

the

CUTTING EDGE

news for and about the members of Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 of the Marine Corps League
Ed Dahling, Editor / <http://mclaacdet1049.org/>

Semper Fidelis!

TOYS FOR TOTS



Disc Jockey Michael J from WPOC FM 93.1 teamed with Toys For Tots to create a Toy Mountain at Waugh Chapel in Gambrills, MD. He broadcast live from Friday, November 15 to Sunday afternoon November 17. Numerous Marines from Fort Meade participated and braved some rather cold and windy weather. He was also joined by several members of the detachment. (Pictured left to right are; Ben Wells, Christine Stevens, Nila Caulder, Michael J, Ray Sturm,

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National Award Winner

Marine Corps League
National Newsletter Award
3rd Place Winner 2017
2nd Place Winner 2018

the *Cutting Edge*

- Published Monthly
- Be sure to keep us advised of your current email address to ensure prompt delivery.

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Detachment Website
<http://mclaaacet1049.org/>

Detachment Staff:

- Commandant** Ben Wells
- Senior Vice-Commandant** Louis Gewirtz
- Junior Vice-Commandant**..... Burt Helmka
- Judge Advocate** Ray Sturm
- Junior Past-Commandant**..... Ray Sturm
- Adjutant** Joseph Wright
- By-Laws Committee Chairman** Danny Fischio
- Chaplain** Bill Collins
- Color Guard Commander** Woody Bowman
- Historian** Joseph Wright
- House Chairman** Vacant
- Legislative Officer** Vacant
- Newsletter Editors** Ed Dahling
- Paymaster** Ed Dahling
- Public Affairs (Information) Officer** Ray Sturm
- Quartermaster** Bill Collins
- Rifle & Pistol Team Captain** ..Ray Sturm
- Sergeant-at-Arms** Jim Galvin
- VAWS Officer** Vacant
- Web Sergeant** Joseph Wright
- Toy For Tots Chairman**..... Chris Stevens
- Young Marines Commander** ... Dallas Cooper

Visit the **Dept. of Maryland** web site at...
<http://deptofmdmcl.org>



National Award Winner

3rd Place Winner 2017
2nd Place Winner 2018
Marine Corps League
National Newsletter
Award

Membership Statistics

Good Standing (Dues Paid)

Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Member-	76	9	6
Annual Member-	17	8	–
New Members			
			–
Sub-Totals			
	93	17	6
Total			
	116		



Members' Birthdays

Members of our detachment, celebrating Birthdays during the month of December includes:

Mike Lowman Scott Stevens
Robert Foley Jr. Eugene Punte
Ben Wells

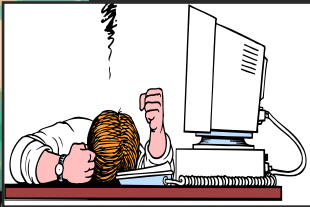
NOTE – If you were born in December and your name is not listed above, please contact the editor to be included in the future.

Quotation

“The Marine Corps is the Navy's police force and as long as I am President that is what it will remain. They have a propaganda machine that is almost equal to Stalin's.”

Harry S Truman





From the Editor

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

As you read this, the detachment's 2019 Toys for Tots Drive is in full swing. I would like to thank all of our staff as well as all of the volunteers, who unselfishly assisted us in this most worthy effort.

After the meeting, we will have a Christmas gathering. It would be appreciated if those who are able, would please bring a covered dish or other food/beverage item. Regardless, please come and spread some holiday cheer with your fellow detachment members.

For those of you who will not be able to attend the meeting, I wish you and your family a very safe and happy holiday season.

As always, I look forward to seeing all of you at our next monthly meeting. Which will be Monday, 16 December 19:00 @ VFW Post 160.

If you have an email account and are not currently receiving **the Cutting Edge** electronically, please consider doing so. Providing me with your email address will reduce our monthly newsletter costs.

The deadline for all January newsletter articles is NOON on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. Please do not wait until the last minute!



Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **February 2020**. Unless otherwise noted, these events will take place at **VFW Post 160**, located at 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060 (410-766-9802).

NOTE – The dates and times listed below are subject to change. Please verify the information with the indicated organizational point of contact.

