

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)

Detachments Co-Sponsor Successful September Cook-Out

by Mac McNeir



One of many wounded Marines and members of his family, who enjoyed the steaks, tasty treats, and perfect weather at the September 2012 Marines Helping Marines Cook-Out, co-sponsored by the L/Cpl Deane and Anne Arundel County detachments of the Marine Corps League that was held at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center on September 19th. [Photo - 'Doc' Gunther]

The day typically starts early for the many Marines and family members, who leave their homes early in the morning in order to arrive at the **Walter Reed National Military Medical Center** in Bethesda, Maryland in time to assist **Tony Begenwald** with the monthly **Marines Helping Marines** cook-outs. Tony is typically one of the first to arrive at **Mercy Hall** (site of the cook-out) with his SUV, which he has jam-packed with the food, equipment, and consumables necessary to stage a successful picnic. If he is lucky, volunteers will be there to help unload his SUV and make several trips through Mercy Hall and out to the picnic area. What many often fail to realize, is the fact that Tony, who is older than many of us, packs up his vehicle in preparation for the day's picnic and upon returning home late in the day will have to unload his vehicle

(see *Cook-Out...* 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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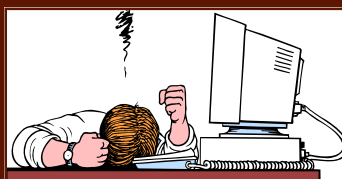


**Repeat National
Award Winner**

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

Mark East and I have had our initial meeting in preparation for his assumption of the role of editor of *the Cutting Edge* in June of 2013. The discussions were encouraging and the process of easing him into the production process has begun.

On a less positive note, I feel obliged to mention that at recent detachment meetings, certain members are habitually demonstrating what can only be construed as rude, inconsiderate behavior. Private conversations should cease as soon as a detachment meeting is called to order; unfortunately, some members seem to believe that their private discussions are far more important than the detachment business being discussed. Besides being disrespectful to those attempting to conduct/discuss detachment appropriate business, these private conversations are a distraction that make it necessary for recognized speakers to repeat information two or more times; since, the speaker's words were 'drowned out' by those who believe that they are exempt from demonstrating common courtesy to their fellow Marines (members). At future meetings, we all need to make a concerted effort to be respectful of one another.

Articles for *the Cutting Edge's* November issue is **October 27th**.



Membership Statistics

Good Standing (Dues Paid)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Memberships	72	8	5
Annual Memberships	35	6	–
Delinquent Dues (Still on Active Roster)			
Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Annual Memberships	15	1	–
New Members			
	–	–	–
Sub-Totals			
	122	15	5
Total			
	142		

Renewals

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

November 2012	December 2012	January 2013
Danielle Campbell (D) Sam Campbell Jr. (D) Jeffery Dell'Acqua (D) Kurt Osuch	Don Blanton Norm Huffman Mike Lowman (D) William Russell Scott Woods (D)	Russell Bixler Roland Miller Sinamin Stone (D) Christopher Thompson Joseph Wright

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,

On **September 19th**, I had the privilege of attending the **Marines Helping Marines Cook-Out at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center – Bethesda** with Marines **Mac McNeir, Norman Huffman, and Ed Ross** as well as auxiliary member **Stephanie Del Valle**. What an honor it was to cook and serve a much appreciated meal to our wounded military members, their families, and the members of the medical staff, who attend our wounded. I was reminded that no matter how tough things get, that I can persevere and get through. Those men and women always keep their heads high and do not ask for pity. I will be attending the **October 17th Cook-Out** with my wife and **Auxiliary Senior Vice President, Chasity Wright**. The cook-out is being sponsored by the **Department of Maryland** and anyone interested in attending should let me know by **October 8th** so that I can let **Tony Begenwald** know.

October 6th is the date of our **Bull & Oyster Roast**, and I am hoping to see many of our members there having a great time and supporting our detachment.

The **Happy Hour** observance of the **237th Marine Corps Birthday**, will take place at **VFW Post 160** on **Saturday, 10 November 2012**, beginning at **1600 (4:00 PM)**.

Dawn Parker is heading up the **Toys for Tots Campaign** in **Anne Arundel County** this year and is in need of our help – picking up toys, sorting toys at the warehouse, etc. Anyone willing and able to assist in this effort should contact Dawn.

