



Anne Arundel County
Detachment 1049

Newsletter

Volume Four, Number Twelve

December 2005

Post Office Box 804, Severn, Maryland 21144-0804

Website: <http://mclaacdet1049.org>

*Celebrating the
230th Year of the
Marine Corps!*



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Young Marines

Commander

George Martin

**Young Marines Executive
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SSGT David Rummley



Semper Fidelis!

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

Danny Fischio



Commandant's Message

Marines, we had another outstanding Marine Corps birthday ball to celebrate the 230th Birthday of the Corps. I would like to thank all those that were able to attend and a special thank you goes out to Ed Ross for another outstanding job organizing the ball and to Jim Brady as emcee. Take a moment and visit our web page to view pictures taken at the ball: http://mclaacdet1049.org/Historian/marine_corps_ball_051112.htm. A thank you also to Ron Allender and his crew at the House of Welsh for hosting their 2nd annual Marine Corps Birthday celebration, a good time was had by all.

A reminder Marines, our December meeting has been moved to December 19th, we will have a short meeting and then have a Christmas social. I encourage all and their guests to attend and bring your favorite covered dish that evening.

I would like to extend a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you, your families and hope that you have an enjoyable and safe holiday season.

Semper Fi
Dan



Senior Vice Commandant

Tom Maiorana



Greetings the Marine Corps Ball was again a great time, good food, great speaker, and of course great friends. I would like to thank Ed Ross and his committee for doing such a good job. I would also like to thank Jim Brady for a great job as master of Ceremony. Congratulations to Mitch Skalstad of Pasadena Md. For winning the raffles \$ 300.00 dollars. The bus ride to Midway slots was also a great time win or lose, and the Detachment made \$485.00. The sales of raffle tickets was \$ 986.00 which leaves us about \$ 686.00 my thanks to all that bought tickets and sold them.

Semper Fi

Woof Woof



Junior Vice Commandant

Gary Frye



Happy Holidays Marines. Here it is at the end of 2005 and I hope all had a good one. So far this year we have added 22 new members to our ranks, and a total of 8 life members. In the year of 2004 the detachment recruited 28 new members and 20 life member As of this writing I have received two membership requests for December, John Glandon for regular membership, and Thomas Unkle for a Lifetime membership. Please attend this months meeting and welcome both into the detachment

On a final note, lets keep up the good work and recruit new members for 2006. And lets have a safe and prosperous New Year!

Semper Fi
Gary



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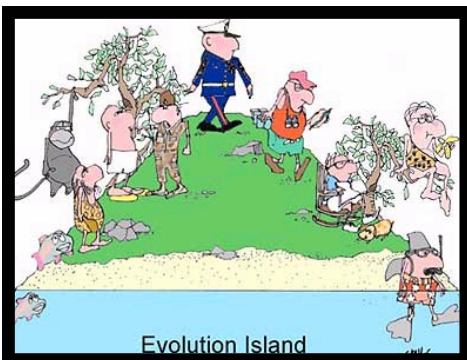
Ed Dahling



Looking For A few Good Stamps

America was looking for a few good Marine stamps — so the Postal Service delivered four. The 37-cent “Distinguished Marines” stamps salute four heroic Marines who served with bravery, distinction and honor during the 20th Century. These legendary Marines include Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone, Sergeant Major Daniel J. Daly, Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune and Lieutenant General Lewis B. “Chesty” Puller.

The Marine Corps’ 230-year tradition of excellence in military service to our nation. “These four legendary Marines are inspirational examples of the U.S. Marine Corps’ extraordinary devotion to our proud motto: Semper Fidelis.



Legislative

Jim LeGette



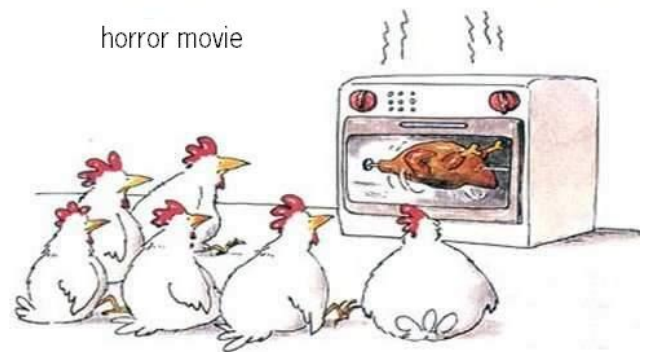
Veteran’s Organizations Lose Voice

The House Veteran’s Affairs Committee Chairman Steve Buyer (R-Ind) recently announced that veteran’s service organizations will no longer have the opportunity to present testimony before a joint hearing of the House and Senate Veterans’ Committees, a tradition of legislative presentations by veteran’s service organizations that dates back to the 1950s. The joint hearing have been held each year to allow the elected leaders of veterans groups to discuss their organization’s legislation agenda and foremost concerns with the lawmakers who have jurisdiction over veterans programs. Senators and Representatives who serve on those committees, also get the opportunity to address the hundreds of constituent members from organizations’ who make the annual pilgrimage to Capital Hill. How do you fight this action? **Let your public officials know how you feel!**

