

the

CUTTING EDGE

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

Joe Wright, Commandant (cmdt@mclaacdet1049.org) | Mac McNeir, Editor (editor@mclaacdet1049.org)

Chesty's Statue Dedicated at the Marine Corps Museum

by Mac McNeir



Marines of many generations, accompanied by members of their families, gathered at the **National Museum of the Marine Corps** on the afternoon of **November 12, 2012** to be part of the statue dedication honoring legendary Marine **Lieutenant General Lewis B. 'Chesty' Puller**. [Photo by Mac McNeir]

A diverse collection of Marines – officers, enlisted, young, old, active duty, retired and those who served a single tour – recently gathered at the **National Museum of the Marine Corps** in Triangle, VA. Among them, office pogues, mud-Marines (grunts), air-wingers, etc. – some who experienced combat in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm/Shield, Iraq, and/or Afghanistan. Amongst the remaining spectators were those Marines who were prepared to fight though they were never called, family members, members of the Young Marines, civilian and military dignitaries, as well as the **President's Own – The Marine Corps Band**.

(see Puller... on page 8)

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the CUTTING EDGE

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

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Repeat National Award Winner

Marine Corps League
National Newsletter Competition
(Detachments of More Than 100 Members)



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



From the Editor

by Mac McNeir

Christmas greetings to all & a few thoughts as 2012 comes to an end...

1. I for one will miss **Pete Pervi**, who recently moved to Arizona. He was a friend ... a real asset to the detachment ... a doer not a talker ... not just a 'card carrier'!
2. I am concerned that the **attendance at our monthly detachment meetings** seems to be growing continually smaller.
3. I am happy to see that there is a **small cadre of detachment members that can be counted on** to be part of league activities. Members who contribute their valuable time and efforts to functions aimed at increasing public awareness of the Marine Corps League and our detachment, as well as raising money for our philanthropic undertakings. I'd be even happier if there were additional members stepping forward to lend a hand to their fellow Marines!
4. I look forward to the coming year and hope that it will bring all of us...
 - health and happiness;
 - more responsible government at all levels;
 - acceptable endings to the hostile actions now taking place globally; and,
 - a flourishing future for our beloved country and our Corps!

The article deadline for *the Cutting Edge's* next issue is **January 5th**.



Membership Statistics

Good Standing (Dues Paid)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Memberships	71	8	5
Annual Memberships	24	5	-
Delinquent Dues (Still on Active Roster)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Annual Memberships	19	0	-
New Members			
-	-	-	-
Sub-Totals			
114	13	5	
Total			
132			

Renewals

[Dues expire at end of indicated month & (D) indicates delinquency]

January 2013	February 2013	March 2013
Russell Bixler Roland Miller Christopher Thompson Joseph Wright	Chuck Albo Ed Grove Richard Hart	Robert Eckardt James Le Gette

Please advise the editor of any errors/omissions in this listing.

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

Commandant's Message



Joe Wright

Marines,

With the passing of another Marine Corps Birthday, I am reminded of how honored I am to have been part of such a special organization and to be surrounded by fellow Marines on our birthday was an honor. I had the privilege of attending the Marine Corps Birthday Ball in Columbia, S.C. with a Marine that I served with through boot camp, Operation Desert Shield/Storm, a Mediterranean float and humanitarian relief effort in Florida after Hurricane Andrew. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and hope that others were privileged enough to have attended a birthday ball somewhere. Hopefully, we will be able to resume hosting our own detachment Marine Corps Ball in the future.

Please note that our December meeting has been moved to December 17th due to the Christmas holiday. After the meeting, we will have our annual Christmas gathering. It would be appreciated if those who are able would please bring a covered dish or other food/beverage item. Please advise **Ed Dahling** or myself if you intend to bring food or other consumables. Regardless, please come and share some holiday cheer with your fellow detachment members. For those of you who will not be able to attend the meeting, I wish you and your family a very safe and happy holiday season.

Semper Fi!

Joe



A Toys for Tots Box

is located in the VFW Post 160 Canteen

Please donate a new, unwrapped toy in its original packaging and get your first drink for \$1.25.

- Offer remains in effect until the box is removed -

Quotation

"I am more afraid of an army of 100 sheep led by a lion than an army of 100 lions led by a sheep."

