



Newsletter

Marine Corps League, Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049

Volume Eight, Number Four

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April 2009

Different Time .. Different Place

By Mac McNeir

Many of us recall trips home from a hostile environment only to be greeted by indifference or as many veterans of the Vietnam era can attest, venomous verbal assaults, occasional physical confrontations, and displays of undeserved hatred emanating from a societal element, who were euphemistically referred to as peaceniks or flower children. Even worse, these confrontations were generally experienced shortly after we disembarked from the aircraft returning us to the country that we chose to serve...the country that asked us to leave our loved ones and serve in harm's way.

Some veterans of that era are once again part of airport demonstrations targeting members of our nation's military, who are returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan. Fortunately, these events are unlike those of the Vietnam era and serve as tangible signs of appreciation for those uniformed heroes and heroines, who answered their countries call.



Just one of many reunions typical of each returning flight.
(Photo provided by Operation Welcome Home Maryland)

Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) airport is a major transportation hub for military men and women travelling to and from the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters of operation in this nation's war on terrorism. As such, it offers many of us an opportunity to be a positive part of a memorable homecoming for returning uniformed Marylanders as well as other service men and women, who will be travelling on to their homes in other regions of our country.

This display of patriotic appreciation, known to many as **Operation Welcome Home Maryland**, is not the result of chance or circumstance; but the result of an intentional effort on the part of founder Kathy Thorp, a Navy Captain and Nurse, who previously worked with Navy Medicine in Washington, DC and now serves as the Commanding Officer of a medical reserve unit attached to Camp Lejeune's Naval Hospital. Captain Thorp is assisted by approximately 20 regular team members and countless volunteers, who play a role in setting up for and conducting each flight's reception.

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Detachment Officers

Commandant
Pete Pervi
Senior Vice-Commandant
James T. Brady
Junior Vice-Commandant
Woody Bowman
Judge Advocate
Manny Airey
Adjutant
Bill Creager
By-Laws Committee Chairman
Ed Ross
Chaplain
Ken Rollins
Color Guard Commander
Woody Bowman
Historian
Victor Halme
House Chairman
Ken Rollins
Legislative Officer
Jim LeGette
Newsletter Editor
Wayne McNeir
Paymaster
Wayne McNeir
Public Information Officer
Ed Dahling
Quartermaster
Fred Kaminski
Rifle & Pistol Team Captain
Michael R. Hadley
Sergeant-at-Arms
Chris Kalwa
Toys for Tots Coordinator
Pete Pervi
VAVS Officer
Phil Swarzenberg
Web Sergeant
Michael R. Hadley
Young Marines Commander
George Martin
Young Marines Executive Officer
Vacant

From the Editor

Mac McNeir

My first order of business this month is to thank all of the members of the detachment, who have supported and continue to support me in the production of this newsletter.

The second, is an announcement about a change in the newsletter production process. **From this point forward, please forward any and all articles, as well as any supporting material that you wish to have published in the newsletter, directly to me.** This will allow Ed Dahling to concentrate on his duties as Public Information Officer and complete the transfer of all newsletter production responsibilities to me. I wish to express my genuine appreciation to Ed for all of his help during these last few months as we transitioned newsletter production responsibilities!

I would again like to encourage each reader of this newsletter to provide me with your ideas for future articles and to consider being a 'spot-lighted' member of the detachment in a mini-biography similar to the one that I put together on Dick Savage last month.

Finally, the next few months will be extremely busy and the need for help in many areas of detachment operation will never be more evident. Please consider going against the deeply ingrained ethic of never volunteering that many of us were taught and give some truly serious thought to becoming more involved in your detachment's activities. I can guarantee that you will likely meet some very interesting people, gain a degree of satisfaction from being part of some worthwhile activity, and feel a renewed sense of accomplishment when your contributions of time and effort leave the detachment in a better state than it ever could be without the help of many selfless people such as yourself.

As always, you may contact me either by email at anonmcneir@verizon.net or by telephone at **410-437-4329**.

Help me make this newsletter something that you look forward to receiving!



