

# the CUTTING EDGE

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

Joe Wright, Commandant ([cmdt@mclacdet1049.org](mailto:cmdt@mclacdet1049.org)) / Mac McNeir, Editor ([editor@mclacdet1049.org](mailto:editor@mclacdet1049.org))

# Farewell to Dave Boschert

by Mac McNeir

*NOTE – This memoriam is based upon obituaries by Earl Kelley and Jacques Kelley, which appeared in the online versions of The Maryland Gazette and Baltimore Sun.*

Detachment member David G. Boschert, a former Marine, state delegate and member of the Anne Arundel County Council, who always met people with a grin and a handshake, succumbed to his recently diagnosed pancreatic and liver cancer at his Crownsville home on Thursday, June 30 at approximately 6:30 PM.

Survivors include his wife of nearly 40 years, the former **Marion Raines**; a son, **Michael Christopher Boschert** of Crownsville; a daughter, **Christine Marie Hagan** of Odenton; his mother, **Miriam Gies** of Gambrills; two sisters, **Jean B. Guite** of Glen Burnie and **Cecelia Diane Smith** of Crofton; and two grandsons.

Boschert began his career in public office on the county Board of Appeals. Starting in 1984, he served 10 years on the County Council as a moderate Democrat, and from 1999 to 2007, he was a moderate Republican in the House of Delegates. He unsuccessfully campaigned for other offices, including County Executive and a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

U.S. Senator **Ben Cardin** (D-Md) recalls that Boschert was sincere

about wanting to get things done in a constructive way that he didn't care about party labels.

Former Anne Arundel County Executive **James Lighthizer**, recalled that "Dave was a really straight-up guy," and that "He had integrity. There wasn't a duplicitous bone in his body. With David, what you saw was what you got."

Delegate **Cathy Vitale** (R-Severna Park), described Boschert as the perfect politician for Anne Arundel County, a place still small enough that public officials and constituents know each other on a first-name basis. "He was everywhere, at every firehouse, at every carnival," Vitale said. "David loved people. David loved storytelling," Vitale said. "He could hold an audience like no one I have ever seen, and I have seen some of the world's best speakers."

## CONTENTS...

Birthdays .....	10
Bombastic Bumper-Snicker .....	10
Book Review – Once A Marine .....	8
Chaplain's Corner .....	3
Color Guard .....	6
Coming Events .....	9
Commandant's Message .....	3
Corps History .....	9
Corps Humor .....	10
Devil Dogs .....	5
Featured Foto .....	12
From the Editor .....	2
Have You Heard? .....	7
Junior Vice Commandant .....	4
List of Officers .....	2
Membership Stats & Renewals .....	2
Modern Day Marines Golf Ad .....	10
National Convention Ad .....	3
Need A Ride? .....	5
Pistol Team .....	4
Public Info – Purple Heart Stamp .....	5
Quotation .....	8
Senior Vice Commandant .....	4
Severna Park Parade Snapshots .....	8
Volunteers Needed .....	4
Welcome Aboard .....	3
What Makes Marines Special? .....	6

(see Farewell Dave... on page 11)

# the CUTTING EDGE

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

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

Phone .....410-437-4329

Email .....[editor@mclaacdet1049.org](mailto:editor@mclaacdet1049.org)

ListServer:

e-mail:

[aa-county-detachment1049@lists.mclaacdet1049.org](mailto:aa-county-detachment1049@lists.mclaacdet1049.org)

web page:

<http://lists.mclaacdet1049.org/mailman/listinfo/aa-county-detachment1049>



Detachment Website  
<http://mclaacdet1049.org/>

Detachment Staff:

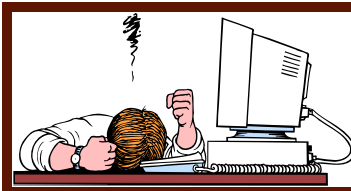
Commandant – *Joseph Wright*  
Senior Vice-Commandant – *Chris Kalwa*  
Junior Vice-Commandant – *Ed Dahling*  
Judge Advocate – *Charles Luthardt Jr.*  
Adjutant – *Dave Wells*  
Auxiliary President – *Dawn Parker*  
By-Laws Committee Chairman – *Danny Fischio*  
Chaplain – *Ken Webster*  
Color Guard Commander – *Woody Bowman*  
Historian – *Victor Halme*  
House Chairman – *Vacant*  
Legislative Officer – *Jim LeGette*  
Newsletter Editor – *Mac McNeir*  
Paymaster – *Ed Dahling*  
Public Information Officer – *Vacant*  
Quartermaster – *Fred Kaminski*  
Rifle & Pistol Team Captain – *Jake Jahelka*  
Sergeant-at-Arms – *Ray Sturm*  
Toys for Tots Coordinator – *Vacant*  
VAVS Officer – *Vacant*  
Web Sergeant – *Michael R. Hadley*  
Young Marines Commander – *George Martin*



