

February 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!

Marine Corps League



Meritorious Unit Commendation
(National Level)
to

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DETACHMENT 1049

In appreciation and gratitude for meritorious service in the interests of the United States of America, the United States Marine Corps and the Marine Corps League, for the period 16 August 2015 to 12 August 2016.

Awarded this 12th day of August 2016

Richard D. Gore Jr.

National Commandant

Thomas W. Kell

National Adjutant-Paymaster

Authorization for the wear of the National Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon by each member of the entity to which this award was made during the period indicated, is approved.

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The detachment was awarded the National Meritorious Unit Commendation for its contributions to the Marines Helping Marines program. Having completed its 11th Annual MHM Golf Tournament on 20 May 2016, the detachment has now raised and contributed a grand total of \$106,730.39 to MHM. This figure represents the unselfish dedication of numerous detachment members who gave tirelessly to attract sponsors, golfers, and volunteers to this most worthy cause.



National Award Winner

**Marine Corps League
National Newsletter Competition**
(Detachments of More Than 100 Members)

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://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 Christ Stephens
Young Marines Commander ... Dallas Cooper

Visit the **Dept. of Maryland** web site at...

<http://deptofmdmcl.org>



National Award Winner

Membership Statistics

Good Standing (Dues Paid)

Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Member-	78	8	6
Annual Member-	19	9	—

**Delinquent Dues
(Still on Active
Roster 11)**

New Members

		—
--	--	---

Sub-Totals

97	17	6
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Total

120

Renewals

[Dues expire at end of indicated month]

January 2017	February 2017	March 2017
Russell Bixler Brent Bashaw	Erle Schafer Pat Bresette James Sanchez	- None-

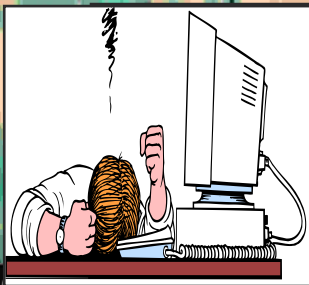
Please consider a **Life Membership** as a potential cost reduction. You are also asked to please advise the editor of any errors or omissions in the above listing as well as any changes to your contact information.

Members' Birthdays

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

**Gary Barr Chris Kalwa Bill Merrill
Tim Muniz George Owings
Franklin Wood**

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



From the Editor

by Ed Dahling Editor

I hope that the newsletter is meeting your expectations; and as always, I encourage anyone with inputs for future articles or suggestions for improving **the Cutting Edge** to contact me. You are also reminded to keep me informed of new or changed email addresses, so that the electronic delivery of the newsletter to those of you having email capability remains uninterrupted. Electronic delivery is a cost-cutting mechanism that needs to be employed – wherever possible – to keep the expenses associated with publication and delivery of this newsletter to a minimum.

I am happy to see that there is a small cadre of detachment members that can be counted on to be part of league activities. Members who contribute their valuable time and efforts to functions aimed at increasing public awareness of the Marine Corps League and our detachment, as well as raising money for our philanthropic undertakings. I'd be even happier if there were additional members stepping forward to lend a hand to their fellow Marines!

As always, I look forward to seeing all of you at our next monthly meeting!

The **submission deadline** for all **March newsletter articles** is **MIDNIGHT, Thursday March 10, 2017**



Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **May 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*

VFW Post 160, Meeting 13 February 1700

BSA Troop 216 Meeting 22 February Columbian Center Severna Park.

Detachment Friday Night Dinner 3 March 1800-2000-VFW post 160 (Ed Dahling)

Monthly Meetings, Detachment
Monday February 27, 2017 @ 1900 (Ray Sturm)

Department Of Maryland MCL spring meeting
25 March 2017, Antietam Detachment in Hagerstown, Maryland

Department of Maryland, MCL Maryland Pack, Military Order of the Devil Dogs, will growl approximately one hour after the Department meeting

MID-Winter National Conference March 2,3,4 2017 Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Conference Center 2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Leadership College - 22 April 2017, VFW Post 160 Glen Burnie, Maryland

Department Convention - 11-13 May 2017, Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City, MD





Commandant Ray Sturm

Greetings,

I would like to thank those members who volunteered for the **Marine Visitation Program (MVP)**. This name was my second choice. I originally called it the Visit A Marine Program, but the acronym was VAMP and that didn't sound so great.