Chaplain's Corner

from Ken Rollins, Detachment Chaplain

The chaplain's duty at our detachment is important to all of us. Please notify me as soon as possible regarding any sickness, distress, or deaths of any marines or marine family members. Remember, I can only perform my duties effectively if I am kept informed. My contact information is provided as follows.

101 S. Longcross Road
 Linthicum Heights, Md. 21090
 410-859-1325



Commandant's Message



Pete Pervi

Marines,

Your newly elected officers for 2009 will be installed at our Joint Ladies Auxiliary and Detachment meeting on **Monday, April 27, 2009** at **1900** hours. After the installation there will be time for socializing, food and drink. If anyone is interested in bringing and sharing their favorite covered dish, please do so.

The **Department of Maryland 2009 Convention** will take place at Ocean City on **May 1st** and **May 2nd**. You are all invited to attend. If you are interested in watching your Commandant earn his Devil Dog status, then come down Friday May 1st. If you want to attend the business meeting and election of Department Officers, then come down Saturday May 2nd. No matter which day you choose, you will have a great time.

Monday, May 4th is our detachment **Marines Helping Marines Fund-Raiser / Golf Tournament**. If you love golf, or if you think you may enjoy golf, come and play. The price is right, the company is enjoyable, plenty of beer and soda while your golfing and afterward the food is great. If you don't golf, come out and volunteer and enjoy the day.

I am still working on the trip to **8th&I** for the **Evening Parade**. The date has not been set yet. I expect to have more information for the May meeting.

Semper Fi,

Pete

Commandant

SHOW YOUR PRIDE

from Ed Dahling, Public Information Officer

Wear Your Medals on Memorial Day



The Department of Veterans Affairs calls on all veterans to express their patriotism and pride on Memorial Day and other major patriotic holidays through a display of medals earned in their military service.

Join your comrades in public display of your military decorations. It's a way to show your community the spirit of America's veterans and remind your neighbors of the service and sacrifice of those who guarded democracy.

As we salute America's heroes on Memorial Day, Veterans Day and the Fourth of July, wear your medals and show your pride, whether participating in public observances or relaxing with family and friends. Your medals tell a story of service in the cause of freedom that all Americans need to hear.



Established 1943
Garrison Rifle & Revolver Club, Inc.
is a
Charter Member
of the
Associated Gun Clubs of
Baltimore Inc.

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

Affiliated with the National Rifle Association and Civilian Marksmanship Program



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.

Club meets every second Tuesday of each month. Except January which is the third Tuesday.
11515 Marmontville Road
Marmontville, Maryland 21104-1220

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

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

From the desk of the

Senior Vice Commandant



James T. Brady

Members,

In one of my previous letters to our Detachment, I thought I asked you guy's to just shoot me if and when Jack Severn or Manny Airey asked (volunteered) me to do anything new. Well, Pete Pervi is now included in that group. Pete, our Commandant, has nominated me for Department Judge Advocate and the actual election will take place at the **Department Convention in Ocean City on Saturday, May 2nd**. I would appreciate your support and especially your vote – if you think I am worthy. This is just another indication of how active our Detachment is in the Marine Corps League and how you (we) all should be very proud to be part of this Detachment.

On Saturday, March 21st, **Young Marines** from a different Detachment (not ours) held a spaghetti dinner fund-raiser at our facility. It seems that they were not allowed to hold this event at their own Post Home, so we stepped in to help. It is my understanding that they had a very successful dinner and raised around \$900.00. I know a bunch of you guys bought tickets and I would just like to say “Thank You”, as this exemplifies Marines helping Marines – even future Marines.

This last Saturday, March 28th the **VFWLA** held their annual **Shrimp Feast** for \$35.00. If you missed the fun and food you really missed a great day. It was very filling and well worth the money spent for dinner, dancing, socializing, and helping a worthy organization; I know I ate my share. I just hope that our **Bull & Oyster Roast**, scheduled to occur in **October**, will be nearly as successful.