## 2010 Award Winner

Marine Corps League  
National Newsletter Competition  
(Detachments of more than 100 Members)

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



## From the Editor

by Mac McNeir

Considering that we just suffered another loss in our ranks with the passing of **Dave Boschert**, I was happy that my family also experienced an uplifting event during the 4th of July holiday weekend. My god-daughter, **Technical Sergeant Christine Catherman (Air National Guard)** returned from Iraq after having completed her fourth tour of duty there. Remember to say a prayer for all members of our military, who continue to serve in harm's way and those who are prepared to answer our country's call as well as their respective families.

During my most recent visit to **Bethesda Naval Medical Center**, I was happy to see that **Sgt. Jason Ross** continues to show progress in his recovery. It was during this visit that I learned from his father that a fund-raising golf tournament was taking place on July 12th to benefit Jason and other Marines responsible for explosive ordnance disposal. **Manny Airey, Pete Pervi, Woody Bowman, and I** took part in the tournament and had a great time. I would also like to thank our membership for voting to sponsor a tee-box sign for this most worthy undertaking. Anyone wishing to make an individual contribution to the **Sgt Jason Ross USMC EOD Injuries Foundation** should call 443-716-5248 for information.

The deadline for the delivery of all **August newsletter** articles is **MIDNIGHT on Monday, August 8, 2011. Please do not wait until the last minute!**



## Membership Stats

Detachment Membership Statistics			
Good Standing (Dues Paid)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Memberships	73	8	6
Annual Memberships	37	6	–
Delinquent Dues (Still on Active Roster)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Annual Memberships	6	–	–
New Members			
	1	–	–
Sub-Totals			
	117	14	6
Total			
137			

Reflects 2 new members  
who are yet to be sworn in

Renewal dates are fast approaching for the following members...

RENEWALS		
August 2011	September 2011	October 2011
Nicholas Dubich Robert Lucian	Albert Bell Walter Cooper Scott Neff	James McCormick

Please consider a **Life Membership** as a potential cost reduction.

# Commandant's Message



Joe Wright

Marines,

Earlier this month Detachment members assembled to pay honors to fallen member **David Boschert**. David was diagnosed four months ago with pancreatic and liver cancer and passed away on June 30th... he was 63. I would like to thank **Pete Pervi** and **Woody Bowman** for assisting me with performing my first service.

Our Friday night dinner went well, as we raised **\$190.00** for our general fund. I hope to continue seeing support from our members during these types of fund generating events; its how we keep moving along.

**Woody Bowman** and the detachment's Color Guard lead the annual **Severna Park 4th of July Parade**, and what a parade it was. I rode along with Department Commandant **Ed Ross** in his Toys for Tots emblazoned Hot Rod and enjoyed seeing the children get excited when they saw Ed's car. We also had two Jeeps that were driven by **Fred & Paul Downey** and one driven by the Baltimore Detachment's **Don Rollette** – the Marines were well represented.

I hope to see everyone at our next meeting on July 25th.

*Semper Fi,*

*Joe*

## 88th Marine Corps League National Convention

(Hosted by **Treasure Valley Detachment 878, MCL**)

**Sunday July 31, 2011 - Saturday August 6, 2011**



### Riverside Doubletree Hotel

2900 Chinden Boulevard  
Boise, Idaho 83714



#### For reservations:

Phone ..... 208-343-1871 or

Website ..... <http://www.boiseriverside.doubletree.com>

Be sure to identify yourself as a member of the **Marine Corps League** to receive our group rate of **\$86.00** per night plus taxes

**For more info** – Go to <http://www.tvdmcl.org/>



## Chaplain's Corner

*by Chaplain Ken Webster*

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.

**410-255-0741** (home) or **443-618-9641** (cell)

**Dave Boschert**, member of Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049, succumbed to his recently diagnosed pancreatic and liver cancers. He was interred in the ***Our Lady of the Fields Catholic Church Cemetery*** in Millersville on July 9th.

**Vic Halme**, member of Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049, is dealing with a reaction to his prescription medications. Besides a bit of swelling and itchiness, Vic is managing as well as can be expected.

**Gerilyn Jones**, wife of detachment member **Jay Jones**, has been diagnosed with Graves Disease but is doing well.

It should also be noted that **JJ** and his wife have assumed custody of their grandson, whose mother recently passed away on June 9th.

