

the

CUTTING EDGE

July 2010

news for and about the members of Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 of the Marine Corps League

Mac McNeir, Commandant & Editor / <http://mclaacdet1049.org/>

2010 Severna Park Parade

by Mac McNeir

Monday, July 5th was a hot, humid day; but, that did not dampen the spirit of Severna Park residents, who turned out in large numbers to watch the 2010 edition of the annual *Severna Park Independence Day Parade*. Nor did it dampen the spirit of the many participants, who marched (rode) in the parade; although, it did make them perspire a bit more than they would have liked. This year's parade was a bit longer than normal as it is an election year and candidates for public office (and their supporters) turned out in large numbers.



Parade Participants – (Standing, Left to Right) Jr. Taber, Charles Quick, Woody Bowman, Ray Gonzales, Dick Savage, Mac McNeir, Charles Young & Fred Downey. (Kneeling, Left to Right) Chris Kalwa, Bob Lloyd & Paul Downey. (Not Pictured) Tom Maiorana & Jack Colleran.

Members of **Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 of the Marine Corps League** and its Color Guard were at the head of the parade, preceded only by local fire department vehicles. As always, Ray Gonzales rode in our lead jeep and was dressed as Uncle Sam. I had the honor of riding with Dick Savage (a first time parade participant) in his recently acquired vintage jeep.

(see PARADE on page 11)

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the CUTTING EDGE

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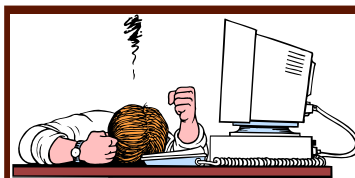
- Published Monthly
- Be sure to keep us advised of your current email address to ensure prompt delivery.



- Commandant – Mac McNeir
- Senior Vice-Commandant – Chris Thompson
- Junior Vice-Commandant – Woody Bowman
- Judge Advocate – Joe Wright
- Adjutant – Tom Maiorana
- Auxiliary President – Desiree Curtin
- By-Laws Committee Chairman – Danny Fischio
- Chaplain – Ken Webster
- Color Guard Commander – Woody Bowman
- Historian – Victor Halme
- House Chairman – Ken Rollins
- Legislative Officer – Jim LeGette
- Newsletter Editor – Mac McNeir
- Paymaster – Ed Dahling
- Public Information Officer – Vacant
- Quartermaster – Fred Kaminski
- Rifle & Pistol Team Captain – Michael R. Hadley
- Sergeant-at-Arms – Chris Kalwa
- Toys for Tots Coordinator – Vacant
- VAIS Officer – Vacant
- Web Sergeant – Michael R. Hadley
- Young Marines Commander – George Martin

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

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



From the Editor

by Mac McNeir

I am not going to drone on that I remain in need of newsletter inputs from our members as the message should have reached every member of the detachment by now.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those officers (appointed and elected), who are regular contributors to *the Cutting Edge*. I really appreciate your contributions.

If you have Internet capability and are not currently getting your newsletter electronically, I would appreciate your providing me with an appropriate email address. Also, please keep me apprised of any changes to your current email address.

The submission deadline for all **August** newsletter articles is **MIDNIGHT, Wednesday, August 11, 2010!**



Members' Birthdays

NOTE – Please advise the editor of any errors/omissions in the following listing.

Members of our detachment, who will be celebrating birthdays during the month of July include:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Frank Berg | Dave Boschert | James Galvin |
| Ray Gonzales | Vic Halme | Tom Maiorana |
| Paul Molinano | Theodore Thompson | Howard Throngard, Jr. |
| Kenneth Webster | Charles Young | |



Detachment Membership Stats – 6/30/2010

Good Standing (Dues Paid)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Memberships	74	9	6
Annual Memberships	32	7	-
Delinquent Dues			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Annual Memberships	8	3	-
New Members			
	1	-	-
Sub-Totals			
	115	19	6
Total			
	140		

Commandant's Message



Mac McNeir

Marines of 1049,

My Second Meeting

I for one liked the table and chair arrangement of our last meeting and believe that we will continue in that fashion for the next few months. My thanks are also extended to those members, who offered suggestions, reminders, and support as I grow into my new role as your Commandant.

Generosity of Detachment Members

Thanks are also in order for those members who generously contributed **\$290** toward the costs of the **September patient picnic** conducted by the staff of the **Marines Helping Marines Program** at the **Bethesda Naval Medical Center** for our wounded Marines. Volunteers are also needed to assist non-ambulatory patients to the picnic area, take food to the rooms of patients who cannot be moved, etc. Please see me if you would like to join me as a volunteer at the September MHM Picnic. I will need to make **Tony Begenwald** aware of those of us who will be volunteering to assist with the September Picnic. This will ensure that we will not encounter any problems gaining admittance to the Medical Center grounds on the day of the picnic.