Remember that a **Day at the Races**, which is being co-hosted by our MCL Detachment and the VFW's Men's Auxiliary is scheduled to take place on **Sunday, April 26th** and our detachment's share of the proceeds will be used to increase the size of our general fund. For only \$10.00, this joint effort will provide you with a fun-filled day of food, drink, and the opportunity to either win or lose money by wagering on the horses. If you have never attended this event in the past...trust me you will enjoy yourselves and it is definitely cheaper than going to the movies.

Our next meeting is Monday, April 27th and we will have plenty of items to discuss, such as:

- Department of Maryland Convention
- Detachment Business & Activities
- Department Business & Activities
- Devil Dog Business & Activities – Pound & Pack
- Golf Outing
- Fund Raising

A **Pound Growl** was held at our facility on **Sunday, April 19th** that allowed the Dogs to donate many bones and bark at the moon.

I'll keep it short (no pun intended) as I understand some of you are having eyesight problems reading so much of my chicken scratching (ha ha ha).

May all of your problems be small...may all of your dreams come true and most importantly, may all of your friends and family be ever close to your heart!

Semper Fidelis & Woof Woof

Jim Brady

(aka Private Pound Puppy)

Senior Vice Commandant & PDD

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

From the desk of the

Jr Vice Commandant



Woody Bowman

Fellow members,

There are three items that I would like to address this month – **Life Memberships, Marine Corps League license plates, and Color Guard participation.**

Anyone interested in obtaining a **life membership** should contact me and be prepared to pay a one-time membership fee based upon your age as summarized below.

35 and younger.....	\$500
36 – 50.....	\$400
51 – 60.....	\$300
61 and older.....	\$150

Anyone interested in obtaining **Marine Corps League license plates** can access the necessary information on the web at

http://deptofmdmcl.org/MCL_Plates/MCL_Lic_Plates.htm.

Those of you without a computer should contact Jack Colleran at 410-647-3877. Basic requirements for these plates entail payment of a one-time, **\$25** fee and maintenance of your good standing in the league through timely payment of your dues –if you are not a life member.

With regard to the **Color Guard**, I would first like to extend my sincere thanks to all those who helped make our participation in the 2008-2009 events a success.

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Manny Airey | Charles Dorn | Fred Downey |
| Paul Downey | Ray Gonzales | Chris Kalwa |
| Tom Maiorana | Spike Miller | Pete Pervi |
| Charles Quick | Ken Rollins | Don Thompson |
| | Charles Young | |

From January through December 2008, participants drawn from the cadre of members noted above, participated in holiday observances at 11 area schools, 5 ceremonies for various fraternal and veteran organizations, 8 memorial services and 7 parades.

Any member interested in being part of our Color Guard activities is encouraged to contact me.

Woody

Junior Vice Commandant

The Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League



Military Order of Devil Dogs

Woof-Woof,

The **Pack of Maryland** held a very successful Growl after the **Department Spring Staff Meeting** on March 14th at American Legion Post 15, in Elkton, Md. Great breakfast and lunch meals were served by the Auxiliary and the bar – which opened at 0800 – made some very good Bloody Marys.

Hound Dog Pound 204 will have growled again on the 19th of April at the Pound Dog House. The Anne Arundel County Detachment of the MCL served breakfast at 0900, which was preceded by Bloody Marys at 0800.

All Dogs will trot to Ocean City for the Grand Growl on 1 May. We will have several Pups advancing to Devil Dog, so it should be a fun time for those of us on the sidelines, and the unfortunate few who will reluctantly join the Pups in the swimming pool.

Remember: If you are inside the swimming pool fenced-in area, you will very likely get wet!

As always, keep the fleas at a safe distance.

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

Paul Taylor

PDD & Dog Robber

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Never Duplicated!

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410-768-3369 410-768-4334

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Carol Diane Creager (nee Stransky), beloved wife of our Adjutant William 'Bill' Creager, daughter of Blanche and the late Joseph Stransky. She was called to the Lord on April 3, 2009. Diane is also survived by her son William Scott Creager, daughter Heather White, loving sister Jo-Ann Freburger and husband John, and her brother Brian Stransky.