Please keep the persons noted above and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



## Welcome Aboard



**Tim Muniz** was welcomed as our newest member at the June detachment meeting.

Tim served on active duty as a signals intelligence/digital network operator (MOS – 2621/2611) during the period spanning from June 2002 until June 2007. Prior to becoming an active member of the Marine Corps Reserve, he served a tour in Iraq (January – July 2005).



If you were not in attendance at our last meeting, please take the opportunity to introduce yourselves and welcome him aboard when you meet him at one of our detachment activities.





From the desk of the

## Senior Vice Commandant



Chris Kalwa

Fellow Marines,

Just a few things to report this month. Tickets are in the process of being put together for the **Bull and Oyster Roast** to be held on **23 October** from **1:00 to 6:00 PM**. Price is set at \$35 per person. Joe Wright has offered to cook.

**Joe Wright, Kenny Webster, Pete Pervi, Paul Downing, Charlie Young, Woody Bowman, Guy Hall, and I** had the honor of attending a funeral services on Thursday July 7, to say farewell to fellow detachment member and brother Marine **David Boschert**. On Saturday, July 9th, **Mac McNeir, Guy Hall, Woody Bowman, and I** attended Dave's Mass of Christian Burial at **Our Lady of the Fields Roman Catholic Church** in Millersville. It was a great turn out for his send off.

Hope to see a lot of you at the next meeting.

Semper Fi,

**Chris Kalwa**

From the desk of the

## Junior Vice Commandant



Ed Dahling

Fellow Detachment Members,

I would like to start this month's article by welcoming our detachment's newest member **Timothy Muniz**. Please make him feel at home.

Counting our new member, we now have a total of 137 members... six of whom are in a delinquent dues status.

When you receive your renewal notice, please complete the form, include your payment, and mail them as soon as possible; this will allow us to keep our membership numbers up.

If you do not receive your renewal notice or you misplace it... please get in touch with me as soon as possible and I will make sure that your renewal gets taken care of expeditiously. You should also consider Life Membership; it could be a cost saver for you.

I look forward to seeing each of you at our next meeting.

Semper Fi,

**Ed Dahling**



Our pistol team participated in the **Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania's Invitational Pistol Match** held at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. on the 4th of June 2011. The results achieved by our detachment's team are provided below.

**Charles Grove Sr.** earned **1st Place** in the **Master's Division** with a score of **558 – 10X**.

The **A. A. County Detachment 1049 Team** competed in the **Expert Division** and placed 4th with an aggregate score of **2225 – 21X**.

Charles Grove .....	558 – 10X
Michael Hadley .....	459 – 5X
George Jahelka .....	454 – 2X
Danny Fischio .....	396 – 4X
Frank Zupanic .....	358 – 0X

**Ray Sturm** competed as a first time shooter and achieved a score of **496 – 4X** and finished 3rd out of 46 competitors in that classification.

The Pistol Team is still looking for shooters. Anyone interested in participating as a member of the team **MUST** supply their own pistol – 45 caliber M1911 semi-automatic pistol, 9 mm semi-automatic pistol, or 38 caliber revolver equipped with either fixed or adjustable sights – and their own ammunition.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

On September 27, 28, and 29, the **Modern Day Marine Expo** will be held at Quantico, Virginia. The expo allows Marines to see the latest technology through exhibitor displays of new equipment prototypes, computer simulation, etc. that will enable Marines to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

This event is sponsored by the **Marine Corps League**, the **Marine Corps Systems Command**, and **Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia**. We need many volunteers from the MCL to help with stuffing give away bags, welcoming and handing out those bags, and other tasks that will come up. When not working, you will have an opportunity to visit the exhibits, talk with vendors, as well as meeting fellow Marines of many eras. It is a great experience that will make you glad you volunteered.

If you would like to volunteer for one day (or multiple days), please let me know as soon as you can. You can contact me either by leaving me a note at the post, telephoning me at **410-375-0564**, or emailing me ([papervi@verizon.net](mailto:papervi@verizon.net)).

Thanks and Semper Fi,

**Pete Pervi**



## Military Order of the Devil Dogs



*The Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League*

Woof-Woof,

I believe the dog days of summer have taken over the Dogs of **Pound 204**. There is nothing going on unless you are going to the **Supreme Growl** in Boise, Idaho. But as soon as that is concluded, the Dogs of Pound 204 will get back into action with a Growl on 14 August. We may have two mongrels from the **Baltimore Detachment** coming into the Order on that date if all goes well.

When you come to the August Growl, be prepared to fork over 15 bones for your annual dues. If you pay by check, make it payable to **MODD, Pound 204**, and you don't have to wait until August to pay them. I'll gladly accept dues at any time.

