

*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/>

# Navajo Code-Talker Dies

*NOTE – The following is a reprint of an Associated Press story, which appeared in the online version of the Marine Corps Times on Friday, March 18, 2011.*

CAMP VERDE, AZ – **Lloyd Oliver** wasn't much of a talker, but it was clear that he was proud to have his native language serve as a key weapon during World War II. As part of an elite group of Marines, he helped develop and implement a code based on the Navajo language that helped win the war.



Years later, his hearing remained impaired because of gun blasts and other explosives during the war. He rarely brought up his time as a Code-Talker, but his eyes gleamed when holding a picture of himself in his uniform. He kept a Marine cap and a U.S. flag displayed on his bedroom walls in the home he shared with his wife on the Yavapai Apache Reservation.

Oliver's death on Wednesday means that *only one of the original 29 Navajo Code-Talkers survives* – **Chester Nez** of Albuquerque, NM. The 88-year-old Oliver

died at a hospice center in the Phoenix suburb of Avondale, where he had been staying for about three weeks, his nephew, Lawrence, said Friday.

“It's very heartbreaking to know that we are losing our Navajo Code-Talkers, and especially one of the original 29 whose stories would be tremendously valuable,” said **Yvonne Murphy**, secretary of the Navajo Code-Talkers Foundation.

Hundreds of Navajos followed in the original code-talkers' footsteps, sending thousands of messages without error on Japanese troop movements, battlefield tactics and other communications critical to the war's ultimate outcome.

The Code-Talkers took part in every assault the Marines conducted in the Pacific.

Navajo President **Ben Shelly** called Oliver a ‘national treasure’ and ordered flags lowered across the reservation in his honor.

Oliver, who preferred not to have a hearing aid, spoke audibly but his words could be difficult to understand.

The Code-Talkers were instructed not to discuss their roles and felt compelled to honor those orders even after the code was declassified in 1968. His military records make a single mention of ‘code-talker.’ He otherwise was listed as ‘communication duty,’ or ‘communication personnel.’

*(See Code-Talker Dies on page 13)*

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# the CUTTING EDGE

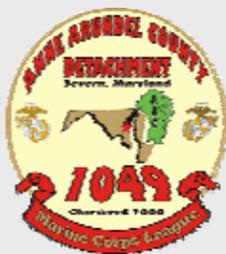
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 Junior Vice-Commandant – *Woody Bowman*  
 Judge Advocate – *Joe Wright*  
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## 2010 Award Winner

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

Beginning with next month, I hope to be able to begin including more photographs of detachment activities and our members.

Since taking over the role of editor of the detachment's newsletter a little over two years ago, I have been able to whittle the number of issues delivered by the U.S. Postal Service down from approximately 100 to 72. This was made possible by increasing the number of email deliveries. The cost benefit of printing and delivering fewer copies by mail are admittedly modest; however, those savings can now be used for more important matters.

Once more, I encourage everyone to take part in and support the **Department of Maryland Convention**. I also cannot over-emphasize the importance of member support for our **6th Annual Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament**. Please continue selling tee box (hole) signs, encouraging your friends to play, and of course volunteering to be part of the support crew!

See you at our next monthly meeting!

The submission deadline for all **May** newsletter articles is **MIDNIGHT, Tuesday, May 10, 2011.**



## Membership Stats

Detachment Membership Stats – 3/31/2011			
Good Standing (Dues Paid)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Memberships	73	8	6
Annual Memberships	39	6	–
Delinquent Dues (Still on Active Roster)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Annual Memberships	2	1	–
New Members			
	1	–	–
Sub-Totals			
	115	15	6
Total			
	136		

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

RENEWALS		
May 2011	June 2011	July 2011
Frederick Curtis Jeffrey Dell'Acqua John Owens Lawrence Shiflett	Harry Anderson Jeffrey Clark Frank Mondragon David Wells Fernand Verrier	George Cunningham Tom Hancock James Terry Keith Thorburn

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

# Commandant's Message



Mac McNeir

Marines,

My final column focuses upon two topics that I feel are very important – providing assistance for VFW Post 160 as it navigates through a difficult period and a few reflective thoughts as I turn over the detachment to our new Commandant.

## VFW ASSISTANCE...

All organizations must maintain a proper relationship between *income* and *outgo* if it is to survive... especially in these challenging economic times. You have probably heard that **VFW Post 160** is currently attempting to optimize its financial balance sheet by instituting some new fund-raising mechanisms. In order to be successful, VFW Post 160 not only needs the assistance of its membership but the assistance of the members of the other organizations that use the Post as their base of operations.

As Marines, we have faced and overcome many challenges. I hold the steadfast belief that the Marines of this detachment will step up and assist in the effort to keep the doors of VFW Post 160 open. I cannot emphasize just how much your assistance is needed – without your help, this challenge may be impossible to overcome!

## A FINAL REFLECTION...

This article constitutes my final column as your detachment Commandant and I can assure you that I will be vacating this office with a lot of memories (mostly good), new and meaningful relationships with my fellow Marines of this detachment, and the knowledge that I tried to serve our detachment (all of you) to the best of my ability. I will let each of you determine for yourselves whether I measured up to your expectations.

