

the

CUTTING EDGE

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

Mac McNeir, Commandant & Editor

<http://mclaacdet1049.org/>

Golf Benefits Wounded Marines

By Mac McNeir

Friday, the 14th of May, dawned in an overcast fashion that had many of us recalling last year's tournament, which was played in a torrential down-pour. Fortunately, as time passed, the sun appeared and the 5th Annual Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament was played under far better conditions than we had dared to hope.

Nearly 70 participants – some of whom could be called golfers – participated in the event held at the **Bay Hills Golf Club** in Arnold, Maryland. A special thank you is in order for **General Manager, Steve Peterson** and his staff, who went out of their way to accommodate us after a scheduling error prevented us from playing on our normal day – the first Monday in May. A number of last minute adjustments and concessions were required to accommodate the necessary scheduling changes but the cooperation between the Bay Hills staff and our golf committee made it happen.

The participating golfers were major contributors to the success of this event; however, we had many generous sponsors – several of whom have supported us from the beginning, five years ago. These sponsors allow us to raise significant monies that will be used to the benefit of Marines wounded in our nation's fight against terrorism. These sponsors include **Quality Built Homes, Perry Building Services, the Rich Morton Auto Group, Harbour Liquors, Lauer's Supermarket & Bakery, Terminal Services, the Accutech Corporation, the International Union of Elevator Constructors, the Bank of Glen Burnie, Thunderbolt Global Logistics, Unique Catering, and Bay Area Computers.** We also had the support of members of many veterans' organizations such as **VFW Post 160** and its Auxiliaries, **American Legion Post 195**, as well as members of the **Marine Corps League.**



'Jay-Bird,' Nick Mallicote, and Rich Gonzales dressed like golfers of the early 20th Century. Unfortunately, they also played like those now deceased golfers. (Photo by Mac McNeir)

(See MHM Golf on page 5)

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the **CUTTING EDGE**

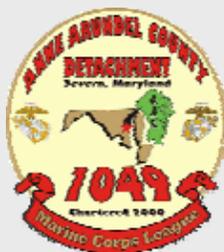
Editor – Mac McNeir,
P.O. Box 804
Severn, MD 21144-0804

Phone 410-766-9802

Email editor@mclaacdet1049.org

Website <http://mclaacdet1049.org/>

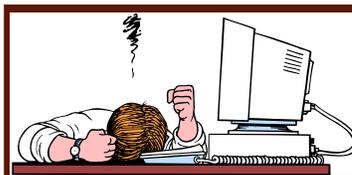
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- Commandant – *Mac McNeir*
- Senior Vice-Commandant – *Chris Thompson*
- Junior Vice-Commandant – *Woody Bowman*
- Judge Advocate – *Joe Wright*
- Adjutant – *Tom Maiorana*
- Auxiliary President – *Desiree Curtin*
- By-Laws Committee Chairman – *Danny 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*
- VAVS 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*

This is the first issue of *the Cutting Edge* to be published since the installation of the newly elected detachment officers. In light of the fact that I am privileged to now be serving as your new Commandant, I will limit the content of this column to only those things specifically relevant to the publication of our newsletter.

Accordingly, my comments, opinions, observations, etc., which pertain to our detachment, will appear in the monthly Commandant's column.

It remains my goal to make this newsletter reflective of the detachment's membership. So, I will reiterate the need for articles that reflect upon the accomplishments, and special talents of our members and their families.

On another topic, this month will see the implementation of a cost-saving effort – the reduction in the number of copies of this newsletter that will be printed and made available for distribution via the rack located at VFW Post 160. This decision was made due to the excessive number of residual copies that I find in the rack each month when I stage copies of the latest issue.

As always, I look forward to seeing all of you at our next monthly meeting!

The submission deadline for all **June** newsletter articles is **MIDNIGHT, Thursday, June 17, 2010!**



Corps Quotation

"Being ready is not what matters. What matters is winning after you get there."

Lieutenant General Victor H. Krulak, USMC
April 1965

Detachment Membership Stats – 5/14/2010

Good Standing (Dues Paid)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Memberships	74	9	6
Annual Memberships	32	6	–
Delinquent Dues			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Annual Memberships	10	3	–
Sub-Totals			
	116	18	6
Total			
	140		

Commandant's Message



Mac McNeir

Fellow Members of Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049

This is my first column as your Commandant; so I will take this opportunity to reflect upon the **2010 Department of Maryland Convention**, the **5th Annual Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament**, and the challenges of my new role. I am grateful to have a fine team of officers, who have demonstrated a willingness to be involved and contribute to the betterment of our detachment. These officers, who will serve during fiscal year 2010-2011 are identified below.

Senior Vice Commandant.....Chris Thompson
Junior Vice Commandant.....Woody Bowman
Judge Advocate.....Joe Wright

I am also grateful to **Ed Dahling** and **Tom Maiorana** for volunteering to assume my previous roles as Paymaster and Adjutant, respectively.