December 7th Color Guard Presenting colors at Food Lion Mt. Road 11:30 Am

December 15th Pound 204 Growl @ 0800
Breakfast 0900 Growl (Ben Wells) at VFW Post 160 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Monthly Meeting, MCL Detachment 1049
Monday, 16 December @ 1900 (Ben Wells) VFW Post 160

December 25th 2019 Christmas VFW Post 160 Will be Close

January 1st 2020 VFW Post 160 Will be Close

Monthly Meeting, MCL Detachment 1049
Monday, 27 January @ 1900 (Ben Wells) VFW Post 160

8th February 2020: The Next Department Meeting and Pack Growl will be on 0800-1200, Hosted by Sgt Jack Hettchen Detachment 1428. Montgomery County, MD. at Clarksburg Tavern 23315 Frederick Rd. Clarksburg Md. 20871



Veterans Crisis Line



1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

Confidential help for Veterans and their families





Commandant David (Ben) Wells

Marines

December is a month of heart ache and joy, remember Pearl Harbor and Christmas. Never forget the men and women and their families who will not get to spend Christmas together.

I had the pleasure of attending the MCSB Marine Corps Ball this year and to spend the day at Cookies Tavern in Philly for the Marine Corps birthday. If you missed any of this you missed a really great time.

Our MCL Detachment 1049 meeting has been rescheduled for December the 16th because of the Christmas holidays. Do not forget to bring a covered dish to this meeting. We have a pound growl on the 15th of December and a department meeting on the 8th of February 2020. Please remember to support VFW Post 160 which is our home.

Semper Fi

Ben Wells



Rifle & Pistol Team Ray Sturm



No Report



Join our team and get involved!
Use your creativity and passion to take an active role by fundraising, donating or spreading awareness for our cause.

Go to the following website to gain

<http://semperfifund.org/>

Semper Fi... It's more than a slogan!



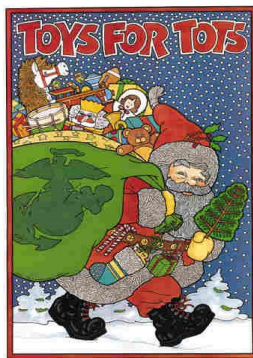
Marine Corps League Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049



TOYS FOR TOTS



U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE



U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE

Marine Toys for Tots - Every Child Deserves A Christmas

Well, it's that time again. Looking for help and volunteers to start dropping off the box's

. I will need help at the Warehouse and to pick up toy's from the drop off locations. If you can want to volunteer you may e-mail .

My Toys for Tots email is chris@aatft.org.

Thanks,
Christine Stevens
Anne Arundel County Toys for Tots Co-Coordinator
cmsstevens@comcast.net or chris@aatft.org

Pearl Harbor and the Road to War



The attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise, but Japan and the United States had been edging toward war for decades. The United States was particularly unhappy with Japan's increasingly belligerent attitude toward China. The Japanese government believed that the only way to solve its economic and demographic problems was to expand into its neighbor's territory and take over its import market; to this end, Japan had declared war on China in 1937. American officials responded to this aggression with a battery of economic sanctions and trade embargoes. They reasoned that without access to money and goods, and especially essential supplies like oil, Japan would have to rein in its expansionism. Instead, the sanctions made the Japanese more determined to stand their ground. During months of negotiations between Tokyo and Washington, D.C., neither side would budge. It seemed that war was inevitable. But no one believed that the Japanese would start that war with an attack on Amer-

ican territory. For one thing, it would be terribly inconvenient: Hawaii and Japan were about 4,000 miles apart. For another, American intelligence officials were confident that any Japanese attack would take place in one of the (relatively) nearby European colonies in the South Pacific: the Dutch East Indies, for instance, or Singapore or Indochina. Because American military leaders were not expecting an attack so close to home, the naval facilities at Pearl Harbor were relatively undefended. Almost the entire Pacific Fleet was moored around Ford Island in the harbor, and hundreds of airplanes were squeezed onto adjacent airfields. To the Japanese, Pearl Harbor was an irresistible target.

“A Date Which Will Live in Infamy”

The Japanese plan was simple: Destroy the Pacific Fleet. That way, the Americans would not be able to fight back as Japan's armed forces spread across the South Pacific. On December 7, after months of planning and practice, the Japanese launched their attack.

