

# *Semper Fi*

## "THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

March 2018 Edition



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

### DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2017 - 2018

*Commandant: Bob Miller*

Senior Vice Commandant: Andy Bouma	Junior Vice Commandant: Roger Martinson
Judge Advocate: Currently Vacant	Junior Past Commandant: Ed Elder
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 April 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



### Department of Maryland Convention

May 10-11 & 12, 2018

Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center  
9100 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842-2745

The following link provides all info needed for those that will be attending  
[http://deptofmdmcl.org/Conventions/2018\\_Convention\\_Packet-Full.pdf](http://deptofmdmcl.org/Conventions/2018_Convention_Packet-Full.pdf)

**Mid-East Division Convention**

**June 15 – 17, 2018**

To be hosted by the Department of Maryland at the Turf Valley Resort, 2700 Turf Valley Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042. Phone: 410-465-1500 or 888-883-8873

Individuals are responsible for making their own hotel reservations.

The Turf Valley Resort has set aside a block of rooms for the Marine Corps League Mideast Division Conference. All room rates are based on double occupancy, exclusive of tax. Rates are per night's stay. Additional adults over and above the double occupancy rate will be charged \$15.00 per person, per night. Room rates are honored three (3) days before and three (3) days after the conference if you would like to extend your visit. Traditional 2 bed rooms are \$109.00 (plus tax) per night. Check in time is 1600 and check out is 1100. Reservations must be made by Friday - 16 May 2018 to get the reduced Conference rate. Any requests after this date will be subject to room rate and availability. Please identify yourself as being with the Marine Corps League Mideast Division Conference.

Reservations can be made online by accessing their website at <https://www.turfvalley.com/>

Be sure to use Group Code 2844UW in order to get the reduced room rate.

[2018 Registration Convention Packet](#)

**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 ASAP.

**"Sick or in Distress"**

MCL Members and/or family members Karen MILLER, Carl EBAUGH, Rhuel GOSLEE, Missy HYSON, Fran HEARTHWAY, 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)

<b><u>APRIL "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u></b> 19th Richard HYSON      27th Ed ELDER 29th Jeanne COHEE	<b><u>APRIL ANNIVERSARIES</u></b> 19 <sup>th</sup> Tina & Ric LINDSTROM (3 yrs)
<b><u>APRIL MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u></b> 'Josh' KELLEY (14 yrs) Danny PARSONS (8 yrs) Paul TOMKO, Sr. (Unk) Kathleen HASTINGS (3 yrs)	<b><u>WELCOME ABOARD</u></b> Recruit...Recruit...Recruit
	<b><u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u></b> None Reported to your Editor

**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  
32175 Bonhill Dr  
Salisbury, MD 21804-1464  
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## **The passing of Robert E. Cleary 10th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps**



June 2, 1931 – February 11, 2018

Sergeant Major Robert E. Cleary assumed the post of Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps on 28 June 1983. Sergeant Major Cleary was born in Tewksbury, Mass., on 2 June 1931, and graduated from Holyoke Trade High School in May 1949. He enlisted in the Marine Corps on 24 October 1951.

He underwent recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, then attended a nine-week Demolition Specialist Course at Schools Battalion, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, where he was promoted to private first class. Upon completion of the school, he was assigned as the Battalion Demolition Specialist, Company B, 7th Engineer Battalion at Camp Pendleton, California. Promoted to corporal, he remained with the 7th Engineer Battalion until April 1953.

Sergeant Major Cleary transferred overseas, where he joined the 1st Marine Division in Korea, as a Squad Leader and Right Guide with Company I, 3d Battalion. While in this assignment, he was promoted to sergeant. Returning from overseas, he reported to the 1st Rifle Company at the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center, Springfield, Massachusetts. In early 1958, he returned to Camp Pendleton, for duty as a military policeman with the Military Police Company.

In May 1958, he was promoted to staff sergeant, and continued to serve in this assignment until April 1961, when he transferred to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California, for duty as a drill instructor.

Upon completion of his tour as a drill instructor, Sergeant Major Cleary joined Headquarters and Service Company, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, for duty as a Section Leader, and later, Platoon Sergeant in the 81mm Motor Platoon. During February 1965, he transferred to H&S Company, 3d Battalion, 3d Marine Division, as a Platoon Sergeant and Platoon Leader in the Anti-Assault Platoon.

This assignment was followed by his first tour in Vietnam as a Platoon Leader, Company G, 2d Battalion, 1st Marines, 3d Marine Division, where he was promoted to gunnery sergeant. In August 1966, he transferred to Company F, 2d Battalion, 27th Marines, 5th Marine Division, for duty as Company Gunnery Sergeant. For his combat service in Vietnam, he was awarded the Silver Star Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", and two awards of the Purple Heart.

He returned to San Diego for a short tour as a drill instructor in August 1967, at which time he was selected for promotion to first sergeant. He was reassigned to the 27th Marines as the Company First Sergeant.