CONVENTION

This year's convention was another success. For me personally, the highlight had to be meeting **Hershel 'Woody' Williams**, the sole surviving Medal of Honor winner of the 27 who earned our nation's highest honor for their actions during the fighting on Iwo Jima. I was also touched by the thoughtfulness demonstrated by our National Commandant **Jim Laskey** during his banquet remarks. In addition to taking the opportunity to recognize those who served in combat during World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and the ongoing campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan... he just as importantly, had those league members, who through no fault of their own had never seen combat, stand and be recognized for their willingness to serve had they been called. A gesture that for far too many members of the military has been long overdue! Congratulations are also in order for **James Brady**, who was re-elected as our **Judge Advocate**; **Manny Airey**, who was named **Pack Dog of the Year**; and, **Paul Taylor**, who was named **Department Marine of the Year**.

MARINES HELPING MARINES GOLF TOURNAMENT

A special thanks to **Rich Gonzales**, chairman of the past two **Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournaments** and his staff for their commitment to making this year's tournament a resounding success. Their spirit and dedication are the personification of our motto **Semper Fidelis!** The result of their sustained efforts over the past few months will enable this detachment to present over **\$8,000** to **Ron Short**, **National Director of Marines Helping Marines**.

CHALLENGES

Filling the shoes of our past Commandant and Detachment Marine of the Year, **Pete Pervi**, will be a tremendous challenge; but, I am committed to doing everything necessary in my attempt to do just that. Initially, I plan to meet with the newly elected/appointed officers and their predecessors; as well as those officers who are retaining their current roles, to ensure a seamless turnover.

Also of significant importance is the appointment of a **Toys for Tots Coordinator**. Once a coordinator is found, plans will need to be formulated with regard to our redefined role. As you should recall, our role as the coordinator for the Anne Arundel and Howard County region will be assumed by a yet to be determined individual/organization. A summary of all positions that need to be filled and their associated descriptions can be found in the **Help Wanted** column on page 13.

With your help, I hope that my term of office will be one of renewed volunteerism and involvement exemplified by a concerted effort to expand our membership – especially through the recruitment of younger members.

Semper Fi,

Mac

**Rich Morton Lincoln
Mercury Mazda**

51 Mountain Rd.
Pasadena, MD 21122
Phone: 800-577-1658

Senior Vice Commandant



Hello Marines,

My first monthly article is a brief one.

I would like to thank all of the membership for their support, which got me elected to my current office. I look forward to serving you for the upcoming year.

I would also like to congratulate all of the other officers, who were elected for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Finally, I would like to thank James Brady for the outstanding job he has done over the past couple of years as our Senior Vice Commandant – I have very large shoes and very short pants to fill.

Semper Fi

Chris



Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through August 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).

MCL Detachment 1049 Monthly Meeting

24 May 2010 @ 1900 – Mac McNeir

Memorial Day Observance

31 May 2010

MCL Mid-East Division Convention

10 & 11 June 2010 – Rudy Garcia

FLAG DAY

14 June 2010

MCL Detachment 1049 Staff Meeting

TBD June 2010 @ TBD – Mac McNeir

MCL Detachment 1049 Monthly Meeting

28 June 2010 @ 1900 – Mac McNeir

MCL National Convention

8 – 14 August 2010

The Sheraton Greensboro Hotel / Koury Convention Center –
Call 1-800-242-6556 for reservations

Go to <http://www.mcl2010.org/> for more information.



Maryland Marine Killed In Afghanistan

NOTE – The following article is based upon news releases appearing on the Internet on 10 April 2010.

Military officials announced that three North Carolina-based Marines were killed this week while serving in Afghanistan.

Among them was Corporal Kurt S. Shea, 21, of Frederick, Maryland, who was killed on Monday (April 10th), while supporting combat operations in Helmand Province. He was a radio operator assigned to 3rd Battalion, 10th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in June 2007 and deployed to Afghanistan in November of 2009.



A U.S. Marine carry team carries the remains of Marine Corporal Kurt S. Shea upon his arrival at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. (AP Photo)

Cpl. Shea's mother Linda, says her son always knew what he wanted to do with his life. Shea's mother stated, "When he was three, he wanted to be an Army man... I never let him play with guns, so he would get a hold of Legos and make weapons."

Influenced by his uncles and grandfather, he was drawn to discipline and challenge. It wasn't surprising for Shea's family when the 2007 Frederick High School graduate committed to the military even before he started his senior year. "He wanted to be one of the few, one of the proud and a Marine," Linda Shea said.

