff Sergeant in 1973. Two tours in RVN December 65 to January 67 with G-3-12 followed by a second tour from May 72 to March 73 with MAG-12. Upon retiring from the Marine Corps I went to work for the Social Security Administration in Woodlawn and retired in 1990 at which time I moved to Crisfield where I worked as a Correctional Officer at ECI for 8 years. On a side note my badge number was 1775 so being a true Marine I resigned from the Maryland Department of Corrections on November 10, 1998 when I moved to my current home in Bristol, VA on the border of TN.

In December 1994, I was introduced to the Marine Corps League and joined the then DelMarVa Detachment 115. Being a Correction Officer working the 4 - 12 shift at ECI, I was unable to get involved with the detachment and was only a card carrying member of the League only able to make 1 or 2 meetings a year. That changed BIG time when I moved south and transferred my membership to the Tri-Cities TN Detachment 969 in NE TN. One of my duties over the last 9 years included being the Detachment Junior Vice Commandant for 8 consecutive years during which time I was instrumental in raising the detachment membership level from 28 to an all time high at one point of 98. I had no desire to move up in the chain of command as I loved what I did and was very good at it. I handled nearly ALL the administrative duties within the detachment and now that I look back I don't know how I did it other than the MCL became a 24/7/365 day a year job for me.

On the Department level I held the position of Judge Advocate and several minor positions and was the TN Department Marine of the Year in 2002.

In June 2002 I became a 'PUP' in the MODD's and advanced to 'PDD' in Irving, TX in August 2004. Have held the positions of Pound Dog Robber and Senior Vice Pound Keeper, TN Pack Leader for a short time and was the SE Division Vice Chief Devil Dog for nearly 2 years.

I had been a dual member of Detachment 115 for a couple years and for personal reasons I have recently transferred my membership back to Detachment 115 and my membership in the MODD to DelMarVa Pound 154. I am a 'Life' member of both.

Although I live afar I have offered my assistance to OUR detachment leadership in any way possible. To kick things off I will begin by putting out this newsletter on hopefully a monthly basis to keep ALL members in the loop on what the detachment is involved in and will include many other items that I hope you will find interesting and informational. While talking with our Judge Advocate Ed Hearthway recently he mentioned that Jimmy Lee Howard use to put out a newsletter so I plan to use the same name for it as Jimmy Lee did. "*The Scuttlebutt*". Down here I was the editor of our detachment newsletter the "*Sand Flea*" for years and will be using a similar format for the "*The Scuttlebutt*."

However this will not happen overnight and I will be needing the help of all of you. The Detachment Officer's will need to keep me up to date on events that will be happening on the Detachment, Department and Division levels regarding projects, conventions and so-forth. This section will be entitled "Calendar of Events". Unlike the Department of TN and SE Division who have outstanding web sites I could go to for this information, the Department of MD web site leaves a lot to be desired as it is not kept current and I have been unable to even find a web site for Mid East Division. "*The Scuttlebutt*" will also include a section entitled "Sick or in Distress" that will list any members and/or family members that are sick or in distress. My favorite section is the "Membership Happenings" where I list upcoming birthdays, anniversaries and things of that nature and will also include the names of new members that join the detachment, members that renew their membership or are due in renewing their membership. In order to set up my records I recently appealed to all members to provide me with some information and the response was overwhelming for a short time. It's been a long time since I received the cooperation I have out of so many members. However, if you were one of the few that did not respond for one reason or another it would be appreciated if you could provide me with the following.

Your

- DOB (month/day/year)
- Month and year you originally joined the MCL
- Email Address (very important)
- If married the first name of your spouse, month/day/year you married and month/day of your spouse's birth

With all the information I have been provided I have been able to jump start setting up the "Membership Happenings" section for the "*The Scuttlebutt*" as you will see below and will then understand the need for the data you sent me or I am requesting you to send.