Charles Maurice de Talleyrand
French Diplomat/Statesman



Department of Maryland News

The Next Department of Maryland Staff Meeting will take place on **January 12, 2013**, in **Charlotte Hall, MD**. All members are encouraged to attend this staff meeting.



Members' Birthdays

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

Robert Foley Jr. **Mike Lowman** **Eugene Punte**
Scott Stevens **David 'Ben' Wells**

NOTE - If your birthday does not appear in this column, it's likely that I am not aware of it. Old and new members are encouraged to contact me to ensure that we have all of your demographics.

OOPS!

My sincere apologies to **Spike Miller** for not including him in last month's (November's) birthday listing. Spike's birthday occurred on the **23rd of November**. Should you see Spike in the near future, please extend to him a belated birthday greeting, consider buying him an overdue celebratory drink, and join him in questioning my capabilities as the editor of *the Cutting Edge*.



Chaplain's Corner

by Mac McNeir for Chaplain Fred Kaminski

Hershel 'Woody' Williams' previously reported condition has improved sufficiently for him to have returned home from the hospital.

No other information has been reported to either the Chaplain or me.

Please contact the Chaplain at the following number as soon as you learn of any member or member of our extended family, who is sick, in distress, etc.

410-760-4684 (home)



From the desk of the

Senior Vice Commandant



Ed Dahling

Fellow Detachment Members,

Our meeting scheduled for this coming Monday, December 17th, will be a short one as it will be followed by our annual holiday party. So bring a friend and bring yourself along with 'pot-luck' food for a good time among your fellow Marines.

Do not forget about the basket of cheer being raffled off to raise money for the detachment's general fund. Chances are available at a cost of **\$5 each** or the special rate of **\$20 for 5**. The winner will be announced at the December detachment meeting. You can still purchase chances at the VFW Post 160 Canteen. I will also be selling chances at the December meeting.

To all, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Semper Fi,

Ed Dahling

From the desk of the

Junior Vice Commandant



Ray Sturm

Greetings all,

First and foremost, I'd like to wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season. As we gather around our tables to celebrate with friends and family, please pause and take a moment to remember those in harm's way... for it is this new generation of warrior that has kept our shores safe.

Also keep in mind our brothers in arms, who were in the path of Hurricane Sandy. I'm sure many Leaguers are struggling to get their lives back in order. If you know of anyone in particular need, perhaps we can assist in some way... the way we always do. Marines helping Marines.

My third topic is a reminder to read the proposed By-Law change. Because we agreed to schedule our December meeting a week early, and to comply with the By-Laws regarding a full 30 day notice before a vote, the vote on the proposed change will take place at the January meeting. Your attendance and participation are important. Please note, that nominations will be opened for the **2012 Detachment Marine of the Year** in January.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone for their support this year. I'm looking forward to making 2013 our best yet.

Semper Fi,

Ray Sturm

I Am A Marine



**I Fight Where I Am Told &
I Win Where I Fight!**

Devil Dog Review



Bombastic Bumper Snicker:



It's not about trying...

It's about DOING!



Military Order of the Devil Dogs



The Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

Woof-Woof,

There is not much happening in 'Dogdom' this month. However, the Marine Corps League's **Toys for Tots** campaign is now in full swing and since the Devil Dogs are the movers and shakers of the League, it is our duty to get out there and provide total support for this effort. The coordinators are always looking for a few good men and women. So do your part. You will find it very rewarding

It is a long way off, but when the holiday season kicks in, things get hectic. So this is a reminder that the next **Pound Growl** will be on **9 December 2012** at the Dog House and the next **Pack Growl** will be on **12 January 2013** at the **Charlotte Hall Veterans Home**.

Pups are required to attend two **Pound Growls** during the year prior to the **Grand Growl** and **DDs** are required to attend two **Pack Growls** during the year prior to the **Supreme Growl**. Don't wait until it is too late. Attend your Pound and Pack Growls now.

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

Woof-Woof,

Paul Taylor

PDD & Dog Robber

Non-Functioning Email Addresses

Note – If your name appears below, please contact the newsletter editor as the email address that I currently have no longer seems to be functional.

Attempting to send either *email messages* or *digital copies of the detachment newsletter – the Cutting Edge* – to the detachment members identified below repeatedly result in '**non-delivery**' messages from your internet service provider (mail server) being routed to the newsletter editor.

Should any of the names listed below belong to friends, family members, etc., please ask them to either provide me with a correct email address or a request to be removed from my list of members wanting to be kept abreast of detachment functions/information via the Internet.