Linda Shea last spoke to her son two weeks ago. Then on Mother's Day – around 9 o'clock at night – the doorbell rang," Linda said. The message that every mother fears was delivered... Shea, along with two other Marines, had been killed. "They don't show up at your doorstep to tell you your son is fine. I couldn't believe it. I just couldn't believe it. My heart was broken, still broken," she said.

The family is working to finalize arrangements and expect to hold a wake on Monday with the funeral on Tuesday.



Not Just A Bike Ride

Over the period of April 24th and 25th, my wife Lisa and I had the honor of riding with our 'Wounded Warriors' through the District of Columbia and Maryland as part of the **Face of America** bicycle ride. Lisa and I have done many bicycle rides together; but, we knew this ride was special and would bring with it an opportunity to meet American heroes. The ride had many special aspects. We were allowed to bicycle from the steps of the Washington Capital building with DC and Capitol Police escort, down Constitution Avenue and over past the Iwo Jima Memorial. After a beautiful 2 day trek through the Maryland countryside, we arrived at the Gettysburg battlefield.



The ride with the warriors has changed our perspective profoundly. Lisa and I, initially, looked at this ride as an opportunity to enjoy ourselves, and to be a part of a larger celebration of the sacrifice made by these warriors. What we learned was that this ride, was really about the warriors themselves. This was not our ride, it was their ride. It was an opportunity for these heroes to come out together and to show us the dedication, perseverance, and commitment they maintain day-in and day-out. Their commitment never ends! Because of their commitment, we are fortunate to be able to ride, period.

Semper Fi

Chris & Lisa Le Gette

NOTE – Chris & Lisa are the son and daughter-in-law of associate member Jim Legette. The photos appearing in this article were also provided by the Le Gettes.

MHM Golf

(continued from page 1)



The Brady foursome consisting of our past Senior Vice Commandant and three deaf companions. (Photo by Mac McNeir)



Judge Advocate Joe Wright demonstrating the derivation of the term "finger Food" to Senior Vice Commandant Chris Thompson, while Joe Trabert attends to the cooking. (Photo by Mac McNeir)

Of course, every successful event of this nature has countless volunteers working behind the scenes contributing their valuable time and money. Most significant among these is our **Tournament Chairman Rich Gonzales**, whose generosity knows no bounds. Thanks also to his wife **Sally**, who allowed him to totally commit himself to this huge undertaking. The members of Rich's team are identified below. My sincere apologies to anyone whom I may have inadvertently omitted.

The 2009 Marines Helping Marines Team

Bill Teeple	Bud Wright	Charles Luthardt
Chuck Albo	Chris Thompson	Desiree Curtin
Earl Parker	Elaine Baxter	James Brady
Jay Jones	Joe Trabert	Joe Wright
Joyce Lathrop	Kenny Webster	Mac McNeir
Manny Airey	Michele Ryan	Michelle Thompson
Nila Caulder	Pete Pervi	Sally Gonzales
Sam Mallicote	Steve Salanik	Tom Maiorana

The combined efforts of the organizations and people identified above will result in over **\$8,000** being donated to **Marines Helping Marines**.



2010 Convention Highlights

NOTE – This article is based upon an email received from the Department Adjutant, Paul Taylor – See photos on adjacent page.

Commandant Fay recognized and thanked The only surviving **Iwo Jima Medal of Honor recipient Hershel “Woody” Williams**, who received a rousing standing ovation. Commandant Fay then dedicated this convention to the memory of **Denny Bynum**.

The following guests were introduced: National MCL Commandant, **Jim Laskey**; MCL Executive Director **Mike Blum**, National Mid-East Vice Commandant, **Jim Tant**; Director, National Marines Helping Marines Program, **Ron Short**; National North-East Vice Commandant, **Richard Gore**; National Mid-East Division Chaplain, **Guy Hall**, 2010 National Convention Committee Chair, **Danny Braken**, Kennel Police Dog, **PDD Jack Severn**; and, Vice Chief Devil Dog, Mid-East Division, **Jerry Fay**.

The Department has lost two Marines from the Anne Arundel County Detachment and one each from the Mountainside and Patuxent River Detachments.

Department Paymaster, **Dick Wischhusen** gave his report indicating Department monetary assets of \$11,649.55.

Jerry Devlin, representing the **Maryland Disabled Veterans**, presented a check to the **Marine Helping Marines Program** Director **Ron Short**, in the amount of \$2,500.00. **SSgt Taylor Detachment** presented the MHM Program Director with a check for \$4, 848.00. Recently joined member **Craig Reeling** presented a check from his New Jersey Detachment for \$619.00. A rousing ovation was given after each presentation. Also of significance is the fact that the ladies who tended bar outside of our hospitality suite (Auxiliary members), donated all of their tip money to Marines Helping Marines – approximately \$250.

National Executive Director, **Mike Blum**, spoke at length on the MCL's participation in the Defense Department's "**Don't Ask, Don't Tell**" policy hearing. He also spoke on the widespread effort to change the Department of the Navy to the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps.