I will always cherish your support during the past year and the way that many members of the detachment, who are far too numerous to identify here, helped me surmount the challenges of this office.

Please give the incoming Commandant – **Joe Wright** – your unconditional and unwavering support allowing us to begin the transition into what I hope will be a period of more youthful and dynamic leadership, the successful continuation of our programs, and the embarkation upon new and exciting ventures.

*My Heartfelt Thanks to All of You... Semper Fi,*

## Mac McNeir



## Lest We Forget...

*NOTE – This memoriam is based upon several online obituaries appearing on the Internet – Marine Corps Times, Baltimore Sun, etc.*

**Staff Sgt. James M. Malachowski**, 25, of Westminster, MD, was killed on Sunday, March 20, 2011 by an improvised explosive device during combat operations in Afghanistan's Helmand province. He was serving with the **2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force**, when he died.



Malachowski enlisted at age 17 and served tours in Iraq in 2004 and 2005. His mother, **Alison** also served in the Marines. She enlisted in 1976, and attained the rank of Sergeant before completing her service in 1980 and subsequently marrying **James Malachowski**.

His sister, **Brandy**, also served in Iraq as an Army Lieutenant. When she was commissioned and had her bars (officer's insignia) pinned on, her brother James was the first member of the military to salute her.

SSgt. Malachowski grew up in Maryland and married his high school sweetheart **Lindsay Winter**, shortly after graduating from **North Carroll High School** in 2004. They had two sons, Vincent and Evan, with another child on the way.

SSgt. Malachowski was meritoriously promoted to Staff Sergeant on April 2, 2010 and concurrently earned the **Distinguished Shooting Badge**, which he earned in 13 months. He also earned numerous other marksmanship awards. SSgt. Malachowski graduated from the **Advanced Infantry Unit Leader's Course** before being deployed to Afghanistan.

Among his most distinguished accomplishments was having earned a position on the Marine Corps Rifle Team as well as having instructed over 50,000 recruits on the fundamentals of marksmanship at Marine Corps Depot, Parris Island.

SSgt. Malachowski earned two **Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals**, two **Marine Corps Good Conduct Medals**, a **National Defense Service Medal**, two **Iraq Campaign Medals**, a **Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal**, and a **Global War on Terrorism Service Medal**.

Burial with full military honors was conducted at **Arlington National Cemetery** on Thursday afternoon, April 7, 2011. The family requests that memorial contributions (in lieu of flowers) be made to the **Wounded Warrior Regiment, 3025 John Quick Road, MCB Quantico, VA 22134**.



From the desk of the

# Senior Vice Commandant



Chris Thompson

Greetings Marines,

I don't have a lot to say this month except to thank all of you who ensured my time as Senior Vice was successful. If it wasn't for the past Senior Vice (James Brady), all the Senior Members of Detachment 1049, and the rest of the active members, my term as Senior Vice would not have been as successful as it was.

Semper Fi

**Chris**



## Chaplain's Corner

by Chaplain Ken Webster

Please keep our extended family members, mentioned below, in your thoughts and prayers. 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)

**Denise Fields**, sister of member **Buddy Cadle**, passed away on March 20, 2011, after enduring a lengthy illness. She was a lifelong resident of the Odenton area.

**Kenny Rollins**, our former chaplain, was re-admitted to Harbor Hospital on 30 March. He has since returned home, where he is continuing his recuperation.

**Ed Ross**, Senior Vice Commandant of the Department of Maryland and Leader of the Maryland pack (MODD), drove himself to Union Memorial Hospital, when he believed that he might be having a heart attack. Fortunately, he did not have a heart attack and after a few days of treatment as an in-patient, has returned home. Contrary to currently circulating rumors, Ed did not go into the hospital for a sex-change operation.

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



From the desk of the

# Junior Vice Commandant



Woody Bowman

Fellow Members,

This month, we are welcoming a new member to our detachment, **Robert (Rob) Eckhardt**.

I would also like to thank **Ed Dahling** for stepping up and accepting the nomination to be the detachment's next **Junior Vice Commandant**.

Since I will not be at the April meeting, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to all of our incoming officers.

### COLOR GUARD

Our Color Guard recently presented colors at the following three locations/events.

- The 2nd Quarter District Conference, in College Park, for Maryland/Southern Delaware Optimists on February 19th.
- Wesley Grove United Methodist Church (Dorsey Road) on February 26th.
- St. Anne's Cemetery (Annapolis) on March 12th.

Our Color Guard will also be participating in the following events in the near future.

- Ferndale Day Parade on May 1st (at 12:00 NOON).
- The Glen Burnie Memorial Day Parade on May 22nd (at 2:00 PM).
- Memorial Day ceremonies at **American Legion Post 276** on May 30th (at 9:00 AM).
- Memorial Day ceremonies at **Crownsville Veterans Cemetery** on May 30th (at 11:00 AM).

Looking forward to seeing all of you at future meetings.

**Woody**

## OOPS!

In last month's issue of *the Cutting Edge* (March 2011), I mistakenly stated that there remained a need for a 13th Department Convention Delegate to vote on behalf of our detachment on **May 1, 2011**. Unfortunately, the stated date was incorrect!

