

Newsletter

Marine Corps League, Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049

Volume Eight, Number Seven

Post Office Box 804, Severn, Maryland 21144-0804

July 2009

Severna Park's July 4th Parade

by Mac McNeir



MCL Detachment 1049 Color Guard (L-R, Pete Pervi, Woody Bowman, Charlie Young & Chris Kalwa) marching in the Annual Severna Park Independence Day Parade. [Photo by Sue Pervi]



Uncle Sam (Ray Gonzales) greeting spectators during the Annual Severna Park Independence Day Parade. Other occupants of the jeep include Paul Downey (hidden - driver), Tom Maiorana & Charles Quick. [Photo by Sue Pervi]

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The day started off as any other Saturday...men, women, and children awakening from a night's sleep and preparing for the day's activities. For some however, it would be a special day as we were about to celebrate our nation's 233rd birthday. A day that for many consists of family gatherings, cook-outs, and other enjoyable diversions as it is a holiday from the hum-drum work-a-day world that the majority of us share. Later in the day, once the sun had dropped below the horizon, fireworks displays would draw our attention.

For a select few, it meant getting ready to participate in the Severna Park Parade honoring our nations birth and demonstrating our pride in the fact that we had been lucky enough to serve our nation ... some in war and some in peace ... some as members of the United States Marine Corps ... others as soldiers, sailors, or airmen.

Patriotism is the word that we generally associate with this special day; but for many of us, another equally appropriate word might be *appreciation*. I say that because appreciative comments and numerous shouts of 'Thank-You' showered the participating veterans as they passed by the huge crowd lining the entire parade route. It should also be pointed out that many of the parading veterans acknowledged the crowd's show of support by voicing their own heart-felt responses.

All in all, it was a beautiful day! An emotional day! A day that I will long appreciate and remember. All members of our detachment are encouraged to consider being part of the 4th of July festivities in 2010, when we again share the celebration of this holiday with the citizen's of Severna Park.



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Pete Pervi

Senior Vice-Commandant
James T. Brady

Junior Vice-Commandant
Woody Bowman

Judge Advocate
Manny Airey

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Color Guard Commander
Woody Bowman

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Mac McNeir

Public Information Officer
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Sergeant-at-Arms
Chris Kalwa

Toys for Tots Coordinator
Pete Pervi

VAVS Officer
Ed Dahling

Web Sergeant
Michael R. Hadley

Young Marines Commander
George Martin

Young Marines Executive Officer
Vacant

From the Editor

by Mac McNeir

As you all know, we are in the summer doldrums, and there is not much to report on at the current time.

So, I will simply say that I have truly enjoyed putting each monthly issue of our newsletter together since February of this year and I look forward to continuing in that endeavor. I also would again encourage all of you to provide me with any ideas and constructive criticisms that you might have in order that we might be successful in our goal to continually strive for improvement. I can only provide the content that the readers desire if they tell what those desires are.

I look forward to seeing most of you at our next monthly meeting!

August Newsletter Submission Deadline – All articles should be in my hands by no later than MIDNIGHT of 14 August 2009!



Show Your Pride!

Embroidered detachment patches are now available for purchase from the Adjutant and Judge Advocate for the bargain price of \$3 each.

All proceeds will be deposited in the detachment's general fund.

Chaplain's Corner

from Ken Rollins, Detachment Chaplain

Thomas Macht, a Life Member of our detachment and currently a resident of Delaware, is continuing his recovery from a massive heart attack.

Guy Hall has been released from the rehabilitation center and is continuing his recovery from back surgery at home. If you cannot stop by for a visit, think about giving him a call.

Vic Ryan, past Commandant of Mountainside Detachment 1071, continues his recovery from his recent bout with cancer.

Michael Salanik, father of past Detachment Commandant Stephen Salanik, died on Thursday, July 16, 2009, at his residence in Rockledge, Pennsylvania. Donations In lieu of flowers, may be made in his memory to the St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude's Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Bob (Grannville) Smith is essentially house-bound and is in need of some visitors. Please consider spending some time with him.

