



Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049

Newsletter

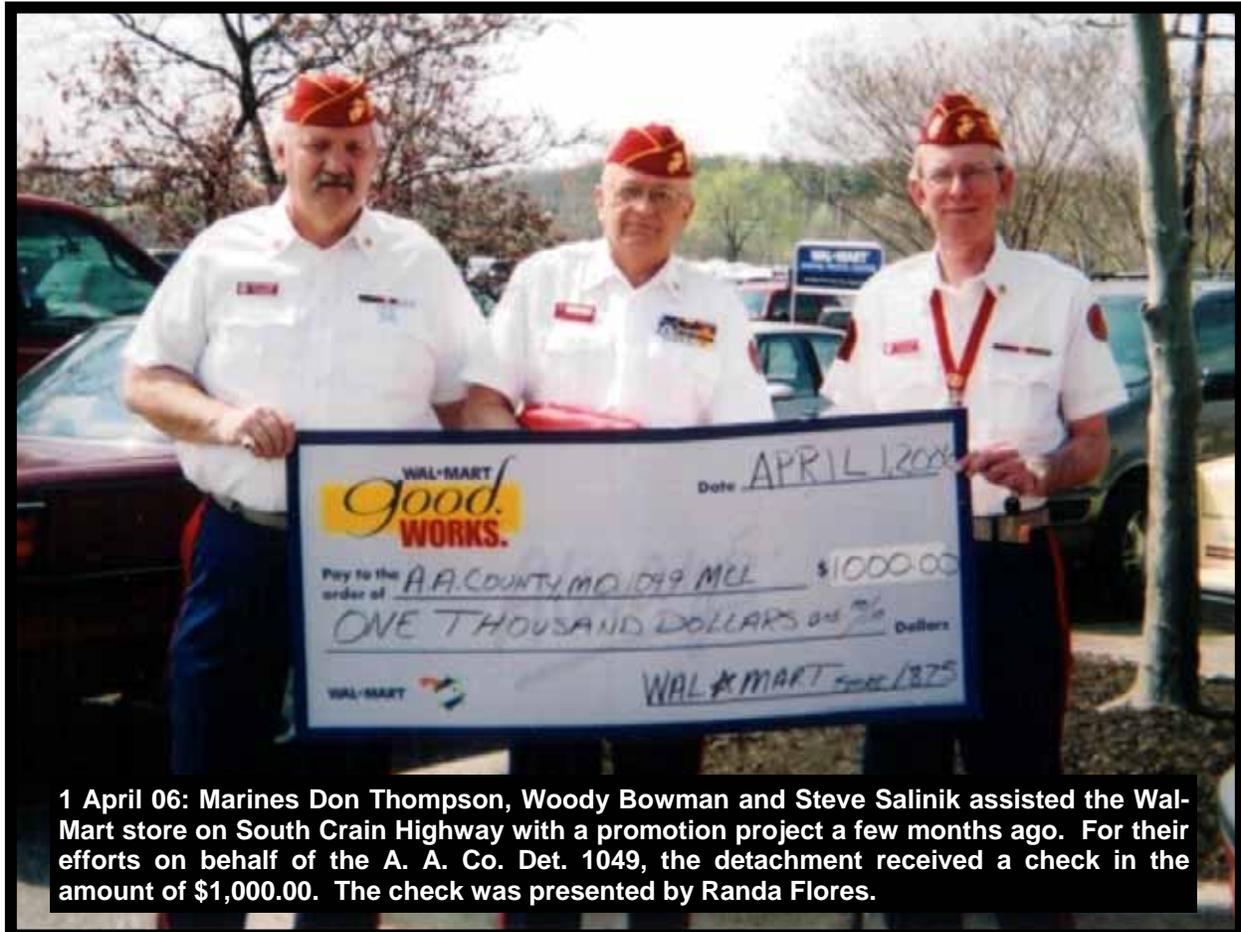
Volume Five, Number Four

April 2006

Post Office Box 804, Severn, Maryland 21144-0804

Website: <http://mclaacdet1049.org>

Wal-Mart Presents a \$1000.00 check to Detachment 1049 for a job well done.