The actual date for convention voting is **May 7, 2011!**

*Please forgive me for missing this error.*

Incidentally, we now have all necessary (13) delegates.



# Veteran's Affairs

by Ed Dahling

## Combat Related Special Compensation

Simply put, **Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC)** allows certain military retirees to receive both their military retirement pay and VA Disability Compensation. This means that qualified military retirees with 20 or more years of service that have a **'combat related'** VA-rated disability, no longer have their military retirement pay reduced by the amount of their VA disability compensation. The following is a summary of Combat-Related Special Compensation.

### Eligibility

CRSC eligibility includes disabilities incurred as a direct result of any of the following causes.

- Armed Conflict (gunshot wounds, purple heart, etc)
- Training that simulates war (exercises, field training, etc)
- Hazardous Duty (flight, diving, parachute duty)
- An instrumentality of war (combat vehicles, weapons, agent orange, etc)

The following are the current CRSC eligibility requirements.

- Retirees must apply to their respective branch of service to be approved for CRSC.
- Retirees must be in receipt of VA compensation.
- Retirees must be in receipt of military retired pay.
- Retirees must have an approved combat-related VA disability rating of 10% or greater.
- Retirees from active-duty must have 20 years of active service.
- Chapter 61 Medical Retirees with less than 20 years.
- Retired reservists must have 20 years of qualifying service (supported by documentation from the applicable branch of service – such as a 20-year letter, retirement orders or a statement of service) in order to be eligible.

Please note that qualified reservists will not receive CRSC until they begin to receive retired pay at age 60.

### Application Process:

To receive Combat Related Special Compensation you must submit your application (**DD form 2860**), through your parent military service branch. Each service branch has the authority to determine your eligibility.

For more information on how to apply contact...

Department of Navy Naval Council of Personnel Boards  
Combat-Related Special Compensation Branch  
720 Kennon Street S.E., Suite 309  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5023  
1-877-366-2772 (Toll free)

or visit the Navy CRSC Review Board website at  
<http://www.donhq.navy.mil/corb/crscb/crscmainpage.htm>.



# Military Order of the Devil Dogs



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

Woof-Woof,

The Maryland Pack had a very successful Growl on 26 March, hosted by the Harford County MCL Detachment and Pound 333, at VFW Post 8672, Forest Hill, MD. I do believe this Growl was attended by more Dogs than anytime in the past.

Besides the camaraderie and good fun enjoyed by all Dogs in attendance, we raised \$346.00 for the Kennel's children's hospital fund. That brings our total to \$766.02 and we still have the Grand Growl to go. Again, no other Pack will come close to Maryland. Great going, Dogs!

We also had a special collection for the Marines Helping Marines monthly cook-out at Bethesda and raised \$216.00.

PDD Raines demonstrated a hand-pedaled tricycle that Pound 316 has been purchasing and distributing to handicapped children in the Cumberland area. A MCL life member is making them and selling them at his cost. Again, the Marines are doing what Marines do: taking care of our own. Great job Dogs.

I hope to see many more Dogs at the Grand Growl in Ocean City on 6 May. We should have 10 to 15 Pups advancing to Devil Dog, which is always lots of fun for those of us who have already done it. See you at poolside at 1200 sharp. We also may have a mongrel or two joining the Order.

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



# Veterans Appreciation

## Nite - USMC

### Baysox vs Reading Phillies

*Fans who served in the armed forces and provide valid identification at the box office can purchase upper or lower reserved seat tickets for \$7.*

**Wednesday, July 6th @ 7:05 pm**

301-464-4865 / <http://bowie.baysox.milb.com/>

*(No Marine Corps specific ceremony will take place)*



# Have You Heard?

by Mac McNeir

## St. Baldrick's

On **Saturday, March 19th, 2011**, a number of people associated with our detachment and the other organizations calling **VFW Post 160** home, travelled to **Dougherty's Pub** in Baltimore to be a part of the nationwide effort to raise funds to support research focused upon finding a cure for the various forms of children's' cancer (see back page for photos).

Our group, consisting of **Ed Ross, Mac McNeir, Paul Taylor, Earl Parker, Chris Kalwa, Nila Caulder, Carol** and **Buck Outten** (and a number of others) contributed to the effort that raised over \$6,800. A total of twelve shavees volunteered to have their heads shaved to show solidarity with the children who generally lose their hair while being treated for cancer.

At the end of the evening, a late arrival to the pub, asked Ed Ross what all the **St. Baldrick's** hub-bub was about? Once Ed explained the nature of the charity, he also mentioned that we had fallen short of our adjusted goal of \$7,000. The stranger asked what we had raised and Ed responded just over \$6,800. Whereupon the stranger reached into his pocket and produced a donation of \$200... **putting our final total over \$7,000.**

Hopefully, the combined efforts of these people, their supporters, and shaves at similar functions all over the U.S., will move us a step closer to eradicating children's cancer!

## Detachment Elections

Installation of the new detachment officers will take place at this month's meeting on April 25th.