Judge Advocate **Jim Brady** re-read the proposed by-law change permitting the annual convention to be held outside Ocean City. Motion made and seconded to accept the proposal. After a very lengthy discussion, motion failed by voice vote. A request for a second vote by hand count was honored and the motioned failed once again.

Ray Chatary made a motion to sponsor one of the monthly cook-outs at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center for our wounded troops, for an amount not to exceed \$850.00 – the motion passed.

Bud Raines presented an award to **Jack Severn** for his continuously preparing an outstanding convention memory book.

Former governor **Robert Ehrlich** and his wife **Kendel** stopped by and spoke briefly. He revealed his affinity for the Marine Corps has its roots in the fact that his father is a Marine Korean War Veteran.

Commandant Fay asked **Jack Colleran** to take nominations for Department Officers for the coming year. The following individuals were nominated and accepted as candidates:

- Commandant **Bud Raines**
- Senior Vice Commandant **Ed Ross**
- Junior Vice Commandant **Stuart Blain** (Baltimore Detachment) and **Pete Pervi** (Anne Arundel County Detachment)
- Judge Advocate **Jim Brady**

As only one nominee existed for all but the Junior Vice Commandant position, the three nominees for those offices were elected unanimously. Judge Advocate Brady distributed election ballots to all delegates for the office of Junior Vice Commandant. The subsequent vote count resulted in **Stuart Blair** being declared the winner. The Department Officers had the distinct honor of being sworn in by Medal of Honor recipient **Woody Williams**.

At the evening banquet, the **MODD Pack Dog of the Year** was presented to **PDD Manny Airey** (Pound 204), and the most prestigious department award, the **Department Marine of the Year**, was presented to **Adjutant Paul Taylor** – it was obvious that Paul was overwhelmed with the honor.

If you have not attended the Department Convention in the past, you don't know what you're missing. You should really consider attending the 2011 convention.



Convention Photos



Pups hoping that they survive the arduous initiation ceremony that will elevate them to the status of Devil Dog. (Photo by Chris Kalwa)



Kenny Rollins & Phil Schwarzenberg disproving the old axiom that 'only opposites attract!'. (Photo by Chris Kalwa)



Mike Hadley presenting Manny Airey with the Department Dog of the Year Award for 2010. (Photo by Mac McNeir)



Mike Hadley demonstrating a new flossing technique to Jim Brady. (Photo by Mac McNeir)



Manny Airey (Dog of the Year) & Paul Taylor (Marine of the Year) with their awards. (Photo by Mac McNeir)



National Commandant Jim Laskey, Medal of Honor Winner Hershel 'Woody' Williams, and National Executive Director Mike Blum. (Photo by Mac McNeir)



Jim Brady practicing his 'signing techniques' to ensure that his voice will always be heard... even if he should someday fall victim to either the ravages of laryngitis or having been gagged. (Jeff Robinette)

Tireless Supporter of Marines Helping Marines

Tony Begewald, a past Commandant of the Marine Corps League's Free-State Detachment and Commissioner on the Prince George's County Commission for Veterans, recently received a donation of seventy nine cartons containing 474 hair clippers from Folica, Inc. – a New York City based Beauty Supply Company as a donation to the **Marines Helping Marines (MHM) Foundation**. These clippers were for distribution to the Wounded Warriors at the Bethesda Naval and Walter Reed Army hospitals. Tony remarked that this donation proves that... *“There still are generous people out there! Retail value of this donation is about \$47,000.00!”*

Bege

wald, who is also the Vice President/Director – East Coast of the MHM Foundation, said the donation was received as a result of his email solicitation for hair clippers and shavers back in February. He said that his solicitation was in response to a need to meet a requirement at the hospitals to provide each wounded warrior with an instrument of his own. Once a shaver or hair trimmer is used on one of the wounded in their bed, it must be given to him as it cannot be used on other wounded because of the potential of it being an infection transmitter. Begewald added, “Now that we have the hair trimmers, we are working on getting shavers, preferably the type that vacuum up the whiskers since the wounded are bed-ridden with their wounds and you know how whiskers in the bed would feel! Any company that would like to donate shavers, or anyone who would like to donate funds that we can use to purchase shavers, can contact me at caroletonybeg@aol.com.”

The MHM Foundation is a fully tax deductible 501(c) 3 charity established by the Maryland Marine Corps League in the spring of 2003 to provide extensive emotional, material, and financial support at the Bethesda Naval and Walter Reed hospitals for the injured Marines and Navy FMF Corpsmen returning from the Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts. In 2005 the program became nationwide to by expanding to include the Balboa Naval Medical Center in San Diego, the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, and the Wounded Warrior Regiments at Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton.

