

November 2017

# *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!

### Happy Thanksgiving



From the Officers and Staff of Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 would like to wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving

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**National Award  
Winner**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner 2017  
Marine Corps League  
National Newsletter Award**

# the *Cutting Edge*

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

Editor – **Ed Dahling**

P.O. Box 804  
Severn, MD 21144-0804

Phone .....410-570-8673

Email .....[editor@mclaacdet1049.org](mailto:editor@mclaacdet1049.org)

List Server:

e-mail:

[aa-county-detachment1049@lists.mclaacdet1049.org](mailto:aa-county-detachment1049@lists.mclaacdet1049.org)

web page:

<http://lists.mclaacdet1049.org/mailman/listinfo/aa-county-detachment1049>



Detachment Website

<http://mclaacdet1049.org/>

## Detachment Staff:

**Commandant** ..... Ray Sturm  
**Senior Vice-Commandant** ..... Ben Wells  
**Junior Vice-Commandant** ..... Pat Sharkey  
**Judge Advocate** ..... Chris Wise  
**Junior Past-Commandant** ..... Ed Dahling  
**Adjutant** ..... Norman Huffman  
**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** Guy Hall  
**Quartermaster** ..... Fred Kaminski  
**Rifle & Pistol Team Captain** ... Ray Sturm  
**Sergeant-at-Arms** ..... Jim Galvin  
**VAWS Officer** ..... Vacant  
**Web Sergeant** ..... Joe 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**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner 2017  
Marine Corps League  
National Newsletter**

## Membership Statistics

### Good Standing (Dues Paid)

Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Member-	78	8	6
Annual Member-	27	9	—



### New Members

2		—
---	--	---

### Sub-Totals

107	17	6
-----	----	---

### Total

130
-----

## Members' Birthdays

Members of our detachment, who will be celebrating birthdays during the month of **November** include:

Harry Anderson	Tom Hancock	George Perez Sr.
Buddy Cadle	Roger Pirkey	Donald Quinian
Steve Salanik	Michel Mullikin	Ed Dahling

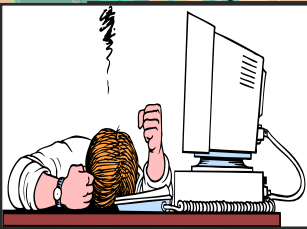
**NOTE** – If you were born in November and your name is not listed above, please contact the editor to be included in the future.

## Quotation

"But courage which goes against military expediency is stupidity, or, if it is insisted upon by a commander, irresponsibility".

- Erwin Rommel





## From the Editor

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

I would like to wish yours a Happy Thanksgiving. Holidays are a wonderful time to celebrate traditions, both old and new.

This year, I hope your Thanksgiving traditions are filled with family, friends, and delicious food.

Semper Fi,  
Ed Dahling

The deadline for all **December** newsletter articles is **NOON** on **Tuesday, December 11th, 2017. Please do not wait until the last minute!**



## Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **December 2017**. 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

**Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049** Friday, November 3rd 2017 from 1800 – 2000 (Ray Sturm)

**Friday, November 10, 2017** beginning at 19:00. 242nd Birthday, Cake Cutting which will take place at VFW Post 160 @18:00

**Color Guard: November 11th** – presenting Colors at Quarterfield Road American Legion Post 276 at 0900 hours, followed by Crownsville Cemetery for event at 1100.

**The Department of Maryland, Marine Corps League's** quarterly meeting will be hosted by the Shangri-la Detachment on Sat, 18 November at Elks Lodge #684, 289 Willowdale Drive, Frederick, Md.

**VFW Post 160 Closed** Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23, 2016

**Monthly Meetings**, MCL Detachment 1049 Monday, November 27, 2017 @ 1900 (Ray Sturm)

**Pound 204 will Growl** on 11 December at the Pound Dog House about 0900 and breakfast at 0800.





## Commandant Ray Sturm

Greetings all,

I trust everyone had a great Thanksgiving. I know I'll be enjoying leftovers for a while. As veterans, we often hear people thank us for our service. We in turn know that the true thanks goes to our families who supported us. I want to add my thanks to the young men and women of our Corps today. I am truly thankful for what they do to keep our adversaries at bay.