- **Scott Neff**
- **John Vogel**
- **Keith Oliver**
- **Dick Johnson**



Rifle & Pistol Team

by Ray Sturm

Greetings all,

As your newly minted Rifle & Pistol Team Captain, I'd like to thank our Commandant and former Captain for the confidence they've placed in me. I'd like to restore the team to its old glory and that will require quite an effort. The team name implies both a rifle and pistol team. To my knowledge, only the pistol shooters have been active. So here comes my recruitment pitch... If anyone wishes to shoot on either the rifle or pistol team, please let me know. We really do need new shooters for both. Please don't let the lack of competitive experience stand in the way. If you can remember from boot camp, which end to point down range, you're half way there.

Most matches are either '*service rifle*' or '*service pistol*' matches, which means you can shoot any issued service weapon. For example, you may use either the .03 Springfield, M1 Garand, M14, M16 (AR15), and for Manny's era, the flintlock (though rapid fire is a bit tough). Allowable pistols include .38 revolvers, Model 1911 .45s, and the Beretta 92. Foreign military weapons are also allowed. Essentially, weapons must be 'as issued' with no or limited modifications.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me.



Humor

Marine Sergeants:

- Can cuss for extended periods without ever repeating a word.
- Can play new 2nd Lieutenants like finely tuned instruments.
- Have eyes in the back of their heads.
- Neither know how to be politically correct nor give a damn about being politically correct.
- Can successfully complete the PFT (physical fitness test) with a hangover.
- Still know what a buffer is and how to it.
- Can tell you anything you would ever want to know about an M1911A1.
- Believe that they have a rendezvous with destiny.
- Idolize John Wayne.
- Really don't like taking illogical orders from those who haven't been there.
- Don't need a GPS to know where they are or where they are going.
- Have enough utility uniforms to start a surplus store.
- Know how to make coffee when the measuring scoop goes missing.
- Don't blame poor marksmanship on their weapon.
- Realize that inept leaders will always deflect blame to their subordinates.
- Never sweat the small '*crap*' – that is if they ever sweat at all.





Have You Heard?

by Mac McNeir

Highlights of the November 26th Meeting...

The meeting was brought to order by **Commandant Joe Wright**, who acknowledged the presence of **Department of Maryland Adjutant Paul Taylor**, and **Past Detachment Commandant Mac McNeir**.

Correspondence

Commandant Wright informed attendees of a recent message from **Marine Corps League Executive Director Mike Blum**. The thrust of the message is that there seems to be a scam running in South Carolina (and elsewhere) that involves the solicitation of help for Marines, who find themselves in need. While it is commendable to help our fellow Marines, who may have fallen into difficult times, you are cautioned that you need to check out the veracity of all such requests as well as the identities of the solicitors prior to providing aid.

Toys for Tots...

Members were again reminded that this year's **Toys for Tots Campaign** is now underway and that **Dawn Parker** – our campaign coordinator – needs all the help she can get from now through Christmas.

Basket of Cheer (Booze)...

Senior Vice Commandant Ed Dahling reminded everyone of **Past Detachment Commandant Manny Airey's** generous donation of a rather large basket of cheer. The basket (and its contents) is being raffled off in an attempt to raise money for our detachment's general fund. Tickets are **\$5 each** or **\$20 for 5 tickets**. The winning ticket will be drawn at the December detachment meeting.

Each member of the detachment is encouraged to purchase at least one ticket ... doing so would result in more than \$650 being added to our general fund!

Junior Past Commandant Remarks...

Junior Past Commandant Mac McNeir extended best wishes to the members in attendance on behalf of **Past Commandant Pete Pervi**, who has now permanently relocated to the sunny surroundings of Arizona.

Past Commandant McNeir recapped his recent trip to the **National Museum of the Marine Corps** for the dedication of the Marine Corps League sponsored statue honoring **Lieutenant General Lewis Burrell 'Chesty' Puller**.

NOTE – Details of the dedication ceremony are provided by the cover story (found on page 1) of this issue of the Cutting Edge.

Detachment Color Guard...

Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman called attention to the following upcoming December events.

- Presentation of colors at the **Food Lion** (Mountain Road) on **December 2nd @ 1200** (NOON).
- Presentation of colors for the **Pearl Harbor Veterans Association** at the **World War II Memorial** (at the Annapolis overlook) on **December 7th @ 1230** (12:30 PM).

