

December 2016

# 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/>

## Merry Christmas Marines

### Arlington National Cemetery at Christmas



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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://mclaaacdet1049.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  
**VAVS 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>



## 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
----	----	---

### Total

120
-----

## Renewals

[ Dues expire at end of indicated month ]

December 2016	January 2017	February 2017
Roy Ringrose Dominc Watkns	Russell Bixler Brent Bashaw	Erle Schafer Pat Bresette James Sanchez

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 **December** include:

**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.



## From the Editor

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

I hope that all of you enjoyed the celebration of the 241<sup>st</sup> Marine Corps Birthday and Thanksgiving Day! Also, since this will be the last issue of our Newsletter for the year 2016

As you read this, the detachment's **2016 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.

On a different note, we have many league activities coming up in the next few months... activities such as the **Mid-Winter Conference** in **Fredericksburg, VA** the **2017 election of officers**, the **Department of Maryland Convention**, etc. Please think about taking part in these activities and possibly running for office.

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!

Since it's our goal to have a copy of the newsletter in the hands of our membership prior to the meeting, the **submission deadline** for all **January newsletter articles** is **MIDNIGHT, Thursday, January 7, 2017**



## Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **January 6th 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

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

### Monthly Meetings, Detachment

Monday, December 19, 2016 @ 1900 (Ray Sturm) Christmas Party after the meeting

### Christmas Day – Post Closed

**Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049**  
January 6th 2017 18:00 to 20:00 (Ed Dahling)

## Quotation

*"I am more afraid of an army of 100 sheep led by a lion than an army of 100 lions led by a sheep"*

**Charles Maurice de Talleyrand**  
French Diplomat/Statesman







# Commandant Ray Sturm

Merry Christmas everyone,

I would like to invite everyone to our next meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup>. It is one week earlier than normal because of the holiday. I promise the meeting will be very short. We are planning a little get together after the meeting. Please bring your favorite dish.

**Toys For Tots** is well underway. Most of the toys will be distributed by December 17<sup>th</sup>. It's not too late to drop off a new unwrapped toy. The need is especially great for the older kids. I can't thank **Christine Stevens** and **Pete Smith** enough for what they do for the kids this time of year. Of course, they couldn't make it happen without the help and support of some active duty Marines and several of our members. I'll recognize them at a later date but you know who you are.

**Boy Scout Troop 216** will be holding their Christmas meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. If you'd like to attend, please let me know and I'll get our numbers to the Scoutmaster..

I'd like to throw out a reminder that **Pound 204** will hold a Growl on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00, breakfast at 8:00. Bring bones. I hear the new Pound Keeper likes to have fun.

Once again, our December meeting is on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Bring a covered dish, salad, or dessert, and an appetite.

In closing, I wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday season.

Ray



Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 New Logo





# Corps History

by Ed Dahling for Joe Wright, Historian

**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 Britain.

**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  
Ben Wells**



Fellow Detachment Members,

I hope everyone had a good start to the New Year and that you're ready for another exciting year. Now it's time to get down to business, before you know it, the election of officers will be upon us. Nominations for the elected offices of Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate will be held at the February and March meetings with voting being held at the March monthly meeting. So be thinking about those Marines of this Detachment that you consider to be most qualified to lead us during this coming year

I would like to see more members volunteer for elected and appointed positions. Many of the tasks may seem daunting at first, but there is always plenty of help.

Ben



**MARINE  
TOYS FOR TOTS  
FOUNDATION**

As you read this, the detachment's **2016 Toys for Tots Drive** is in full swing and on behalf of Christ Stevens 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.



Other than the M-16 rifle, perhaps no other firearm is as closely associated with the Vietnam War as the M-60. Portrayals of the M-60 in the hands of Vietnam War soldiers range from the sublime dignity expressed by the "Three Soldiers" statue to the over-the-top destruction of the fictional town of Hope, Washington, by Sylvester Stallone's character, John Rambo, in the film "First Blood."