As I mentioned at the detachment meeting, I reached out to the nursing homes in the county and offered to visit their resident Marines. Several facilities have responded and we have begun to visit Marines and other veterans. If you can spare an hour or two for these Marines, I am still looking for a few MVPs, not vamps, to help out. I can assure you that you will enjoy the time spent as much as they will. The nursing homes are located throughout the county. I'm sure there is one near you.

I need to thank our Chaplain, **Bill Collins**, for taking the point on the very serious topic of PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). While most people will sit back and agree that something should be done to help those with PTSD and TBI, Bill decided to do something about it. Bill did the research and found that a terrific treatment is available but not yet approved for those with TBI. His persistence led to meetings with **Dr Robert Beckman, PhD** from Treat Now, **MD Senator Bill Riley** and others. On Feb 14th Bill, Dr Beckman and I met with **Secretary George Owings**, MD Dept of Veterans Affairs to discuss this important topic. The meeting was very successful and Sec Owings agreed to assist in any way he could to make this treatment available. (Please visit www.TreatNow.org or see either Bill or me for additional details.)

Just a reminder.. it's that time of year again when we need to think about nominees for Detachment and Department Marines of the Year. Just put your recommendations in a double sealed envelope and give it to me or any past MOY, or leave it in the MCL mailbox at the VFW. We have numerous deserving individuals. Just nominate who you think should represent us.

Semper Fi,

Ray

Quotation

"You cannot exaggerate about the Marines. They are convinced to the point of arrogance, that they are the most ferocious fighters on earth and The amusing thing about it is that they are."

Father Kevin Keaney,
1st MarDiv Chaplain,
Korean War



Pistol Team Ray Sturm

The detachment held a Range Night on Feb 9th. Attendance was sparse but those who showed enjoyed an evening of pistol shooting. Remember, no experience is necessary. Bring a friend. We will plan these Range Nights for the 2nd Thursday of every month. The next Range Nights will be March 9th and April 13th. Come join us at On Target in Severn, MD.



Corps History

by Ed Dahling for Joe Wright, Historian

1 February 1967

Operation Prairie II began in Quang Tri province by elements of the 3rd Marine Division. During the 46 day search-and-destroy operation, 93 Marines and 693 enemy combatants were killed.

20 February 1815

Captain Archibald Henderson leads Marines in the USS Constitution's capture of HMS Cyane and HMS Levant, which occurs 3 days after the end of the War of 1812.

20 February 1962

Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn Jr. orbits the earth in first manned American space capsule.

23 February 1945

Men of the 5th Marine Division raise flag on Mount Suribachi.

24 February 1991

1st and 2nd Marine Divisions breach Iraqi defensive positions.

24 February 1991:

The I Marine Expeditionary Force and coalition forces began a ground assault on Iraqi defenses in the final chapter of Operation Desert Storm.

26 February 1991

A Marine recon unit was the first U.S. force to enter Kuwait City and retake the American Embassy.

28 February 1991:

Operation Desert Storm ends. I Marine Expeditionary Force, with a strength of more than 92,000 for the operation, becomes largest Marine Corps operation in history. 24 Marines were killed in action during the Gulf War.

28 Feb 1967

PFC James Anderson Jr. is first black Marine to win the Medal of Honor.



Senior Vice Commandant Ben Wells



Marines,

Fund-raisers are always going on and now is no exception. We are selling ads for the **Department Convention Book**, as well as raffle tickets for the departmental and national conventions.

Finally, you should notice an advertisement for the **12th Annual Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament** – If we are to make this a successful event, we will need lots of golfers, lots of advertisers (tee boxes, greens, refreshment, cart, etc.), and lots of volunteers! With your help, we can make this year's tournament the best ever!