For those of you that have email capabilities, I have already sent some of you the link to our detachments new web site that I recently setup. Again the link for it is <http://www.mcltraecoheedet115.org/> so feel free to check it out. It's not as big and fancy as the ones I was use to working on but then again I was only the Assistant Web-Sergeant working on established web sites for my former detachment and the Department of TN. This is my first attempt at building a site from scratch but it will serve to get the word out as to what the SSgt Walter F. "Trae" Cohee III Detachment and Marine Corps League is all about.

Semper Fi,

Don

Now for a glimpse at the rest of "*The Scuttlebutt*"

In future issues you will NOT have to listen to me rambling on for over a page. However, I would be very interested in posting a short "Bio" of any member that would care to submit one to me.

## Detachment Night Out

Approximately 25 members, family and friends of the detachment gathered at Millie's Roadhouse Grill in Vienna on February 20th for an evening of fun, good food and drink and a grand time was had by all.

## Detachment Meeting February 17, 2010

Jeanne and Walt Cohee presented the Detachment with an NCO sword for all the detachment has done for them and for honoring 'Trae' by naming our detachment after him. It is 'we' that owe the Cohee family so much in that it was their son that laid down his life for 'our freedom'. Naming the detachment after 'Trae' is the least we could do to make sure his name lives on for eternity.

On a side note, Jimmie Lee Howard repaid Walt by presenting him with a 'PIA' medal and after talking with Walt several times he is well deserving of it. Congratulations Walt

## "Calendar of Events"

April 28 thru May 1, 2010: The Department of MD convention will be held at the Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center in Ocean City, MD. Suite Rates: \$92.00 (plus tax) Ocean-view/Pool-view or Ocean Front: \$129.00 (plus tax) per night. Call the hotel direct at 1-800-4ROYALE or 1-410-524-7777 to make your reservations and mention the MCL Department Convention in order to get these room rates.

All information and forms can be found on the following link: <http://deptofmdmcl.org/>  
Information on the hotel can be found on the following link: <http://princessroyale.com/>

June 26 - 27, 2010: Mid-East Division Conference is to be held at the Westin Hotel in Virginia Beach, VA and will be hosted by the Department of Virginia, MCL. More information will be made available as it becomes known.

August 8 thru 14, 2010:



To be held at the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel / Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, NC. Call for reservations at 1-800-242-6556. The reservation block includes check-in on Friday, 6 August, for the "early birds". Be sure and mention "MCL 87th National Convention" when making your reservation.

Complete information and forms are available on the following link: <http://www.mcl2010.org/> with hotel information on the following link: <http://www.sheratongreensboro.com/meetingrooms.shtml>

## "Sick or in Distress"

MCL Members Ed MIHALIK and Paul WARD, Jr., is having or has recently had various health problems. Please keep these folks and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

## "Membership Happenings"

I'm playing catch-up back to the first of the year in this issue. Future issues will only be showing "Happenings" for the following month.

## Happy Birthday

January 5th Ralph CAPEN  
January 9th Missy HYSON  
January 9th Barbara MURRAY  
February 8th Ed HEARTHWAY  
February 10th Louis JONES  
February 14th Betty SANDS  
February 23rd Walter COHEE  
February 25th Ralph SMITH  
February 26th Sylvia GOSLEE  
February 28th George "Buddy" MURRAY  
March 23rd Barb EBAUGH  
March 25th Nicole HEBERLE  
March 31st Diana MERRITT  
April 6th Kevin GRIFFIN  
April 19th Richard HYSON  
April 29th Jeanne COHEE

## Anniversaries

January 10th Betty & Charles SANDS (59 yrs)  
February 17th Sandra & Andy BOUMA (45 yrs)  
February 23rd Sharon & David MILLS (16 yrs)  
February 28th Nicole & Kyle HEBERE (5 yrs)  
March 24th Renee & 'Josh' KELLEY (3rd)

## MCL Anniversaries

Richard CARRILLO (7 yrs January)  
Ed HEARTHWAY (11 yrs February)