NOTE – Participants should plan to arrive at event sites approximately 15 to 20 minutes early.

Newsletter...

Editor McNeir asked that members keep him informed of any newsworthy events as well as changes to demographic data (residence, email addresses, etc.).

A renewed request was made for photos of past birthday balls involving members of our detachment.

Young Marines...

Young Marines Commander **George Martin** addressed the following topics...

- The Young Marines' **Bull & Oyster Roast** on **November 11th** netted a profit of approximately **\$1,300**.
- The **Young Marines' Raffle** is doing well and approximately 100 tickets are still available for purchase.
- Two active duty Marines have volunteered to assume the duties of Young Marines Commander and George will be stepping down as soon as a comprehensive turn-over has been accomplished.

NOTE – Contingency planning for replacement of these volunteers needs to be performed in anticipation of these Marines receiving permanent change of station orders at some future date.

December Meeting Rescheduled...

The **December meeting** was rescheduled and will now be held on **December 17th** (3rd Monday of the month) due to the Christmas holiday.

Detachment By-Law Change...

Junior Vice Commandant Ray Sturm presented a revised version of the proposed detachment by-law change, regarding the election of **Detachment Marine of the Year**. Upon completion of the presentation, three grammatical corrections were recommended and accepted by the membership. The latest version of the proposed by-law change is provided for your examination on page 12 of this newsletter. **The proposed by-law change will be voted upon at the January detachment meeting.**

(continued on next page)

Since We Had No 2012 Ball...

some photos from the past.



Ray & Deborah Sturm – 209th Birthday Ball (1984) at MCRD Parris Island



Ed & Sandi Dahling – 196th MB Fort Meade Birthday Ball (1971) at 'The Barn'



Five Baltimore Marines – 188th Birthday Ball (1963) at Danang, Republic of Vietnam

Have You Heard...

(continued from previous page)

2013 MHM Golf Tournament...

Burt Helmka, 2013 *Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament Chairman*, repeated his previous request for a member to step forward and assist him in the setting-up and running of the 2013 tournament. The tournament will be held at the **Compass Pointe Golf Course in Pasadena, Maryland** on **May 31, 2013**.

Mac McNeir reiterated the need for members to begin promoting the tournament and lining up volunteers, golfers, and sponsors for next year's tournament. These efforts are necessary if we expect to maintain the level of success that we have achieved with previous tournaments.

Christmas Get-Together...

Commandant Wright reminded detachment members that our annual Christmas celebration will take place immediately after the close of the **December 17th** detachment meeting. Members were asked to please bring covered dishes or other food/beverage items to help defray expenses and ensure a successful celebration. Members planning on providing a covered dish or other consumable should notify either **Commandant Wright** or **Senior Vice Commandant Dahling**. It is hoped that a large number of our members and their significant others will attend and share in the fellowship and spirit of this cherished holiday event.

Adjournment...

The detachment meeting was adjourned in accordance with league rituals and will reconvene at **1900 (7:00 PM)** on **17 December 2012**.

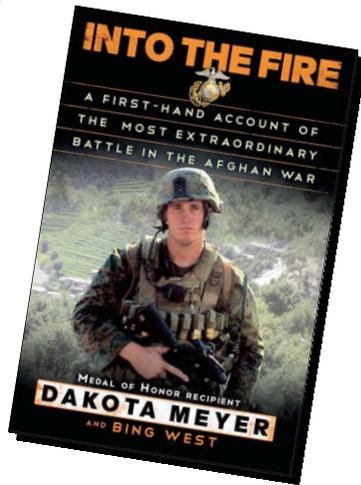


Charlie Quick & Jean Evans – 237th Birthday Ball (2012) at MCL Centreville, MD

Into the Fire

by Mac McNeir

I recently had the opportunity to read this recounting of the life of Marine and Medal of Honor recipient **Dakota Meyer**. It chronicles his early years as a young boy growing up in Kentucky, his evolution to accomplished Marine Sniper, and ultimately his travails as a veteran struggling with issues encountered during his service in Afghanistan.