Semper Fi,

Joe

Members' Birthdays

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

Harry Anderson	Buddy Cadle	Dee Cline
Tom Hancock	Richard Hart	Vernon Maher
Michael Mullikin	George Perez Sr.	Roger Pirkey
Donald Quinlan	Steve Salanik	Richard Savage
Sinamin Stone	Keith Thorburn	



Lest We Forget...

by Mac McNeir

Note – The following is based upon information obtained from several websites subsequent to the recent terrorist attack on a coalition compound in Afghanistan.

On the night of September 14th, terrorists dressed as U.S. Army personnel attacked **Camp Bastion** (a British base in Afghanistan's Helmand Province) that adjoins **Camp Leatherneck** – home to several U.S. Marine aviation units and coalition forces from several other countries. The Taliban attack resulted in the destruction of six Marine **AV-8B Harrier** jump-jets and damage to two others. It was the worst loss of U.S. military aircraft since the Vietnam War. A few hangars and three refueling stations were also damaged.

Demonstrating the truth behind the Marine credo that *'Every Marine is a Rifleman,'* aviation Marines (technicians, clerks, etc.) ran to the action and engaged the insurgents. **Major General Gregg Sturdevant**, Commanding Officer of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), stated that *"Obviously, in the wing, we focus on fixing aircraft and flying those aircraft... But, when forced to, we can quickly transition to offense on the ground, and that's exactly what happened Friday night."*

Fourteen of the fifteen attackers were killed by the coalition forces who responded. The surviving insurgent, who was wounded in the attack, was taken into custody.

Sadly, two Marines were killed in the action while nine other U.S. personnel were wounded. Information on the two Marines who were killed is provided as follows.

Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Raible, was a native of Huntingdon, PA and a graduate of **Carnegie Mellon University**. After his commissioning, he graduated from flight school and rose quickly through the ranks, ultimately becoming the Commanding Officer of **VMA-211** (Marine Attack Squadron 211), the position he held at the time of his death.



A veteran of **Operations Enduring Freedom** and **Iraqi Freedom**,

Lt. Colonel Raible is survived by his parents, **Al and Belvina Raible**; his wife, **Donella Raible**, and three children, ages 11, 9, and 2.

A memorial service was held on September 24th at the **Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, AZ** Chapel. He was subsequently buried in **Arlington National Cemetery** on October 2, 2012. Memorial contributions may be made in Lt. Col. Raible's name to the **Wounded Warrior Project**...

www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

(see Lest... on page 4)

From the desk of the

Senior Vice Commandant



Ed Dahling

Fellow Detachment Members,

I am currently going over the figures for the recently held **Bull & Oyster Roast** and will deliver a financial report on the event at our monthly meeting on **October 22nd**.

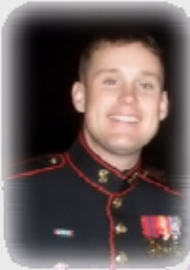
Don't forget to join us on **10 November** at **1600** (4:00 PM) at the **VFW Post 160 Canteen** to help us celebrate our **Corps' 237th Birthday**. I hope to see everyone there.

As most of you are aware, we will **NOT** be having our annual **Marine Corps Birthday Ball** this November.

Semper Fi,

Ed Dahling

Lest We Forget... (from page 3)



Sgt. Bradley Atwell, 27, a native of Kokomo, IN, graduated from **Taylor High School** in 2003 and went on to attend various colleges during the next two years. At the time of his death, he was only a few credits shy of his associates degree. Sgt. Atwell concluded a short stay in the U.S. Air Force prior to enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps in 2005, where he worked as an aviation electrician, and attained his current rank.

He is survived by his wife, **Danielle Atwell** of Yuma, AZ; mother, **Cheryl (Turnpaugh) Atwell**; father and stepmother, **Victor and Kimberlee Atwell**; mother and father-in-law, **Christopher and Jeanette Cross**; brother, **Dustin Atwell**; two sisters, **Erin and Lauren Atwell**; and grandmother, **Shirley (Turnpaugh) Oody**, all of Kokomo. He is preceded in death by his grandmother, **Betty (Atwell) Harmon**; and grandfathers, **Herb Atwell, Wayne Harmon, and Conrad Turnpaugh**.

Funeral services honoring the life of the fallen Marine were conducted on September 29, 2012, at **Chapel Hill Christian Church**. Burial followed in **Albright Cemetery** with full military honors provided by members of the **U.S. Marine Corps**.

Memorial contributions may be made in Sgt. Artwell's name to the **Wounded Warrior Project**...

www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

...with acknowledgments sent to...

Danielle Atwell
P.O. Box 99113
Bldg. 852
MCAS Yuma, AZ 85369.