Don't forget, we have a Detachment meeting on **27th February**. At that meeting, we will be accepting nominations for the offices of **Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant, and Judge Advocate**. We will also be looking for people to fill the appointed staff positions. So if you are interested in any of these positions please let someone know.

Semper Fi,
Ben

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE National Headquarters

MCL National Headquarter no longer reside at our old location in Fairfax, Va. As of 10/01/2016 we have moved to; 3619 Jefferson Davis Highway, Ste. 115, Stafford Va. 22554 Phone #703-207-9588. All paper work of any type should be sent to this address from this time on. This location is approx. 3 miles south of the Main Gate at Quantico, and the entrance to the Museum of the Corps. Please stop in and visit and see the new location and meet the HQ staff. It is your HQ and you are always welcome. (You will be very surprised)



Veteran's Affairs

Hospital & VAVS Program

The goal of the Hospital & VAVS program is to meet the needs of hospitalized patients in VA Medical Centers and other hospitals throughout this country. With the influx of this generation's veterans and the rise in long-term rehabilitative services, there is a greater need for volunteers.

However, the type of help needed is changing. Be sure to speak with your local VAVS Representative to find out how you can serve these special veterans.

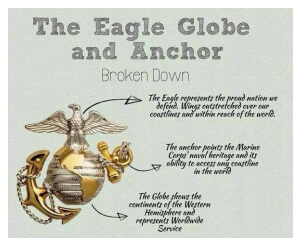
History

In 1928 Volunteer Hospital work became the second National Program adopted by the VFW Ladies Auxiliary. As America's troops return from battle and aging warriors need medical attention, the Ladies Auxiliary has been there to assist with a cheerful smile, an encouraging word, and time to write or read a letter from loved ones. The organization volunteers 1.8 million hours a year.

Resources

VAVS and Hospital Volunteer Guide
VHA Handbook of Voluntary Service Procedures

The above publications are generally available in the **Voluntary Service Office** at VA Medical Centers. More information is available at www.volunteer.va.gov/



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,

Things are starting to pick up in Dogdom. If you were at the Department meeting in January you heard of the great success the League did during the Toys for Tots 2016 campaign. A huge success. Thanks to all who participated.

The Pack had a good growl last month raising \$148.00 for the kids, but we must do better if we want to stay number one in the Kennel.

Pound 204 just held another successful Growl raising \$325.00 for the kids.

The Pound has picked up a new Dog Chef who did a super job with breakfast for all those hungry Dogs.

We still have two Dogs in the Pound who are in arrears of their dues and therefore cannot attend a Growl or hold office. If you are one of the delinquents, get with the program and send 15 big bones to your friendly Dog Robber (me) ASAP. A few extra bones, for the kids, from those of you who never attend a growl would be greatly appreciated. When you are two years in arrears, you will be dropped from the roles of the MODD. Don't let this happen. Pay your dues now.

All Pups remember that you must attend two Pound Growls in the year prior to the Grand Growl in May if you want to advance to DD. If you haven't attended a Pound Growl this year, it is already too late to be advanced to DD as we only have one Growl left prior to the Grand Growl on 12 May.

The next Pack Growl will be on 25 March at the American Legion Post in Williamsport, Maryland. DDs planning to advance to PDD must attend two Pack Growls in the year prior to advancement. There are two Pack Growl left prior to the Supreme Growl in August.

The next Pound Growl will be on 9 April.

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

PDD Paul Taylor
Dog Robber

Junior Vice Commandant Pat Sharkey

Fellow Members,

We recently had three members dropped from our roster because they were delinquent in the payment of their 2015 & 2016 annual membership dues. We also have a few members, who are delinquent only in the payment of their 2016 annual dues.

Life memberships may be a good remedy for some of you.

The rates are as follows:

35 and under	\$500
36 – 50	\$400
51 – 60	\$300
61 and over	\$200.

Hopefully, this information will answer your questions about the cost of life memberships.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting,



Color Guard

Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman

We have nothing schedule until March.