It is an honest portrayal of the bravery as well as the incompetence that he witnessed, as well as the severe cost of 'political correctness' in the guise of 'rules of engagement' that were levied upon U.S. combatants. Rules seemingly more concerned about potential harm to persons, who could conceivably be enemy combatants, rather than safe-guarding the lives of U.S. forces sent into harm's way. A situation further exacerbated by the wresting of control from officers and NCOs in the thick of the battle and subsequently placed in the hands of rear-echelon types, who lacked the situational awareness necessary to make timely decisions and expedite the actions necessary for the success of the mission. A situation that needlessly placed our warriors at far greater risk than was absolutely necessary.

I whole-heartedly recommend this book. The opinions of other reviewers are cited below.

"Sergeant Meyer embodies all that is good about our nation's Corps of Marines ... [His] heroic actions ... will forever be etched in our Corps' rich legacy of courage and valor."

General James F. Amos, Commandant of the Marine Corps

"Into the Fire is a deeply compelling tale of valor and duty. Dakota Meyer will not identify [see himself] as a hero, but he will, I think, accept the title warrior. Dakota's storytelling is precise and, for a Medal of Honor recipient, touchingly humble. With deft prose he drops us smack in the middle of one of the most heinous small unit firefights of the current wars. His insights into military tactics and politics in a war zone are sharp and uncompromising and work as a primer on infantry war fighting for the uninitiated. Dakota was a magnificent Marine and he is now an equally magnificent chronicler of warfare and the small group of people who do today's fighting for America."

Anthony Swofford, author of 'Jarhead'



Puller... *(continued from page 1)*

The reason for the gathering was the dedication and unveiling of an eight-foot bronze statue honoring legendary **Marine Lieutenant General Lewis Burrell 'Chesty' Puller** – the most decorated Marine in all Corps' history. Puller was a student at VMI (Virginia Military Institute) but left at the end of his freshman year as he wanted to do his part in **World War I**, which was being waged at that time. He subsequently enlisted in the Corps and completed boot camp at **Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC**. During his career, he was a combatant in both **World War II** and the **Korean War**. Years later, he requested that he be allowed to come out of retirement in order to serve in **Vietnam**. His request was denied. 'Chesty' is the only Marine to have earned five Navy Crosses. He retired in 1955 after having had a stroke and died in 1971 at age of 73.

Among the many notable guests were the following:

- **Jim Touhy**, National Commandant of the Marine Corps League
- **Mike Blum**, Executive Director of the Marine Corps League
- **Terry Jones**, Marine & Sculptor of the Puller Statue
- **Lt. General Robert Blackman** (USMC Retired), President & CEO of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation
- **Lt. General Richard Mills**, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development & Integration
- **Lt. General Stephen Olmstead** (USMC, Retired)
- **Captain Milton Gianulis** (USN), Chaplain
- **Virginia Puller Dabney** daughter of the honoree
- **Martha Puller Downs** daughter of the honoree
- **Brigadier General Michael P. Downs**, (USMC Retired), son-in-law of the honoree & husband of Martha Puller Downs
- **Toddy Puller**, Virginia Senator and widow of Chesty's son, **Lewis Burwell Puller Jr.**
- **Lewis Burwell Puller III**, grandson of the honoree

Assisting with the statue unveiling were:

- **Gerald Pendas**, a Korean War veteran, who served under Lt. General Puller
- **George Schaudel**, a Korean War veteran, who served under Lt. General Puller
- **The Quantico Color Guard**

Lieutenant General Stephen Olmstead (USMC, Retired), a private in Puller's 1st Marine Regiment at the Chosin Reservoir in Korea, served as the ceremony's emcee. **Marine Lieutenant General Richard Mills**, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration, delivered the keynote address.

The creation of the sculpture was undertaken and funded by the **Marine Corps League**. The League subsequently presented the statue to the **Marine Corps Heritage Foundation** for permanent display at the **National Museum of the Marine Corps**.

The **Marine Corps League's Department of Maryland** was well represented at the event by members of the **Anne Arundel County, LCPL Robert W. Deane, Harford County and Mountainside Detachments**.



Photos – Puller Statue Dedication

[Photos by Rudy Garcia, Department of Virginia Commandant]



Chesty's daughters, Virginia Puller Dabney and Martha Puller Downs with Sculptor (Marine) Terry Jones



Lt. General Richard P. Mills & Charlie Quick (Anne Arundel Co. Det. 1049)



The Marine Corps Band – 'The President's Own'



Guy Hall (Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049)



Mac McNeir, Ed Luthardt & Charlie Luthardt (Anne Arundel Co. Det. 1049)

Marine F-35B Debut

SAN DIEGO — The Marine Corps is forming the first squadron of pilots to fly the next-generation strike fighter jet, months after lawmakers raised concern that there was a rush to end the testing of an aircraft hit with technical problems.