Semper Fi

Semper Fi

horror movie



Historian
Vic Halme

 **This Month in History**

**Selected Dates of Marine Corps
Historical Significance**

2 November 1950— Marines engage Chinese Communists in North Korea near the Chosin Reservoir.

23 November 1950— Thanksgiving Day 7th Marines take Yudam -ni.

28 November 1950— After repulsing eight Chinese divisions Marine begin epic “breakout” on 1 December.

10 November 1954— Marine Corps War Memorial dedicated next to Arlington Cemetery.

2 November 1963 — Coup topples President Ngo Dinh Diem of South Viet Nam.

22 November 1963— President John F. Kenney assassinated in Dallas, Texas.

10 November 1975— Marine Corps celebrates its 200th Birthday.

4 November 1979— Mob overruns embassy in Teheran Iran; Thirteen Marines are among sixty—five Americans taken hostage; fifty-two are held captive for 444 days.

Semper Fi



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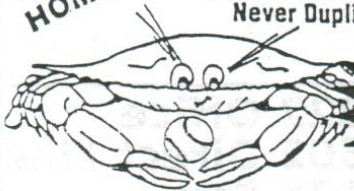
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Toys for Tots Coordinator

Bill Creager

Our goal, "2005 in 2005." Last year we gathered 1849 toys from the generous people of Anne Arundel County. We thought with a little effort we could improve that to 2005 toys in 2005.

Mission accomplished! And then some!

As of this writing on December 10th, the official end of our collection phase of the campaign, we have received 2445 toys and about \$1200, and we're not done. We have a Cub Scout meeting to attend on the 14th and we always have some stragglers with last minute donations. I feel safe in predicting we will have 25 hundred in '05.' That's 25 in 05!

What's amazing is the fact we started late, got no response from a couple of last years donors and your coordinator was sick for the last week. To our benefit and new this year, WPOC radio did toy drives for us, Millennium Digital Cable gave us free announcements on TV, the VFW Post became a drop-off site, and the volunteers of our Detachment and Auxiliary gave more toys, donated more time and found more ways to help.

Our ladies of the Auxiliary always invest much of themselves and their time to make this project work, arranging events, making boxes, setting things up, taking things down, driving all over, etc. But this year was spectacular. George Martin stepped up to the plate and hit a home run, developing drop-off sites and retrieving toys from sites around the Annapolis area. Guy Hall joined the many volunteers in the ranks at our events and arranged for us to use a large truck to shuttle toys to and from MUVICO and to Ft. Meade.

Thanks and congratulations to all of you who



Public Relations

Ed Dahling

"The Night before Christmas"

'Twas the night before Christmas, he lives all alone in one bedroom house made of plaster and stone. I had come down the chimney with presents to give, and to see just who in this home did live. I looked all about a strange sight I did see, no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree. No stocking by mantle, just boots filled with sand, on the wall hung pictures of far distant lands. With medals and badges, awards of all kinds, a sober thought came through my mind. For this house was different, it was dark and dreary; I found the home of a Marine once I could see clearly.

The Marine lay sleeping silent, alone curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home. The face was so gentle the room in such disorder not how I pictured a United States Marine. Was this the hero of whom I'd just read? Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed? I realized the families that I saw this night owed their lives to these Marines who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world the children would play, and grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas Day. They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year because of the Marines like the one lying here. I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone, on a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.

The very thought brought a tear to my eye, I dropped to my knees and started to cry.

The Marine awakened and I heard a rough voice "Santa don't cry this life is my choice; I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more my life is my God, my Country, my Corps."

The Marine rolled over and drifted to sleep, I couldn't control it I continued to weep.

I keep watch for hours so silent and still and we both shivered from the cold, dark, night' chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark, night, this guardian of honor so willing to fight. Then the Marine rolled over, with a voice soft and pure whispered "Carry on Santa its Christmas Day all is secure."

One look at my watch and I knew he was right. "Mary Christmas Marine and to all a good night."