Pups, remember, in order to be advanced next year in Ocean City, you must attend two Pound Growls prior to the Grand Growl. So don't delay. Attend all the Pound Growls.

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

Woof-Woof,

**Paul Taylor**

PDD & Dog Robber



## Need A Ride?

This message is for any of our members, who have not been able to attend our monthly meetings because they are in need of transportation.

If you would like to attend future detachment meetings; but, are in need of transportation, please contact either our Chaplain or me and we will attempt to arrange a ride with a detachment member living near you.

*We Take Care of Our Own!*

*The Editor*



## Public Information

*by Ed Dahling, Public Information Officer*

### Purple Heart Forever Stamp

An effort to honor military heroes that began in the New York State Senate eleven years ago has now resulted in the U.S. Postal Service announcing that the **Purple Heart** postage stamp has been classified as a "**Forever**" stamp, ensuring that it will continue in circulation.



The campaign to create the Purple Heart stamp was started in January 2000 by **Bill Larkin**, a 23 year Army combat veteran. After a massive letter writing effort by the **Military Order of the Purple Heart** and other veterans organizations, the stamp was first issued in 2003. Since that time, a letter writing effort to continue the Purple Heart stamp had to be conducted each time the price of a first class letter changed to ensure the stamp would continue.

The new classification as a "**Forever**" stamp, means that the Purple Heart postage stamp will continue in circulation and supporters will no longer need to advocate to maintain it each time the price of stamps increases.

Our military leaders have awarded the Purple Heart to honor almost two million Americans who have been wounded in battle. The U.S. Postal Service should be lauded for its recognition of the importance of this stamp that honors our military heroes.

The U.S. Postal Service officially unveiled and issued the Purple Heart "Forever" stamp in San Diego on May 5, 2011. The original stamp was first issued in 2003, and re-issued as a 'forever' stamp May 2, 2011.

The Purple Heart medal, which was originated by George Washington in 1782, is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first award made available to a common soldier.



**Marine Corps League**  
Department of Maryland

<http://deptofindmcl.org>

51 Mountain Road  
Pasadena, MD 21122  
1-800-556-8113

Mazda • Lincoln • Mercury



Rich Morton Auto Group



1013 West Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
1-800-500-7337

Lincoln • Mercury

# What Makes Marines Special?

*NOTE – The following is a reprint of a letter to the American Courage Newsletter, published by Sgt Grit on 7 July 2011.*

Someone asked me, "What makes Marines special?" I thought about that for awhile.

I think that what makes Marines special, if only in our own minds, is that elusive quality of *Esprit de Corps*. It's the fact that we, as individual Marines, don't feel that we are individual Marines. When we wear our uniform, when we hear our hymn, when we go into battle, we are going with every other Marine who ever wore the uniform.

Standing behind us are the Marines who fought during the birth of our nation. We're standing with the Marines who fought in WWI and gave birth to the legend of the "*Teufel Hunden*," or "*Devil Dogs*". We are standing with the Marines who took *Iwo Jima* and *Tarawa* and countless other blood soaked islands throughout the Pacific. We are standing with the "*Frozen Chosin*" and our beloved *Chesty Puller*. We are standing with the Marines who battled at *Hue City* and *Khe Sanh* and the muddy rice paddies of South East Asia. We are standing With the Marines who fought in *Desert Storm* and *Iraqi Freedom* and who are now fighting in *Afghanistan*. Like real brothers, their blood courses through our veins, and when we go into battle, we would rather lay down our lives than be a disappointment to them. We carry on our backs, their legacy, their deaths and their honor. We carry that for the rest of our lives.

The Marine Corps uniform does not come off when our active duty is over. We wear it daily in our attitude, and our love of Corps and country. We wear it on our tattoos and our bumper stickers. We wear it in our hearts. It is why, no matter where we are in the world, on November 10th, every Marine celebrates the Marine Corps Birthday. It's why we'll never be an "Army of One."

It's why we never stop being Marines. It's why, for most of us, being a Marine isn't something we were... it is something we are. It's the most important part of who and what we are. Some say we're arrogant. We say we're proud. We have a right to be proud. We are United States Marines... the most feared and ferocious group of warriors to walk the face of this earth. When Americas' enemies formulate their battle plans, they plan on going around Marine units, because they know damn well that they cannot go through them. We are what the other branches wish they were. We are the modern day Spartans. This isn't bragging. It's written In the battle history of our country. When there's a parade and the Marines march by, everyone pays a little more attention. Some say "arrogance." We call it "pride" It's why, in a crowd of service men, you can always spot the Marine.

Why are Marines special? I don't know. We just are.

Semper Fidelis!