Please notify me if you are aware of any Marine or Marine family member being sick, in distress, or having recently passed-away.



Commandant's Message



Pete Pervi

Marines,

Well the 2009 Fourth of July holiday has come and gone. My vacation to China and Tibet is over. As a welcome back, Mac, Manny, and Rich invited me for a friendly 18 holes of golf at Bay Hills. It was friendly, but they were tough on me. Not only did all three of them out play me; on the back 9 they could do no wrong. The only up-side is that I can only improve.

VAV POSITION

With great pleasure, I announce that our new Detachment VAV Representative is Ed Dahling. Once again he has stepped up to support the Detachment and its members by assuming this position along with his current Public Information Officer position.

Thank You Ed.

DETACHMENT OFFICE

Work on the Detachment office is on hold, until the gas issue and the Ladies Auxiliary Room issues are resolved. Once those issues have been addressed, work will resume on our office. There are three main issues that have to be resolved concerning the office:

- a general work permit,
- a licensed contractor for the plumbing and electrical elements of the job, and
- the determination of whether a window or other form of emergency exit is required opposite the office door.

While the members approved \$2,000 funding be allocated to this project, the funds have not been released yet. We will not release any funds until we know the office meets all state and county building codes.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

National Headquarters has been duly notified of our dues increase. While we voted it to be effective, National was unable to change the amount on the annual dues notification forms for the months of June and July. Therefore, the \$30.00 fee will be reflected on the renewal forms starting with the August dues notifications.

GENERAL MEETING – JULY 27, 2009

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at this meeting. If at all possible, please have your Detachment Patch sewn onto a polo shirt and wear it to the meeting.

Semper Fi,

Pete

From the desk of the

Senior Vice Commandant



James T. Brady

Welcome to the Lazy, Hazy, Days of Summer!

We are now coming to the end of July and have had a pretty lazy summer so far.

I do believe that our last meeting (June) was one of the best ever as I stood in for the Commandant and kept my jokes to a low roar! Don't you all agree (LOL LOL LOL)?

Well, as you can see within the calendar of events – see **Coming Events** on page 7) – things will soon start shaking up. Things begin picking up with the **Men's Auxiliary Crab Feast** on July 26th and go on from there.

Some of you may have heard about the turn of events at our Post Home (VFW Post 160). Let me assure you that what needs to be done is being done to correct the situation. We may be moving into our MCL Office a little later than we had expected; but, it is being worked on and you will all be pleased with the final outcome.

Let's just have an easy meeting in July, sit around, and swap summer stories. If some of you want to stay after the meeting and kibitz a little...we can leave the tables up, keep the air conditioning on, have a few cold ones, and *shoot-the-bull*.

Hopefully, Guy Hall will be back on his feet and telling us all how rough it was eating hospital food?

I will end now and hope to see and talk with many of you after our July meeting;

Thank you all, for what you have done and what you will do in the future for the MCL and our Detachment 1049.

Semper Fidelis & Woof-Woof

Jim Brady

Visit the Department of Maryland web site
at
<http://deptofmdmcl.org>

From the desk of the

Junior Vice Commandant



Woody Bowman

Fellow Members,

This month, I would like to start my article, by welcoming the following gentlemen as new members of our detachment.

Regular Members

George Cunningham Jr. & James P. Terry

Associate Member

Thomas W. Hancock

The rest of my article will be used to identify those members of the detachment and color guard, who took the time to participate in the **35th Annual Severna Park Independence Day Parade** on the **4th of July**. Members, other than those in the Color Guard, occupied the second position in the parade line-up.