From the desk of the

Junior Vice Commandant



Ray Sturm

Greetings all,

I regret that I was unable to attend the Detachment meeting in September. I understand we had a few new members join. I'll introduce them in my next article.

I missed the meeting due to an assignment to work in *New York City* for the annual meeting of the *United Nations General Assembly*. I was assigned to protect the leader of a country formerly behind the *Iron Curtain*. After decades of struggle, they have emerged with a freely elected government, are members of *NATO*, and sincerely appreciate what America has done for them. Over the course of my assignment I saw the contributions of their immigrant community in their adopted country.

I mention this because I see parallels with the current events in Iraq and Afghanistan. These countries are struggling with new-found freedoms. We expect the sacrifices our Marines, soldiers, sailors and airmen have made to create instant and tangible results in these countries. This will certainly not be the case, but as with the end of the Cold War, I have no doubt their sacrifices will not be in vain. I ask that we renew our efforts to support this generation of warriors.

Semper Fi,

Ray Sturm

Quotation

"The Great Depression, like most other periods of severe unemployment, was produced by government mismanagement rather than by any inherent instability of the private economy."

Milton Friedman
Economist.



Chaplain's Corner

by Chaplain Fred Kaminski

EDITOR'S NOTE – Once again, I have not been made aware of anyone, sick, in distress, etc.

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)





Military Order of the Devil Dogs



The Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

Woof-Woof,

I am happy to report that all Dogs in **Pound 204** have paid their **2013 dues** with the exception of **DD Karchem**. He has now been dropped from the rolls since he is now two years in arrears. I've emailed him several times but have never gotten a response. Do any of you Dogs know his status?

The **Maryland Pack** growled last month after the September **Department of Maryland** staff meeting with a pretty good turnout. When information was passed about the Pack having so many bones in the treasury, a motion was made to donate **1,000 big bones** to the Kennel to be passed on to the children's hospital in **Grand Rapids, Michigan** at next year's **Supreme Growl**. In addition to that, we collected another **144 bones** from the passports. That makes a total of **\$1,144** that has already been sent to Kennel with a smiley face and a note declaring that the Maryland Pack will be the number one contributor in the Kennel again this year.

The same motion made to donate 1,000 big bones to the Kennel, also included another **1,000 big bones** to be donated to **St. Baldrick's Foundation** to be used for *children's cancer research*. That should go over very well next March when a lot of us gather in Baltimore to see our Department Commandant get shaved from his neck up, all to raise money for St. Baldrick's.

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

Woof-Woof,

Paul Taylor

PDD & Dog Robber



NAVY SEALS

News reporter in an interview with a U.S. Navy Seal, discussing all of the countries to which he'd been sent...

"Did you have to learn several foreign languages?"

"No Ma'am! We don't go there to talk!

Non-Functioning Email Addresses

Note – If your name appears below, please contact the newsletter editor as the last known email address you provided me no longer seem to be functional.

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

Should your name appear in the following list, please provide me with either *your correct email address* or *your request to be removed from my list* of members wanting to be kept abreast of detachment information.

- James McCormick
- Keith Oliver



Humor

You may be a Taliban, if...

1. You refine heroin for a living, but you have a moral objection to beer.
2. You own a \$3,000 machine gun and \$5,000 rocket launcher, but you cannot afford shoes.
3. You have more wives than teeth.
4. You wipe your butt with your bare left hand, but consider bacon unclean.
5. You think vests come in two styles – bullet-proof and suicide.
6. You cannot think of anyone that you have not declared Jihad against.
7. You consider television dangerous, but routinely carry explosives in your shorts.
8. You were amazed to discover that cell phones have uses other than setting off roadside bombs.
9. You've often uttered the phrase, 'I love what you've done with your cave.'
10. You have nothing against women and think every man should own at least one.
11. You bathe at least once monthly whether necessary or not.
12. You have ever had a crush on your neighbor's goat.





Have You Heard?

by Mac McNeir

Highlights of the September Meeting...

The meeting was brought to order by **Commandant Joe Wright**, who acknowledged the presence of **Department of Maryland Senior Vice Commandant Stuart Blair**, and **Past Detachment Commandants Guy Hall, Manny Airey, Earl Parker, Pete Pervi, and Mac McNeir**.

Toys for Tots...

Dawn Parker, Chairwoman of our detachment's **2012 Toys for Tots Drive** provided members in attendance with the following information.