So far, two veteran pilots of the **3rd Marine Aircraft Wing** have been trained to fly the **F-35B**. They are becoming the first members of the **Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121** that will debut Tuesday at a ceremony at the **Marine Corps Air Station** in **Yuma, AZ**.

The first F-35B arrived Friday, and 15 more are slated to arrive over the next year. The Defense Department has pumped a half a billion dollars into upgrading the facilities, hangars and runways at the base to make way for the next-generation fighter jet, officials said.

The pilots of the new squadron are expected to fly the aircraft by year's end.

The Marines are the first in the military taking the steps toward putting the planes in operation. The F-35B would replace Cold War-era aircraft such as the F/A-18 Hornet and AV-8B Harrier.

"It's a pretty big milestone that a lot of people are looking at and judging," said Marine **Captain Staci Reidinger**, a spokeswoman at the Yuma base. "The lessons learned will be shared."

Tuesday's inauguration comes only months after leaders of the Senate Armed Services Committee suggested that **Defense Secretary Leon Panetta** rushed a decision to develop the Marine Corps version of the fighter jet.

In a letter sent in February to the Pentagon chief, **Senators Carl Levin**, the committee chairman, and **John McCain**, the panel's top Republican, questioned whether the F-35B had met the criteria to warrant an end to its probation. The F-35B had been on a two-year probation because of "significant testing problems."

Levin (D-MI), and McCain (R-AZ) wrote that the program "has enjoyed some success over the last few months, after several years of having fallen short." But they said "more problems with the F-35B's structure and propulsion, potentially as serious as those that were originally identified a year ago, have been found. This is salient where the F-35B has completed only 20 percent of its developmental test plan to date. Your decision, therefore, appears at least premature."

Levin declined to comment on the squadron. McCain did not respond to a request from The Associated Press for comment.

The developer of the aircraft, **Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Co.**, is building three versions of the F-35 – one each for the Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps.

Schedule delays and cost overruns have dogged the F-35's development, making it the Pentagon's most expensive weapons program ever. Ten years in, the total F-35 program cost has jumped from \$233 billion to an estimated \$385 billion. Recent estimates suggest the entire program could exceed \$1 trillion over 50 years.

Aviation safety consultant and retired Marine Corps **Colonel Pete Field**, who served as the former **Director of the Naval Test Pilot School**, said the Marine Corps' F-35B is the most complicated of the three versions because it can take off and land vertically in less than 500 feet of space, allowing it to be launched from small Navy ships and to drop down in confined areas.

One of the problems earlier on in its development was it was heavier than predicted, which would have compromised its unique ability to take off and land vertically, Field said.

It was lightened substantially, but Field said that could also mean structural problems in the long run.

"It remains to be seen if the F-35B has a long life and is structurally sound," said Field, who was the chief test pilot for the F/A-18. "We won't know for two to three years after it's been in operation. If nothing crops up, perhaps the engineers have done their best work."

Its sophisticated stealth capabilities also mean that like the Air Force's F-22, the aircraft can fly into enemy territory without being detected by radar.

"All we can do is hope that they have solved all the program problems and that they've got a pretty good airplane," Field said.

Officials at Lockheed Martin say they have corrected the problems with the aircraft's structure and propulsion in the development phase, including cracking in the interior bulkhead. There were no accidents or close calls by pilots testing the F-35B, said spokesman **Jack Giese**.

Congressman Duncan Hunter Jr. (R-CA), a former Marine who is the only member of Congress to have served in both Iraq and Afghanistan, said he trusts the decision of Panetta and Marine Corps leaders.

"The 35B is going to take the Marine Corps to a new level of sophisticated flight technology," Hunter told The Associated Press. "The ability for the F-35B to take off and land in an extremely constrained landing zone, that's huge for what it brings to the table. The Harrier was a great airplane, but it was also limited. It doesn't have all the new technology. The F-35B has that."



Note – The above is an edited/condensed version of an article by Julie Watson (AP) that appeared in the online version of the Marine Corps Times on November 19, 2012.



Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **January 12, 2013**. 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 organizational point of contact.