1 April 06: Marines Don Thompson, Woody Bowman and Steve Salinik assisted the Wal-Mart store on South Crain Highway with a promotion project a few months ago. For their efforts on behalf of the A. A. Co. Det. 1049, the detachment received a check in the amount of \$1,000.00. The check was presented by Randa Flores.

**DETACHMENT
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Danny Fischio

Sr. Vice Commandant

Tom Maiorana

Jr. Vice Commandant

Gary Frye

Judge Advocate

Ed Ross

Adjutant

Earl Parker

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Steve Salanik

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Young Marines

Commander

George Martin

**Young Marines Executive
Officer**

SSGT David Rummley



Semper Fidelis!

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

Danny Fischio



I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for re-electing me as your Commandant for the coming year and I will do my best to serve and lead you the Marines of this Detachment. Annual nominations for elected officers of the Detachment were held and the following officers were elected by the Detachment members:

- Commandant: Danny R Fischio
- Senior (Sr.) Vice Commandant: Steve Salanik
- Junior (Jr.) Vice Commandant: Gary Frye
- Judge Advocate: Ed Ross

As always membership is one key goal to keeping an organization productive and this shows in the number of you Marines that attend our monthly meetings as well as the Detachment's continued growth in new members. So lets keep the attendance up and continue to bring in new members. I would also like to see more of you become involved in the running of this Detachment, so if you have any ideas or would like to assist with current activities or functions please feel free to contact me.

Additional upcoming events to mark your calendars with include:

- Detachment Golf Tournament to be held May 1, 2006.
- Department of Maryland State Convention at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City, MD May 11-13, 2006.
- MCL Pistol Match at Indian Town Gap, Pa June 2-4, 2006
- MCL 83rd National Convention will be held the week of August 6 – 12, 2006 in Quincy (Boston), MA
- MCL Rifle Match at Indian Town Gap, Pa September 29 – Oct 1 2006.



Senior Vice Commandant

Tom Maiorana



The Convention Book ads went well again this year it appears we sold around \$1400.00 worth of ads, which will give our detachment \$ 550.00 to add to our bank account, great job to all that participated in the selling of ads and the producing of the ads to make them easy for the printer.

I would also like to remind everyone of our 1st golf tournament to take place on May 1st. Manny say's that we are getting players and sponsors at a good pace, but we need more so tell your buddies and business associates to join us at Bay Hills Golf course on May 1st. \$ 80.00 per golfer includes continental breakfast, lunch, beverages and lots of fun; or Sponsor a hole for \$100.00. If you don't play you can volunteer to help.

Semper Fi,
Tom Maiorana
410-987-1297

Junior Vice Commandant

Gary Frye



As of this writing I have had 1 member renew his membership, and I would like to welcome Wayne McNeir and Joseph Lowman into our Detachment. As of last month I was able to obtain an updated membership list from Headquarters, we now have a total of 76 Life Members, and 127 paid members. Unfortunately we have a total of 25 unpaid members as of 16 April 2006, below are the last names of those members, I encourage anyone who know them please have them forward their dues so they are not removed from the roster.

Astle/Byrne/Campbell/Davis/Dell'acqua/Dungan/Gardner/Hamilton/Kelly/Kennedy/Lafferty/Lowman/Majchrzak/Matthews/McNamara/Mullineaux/Oliver/Preston/Roach/Robinson/Seidelman/Storm/Vain/Wilson/Winterman

In closing, I am looking forward to serving again as the Junior Vice Commandant for 2006; if I can be of any assistance don't hesitate to call. And an additional reminder, if you change your address let me know so I can send an e-mail to Headquarters.

Semper Fi,
Gary Frye
410-491-7153



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Public Relations

Ed Dahling

Corps Says Goodbye to a Legendary Hero



MCRD San Diego, CA. - Former depot commanding general, retired Maj. Gen. Kenneth J. Houghton was honored in a memorial service at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, at 11:30

a.m., Monday, April 03, 2006.

Houghton died of natural causes, March 27, in his home in La Jolla, Calif., at 85 years old.