Marine Corps Color Guard

B Company, MCS Battalion, Fort George G. Meade

Sgt. Andres, Sgt. Winfield, Cpl. Roganti & LCpl. Lewis

Detachment 1049 Color Guard

'Woody' Bowman, Chris Kalwa, Pete Pervi & Charles Young

1st Jeep

Paul Downey, Ray Gonzales (dressed as Uncle Sam), Tom Maiorana & Charles Quick

2nd Jeep

Fred Downey & Wayne 'Mac' McNeir

Toys for Tots Vintage Automobile

Ed Ross

3rd Jeep

Charles Dorn & Charles 'Spike' Miller

As reported by **Linda Zahn** in ***The Capital***, The **Detachment 1049 Color Guard** garnered 2nd Place honors in the **Most Patriotic** category...finishing behind a **Desert Storm Humvee**.

I'll close by extending an invitation to all detachment members to become part of our color guard and its related activities.

Woody

The Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League



Military Order of Devil Dogs

Woof-Woof,

Since the lazy dog days of summer have arrived, all dogs are lying around enjoying the summer weather, so there is not much happening in Dog-dom. Enjoy the summer and get ready to kick off the new Dog year in September by getting your dues in on time. They remain a measly 15 big bones.

For those few Dogs going to the Supreme Growl, please give DDs Stuart Blair and Jerry Brown a helping hand whenever possible.

The Pound will Growl on 16 August at the Dog House as usual.

As always, keep the fleas at a safe distance.

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

Paul Taylor

PDD & Dog Robber

Uniform Regs... Medals & Ribbons

When it comes to wearing medals and ribbons, two points must be remembered...

Marine Corps League and Department of Defense medals and/or ribbons should **NEVER** be mixed on any uniform. The wearer only has the choice of wearing authorized medals and/or ribbons awarded by either the Department of Defense or the Marine Corps League.

Simply stated, medals from both agencies may NEVER be worn together!

Marine Corps League members are expected to know their individual authority to wear Department of Defense medals, ribbons, badges, devices, and awards and the proper way to wear them.

Simply stated, wear your awards properly... and never wear what you do not rate!

from Jim Le Gette, Legislative Officer

Legislative Report

As a reminder, active military personnel are able to purchase up to \$400,000 worth of life insurance for \$27 per month (**Service Members Group Life Insurance**, SMGLI). However, there is a major concern that members of our military may be taken advantage of by less than honest insurance agents, who are selling militarily inappropriate policies at much higher premiums. The General Accounting Office has issued a report outlying the above problem and has suggested that the SMGLI work with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners to better control/eliminate the abuse of our military by unscrupulous insurance agents.

Starting on September 1, 2009, certain **TRICARE STANDARD** beneficiaries will be eligible for reimbursement of co-payments...retro-active to October 14, 2008. Going forward, this benefit will continue for certain preventive services. The waiver of the co-payment applies to:

- breast cancer,
- cervical cancer,
- colo-rectal cancer,
- prostate cancer,
- immunizations, and
- certain physical examinations (including well-child visits) for those younger than 6 years of age).

This benefit does not apply to Medicare-eligible beneficiaries. It is anticipated that this benefit will save beneficiaries about \$110 million dollars per year. The cost will be assumed by the Defense Department.



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from George Martin, Commander of the

Young Marines

The Annapolis Young Marines enjoyed a day with six other units from the regiment – including one from Delaware – at the 1st Regimental field meet, which was hosted by the Upper Marlboro Young Marines. Our Young Marines earned a fourth place finish in the competition.

During the period of 21 through 23 August, our unit will be hosting a fun weekend for Young Marines at the Cheltenham Youth Camp prior to the beginning of the new school year. This weekend features athletic competition between units, individual Young Marines, and staff members. So far we have Young Marines attending from Quantico, Elkridge, and other units. In order to make this event a success, **we will be needing monetary assistance** (contributions) to help us with the purchase of food and other necessities.

In October, we will be hosting a **Recruit Weekend**, where other units send us their recruits so that we can run them through an “**Elliott’s Beach**” type of final evaluation prior to their participation in a graduation ceremony on Sunday. **We will also need financial assistance for this event.** Anyone interested in either attending or assisting with this event should contact me as soon as possible.