The program obtained its 501 (c) 3 status in 2007. The program's website – <http://marineshelpingmarines.org/> – provides information and points of contact for the MHM program; provides corporate donors with a means of obtaining a copy the IRS's 501(c) 3 status notification; and, provides a means for making donations to the program using credit cards.



Parade Priority

NOTE – The following letter to the editor was written by one of our own and appeared in the May 15th edition of the Maryland Gazette.

It was noted by many that the **U.S. Marine Corps Color Guard** was not leading the **Ferndale Days Parade** and that the **Marine Corps League** members and their Jeeps were placed to the rear of the parade. Why? They have always led the parades.

Have we all forgotten the history of the Marines, leading the way?

These men were all combat veterans from previous conflicts: **World War II, Korea, Vietnam**, and the **Gulf Wars**. Perhaps, those in charge of these parades would rather listen to the fire truck sirens than the Marine Hymn?

The patriots that lined the streets, showed their feelings with salutes, clapping, hands over their hearts, and cheers.

Thanks to them, we momentarily forgot that the parade committee relegated the Marines to the rear of the parade. But we won't forget!

Perhaps the other parade committees (Glen Burnie, Severna Park, Lake Shore) will position these dedicated warriors where they belong – at the front of the parade. It's a position they earned by their service under the stars and stripes.

Semper Fi!

Charlie Quick



Sunday, 8 August – Saturday, 14 August, 2010

Blind Double-Amputee Marine Re-Enlists

NOTE – The following is a reprint of an article by Natalie Bailey – Medill News Service, which appeared in the Saturday April 17, 2010 online edition of the Marine Corps Times.

Three years ago, Corporal Matt Bradford lost both legs and his vision after a bomb blast in Iraq. Despite these devastating injuries, Bradford had no interest in retreating to civilian life. He wanted to continue his Marine career.

Bradford recently got his wish when he became the first blind double-amputee to re-enlist in the Corps.



Cpl. Matt Bradford walks alongside another Marine during Bradford's re-enlistment ceremony on April 7, 2010 at Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio. (Photo by Tom Reel/San Antonio Express-News)

In January 2007, the 23-year-old was on patrol near Hadithah when a bomb exploded under him.

“I thought if I got hurt that bad in Iraq, I’d rather just die,” he said. “But I regret having thought that – I’ve been able to do some amazing things since then.”

He spent the next couple of years in various therapies, growing accustomed to walking with his new prosthetic legs. Learning how to do this without his vision was the hardest part for Bradford, whose wounds were so extensive doctors thought he wouldn’t survive.

“At first I couldn’t walk a straight line because of the blindness,” he said. The loss of his sight took a few months to settle in, said Bradford’s mom, Debbie. Everything got easier when he arrived at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Bradford said.

Less than two years after losing his legs, Bradford completed last year’s Marine Corps Marathon on a hand cycle. He also led the Tunnel to Towers race in New York City and received the George Van Cleave Military Leadership Award at the 48th USO Armed Forces Gala.

Now, he’s living a life he considers to be independent.

Bradford pursued Permanent Limited Duty status and re-enlisted for another four years in an April 7 ceremony in San Antonio.

“From the day that he first came out of the coma from being hurt, I knew he wanted to stay in the Marines,” his mom said. “I think it’s been a godsend for him to work toward this.”

Bradford will switch from infantry to public relations and be assigned to Wounded Warrior Battalion East at Camp Lejeune, N.C., where he will encourage other wounded troops during their recovery. “I just want to show them that no matter what injuries they’ve got, they’re still alive.”

As the first blind double-amputee to re-enlist, Bradford paves the way for others, his mom said. “He could have felt sorry for himself. He could have wanted to get out of the Marines and just do nothing,” she added. “Having someone with these types of injuries stay in the service shows the Marines are making changes.”

Captain Leticia Reyes, a spokeswoman for the Wounded Warrior Regiment in Quantico, Virginia, first met Bradford in 2008 and has followed his accomplishments since. “His re-enlistment... sets the stage for other Marines to follow,” she said. “He’ll help to really set their focus on their abilities and not their disabilities – for all Marines, not just those who are injured.”





The Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

Woof-Woof,

Pound 204 had a very successful Growl last month. The very well-attended Growl was topped off by swearing in seven new Pups. Welcome aboard to Pups **Ashley, Hoernig, Jones, Kaminski, Luthardt, Thompson, and Wright.**

We also did a very good job of collecting bones for the children's hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina, by amassing **\$317.00**, bringing the year's total to **\$812.08**. For all of last year, the Pound contributed **\$280.00**, which was the second highest of any Pound in the Kennel. It is our pledge that we will not be outdone this year.

We also had a very successful Grand Growl on the last day of last month. And we did very well in collecting for the children's hospital in Greensboro: a whopping **\$428.00**, which brings our total for this year to **\$1,324.04!** I don't foresee any Pack coming close to that total. We gave more than any other Pack last year with **\$552.00**.