With next year's picnics in mind, I would like to add that these picnics are normally conducted from March through October of each year. Further, I would like all you to consider our detachment committing to sponsorship of a patient picnic next year by contributing funds to off-set the cost of the picnic and/or volunteering your assistance (labor) at that picnic. We can discuss and act upon this proposal at a future meeting.

Color Guard

Having taken part in recent Memorial Day and Independence Day ceremonies, I would be remiss if I did not offer my thanks to Woody and all of the members of our Color Guard, who so generously give us and our community so much of their time.

A Personal Note

Thanks to all of the detachment members who offered their support and prayers for my grandson **Ben Foster**, who was recently injured at camp doing those things that young boys do. He seems to be recovering well.

Semper Fi,

Mac

Letter from ROK Marine

NOTE – The letter below appeared in a recent online Sgt Grit Newsletter. No changes in style or content were made to its content.

Dear US Marines

I happened to find your Sgt Grit website when I looked for Ka-Bar knife for my son's last year's Christmas present. My son is now 17 and we live in Australia. My son was born in New Zealand. He wants to become a Marine but there is no MC in Australia and NZ so this is a concern for him. I myself is a former Marine of ROKMC 1980-83. (Just in case if you don't know, it is the Republic of Korea MC).

I can see that your website is like an unofficial community of former or current US Marines and their families. I have read many moving stories in your newsletter. I can share your feelings and sentiments because I am also a proud Marine. Once one of my seniors said that the Marine Corps is a religion and yes I think it is like a religion no other people can fully understand.

Some time ago there were stories from perhaps old Marines who fought in the Korean War 1950-53. The US Marines who went to the Korean War would be at least in their mid 70s.

Here I would like to use this space of your newsletter to thank the US Marines who fought in the Korean War. You fought in such a harsh condition to defend the freedom of an unknown country and its unknown people. Many Marines sacrificed their flower-like young lives on the land of an unknown country. Many Marines were wounded and have lived rest of their lives with the injuries. Many parents, wives, children, brothers and sisters have endured the hardness of losing their loved sons, husbands, fathers and brothers. I am sorry to all of you and sincerely thank those Marines and the families.

I thank the USMC and the United States of America the great country you are proud of. Because of your sacrifices, now so many people are enjoying their freedom and prosperity. May our God remember you.

Sincerely yours

Syngdong Hahn

Lt ROKMC 1980-83



Marine Corps League
Department of Maryland

<http://deptofmdmcl.org>

From the desk of the

Senior Vice Commandant



Chris Thompson

Happy July, Marines

I would first like to apologize for not being able to be present at the July meeting. For those of you who don't know, I will be in Lincoln, Nebraska at the **National Roller-Skating Championships** watching my little girl compete in Figure Skating. I'm sure all of you will be glad to have the 'Mouth of South Jersey' fill in for me during my absence.

On another note, our **Bull and Oyster Roast** will be held on October 10th and tickets will be going on sale at the July meeting. We must surpass last year's totals; otherwise, we will have to listen to the past Senior Vice brag about last year's turn out verses this year's. Let's face facts, we want to hear the 'Mouth of South Jersey' as little as possible.

Semper Fi!

Chris



Legislative Report

by Jim Le Gette, Legislative Officer

Since the most common disability for veterans is hearing damage, the **Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing** (ODHH), established in 2001, offers assistance to our veterans in Maryland. An overview of available assistance offered by ODHH can be obtained on the Internet (www.odhh.maryland.gov) or by telephone (410-767-7793).

The quality of **Women Veterans' health care** by the **Department of Veterans Affairs** is being reviewed through a forum and other conferences with the intent of improving and meeting the unique health care needs of our Women Veterans. More information is available by telephone (202-461-6193) or on the Internet (www.OOW@va.gov).

According to the **Maryland General Assembly**, each state agency will establish a **Procurement Preference Program** by which they will try to award **0.5%** of the value of its' procurement contracts to *veteran-owned businesses*. Applicants must be verified as a veteran-owned small business by the **Center for Veterans Enterprise** (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs). The center can be reached via the Internet (www.acq.osd.mil/osbp) or by telephone (703-604-0157).



From the desk of the

Junior Vice Commandant



Woody Bowman

Fellow Members,

I would like to start this month's article by congratulating **Frank Fleishman** for becoming our detachment's newest life member. I would also like to welcome our detachment's newest member, **Keith Thorburn**.

Memberships

We still have eleven members, who remain delinquent in the payment of their dues. I remain hopeful that all of our members will soon have caught up on their dues and that we can then boast of no delinquencies.

Life Membership Rates

Hopefully, I can clear up any misunderstandings about life membership fees. As of January 1, 2009, the age-based, Life Membership fees are priced as follows.