The Young Marines are happy that **Guy Hall** is out of the hospital and feeling better! We wish him a speedy and thorough recovery! Also, the brother of two of our Young Marines was admitted to Bethesda Naval Hospital with a yet to be diagnosed intestinal disorder. So far, he has been there for three weeks and has undergone one surgery. The child is four years old and will hopefully be home by the time that you read this article. Please keep this child in your prayers!

The Annapolis Young Marines wish to thank the members of **Detachment 1049**, the **Military Order of Devil Dogs**, and the **Auxiliary** for all of their support and assistance over the years.

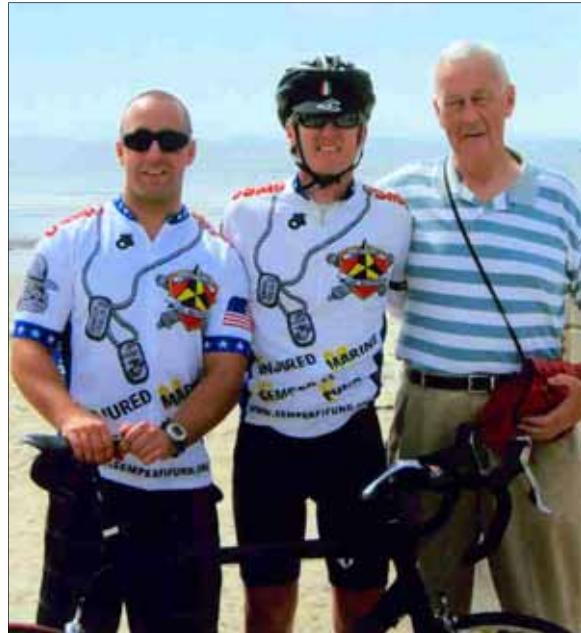
Lastly, we will be entering a new training year in September and will begin accepting applications in August for the next recruit class. If anyone knows of any young people (ages 8-17), who might be interested in joining the Young Marines, please contact me.

George Martin

Coast-to Coast Finale

by Jim Le Gette

On June 26th, **Chris Le Gette** completed his 3,450 mile bicycle ride from Los Angeles to Boston by dipping the front wheel of his bike into the Atlantic Ocean off of Revere Beach, Massachusetts. Chris was joined in the event’s ceremonial conclusion by his brother, **Captain Marco Le Gette, USMC** and members of his family. Also participating was **Kirt Rebello**, who represented the sponsoring agency, the **Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund** (IMSFF).



Marco, Chris, and proud Dad Jim Le Gette at Revere Beach, Massachusetts.

[Photo courtesy of Jim Le Gette]

Both Chris and Marco wore the uniquely designed jersey, which depicts the IMSFF, Marco’s unit, dog tags, etc. Chris dedicated his ride to Injured Marines and Marco’s unit (1/12).

It should be noted that on this coast-to-coast trek, one rider died of a heart attack; another rider was struck by a motorcycle and remains in the hospital; still another fell and broke her collar-bone; and four other riders contracted food poisoning. Yet another rider sailed over his handle-bars, sustaining injuries to his face and damaging his helmet – the next day he appeared in an on-camera interview (stitches and all) and related how great it was to ride cross-country in support of this fund-raising event. Chris did not go unscathed as he also injured himself, when his bicycle chain came loose and he hit the pavement.

The Le Gette family is very proud of Chris and his accomplishment – especially his effort to advance the recognition of the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund.



Remembering Our Own



Maryland Loses Two Marines

July 9th was not a particularly good day in Afghanistan...especially if you consider the fact that two Marines with ties to Maryland – **Sergeant Michael W. Heede Jr** (age 22) from Edgewood and **Staff Sergeant David S. Spicer** (age 33) from Olney – were killed by the same roadside IED (improvised explosive device). They had been on patrol in Helmand, a southern province within Afghanistan.