At the Grand Growl in Ocean City, we initiated seven Pups, advancing them to Devil Dog.

At this point, we have 15 DDs ready to go to Greensboro for advancement to PDD. Remember to get there on Sunday and fully participate in the initiation.

Pound 204 Dog of the Year was awarded to **DD Bob Rossi.**

Last, but certainly not least, the highlight of the Devil Dog weekend was the naming of your very own **PDD Manny Airey** as the **Maryland Pack Dog of the Year.** Congratulations, Manny! You earned it. And the kids in Greensboro will love you for your ability to collect so many bones for them.

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



Military Historical Tours

Military Historical Tours (MHT) provides the finest in custom designed tours to sites of military historical interest for the veteran, family member, friend, historian, educator and student. To fulfill the desires of each participant is the goal of each member of our MHT team.

By being both empathetic and sympathetic to the needs and desires of our participants, as well as always remembering the service and sacrifice of those who participated in the battles and campaigns that we re-visit, we will succeed in offering each participant a meaningful, historic and fulfilling experience.

Although we have visited a battlefield several times, this may be the only chance for our guests to visit the site. The impression made by every member of the MHT family that they encounter, reflects directly on our company.

MHT's Quality Commitment

From "Registration to Return," our staff strives to provide each tour participant with a carefree travel experience, and stands ready to assist with any aspect and to answer any question pertaining to our tours.

Each MHT tour includes:

- Roundtrip International Airfare from gateway city on the finest airlines available
- Minimum 3 or 4 star hotel accommodations
- Buffet Breakfast Daily
- Deluxe air-conditioned motor coach transportation
- Lunch/Dinners as indicated in the itinerary
- Guest Speakers, Tour Hosts, and Prominent Historians, Knowledgeable & Experienced MHT Tour Directors
- Historians and Staff accompany each tour from gateway to return
- All entrance fees including museums and sites

Detailed pre-tour information package including: tour ball-cap, luggage tags, detailed tour itinerary, MHT "History on Tour" packet, with suggested reading list, historical background materials (maps, official reports, photos, etc.), and/or other information pertaining to the tour.

Tours may be arranged or information obtained by contacting:

MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS, Inc.

13198 Centerpointe Way - Suite 202
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285
Phone: (703) 590-1295 or (800) 722-9501
Fax: (703) 590-1292





VA Volunteerism

by Ed Dahling, VAVS Officer

VA Hospitals – A Reflection

When I reflect upon the time I've spent volunteering at the local Veterans Administration Hospital, two thoughts come to mind. First, I believe that it's the little things that matter when interacting with veterans. Second, I've come to learn that, contrary to what I expected, interacting with veterans is not a one-way, passive endeavor, but rather an opportunity to forge meaningful friendships. Indeed, the patients often cheer me up more than I cheer them up!

When you see stories about patients in hospitals and rest homes on television and in the movies, you inevitably witness actors experiencing awe-inspiring epiphanies about their lives. In the real world, however, I've learned that the most powerful experiences are often the subtlest.

When I step into the veteran's hospital, the sobering reality of life quickly dawns on me: many residents are confined to wheelchairs, depressed, and in need of human contact. They need volunteers who will listen and show them that there are people who genuinely care? It is the small details – brief eye contact, a smile, a wave, a pat on the back as you walk by – that mean the most. These are the small actions that have the power to make someone's day.



Corps Humor –

You might be a Jar-Head if...

(continued)

- You use the term "**hard charger**" on a subject other than batteries.
- Your cammies have more starch than your potatoes.
- You have a camouflage comforter on your bed.
- You keep **MREs** around just in case you get hungry.
- You think people should be court-martialed for running into a building to avoid colors.
- You've ever had razor burn on your head.
- You signed the **Chesty Puller** stamp petition.
- Your rank insignia is displayed on your windshield.
- You have a picture of the Commandant in your room.
- You call cadence during sex.



Corps History

by Vic Halme, Historian

2 May 1946

Marines from Treasure Island Marine Barracks, under the command of Warrant Officer Charles L. Buckner, helped suppress the three-day prison riot at Alcatraz Penitentiary in San Francisco Bay. WO Buckner, a veteran of the Bougainville and Guam campaigns, ably led his force of Marines without suffering a single casualty.

3 May 1898

Lt. Williams leads Marines from the U.S.S. Baltimore and raises the Stars and Stripes over the Cavite Naval Station.

5 May 1983

In Beirut, Lebanon, a UH-1N helicopter carrying the commander of the American peace-keeping force, Colonel James Mead, was hit by machine gun fire. Colonel Mead and his crew had taken off in the helicopter to investigate artillery and rocket duels between rival Syrian-backed Druze Moslem militiamen and Christian Phalangists that endangered French members of the multinational force. The six Marines aboard escaped injury.