The M-60 is a weapon that has faithfully served American soldiers in many battles since 1957. Far from perfect, the early model of the M-60 had so many design flaws that soldiers jerry-rigged fixes using everything from wire coat hangers to empty C-ration cans. The M-60 is also heavy — the machine gun weighs about 23 pounds, and those belts of ammo aren't exactly lightweight, either.

No wonder the M-60 earned an unflattering nickname: The Pig.

But one thing is certain. Even with its flaws, a soldier armed with an M-60 can lay down a lot of lead, whether he is fighting in the jungles of Southeast Asia or the badlands of Afghanistan.



## 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,

There is not a lot happening in Dogdom at this time, so it is an excellent opportunity for all Dogs to support the Marine Corps League's Toys for Tots drive. If you don't know what to do, ask Chris Stevens as she is leading the way for the Anne Arundel Detachment in this very worthy endeavor.

Pound 204 will Growl at 0900 on 11 December at the Dog House, with breakfast and bloody Mary's at 0800. Pups and mongrels should report to the Mad Dog at 0800.

We still have a few 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.

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

PDD Paul Taylor  
Dog Robber





## Junior Vice Commandant Pat Sharkey

Greetings Marines,

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.

Your attendance and participation are important. Please note, that nominations will be opened for the 2017 Officers and Detachment Marine of the Year in January.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone for their support this year I'm looking forward to making 2015 our best yet

Ed Dahling for  
Pat Sharkey



## Rifle & Pistol

Ray Sturm

Based on the success of our first "Range Night", I'd like to schedule Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> as our next shoot. This is an informal shoot held at On Target (2618 Annapolis Rd, Severn). We will begin at 7:00pm but feel free to come when you can. This will be a great opportunity to shoot



## Chaplain's

Bill Collins

Toys for Tots campaign is progressing nicely. There is still much to do. Your help is needed and most welcome. Let's step up and give a few hours..... it's never too late to volunteer. Contact Chris Stevens at [Chris@aatft.org](mailto:Chris@aatft.org) or call 410-271-4847.

Our Detachment has enjoyed another successful year thanks to the participation of our members and the hard work and dedication of our fearless leaders. Next year promises to be even better.

As many of you know, I am working with the "TreatNOW Coalition". This organization, largely volunteer and pro bono, has built a collaborative nationwide network of civilian Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) clinics which have successfully treated thousands of Traumatic Brain injured TBI/PTSD Veterans and civilians. It has been proven that this treatment protocol has great promise for ending the epidemic of suicides that is taking at least twenty of our veterans every day. The suicide rate for Special Ops members including Force Recon Marines is twice the norm. These are the "Best of the Best", the "Tip of the Spear" yet, when they are in the grip of the depression caused by their invisible brain damaging wounds, even these exceptionally brave warriors are convinced that anything is better than living in the dark place created by their own wounded brains; too often the depression wins out. It does not need to be so. HBOT has been proven to help the vast majority of those treated and has not induced any suicides, the same cannot be said for "approved" drug based therapies. Yet, HBOT is not included as one of the approved treatment protocols. This must be corrected.

(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

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# Christmas Trees Safety

When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant"

When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, it's needles are hard to pull from branches and when bent between your fingers, needles do not break.

When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces, radiators or portable heaters. Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways.

Cut a few inches off the trunk of your tree to expose the fresh wood. This allows for better water absorption and will help to keep your tree from drying out and becoming a fire hazard.

Be sure to keep the stand filled with water, because heated rooms can dry live trees out rapidly

## Merry Christmas Marines

"One look at my watch, and I knew he was A jangle, a jingle, a nod from Kris Kringle Merry Christmas!

"At Christmas play and make good cheer, for Christmas comes but once a year."

Hang the stockings, trim the tree, and hide the fruitcake recipe!

Merry Christmas!