The San Francisco native retired after 35 years of service in the Marine Corps, leaving the depot behind as his final duty station. Enlisting in the Marine Corps April 15, 1942, Houghton was commissioned a second lieutenant Sept. 26 of the same year. Houghton is noted as a legend in Marine Corps history by peers and loved ones.

According to former Marine sergeant, Rudy M. Contreras, Houghton was an enlisted man's friend. When Houghton formed a Marine reconnaissance unit in 1949, Pfc. Contreras became good friends with Capt. Houghton and was eager to train under his command.

"He was a very, very disciplined person, and of course he expected that from his troops," said Contreras. "But he didn't think he was above anybody else. The troops really respected him for his attitude."

Contreras was unable to serve under Houghton's command because he was reassigned to a unit in San Francisco, while Houghton took charge of 1st Marine Division's reconnaissance company.

But they continued a friendship and later, during deployment to North Korea in 1950, Contreras crossed paths with Houghton again.

"He was strict," said Contreras. "He expected you to do whatever was expected of you. He was very fair. He wouldn't pat you on the back, but he was very fair."

Enemy forces destroyed bridges across the Han River, an entrance into Seoul, Korea that Contreras' unit needed to utilize. Houghton's reconnaissance team, the same one Contreras tried to join a year earlier, was sent to secure a route for Marines to cross the waterway as an overpowering force.

Contreras saw Houghton before he swam across the river. Houghton was wounded in action and sent back to the United States with his first Silver Star and a Bronze Star with Combat "V."

"I never did get to serve with him, but I would have liked to. He was a good man," said Contreras.

(Continued on page 9)

Legislative Affairs

Jim LeGett

DoD Sticks to Tricare Hike Plan



Although the Defense Department has pledged to work with Congress on its plan for steep hikes in Tricare fees for military retirees, a top DoD health official says the department has full authority to jack up the enrollment fees for Tricare Prime and raise pharmacy copayments for all Tricare users except active-duty members. On the other hand, the plan to establish a first-time-ever enrollment fee for Tricare Standard would require a change in the law, said Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant defense secretary for health affairs. On March 14, the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) proposed a list of 16 options to make Tricare more cost-effective. MOAA's president, retired Navy Vice Adm. Norb Ryan Jr., said that implementing only three or four of the cost-cutting items would fully eliminate the need to hit military retirees with a \$11.2 billion fee increase.

Panel Inundated by Tricare Mail



Last week the House Armed Services military personnel subcommittee convened a special hearing on the Defense Department's plan for increases in Tricare fees. On the scene were nearly 40,000 letters the committee had received on the issue. Chairman John McHugh, R-N.Y., advised that member offices had received a comparative volume of mail. "Collectively these are the voices of beneficiaries that we cannot ignore," he said. McHugh said a key factor that influenced Congress to pass Tricare for Life was that the senior military leaders called it necessary for retention. The Air Force Sergeants Association said, "It was very clear at (the) hearing that DoD officials and senior military officials are either unaware or have grossly underestimated the potential impact these increases will have on the morale and retention of active military members."

ANYONE DESIRING TO HAVE THE DETACHMENT NEWSLETTER DELIVERED TO THERE E-MAIL INBOX, PLEASE SEND YOUR REQUEST TO WEBSGT@MCLAACDET1049.ORG.

Historian

Vic Halme



This Month in History

Selected April Dates of Marine Corps Historical Significance

3 April 1945: On Okinawa, Marines of the III Amphibious Corps continued to make good progress all along their front, clearing Zampa Misaki and seizing the Katchin Peninsula, thus effectively cutting the island in two. By this date (D+2), III AC elements had reached objectives thought originally to require 11 days to take.

5 April 1947: Five Marine guards were killed and eight wounded when attacked by Communist Chinese raiders near the Hsin Ho ammunition depot in Northern China. This last major clash between Marines of the 1st Marine Division and Communist forces occurred shortly after withdrawal and redeployment plans from China were issued for the 1st Division and 1st Marine Aircraft Wing on 1 April.

10 April 1959: Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn, Jr. was named as one of the original seven Project Mercury astronauts selected for space training. The seven astronauts, all volunteers, were selected by NASA from an initial group of 110 leading military test pilots. Three years later, on 20 February 1962, Col Glenn would become the first American to orbit the Earth.