### 2011 - 2012 Detachment Officers

Commandant .....	Joe Wright
Senior Vice Commandant.....	Chris Kalwa
Junior Vice Commandant .....	Ed Dahling
Judge Advocate .....	Charles Luthardt Jr.

### 2011 - 2012 Auxiliary Officers

President.....	Dawn Parker
Secretary.....	Kathy Krutzfeldt
Senior Vice President .....	Chasity Wright
Treasurer .....	Nila Caulder
Junior Vice President.....	Stephanie DeValle
Chaplin.....	Desi Curtain
Judge Advocate .....	Anita Jennings
Guard.....	Patty Robidoux



## Public Information

by Ed Dahling, Public Information Officer

## Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day

The U.S. Senate has declared March 30th as **Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day**. On March 30, 1973, all U.S. troops withdrew from Vietnam under the terms of the **Treaty of Paris**. On March 30th, the Senate encourages Americans across the country to recognize Vietnam veterans for their sacrifice and to demonstrate a warm welcome to these veterans, who returned from war to a politically divided country. The resolution has moved to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

Find ways to support and honor U.S. military service members and veterans who protect our security and freedom. Visit Military.com's **Support our Troops** webpage at...

<http://www.military.com/benefits/resources/support-our-troops>.



## Friday Nite Dinner

Members should take note of *a change in the date of our **Friday Nite Dinner** in May*. Since a good number of our members will be attending the **Department Convention** in Ocean City from 5 to 7 May, we swapped dinner nights with the VFW Auxiliary and we will now serve dinner on **May 27, 2011**.

## Department of Maryland Leadership Course

On Saturday, April 16th, our detachment hosted a leadership training course for league members within the Department of Maryland. The objective of the class was to educate and familiarize Marines with the duties and responsibilities of various detachment officer positions and to expand their knowledge of National, Departmental and Detachment operations.

## Official Email Distribution Lists

An electronic e-mail discussion and e-newsletter list has been established for our detachment. Please note that this capability is not intended for the transmission of jokes and other forms of non-league business.

To sign up for this list, please visit...

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



# Sergeant Survives Sniper Round to Head

*NOTE – This memoriam is based upon a story by Brian Shane, a Marine Corps Times staff writer, which appeared on the Internet on Tuesday, April 5, 2011.*

Manning the top of a compound south of Sangin, Afghanistan, **Sergeant Paul Boothroyd III** took a sniper round to his head. He landed with a thud, face down in the mud, atop the roof upon which he had been standing.



Sgt. Paul Boothroyd waits for a medevac helicopter after sustaining a sniper round to the head March 4 in Helmand province, Afghanistan. [ Photo courtesy of Sgt. Paul Boothroyd ]

Fifteen minutes later, Boothroyd was bandaged, smiling, smoking a cigarette and giving the “thumbs up” as he waited for the medevac helicopter, to which he would later walk under his own power.

It’s a “you-gotta-be-kidding-me” story that earned the signals intelligence operator with 2nd Radio Battalion, a new call sign from his team members – **Headshot**.

“It was a one-in-a-million shot that the sniper was even able to hit me,” he said in an interview with Marine Corps Times, “and a one-in-a-million chance that the bullet didn’t destroy my brain. It wasn’t my time.”

Early on March 4th in Helmand province, Boothroyd (attached to the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit) was on a rooftop providing over-watch for a local security patrol. It was his first deployment. Insurgents opened fire, “and I got hit by the first bullet,” he said.

The bullet pierced his helmet. The Kevlar caught and turned the round, he said, “so instead of going in and thrashing my skull,” it entered through his neck and lodged itself above and behind his right ear.

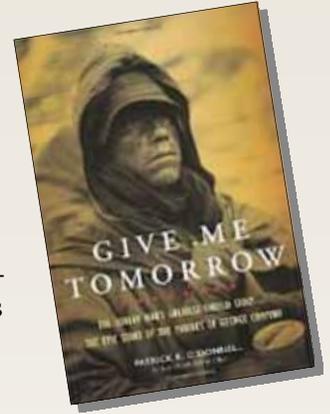
*See Survives Sniper... on page 10*

Book Review by Mac McNeir

## GIVE ME TOMORROW

*The Korean War's Greatest Untold Story – The Epic Stand of the Marines of George Company*

The focus of the book is **George Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division** or more importantly, the men who served in this unit during the period immediately before, during, and after the Korean War. Many interviews with the men of George Company allowed the author, **Patrick K. O'Donnell**, to tell the almost mythic story of these unbelievably resilient Marines... Marines who faced and overcame many significant challenges during their time in Korea.



These Marines had to endure and overcome being thrown into war essentially unprepared as United States’ government officials had diminished the capabilities of all military services by drastically reducing resources and manpower in the cost cutting frenzy that followed World War II. Many of the men, who served in George Company, had not even been through boot-camp – they received extremely limited training at Camp Pendleton, while the Corps drew on its scarce resources (active and reserve) in order to staff the units that would be tasked with stopping the invasion of South Korea by North Korean Forces. More importantly, they had to buy time for the United States and the United Nations to put together a larger multi-national force that would hopefully drive the invaders north and restore the sovereignty of the South Korean Nation.