Chaplain's,

So, what can you do to help? Go to the Treat-NOW.org website and become familiar with the issues related to the HBOT treatment protocol including the history of the extensive research that supports the efficacy of HBOT in the treatment of TBI/PTSD. Be prepared to support legislation to include HBOT as an approved treatment option for those diagnosed with TBI/PTSD. I have a meeting scheduled with State Senator Bryan Simonaire. The purpose of the meeting is to familiarize the Senator with HBOT and to enlist his support in introducing legislation to make HBOT available to all veterans who qualify for treatment. As Marines we must act. It is not good enough to say SEMPER FI to each other and do nothing when it is obvious that the system that is supposed to take care of our brothers and sisters is failing. I'll keep you posted and call on you for help as the way forward becomes clearer.

I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year to you and yours.

Bill Collins,  
Semper Fi



## Color Guard

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





# Have You Heard?

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

## *November 28th 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.

Members in Attendance 23

Commandant Ray Sturm acknowledged the presence of the following Special Guests.

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 MOY (2005), Department Marine of Year (2014)
Jim Brady	Mid-East Fund Raising Chairman, Detachment MOY (2007)
Guy Hall	Mid-East Ambassador, Past Detachment Commandant, Department Marine of Year (2009)
Woody Bowman	Color Guard Commander, Detachment Marine of the Year (2014)

### **CHAPLAIN:**

Acting Chaplain Fred Kaminski reported Charles Albo passed away, and family requested that there be no service.

Chaplain Bill Collins will be meeting with the State Senator and Veterans Administration to discuss the TBI suicide rate amongst veterans. Bill is working with an organization called TREATNOW on the use of the Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy to treat patients with TBI (traumatic brain injuries) or PTSD (post-traumatic stress syndrome). The FDA has not approved of the use of the HBOT yet, but it has proven to improve or heal those suffering. Bill suggested we check out TREATNOW.org for further information.

### **SENIOR VICE:**

Senior Vice Ben Wells reported the covers that were ordered had not come in as of this meeting. They will be ready at the next meeting.

The raffle tickets are ready for the Maryland Department convention in Ocean City so pick up your tickets now so you can get your friends and relatives involved.

### **QUARTER MASTER:**

Fred Kaminski read a poem in honor of Jim Brady.

Bill Collins reported that Jim Brady donated many of his Marine items to the detachment. Any proceeds from these items will go to Detachment 1049.

Bill Collins reported the logo for the detachment is complete and a copy has been passed around for all to see.

(continue on page11)



# Have You Heard?

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

## **.COLOR GUARD:**

Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman reported he has one event scheduled this week at the Food Lion on Mountain Road. Colors will be presented. No other events are scheduled until March 2017. Woody reported the Color Guard participated in 9 events in 11 days with plenty of help. Woody stated 15 functions have been performed by the Color Guard since May.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Bill Collins asked for a \$100 donation for Healing Waters. (Healing Waters is an organization dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings.) Voted on and passed.

Commandant Ray Sturm had pictures of our new proposed logo designed by Bill Collins. Motion made to adopt this logo as our official logo. Voted on and passed unanimously. We are going to draft some shirts with the logo. Bill Collins stated the Marine Corps cannot apply a decal on any shirt not made in the USA. Jim Brady reminded the group that the detachment can only sell their decal items to their own detachment and not to the general public. You can give it away, but not sell.

Commandant Sturm asked for a motion to spend no more than \$50 to buy black material for a memorial drape. Motion made and passed.

Commandant Sturm recently made contact with the Baltimore Recruiting District. (Gunny Sergeant was supposed to be in attendance, but was working.) They are wishing to help Marine families with food baskets (ham / turkey) dinners and toys for their Christmas party. The families will be registered with Toys for Tots. Baltimore and Harford County detachments are also going to help with this. Edie Remines husband Rick will be Santa Claus. Jim Brady made a motion we donate \$500. It was second. Discussion on who the recipients were. Don Benson stated he thought it was for E-3 and below families, Young Marines, and Reservist. Original motion was voted on and passed. Commandant Sturm will contact the Captain at the Recruiting District to see exactly what is expected.