12-13 April 1918: Marines of the 4th Brigade suffered their first gas attack on the night and early morning hours of 12-13 April when the Germans bombarded the 74th Company, 6th Marines near Verdun with mustard gas. Nine Marine officers and 305 enlisted Marines were gassed and evacuated, and 30 Marines died from the effects of the gas shells which hit in the middle of the reserve area cantonments in which they were sleeping.

15 April 1962: Marine Corps operational involvement in the Vietnam War began on Palm Sunday when HMM-362 with its Sikorsky UH-34s arrived at Soc Trang in the Delta south of Saigon. The task unit was called "Shufly" and its first operational employment involved lifting Vietnamese troops into battle.

18 April 1983: One Marine Security Guard was

Historian

(Continued)

killed and seven were wounded when a large car bomb exploded just outside the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon. Lance Corporal Robert McMaugh was standing guard at Post 1, just inside the front entrance when the bomb exploded outside the door. The explosion killed 61 people including 17 Americans. LCpl McMaugh was buried at Arlington National Cemetery on 26 April.

21 April 1951: Marine carrier-based airplanes made their first aerial contact with enemy planes over the Korean front lines. Captain Philip C. Delong shot down two YAK fighters and 1st Lieutenant Harold D. Daigh destroyed one more and damaged another in the heavily defended Pyongyang-Chinnampo area. Both pilots were with VMF-312 flying from the USS Bataan.

27 April 1805: First Lieutenant Presley N. O'Bannon, who with seven other Marines was part of a force of Greeks and Arabs led by American Consul William Eaton, raised the United States flag for the first time over a conquered fortress of the Old World at Derne, a stronghold of the Tripolitan pirates. Two Marines were killed and one wounded in the assault on the walled city.

28 April 1993: The last A-6E Intruder departed from Marine Corps service. Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 332 transferred the last Marine A-6E to St. Augustine, Florida, and prepared for the squadron's transition to the F/A-18D and eventual movement from Cherry Point to Beaufort, South Carolina.



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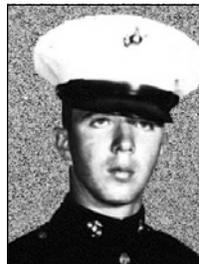
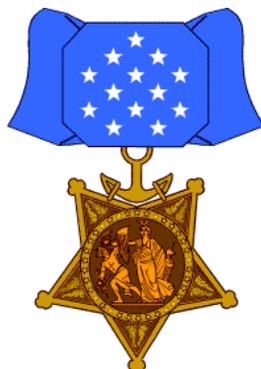
Honoring Our Medal of Honor Recipients



STANLEY R. CHRISTIANSON
Private First Class
United States Marine Corps
Medal of Honor — 1950
2/1/1 Korea
CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Company E, in action against enemy aggressor forces at Hill 132, in the early morning hours. Manning 1 of the several listening posts covering approaches to the platoon area when the enemy commenced the attack, Pfc. Christianson quickly sent another marine to alert the rest of the platoon. Without orders, he remained in his position and, with full knowledge that he would have slight chance of escape, fired relentlessly at oncoming hostile troops attacking furiously with rifles, automatic weapons, and incendiary grenades. Accounting for 7 enemy dead in the immediate vicinity before his position was overrun and he himself fatally struck down, Pfc. Christianson, by his superb courage, valiant fighting spirit, and devotion to duty, was responsible for allowing the rest of the platoon time to man positions, build up a stronger defense on that flank, and repel the attack with 41 of the enemy destroyed, many more wounded, and 3 taken prisoner. His self-sacrificing actions in the face of overwhelming odds sustain and enhance the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. Pfc. Christianson gallantly gave his life for his country.