6 May 1937

Marines at NAS Lakehurst helped rescue Hindenburg survivors.

6 May 1946

Commandant Archibald Vandergrift tells Senate Naval Affairs Committee that 'the bended knee is not a tradition of our Corps.'

8 May 1995

In the wake of the most devastating storm to hit the New Orleans area in more than 200 years, a group of Marines and sailors from Marine Forces Reserve demonstrated the quick response synonymous with the Navy/Marine Corps team. Within 24 hours of being called, Marines assisted in the evacuation of 2,500 civilians, and Navy Corpsmen treated scores of flood victims.

10 May 1945

The 22nd Marines, 6th Marine Division, executed a pre-dawn attack south across the Asa River Estuary and seized a bridgehead from which to continue the attack toward Naha, the capital of Okinawa.

14 May 1917

The first Marine detachment transferred from Annapolis to a new Marine post at Quantico, VA.

15 May 1862

Corporal John Mackie, the first Marine to earn the Medal of Honor, was commended for service on the USS GALENA during action against Confederate shore batteries at Drewry's Bluff which blocked the James River approaches to Richmond.

15 May 1916

Marine Battalion begins occupation of the Dominican Republic.

(see Corps History on page 13)



Young Marines

The Young Marines are gearing up for Memorial Day and a busy summer.

We started out the month by presenting the colors at the opening ceremony of the Department of Maryland Convention in Ocean City and will end the month by...

- Helping place 1400 flags on veterans graves at 23 cemeteries in Southern Anne Arundel County.
- Conducting a flag-folding ceremony at Kalis Funeral Home in Edgewater. Commander Martin will be conducting the ceremony.

The Young Marines lost 17 sets BDUs (utility uniforms), which were mistakenly left in the POD container (that was used as temporary storage for toys during the Toys for Tots campaign) that has been returned to its distributor. This put a big dent in our ability to issue appropriately sized uniforms, which cost \$40 a set. We will be sending letters soliciting donations, as well as hosting a fund-raiser in the near future to defray the cost of replacing the lost uniforms.

We are looking forward to a busy and rewarding summer.

As always, thanks for your generous support and Semper Fi!

George Martin

Young Marines Commander



Chaplain's Corner

by Ken Webster, Detachment Chaplain

Please keep all of the following members of our extended detachment family in your thoughts and prayers.

Denny Bynum

I, as well as other members of the detachment, have received **Thank You Cards** from the family of our late and dear friend Denny. The grace and dignity of Denny's family in their time of immense sorrow underscores the dignity and humanity of the gentleman who served as head of their household.

Frenchy Verrier

Frenchy is continuing treatment for the tumor in his neck. Remember that Frenchy will initiate contact with all of his friends, once he feels ready.

Please notify me if you are aware of any Marines or Marine family members, who are sick, in distress, etc.



Legislative Report

by Jim Le Gette, Legislative Officer

The **Veteran Affairs Department** has acknowledged that the department *has been paying the wrong "living stipend"* rate to veterans under the GI Bill. Some vets have been overpaid while others have been underpaid. The problem is blamed on the computer software being used... it's the computer, never the manager. Corrections, hopefully, will be made by July of this year.

DOD advises that after three years, only two of the five **Centers of Excellence** for our injured troops are operational. The two centers: **Traumatic Brain Injury** and **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder** have been combined into one site (**National Intrepid Center of Excellence**) at Bethesda, Maryland. The remaining three categories: **Vision Loss**; **Hearing Loss**, and **Extremity Injuries** (amputation) have not been addressed with much progress, possibly because of serious management missteps, as stated by **Rep. Susan Davis** (D-Calif.). There is a physical rehabilitation hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

The **Wounded Warrior Regiment**, located at Quantico, was established in 2007. The purpose of the 'Regiment' is to advise of the variety of benefits available to our wounded warriors. The Regiment has made significant outreach by telephone to several thousand veterans. The Regiment can be reached by telephone – **877-487-6299** or via the website – www.woundedwarriorregiment.org.



Reimbursements

I would like to remind everyone that...

the deadline for submitting requests for reimbursement for monies paid to obtain services & materials on behalf of the detachment is June 30, 2010.

Remember that receipts are needed to substantiate the validity of all reimbursements. Please see me if this presents a problem for any of you.

Mac



Corps History

(continued from page 11)

16 May 1945

The 22nd and 29th Marines continued the attack against Half Moon Hill, a day characterized by the 6th Marine Division as the "bitterest" of the Okinawa campaign. By the 18th, the famed "Shuri line" had been breached.

20 May 1906

Major John A. Lejeune embarked his battalion for duty in Panama.

