

Semper Fi

"THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

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

May 2017 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: James Siegel	Junior Vice Commandant: Roger Martinson
Judge Advocate: William Marsich	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 June 14th, 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

<p><u>June 6</u></p> <p>© Can Stock Photo</p>	<p><u>June 14</u></p> <p>14 JUNE FLAG DAY</p>	<p><u>June 18</u></p> <p>King of the GRILL Happy Father's Day!</p>	<p><u>June 21</u></p> <p>First Day of Summer</p>
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Save the Date

Spring OWC Packing Party!

Join Us Sunday, May 21

415 Joe Morgan Road, Sharptown, MD

(Sharptown Fireman's Carnival Grounds)

Packing Begins At 9AM

As always, lunch will be served. Feel free to bring a dessert!

Join Us for Breakfast at 7:30 AM

**American Legion Post 218 203 State St. Sharptown, MD
(Around the corner from the Fireman's Memorial Building!)**

All you can eat breakfast buffet

\$8.00/ person

THIS EVENT IS INVITATION ONLY.

Please RSVP to jemerritt314@yahoo.com

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> More information will be provided as it becomes available.

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, Ed HEARTHWAY, 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><u>JUNE "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u> 4th Tina LINDSTROM 21st Cecelia SIEGEL 23rd Thomas GORMAN 24th Eric WILK</p>	<p><u>JUNE ANNIVERSARIES</u> 13th Missy & Richard HYSON (59 yrs) 20th Leslye & John BRENNER (42 yrs)</p>
<p><u>JUNE MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u> None Known</p>	<p><u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE IN JUNE</u> None Known</p>
<p><u>WELCOME ABOARD</u> None reported to your editor</p>	<p><u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u> Carl EBAUGH (Renewed through August 2017) Rick CARRILLO (Renewed through August 2017)</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



I give my best

This is a well written article about a father who put several of his kids through expensive colleges but one son wanted to be a Marine. Interesting observation by this dad and a very interesting commentary that says a lot about our society.

By Frank Schaeffer of the Washington Post

Before my son became a Marine, I never thought much about who was defending me. Now when I read of the war on terrorism or the coming conflict in Iraq, it cuts to my heart. When I see a picture of a member of our military who has been killed, I read his or her name very carefully. Sometimes I cry.

In 1999, when the barrel-chested Marine recruiter showed up in dress blues and bedazzled my son John, I did not stand in the way. John was headstrong, and he seemed to understand these stern, clean men with straight backs and flawless uniforms. I did not. I live in the Volvo-driving, higher education-worshiping North Shore of Boston. I write novels for a living. I have never served in the military.

It had been hard enough sending my two older children off to Georgetown and New York University. John's enlisting was unexpected, so deeply unsettling. I did not relish the prospect of answering the question, "So where is John going to college?" from the parents who were itching to tell me all about how their son or daughter was going to Harvard. At the private high school John attended, no other students were going into the military.

"But aren't the Marines terribly Southern?" (Says a lot about open-mindedness in the Northeast) asked one perplexed mother while standing next to me at the brunch following graduation. "What a waste, he was such a good student," said another parent. One parent (a professor at a nearby and rather famous university) spoke up at a school meeting and suggested that the school should "carefully evaluate what went wrong."

When John graduated from three months of boot camp on Parris Island, 3000 parents and friends were on the parade deck stands. We parents and our Marines not only were of many races but also were representative of many economic classes. Many were poor. Some arrived crammed in the backs of pickups, others by bus. John told me that a lot of parents could not afford the trip.

We in the audience were white and Native American. We were Hispanic, Arab, and African American, and Asian. We were former Marines wearing the scars of battle, or at least baseball caps emblazoned with battles' names. We were Southern whites from Nashville and skinheads from New Jersey, black kids from Cleveland wearing ghetto rags and white ex-cons with ham-hock forearms defaced by jailhouse tattoos. We would not have been mistaken for the educated and well-heeled parents gathered on the lawns of John's private school a half-year before.

After graduation one new Marine told John, "Before I was a Marine, if I had ever seen you on my block I would've probably killed you just because you were standing there." This was a serious statement from one of John's good friends, a black ex-gang member from Detroit who, as John said, "would die for me now, just like I'd die for him."

My son has connected me to my country in a way that I was too selfish and insular to experience before. I feel closer to the waitress at our local diner than to some of my oldest friends. She has two sons in the Corps. They are facing the same dangers as my boy. When the guy who fixes my car asks me how John is doing, I know he means it. His younger brother is in the Navy.