35 years of age and younger	\$500
36 - 50 years of age	\$400
51 - 60 years of age	\$300
61 years of age and over	\$150

Color Guard

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of **Chris Kalwa, Ray Gonzales, Charlie Quick, Fred Downing, Paul Downing, and Bob Lloyd** to the success of our June Color Guard activities. I would also like to express my appreciation for the participation of everyone, who took part in the Severna Park Independence Day Parade (see front page article) on July 5th.

Currently, there are no color guard activities scheduled until the month of September .

Semper Fi!

Woody





Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through December of 2010. Unless otherwise noted, these events will take place at VFW Post 160, located at 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060 (410-766-9802).

- Commander's Steak Dinner, VFW Post 160**
Saturday, 24 July 2010 from 1700 to 1900 – *Pete Pervi*
- Crab Feast, VFW Post 160 Men's Auxiliary**
Sunday, 25 July 2010 from 1300 to 1800
- Monthly Meeting, MCL Detachment 1049**
Monday, 26 July 2010 @ 1900
Mac McNeir (410-437-4329)
- Friday Night Dinner, MCL Det. 1049 Auxiliary**
Friday, 30 July 2010 from 1800 to 2000 – *Desiree Curtin*
- Monthly Breakfast, VFW Post 160**
Sunday, 1 August 2010 from 0800 to 1200
Charles Albo (443-926-1665)
- 87th Marine Corps League National Convention**
August 8 – 14, 2010
Greensboro, NC (See Ad on page 6)
- MODD Pound 204 Growl**
Sunday, 22 August 2010 @ 1000 – *Paul Taylor*
- Monthly Meeting, MCL Detachment 1049**
Monday, 23 August 2010 @ 1900
Mac McNeir (410-437-4329)
- Commander's Steak Dinner, VFW Post 160**
Saturday, 28 August 2010 from 1700 to 1900 – *Pete Pervi*
- Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049**
Friday, 3 September 2010 from 1800 to 2000 – *Rich Gonzales*
- Monthly Breakfast, VFW Post 160**
Sunday, 5 September 2010 from 0800 to 1200
Charles Albo (443-926-1665)
- MCL, Department of MD Staff Meeting**
American Legion Post in Easton, MD
Saturday, 11 September 2010 @ 0900 – *Bud Raines*
- MODD Maryland Pack Growl**
American Legion Post in Easton, MD
Saturday, 11 September 2010 @ 1300 – *Paul Taylor*
- VFW Post 160 Clean-Up**
Sunday, 12 September 2010 from 0800 to 1800 – *Pete Pervi*
- Commander's Steak Dinner, VFW Post 160**
Sunday, 19 September 2010 from 1700 to 1900 – *Pete Pervi*
- Monthly Meeting, MCL Detachment 1049**
Monday, 27 September 2010 @ 1900
Mac McNeir (410-437-4329)

(continued in adjacent column)

- Monthly Breakfast, VFW Post 160**
Sunday, 3 October 2010 from 0800 to 1200
Charles Albo (443-926-1665)
- Bull & Oyster Roast, MCL Detachment 1049**
Sunday, 10 October 2010 @ from 1300 to 1800
Chris Thompson
- Commander's Steak Dinner, VFW Post 160**
Saturday, 16 October 2010 from 1700 to 1900 – *Pete Pervi*
- Monthly Meeting, MCL Detachment 1049**
Monday, 25 October 2010 @ 1900
Mac McNeir (410-437-4329)
- Children's Halloween Party, VFW Ladies Auxiliary**
Saturday, 30 October 2010 from 1300 to 1500
- Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049**
Friday, 5 November 2010 from 1800 to 2000 – *TBD*
- Monthly Breakfast, VFW Post 160**
Sunday, 7 November 2010 from 0800 to 1200
Charles Albo (443-926-1665)
- USMC Birthday Observance, MCL Det. 1049**
Wednesday, 10 November 2010 @ 1800
Mac McNeir (410-437-4329)
- Marine Corps Birthday Ball, MCL Detachment 1049**
Saturday, 13 November 2010
Cocktail Hour 6:00 to 7:00 PM
Ceremony 7:00 to 7:45 PM
Dinner 7:45 to 8:45
Dancing/Socializing 8:45 PM to MIDNIGHT (?)
James Brady (202-314-1782)
Mike Hadley (410-551-1596)
- Commander's Steak Dinner, VFW Post 160**
Saturday, 20 November 2010 from 1700 to 1900 – *Pete Pervi*
- Monthly Meeting, MCL Detachment 1049**
Monday, 22 November 2010 @ 1900
Mac McNeir (410-437-4329)
- Thanksgiving Dinner, VFW Post 160**
Thursday, 25 November 2010 (All Day) – *Pete Pervi*
- Monthly Breakfast, VFW Post 160**
Sunday, 5 December 2010 from 0800 to 1200
Charles Albo (443-926-1665)
- Children's Christmas Party, VFW Ladies Auxiliary**
Saturday, 11 December 2010 from 1300 to 1500
- MODD Pound 204 Growl**
Sunday, 19 December 2010 @ 1000 – *Paul Taylor*
- Christmas Party, VFW Post 160**
Friday, 24 December 2010 from 1200 – 1800 – *Pete Pervi*
- Christmas Day**
Post Closed