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
Department of Maryland

Chaplain's Corner

Bill Collins

Thankfully there have been no distress calls since last month....as always if you become aware of anyone who is need of assistance.....call 410-271-4847. If we cannot provide what is needed we will find someone who can.

Thanks to Commandant Sturm we took the first steps to implement the Marines Visitation Program (MVP). This initiative involves visits, by members of our Detachment, to Marines currently residing in assisted care facilities and nursing homes in Anne Arundel County. I paid a visit to the Future Care facility on College Parkway. While there I spent some time with a ninety-five year old Marine who was wounded during the 1943 invasion of Bougainville. I also visited with a Seabee who had stories about his time in the Pacific during WWII. Both of these veterans had a lot to say and seemed happy to be talking to someone wearing the EGA. Total time spent visiting both veterans was about ninety minutes. This is a worthwhile and enjoyable activity. As your circumstances allow, I encourage each of you to participate. If you are interested call me at 410-271-4847.

I met with State Senator Edward Reilly to solicit his support in helping to make Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) available as a reimbursable treatment option for traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). HBOT has been proven to be effective in treating these suicide inducing brain injuries. Senator Reilly was very supportive and offered to help if legislation is required. He also sent an introductory message to George W. Owings III, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs. His introduction resulted in a very productive meeting between Secretary Owings

(Continue On Page 9)



SHAMROCK AWARDS & ENGRAVING

(410) 766-4866

FAX: (410) 766-7277

M/W/F 9:00 - 4:30

T/T 9:00 - 7:30

SAT 9:00 - 1:00

900 Crain Highway North
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TINA TODD
Assistant Manager
shamrockawards@erols.com



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Marine Corps League
Department of Maryland

Support Your

2017 Department Convention



*Princess Royale
Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center
Ocean City, Maryland
1-800-4-ROYALE*

11, 12 & 13 May 2017



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE **National Headquarters**

2017 Mid-Winter Conference

Attention: The Hotel is completely sold out.
They are creating a waiting list for rooms
Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Confer-
ence Center

[2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22401](#)

Overflow: Hampton Inn & Suites

[4800 Market Street - Fredericksburg, Virginia
22408](#)

\$91.00 + tax
1-540-898-5000
-Free Breakfast

-Free Parking-Less than 5 min to host hotel
-Group Name: Marine Corps League
Last day to make reservation at this rate:
February 17, 2017

(Chaplain Corner Continue)

Dana Hendrickson Director of Outreach & Advocacy for MD VA, Robert Beckman, PhD, of the TreatNOW organization, Commandant Sturm and I. One of the near term goals of this group is to promulgate information about HBOT so that decision makers are aware of the efficacy and availability of this proven treatment protocol. For more information about HBOT go to TreatNOW.org

Finally, I was asked to write a letter supporting legislation sponsored by State Senator Bryan Simonaire to establish a Maryland Veterans Service Dog Program. I am familiar with the benefit of the bond that is established between Veteran and service dog so I was glad to provide the endorsement.

Bill Collins, Chaplain
Semper Fi



Have You Heard?

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

January 23th Meeting Highlights

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.

Commandant Sturm acknowledged the presence of the following Special Guests.
Members in Attendance 21

Donald Benson	District #2 Vice Commandant
Paul Taylor	Department Adjutant, Department Marine of Year (2010)
Edward Dahling	Department Paymaster, Past Detachment Commandant, Detachment Marine of Year (2016)
Manny Airey	Past Detachment Commandant, Detachment Marine of Year (2005), Department Marine of Year (2014)
Guy Hall	Mid-East Ambassador, Past Detachment Commandant, Department Marine of Year (2009)
Woody Bowman	Color Guard Commander, Detachment Marine of the Year (2014)
Joe Wright	Past Detachment Commandant Detachment Marine of the year (2015)

READING OF THE MINUTES: Adjutant Norm Huffman reported minutes of the December meeting were distributed via the detachment list server (e-mail). Several hardcopies of minutes and newsletters were available at the meeting.