Please. Lets remember or Men and Women who sacrificed themselves for us.

Mary Christmas and Semper Fi
Ed Dahling



Toys for Tots Coordinator

Bill Creager



TOYS FOR TOTS

Legislative

On 30 November 2005 the President signed into law the fiscal year (FY) 2006 Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs appropriations bill, Public Law 109-114. This measure provides funding for a variety of federal agencies, including the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The VA funding breakdown follows.



Legislative

Jim LeGette

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FUNDING:
\$36.995 billion mandatory (Primarily Veterans Compensation)

\$31.818 billion discretionary (Primarily Veterans Health Care)

\$1.225 billion contingent emergency funding for medical services (Must be approved/authorized by the President)

\$70.038 billion TOTAL VA

*Including the recently passed COLA, total VA funding would be brought up to \$70.249 billion.

Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Care and Benefits:

- Veterans Medical Services are funded at \$22.5 billion, \$575 million above the President's budget request and \$1.7 billion above FY05. VA also has available an additional \$1.14 billion in available funding from FY 05 for carry over into the FY 06 funds.

- Mental Health Services - for the first time ever, \$2.2 billion is fenced for specialty mental health care and the bill doubles funding for mental health research.

- This bill contains a new "Prosthetics and Integrative Health Care Initiative" to treat returning soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan who have lost limbs in combat. \$412 million will provide for medical and prosthetic research, which is \$19 million over the budget request.

- For construction programs, the bill recommends the budget request levels of \$607 million for major construction and \$199 million for minor construction. Of these funds, \$532 million of major construction and \$155 million of minor construction are designated for the "Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services" or CARES program.

- Veteran's Benefits are increased \$1.9 billion over last year.

Other highlights include:

- \$1.2 billion for VA IT and IT restructuring.
- An additional \$40 million for VBA operation expenses to prevent staff reductions in processing disability claims benefits.

- \$85 million for state extended care facilities.

- Creates 3 "Centers of Excellence" for Mental Health/PTSD medical care.

- Requires VA to brief Congress on a quarterly basis on the status of their financial situation.

- Requires the VA to maintain the current system of processing home monitoring devices for diabetes patients.

- Fully funds all mental health care and PTSD requirements.

- The agreement encourages the VA to provide full assistance to veterans in campaigns and distribution of



Public Relations

Ed Dahling

New regulations have been handed down from the liaison at Bethesda Naval Hospital. The Marine Corps League, Marines Helping Marines Program, **will be limited to one visit per week**, and that will be Wednesday at 13:00. We will be further limited to 3 visitors on the floor at any given time. We may be able to rotate different visitors up to the 5th floor, but that has not been worked out yet.

We will also be required to glove and gown up prior to entering the rooms, each and every room.

If you plan on visiting send Tony Begenwald , CAROLETONYBEG@aol.com, an e-mail the Sunday prior to the Wednesday you wish to visit.

There is about 30 wounded Marines at Walter Reed Hospital, as out patients, that can be seen on a regular basis. Let Lou Stavely Chaplain, Dept of Maryland (301) 785-3524 if you would like to visit there, so far the visiting is not too restrictive at Walter Reed, and those Marines are able to go to dinner and other outings. They have a real need for visitors and mentors.

Semper Fi



**MILITARY ORDER OF
DEVIL DOGS**

The Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

Young Marines George Martin



On Oct. 30th Pvt. Rambeau USMC just graduated recruit training from Fox Co. 2nd RTBN Parris Island, SC he visited the Annapolis Young Marines where he was a former Young Marine . It was a pleasure having Pvt. Rambeau visit and assist in training the Young Marines recruits. Pvt. Rambeau had a chance to talk to the young men and answer questions about recruit training. Pvt. Rambeau next duty station will be School of Infantry, Camp Geiger, NC; after that he will be going to Marine Security School at Norfolk VA. The Annapolis Young Marines looks to producing young men and women who will go out in the community as leaders

Semper Fi
David Rumley
XO Annapolis Young Marines



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For more information contact club secretary
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VAVS

Buddy Caddle



Flu and Pneumonia Shots Encouraged

Veterans are encouraged to consider getting a flu shots and pneumonia Vaccine. Veterans enrolled in VA health care can locate their nearest VA medical Facility by calling 1-800-827-1000. Ask your facility when they will be offering flu shots in the next few weeks. For more information, try <http://www.flucliniclocator.Org> Or you can call 1-800-LUNG-USA, or your local community health department or doctor. The Website is <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/flu>.



Sem-



per Fi



Who is this Marine?



Hint: He is a Associate member of the Detachment



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