Military Order of the Devil Dogs



The Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

Woof-Woof,

The dog days of summer have most dogs lying around trying to keep cool. So, it is a good thing that there is not much going on this month. However, we should be gearing up for the **Supreme Growl** and **PDD Initiation** in August. The **Pack of Maryland** now has 22 Pedigree Devil Dog applicants eligible for the jump from DD to PDD. Hopefully all of them can show up early and partake of the fun while the rest of us watch, since *“We’ve been there, done that.”*

PDDs are eligible for paid up for Life Membership. Since your annual dues expire on 31 August, why not become a life member and forget about the annual hassle of having the Dog Robber hound you until you cough up the bones? For those PDDs aged 60 and younger, the life membership fee is \$150.00. For those old Dogs aged 61 and older, life membership is \$125.00. Make your check out to **“MODD Pound 204.”**

As always, keep the fleas at a safe distance.

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

Woof-Woof,

Paul Taylor

PDD & Dog Robber

Corps Humor Army Basic

Fifty-one years ago, Herman James, a North Carolina mountain man, was drafted by the Army.

On his first day in basic training, the Army issued him a comb.

That afternoon the Army barber sheared off all his hair.

On his second day, the Army issued Herman a toothbrush.

That afternoon the Army dentist yanked seven of his teeth.

On the third day, the Army issued him a jock strap.

The Army has been looking for Herman for 51 years.



Chaplain's Corner

by Ken Webster, Detachment Chaplain

As your new Chaplain, I want to help any and all members of our detachment (and the members of your families). My role includes posting appropriate information in this column. I need your help, to be successful. So please contact me at either of the following numbers as soon as you learn of any member or family member, who is sick, in distress, etc.

Home410-255-0741

Cell443-618-9641

Guy Hall

Our Commandant spoke to Guy recently and found out that Guy had just had a heart stent installed. Guy stated that *“He was an old hand at this and that it was no big deal.”* Our Commandant disagrees and believes that it was a big deal; however, he does agree with the **“old”** part of Guy’s statement.

Steve Salanik

Steve lost his mother last month. A condolence card has been sent on behalf of the detachment.

Vic Halme

Recently, two members of Vic’s family fell ill.

Vic’s mother-in-law, **Lillian Summers** had brain surgery at **Vanderbilt University Medical Center** in Tennessee. She was recently transferred from the facility’s critical care unit to a step-down unit.

Vic’s granddaughter, **Jessica Boyer** suffered a seizure while at camp. She has since recovered without any lingering signs of the incident.

Please keep all of our extended family members, mentioned above, in your thoughts and prayers.



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE 87th National Convention

KOURY CONVENTION CENTER
Greensboro North Carolina



A Tribute to
Lt. General John A. Lejeune



Sunday, 8 August – Saturday, 14 August, 2010



Corps History

by Vic Halme, Historian

1 July 1920

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

4 July 1800

Marine Corps Band makes its first public appearance at Tun Tavern (Philadelphia, PA).

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 1905

Marines escort the body of John Paul Jones during its relocation from France to Annapolis, MD.

6 July 1990

One of the most versatile attack aircraft in Corps history, the A-4 Skyhawk, retired from the Corps' active inventory.

7 July 1941

The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing activated at Quantico, Virginia. Within a year, the Wing would participate in the Marine Corps offensive at Guadalcanal.

9 July 1846

During the Mexican War, Marines and Sailors occupy Sonora, CA after California is proclaimed to be part of the United States.

10 July 1941

The 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing commissioned in San Diego, CA.

15 July 1958

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

18 July 1918

The 4th Marine Brigade 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, landed on Tinian, in the Mariana Islands. The following morning, the 2nd and 4th Marine Divisions began a shoulder-to-shoulder 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.

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.



New MCL Detachment

NOTE – The following article was based upon information published in the June 25th edition of The Capital.

The Marine Corps League is forming an Annapolis Detachment. The first meeting was held on July 14th at the American Legion Hall, 1095 Crownsville Road. For more information, email mclinfo@chepurko.com.





Young Marines

New Fundraiser

The Young Marines have started a new and I hope continuous fundraiser. We are collecting old printer ink cartridges, old watches, digital cameras, lap top computers, GPS devices, MP3 players, Game Boys, etc. – anything electrical. **These items do not have to be in working order!** We can get up to **75 cents** for each ink cartridge and up to **\$100** for an old laptop. Collect ink cartridges and other items from co-workers, friends, and family members.