The VFW Post Commander wanted me to relay his thanks to those Marines who came out to support the US Coast Guard's Eagle crew during their volunteer day. The crew repaired, cleaned, and did general maintenance at the Post.

I would like to remind everyone that **Toys For Tots** is very much underway. If you can volunteer a bit of time, our coordinators would sincerely appreciate it. Associate Member **Nila Caulder** and I attended the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Anne Arundel County Toys For Tots Motorcycle Parade** on Nov 18<sup>th</sup>. The event, coordinated and emceed by member **Mike Nelson**, began at American Legion Post 175 in Severna Park and ended at Mission BBQ in Glen Burnie. Marines, firetrucks, Santa, motorcycles and toys. Lots of toys! What a great event! I want to send a personal thanks to **Martin Atkinson** from **Mission BBQ**. When logistics fell through and left the Marines without a way to transport all those toys to the warehouse, Martin stepped up and volunteered to drive them in the Mission BBQ truck. The support Mission BBQ has shown to our detachment through the years is beyond comparison. Please stop by the Glen Burnie location and let them know just what they mean to us.

The VFW held a Flag Retirement Ceremony on 20 Nov. They intend to conduct a ceremony on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. If you have old or unserviceable US flags, please bring them in for proper disposal.

**I want to get the word out early and often.. that the December meeting is on 18 Dec.. not the 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Finally, with the holidays officially upon us, please celebrate responsibly.



Pistol Team  
Ray Sturm

Nothing to Report at this time.





## Corps History

by Ed Dahling for Joe Wright, Historian

### 2 November 1950

Marines engage Chinese in North Korea near the Chosin Reservoir.

### 3 November 2003

Presidential Unit Citation awarded to **1st Marine Expeditionary Force** for its service in **Operation Iraqi Freedom**. It becomes the first unit to earn the award since the end of the Vietnam War..

### 4 November 1979

Mob overruns U.S. Embassy in Teheran, Iran; 13 Marines among 65 American hostages; 52 of whom were held captive for 444 days.

### 10 November 1775

Continental Congress authorizes creation of two battalions of Marines.

### 10 November 1948

First eight enlisted women are sworn in as regular Marines. First black women Marines enlist the following summer.

### 10 November 1954

Marine Corps War Memorial site dedicated near Arlington National Cemetery.

### 18 November 1915

**Major Smedley D. Butler** leads Marine attack on Fort Riviere, Haiti and is awarded 2nd Medal of Honor.

### 20 November 1947

{date approximate) **Toys For Tots** program founded.

### 23 November 1950

**7th Marines** take Yudam-ni. Thanksgiving was celebrated in Korea with temperatures hovering about 20 degrees below zero.

### 27 November 1950

Eight Chinese Communist divisions launch a massive attack in Korea, with the express purpose of destroying the 1st Marine Division. This action leads to the successful Marine Corps attack out of the Chosin Reservoir and its relocation to the coastal port of Hungnam.



## Senior Vice Commandant Ben Wells



Marines,

As we celebrate our Corps' 242nd Birthday, we should reflect on our own lives as Marines, on those of our buddies, some of whom are gone and others with whom we have stayed in contact through the years. While we are lovers of peace, we are also a Brotherhood of warriors, who by choice have always put Country and Corps above our own lives. We should also remember that our wives, children, parents, and sweethearts have had to live with our choice and suffer all the trials and tribulations of war. Many unique challenges have been endured and overcome by every generation of Marines and Marine families; since, the first recruit signed up at Tun Tavern. Every generation of Marines has had to step-up and give their fullest measure in defense of freedom and our way of life. Today, just as with previous generations, Marines and their families are making the sacrifice. As members of the Marine Corps League, we also serve by providing help and support to our successors and their families. We of all people know and understand the level of their sacrifice. So with the highest degree of respect, let us extend our deepest gratitude to the men and women of the Corps as well as their families and friends. Be proud of these men and women, who with great pride and selflessness go into harm's way as United States Marines. They understand the heritage that has been passed on to them and they are building upon the legacy of those Marines who preceded them. To all of the men and women, past and present, who have earned and upheld the traditions of the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor

Happy 242nd Birthday  
and Semper Paratus!