At about 8 a.m., Japanese planes filled the sky over Pearl Harbor. Bombs and bullets rained onto the vessels moored below. At 8:10, a 1,800-pound bomb smashed through the deck of the battleship USS [Arizona](#) and landed in her forward ammunition magazine. The ship exploded and sank with more than 1,000 men trapped inside. Next, torpedoes pierced the shell of the battleship USS [Oklahoma](#). With 400 sailors aboard, the Oklahoma lost her balance, rolled onto her side and slipped underwater. By the time the attack was over, every battleship in Pearl Harbor—USS Arizona, USS Oklahoma, USS [California](#), USS [West Virginia](#), USS [Utah](#), USS [Maryland](#), USS [Pennsylvania](#), USS [Tennessee](#) and USS Nevada—had sustained significant damage. (All but USS Arizona and USS Utah were eventually salvaged and repaired.)

In all, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor crippled or destroyed 18 American ships and nearly 300 airplanes. Dry docks and airfields were likewise destroyed. Most important, almost 2,500 men were killed and another 1,000 were wounded.

But the Japanese had failed to cripple the Pacific Fleet. By the 1940s, battleships were no longer the most important naval vessel: Aircraft carriers were, and as it happened, all of the Pacific Fleet's carriers were away from the base on December 7. (Some had returned to the mainland and others were delivering planes to troops on Midway and Wake Islands.) Moreover, the Pearl Harbor assault had left the base's most vital onshore facilities—oil storage depots, repair shops, shipyards and submarine docks—intact. As a result, the U.S. Navy was able to rebound relatively quickly from the attack.



Corps History

by Ed Dahling for Joe Wright, Historian

1941

7 December

The attack on Pearl Harbor, also known as the Battle of Pearl Harbor, the Hawaii Operation or Operation AI by the Japanese Imperial General

1942

2 December

Carlson's Raiders neared the end of an epic 26 day patrol on Guadalcanal.

1943

26 December

1st Marine Division lands on Cape Gloucester, New Britai

1947

1 December

The Corps' first helicopter squadron, HMX-1, was commissioned at Quantico, VA.

15 December

The Secretary of the Navy signed a Memorandum of Agreement' with the State Department which laid the basis for the modern Marine Security Guard program at U.S. Embassies through-out the world.

1950

1 December

The 1st Marine Division began its bitter withdrawal from Yudamni, North Korea.

4 December

Lt. Colonel Raymond G. Davis led the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines into Hagaru-Ri, Korea after four days of intense fighting in the mountain passes against a numerically superior hostile-force, clearing the way for the 5th and 7th Marines. Lt. Colonel Davis was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism.

24 December

Last elements of the 1st Marine Division departed Hungnam, North Korea.

1965

20 December

Operation Harvest Moon ended for Task Force Delta (2/7, 3/3, and 2/1). More than 400 Viet Cong were killed in action



Senior Vice Commandant Louis Gewirtz

Marines,

We have the 50/50 tickets for the Department of Maryland fund raiser for the Department convention in May 2020 so please help out and buy a couple. I will have them at all meetings until the event in May..

I'd like to wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season. As we gather around our tables to celebrate with friends and family, please pause and take a moment to remember those in harm's way... for it is this new generation of warrior that has kept our shores safe.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone for their support this year I'm looking forward to making 2017 our best yet



Vets4Warriors is the leading national peer support and resource connection network for veterans, service members, family members and caregivers who need answers and understanding from someone who knows what they are going through.





Color Guard

Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman

- COMING EVENTS -

December 7th Color Guard Presenting colors at Food Lion Mt. Road 11:30 Am

December 14th – Boy Scout event
This is our last color guard event for this year.

Want to volunteer? Want to be part of the future of this valuable group? If the answer to any of these questions is **YES**, Call **Woody Bowman** at the following number **(410) 647-9655**



Marine Corps League License Plates

Marine Corps League License Plates are available for a one time fee of \$30. You continue to pay your normal registration fee at the time it is normally due.

You must be a member in good standing and either the registered owner or co-owner of the vehicle.