I have placed a collection box for these items in the lounge at VFW Post 160. Once it is filled with your donations, I will replace it with an empty container. Your help in this year-round fundraiser will be greatly appreciated. These items are **tax-deductible!** So, let me know what you placed in the box and I will send you the necessary form.

New Enrollments

August means re-enrollment. At present we have 12 Young Marines and 5 recruits. Hopefully, all of them will continue with the program. Please contact me if you know of any youth interested in becoming a Young Marine.

Drills

We are planning a weekend drill session at Cheltenham Youth Camp on September 18th and 19th. Any contributions towards this weekend would be truly appreciated.

Uniforms

We have finally refurbished our uniform inventory; but, it has depleted our finances. Your contribution at the last detachment meeting helped a lot. Thanks! FYI, we try to get maximum usage out of each uniform by collecting uniforms from the kids as they grow out of them; but, kids are kids and they forget to bring them in for exchange – of course, uniforms do eventually become unserviceable.

Elections

Officer elections are held every two years by national directive and I have again been elected as the Commander of the Annapolis Young Marines. The election results have been reported to our Battalion and Division Commanders.

Again, on behalf of the Annapolis Young Marines, I wish to thank the members of Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 for their continuous support.

Respectfully Submitted

George Martin

Young Marines Commander



About Our Own

(from our members)

According to Associate Member **Jim Le Gette**, his son **Marco** (a Captain with Oscar Battery, 5th Bn, 14th Marines, 4th Div.) is currently at **Ft. Guernsey, Montana** with his reserve company, where they are shooting their 777's (towed howitzers) and all of their other support weapons. The 777 is a field gun capable of firing 155 mm, GPS guided, rounds at \$65,000 per round. He says that the reservists really go nuts shooting those guns. More power to them.

Ft. Guernsey is an Army installation that makes its training areas (even their landing field) available to other services. Nothing like sleeping out under the stars and eating out of a cardboard box.





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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
- Bulls-eye Pistol Championship
- Trap Shoot
- Jr's Club Shoot
- 4H State Match
- Club Crab Feast
- Club Christmas Dinner

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

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

Affiliated with the National Rifle Association and Civilian Marksmanship Program





For more information contact club secretary
Brian Beverly at (410) 437-4884
Email – garrisonmcc@yahoo.com

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



Have You Heard?

by Mac McNeir

Our detachment's **Color Guard** received the award pictured below from the **Glen Burnie Improvement Association** for being judged the **Best Appearing Veterans' Unit** in the association's **2010 Memorial Day Parade**.



Participating in the parade were **Charlie Quick, Charlie Young, Chris Kalwa, Paul Downing, Ray Gonzales, and Woody Bowman**. Our detachment is truly fortunate to be able to count these gentlemen among our number as they have unselfishly made themselves available for numerous parades, color ceremonies, and other civic functions for many years.

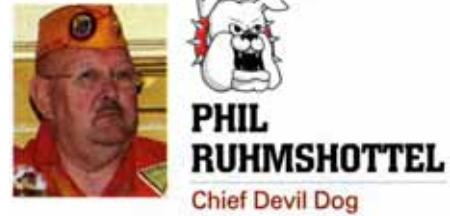
Our detachment recently received a check for \$50 from **American Legion Post 276**. The check was a token of appreciation from that post for the support that our **Color Guard** provided for several of their annual ceremonies.

The **Friday Nite Dinner** prepared by **Rich Gonzales & Jim Brady** on July 2nd was a big success, raising over \$200 for the detachment's coffers. Those who partook of the meal raved about the BBQ Ribs. Anyone, who has yet to attend a detachment hosted dinner, should really consider doing so in the future; the price is right, the quality and quantity of the food is excellent, and you will be contributing to the detachment's assets – assets necessary to carry on our philanthropic activities. Our next Friday Nite Dinner will be held on **Friday, September 3, 2010**.

Welcome Aboard!

Our detachment is privileged to have added **Frank Fleishman** to our roster as a new life member of the league. We also are proud to announce the recent induction of our newest detachment member **Keith Thorburn**.

For those who might have missed it, the following is an excerpt from the **July/August** edition of the League's *Semper Fi* magazine.



*"...I must congratulate **Pound 204 MD Pack** for collecting in excess of 800 big passport bones with the **MD Pack** donating in excess of 1,000 big bones. That is the kind of effort we need to see more often..."*

The Devil Dogs from our detachment, as well as those of nearby detachments, belonging to **Hound Dog Pound 204** and the **Maryland Pack** should take great pride in having provided a significant share of the Kennel's contribution to the Children's Charity (Hospital) of Greensboro, NC, which will be made during our National Convention in August.

On **Flag Day**, June 14, 2010, our **Detachment Color Guard** rendered honors while over 300 American Flags that had served their time were laid to rest by members of **American Legion Post 277**.



