

Semper Fidelis

"THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

May 2010 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

MEETING TIME & PLACE

Meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on June 9th, 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

"Calendar of Events"

June 25 - 26, 2010: The 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. Complete information can be found on the following link.

<http://www.virginiamarines.org/pdf/Mideast%20info.pdf>

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, Paul WARD, Jr., Walt COHEE, Rhuel GOSLEE, Louis SLOWIK and family member Barb EBAUGH are having or have recently had various health problems. Please keep these folks and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

MIA MEMBER'S

The following detachment member's are "Missing in Action"

Wilbur D. BOLTON last known address was
Berea, KY

Richard R. BURTON last known address was
Hollywood, FL and

Edward MIHALIK last known address was
Charlotte Hall, MD

If you know where these Marine's are please
contact your editor as soon as possible.

"Membership Happenings"

June Happy Birthday's

10th Cindy & Kevin GRIFFIN (4 yrs)
13th Missy & Richard HYSON (52 yrs)

June Anniversaries

None

June MCL Anniversaries

Gloria HOWARD (25 yrs)
Andy BOUMA (4 yrs)

Welcome Aboard

None

Membership's Renewed

Richard HYSON
'Josh' KELLEY
Thomas MIFFLETON

Membership Renewals Due in June

None

Membership Renewals Overdue

Wilber BOLTON
Kevin GRIFFIN

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 NEW MEMBER'S

Any time a member recruits a new member into
the league the recruiter is obligated to verify that
the new member serviced Honorable in the U. S.
Marine Corps. The applicant should be asked to
show you a DD-214, the last one if they had more
than one periods of service, an Active duty,
reserve or retired ID card will also suffice if they
fall into one of these categories. When you sign off
on the membership application as their sponsor,
you will be certifying that you have verified their
Honorable service and that that person is in fact a
Marine.



**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

NOTES FROM OUR DETACHMENT MEETING ON APRIL 14, 2010

Commandant Bouma shared information from
the Md. Dept. of Veterans Affairs on the
availability of burial plots 'free' to veterans and
spouses. Gravesites are in Hurlock, Md.

Junior Past Commandant Jim Siegel reported on
Annual Cadet Ceremony whereby certificates of
achievement along with Community Service
ribbons will be awarded. Two local schools
participating are Bridgeville and Pocomoke High
Schools.

Walt Cohee discussed the "Yellow Ribbon"
program to send packages to overseas troops.
Names of individual service personnel are being
accepted. Complete mailing information for each
service member should be made available to Walt
Cohee.

Ed Hearthway is looking for local former WWII
vets for newspaper features. If you know of any

WWII vets send as much info on that warrior as you can to Ed.

Ed Hearthway reported that the detachment raised \$1,065.00 on ad sales for the Department of MD convention booklet. The detachment realized a profit of \$377.00 for their efforts. Bob Miller's design for the detachment ad for the convention booklet was noted and appreciated.

Highway trash retrieval was complete by Andy Bouma and Ed Hearthway on April 3rd. Next pickup will be in September. Step up to the plate and offer your help in September.

Department of MD Convention

This convention was held in Ocean City April 29 through May 1. Commandant Bouma along with Adjutant Richard Hyson and Junior Vice Commandant Ed Elder were in attendance with Jimmie Lee Howard and Judge Advocate Ed Heathway attending Thursday night.

If you have never attended a convention next year would be a good chance to get your feet wet. Ocean City is not that far and the Department of MD puts on one fine convention. Think about it and join us next year. You won't regret it.

Marine Corps Identity Bill Gets 400 Co-sponsors In House

Press Release Group Intl. – Apr 20 2010 The Marine Corps Identity Bill, HR 24, has received 400 co-sponsors—92 percent of the House of Representatives.

Backed by the Marine Corps League, HR 24, introduced by North Carolina Rep. Walter Jones, proposes to change the name of the Department of the Navy to the “Department of the Navy and Marine Corps.” HR 24 is just seven votes shy of a 20-year record for most amount of co-sponsors on any House bill.

For over two centuries, the Marine Corps has fought side by side with the Navy. However, the Marine Corps name is not mentioned at the department level or even in the letterhead of condolence letters sent to the parents of fallen Marines.

Driven largely by this fact, Marine Corps Identity Cause has attracted powerful supporters including actor R. Lee Ermey, Gens. Alfred Gray and Anthony Zinni and former Secretary of the Navy Lawrence Garrett.