**Marc Ciacchi**



## Color Guard

*by Woody Bowman*

On May 31st at 8:30 AM, our Detachment Color Guard posted colors at the **Rippling Woods Elementary School** as part of their **Memorial Day** program. As part of the ceremony, Marine **Charles Quick** was presented the Marine Corps League's **Distinguished Service Award** for his commitment to and support of our detachment's color guard.

On June 5th at 3:00 pm, our Detachment Color Guard posted colors for during the installation of officers ceremony at **American Legion Post 276** in Severn, Maryland.

Our Color Guard, augmented by other members of the detachment, lead the annual **Severna Park 4th of July Parade**. As always, the parade was a huge success and we were well represented by the detachment members, who took part in the event. A few photos of the parade are provided on page 8.

Our Detachment Color Guard was recently declared the **Best Appearing Veterans' Unit** participating in the **2011 Glen Burnie Improvement Association's Annual Memorial Day Parade**. Participating detachment members included **Woody Bowman, Paul Downey, Ray Gonzales, Chris Kalwa, Charlie Quick, and Charlie Young**. Also participating was **Sgt Chase Garcia** of the Marine Detachment at Fort Meade.



*New members are  
our life's blood! Recruit  
new members!*



**SHAMROCK**  
AWARDS & ENGRAVING

Telephone: (410) 766-4866

FAX: (410) 766-7277

Monday / Wednesday / Friday	9:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Tuesday / Thursday	9:00 AM – 7:30 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Exceptional Service & Quality**

900 Crain Highway North  
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

**Tina Todd**  
Assistant Manager

[shamrockawards@verizon.net](mailto:shamrockawards@verizon.net)





# Have You Heard?

by Mac McNeir

## Severna Park 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade

Our detachment was again well represented in the annual Severna Park 4th of July Parade. Participants included:

Woody Bowman	Fred Downey	Paul Downey
Chris Kalwa	Tom Maiorana	Charles Quick
Ed Ross	Pete Pervi	Joe Wright
Charles Young		

If you have yet to experience the uplifting of emotions resulting from either participating in or viewing this parade, I strongly encourage you to mark your 2012 calendars now! You won't regret it.

A few photographs of the parade are posted on page 8.

## Services for Dave Boschert

Funeral services for departed member Dave Boschert were conducted on July 7th at the *Hardesty Funeral Home* of Annapolis. Presiding over the services were Detachment Commandant **Joe Wright** and Detachment Chaplain **Ken Wright**. Taps was played by Past Commandant **Pete Pervi**. Also paying their respects were **Woody Bowman, Chris Kalwa, Charles Young, Paul Downey, and Guy Hall**.

The Mass of Christian Burial was conducted at *Our Lady of the Fields Roman Catholic Church* in Millersville on July 9th. The church was filled to near over-flowing by family and friends, dignities – among them former Maryland Governors **Marvin Mandel** and **Bob Ehrlich**, former Maryland Delegate **Ted Sophocleus**, current Maryland Comptroller **Peter Franchot**, and former U. S. Congresswoman **Helen Delich Bentley**. Marines from Fort Meade (**B Company, Marine Cryptologic Support Battalion**) provided the Color Guard, pall-bearers, flag detail, and field music (bugler); while, the rifle squad was composed of members of the U.S. Navy also stationed at Fort Meade.

**Guy Hall, Woody Bowman, Chris Kalwa, and Mac McNeir** represented our detachment at the church/cemetery.

## Sgt. Jason Ross USMC EOD Injury Foundation



In keeping with the detachment's track record of providing assistance to Marines in need, a number of members traveled to the *Queenstown Harbor Golf Links* on July 12th, and participated in a fund-raising tournament for the benefit of Explosive Ordnance Disposal

Marines sustaining injuries in performance of their duties. This particular tournament was extremely meaningful in that

our Detachment's Junior Past Commandant, **Mac McNeir**, has had the honor to visit **Sgt. Jason Ross** (as well as members of his family) at the *National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda* on a regular basis.

Members participating in and contributing to the fund-raiser included **Manny Airey, Pete Pervi, Woody Bowman** and **Mac McNeir**. **Gary Frye** also participated as a member of another foursome.

This was a very successful tournament, especially when you consider that it was the first event held in support of the **Sgt. Jason Ross USMC EOD Injury Foundation** and the fact that it was organized in a very short period of time

Among the notables present at the tournament, were the Marines from Sgt. Ross' unit who participated in his rescue and medical evacuation after he was hit. A couple of these Marines travelled to Maryland from Camp Lejeune to be part of the event.