George Company Marines fought a relentless enemy while having to deal with unbelievably severe cold, food shortages, malfunctioning equipment, less than adequate cold weather gear, and little or no shelter. In the minds of many, they also had to overcome the inadequate leadership of **General Ned Almond**, U.S. Army – who, **General Douglas MacArthur** had placed in charge of the main landing force just before the amphibious invasions of Inchon and Wonsan despite having no experience with amphibious operations.

George Company fought through a division of Chinese troops and held **East Hill** against a Chinese regiment. These Marines made five epic stands – **Seoul, Task Force Drysdale, East Hill, Hill 902**, and at a forgotten outpost called **Boulder City** on the last day the War.

This 288 page book recounts the pluck and perseverance of a group of Marines tasked with what for others would have been regarded as an impossible mission!



# Medal of Honor Sought for Chosin Veteran

NOTE – This story by Brian Shane (staff writer) appeared in the online version of the Marine Corps Times on April 2, 2011.

More than 200 members of Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, were surrounded by Chinese forces defending the Toktong Pass during the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. With his arm in a sling and using only a compass, 1st Lieutenant Kurt Chew-eeen Lee guided his crew of Marines in the dark, over North Korea's icy and rocky terrain, to reach and relieve Fox Company.

As a member of 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, Lee led rescue efforts that should have merited the Medal of Honor, according to veterans from his native San Francisco who are fighting for his recognition.

American Legion Post 384, comprised of Chinese-American veterans, invited Lee out to San Francisco for one week earlier this year to laud his valor and get his name out for Medal of Honor consideration. Lee has already received a Navy Cross and Silver Star for other actions during the Korean War. They're early in the lobbying process, and are a little unsure where to begin, said retired Air Force Lt. Colonel Roger Dong, chairman of the post's War Memorial Commission. "The man's 85 years old," Dong said. "We don't want to wait 20 more years to get it done."



Major Kurt Chew-eeen Lee

It was December 1, 1950. Surrounded at the border by tens of thousands of Chinese forces, Fox Company was defending the mountain pass along the 1st Marine Division's main supply line. They were running out of ammo, and the sub-zero temperatures were just as deadly as the enemy fire.

If Fox Company failed, the Chinese could break through the pass and cut off United Nations forces positioned near the man-made Chosin Reservoir.

Battalion commander, Lt. Colonel Ray Davis (a recipient of the Medal of Honor) assigned Lee, a platoon commander of 1/7's Baker Company to lead a rescue mission.

When Lee and fellow members of 1/7's Baker Company finally made the rescue, "there weren't many left in Fox Company," said retired Chief Warrant Officer 3 Wally Dugan, who served in the 7th Marines with Lee at Chosin.

Dugan also said that Lee was a constantly moving presence on the line at Chosin. "He never stopped," he said.

In an interview, Lee said he will cooperate with the vets pushing for his Medal of Honor upgrade.

He also said he was proud to be a "pioneer" as the Marine Corps' first Chinese-American officer.

"I was not the poster boy type – '6-foot-2 with eyes of blue,' " he said with a laugh. "But it was a challenge and I enjoyed it. Very few people tried to knock that big chip off my shoulder."

Lee's exploits also are now the subject of a documentary by the Smithsonian Channel, a film called "*Uncommon Courage: Breakout at Chosin.*"

"We've all heard stories about brave young men who've jumped on grenades to save their comrades and have been awarded the Medal of Honor," Dong said. "Just because Kurt Lee did not die does not mean he should not be recognized with the Medal of Honor. Who knows how many people are alive today because of him?"



<http://deptofmdmcl.org>



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



# Corps History

by Vic Halme, Historian

## **1 April 1945 (Easter Sunday)**

1<sup>st</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Marine Divisions land on Okinawa.

## **2-3 April 2003**

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

## **3 April 1945**

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

## **5 April 1947**

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

## **8 April 1956**

Six recruits drown in Ribbon Creek at MCRD Parris Island.

## **9 April 1942**

105 Marines among American captives on Bataan Death March.

## **11 April 1904**

One officer and 20 enlisted men become first Marines to garrison Midway Island.

## **12-13 April 1918**

Marines of the 4th Brigade suffer their first gas attack on the night and early morning hours of 12-13 April when the Germans bombard the 74th Company, 6th Marines near Verdun with mustard gas.

## **13 April 2003**

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

## **14 April 1865**

Marines guard the body of John Wilkes Booth after Abraham Lincoln's assassination.

## **15 April 1962 (Palm Sunday)**

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

## **18 April 1864**

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

## **18 April 1983**

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

## **19 April 1995**

Captain Randolph A. Guzman and Sergeant Benjamin L. Davis are killed when the Alfred Murrah Federal Office Building is bombed in Oklahoma City, OK.

## **20 April 1861**

Marines burn Norfolk Navy yard to prevent Confederate seizure.

## **21 April 1951**

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

## **24 April 1980**

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

## **26 April 1863**

250 Marines under Captain John L. Broome seize New Orleans Custom House and City Hall.

## **26 April 1965**

Staff Sergeant Josephine (Davis) Gebers becomes first woman Marine to be awarded the Combat Action Ribbon after coming under enemy fire in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

## **27 April 1805**

1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Presley N. O'Bannon, who with several other Marines, was part of a force of Greeks and Arabs led by American Consul William Eaton, raise the United States flag for the first time over a conquered fortress of the Old World at Derne, Tripoli.