## Color Guard

*Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman*

### – COMING EVENTS –

November 11th – presenting Colors at Quarterfield Road American Legion Post 276 at 0900 hours, followed by Crownsville Cemetery for event at 1100.

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

## Do You Want Arlington National Cemetery to Encroach on the Marine Corps War Memorial?

Arlington National Cemetery wants to hear from Marines, other service members and veterans regarding a possible cemetery expansion that could encroach on the Marine Corps War (Iwo Jima) Memorial.

They are currently conducting a survey (linked) as Arlington National Cemetery mulls expansion options. At the current rate, the cemetery will reach its capacity in the next 25 years.

Two possible expansion projects are being considered, one of which would add 37 acres of now-private land near the Air Force Memorial and the now-closed Navy Annex. The other would expand Arlington National Cemetery towards the Iwo Jima Memorial.

If approved the expansion would allow the cemetery to remain open through the mid-2050s.

Arlington National Cemetery is conducting the survey to decide whether to make the cemetery larger or change the eligibility requirements for who can be buried there.



## Military Order of the Devil Dogs



### Military Order of the Devil Dogs (MODD)

The Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

The Pack held a Growl on 18 November. Even though the attendance was quite poor, those of us who were there had a great time watching our Senior vice Pack Leader stumble through the proceedings. MODD bylaws state that in order to hold a Growl, three things must be present: a Bible, the Charter and the leader's bone. To start with, there was no Police Dog to stamp passports, but we collected bones anyway. Secondly, there was no Bible. Thirdly, there was no Charter. Fourthly, the so-called Leader had no bone with which to conduct the Growl. Thanks to the ingenuity of a couple of Dogs with what they call smart phones, the Growl was conducted in accordance with MODD bylaws even though the Bible and Charter were in very small print!

With three months of the Dog year gone, Anne Arundel County Detachment still has three Dogs in arrears. 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 7944 Oakwood Road, Glen Burnie, Md 21061. 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 Buffalo, New York next year. If you plan on advancing, you must attend both. The next one will be on 3 February at Tap House #1637, 23418 Three Notch Road, California, Md 20619.

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

Woof woof,  
PDD Paul Taylor  
Dog Robber



# House Passes Gold Star Family Support Bill

The House passed by voice vote, the "Gold Star Family Support and Installation Access Act" (H.R.3897), sponsored by Rep. Don Bacon (Neb.), that provides installation access for Gold Star families to attend memorial services and unit reunions on military installations. It also extends access to on-base services for surviving spouses who remarry, as long as the dependent children of the deceased service member remain under their guardianship. This FRA-supported bill now goes to the Senate for further consideration.

Source: FRA



Flu season arrives with the cold weather. As we get ready for the holidays, when you'll be surrounded by family and friends, it's a good time to get a flu vaccination.

The flu is caused by viruses (germs). You can become infected when you inhale these germs directly. You can also become infected when you touch a surface on which the droplets containing germs have landed and then transfer the germs to your eyes, nose, or mouth.

What's important to remember is that anyone can get the flu. But you are more likely to become infected if:

- Have a weakened immune system
- Have frequent, close contact with young children
- Work in a health care setting where you may be exposed to flu germs
- Live or work with someone who has the flu
- Haven't received an annual flu shot

Viruses that cause the flu change from year to year. For that reason, health care providers recommend getting the flu vaccine each fall or winter.

Vaccination is the surest way to protect against getting the flu. Get your flu shot every year to protect yourself and help keep the flu from spreading to others. Go to the VA Public Health's Vaccination page to learn all about the flu vaccination. Also, remember to add your flu vaccination into your Personal Health Record in Track History.

Help reduce the spread of flu by:

- Getting a flu shot
- Keeping your hands clean
- Covering your coughs and sneezes
- Staying home when sick

## *Junior Vice Commandant Pat Sharkey*

Marines,

We have 22 unpaid members and notices will be sent out to each.