MODD Growl, Pound 204

Sunday, December 9, 2012 @ 0800 – Mike Hadley

NOTE – If you have the time, please go out and show your support for the following event. The Wounded Warriors sure would love to have a few of us show to be part of the celebration.

Wounded Warriors Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 11, 2012 beginning at 1100 at the bowling alley on Fort Meade

Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary

Monday, December 17, 2012 @ 1900 – Joe Wright / Anita Ullery

Staff Meeting, MCL, Department of Maryland

Saturday, January 12, 2013 beginning at 0900 – Ed Ross
Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Charlotte Hall, MD

MODD Growl, Maryland Pack

Saturday, January 12, 2013 following the Staff Mtg – Don Benson
Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Charlotte Hall, MD



Corps History

by Mac McNeir for Joe Wright, Historian

1 December 1947

The Corps' first helicopter squadron, **HMX-1**, was commissioned at Marine Corps Air Station Quantico, VA.

4 December 1950

Lt. Colonel Raymond G. Davis earns the Medal of Honor for his heroism while leading the **1st Battalion, 7th Marines** through the mountain passes of Hagaru-Ri, Korea to combat numerically superior hostile forces.

5 December 1929

Marine **Captain A. N. Parker** was the first person to fly over unexplored Antarctica.

6 December 2006

Major Megan McClung, a 1995 Naval Academy graduate, became the 1st female Marine officer to be killed in Iraq and the fifth female Marine to die in support of **Operations Iraqi Freedom & Enduring Freedom**.

7 December 1941

Marines defend against Japanese '*sneak-attack*' on U.S. Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor. Over 3,000 Marines and Sailors were killed in that action.

8 December 1941

Marines of the **1st Defense Battalion** and **Marine Fighting Squadron 211** resisted Japanese attempts to invade Wake Island for over two weeks before finally succumbing to an overwhelming force.

10 December 1941

With no weapon larger than the .30 caliber machine gun, 153 Marines defended Guam until overwhelmed.

10 December 2001

CIA agent **Mike Spann**, the first American killed in action in Afghanistan, was buried in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. Spann had previously served as a Marine Artillery Captain.

10 December 2003

Marine Sergeant Christopher Chandler, who lost his left leg to a land mine in Afghanistan in December of 2001, becomes first service member retained on active duty with a prosthetic limb to graduate from the U.S. Army Basic Airborne Course. He was also the class NCO Honor Graduate.

15 December 1948

Secretary of the Navy signs a 'Memorandum of Agreement' with the State Department which laid the basis for the modern **Marine Security Guard Program** at U.S. embassies throughout the world.

19 December 1972

The **Marine Detachment of the USS Ticonderoga** provides shipboard security for U.S. astronauts, **Eugene Cernan, Ronald Evans, Harrison Schmitt**, and their **Apollo-17** space capsule.

23 December 1941

Japanese forces launched attacks against Wake Island, Wilkes Island, and Peale Island. After nearly 12 hours of desperate fighting, the three islands were surrendered.

26 December 1776

Marines participated in the second Battle of Trenton (NJ) as part of General George Washington's force.



Basket of Cheer Raffle

Proceeds Benefit the Detachment's General Fund



CHANCES

1 chance for \$5
5 chances for \$20

(Tickets available in Post 160 Canteen)

**Winning ticket will be drawn
at the December 17th detachment meeting**

Proposed Detachment By-Law Change

Note – Please read the proposed amendment to the current by-law governing the Selection of the Detachment Marine of the Year, which is provided below. The amendment, as presented here, contains changes to the originally amended proposal, which was introduced and read at our November detachment meeting –those changes appear as red/underlined text.

Since our by-laws state that a vote cannot be held until 30 days have passed, the vote to either accept or reject this amendment will be conducted at our first detachment meeting of the new year on January 28, 2013.

SECTION 300 – STANDING COMMITTEES AND DUTIES

d. Detachment Marine of the Year (DMOY)

1. Committee Composition

- (a) The Detachment Marine of the Year Committee shall be comprised of all past recipients of the Marine of the Year, with a minimum of three members required to meet. In the event at least three members are not available, the Detachment Commandant shall name one or more Past Detachment Commandants to serve on the DMOY Committee. The Chairman of the DMOY Committee shall be the most recent Detachment Marine of the Year. If unavailable, the next most current DMOY shall server as chairman. Each member must be a member in good standing.