Kevin GRIFFIN (5 yrs March)  
 'Josh' KELLEY (5 yrs March)  
 Wilber BOLTON (1 yr March)  
 Richard HYSON (1 yr March)  
 Thomas MIFFLETON (1 yr March)  
 Joseph BACHTLER (15 yrs April)

Welcome Aboard

Jeff MERRITT (Salisbury, MD)

Membership's Renewed

Ralph CAPEN  
 Wayne LAWSON

Membership Renewals Due in March

Wilber BOLTON  
 Kevin GRIFFIN  
 Richard HYSON  
 'Josh' KELLEY  
 Thomas MIFFLETON

Membership Renewals Overdue

None

Fair warning. If I list you as overdue and you don't renew timely I will be a thorn in your backside. I forgot to mention that I am probably the only holder in the MCL and/or MODD of not 1, not 2, but 3 PIA medals.

DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE

Please send your \$22.00 checks made payable to "MCL Det 115" to our paymaster  
 Jim Siegel, Paymaster  
 30245 Southampton Bridge Rd  
 Salisbury, MD 21804-2475

Initial dues for a new member are \$27.00 for the first year, thereafter yearly renewal dues are \$22.00.

Recruiting

Every member of the Marine Corps League is a Recruiter. In every issue of the "Semper Fi" magazine that you should all be receiving, there are three (3) membership applications in each issue. Always carry one in your wallet and when you meet another Marine tell them about the MCL as it is one of the best kept secrets there is. Your editor was retired for 23 years before learning about it.

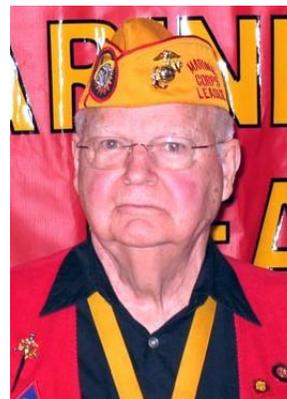


**DON'T DELAY...JOIN TODAY  
 THEN CONSIDER GOING 'LIFE'  
 NOW IS THE TIME TO DO IT**

<u>Age</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Up to 35	\$500
36 to 50	\$400
51 to 60	\$300
61 & Over	\$150



For those of you that are not familiar with the MODD (Military Order of the Devil Dogs) it is the "Fun and Honor Society" of the Marine Corps League. Jimmie Lee Howard joined the MODD in 1975 and is the epitome of what every Pedigree Devil Dog would desire to be. While in attendance at the MCL Mid-Winter National Staff Conference held in Falls Church, VA, on February 12th, 2010 our very own PDD Jimmie Lee HOWARD received a long overdue honor of being selected and named an "Honorary Chief Devil Dog." If my research is correct PDD Jimmie Lee Howard is only the 3rd Dog to be honored with the title "Honorary Chief Devil Dog" in the 70 years history of the MODD.



Congratulations "Big Dog" and a "Semper Woof Woof" for ALL your dedicated hard work within the MCL and MODD over the years.

Congratulations are also called for as another one of our members was also honored in a recent ceremony in Ocean City.

PFC CHARLES "JOSH" KELLEY SELECTED AS THE 2009 NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH OFFICER OF THE YEAR



("Josh" is second from left)

The Ocean City Neighborhood Watch Association recently selected Police Officer First Class (Pfc.) Charles "Josh" Kelley to be the honorable recipient of the 2009 Ocean City Neighborhood Watch "Officer of the Year" award. Nearly 130 guests attended the event, which was held Monday, January 11, 2010 at the Elks Lodge on 137th Street and Coastal Highway. The Neighborhood Watch Association is made up of seven Ocean City neighborhoods including residents from Caine Woods, Caine Keys II, Montego Bay, Little Salisbury, Bayshore Drive, Edgewater Avenue and Sundowner Park. Pfc. Kelley was born and raised on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. After graduating high school, he attended West Virginia University where he studied Wildlife Management. His education continued at Wor-Wic Community College, where he studied Business Management and Criminal Justice. Perhaps one of Pfc. Kelley's biggest accomplishments was his service in the United States Marine Corps. Aboard the USS Oak Hill during Operation Enduring Freedom, Pfc. Kelley was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Sergeant. His role as a Platoon Sergeant earned him the Navy Commendation Medal in Combat Operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Pfc. Kelley was deployed for nearly two years overseas where he served as a Communications Systems Specialist. He was discharged from the Marine