Diane graduated from Landsdowne High in 1965, retired from the Federal Reserve Bank in Baltimore, and worked for Legg Mason. Diane loved the arts, music, travel and Disney.

A memorial service was held at St. John Lutheran Church, 300 West Maple Road, Linthicum Heights, MD on Monday, April 6th. Donations may be made to the following organizations in Diane's memory: Saint John Lutheran Church, Susan G. Komen (for the cure), the Paralyzed Veterans of America, and the Marine Corps League.

This notice was based upon the obituary published on 4/4/2009 in the online version of the Baltimore Sun.

Veteran's Affairs

from Phil Schwarzenberg, VAVS Officer

VA Plans to Hire More Disabled Vets

Thirty percent of VA employees are veterans; nearly eight percent of those are veterans with *service-connected* disabilities, and the VA has recently announced plans to hire more veterans falling into this category.

All severely injured veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan will be contacted by the VA's **Veterans Employment Coordination Service (VECS)** to determine their interest in and qualifications for VA jobs. So far, VECS has identified 2,300 severely injured vets of those wars, who have subsequently expressed an interest in VA employment. "Our team is spreading the message that the VA is hiring, and we want to hire disabled veterans," said Dennis O. May, Director of the VECS.



Coming Events

In addition to the normally scheduled **detachment meetings that take place on the 4th Monday of every month**, the following events are scheduled to occur through June of 2009. Unless otherwise noted, these events will take place at VFW Post 160, located at 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060.

Department of Maryland Convention

Princess Royale Ocean-Front Hotel,
Ocean City, Maryland
Thursday, April 30 – Saturday, May 2, 2009
(Bud Raines)

Military Order of Devil Dogs, Pack Growl

Princess Royale Ocean-Front Hotel,
Ocean City, Maryland
Friday, May 1, 2009 (12:00 – 3:30 PM)
(Jack Severn)

Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament

Bay Hills Golf Course
Arnold, Maryland
Monday, May 4, 2009 @ 9:00 AM
(Rich Gonzales & Manny Airey)

Dept of Pennsylvania Pistol Match

Fort Indiantown Gap, PA
Friday May 29 – Sunday, 31 May, 2009
(Mike Hadley)

Detachment 1049 Staff Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 2009 @ 7:30 PM
(Pete Pervi)

Memorial Day – Posting of Colors (Color Guard)

American Legion Post 276
8068 Quarterfield Road
Severn, MD 21144
Monday, May 25, 2009 @ 9:00 AM
(Woody Bowman)

Memorial Day – Posting of Colors (Color Guard)

Crownsville Veterans Cemetery (410-987-6320)
1122 Sunrise Beach Road
Crownsville, MD 21032
Monday, May 25, 2009 @ 11:00 AM
(Woody Bowman)

VFW Monthly Breakfast

Sunday, June 7, 2009 (9:00 – 11:00 AM)
(Charles Albo)



Fallen Marine To Be Honored

MCL Detachment to be renamed for Cohee

This article was created by Earl Holland, a staff writer for delmarvanow.com and appeared in the March 25, 2009 online edition.

SALISBURY – A U.S. Marine who made the ultimate sacrifice is expected to receive another honor within the next few weeks.



The Marine Corps League **Detachment-Delmarva** is in the process of renaming the detachment after **Staff Sgt. Walter F. "Trea" Cohee III**. The detachment, which serves all of Somerset and Wicomico counties and parts of Worcester County, is involved in several public service activities, such as the annual Toys for Tots drive.

"Our family is very appreciative," said Jeannie Cohee, Trea Cohee's mother. "Anything done in Trea's memory is wonderful."

Trea Cohee, a Mardela Springs native, was the first serviceman from the state of Maryland to die in Operation: Enduring Freedom when the helicopter he was in crashed while flying over Afghanistan in January 2002.

The decision regarding the name change is expected to be given sometime in April.

Jeanne Cohee said she first heard about the honor from her husband and Trea's father, Walter Cohee Jr., a member of the detachment.