Commandant Sturm brought up the need for a storage container to place beside the building. It is a 40' X 7 ½' box that the detachment would use for storing long term items, and sharing with Toys for Tots. A written proposal needs to be presented to the VFW. Jim Brady made comment on the VFW storage units, that they are not sealed or weather tight and they had to clean them out quite a few times for mildew from dampness. This was tabled until a later time.

Ben Wells asked about the donation to Troop 216 and was informed that it was in the budget. The check for 2017. Jim Galvin reported the troop went on their camping trip which cost @ \$500. All donations are appreciated.

**GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:** Guy Hall questioned if there are any MCL application/information available. They need to be updated and reordered.

Commandant Sturm stated the Marine Corp Cryptologic Ball was a great evening and anyone who missed it, missed a great time. Commandant Sturm thanked Ed Dahling and Bill Collins for joining him in the Eagle Scouts Court of Honor last week.

(continue on page12)



Don Benson asked if the detachment was interested in getting together with other Maryland detachments and holding a Marine Corp Ball. Possibly held in a central area (BelAir) and keeping the price around \$40. Think about it and let the Commandant know your thoughts.

The Post Commander was asked by the VFW Commander to relocate the Marine Corp League trophies back to the area by the pool tables. Commandant Sturm wanted to bring it to our attention for any comments before anything is done. The reasoning for moving the MCL items is to place VFW and Cooties paraphernalia in the current MCL area. Items will be relocated.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The December meeting will be rescheduled to December 19, 2016 due to Christmas.  
Devil Dog Growl – December 11<sup>th</sup> at VFW.

#### **CLOSING CEREMONIES:**

Commandant Sturm closed the meeting IAW MCL rituals. The next detachment meeting will take place on December 19, 2016. Prayer was given by Acting Chaplain Fred Kaminski.

Respectfully submitted,  
Norman Huffman, Adjutant

## **Holiday Donor Blood Drive**

The annual American Legion Holiday Donor Blood Drive lasts until Dec. 31. Legionnaires everywhere are encouraged to give blood and host blood drives at posts as part of The American Legion Blood Donor Program, an organizational effort that has existed since 1946. Posts interested in hosting blood drives can set one up by visiting the Red Cross' blood drive registration page. For information on how to donate blood, visit the American Red Cross website, the American Association of Blood Banks website, and the Council of Community Blood Centers

## **Deployed Sailors and Marines Get Free Holiday Calls Home**

In what's become an annual tradition, the Navy Exchange Service (NEXCOM) plans to hand out free phone cards to sailors and Marines who are away from home over the holidays. The AT&T cards, worth \$10 each, will be given to almost 33,000 sailors and Marines on 62 ships and submarines, NEXCOM officials said in a release. The cards can be used with the Afloat Personal Telecommunications Service system, the Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS) system or ashore anywhere in the U.S. or overseas where AT&T has a presence, officials said in a release.

A beautiful day, and a view of the Severn River was the setting for dedication of the Gold Star Family Memorial Monument in Annapolis.

Governor Larry Hogan, Medal of Honor Recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams, Secretary George Owings and Ms. Janice Chance, President of the Gold Star Mother of Maryland & Delaware participated in the ceremony.

The audience of this well-attended event included other Gold Star Families, Elected Officials, Veterans and Supporters.



Gold Star Families Memorial Monument

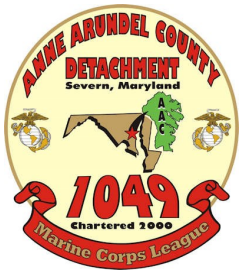


Governor Larry Hogan and Mr. Hershel "Woody" Williams in front of the Memorial



Ms. Janice Chance, President of the Gold Star Mothers of Maryland & Delaware, Mr. Hershel "Woody" Williams, Medal of Honor Recipient and Governor Larry Hogan at the new Memorial honoring Gold Star Families.





**Marine Corps League**  
**Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049**  
**PO Box 804**  
**Severn, Maryland 21144-0804**  
(Address Correction Requested)



75 years ago December 7th 1941 2,403 Americans were killed in the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Today, December 7th 2016 we remember and honor their service.