Contact the Department License Plate Chairman, Craig Reeling, at 443-477-0670 or Craig.Reeling@MarylandMarines.org



Military Order of the Devil Dogs



Military Order of the Devil Dogs (MODD)

The Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

Woof, woof,

With three months of the Dog year gone, Anne Arundel County Detachment still has three Dogs in arrears. John Davis, Carl Lenhart, George Martin, As such, they cannot attend Growls or hold office. They can rectify this by remitting a check for 15 measly bones to their friendly Dog Robber (me) at 493 Procopio Cir. Millersville Md 21108-1791. Make the check payable to MODD, Pound 204.

As always, in order to be a good Dog, supporting the League's activities is a must. Right now, the Toys for Tots drive is in full swing. Testifying to that, several members were collecting toys Saturday instead of attending the Growl. This is totally acceptable and appreciated.

There are only two Pack Growls left for those DDs desiring to advance to PDD in Daytona Fl. next year. If you plan on advancing, you must attend both. The next one will be on 8th February 2020: 0800-1200, Hosted by Sgt Jack Hettchen Detachment 1428. Montgomery County, MD. at Clarksburg Tavern 23315 Frederick Rd. Clarksburg Md. 20871

Remember: It is an honor to be a Devil Dog!

Woof woof,
PDD Ed Dahling
Dog Robber



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410-437-0075
Sun-Wed: 11am-1am
Thu-Sat: 11am-2am



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Marc Handler General Manager
mhandler@thegreenturtle.com



Paul Bowman
Club Manager

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Pasadena.md@planetfitness.com



Junior Vice Commandant Burt Helmka

Marines,

First and foremost, I'd like to wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season. As we gather around our tables to celebrate with friends and family, please pause and take a moment to remember those in harm's way... for it is this new generation of warrior that has kept our shores safe.

By the time you read this we'll be 16 days into our December lotto drawing game. 3 misses and a donation back to the league. Thanks Bill Collins.

Still a few members lacking dues payment. Enough said on that subject.

Tickets are now available for purchase. Lets buy a table and support the Bull & Oyster Roast.

Semper FI
Burt




Chaplain's Corner Bill Collins

As 2019 comes to a close we can look back on another successful year for our detachment. Our two big charity fund raisers, the golf tournament and the 5K run were both profitable enough for us to contribute a significant amount of money to the Semper Fi Fund and TreatNOW. Funds that we provided paid for treatments that gave a wounded Marine his life back after a long struggle with PTSD. We are currently supporting the treatment of another brother Marine in his fight back to life.

Our detachment like any volunteer organization is always looking for new members and more participation from our current members. We owe a debt of gratitude to those dedicated members who are always there when there is work to be done. Increased participation of our local active duty Marines including some new members in the detachment has been a big plus this year. The advantage that we have is that we are Marines and it is in our DNA to serve our country and our community. In the coming year if each of us participates to the maximum extent that our circumstances allow we can look forward to our greatest year ever. Merry Christmas and all the best in the coming new year.

Bill Collins,
Semper Fi





Established 1943
Garrison Rifle & Revolver Club, Inc. is a Charter Member of the Associated Gun Clubs of Baltimore Inc.



The Club offers training and classes in most of the shooting sports and promotes shooting sports for all ages and abilities. Garrison hosts the following events:

- Spring Pistol League
- Bullseye Pistol Championship
- Trap Shoot
- JR's Club Shoot
- 4H State Match
- Club Crab Feast
- Club Christmas Dinner

Affiliated with the National Rifle Association and Civilian Marksmanship Program.

Garrison Rifle & Revolver members have the following facilities available for their use:

- Covered bench rest-equipped rifle, black powder, and pistol range (25, 50, 75 & 100 yds.)
- Indoor air rifle range
- Fifty point covered outdoor pistol range (25 & 50 yds).
- Ten point covered high power rifle range 200 yds with butts
- A four field, lighted, outdoor trap range w/automatic and manual trap house.
- Messick Hall club house w/ kitchen & restrooms.
- Lower range house/meeting hall.

Club meets every second Tuesday of each month Except January which is the third Tuesday. 11518 Marriottsville Road Marriottsville, Maryland 21104-1220

For more information contact club secretary
Thomas Betty, at (443) 850-5737
E-Mail: secretary@garrisonrr.org
Website: <https://www.garrisonrr.org>





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Have You Heard?