The detachment was the first one to represent the Delmarva Peninsula before units emerged on the upper Eastern Shore, Dorchester County and in Delaware.

"It seemed that it was only necessary to move on from the 'Delmarva' name and honor a former Marine," said Ed Hearthway, the detachment's judge advocate. "Because of Cohees' volunteer work, in addition to the ultimate sacrifice their family made, we felt our detachment should be named after Trea."

The detachment's membership was in favor of the name change, but as part of procedure, the family had to give written approval. After receiving the nod from the Cohees, the paperwork was sent to the state, region and national Marine Corps League offices for final approval.

More than seven years after his death, Trea Cohee's name will continue to be remembered through the local Marine Corps League detachment, something Jeanne Cohee feels her modest son would have appreciated.

"He was a good kid who went to do what he felt he had to and didn't do it for the praise," she said. "He'd be a bit embarrassed, but he'd be also tickled to death."

Corps Quotation...

"I would rather have a good Marine by my side than anything in the world when the chips are down"

Ernest Hemingway

Legislative Report

from Jim LeGette, Legislative Officer

State Activity

The politicians have closed-up shop in Annapolis (April 13/14). Neither the House of Delegates nor the Senate approved any proposed bills dealing with **Slot Machines** or **Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Military Retirement Income**. Several bills were passed addressing a wide variety of military issues.

Federal Activity

US Representative Walter B. Jones (R-NC) has introduced bill **HR 24** that seeks to rename the Department of the Navy to the "**Department of the Navy and Marine Corps**." A companion bill, **S 504**, has been introduced by Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS). Apparently Representative Jones has received complaints from Corps family members, who received condolence letters about their fallen Marine on Department of the Navy letterhead with no identifiable Marine Corps affiliation. There is no attempt to change the budget process; however, official titles would include "**Marine Corps**."

(Different Time ... Different Place – from page 1)

Since March 2007, **Operation Welcome Home Maryland (OWHMD)** volunteers have greeted over 168 flights and more than 33,600 Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Guardsmen, and Marines. At each organized event, returning members of our military have been greeted in a manner appropriate for their selfless service and commitment. As these heroes enter the International Terminal at BWI, they are surprised by flash bulbs, balloons, patriotic music, home-made signs of appreciation, and the cheers of many – from some who purposely planned to be part of the event and others who may be described as ‘by chance’ participants, who happened to be passing through the terminal and were subsequently drawn to the sights and sounds of the event. Handshakes and embraces from friends and strangers, as well as the long awaited hugs and kisses of their loved ones make this an emotional moment that will be eternally etched into the memories of all who participated in the occasion.

As a multiple-tour Vietnam vet, I could not help but reflect on my returns. When I returned to the ‘States’ so many decades ago, a few of my arrivals in California could be described as ‘unheralded’ while the others can deservedly be described as ‘hostile.’ It pleases me to say that the result of my reflection was not one of envy; but rather, one of joy because America is getting it right by honoring those who have come after us. It is fitting that they are receiving – if only for a few moments – an appropriate acknowledgement of their sacrifices! So far, I have participated in one of these events but I plan to do more.

If you think that you might like to be part of this event, you are encouraged to either visit the **Operation Welcome Home Maryland** website at the URL <http://www.operationwelcomehomemd.org/index.htm>, or ask me as well as other detachment officers for additional information. The OWHMD website provides information such as event background, flight schedules, parking arrangements, etc. Once you have selected a date, you are urged to call (410) 630-1555 on the morning of the event – prior to departing for BWI – to confirm that the associated flight has not been rescheduled and that the event is still scheduled to take place at the anticipated time. You should note that the posted arrival times allow sufficient time for the OWHMD staff and volunteers to decorate the reception area and assemble ‘goodie-bags’ (consisting of bottled-water, snacks, etc.), which will be made available to the arriving troops as they enter the terminal.