## Supportive Merchants

As noted in the *Business* section of the June 3, 2011 edition of the *Severna Park Voice*, **Homestead Gardens** (a local garden shop) has raised over **\$22,000** over the past six years for the benefit of the *Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund*. Quoting **Don Riddle Jr.**, President and CEO of Homestead Gardens, "*Homestead Gardens is extremely privileged to be part of supporting the Semper Fi Fund.... This is such a great cause that we jumped at the opportunity to participate and plan on doing so for a long time.*"

Please consider using Homestead Gardens for your garden-ing and /landscaping needs.

## New Restaurant

From **Pete Pervi** – A new restaurant will be opened by two local restaurateurs – **Steve Newton** and **Bill Kraus** – on September 11, 2011 to commemorate the **10th Anniversary of 9-11**. Bill Kraus has a son in the USMC, who is currently serving in the Middle East. The restaurant, which will be named *Mission BBQ*, will be located at 7748 Ritchie Highway in Glen Burnie and will of course feature barbecue.

I am inviting detachment members to join me at the restaurant on opening day (wear your red covers) to enjoy a BBQ dinner at the establishment. I think it would be a nice tribute to Marine Kraus and a heart-warming surprise for his father.



# Severna Park Parade Snapshots

NOTE – The following photographs were provided by Joe Wright Jr.



Our Color Guard leading the parade – Woody Bowman, Charlie Young, and Pete Pervi.



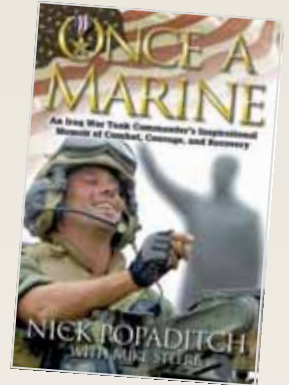
Detachment members Chris Kalwa and Paul Downey waving to Severna Park residents.



Detachment Commandant Joe Wright waving to crowd from 'Toys for Tots' Vintage Automobile being driven by owner and Department of Maryland Commandant Ed Ross.

## Book Review by Mac McNeir Once A Marine

As is stated on the dust-cover of the book, this is a memoir of a Marine Gunnery Sergeant **Nick Popaditch**, who served as Marine tank commander in Iraq, where his actions resulted in his being awarded the Silver Star.



However, this is not just a retelling of the exploits that earned him the Silver Star... it is a biographical narrative that describes his upbringing, his entry into the Corps, his advancement through the ranks, his wounding, his subsequent efforts at rehabilitation and return to full duty status, and his many battles with bureaucrats seemingly unconcerned about ensuring that Gunny Popaditch was treated in a fair and appropriate manner.

Gunny Popaditch's story is one filled with stories and emotions that most Marines will find familiar and will likely cause recollections of events long dormant in most of our memories.

**Casper Wineberger Jr.**, military and current affairs columnist had the following comments about this book...

*"...Gunnery Sergeant Nick Popaditch... has penned what must surely be classed as among the best personal memoirs of any combat soldier in recent memory."*

**Congressman Bob Filner** (D-CA), Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs states...

*"Once a Marine is a heart-wrenching and inspiring memoir. Every American should read this book to remind them of what these brave warriors of freedom endure on our behalf."*

**Ralph Peters**, New York Post columnist observes...

*"...a transcendent memoir of military service and personal consequence that should be read by every one of our nation's political leaders – to help them understand the incomparable quality of those who fight on the front lines."*

*He goes on to say "Read this inspiring story, recommend it to friends – and send a copy your member of Congress!"*

Simply stated, I found this book to be a good read and believe that it should be on the bookshelf in the home of every Marine wanting to keep in touch with current day Marines tasked with enriching the Corps legacy.



### Quotation

*"I do not miss the Marine Corps, I miss the Marines..."*

**Oliver North**

Lieutenant Colonel, USMC Retired





## Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **October 26, 2011**. Unless otherwise noted, these events will take place at VFW Post 160, located at 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060 (410-766-9802).

*NOTE – The dates and times listed below are subject to change. Please verify the information with the indicated organization (point of contact).*

### Monthly Meetings, Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary

Monday, 25 July 2011 @ 1900 – Joe Wright / Dawn Parker

### Friday Night Dinner, Detachment 1049 Auxiliary,

Friday, 29 July 2011 @ 1800 – Dawn Parker

### Crab Feast, VFW

Saturday, 30 July 2011 from 1500 to 2000 – Jim Brady / Kelly Ulrich

### 88th Marine Corps League National Convention

(Hosted by Treasure Valley Detachment 878, MCL)