2. Duties

- (a) The DMOY Committee shall
 - aa. Determine all nominees are in good standing.
 - bb. Ensure the nominees are not the subject of a grievance.
 - cc. Review, select, and submit at least two, but not more than three qualified nominees to the Detachment Commandant no later than two calendar weeks prior to the scheduled March detachment meeting.
 - dd. Should the Detachment MOY Committee determine that no nominee is qualified, they may with the concurrence of the Detachment Commandant, make no recommendation.
- (b) The Detachment Commandant shall
 - aa. Prior to the detachment meeting in March, publish the qualified list of nominees and their supporting recommendations.
 - bb. At the March meeting, present the list of qualified nominees for vote by the assembled members of the detachment.
- (c) The Detachment Judge Advocate shall prepare the ballots.
- (d) The Detachment Quartermaster shall obtain the appropriate award plaque and medal. The medal should be available for presentation at the March meeting. The plaque with appropriate inscription may be presented at a later meeting.

3. Nominations

- (a) The DMOY Committee may begin accepting nominations after the January Detachment meeting.
- (b) Nominations may be made by any detachment member in good standing.
- (c) Nominees must be a detachment member in good standing.
- (d) Nominations shall consist of a written recommendation, with a statement of justification as to why this member should be selected as Detachment Marine of the Year.

4. Voting Process

- (a) Members must be present and in good standing to vote. There are no proxy votes or absentee ballots.
- (b) The Detachment Senior Vice Commandant, with assistance of the Judge Advocate, shall conduct a secret written vote. The names of all qualified nominees shall appear alphabetically on a ballot. In the event either officer is a nominee, the Detachment Commandant shall select a replacement officer. This replacement may be an elected or appointed officer.
- (c) A majority vote of all members present shall be necessary to decide the Detachment Marine of the Year. A majority vote is defined as fifty percent plus one vote.
- (d) In the event no nominee receives a majority on the first round of balloting, the top 2 voter earners shall run in a runoff election, with a simple majority (50% +1) being necessary to win.
- (e) The Senior Vice Commandant, with assistance from the Judge Advocate shall tally the votes and present the results of the voting to the Detachment Commandant.
- (f) The Detachment Commandant will announce the Marine of the Year or declare no winner and the need for a second round of voting. If the winner of the DMOY is present, the award may be presented immediately. In the event the winner is not present, an appropriate ceremony shall take place at the next scheduled detachment meeting. The previous recipient of the DMOY shall present the award.





Marine Corps National Museum Expansion

For far too long our National Museum has provided
'NO REPRESENTATION'

for those Marines who served in 'harm's way' as participants
in the operations and campaigns that took place after the end
of the Vietnam War.

This lack of representation is finally going to be
addressed! The MCHF recently began a fundraising
effort to raise \$64 million to fund the expansion of the
National Museum of the Marine Corps. New galleries
(scheduled to open in 2017) will address Marine Corps'
history in *Beirut, Desert Shield and Desert Storm,*
Somalia and more than a decade of combat in *Iraq* and
Afghanistan.

Please Support This Endeavor!

All members of *Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049*
and *Marines everywhere* should contribute to this effort
(if their financial situations allow it) in order to ensure
that this disservice to our fellow Marines, whose service
has gone unheralded for far too long, is addressed as
soon as possible.

For additional info contact our *Detachment Junior Past*
Commandant, Mac McNeir @ editor@mclaacdet1049.org
or contact the *MCHF* directly by telephone at
800-397-7585 or their website @
<http://www.marineheritage.org/MakeDonation.asp>.



**We Don't Do It for the Recognition...
We Do It Because We're Marines!**

Devil Dog Review

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our League, and our detachment!

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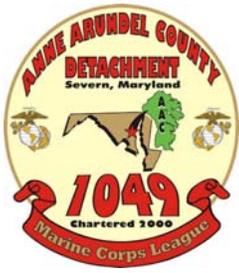
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Committed to giving back to our uniformed heroes!



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

(Address Correction Requested)



Featured Foto



LCPL Joseph E. Miller, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 269 UH-1Y Huey crew chief, mans the GAU-17 mini-gun. The mini-gun is a six-barrel electrically-operated machine gun that has a firing rate of 2,000-4,000 rounds per minute and can be mounted on vehicles, helicopters and water-craft.
[USMC Photo by LCPL Cameron Payne]