/S/HARRY S. TRUMAN



ROY M. WHEAT
Lance Corporal
United States Marine Corps
Medal of Honor -- 1967
3/7/1 Vietnam
CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a fire team leader with the First Platoon, Company K, Third Battalion, Seventh Marines, First Marine Division, in the Republic of Vietnam. On 11 August 1967, Corporal Wheat and two other Marines were assigned the mission of providing security for a Navy construction battalion crane and crew operating along Liberty Road in the vicinity of the Dien Ban District, Quang Nam Province. After the Marines had set up security positions in a tree line adjacent to the work site, Corporal Wheat reconnoitered the area to the rear of their location for the possible presence of guerrillas. He then returned to within ten feet of the friendly position, and here unintentionally triggered a well concealed, bounding type, antipersonnel mine. Immediately, a hissing sound was heard which was identified by the three Marines as that of a burning time fuse. Shouting a warning to his comrades, Corporal Wheat in a valiant act of heroism hurled himself upon the mine, absorbing the tremendous impact of the explosion with his own body. The inspirational personal heroism and extraordinary valor of his unselfish action saved his fellow Marines from certain injury and possible death, reflected great credit upon himself, and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave life for his country .

/S/ LYNDON B. JOHNSON



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VAVS Buddy Cadle

I Know Vets, I Know America Program

By Mark Frazee, Iron Mountain VA Medical Center

Begun in 2002 as an introduction to area youth as to what veterans have done for our country. The 6th grade students must interview a veteran, write a report and make an informational poster about their interview.

Students who do not know a veteran, or wish to meet one, are introduced to a veteran patient, staff or volunteer from the Iron Mountain VA Medical Center.

The students present their posters to the veteran at a ceremony held at the medical center and then displayed for a week in the halls of the medical center.

Each school recognizes the students accomplishment in different ways. Some provide extra credit, some make it an option, most make it a required assignment for social studies class.

An informational flyer is available for VAVS staff on the VAVS Web Board.

For further information regarding the "I Know Vets, I Know America Program" please contact the Iron Mountain VA's Voluntary Service Office at (906) 774-3300, extension 32781.

(Continued from page 4)

After several assignments and promotions, Houghton took command of the 5th Marine Regiment in the Republic of Vietnam, February 1967. During a six-month period, Houghton was awarded the Navy Cross, a second Silver Star Medal, and a second and third Purple Heart Medal.

In April 1973, Houghton was promoted to major general while assigned as commanding general, Force Troops, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific and as the chief of staff, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

That year, Maj. Gen. Houghton assumed command of the 1st Marine Division and the 1st Marine Amphibious Force. In 1975, he concurrently assumed command of the 3rd Marine Division and the 3rd Marine Amphibious Force, and he completed his final two years in service at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

"I went to the depot to talk to the commanding general," said Contreras. "I didn't know at the time that (Maj. Gen. Houghton) was the commanding general."

When Houghton's aide-de-camp told Contreras the general was ready to see him, he walked into the office, not expecting to come face to face with an old friend.

"Holy mackerel! He came up from behind his desk and hugged me and we stood there and we talked," said Contreras. "He told the major 'I'm closing up. I'm closing up shop for the day. One of my boys is here.'"

And with that the commanding general left the office at 8:30 on a Friday morning and didn't return for the weekend. Houghton invited Contreras to spend the weekend at the general's quarters, attend an afternoon tea-party held for colonels and generals only and purchased a new tie and shirt so Contreras would fit in at the event.

"I want you to look presentable for tomorrow," he told me. For me it was the highlight of my tour at the depot," said Contreras.

Houghton was also awarded four Presidential Unit Citations, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three bronze stars, the China Service Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, the Korean Service Medal with two bronze stars, the Vietnamese Service Medal with three bronze stars, the Vietnamese National Order 5th Class, the Vietnamese Army Distinguished Service Order 2nd Class, the Vietnamese Armed Forces Honor Medal 1st Class, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation, the Vietnamese Armed Forces Meritorious Unit Citation, the Philippine Independence Ribbon, the United Nations Medal and the Vietnamese Campaign Medal.

Houghton's good humor and strict nature were in keeping with the utmost Marine Corps traditions. A legendary leader and inspirational person, Maj. Gen. Houghton touched many lives and left a great impression on the Marine Corps for years to come.

Maj. Gen. Houghton is survived by two sons, Samuel and Kenneth Houghton; two daughters Pamela Robles and Penny Dudek, and six grandchildren.



Marine Corps League
Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049
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