Please When you receive your renewal notice, please complete the form, include your payment, of \$35.00 and mail them as soon as possible; this will allow us to keep our membership numbers up. If you do not receive your renewal notice or you misplace it... please get in touch with me as soon as possible and I will make sure that your renewal gets taken care of expeditiously.

You should also consider Life Membership; it could be a cost saver for you. I look forward to seeing each of you at our next meeting.

Pat



### **Marine Toys for Tots - Every Child Deserves A Christmas**

Well, it's that time again. Looking for help and volunteers We will Started dropping off the box's soon. I will need help at the Warehouse and to pick up toy's form the drop off locations. If you can want to volunteer you may e-mail . My Toys for Tots email is [chris@aatft.org](mailto:chris@aatft.org).

Thanks,  
Christine Stevens  
Anne Arundel County  
Toys for Tots Coordinator

[cmsstevens@comcast.net](mailto:cmsstevens@comcast.net) or [chris@aatft.org](mailto:chris@aatft.org)

## **Chaplain's Corner**

Bill Collins

Another Marine Corps birthday and another Veterans Day are in the rear view mirror. Great parties were had to celebrate both. An event worth honorable mention is the gathering at the Lake Shore Fire Department. This annual event for Veterans is the result of many hours of hard work by members of the community and the support of many local businesses. If you missed this one put it on your calendar for next year. Early in the month the Detachment hosted another Friday night culinary delight at the Post. Volunteering for these Friday night dinners provides an opportunity to learn from master chefs like...Matt Priel, Ray Sturm & Ben Wells to mention just a few.

With the Holiday season upon us it is fitting that we take a moment to reflect on the thoughts expressed in the following :

It is the SOLDIER, not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the SOLDIER, not the poet who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the SOLDIER, not the community organizer who has given us freedom to demonstrate.

It is the SOLDIER, not the lawyer who has given us the right to a fair trial.

IT is the SOLDIER, not the pampered athlete who has given us the right to disrespect our sacred National Anthem.

It is the SOLDIER who salutes the flag, serves under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag.

To all Detachment members and their families....  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR.**





## SHAMROCK AWARDS & ENGRAVING

(410) 766-4866

FAX: (410) 766-7277

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

Seventy-Five years ago today, after months of fighting at Henderson Field and along Edson's Ridge, Marines on Guadalcanal spent the night of 10 November 1942 planning and preparing. Although the Battle of Guadalcanal would continue for three more months, the plans laid on our Corps' most sacred day became integral to the amphibious campaigns that followed. Success at Guadalcanal proved to be the turning point that ultimately paved the way for Allied victory in the Pacific. Those warriors defended their positions in brutal conditions against a formidable enemy – and triumphed. Through every major conflict our Nation has seen since the Revolution, Marines performed their duty with utmost courage, devotion, and raw determination. Their valiant deeds in the face of overwhelming challenges give us confidence and inspire us to meet the trials of today. As we pause to celebrate the birth of our Corps this year, we honor the legacy that was passed down to us and we recommit ourselves to carrying those traditions into the future.

This November 10th marks 242 years of warfighting excellence. At places like Trenton, Tripoli, Chalultepec, Belleau Wood, Guadalcanal, Chosin, Khe Sahn, Fallujah, Sangin, and so many others, Marines have fought with an inner spirit – a spirit that bonds us, binds us together as a cohesive team. It's that intangible spirit that has formed the foundation of our warfighting reputation for the past 242 years. Now it's our responsibility to ensure we honor and carry on that legacy. The American people expect a Corps of men and women who are committed, selfless, willing to sacrifice, who epitomize honor, courage, commitment, virtue, and character. We owe our Nation and our predecessors no less.

Today, as we celebrate our 242nd birthday, we must remember who we are, where we came from, and why we're here. We must remember the past, honor those who are no longer with us, focus on today's battles, and get ready for tomorrow. We can and will prevail as we always have, in any clime and place. But we must prevail together, united by the unyielding spirit in each of us that makes our Corps unique – that willingness to put our Corps and fellow Marines ahead of ourselves. Victory in battle comes through the integrated efforts of many – teamwork. We value the sacrifices and contributions of every Marine and Sailor, as well as our family members without whose support we would not be able to accomplish our mission. And we remain committed to being our Nation's Expeditionary Force in Readiness that sets the standard for honor, discipline, and courage. I am proud of each and every one of you. Happy Birthday, Marines!