Why were I and the other parents at my son's private school so surprised by his choice? During World War II, the sons and daughters of the most powerful and educated families did their bit. If the idea of the immorality of the Vietnam War was the only reason those lucky enough to go to college dodged the draft, why did we not encourage our children to volunteer for military service once that war was done?

Have we wealthy and educated Americans all become pacifists? Is the world a safe place? Or have we just gotten used to having somebody else defend us? What is the future of our democracy when the sons and daughters of the janitors at our elite universities are far more likely to be put in harm's way than are any of the students whose dorms their parents clean?

I feel shame because it took my son's joining the Marine Corps to make me take notice of who is defending me. I feel hope because perhaps my son is part of a future "greatest generation." As the storm clouds of war gather, at least I know that I can look the men and women in uniform in the eye. My son is one of them. He is the best I have to offer. He is my heart.

"Faith is not about everything turning out OK; Faith is about being OK no matter how things turn out."

Sad Vietnam Wall Facts

A little history most people will never know. Interesting Veterans Statistics off the Vietnam Memorial Wall.

There are 58,267 names now listed on that polished black wall, including those added in 2010.

The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 61 years since the first casualty.

The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, Mass. Listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.

There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.

39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger.

8,283 were just 19 years old.

The largest age group, 33,103 were 18 years old.

12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old.

5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old.

One soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old.

997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam ..

1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam .

31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.

Thirty one sets of parents lost two of their sons.

54 soldiers attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia. I wonder why so many from one school.

8 Women are on the Wall, Nursing the wounded.

244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War; 153 of them are on the Wall.

Beallsville, Ohio with a population of 475 lost 6 of her sons.

West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.

The Marines of Morenci - They led some of the scrappiest high school football and basketball teams that the little Arizona copper town of Morenci (pop 5,058) had ever known and cheered. They enjoyed roaring beer busts. In quieter moments, they rode horses along the Coronado Trail, stalked deer in the Apache National Forest. And in the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only 3 returned home.

The Buddies of Midvale - LeRoy Tafoya, Jimmy Martinez, Tom Gonzales were all boyhood friends and lived on three consecutive streets in Midvale, Utah on Fifth, Sixth and Seventh avenues. They lived only a few yards apart. They played ball at the adjacent sandlot ball field. And they all went to Vietnam. In a span of 16 dark days in late 1967, all three would be killed. LeRoy was killed on Wednesday, Nov. 22, the fourth anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination. Jimmy died less than 24 hours later on Thanksgiving Day. Tom was shot dead assaulting the enemy on Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

The most casualty deaths for a single day was on January 31, 1968 ~ 245 deaths.

The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 - 2,415 casualties were incurred.

For most Americans who read this they will only see the numbers that the Vietnam War created. To those of us who survived the war, and to the families of those who did not, we see the faces, we feel the pain that these numbers created. We are, until we too pass away, haunted with these numbers, because they were our friends, fathers, Husbands, wives, sons and daughters. There are no noble wars, just noble warriors.

Gary Sinise Awarded Walk of Fame Star For Acting, Pro-Military Activism

Actor Gary Sinise was awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on Monday April 17th, as he was honored for decades of acting and decades of activism in support of the troops.

Sinise starred in several memorable roles, including Lt. Dan Taylor in "Forrest Gump," Det. Mac Taylor in "CSI:NY," ruthless kidnapper Jimmy Shaker in Mel Gibson's "Ransom," and George in the film adaptation of John Steinbeck's "Of Mice & Men."

Playing off his memorable "Forrest Gump" character, Sinise is the front man for the "Lieutenant Dan Band," which tours all over the world in support of active-duty service members.

Sinise, 62, was praised at the Hollywood ceremony for his work with the band, as well as the Gary Sinise Foundation, which funds programs to help veterans.

Sinise's work on behalf of the military also drew comparisons to the late Bob Hope, who was widely known for his work with the United Service Organization (USO).

He is also active with the RISE program, which reconstructs homes to accommodate wounded warriors when they return stateside.

Sinise and Mantegna co-host the annual National Memorial Day Concert, broadcast nationwide from Capitol Hill.

At the ceremony, he was introduced by Los Angeles Councilman Mitch O'Farrell (D), who called him an "amazing human being."

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

[http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20170501%20\(PDF%20Edition\).pdf](http://www.nhc-ul.org/Bulletin%20170501%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.

None this month

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

OOORAHHH !!!!!

GOD BLESS AMERICA