In closing, I would like to encourage each of you to be part of something positive! Being part of one of these events does not require anything other than your presence and a willingness to make these returning veterans feel that their efforts were noticed and appreciated. An unintended but justifiably fulfilling consequence of your involvement is that when you leave the terminal later that evening...you’ll stand a little taller...you will feel a renewed bond with today’s warriors...you will feel really good about yourself.

See you at BWI!



Saepius Exertus ... Semper Fidelis ... Frater I nfinitas

(Often Tested ... Always Faithful ... Brothers Forever)



Volunteer Information

(Additional Information Available at OWHMD website)

- Please note that times provided on the website indicate when you should arrive at the airport – NOT actual flight arrival times.
- Volunteers are encouraged to help with preparations before the soldiers arrive through Customs.
- If you wish to bring something for the goodie bags, please consider bringing items such as handmade ‘thank you’ cards from children or pre-packaged, single-serving snacks – cookies, crackers, granola bars, candy and ½ liter bottles of water.

Please do not bring homemade cookies, fresh fruit, or other perishable food items.

Please do not assemble goodie bags prior to coming to the airport. The bags are assembled prior to each flight’s arrival.

- Park on Level 3 – Section 3H of the airport garage and use the crosswalk to the airport – being mindful of traffic. You will enter the airport near the **USO Lounge**. Once inside the airport, go left towards the **International Terminal** – OWHMD staffers and volunteers assemble in the lobby of that terminal.
- Parking validation is available, but you must park on Level 3 – **Section 3H** of the airport garage. Give your ticket to the event leader for validation by BWI customer service.

To receive validation, you must turn in your ticket NO LATER than 30 minutes after the volunteer report time.

You will need a validated ticket to avoid parking fees!



Corps History

from Vic Halme, Historian

1 April 1945 (Easter Sunday)

1st & 6th Marine Divisions land on Okinawa.

2-3 April 2003

5th Marine Regimental Combat Team captures bridges over Tigris River to open the path to Baghdad.

3 April 1945

Marines of the III Amphibious Corps effectively cut Okinawa in half – in 3 days rather than the originally projected 11.

5 April 1947

Five Marine guards were killed and eight wounded when Communist Chinese raiders attack the Hsin Ho ammunition depot in Northern China.

8 April 1956

Six recruits drown in Ribbon Creek at MCRD Parris Island.

8 April 2000

Nineteen Marines perish as the MV-22 Osprey aircraft they were aboard crashes near Marana, Arizona.

9 April 1942

105 Marines among American captives on Bataan Death March.

10 April 1959

Lt. Col. John H. Glenn, Jr. named as one of the original seven Project Mercury astronauts. Three years later, Col. Glenn would become the first American to orbit the Earth.

12 April 1975

Marines evacuate foreigners before Khmer Rouge seize Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

12 April 1994

Marines evacuate foreigners from Rwanda.

12-13 April 1918

Marines of the 4th Brigade suffer their first gas attack on the night and early morning hours of 12-13 April when the Germans bombard 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.

13 April 2003

Marines locate seven American soldiers held prisoner by the Iraqis near Samarra.

15 April 1962 (Palm Sunday)

Marine Corps operational involvement in the Vietnam War begins when HMM-362 flying Sikorsky UH-34s arrives at Soc Trang in the Delta south of Saigon. The task unit was called "Shufly" and its first operational employment involved air-lifting Vietnamese troops into battle.

18 April 1864

Marines join sea battle as Union ships attack the Confederate iron-clad Albemarle near New Bern, NC.

18 April 1983

One Marine Security Guard is killed and seven wounded when a large car bomb explodes just outside the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon.

21 April 1951

Marine carrier-based airplanes make their first aerial contact with enemy planes over the Korean front lines. Captain Philip C. Delong shoots down two YAK fighters and 1st Lieutenant Harold D. Daigh destroys one more and damages another in the heavily defended Pyongyang-Chinnampo area.

24 April 1980

Three Marines perish in desert accident during effort to rescue American hostages in Teheran.

26 April 1863

250 Marines under Captain John L. Broome seize New Orleans custom house and city hall.

27 April 1805

1st 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, raise the United States flag for the first time over a conquered fortress of the Old World at Derne, Tripoli.