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

November 25th Meeting Highlights

OPENING BY RITUAL:

Meeting called to order by Commandant David "Ben" Wells at 1900 hours. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by prayer by Chaplain Bill Collins. Members in Attendance: 17

Commandant Wells announced guests in attendance: Past Detachment Commandants: Ray Sturm (2015-2019), Ed Dahling (2013-2015), Past Marine of the Year: Bill Collins (2019), Ben Wells (2018), Ray Sturm (2017), Ed Dahling (2016), Woody Bowman (2014), Maryland Pack Leader – Ray Sturm (2019)

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: Welcome Jim Warner, transfer from Antietam Detachment. Jim was a fighter pilot in Vietnam War. POW with McCain

CHAPLAIN REPORT: Chaplain Collins reported on the good time at the Toys for Tots event at Waugh Chapel. Chaplain Collins read a thank you letter for the \$3,000 donation made to the TREAT NOW coalition, helping those veterans with PTSD and TBI.

ADJUTANTS REPORT: Partial minutes of the October meeting were distributed in newsletter. There was a problem with the recorder.

PAYMASTER: Ed Dahling gave a hardcopy report:

CORRESPONDENCE: None

COMMANDANT: Please remember all military who will be deployed this holiday. We will have a Pound GROWL on December 15th.. The Detachment meeting will be held on December 16. Asking all to bring a

SENIOR VICE: No report.

JUNIOR VICE: Burt reported we are doing pretty good with the lottery. We have sold enough to break even.

The Bull & Oyster Roast will be held on March 21st at Post 40. Tickets being printed

JUDGE ADVOCATE: No report

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: If you have anything for the newsletter, contact Ed Dahling. Make sure Ed has your email address

(Continue on Page 12)



Have You Heard?

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

QUARTERMASTER: Bill Collins reported he has items for sale

HISTORIAN/ WEB SERGEANT: Absent

COLOR GUARD: Commander Woody Bowman reported Ed, Brian, and himself attended Severn and Quarterfield Elementary Schools and spoke to the 2nd graders on Veterans Day.

Upcoming events: December 7th – Food Lion on Mountain Road at Noon. December 14th – Boy Scout event

TOYS FOR TOTS: Chris Stevens is asking for volunteers in the warehouse separating toys and bagging toys for delivery on December 15th. Distribution at the Community College will be held December 21st and 22nd.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Ray Sturm reported the new President of the Marine Corps League Foundation is Jerry Devlin. Ray Sturm made a motion to donate \$100 to the Foundation. Motion voted on and pass

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE: Ray Sturm reported on December 11th, Scout Troop 216 will be hosting their Christmas Party. The \$500 donation will be presented at this time. Ray would like to recognize Scout leader Jim Dunn for his 40-year dedication to community service by presenting him with a plaque. Motion was made and passed. (Jim Dunn recently suffered a stroke.) Ray Sturm thanked Jane Huffman for selling over 300 tickets for the December lotto.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: • December 1st - Toys for Tots breakfast at Truck house Road Elks Club • December 3rd – Fisher House meeting • December 7th - Toys for Tots event at Post 34 • December 15, 2019 - Pound 204 Growl @ 0900 at VFW Post 160 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Burt asked for prayers for his good friend Norm Mason who is suffering with asbestosis. Norm is a member at Post 40.

CLOSING Ceremonies: Commandant Wells closed the meeting IAW MCL rituals. The next detachment meeting will take place on Dec. 16, 2019. Closing prayer was given by Chaplain Bill Collins

Respectfully submitted,
Norm Huffman, Adjutant
Marine Corps League - A. A. County Detachment 1049



Marine Corps League
Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049
PO Box 804
Severn, Maryland 21144-0804

(Address Correction Requested)



Pearl Harbor Day December 7

The attack on Pearl Harbor, also known as the Battle of Pearl Harbor, the Hawaii Operation or Operation Al by the Japanese Imperial General

Casualties: 1,247 (United States of America: Military - Wounded), 2,402 (United States of America: Military - Dead), , 35 (United States of America: Civilian - Wounded), 57 (United States of America: Civilian - De