Sgt. Heede joined the Marine Corps in 2005 and was a veteran of the Iraq war. Previously assigned to Camp Pendleton's 1st Combat Engineering Battalion, a 1st Marine Division unit operating under the umbrella of a Marine Expeditionary Force, Sgt. Heede subsequently volunteered for deployment to Afghanistan and was assigned to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force. During his military career, he earned the Combat Action Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal and a Navy Unit Commendation Medal, among other honors.

SSgt. Spicer joined the Marine Corps in 1994. He was an explosive ordnance disposal technician, who had served as a bomb technician for the 8th Engineer Support Battalion based at Camp Lejeune, N.C., prior to his assignment to the 8th Engineer Support Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade. SSgt. Spicer, who had been selected for promotion to Gunnery Sergeant, is survived by his wife Kate, who gave birth to their first child, a daughter, one year ago and is now pregnant with a son.

Both Marines will be interred at the Arlington National Cemetery.



This article was based upon information published on the Internet.

Corps Quotation

Lying offshore, ready to act, the presence of ships and Marines sometimes means much more than just having air power or ship's fire, when it comes to deterring a crisis. And the ships and Marines may not have to do anything but lie offshore. It is hard to lie offshore with a C-141 or C-130 full of airborne troops.

General Colin Powell, U. S. Army
Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff during
Operation Desert Storm

Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through the end of October 2009. Unless otherwise noted, these events will take place at VFW Post 160, located at 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060.

VFW Post 160 Men's Auxiliary Crab Feast

Sunday, July 26, 2009 from 1300 to 1800
Linda Howard (410-768-4475)

MCL Detachment 1049 Monthly Meeting

Monday, July 27, 2009 @ 1900
Peter Pervi (410-987-3811)

VFW Post 160 Monthly Breakfast

Sunday, August 2, 2009 from 0900 to 1100
Charles Albo (443-926-1665)

MODD Pound 204 Growl

Sunday, August 16, 2009 @ 1000
Paul Taylor (410-768-6288)

Tall Cedars Crab Feast

Saturday, August 22, 2009 from 1300 to 1700
Don White (410-437-5719)

MCL Detachment 1049 Monthly Meeting

Monday, August 24, 2009 @ 1900
Peter Pervi (410-987-3811)

MCL Detachment 1049 Friday Night Dinner

Friday, September 4, 2009 from 1800 to 2000
Danny Fischio (443-604-2474)

VFW Post 160 Monthly Breakfast

Sunday, September 6, 2009 from 0900 to 1100
Charles Albo (443-926-1665)

MODD Pack Growl

Saturday, September 12, 2009 @ 0900
Baltimore Detachment 565, 1426 E. Fort Avenue, Baltimore, MD
Paul Taylor (410-768-6288)

VFW Post 160 Ladies Auxiliary Shrimp Feast

Saturday, September 12, 2009 @ time to be determined
Linda Howard (410-768-4475)

MCL Detachment 1049 Monthly Meeting

Monday, September 28, 2009 @ 1900
Peter Pervi (410-987-3811)

VFW Post 160 Monthly Breakfast

Sunday, October 4, 2009 from 0900 to 1100
Charles Albo (443-926-1665)

MCL Detachment 1049 Bull & Oyster Roast

Sunday, October 18, 2009 from 1300 to 1700
Jim Brady (410-551-3069)

MCL Detachment 1049 Monthly Meeting

Monday, October 26, 2009 @ 1900
Peter Pervi (410-987-3811)

VFW Post 160 Ladies Auxiliary Halloween Party

Saturday, October 31, 2009 @ time to be determined
Jennifer Stack (410-790-5507)



from Ed Dahling, Public Information Officer

Public Information



When Old Glory Gets Older...

the etiquette of flag maintenance and disposal. Do you know what to do when the flag outside your facility or home needs cleaning or replacing? If all that your Stars and Stripes needs is a proper refurbishing, check with a dry cleaning establishment in your area...they may even clean your flag without charge.