- Arrangements for trucks and warehouse space for this year's detachment effort is being addressed by the **Marines at Fort Meade**.
- Anyone, who has picked up toys in the past, needs to (1) provide Dawn with a **list of all the contributing locations** that you served in the past and (2) whether you plan on volunteering to pick up toys again this year.
- A collection event will take place on **November 1st & 2nd** (from **10:00 AM to 8:00 PM**) at the **Toys 'R' Us** store located in the **Glen Burnie Mall**. Volunteers (*dressed in appropriate league attire*) are needed at the event on both days.
- **November 18th** is the date of our detachment's official kick-off event (party), which will take place at **American Legion Post 40** on 5th Avenue (in Glen Burnie). Catering is being provided by **Mission BBQ**. Admission is **\$12 per person** plus **one unwrapped toy** in its original packaging.
- A *storage pod* has been staged in the **VFW Post 160** parking lot for temporary storage of toys collected that need to be subsequently transported to the warehouse.

Charity Book Sale/Signing...

Jesse C. Holder, a U.S. Army Paratrooper, and author of a new novel titled *Chutes, Beers, and Bullets – Not Your Grandpa's War Story*, introduced himself and stated that he would be selling/signing his book in the post canteen for the remainder of the evening. He went on to say that **50% of the proceeds** resulting from the sale of his book is being contributed to the **Wounded Warrior Project**.

New Members...

In the absence of our Junior Vice Commandant, who was away on business, member **Tom Maiorana** presented the credentials of two applicants (not in attendance) for membership within our detachment. After a brief discussion of their qualifications, **Gwynn Tavell (USA)** and **Carl Franklin George (USMC)** were approved for membership by a voice vote of members in attendance.

Correspondence...

Detachment Adjutant Ben Wells, highlighted the following items of correspondence...

- Mention was made of a *Thank You* card signed by all of the participants of the recent '*scrap-booking*' event sponsored by members of our detachment. The event resulted in more than **\$1,000** being raised and subsequently used (in part) to pay for our detachment's share of the **September Marines Helping Marines Picnic**.
- Mention was made of a letter describing the mission of an organization known as **Marine Moms - Bethesda**, which was given to **Commandant Wright** at the recent **Marines Helping Marines Cook-Out**. A copy of the letter was made available for review by any interested detachment members.

EDITOR'S NOTE – A copy of the letter is reproduced on page 11 of this newsletter.

Uniform Regulations – Covers...

The specifics of the new uniform regulation describing the *proper size, placement, orientation, etc. of embroidery on the league cover* have yet to be received.

However, members are reminded that existing covers are '*grandfathered*' and will not require replacement until they have either become unserviceable or been lost.

Color Guard...

Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman expressed a sincere *Thank You* to **Paul Downey, Pete Pervi, and Charlie Young** for persevering and maintaining their military bearing despite the severe rain storm that occurred during the recent *Lost in the Fifties* vintage automobile show at the **Marley Station Mall**.

New Federal Legislation...

Adjutant Ben Wells mentioned that **President Obama** recently signed legislation promising *health benefits for Marines and their family members, who were exposed to contaminated water* at a **Camp Lejeune, NC** during the period of time spanning from **1957 to 1987**. No other pertinent information is currently available.

The legislation also *bans protesting within 300 feet of military funerals*. Numerous states have passed local laws restricting protests at funerals after members of the **Westboro Baptist Church** began protesting at the funerals of soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

(continued on next page)

Have You Heard...

(continued from previous page)

Young Marines...

Young Marines Commander George Martin announced that...

- Currently there are 18 YMs.
- The *new training year* begins on **October 1st**.
- The YMs are hosting their own **Bull & Oyster Roast** fund-raiser on **November 11th** at **VFW Post 160**. Tickets are available at the post canteen.
- A replacement, to *assume the role and responsibilities of the Commander of the Annapolis Young Marines* is needed!

EDITOR'S NOTE – Should no one step forward to replace George (and George does step down), the unit will be shut-down in accordance with national bylaws.

New Business...

Past Commandant Manny Airey announced that he is selling *medicated chap-sticks* at **\$1** per tube. The money raised benefits the **Marines Helping Marines Program**.

Member **James Brady** proposed that the detachment donate **\$250** to help defray the medical expenses for an infant named **Ethan Perkins**, who was born with a malformed small intestine and requires transplant surgery. The proposition was passed by a majority vote of those in attendance following established by-laws.

*EDITOR'S NOTE – A subsequent recommendation to conduct a 'pass-the-hat' collection resulted in an additional \$204 donation to the *Ethan Perkins Fund*.*

Good of the League...