Semper Fidelis,  
Robert B. Neller  
General, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commandant of the Marine Corps





# Have You Heard?

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

## *October 23rd Meeting Highlights . . . . .*

### **OPENING BY RITUAL:**

Meeting called to order by Commandant Ray Sturm at 1900 hours.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by prayer by Guest Chaplain Fred Kaminski.  
Members in Attendance: 19

- Guy Hall Mid-East Ambassador, Past Detachment Commandant, Department Marine of Year (2009)
- Edward Dahling Dept. Paymaster, Past Det. Commandant, Detachment Marine of Year (2016)
- Manny Airey Past Det. Commandant, Detachment Marine of Year (2005), Dept Marine of Year (2014)
- Joe Wright Past Detachment Commandant, Detachment Marine of the Year (2015)
- Woody Bowman Color Guard Commander, Detachment Marine of the Year (2014)

### **APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:**

Associate Membership application for Brian Hilliard was received and presented to the membership.  
voted on and accepted as a new associate member.

### **READING OF THE MINUTES:**

Minutes of the October meeting were distributed via the detachment list server (e-mail).

**CORRESPONDANCE:** None

### **PAYMASTER:**

Paymaster Ed Dahling gave a hardcopy report:

### **CHAPLAIN REPORT:**

The chaplain indicated that the HBOT continues to make progress.

- James Sanchez's younger brother passed away and everyone should keep Jim in their prayers

### **COMMANDANT:**

#### **SENIOR VICE:**

No Report.

#### **JUNIOR VICE:**

22 unpaid members and notices will be sent out.

#### **JUDGE ADVOCATE:**

No report.

#### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

No Report

(Continue on Page 12)





# Have You Heard?

*by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus*

(Continue From Page 11)

## **QUARTERMASTER:**

Need to have 6 shirts to order before they can be ordered. Working on options

## **HISTORIAN/ WEB SERGEANT:**

No report.

## **COLOR GUARD:**

- November 5th – Pasadena Parade.
- November 7th – Severn Elementary School
- November 8th – Quarterfield Elementary.
- November 10th – Ridgeway Elementary.
- November 11th – Crownsville Veterans Cemetery.

## **TOYS FOR TOTS:**

3rd Annual Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run on November 18th from American Legion Post 175 to Mission BBQ in Glen Burnie. Looking for participants and volunteers.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

No Report

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Motion made to purchase a gift card in the amount of \$100.00 to Jenifer Sacks. Motion was voted on and approved.
- Motion made to pay the \$35.00 Associate Membership fee for Jennifer Sacks. Motion was voted on and approved.

## **GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:**

.The detachment received a Meritorious Unit Commendation for competing in the 2017 detachment of the year completion as a runner up.

- Guy Hall received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Adjutant/Paymaster from the Department of West Virginia for supporting them at their state convention.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- October 29 – SSGT Taylor Detachment 1084 Game & Trap Shoot @ the Carroll County Gun Club.
- November 4th - 3rd Annual Taylor Wild Golf Tournament. Supports local high school seniors.
- November 10th – 7:00 PM Detachment Marine Corps Birthday cake cutting ceremony at Post 160.
- November 18th – Department meeting.

## **CLOSING CEREMONIES:**

Commandant Sturm closed the meeting IAW MCL rituals. The next detachment meeting will take place on November 27, 2017. Prayer was given by Acting Chaplain Fred Kaminski as well as an outstanding playing of the Marines' Hymn on the harmonica.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Wright, 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)



The new turret that replaces the 30-year old turret now on anti-tank variants of Light Armored Vehicles.  
(Keith Hayes)

Marine Light Armored Vehicles equipped with anti-tank weapons are getting upgraded turrets that can fire radio frequency-guided TOW missiles