PAYMASTER: Paymaster Ed Dahling gave a hardcopy report:

CHAPLAIN:

Commandant Ray Sturm asked the members to rise as they draped the MCL Charter in honor of Life Member Bob Foley. He also thanked Ben and Erin Wells for making the drape. Paul Taylor reported that George Martin is having health problems

COMMANDANT: Commandant Sturm reported last month he attended the VFW House Committee. One of the things discussed was signing of the book at the door. If we are not members of this post we must sign in. Door code was changed. You must be a member to get the door code. Do not ask a member for the code. We must stay in compliance. There was a small fire outside of the door. They believe it was a cigarette thrown in the mulch. Building maintenance showed roof estimate would be around \$3,300. Electrical estimate was between \$12,000-\$25,000 depending on what needs to be repaired. There was no estimate for plumbing as there would be no funds available for this.

SENIOR VICE: Sr. Vice Commandant Ben Wells reminded everyone he has the Department's money raffle tickets.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: If you do not see the newsletter online, Ed needs your e-mail address.

(continue on page11)



Have You Heard?

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

QUARTER MASTER:

Acting Quartermaster Fred Kaminski had a poster for Guy Hall. Quartermaster Bill Collins reported he had shirts on the back table for sale for \$2 each. Also, new patches are \$5 and receive one old one free.

HISTORIAN WEB SERGEANT: Webmaster Joe Wright updated the event calendar through December.

OLD BUSSINESS: Commandant Sturm reported the Marines Helping Marines organization has disbanded as there are currently no inpatient wounded combat Marines. Due to IRS regulations, the organization's monies have been placed in an escrow account. If they were not placed in the escrow account, the monies would have been placed in the US General Treasury. If there is a need at a later time, the monies can be used under the new organizations name. Donations may still be accepted, but they will be deposited in the escrow account. The golf tournament will be called the 12th Annual Anne Arundel County Golf Tournament instead of the 12th Annual Marines Helping Marines tournament. The golf tournament committee will choose an organization who assists combat-injured Marines suffering from (PTSD) post-traumatic stress disorder, (TBI) traumatic brain injuries, or suicide. Looking for an organization in good standing. Commandant Sturm asked for any suggestions. Commandant Sturm commented he felt the monies should **not** be put into the MHM escrow account and should be used now as needed. Agreed.

NEW BUSINESS: Commandant Sturm sent sixteen letters to nursing and convalescent homes in A.A. County who may have Marines as patients. Ray would like to start the MVP (Marines Visitation Program) to visit any veterans in these homes. He is asking for anyone who may like to visit the veterans monthly. He will visit with the activities directors for suggestions on how to approach this.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

The Detachment received the Meritorious Unit Commendation on the National level. Anyone who was a member of the detachment during timeframe listed was eligible to wear the ribbon. Commandant Sturm wrote the recommendation for the Detachment in recognition of those who had helped raise funds with the golf tournament the past eleven years. Job well done, per Commandant Sturm.

Commandant Sturm reported the Department Commandant is starting a Department Lifetime Achievement award. The recognition will take place at the Convention in Ocean City. This will keep the Marine of the Year separate from the Lifetime Achievement award, per District Commandant Don Benson. Nomination forms for Detachment Marine of the Year were distributed.

Commandant Sturm received a thank you letter from Scout troop 216 for the \$300 donation.

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Commandant Sturm closed the meeting IAW MCL rituals. The next detachment meeting will take place on February 27th, 2017. Prayer was given by Acting Chaplain Fred Kaminski.

Respectfully submitted,
Norman 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)



MARINE CORPS AIR STATION NEW RIVER, North Carolina - Lance Cpl. Luke Peters directs an MV-22C Osprey after it landed aboard MCAS New River, N.C., Feb. 1, 2017. This is the first time the training squadron has received a brand-new, straight from the factory aircraft. The MV-22 Block C incorporates weather radar, an improved environmental control system, troop commander situational awareness display, upgraded standby flight instrument and GPS and additional chaff/flare equipment.