During March 1968, he returned to Vietnam, serving as the First Sergeant of Battery C, 1st LAAM Battalion, MACC-19, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. Subsequently, he served as Company First Sergeant of Company G, 28th Marine Regiment.

Sergeant Major Cleary then reported to H&S Company, 2d Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, as the Company First Sergeant, followed by his third tour in Vietnam as the Squadron Sergeant Major of HMM-165, MAG-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

Upon his return from overseas, in May 1973, he was assigned to VMA-223, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing, Yuma, Arizona, where he attained his present grade and served as the Squadron Sergeant Major. In September, he was reassigned to the 2d LAAM Battalion, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, as the Battalion Sergeant Major.

He reported to Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, DC., in September 1974, for duty as the Battalion Sergeant Major of Marine Security Guard Battalion, followed by duty as Personnel Sergeant Major. His next assignment was as the 3d Marine Division Sergeant Major in July 1979, and then returned to Marine Security Guard Battalion as Battalion Sergeant Major.

On 1 January 1982, Sergeant Major Cleary was selected as the Sergeant Major of Marine Corps Development and Education Command in Quantico, Virginia. He was selected as the 10th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps on 25 May 1983, and assumed the post on 28 June 1983.

His personal decorations consist of the Silver Star Medal; three Air Medals; Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V", and gold star in lieu of a second award; Navy Achievement Medal; two Purple Hearts; and the Combat Action Ribbon.

### Marine Corps Eases Requirement that Has Inhibited Female Infantry Officers

The U.S. Marine Corps will no longer require prospective officers to pass a punishing combat endurance test to graduate from the service's Infantry Officer Course.

Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Robert Neller quietly made the shift to standards in November, altering the test from a pass/fail requirement to just one of many exercises measured as part of overall IOC evaluation, the *Marine Corps Times* first [reported](#) on Thursday.

The course is considered among the military's toughest training programs, with about a quarter of all students failing to complete it, [according](#) to the *Washington Post*. Most of the 30-plus women who have attempted IOC dropped on the first day during the combat endurance test.

Only one female Marine has graduated from the course since former Defense Secretary Ash Carter announced that all military combat roles would be open to women in 2015.

Marine Training Command officials rejected the notion that the change slackens service standards and said it brings the exercise back to its original intent of assessing the "retention of knowledge, skills, and fitness achieved" at IOC, *Military.com* [reported](#).

"Over the past 40 years, the Marine Corps has made multiple modifications to Infantry Officer Course (IOC) program of instruction (POI) to reflect the requirements of the operating environment," Training Command said in a statement. "The quality of the course remains the same."

Officials said a Marine's score on the combat endurance test would "inform" their overall graduation assessment.

Though some have proposed abandoning the test as a fail point in IOC, others have said such a change would lower overall Marine standards.

Marine 2nd Lt. Emma Stokien argued in a 2014 op-ed that removing the required passage of the test would negatively impact female integration into the service.

"Changing this rite of passage will be doing female Marines no favors in trying to be infantry officers," Stokien wrote in *War on the Rocks*. "Female Marines often have to work much harder than their peers to earn the same respect, and entering the infantry under the dark cloud of even perceived lowered standards will make this a practically impossible challenge and potentially cause real harm to unit cohesion and the faith between leader and led."

### Military Common Sense

Congressman Trey Gowdy (R-SC) recently said a few things about the military in response to the ban of transgender.

He nails it:

Nobody has a "right" to serve in the Military. Nobody.

What makes people think the Military is an equal opportunity employer? Very far from it.

The Military uses prejudice regularly and consistently to deny citizens from joining for being too old or too young, too fat or too skinny, too tall or too short.

Citizens are denied for having flat feet, or for missing or additional fingers. Poor eyesight will disqualify you, as well as bad teeth. Malnourished? Drug addiction? Bad back? Criminal history? Low IQ? Anxiety? Phobias? Hearing damage? Six arms? Hear voices in your head? Self-identify as a Unicorn? Need a special access ramp for your wheelchair? Can't run the required course in the required time? Can't do the required number of pushups? Not really a "morning person" and refuse to get out of bed before noon? All can be reasons for denial.

The Military has one job. War. Anything else is a distraction and a liability.

Did someone just scream "That isn't Fair"?

War is VERY unfair, there are no exceptions made for being special or challenged or socially wonderful. YOU change yourself to meet Military standards.. Not the other way around.

I say again: You don't change the Military... you must change yourself. The Military doesn't need to accommodate anyone with special issues. The Military needs to Win Wars.

If any of your personal issues are a liability that detracts from readiness or lethality... Thank you for applying and good luck in future endeavors. Who's next in line?

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

[http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20180315%20\(PDF%20Edition\).pdf](http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20180315%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](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.mcleaguelibrary.org/>

<http://www.aging.com/complete-guide-for-veteran-seniors/>

-- *Once a Marine, Always a Marine* –

OOORAHH !!!!!

**GOD BLESS AMERICA**