Flags that are beyond cleaning or repair should be properly destroyed. There's no right or wrong way to dispose of a flag, as long as it's done respectfully and privately. You can destroy a flag yourself if performed with dignity and respect. Traditionally, flags that are beyond repair are burned in a barrel or over a camp fire. If that's not an option, contact local service organizations such as the **Veterans of Foreign Wars**, the **Marine Corps League**, and the **American Legion**, who generally offer flag disposal services. Often, local **Boy Scouts** and **Girl Scout** troops offer flag disposal services as well. Military installations in your area may also be a source of disposal.

Remember, soiled, damaged, and faded flags should never be displayed!



Cell-Phone Discounts

[Source: The Arizona Republic, Parker Leavitt article, 13 June 2009]

Military veterans and active-duty personnel are eligible for **significant discounts on cell-phone plans** - if they know to ask. There are over 23 million veterans in the U.S. of which many are unaware of the potential savings on their monthly cell-phone bills. Monthly military discounts range from 15% on **Verizon Wireless** plans to 10% off - and no activation fee - on **T-Mobile** agreements. **Alltel**, **Sprint** and **AT&T** offer similar discounts.

While not everyone knows about the discounts, those who do say that getting the companies to register them for the cheaper plans is no easy task. Phoenix Arizona resident Janis Johnson said she called her cell-phone company to register her husband, an Air Force veteran. At first, a customer service representative said no veteran discount existed. "Then she said we should get the 15 percent discount, but we were supposed to go to the Web site," she said. Johnson eventually gave up when she could find no place online to register.

Kenneth James Madetzke, 60, of Phoenix, had better luck. The Vietnam War veteran was able to sign up for AT&T's discounted plan and saves about \$8 a month. "It makes me feel good to have the money savings and be recognized as a veteran," Madetzke said. "The disappointment was that there was no advertisement. I had to pull it out of them." While waiting for doctor's appointments at the VA hospital, Madetzke often tells fellow veterans about the discount. Most, he said, know nothing about the deals. Bill Messer, president of Vietnam Veterans of America's Arizona State Council, said he used Verizon and hadn't heard of the discount. Verizon spokeswoman Jenny Weaver said the firm makes an effort to inform veterans of the savings, with in-store posters and military-magazine ads. "There aren't any posters up in the Phoenix metro area right now, because of some of the other promotions we have going on," Weaver said. Most services require a military identification card, veteran identification card or military discharge papers as proof of veteran status. Some companies require online registration to get the discount. Many companies, including Verizon, also offer discounted plans for customers 65 and older.



Editor's Note

I have not personally verified the availability of these discounts but do know first hand that most of these vendors offer discounts; but, only if the consumer asks for them. Hopefully, veterans' discounts are available for residents of our area.



Established 1943

Garrison Rifle & Revolver Club, Inc. is a Charter Member of the Associated Gun Clubs of Baltimore Inc.

Club meets every second Tuesday of each month. Except January which is the third Tuesday. 11518 Marmontville Road, Marmontville, Maryland 21104-1220

The Club offers training and classes in most of the shooting sports and promotes shooting sports for all ages and abilities. Garrison hosts the following events:

- Spring Pistol League
- Bullseye Pistol Championship
- Trap Shoot
- JR's Club Shoot
- 4H State Match
- Club Crab Feast
- Club Christmas Dinner

Garrison Rifle & Revolver members have the following facilities available for their use:

- Covered bench rest-equipped rifle, black powder, and pistol range (25, 50, 75 & 100 yds.).
- Indoor air rifle range
- Fifty point covered outdoor pistol range (25 & 50 yds).
- Ten point covered high power rifle range (200 yds with butts).
- A four field, lighted, outdoor trap range w/automatic and manual trap house.
- Messick Hall club house w/ kitchen & restrooms.
- Lower range house/meeting hall.

Affiliated with the National Rifle Association and Civilian Marksmanship Program.