The Color Guard consisted of **Fred Downey, Chris Kalwa, Charlie Quick, Ray Gonzales, and Paul Downey**. Fred Downey presented the first flag to be retired, while the remaining flags were presented by others in attendance.

(continued in adjacent column)

(see Have You Heard? on page 10)

Pentagon Nixes Name Change

NOTE – Following article appeared in the online version of the Washington Post's Federal Eye column by Ed O'Keefe, which was published on June 8, 2010

Citing costs and a potential impact on morale, the Defense Department has once again declined to support legislation that would change the name of the **Department of the Navy to the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps.**



A bipartisan band of lawmakers have tried for years to get the title “**Marine Corps**” added to the official name of the Department of the Navy, arguing among other reasons that the families of Marines killed in action deserve to see the name of their son or daughter's military branch on letters of condolence from the Pentagon. As in previous years, the bill is included in the House's version of this year's defense spending bill, but not in the Senate version – and probably won't get in the final version yet again.

In a letter released Monday, Defense Department General Counsel **Jeh Johnson** told the Senate Armed Services Committee that the Marine Corps is a “fully integrated, equal part of a great Navy and Marine Corps team,” but that renaming the department would add several hundred thousands of dollars a year in extra expenses and “would not enhance the standing or reputation of the Marine Corps.”

“A re-designation could be viewed as more than symbolic, and could easily be misinterpreted as a step away from the heritage and tradition of a strong Navy and Marine Corps team,” Johnson wrote in a letter to Armed Services Chairman **Carl Levin** (D-Mich.), who does not support the name change.

The cost argument seems the strongest, considering the Obama administration's renewed push to slash 5 percent from agency budgets, a plan modeled on the Pentagon's new budget cut program.



Help Needed

Certificates of Appreciation for two corporate contributors to our **5th Annual Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament** remain undelivered. Would anyone with ties to either of the following organizations please contact me.

- Accutech Corporation
- Service First Consulting

Thanks & Semper Fi,

Mac

Birthday Ball Invitation

I recently received an email from **CWO2 Michael H. Franks** (Personnel Officer, Marine Cryptologic Support Bn). He has extended an invitation to members of our Detachment to attend his organization's Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Fortunately, it is scheduled for November 10th so it will not interfere with our own celebration, which is scheduled for November 13th.

The particulars of the **Support Battalion's Ball** are provided as follows:

When: 10 November 2010
Cocktails start at 1800
Ceremony starts at 1900
Dinner will be served at 2000.

Where: Hyatt in Baltimore's Inner-Harbor.

Estimated Cost: \$85.00 per person.

Point of Contact:

CWO Michael H. Franks
Personnel Officer Marine Cryptologic Support Bn
email – mhfrank@nsa.ic.gov
Comm: (240) 373-3757 DSN: 685
Black Berry: (571) 289-5729

*NOTE – If you are interested in attending the **Support Battalion's Ball**, please contact **CWO2 Franks** as well as your Detachment Commandant.*



Have You Heard (continued from page 9)

Mark Your Calendars!

Members of the detachment's golf committee recently obtained a commitment from the **Bay Hills Golf Club** to host the **6th Annual Marines Helping Marines Fund-raiser**. The tournament will be held at **0900 on Friday, May 13, 2011.**

It's not too early to begin getting commitments from family, friends, and business associates to sponsor and/or play in our 2011 tournament. We cannot rest on our laurels if we are to either maintain or preferably exceed our contributions to the Marines Helping Marines Program!

The construction phase of the **Marine Corps League Office** at **VFW Post 160** is progressing well. A status (financial) report will be presented at our next detachment meeting on July 26th.



Parade (continued from page 1)

The spirit of the spectators, both young and old, was a joy to behold. I always enjoy being part of this parade as it provides me with an opportunity to ‘refresh my spirit’ and ‘restore my faith’ that there are still a large number of Americans, who love this country and respect the members of its military.

More pictures...



Uncle Sam & the Detachment Color Guard waiting for the parade to begin. [Photo – Mac McNeir]



Severna Park youth displaying their patriotic spirit for all to see. [Photo – Mac McNeir]



Severna Park families greeting parade participants. [Photo – Mac McNeir]

Uncle Sam aka Ray Gonzales

If you have never participated in a community parade, you might want to consider being part of this one in the future.



Corps Moves Forward with F-35

NOTE – Following article appeared in the online version of the Marine Corps Times on July 3, 2010 and was written by staff writer Amy McCullough.

Amid community concerns over the future location of **F-35B Joint Strike Fighter** squadrons, the Marine Corps is pushing forward with its basing plans. In May and June the Marine Corps released two environmental studies and continues to hold public meetings to address concerns.