“We’ve grown into a branch with a unique culture,” said Ermey, a Marine veteran who has been in 60-plus feature films, including Full Metal Jacket and Mississippi Burning. “Yet it does not get equal billing with the Navy, Air Force or Army—each of which has a department named after it.”

News of the 400th co-sponsor follows Sen. Johnny Isakson’s co-sponsoring of a sister bill in the Senate, S. 504. Isakson serves on the Committee on Veteran’s Affairs.

With 400 co-sponsors, HR 24 looks poised to pass the House. However, only three senators have co-sponsored S. 504.

“We encourage anyone who supports the Marine Corps to thank their representatives who’ve co-sponsored these bills and to contact their senators who haven’t,” said Mike Blum, Executive Director of the Marine Corps League. “That is one simple thing we all can do that would have such a huge impact on our Marines fighting overseas.”

Beware of Phone Scam

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is warning veterans not to give credit card numbers, bank routing information or any personal and financial information over the phone to callers claiming to update, confirm, or verify VA-related information. VA does not call veterans and ask them to disclose personal financial information over the phone. A veteran targeted by scammers alerted VA, saying that someone called claiming to be with the VA pharmacy and asking a lot of questions. VA has not changed its process for dispensing prescriptions or for enrollment. Veterans with questions about VA services should call (877) 222-8387 or the nearest VA medical center.

Foster Homes for Veterans

VA's Medical Foster Home (MFH) program finds a caregiver in the community who is willing to provide a Veteran with 24-hour supervision and personal assistance. This would be a long-term commitment, where the veteran may live for the remainder of their life. Veterans who enter MFH all meet nursing home criteria. The veteran pays the caregiver \$1200 to \$2500 per month to provide this care. This includes room and board, 24 hour supervision, assistance with medications, and any personal care. For more information, visit VA's [Medical Foster Home webpage](#).

Health Care Reform Update 32:

The Tri-care Affirmation Act (H.R.4887), aimed at protecting people in the military health care program from being penalized for not having private insurance, was signed into law 26 APR by President Obama. The new law provides a specific exemption for Tri-care beneficiaries and for non-appropriated-fund civilian employees of the Defense Department from a requirement of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that will require people without minimal health cover to either buy private insurance or face a \$750 penalty. Tri-care health insurance is specifically defined by the law signed Monday as minimal essential coverage, which provides an exemption from the penalty. Rep. Ike Skelton (D-MO), the House Armed Services Committee chairman who opposed the national health care reform law but was a key sponsor of the Tri-care Affirmation Act, said he hopes this resolves questions by active-duty family members, retirees and their families about how national health reform might affect them. Signing the new law "reinforces that military health care coverage will not be adversely affected by the health care reform law," Skelton said. Skelton's committee will consider legislation in May that would extend to Tri-care beneficiaries one of the provisions of the new health reform law that allows unmarried children to remain covered by a parent's insurance until age 26. That legislation is expected to be included in the 2011 defense authorization bill. [Source: Air Force Times Rick Maze article 27 Apr 2010 ++]

COLA 2011 Update 02:

Inflation jumped by half a percent in February. If that trend keeps up for the rest of the fiscal year, retirees would see about a 1.4-percent COLA for 2011. The Bureau of Labor Statistics announced the March CPI-W of 213.5 which is an increase of 0.5% from the January CPI-W of 212.5. The March CPI-W of 213.5 is now down 0.9% from the 2008 COLA base of 215.5. The 2008 COLA base will be used to calculate the 2010 COLA since there was no 2009 COLA as a result of negative inflation from the third quarter of 2008 to the third quarter of 2009. [Source: MOAA COLA Watch Apr 2010 ++]

[Links of Interest for Maryland Veteran's](#)

http://www.nasvh.org/dir_statehomes/stateHome.cfm?ID=47

[Bring our wounded home](#)

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid1407952648?bctid=1664436922>

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 Marine paid the ultimate sacrifice for God, Country and Corps during April 2010.

[Rivers, Lance Cpl Thomas](#)

Birmingham, AL

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.

YOU TOOK MY PARKING SPACE AT CHURCH

This should wake us up.

One day, a man went to visit a church. He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near the driver got out and said, "I

always park there! You took my place!"

The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday School, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, " That's where I always sit! You took my place!" The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still He said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?" The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye, "I took your place.."

When you read this, say a prayer.. That's all you have to do. There is nothing attached. This is powerful. Maybe, just maybe, we can get the world to start thinking of who took our place..



This picture captured the back of a Marine's jeep is priceless and definitely a "sender on'er"!