CMP

For more information contact club secretary Brian Beverly, at (410) 437-4864 E-Mail: garrisonrec@yahoo.com



Ten Thousand Little Men

A poem by **SSgt Robert A. Hall, USMC**

[Published in the *Leatherneck* magazine - August 2008]

*The men who sneer at honor...
the men who scoff at pride...
the men who think those foolish...
who went and served and died.*

*The men who know not greatness...
the men who know not strife...
the men for whom self interest...
is all there is to life.*

*What could they know of courage?
How could they find the nerve?
When self is all they worship...
and ego all they serve.*

*As mice despise the eagle...
that leaves them bound to earth...
our uniforms and ribbons...
remind them of their worth.*

*We know their haughty sneering
is born of self contempt;
for we have lived in danger,
and they have only dreamt.*

*Ignore the little slanders,
that come from puny souls.
Disdain the empty critics;
despise their petty goals.*

*For you who served with honor...
would choose to serve again.
Your worth by far surpasses...
ten thousand little men.*



- HELP WANTED -

TOYS FOR TOTS

- Do you have a little Santa Claus in you?
- Do you like to see children happy?
- Do you enjoy working with your community, local businesses, churches, Boys and Girl Scouts, local government agencies, military, and Young Marines?
- Do you like to take on a challenge and make things happen?
- Do you look for satisfaction from a job well done and success?
- Are you willing to commit time in October, November and December?

If you can say **YES** to all of the above, I have a great opportunity for you!

Starting in calendar year 2010, we will need a replacement for 'yours truly' as the **Anne Arundel and Howard Counties Toys for Tots Coordinator**. The principle role of the coordinator is to plan, organize, coordinate and execute the annual toy collection and distribution campaign within Anne Arundel County and Howard County. The coordinator directly represents the **Marine Toys for Tots Foundation** and is the *sole authorized representative* in these two counties to fund raise and collect toys in support of the **U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program**. The coordinator is the local approving authority for the use of the Toys for Tots logo and for Toys for Tots fundraising events. The coordinator conducts local community toy collection campaigns from **October 1st to December 22nd** each year. Working with military organizations/local social welfare agencies as well as other organizations, groups, churches and other philanthropic organizations, the distribution of toys to needy children of the community is normally completed by December 23rd.

I am looking for my replacement to *become involved* in the 2009 campaign and I will be fully committed to helping the new coordinator in the 2010 campaign. This approach will provide two years of joint coverage and experience to the new coordinator before assuming full responsibility.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

Pete

from Vic Halme, Historian

Corps History

1 July 1920

Major General John A. Lejeune became 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

2 July 1999

Marine Corps bases at El Toro and Tustin closed.

4 July 1801

President Thomas Jefferson reviewed the Marines, led by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, LtCol William W. Burrows and the Marine Band, on the White House grounds. The smartly uniformed Marines performed drills and fired various salutes in observance of the new nation's 25th anniversary.

5 July 1968

Marines abandon Khe Sanh combat base.

6 July 1990

One of the oldest and most versatile attack aircraft in Marine Corps history, the A-4 Skyhawk, retired from the Corps' active aviation structure after over 30 years of service.

7 July 1941

1st Provisional Marine Brigade lands at Iceland.

7 July 1941

The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing was activated at Quantico, Virginia. Within a year of activation, the Wing would participate in the Marine Corps offensive at Guadalcanal. That bitter campaign would be the first in a series of legendary battles in which the Wing would add luster to its reputation. The 1st MAW would earn five Presidential Unit Citations for gallantry in campaigns spanning World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

11 July 1798

President John Adams approved "An Act for Establishing and Organizing a Marine Corps", and it became law. The following day, the President appointed William Ward Burrows the Major Commandant of the new Corps. In August, Major Burrows opened his headquarters in Philadelphia, which at that time was still the capital of the new nation.

14 July 1853

Marines under Major Jacob Zeilin make landing as Commodore Matthew Perry opens Japan.