## **28 April 1993**

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

## **30 April 1970**

President Nixon Orders troops into Cambodia.

## **30 April 1975**

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

## **30 April 1991**

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



## Survives Sniper... (continued from page 7)

"It was like being hit by a train," he recalled. "I remember what I was doing. I remember being hit, then I was face down in the mud on top of the building. I really wasn't terribly concerned because I could hear bullets whipping above me, but I still had the presence of mind not to stand up." I thought, "Well, I don't have any brain damage, at least at this point."

"My lieutenant pulled me to the edge of the roof so they could take a look at me," he added. "I got a little upset when they were pulling my Kevlar off." I said, "Hey, if that's holding my brain together, I'm going to be upset if you take it off."

The corpsman examining him found the bullet behind his ear. Now he hopes to keep it as a memento.

Boothroyd, 22, said his survival came down to the single-digit millimeters separating the 7.62x54mm Dragunov sniper round from his spinal column and its main arteries.

Boothroyd's firefight was one that many Marines have faced in Helmand province's Sangin district, which has become one of Afghanistan's most violent and casualty-heavy arenas.

Two days after the incident, Boothroyd was transported to National Naval Medical Center Bethesda, MD. Surgeons on March 16 removed the bullet with no complications. Boothroyd received the Purple Heart for his combat injury.

"It's one of those things where I feel like I've been given an unearned vacation," he said of his 30-day recovery. "In the surgical ward, I was only one of two gunshot wounds. Everyone else, they're all guys who have lost legs to IEDs [improvised explosive devices]. I look at those guys, and I think, "Do I really deserve a Purple Heart compared to these guys?"

Meanwhile, the Marine Corps and Army continue to test a new, stronger helmet to better combat the effects of enemy bullets, including 7.62 rounds.

Boothroyd said he hopes to return to Afghanistan for a second deployment this fall, if possible. In the meantime, he'll convalesce at home through mid-April with his immediate family – his wife, Ashley, and 2-year-old son, Paul IV, in Midland, MI – before returning to his battalion at Camp Lejeune, NC.

"The neurosurgeon says he's miraculously fortunate," said the Marine's mother, Carol Boothroyd. "It hasn't damaged his enthusiasm for, frankly, going back or anything. He really loves the Marine Corps. We're just really, really thankful that he's OK and he walked away from this."



## Marines Rescue Pilot Downed in Libya

*NOTE – This story by staff writer Dan Lamothe appeared in the online version of the Marine Corps Times on March 22, 2011.*

The pilot of a downed Air Force F-15 Strike Eagle fighter jet in Libya was reportedly rescued by Marines in an MV-22 Osprey, media reports said.

The jet crashed late Monday after two crew members safely ejected, U.S. Africa Command said in a statement. The aircraft, normally based at RAF Lakenheath, England, was flying out of Aviano Air Base, Italy, in support of a no-fly zone approved by the U.N.



Libyans pose with the wreckage of an Air Force F-15 fighter jet after it crashed near the village of Bu Mariem, east of Benghazi, Libya, on March 22, 2011. [Photo – Anja Niedringhaus / AP ]

Marine spokesmen could not immediately be reached for comment, but the **26th Marine Expeditionary Unit**, out of Camp Lejeune, N.C., has been floating off the coast of Libya to provide support as needed in the Libyan mission, known as **Operation Odyssey Dawn**. AV-8B Harriers with the MEU participated in air strikes there over the weekend.

The *Associated Press*, citing an unnamed defense official, said one crew member was rescued by the Marines, while the other was taken in by rebel fighters in Libya. The *Belfast Telegraph*, a newspaper in the United Kingdom with a journalist in Libya, reported that the pilot was rescued by Marines and a weapons officer was taken in by rebels.

It was not clear who, with the MEU, may have participated in the rescue mission. The Corps sent infantrymen with Lejeune's **1st Battalion, 2nd Marines**, to reinforce the unit after it became clear that it could be used in Libya. Most of the Marines with the MEU's original ground combat unit – **Battalion Task Force 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines**, out of Lejeune – landed in Afghanistan in January to support combat operations in Helmand province, and are still there.

Ospreys with the MEU operate from ships with the **Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group** and are from **Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266 (Reinforced)**, out of **Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C.**



## Quotation

*"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died...  
...rather we should Thank God that such men lived."*

**George S. Patton**  
General, U.S. Army

## 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 **May** include:

Jerry Fay	John Glandon	Jake Jahelka
Joseph Lowman	Charles Luthart Jr.	Ed Luthardt
Henry Robinson Jr.	Robert Tavik Sr.	William Wild



## Corps Humor

### *Lame Excuse?*

Noon had come and gone, 1500 (3:00 PM) soon passed, at 1815 (6:15 PM) he was still not home, finally at about 1900 (7:00 PM), the 'Gunny' rolls into the driveway, leaves his golf clubs in the garage, enters the kitchen, presents his wife with a pizza, and begins his apologetic story.

The Gunny tells his wife...