The Marine Corps is counting on the F-35B to replace its EA-6B Prowlers, AV-8B Harriers and F/A-18 Hornets. [Marine Corps Photo]

There will be 22 operational squadrons spread among Marine Corps Air Stations Beaufort, SC, and Cherry Point, NC, on the East Coast, and Miramar, CA, and Yuma, AZ, on the West Coast, said Captain Craig Thomas, a Marine spokesman at the Pentagon. Seven of the 22 squadrons will have 16 aircraft, and the rest will have 10, although where they will be assigned has not yet been determined.

The East Coast also will have a pilot training center, and the West Coast will have an operational training and evaluation squadron.

The first operational squadron is planned for Yuma in 2012, although final approval to base the squadron there is not likely until December, Thomas said. The Corps also will begin phasing out its legacy aircraft in 2012.

But even as plans proceed, the troubled program continues to face scrutiny in Washington. At an estimated \$382 billion, the Joint Strike Fighter is by far the Pentagon’s most expensive acquisition program – a fact not lost on Defense Secretary Robert Gates, who is continuing his crusade to cut defense spending.

The Corps, though, is counting on the fifth-generation fighter to replace its EA-6B Prowlers, AV-8B Harriers, and F/A-18 Hornets.

(see F-35B on page 13)



Aviation Marines Repulse Taliban Attack

NOTE – The following article is about a Marine Corps Aviation Squadron of which your current detachment Commandant was once part. It is based upon an online Marine Corps Times article by staff writer Amy McCullough that was published on June 16, 2010.



Every Marine is trained first and foremost as a rifleman, but many who work in fields like aviation will never find themselves locked in close-quarters combat with the enemy.

But one Marine aviation unit, **Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 2 (VMAQ-2)** out of Cherry

Point, NC, now deployed to Camp McCool, Afghanistan, recently found themselves pitted in a fight to the death with Taliban insurgents.

It was about an hour before sunrise on May 19, 2010 when **Pfc. Michael Craddock** – standing guard at the camp – thought he saw a shape moving over the top of the exterior perimeter.

Craddock, an aviation mechanic assigned to VMAQ-2, raised his M16 service rifle and zoned in.

With no direct line of communication from the camp to the rest of Bagram Air Base's security, he had no way of knowing that 45 minutes earlier, the two main entrances had been attacked.

When the five-hour firefight was over, at least nine U.S. service members, including two Marines from the EA-6B Prowler squadron, were wounded. One U.S. contractor and more than a dozen insurgents were killed in what is among the most intense ground fights involving a Marine Corps aviation squadron.



EA-6B Prowler of VMAQ-2, which has the role of defeating complex integrated air defense systems through the use of powerful pods (slung under each wing); thereby allowing attack jets and fighters to hit their targets. [Military-Today.com Photo]

“You’d never expect VMAQ-2 to be engaged in close combat with the enemy, but the Marines performed amazingly well,” said **Lt. Colonel Todd Caruso**, the squadron’s commanding officer.

Surprise Attack...

It was about 4:00 AM (0400), and **Gunnery Sergeant Milledge Wilson** was on his way to take a shower when he noticed the Marines on sentry duty looked “distracted.” **Lance Corporal Ben Stellick** told him someone had just climbed over the exterior wall and was hiding in the brush.

Wilson and Stellick had walked about 10 paces when Wilson saw the spoon of a grenade fly into the air. In an instant, he heard an explosion, realized he had been hit in the stomach and then felt blood trickling down his forehead.

“I fired five or six times, then I fell back to the guard shack,” said Wilson, an EA-6B electrician who was working in the Quality Assurance Shop in Afghanistan.

Someone pulled the alarm, and the horn blasted, warning the other Marines in the squadron that the camp was under attack.

Outside the bunkers, several insurgents had climbed the 6-foot exterior barrier and dropped out of sight into the tall grass on the other side, Wilson said. They unleashed hand-tossed grenades, their AK47 assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenades on the camp.

Wilson was hit by shrapnel from a second grenade – this time in his right side – as he fired his M4. Before he could think about the wound, he heard a scream and saw Stellick lying on the ground “with blood coming out of his belt line,” he said. Wilson grabbed Stellick and started to drag him back to the center of camp where someone could provide first-aid, he said.

Meanwhile, Craddock, who was on his first combat deployment, stood alone outside the guard shack where he continued to return fire.

“I just fell back on my [training] at that point,” Craddock said by phone from Afghanistan.

Before Wilson and Stellick made it to safety, a third grenade exploded and shrapnel struck Wilson in the left leg. He was too weak to drag Stellick so he hid him behind a bunker, he said. Then he ran 30 feet to the center of the camp for help. “I finally heard small-arms fire coming from two airport guard towers guarding the perimeters. I felt comfortable that our gates were covered so I went to the bunker to get more help. I just stayed seated there because ... I was losing strength,” Wilson said.