14 July 1993

The USS IWO JIMA was decommissioned after more than 30 years of service in a ceremony at Norfolk Naval Base, Virginia. The ship was named for the World War II battle during which three Marine divisions ousted 20,000 entrenched Japanese troops. The Iwo Jima was commissioned on 26 August 1961, and it was the first ship specifically designed as an amphibious assault ship from the keel up.

New members are our life's blood!
Try to recruit a new member.

15 July 1958

2nd Marines land near Beirut and seize the airport at the request of the Lebanese government.

18 July 1918

The 4th Brigade of Marines began an attack near Soissons, France, as part of a three-division counter-attack against the Germans. In the first two days of battle, the brigade sustained 1,972 casualties.

18 July 1948

Twelve Marines at consulate in Jerusalem (Israel) begin modern day Marine Security Guard program.

21 July 1861

A battalion of 365 Marines led by Brevet Major John G. Reynolds fights in the Battle of Bull Run.

21 July 1944

3rd Marine Division opens battle for Guam.

24 July 1944

The V Amphibious Corps, commanded by Major General Harry Schmidt, landed on Tinian, in the Mariana Islands. The following morning, the 2nd and 4th Marine Divisions began a shoulder-to-shoulder southward sweep of the island and clear the airfield from which the Enola Gay would begin its historic flight to Hiroshima a year later.

25 July 1930

Lieutenant Lewis Puller wins first of five Navy Crosses chasing Sandino guerrillas in Nicaragua.

26 July 1947

President Harry Truman signs the National Security Act of 1947, reaffirming the status of the Marine Corps as a separate military service within the Department of the Navy. The Act Provided for Fleet Marine Forces, and confirmed the Corps' mission of seizing and defending advanced bases, as well as land operation incident to naval campaigns.

26 July 1956

Marine battalion assigned to the Sixth Fleet evacuates civilians from Alexandria, Egypt following the canal's nationalization.

27 July 1953

Korean War ended – armistice signed at Panmunjon, Korea.

28 July 1779

Captain John Welsh and thirteen Marines killed in an assault on Fort George at Penobscot Bay, Maine.

28 July 1918

Brigadier General John A. Lejeune assumed command of the 2nd Division, U.S. Army in France, and remained in that capacity until August 1919 when the unit was demobilized. He was the first Marine officer to hold an Army divisional command, and following the Armistice, he led his division in the march into Germany.



No Nonsense WWII Marine

The train was quite crowded, and a U.S. Marine walked its entire length looking for a seat; however, the only seat available was taken by a well dressed, middle-aged, French woman's poodle.

The war-weary Marine asked, '*Ma'am, may I have that seat?*'

The French woman just sniffed and said to no one in particular '*Americans are so rude. My little Fifi is using that seat.*'

The Marine walked the entire train again, to once again find that the only seat left was under that dog.

The Marine again asked, '*Please, ma'am. May I sit down? I'm very tired.*'

She snorted, '*Not only are you Americans rude, you are also arrogant!*'

This time the Marine didn't say a word; he just picked up the little dog, tossed it out the train window, and sat down.

The woman shrieked, '*Someone must defend my honor! This American should be put in his place!*'

An English gentleman sitting nearby spoke up, '*Sir, you Americans seem to have a penchant for doing the wrong thing. You hold the fork in the wrong hand. You drive your cars on the wrong side of the road. And now, sir, you seem to have thrown the wrong bitch out the window.*'

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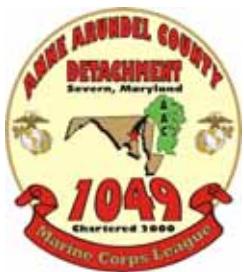
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(Address Correction Requested)

Place
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Here



*Exhausted Marines ignoring the falling snow and taking a much needed break in the mountains of North Korea.
[Photo by Sgt. K. C. Kerr appearing in *Semper Fi*, by Col. H. Avery Chenoweth, USMCR (Retired) with Col. Brooke Nihart, USMC (Retired) and published by Main Street, a division of Sterling Publishing Co., Inc. of New York.]*