31 July through 6 August – <http://www.tvdmcl.org/>

Riverside DoubleTree Hotel

2900 Chinden Boulevard, Boise, Idaho 83714

(208) 343-1871 or <http://www.boiseriverside.doubletree.com>

### Monthly Breakfast, VFW

Sunday, 7 August 2011 from 0800 to 1200 – Pete Pervi

### MODD Pound 204 Growl

Sunday, August 14, 2011 @ 1000 – Ed Ross / Paul Taylor

### Monthly Meetings, Detachment & Auxiliary

Monday, August 22, 2011 @ 1900 – Joe Wright / Dawn Parker

### Friday Night Dinner, Detachment 1049

Friday, September 2, 2011 from 1800 to 2000 – Joe Wright

### Monthly Breakfast, VFW

Sunday, September 4, 2011 from 0800 to 1200 – Pete Pervi

### Crab Feast, VFW Men's Auxiliary

Sunday, September 11, 2011 from 1300 to 1800 – Gary Barnett

### Department of MD Staff Meeting

Saturday, September 17, 2011 from 0900 to 1100 – Paul Taylor  
Detachment 1234, Oakland, Maryland

### MODD Maryland Pack Growl

Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011 – immediately after Staff Mtg. – Ed Ross  
Detachment 1234, Oakland, Maryland

### Monthly Meetings, Detachment & Auxiliary

Monday, September 26, 2011 @ 1900 – Joe Wright / Dawn Parker

### Friday Night Dinner, Detachment 1049 Auxiliary

Friday, September 30, 2011 from 1800 to 2000 – Dawn Parker

### Monthly Breakfast, VFW

Sunday, September 4, 2011 from 0800 to 1200 – Pete Pervi

### Detachment 1049 Bull & Oyster Roast

Sunday, October 23, 2011 from 1300 to 1800 – Joe Wright

### Marines Helping Marines Picnic

(Sponsored by A. A. Co. Det. 1049 & Hound Dog Pound 204)  
Wednesday, October 26, 2011 – Tony Begenwald (301-262-4869)  
Mercy Hall, Bethesda National Naval Medical Center



## Corps History

by Vic Halme, Historian

### 1 July 1920

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

### 4 July 1800

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

### 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.

### 7 July 1941

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

### 10 July 1941

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

### 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.

### 25 July 1930

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

### 25 July 1944

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.

### 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.

### 27 July 1953

Korean War ended – armistice signed at Panmunjon, Korea.

### 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.



## Corps Humor

Enterprising Marine Master Sergeant

While doing some shopping in a local mall, a crusty but enterprising Marine Master Sergeant approached a young, attractive woman shopper.

"Excuse me," he said. "I can't seem to find my wife; so, may I talk to you for a couple of minutes?"

The woman, feeling a bit of compassion for the old warrior, said, "Sure, Do you know where your wife might be?"

"I have no idea," he said, "but, every time I talk to an attractive young woman with a body like yours, she usually appears out of nowhere."



## Members' Birthdays

*NOTE – Please advise the editor of any errors/omissions in the following birthday listings.*

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

Manny Airey

Robert Hole

James Le Gette

John Ogle

Ruhl Rexroad

Eddie Grove

Dick Johnson

Robert Lucian

Earl Parker

Granville Smith

Mike Hadley

Fred Kaminski

George Martin

Charles Quick

Joseph Wright



Lauer's Supermarket & Bakery	
	
	
<b>Chesterfield Plaza</b> 8095-A Edwin Raynor Blvd. Pasadena, MD 410-255-0070	<b>Riviera Plaza</b> 8479 Fort Smallwood Rd. Riviera Beach, MD 410-437-4800

*In business since 1975*

# HARBOUR LIQUORS

8140 Fort Smallwood Road  
Baltimore, MD 21226  
410-255-4395

*Ardent Supporter of the Marine Corps League*

## 2011 MODERN DAY MARINE GOLF TOURNAMENT

2011 Modern Day Marine Golf Tournament to benefit the Young Marines and the Youth Physical Fitness Foundation.

The Gunny, R. Lee Erney will be on deck to support the Young Marines and the Youth Physical Fitness Foundation...will you?

**Date:** September 26, 2011  
**Location:** Medal of Honor Golf Course  
**Breakfast:** 0800  
**Tee Time:** 0900  
**Fest:** \$125 per golfer  
**To Sponsor:** Contact Bridgette Barr at [bridgette.barr@nielsen.com](mailto:bridgette.barr@nielsen.com) or (703) 812-2784

**MODERN DAY MARINE**  
September 26, 2011  
Quantico, VA

**Young Marines**



# Bombastic Bumper-Snicker:



"Nothing in life is as exhilarating as  
to be shot at without result."