Corps in May of 2008 where he obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant, after eight years of honorable military service. Pfc. Kelley returned to his education at Salisbury University and earned a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Interpersonal Communications & Conflict Resolution. In addition to completing his degree, Kelley completed two successful summers as a Seasonal Police Officer, before joining the Ocean City Police Department as a full-time Police Officer in July of 2006. Pfc. Kelly was Class Leader at the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy, achieved a perfect pistol score as the class High Shooter Award, earned the highest Physical Fitness Award, and received the Leadership Award for his service to the Academy. Pfc. Kelley was promoted to the rank of Police Officer First Class in January 2009. He is active in the Training & Recruiting of seasonal Police Officers, an instructor at the entrance level and seasonal police academy as a member of the Drill & Discipline Team, and serves as a mentor to Officers within the department. Pfc. Kelley's "Hard-Charger" sense of Esprit de Corps keeps him motivated while actively involving himself as an Instructor in the Citizen's Police Academy, member of the R.A.A.M Enforcement, Plain Clothes Operations, Police Mountain Bike, and School Bus Special Enforcement. Pfc. Kelley also volunteered and provided security during the 56th Inauguration of the President of the United States in Washington, D.C. in January of 2009. He is actively involved in the Marine Corps League, Toys for Tots Foundation, the Fraternal Order of Police, and the United States Marine Corps Executive Association. Pfc. Kelley is also a Marine4Life Hometown Link Liaison, an active member of his Neighborhood Watch Community Initiative, and actively supports the Wounded Warrior Project and Special Olympics. In addition to being a proactive patrol Officer, Pfc. Kelley has volunteered and actively participated in training to include, Asset Forfeiture, Homicide Scene Management, and Narcotics Interdiction. Pfc. Kelley currently lives in Salisbury, Maryland with his wife, Renee, adorable daughter Gia, and their Yorkshire Terrier, "Pepper." When he is not working, he enjoys home improvements, cooking, hunting, fishing, and working outside. When asked how he felt about receiving the Neighborhood Watch Officer of the Year Award he stated, "I am truly humbled. It is very motivating to come to work for a community like Ocean City because of the residents in our Neighborhood Watch Association, along with the men and women in the OCPD."

## EVERY DAY PRAYER REQUEST

Life in Iraq and 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 following Marines paid the ultimate sacrifice for God, Country and Corps during February & March 2010.

[Freeman, Lance Cpl Michael](#)  
Fayetteville, PA

[Turbett, Cpl Jacob](#)  
Canton, MI

[Estopinal, Pfc Jason](#)  
Dallas, GA

[Pier, Lance Cpl Noah](#)  
Charlotte, NC

[Yazzie, Lance Cpl. Alejandro](#)  
Rock Point, AZ

[Coutu, Pfc Kyle](#)  
Providence, RI

[Johnson, Lance Cpl. Larry](#)  
Scranton, PA

[Dunn, Lance Cpl Kielin](#)  
Chesapeake, VA

[McQueary, Sgt. Jeremy](#)  
Columbus, IN

[Birchfield, Lance Cpl Joshua](#)  
Westville, IN

[Stultz, Gregory](#)  
Brazil, IN

[Peak, Lance Cpl Adam](#)  
Florence, KY

[Eckard, Staff Sgt. Christopher](#)  
Hickory, NC

[Hanson, Lance Cpl Matthias](#)  
Buffalo, KY

[Ward, Lance Cpl Eric](#)  
Redmond, WA

[Aragon, Lance Cpl Carlos](#)  
Orem, UT

[Olsen, Lance Cpl Nigel](#)  
Orem, UT

If You Are Not Willing To Stand Behind Our Troops,

Please, Please Feel Free To Stand In Front Of Them!