"We finished our game about 1130 (11:30 AM), had lunch, and I started home, when alongside the road I saw this attractive girl with a flat tire on her car. I stopped to help, got the tire changed, and looked around for a place to wash my hands.

She offered money, but I refused, so she suggested that I at least allow her to buy me a beer. She said there's a tavern just up the road, and they have a restroom, you can clean up a bit. I agreed to stop, we had a beer, then another beer, then a couple more, and I realized that this girl was not only pretty, she was very friendly, and a good companion to spend time with. Before I knew it, we were in the motel next door having sex. And that is why I am so late getting home."

His wife of nearly ten years, looked him right in the eye and says... "Don't bullshit me Jarhead – you played 36 holes, didn't you?"





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

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

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

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

**Established 1943**

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

Affiliated with the National Rifle Association and Civilian Marksmanship Program.



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

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





## Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **June of 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).*

### **Detachment 1049 Monthly Meeting**

(New Officer Installations)

Monday, 25 April 2011 @ 1900 – Mac McNeir

### **Department of Maryland Convention**

5 through 7 May 2011 – Bud Raines

Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center  
Ocean City, Maryland

### **Detachment 1049, Golf Tournament**

(Fund-Raiser for Marines Helping Marines)

Friday, 13 May 2011 @ 0800 – Manny Airey & Jim Brady  
Bay Hills Golf Club, 545 Bay Hills Dr Arnold, MD

### **Detachment 1049 Monthly Meeting**

Monday, 23 May 2011 @ 1900 – Joe Wright

### **Detachment 1049, Friday Night Dinner**

Friday, 27 May 2011 @ 1800 – Pete Pervi

### **Memorial Day**

Monday, 30 May 2011

### **MCL Mid-East Division Convention**

(Hosted by the Department of Delaware)

3-4 June 2011 – Fred Wise, [fwise@ococean.com](mailto:fwise@ococean.com) or (410) 289-8181  
Fredericksburg Hospitality House Hotel & Conference Center,  
2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22401.  
Telephone – 540-736-1006 / 800-682-1049

### **FLAG DAY**

Tuesday, 14 June 2011

### **MCL Detachment 1049 Monthly Meeting**

Monday, 27 June 2011 @ 1900 – Joe Wright



# Support for Khe Sanh Film Documentary

*NOTE – I recently received an email soliciting financial support for the development of a documentary film about the **Battle of Khe Sahn**. An unedited version of that request has been reproduced below. The photograph of the ammo dump being hit by enemy artillery (taken by Robert Ellison, who was wounded at Khe Sanh) was originally published on the cover of **Newsweek** magazine on March 18, 1968.*

Websites <http://bravotheproject.com/> and <http://www.indiegogo.com/Bravo-Common-Men-Uncommon-Valor> provide additional information.

Dear Commandant McNeir,

Marine Corps veteran Ken Rodgers (Bravo Company, First Battalion, 26th Marines) was awarded a Purple Heart at the siege of Khe Sanh. Today, he and his wife Betty are filming a documentary about the siege, but they need the help of many veterans to get the story told. I am writing on Ken's behalf to ask you to pass the word along to your Marine Corps League Detachment members to offer them the opportunity to help. Ken and Betty live in Boise, ID.

The documentary is called ***Bravo! Common Men, Uncommon Valor, A Documentary of the Siege of Khe Sanh***. Thanks to a grant from the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and using their own financial resources, Ken and Betty have done film interviews of 15 survivors and a military historian. From military archives in Washington, DC, they have gathered film footage of the siege and interviews done at the time. Now they are ready to edit hours of footage into a 90-minute documentary, but their financial resources are expended. They need help to fund the rest of the project.



Ken is a writer with several books to his credit; Betty is a writer and fine photographer. In their hands, this documentary will be masterful. You can see the trailer at <http://www.indiegogo.com/Bravo-Common-Men-Uncommon-Valor>. Already, the quality of the work is clear.

We are asking for your members' help. A donation of any amount – \$10, \$20, \$5,000, whatever your Detachment and your members can do will make a difference. Equally important, please pass the word to others you know who will want to help. We believe that Marine Corps veterans are an audience that will be as passionate as we are about getting the documentary made. We just need to connect with them. Please help make that possible!

The **Indiegogo** website makes it very easy to donate by credit card or by check, and those who donate \$100 or more can honor a veteran in the film credits, receive a copy of the DVD when the film is complete, or even be listed as a major sponsor (depending on the size of the donation). However, it is the \$10 and \$20 donors who will really help to get the film made.

To learn more about the project and meet Betty and Ken, use the link above. To communicate directly with Ken, please email him at [ken@kennethrodgers.com](mailto:ken@kennethrodgers.com).

If you would like to confirm our credentials before you forward this email to your detachment's members, please contact:

- The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation at (800) 397-7585. Please ask for Susan.
- The Boise Chamber of Commerce (Ken and Betty live in Boise, ID).
- The City of Boise Department of Arts and History. Contact Janelle Wilson at (208) 433-5670.

Also, Bravo! is a not-for-profit project of Kingfisher Arts, LLC, a 501(c)(3), so your donation will be tax deductible to the degree allowed. Please consult your tax advisor for tax advice.