# Farewell Dave... *(continued from page 1)*

Last month, Boschert sat with a reporter from the *Maryland Gazette* and reminisced about his life in public service. "I loved it. It was wonderful," said Boschert, struggling to hold back tears.

Boschert said he used a number of tactics in his time as an elected official – in particular, he liked being the swing vote. Boschert recalled a time on the County Council when he wouldn't tell anyone how he was going to vote on the budget that the County Executive, Lighthizer, wanted passed. The upshot was that Lighthizer needed Boschert's vote, and Boschert traded it for a list of goodies for his district. The result was that the county installed lights on athletic fields at Arundel High School, bought more trucks for local public works crews in the Crownsville area, and upgraded the local firehouse.

In the General Assembly, Boschert led a number of fights, but often didn't get full credit for legislative victories because he was in the Republican minority. In one case, he was responsible for passing a bill to have insurance companies pay for prostheses following breast surgery. Boschert knew he couldn't get the bill passed alone, so he teamed up with a senator from the majority party. Boschert did the bulk of the work, including lining up a long string of breast surgery patients to testify. The measure became law, and the senator got the credit. "I know politics. I don't want the glory. I want the success of the victory," Boschert said.

Other Republicans sometimes shunned Boschert for voting with Democrats in the House of Delegates, especially when he was a member of the House Judiciary Committee. "You have got to play to win," Boschert said. "I would love to see my party fight for issues they can win, and not for ideology."

Though his health was failing this spring, Boschert continued fighting for his community. Last month, he called on officials to turn the defunct Crownsville Hospital Center into a campus for non-profit and charitable groups, and for a veterans home. He said the Crownsville facility has been paid for with taxpayers' money and the buildings could be put to great use. Instead, nearly the entire campus is being allowed to decay. Boschert broke down and wept when talking about the Crownsville site.

House Speaker **Michael E. Busch**, a Democrat from Annapolis, called Boschert "one of the better angels." "His love was public service," Busch said. "Dave has really been dedicated to the service of his country and the service of his community."

**Marvin Bond** was one of Boschert's closest friends. They met in the 1970s, when Bond was a spokesman for Maryland Comptroller **Louis L. Goldstein**, and Boschert was a local newscaster. Boschert was unusual for keeping his ego in check, Bond said, and being willing to work behind the scenes. "There are an awful lot of people who know David has made a lot of contributions," Bond said.

In 1969, Boschert served as an enlisted man in South Vietnam. A retired Marine Corps Reserve Captain, he was known for his love for the military and for veterans. He served as chairman of the Anne Arundel Co. Veterans Commission.

In his final interview, Boschert said of his life, "I am at peace. I am just frustrated I can't do more." He went on to exhort people to solve the problems besetting their communities. "There's so much more to be done," he said, "there's so much more that can be done."

Anne Arundel County Executive **John R. Leopold** served for many years in the House of Delegates alongside Mr. Boschert, who was also a primary challenger during Mr. Leopold's 2006 run for Anne Arundel County Executive. "He was always affable, collegial – even in a very heated campaign setting," said Mr. Leopold, a Republican. "He was always someone who was able to submerge any personal considerations and focus on trying to get bills passed. He was willing to compromise."

In recent years, Mr. Boschert had advocated that a veterans assistance center be built on the grounds of the former Crownsville Hospital Center. Lawmakers are still considering options. "If we could talk to Dave today, he'd say, 'Don't forget about Crownsville,'" said Mr. Leopold. "It was his passion."

Mr. Boschert also served as an adjunct professor at Anne Arundel Community College, where he taught a class in government. He took his students to the General Assembly and to county government offices.

For the past three years, he had been director of the Maryland Classified Employees Association.

He had earlier been Assistant Branch Manager of the old First National Bank and a manager of Farmers National Bank. He was also a past President of the West Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce.

Funeral services were provided by the Hardesty Funeral Home of Annapolis. A Mass of Christian burial and interment was held on July 9th at Our Lady of the Fields Roman Catholic Church in Millersville.

Contributions may be made to **Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency**, 1 Truman Parkway Suite 101 Annapolis, MD 21401.



**QUALITY BUILT HOMES, INC.**



Sales and Marketing Department  
5341 Ketch Road, Suite 100  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
Phone: 410-414-6995  
Email: [dougsmith@qbhi.com](mailto:dougsmith@qbhi.com)  
<http://www.qbhi.com>





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

(Address Correction Requested)



# Featured Foto



The Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon performs for thousands of spectators at the Gateway Arch during Marine Week 2011 in St. Louis on June 25, 2201. The platoon traveled to St. Louis to perform two shows, one under the Gateway Arch and another during the closing ceremonies for Marine Week. [Photo by Corporal Jeremy Ware]