Despite a hole in his abdomen the size of a penny, a small wound on his forehead, two gashes on his left tricep, wounds to his right leg and inner left calf, a big gash on his left inner thigh, another shrapnel wound to his back, two gashes on his left side and two holes in his left butt cheek, Wilson managed to brief Caruso.

“Within five to 10 minutes of the fireworks beginning, some helicopters also started laying down some fire,” Caruso said. “It’s really hard to say what bullets went where, but there were a lot of them.”

(see Aviation Marines on page 13)

Aviation Marines

(continued from page 12)

In a letter to families on the squadron's website, Caruso said, "All insurgents who attempted to breach our fence line were killed."

"After a thorough review of the events of the 19th, I can state with great pride that our two wounded Marines... through their brave and decisive actions, disrupted the enemy's planned attack and undoubtedly saved the lives of others," he wrote May 25.

Picking Up the Pieces...

Shortly after the sun rose, Wilson and Stellick were loaded onto the back of a pickup truck and evacuated to the hospital at Bagram. There, doctors performed surgery on Wilson's abdomen. Marine Corps Times could not reach Stellick, so it's unclear what injuries he sustained.

Both Marines were eventually evacuated to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., Caruso said. As of June 3, Stellick was not listed as a patient, and a hospital spokesman said the health information privacy act prevented him from saying whether he had been treated there.



GySgt. Milledge Wilson describes the injuries to his left calf to his mother, Shelby; his girlfriend, Iriany Hernandez; and his father Milledge; while recovering at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. [Marine Corps Times Photo]

Wilson said Stellick was released and is now recovering at home. After four surgeries on his leg, Wilson said he was hoping to be released June 4.



Quotation

"The terrorist lives for terror, not for the change he tells himself he wants. He masks his desire to kill and destroy behind the curtain of a cause. It is destruction he wants, not creation."

Louis L'Amour
Last of the Breed - 1986

F-35B

(continued from page 11)

The F-35B is touted for its stealth and short-takeoff and vertical-landing capabilities. The Corps' jump jet variant broke the sound barrier June 10, flying 727 mph and into military aviation history books. It was the first time a STOVL aircraft reached supersonic speed, although the Air Force's conventional take-off and landing variant had already broken the sound barrier.

Eglin Air Force Base, FA, which serves as a joint F-35 training pipeline, will get the first Marine variants this year. The first students to funnel through the school will become the Corps' operational test and evaluation pilots in 2011, leaving Eglin for Edwards Air Force Base, CA, where they will continue operational tests of the aircraft.

Extensive environmental impact studies for both coasts, conducted by the Navy, cover topics such as noise and safety. Thomas said basing plans cannot be completed until the public review of the studies is complete. To read the full reports and view public meeting dates, visit the following Internet sites – www.usmcjsfeast.com for the East Coast and www.usmcjsfwest.com for the West Coast.

POSSIBLE LOCATIONS

East Coast Options:

Three operational squadrons and a pilot training center at Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, SC, and eight squadrons at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, NC.

- The training center at Beaufort and 11 squadrons at Cherry Point.
- Eight squadrons at Beaufort and three squadrons and the training center at Cherry Point.
- Eleven squadrons at Beaufort and the training center at Cherry Point.

West Coast Options:

- Six squadrons at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., and five squadrons and an operational training and evaluation squadron at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma.
- Four squadrons at Miramar and seven squadrons plus the OT&E at Yuma.
- Seven squadrons and the OT&E at Miramar and four squadrons at Yuma.
- One squadron and the OT&E at Miramar and 10 squadrons at Yuma.
- Ten squadrons at Miramar and one squadron plus the OT&E at Yuma.





Marine Corps League
Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049
PO Box 804
Severn, Maryland 21144-0804

(Address Correction Requested)



From the VFW Post Commander



On Sunday, September 12, 2010, we will have an *all-day cleanup and beautification day* for the post. We will start at **8:00 AM** and finish at **6:00 PM**. The candidate tasks to be performed appear on my wish list which is replicated below. The service of anyone belonging to the Post 160 or any of the organizations sharing its facilities will be sincerely appreciated.

1. Clean the kitchen from top to bottom; and, empty and clean the refrigerator.
2. Clean, strip, and re-wax the hall floors.
3. Replace the rug on the hall stage.
4. Inspect all the hall chairs and tables, separate them into groups – usable, repairable, and needs replacement. Throw away the ones we cannot repair and fix the ones that we can.
5. Outside... clean-up post property. Cut and remove any vegetation we do not want to keep. Trim what we want to keep.
6. Repair the horseshoe pits.
7. Perform minor repairs inside and outside the post and ensure that all lights work.
8. Discard all items that are no longer needed by the Post (including items stowed on the 2nd floor).

My initial thoughts are to see if we can organize into work groups, who will address one or more items from the candidate task list.

Thanks,

Pete