From your editor

The good Lord willing and the creek don't raise, I plan to make one of my famous speed runs north and be in attendance at our June 9 meeting. If I can make that 1,000+ mile round trip I would hope to see and meet as many of you as possible since I will only be able to do this 2 to 3 times a year. I have spoken with nearly all of you via phone and/or email and would now like to meet you face to face.

Again I would also like to ask that 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.

For those members that receive hard copies of 'The Scuttlebutt' by snail-mail, I regret that I must use so many hyperlinks' within each newsletter which only those with computers can access but in this high-tech world we now live in there is so much information available by this means I have no choice but to use them. These hyperlinks' allow those with computers to access so much more valuable information than I would otherwise never be able to disseminate.

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



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.

-- Once a Marine, Always a
Marine --

YOUR HISTORY (REFRESHER) COURSE FOR THE MONTH

Marine Corps Heritage

Leathernecks, U.S. Marines, Devil Dogs, Gyrenes, Jarheads -- whatever! By any name, the world recognizes U.S. Marines as the premier Warriors on planet earth.

Each U.S. Marine, past and present, is a part of the mythical fellowship of valor. Hallowed rituals, an unbending code of honor, and gallantry in combat are the hallmarks of this elite Brotherhood of Marines.

U.S. Marines have evolved into American Icons, the Warrior Elite. These modern-day Samurai have become legend, the ultimate American Patriots. Today, throughout the world, Marine Warriors are revered by America's friends and feared by her foes.

Marine Corps Motto

The Marine Corps adopted *Semper Fidelis* as its official motto in 1883 (*Semper Fidelis* is also the title of the official musical March of the Marine Corps). Translated from Latin, *Semper Fidelis* means "Always Faithful." U.S. Marines use an abbreviated verbal version, "Semper Fi," to voice loyalty and commitment to their Marine comrades-in-arms. Previous mottos of the Marine Corps were (1) *To the Shores of Tripoli*, adopted in 1805; (2) *Fortitude*, adopted in 1812; (3) *From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli*, adopted in 1848; and (4) *By Sea and by Land*, adopted in the 1850's.

Corps Values

Why are U.S. Marines considered the world's premier warriors? Why? What puts the Marine Corps above the rest? Other military services have rigorous training and weapons of equal or greater lethality. So, why do U.S. Marines stand head and shoulders above the crowd?

The truth lies in the individual Marine. He (or she) did not *join* the Marines. Roughly 40,000 try each year. Those who survive the crucible of Marine basic training have been sculpted in mind and body. They have *become* Marines.

Once he has *earned the title* and entered the Brotherhood of Marines, a new warrior must draw upon the legacy of his Corps. Therein lies

his strength. In return, the strength of the Corps lies in the individual Marine. The *character* (often defined as "what you are in the dark") of these warriors is defined by the three constant Corps Values: honor, courage, and commitment.

Honor: Honor requires each Marine to exemplify the ultimate standard in ethical and moral conduct. Honor is many things; honor requires many things. A U.S. Marine must never lie, never cheat, never steal, but that is not enough. Much more is required. Each Marine must cling to an uncompromising code of *personal integrity*, accountable for his actions and holding others accountable for theirs. And, above all, honor mandates that a Marine never sully the reputation of his Corps.

Courage: Simply stated, courage is honor in action -- and more. Courage is moral strength, the will to heed the inner voice of conscience, the will to do what is right regardless of the conduct of others. It is mental discipline, an adherence to a higher standard. Courage means willingness to take a stand for what is right in spite of adverse consequences. This courage, throughout the history of the Corps, has sustained Marines during the chaos, perils, and hardships of combat. And each day, it enables each Marine to look in the mirror -- and smile.

Commitment: Total dedication to Corps and Country. Gung-ho Marine teamwork. All for one, one for all. By whatever name or cliché, commitment is a combination of (1) selfless determination and (2) a relentless dedication to excellence. Marines never give up, never give in, never willingly accept second best. Excellence is always the goal. And, when their active duty days are over, Marines remain reserve Marines, retired Marines, or Marine veterans. There is no such thing as an ex-Marine or former-Marine. Once a Marine, always a Marine. Commitment never dies.

The three Corps Values: honor, courage, commitment. They make up the bedrock of the character of each individual Marine. They are the foundation of his Corps. These three values, handed down from generation to generation, have made U.S. Marines the Warrior Elite. The U.S. Marine Corps: the most respected and revered fighting force on earth.