Sincerely,

Michael Hosford

*NOTE – As gleaned from the website <http://www.digitaljournalist.org/issue9711/req14.htm>, **Khe Sanh** was the biggest ruse of the Vietnam War. U.S. Army General William Westmoreland (commander of MACV and all US forces in Vietnam) was convinced that the Vietnamese Communists would attempt another **Dien Bien Phu** against the garrison of six thousand Marines he had placed as bait at this forlorn spot in the far northwest corner of South Vietnam... General Westmoreland fell into a strategic ambush.*

*The Vietnamese gave every appearance of threatening Khe Sanh, surrounding the place with thousands of troops and shelling the base relentlessly. However, no serious attempt to seize the Marine base ever occurred. The Vietnamese purpose was to distract Westmoreland's attention from their preparations for the surprise nationwide offensive at Tet, the lunar New Year holiday, in January 1968, which broke the will of the Johnson administration and of the American public to continue to prosecute the conflict.*

*What remains undeniable is the courage of the Marines who held Khe Sanh while losing 205 of their comrades! Of equal fortitude were the aviators who braved withering fire on their flights into Khe Sanh to keep the Marines and Corpsmen at the fire-base supplied with beans, bullets and band-aids!*



## Code-Talker Dies... *(continued from page 1)*

Oliver was attending school in Shiprock, NM, when he signed up for the Marine Corps in 1942 and was discharged as a Corporal three years later. Much of his military record focuses on the financial support he provided for his siblings.

Oliver wrote in a 1943 document that his father died recently and his mother didn't make enough to take care of them. He would send \$15 or \$20 a month to his mother, Ollie, who worked at the U.S. Army's Navajo Ordnance Depot in Belmont at the time.

"I am now the chief support," he declared in the document.

**Willard Oliver** – Lloyd Willard's brother – also served as a Code-Talker and died in October 2009. **Lawrence Oliver**, who is Willard's son, said the two men never spent much time together because his father lived on the reservation and his uncle worked as a silversmith in the Phoenix area.

He recalled one day in the early 1970s when Willard Oliver looked toward a mountain on to a dirt road in the reservation town of Lukachukai and saw a man driving up.

"I'm looking for Willard Oliver," Lawrence Oliver recalled the man saying.

Turns out, the driver – Lloyd Oliver – was in the right place.

When he married his second wife, **Lucille**, in 2006 after they had been together for years, he was able to mutter "I do;" but, "those were the only two words," she said.

The couple moved to the Phoenix area last year as his health was failing. His family remembered him as a quiet, giving man.

"We will miss his wonderful smile most of all. He loved his

family and was very proud to be a Navajo Code-Talker," his stepdaughter, **Louanna Hall** said in a statement.

Oliver's attention to cleanliness was meticulous. He smoothed out wrinkles in a table cloth, picked up crumbs from the floor, and brushed the dirt off the stucco wall and rose petals off the driveway during a visit with the **Associated Press** (AP) in September 2009.

Oliver communicated with most people through body language or notes, though he could understand what was being said and particularly liked being spoken to in Navajo.

During the visit with the AP, he muttered his recollection of his service as "overseas in the war," and laughed off assertions that he was famous for it.

Oliver's life was peppered with honors and awards after the Code-Talkers became well-known. He received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2000 and served as a guest of honor in the nation's largest Veterans Day parade.

Oliver traveled with his grandson and a dozen other Code-Talkers to New York in November 2009. He smiled as he looked up at the tall buildings and visited HBO studios and Ellis Island, said Murphy, of the Navajo Code-Talkers Association, who went along on the trip.

"He was such a sweet man," said Murphy, the daughter of a Code-Talker. "His disposition and character spoke widely of him even though he wasn't verbal."

Oliver's funeral was scheduled for Saturday morning at a church on the Gila River Indian Community reservation, south of Phoenix.



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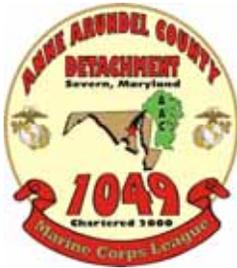
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(Address Correction Requested)



# Featured Fotos

These photos were taken at **Dougherty's Pub** (located at 223 W. Chase Street in Baltimore) on March 19th as part of a fund-raiser benefiting children's cancer research. These pictures attempt to capture the spirit of the event by focusing on the members of our detachment and those of other organizations who call VFW Post 160 home. The pictures include those who had their heads 'shaved' to show solidarity with the children suffering from cancer and those, who simply turned out to show their support.



Ten of the twelve 'shavees,' who contributed to a highly successful fund raising effort – raising \$7,000 for St. Baldrick's at the Dougherty's Pub event.



Mac McNeir started the ball rolling by being the first to be shorn.



Uncle Fester (Addams Family) also known as 'Buck' Outten



Ed Ross going all out by having his 'gourd' shaved – take note of the cherries on top!



Some of our St. Baldrick's contingent – Paul Taylor, Nila Caulder, Earl Parker, Chris Kalwa, Ed Ross, Carol Outten, Mac McNeir, Buck Outten, and Patrick P.