28 April 1965

6th Marines Land in Dominican Republic.

28 April 1993

The last A-6E Intruder was removed from Marine Corps service as Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 332 prepares for their transition to the F/A-18D.

30 April 1970

President Nixon Orders troops into Cambodia.

30 April 1975

4th Marines under Colonel Al Gray complete evacuation of U.S. Embassy in Saigon, RVN and nearby Tan Son Nhut Air Force Base.

30 April 1991

Marines provide humanitarian assistance millions of homeless after cyclone kills 125,000 in Bangladesh.



Tricare User Fees

Leaders of the **House Armed Services Committee** say they expect the Pentagon will once again propose big **Tricare fee hikes for military retirees**. Their 15 March letter to the Chairman of the House Budget Committee was very specific on the latter point, and asked for extra budget authority to reject the expected increases. "The committee believes that the [end of April] budget request will again assume over \$1 billion in savings within the Defense health budget, based on recommendations from a previous Defense Department Task Force," said the letter signed by Chairman Ike Skelton (D-MO) and Ranking Minority Member John McHugh (R-NY). "The committee will need additional budget headroom to prohibit the fee increases that we expect will be proposed by the Department of Defense." Those who agree that that's the last thing the Defense Department should do, still have time to weigh in with the President and the Secretary of Defense need to act quickly. You can send an email via the website at <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/alert/?alertid=13015596&type=PR> or a letter to President Obama urging reconsideration of the unfair TRICARE fee increases proposed in the last three defense budgets.

You can also email Secretary of Defense Gates. The Secretary has no public e-mail address, so you have to go to the DoD Website <http://www.defenselink.mil/faq/questions.aspx>, click on the "Ask a Question/Make a Comment" tab at the top, fill out the required information, and include a comment of your own making or this recommended comment: "For Secretary Gates: As you prepare the FY2010 budget, please don't resume past failed efforts to impose unfair Tricare fee increases on retired military families. Career military people were told that their decades of arduous service and sacrifice constituted a steep, pre-paid premium that earned lifetime health coverage. Large proposed Tricare fee hikes have been upsetting because they devalue those decades of sacrifice – in wartime, no less. Please seize this opportunity to suspend these divisive efforts and work with military associations to develop positive incentives and 'win-win' solutions for all concerned."

This article was excerpted from the
Military Officers Association of America News Exchange
of 8 April 2009



SHAMROCK AWARDS & ENGRAVING

(410) 766-4866

FAX: (410) 766-7277

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

T/T 9:00 - 7:30

SAT 9:00 - 1:00

900 Crain Highway North
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

TINA TODD
Assistant Manager

shamrockawards@erols.com

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The Ultimate Response to a Dear John...

*You've got to love a man like this...
a man who can find humor even in the face of defeat.*

A Marine was deployed to Afghanistan. While he was there, he received a letter from his girlfriend. In the letter she explained that she had slept with two guys while he had been gone and she wanted to break up with him. Worse yet, she wanted him to return all of her pictures!

So the Marine did what any squared-away Marine would do. He went around to his buddies and collected all of the unwanted photos of women he could find. He then mailed dozens of pictures of women (attractive and unattractive, various races, various ages, etc.) to his girlfriend with the following note:

"Dearest Mary, I don't remember which, if any, of these pictures are of you. Please look through them, remove yours, and return the rest to me."

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4th Annual Tournament at Bay Hills

On Monday, May 4, 2009 at 8:30 AM

– Contact Rich Gonzales, Manny Airey, & James Brady for additional information –



Marine Corps League

Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049

PO Box 804

Severn, Maryland 21144-0804

(Address Correction Requested)



*With no Army troops available, 86 Marines, led by Marine Lt. Israel Green and under overall command of Army LtCol. Robert E. Lee, capture the abolitionist insurgent John Brown at Harper's Ferry on 18 October 1859. (Harper's Ferry by Col. Charles Waterhouse, USMCR (Ret.) – excerpt from *The Marines*, published by The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation)*