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.

## THE GRATITUDE CAMPAIGN

Have you ever seen one of our military walking past you and wanted to convey to them your thanks, but weren't sure how or it felt awkward?

Recently, a gentleman from Seattle created a gesture, which could be used and has started a movement to get the word out.

Please everybody take just a moment to watch this video.... The Gratitude Campaign ....and then forward it to your friends! THEN START USING THE SIGN.

<http://www.gratitud ecampaign. org/shortmovie. php>

[Here's a couple more special links for those of you that have Internet to check out](#)

[http://www.nragive.com/ringoffreedom/nr\\_j0199 landing.html](http://www.nragive.com/ringoffreedom/nr_j0199 landing.html)

[http://media.causes.com/576542?p\\_id=92681239](http://media.causes.com/576542?p_id=92681239)

## 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 we can 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

### PFT IN THE VERY OLD CORPS

General Order No 5, Headquarters U S Marine Corps, Washington DC 21 December 1908 the following Executive Order is hereby promulgated for the information of officers of the U S Marine Corps.

1. Officers of the United States Marine Corps of whatever rank will be examined physically, and undergo the test herein prescribed at least once every two years; the time of such examination to be designated by the Commandant of the Corps so as to interfere as little as possible with their regular duties, and the tests to be carried out in the United States between May first and July first, as the Commandant of the Corps may direct, and on foreign stations between December first and February first.

2. All field officers will be required to take a riding test of ninety miles, this distance to be covered in three days. Physical examinations before and after riding, and the riding tests to be the same as those prescribed for the United States Army by General Orders No 79 (para 3) War Department, May 14 1908.

3. Line officers of the Marine Corps in the grade of captain or lieutenant will be required to walk fifty miles, this distance to be divided into three days, actual marching time, including rests, twenty hours. In battle, time is essential and ground may have to be covered on the run, if these officers are not equal to the average physical strength of their companies the men will be held back, resulting in unnecessary loss of life and probably defeat. Company officers will, therefore be required during one of the marching periods, to double-time two hundred yards, with a half minute rest, then three hundred yards with one minutes rest, then complete the test in a two hundred yard dash, making in all seven hundred yards at the double time with one and one-half minutes rest. The physical examinations before and after the test to be the same as provided for in paragraph 2, this order.

4. The Commandant of the Marine Corps will be required to make such of the above tests as the Secretary of the Navy shall direct.

5. Field officers of the permanent staff of the Marine Corps who have arrived at an age and rank which renders it highly improbable that they will ever be assigned to any duty requiring participation in active military operations in the field, may upon their own application, be excused from the above prescribed. Such a request, however if granted, will be regarded by the executive authority as conclusive reason for not selecting the applicant for any future promotion, or for assignment, selection or promotion to a position involving participation in operation of the line of the Marine Corps, or in competition with officers of the line of the U S Marine Corps for any position.

Theodore Roosevelt,

"The White House"

OFFICIAL

G.F.Elliott, Major General Commandant

Reprinted from "The Old Breed News"

### The senior health care solution - according to Maxine

So you're a senior citizen and the government says no health care for you, what do you do? Our plan gives anyone 65 years or older a gun and 4 bullets. You are allowed to shoot 2 senators and 2 representatives. Of course, this means you will be sent to prison where you will get 3 meals a day, a roof over your head, and all the health care you need! New teeth, no problem. Need glasses, great. New hip, knees, kidney, lungs, heart? ...All covered. And who will be paying for all of this? The same government that just told you that you are too old for health care. Plus, because you are a prisoner, you don't have to pay any income taxes anymore!

IS THIS A GREAT COUNTRY OR WHAT?!

# Semper Ji

*and good night Chesty wherever  
you are*

If you can read this thank a Teacher.  
If you're reading it in English thank the Military.

## FREEDOM IS NOT FREE Support Our Troops