22 May 1912

First Lieutenant Alfred A. Cunningham, the first Marine officer to be assigned to "duty in connection with aviation" by Major General Commandant William P. Biddle, reported for aviation training at the Naval Aviation Camp at Annapolis, Maryland. Marine aviation had its official beginning.

23 May 1948

First Marines brought ashore by helicopter for amphibious exercise at New River, North Carolina.

23 May 1988

The V-22 Osprey, the world's first production tilt-rotor aircraft, made its debut during rollout ceremonies at Bell Helicopter Textron's Arlington, Texas, facility. More than 1,000 representatives from the military, industry, and media, gathered to hear various speakers, including Gen Alfred Gray, Commandant of the Marine Corps, praise the versatile rotor craft designed to meet the needs of 21st Century battlefields.

26 May 1969

Operation Pipestone Canyon began when the 1st Battalion, 26th Marines and 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines began sweeps in the Dodge City/Go Noi areas southwest of Da Nang. It terminated at the end of June with 610 enemy killed in action at a cost of 34 Marines killed.

29 May 1991

Elements of a joint task force that included the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade departed the Bay of Bengal off the coast of Bangladesh after nearly two weeks of disaster relief operations following a devastating cyclone. The joint task force delivered tons of relief supplies using helicopters, C-130s, and landing craft in Operation Sea Angel.

30 May 1997

Marines help evacuate 2,500 from Kinshasa, Zaire.

31 May 1900

Marines reach Chinese capital to defend Legation Quarter from Boxer rebellion.



– HELP WANTED –

Toys for Tots Coordinator

Simply stated, we need a facilitator/coordinator to oversee the collection of toys locally, and have them picked-up by the yet to be designated area coordinator. This event will likely not require much time before the Marine Corps Birthday; however, the pace increases significantly from then on and will continue right up to a few days before Christmas. Both Pete Pervi and I are available to the TFTC for insight, suggestions, etc. If you want to be part of a really rewarding experience, this is the activity for you.

Public Information Officer (PIO)

The Marine Corps League is one of the best kept secrets throughout the Marine Corps community. An important aspect of recruiting members is publicizing the existence and purposes of the League. Perhaps the most cost effective approach is to use news releases about detachment activities, meetings, and events. Contact with newspapers and other media can draw attention to the Marine Corps League, and create positive visibility in the community. This is important for attracting members, and for attracting funds and donations for detachment programs.

The PIO can be a major factor in advertising the detachment by maintaining a continuing stream of information – articles, event calendars, public service announcements (PSAs) – flowing to local media (newspapers, radio, and TV).

VA Volunteer Services (VAVS) Officer

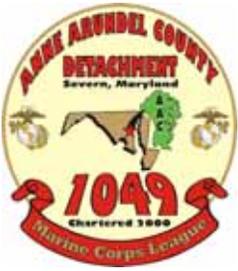
Spends time at VA hospitals on visitation, planning and coordinating events (i.e. Bingo, games, reading, etc.) and/or soliciting donations of funds or items that may be needed by the occupants of the hospital. These items may include books/magazines, clothing, and toiletry items, or other items identified by the hospital staff. The VAVS Officer for the detachment should be responsible for coordinating events with detachment members and planning donation activities. A detachment may also serve Veterans and the VA Hospital if participating in the VAVS program is not practical. The VAVS Officer can take responsibility for soliciting donations of funds and/or items to send to a VA Hospital, or to a Veterans establishment in the local area.

I believe that the VFW has been running a successful volunteer services effort. Our representative is encouraged to coordinate our involvement as either part of or adjunct to the VFW's effort.

Cooks – Friday Nite Dinners

Friday Nite Dinners are one of our detachment's primary fund-raising efforts. Members volunteering to cook are responsible for menu planning, ingredient purchasing, and meal preparation of the meals offered for sale at VFW Post 160 on the first Friday of each odd-numbered month. An experienced staff of assistants will help the cook with kitchen set-up, serving, and post dinner clean-up.

I would like to have different cooks to prepare the six dinners that we serve each year; since, having one person prepare the meals for the entire year is asking a bit much – and I do not want to wear-out our new Senior Vice Commandant and Judge Advocate prematurely! Openings are currently available for July, September, and November of this year and January, March, and May of next year (2011).



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

(Address Correction Requested)



Past Department of Maryland Commandants and our National Commandant pose for pictures at the 2010 Department of Maryland Convention. Standing (from left to right) – Jack Severn (2006-2008), Ron Short (2003-2005), Ray Chatary (1998), National Commandant Jim Laskey, Wayne Virgin (1999-2000), and Jerry Devlin (2006). Seated (from left to right) – Jimmie Lee Howard (1976-1977), Harry Yaukey (1983-1984), Executive Director Mike Blum (2002-2003), Carl Lenhart (1979-1980), and Jack Colleran (1993-1994). (Photo by Jeff Robinette)