Commandant Joe Wright presented a certificate of appreciation to **Norm Huffman** in recognition of his efforts and those of his wife **Jane**, as sponsors of and workers for the recent *scrap-booking* event that raised over a **\$1,000** for our detachment.

Award Presentations...

Junior Past Commandant Mac McNeir presented the following awards (received at the September departmental staff meeting) to **Commandant Joe Wright** on behalf of our detachment.

- A plaque from **National Director Ron Short** honoring our detachment's ongoing support of the **Marines Helping Marines Program** – support resulting in the contribution of more than **\$50,000** to the program.

Award Presentations continued...

- A plaque recognizing our detachment newsletter – *the Cutting Edge* – as the *best large detachment newsletter* within the entire Marine Corps League for the year 2012.

Personal Memento...

A framed memento (collage of photographs) was presented to **Past Commandant Pete Pervi** as a sign of the detachment's appreciation for his unwavering dedication to the detachment, its members, and the many activities in which he played a significant role. Pete's departure for the golfing paradise of Arizona was unanticipated and will surely result in a huge void being created in **Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049**.

Rather than dwelling on his departure, let us all resolve to reflect upon the good times and achievements that we've shared with him!

VFW Recognition...

James Brady, in his capacity as the chairman of the recently conducted **2nd Annual VFW Post 160 Golf Tournament**, extended his thanks and sincere appreciation for the assistance rendered by many of the members of this detachment. Members specifically thanked include **Joe Wright, Chris Thompson, Earl Parker, and Manny Airey**. Their efforts helped amass a profit of more than **\$2,300** for the Post's general fund.

Comments of Dept. of Md. Sr. Vice Cmdt...

Dept. of Md. SVC Stuart Blair commended the members of Detachment 1049 for their many activities and community involvement.

SVC Blair also extended an invitation to the **Baltimore Detachment's 2012 Marine Corps Birthday Ball**.

With no further business needing to be conducted, the detachment meeting was adjourned in accordance with league rituals until **1900 (7:00 PM)** on **22 October 2012**.





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.



Other Maryland Detachment News

237th Marine Corps Birthday Balls...

*EDITOR'S NOTE – Since the majority of our membership recently voted (remained silent), it was determined to **not** hold a Birthday Ball this year. For those who still wish to attend such an event, here are a few that I know about – there are undoubtedly others.*

The following information should not be construed to be an endorsement; it is presented solely for your convenience!

- **Antietam Detachment (Hagerstown, MD)**
10 November 2012 from 1600 to 2400
Tickets \$25⁰⁰ per person
Contact Jim Mills – 301-331-2683
- **Baltimore Detachment (Nottingham, MD)**
10 November 2012 from 1300 to 1700
Tickets \$40⁰⁰ per person
Contact Stuart Blair – 410-665-6440
- **Carroll County Detachment (Westminster, MD)**
10 November 2012 beginning at 1830
Tickets \$27⁵⁰ per person
Contact Marc Fisher – 443-386-6415
- **Unaffiliated Marines (Rosedale, MD)**
10 November 2012 from 1600 to 2400
Tickets \$30⁰⁰ per person
Contact either Sam Young – 410-371-2175 or
or Herb Naylor – 410-477-3911



Cook-Out...

(continued from page 1)

without assistance. He has done this for years and is to be commended for his unwavering dedication to this truly important recurrent event, which takes place on the fourth Wednesday of every month from March through October (inclusively).

Once all of the food and equipment has been transported to the picnic area, league members and volunteers begin setting up the grills, erecting the serving tables, positioning the coolers containing beverages, as well as performing myriad tasks that one never thinks about until called upon to help-out.

Tony usually has a number of regulars, which generally include members of the hosting detachments, as well as the following notables – **Marine Corps League's 2012 National Marine of the Year Jack Severn**, **National Vice Commandant Bud Raines**, and **Department of Maryland Commandant Ed Ross**. On this occasion, volunteers/supporters also included members of the '**Hogettes**' (a well-known group of **Washington Redskins** fans/supporters); members of the **Mallary Family** (founders of **Truckin 4 Troops**); league member and photographer **Doc Gunther**; and members of this month's sponsoring organizations – the **LCpl Robert W. Deane** and **Anne Arundel County Detachments**.

Throughout the course of the cook-out – in addition to cooking and serving – volunteers also interacted with the guests (the wounded and their families), swapped sea-stories, and generally did anything and everything necessary to ensure that those we came to serve had an enjoyable experience. On this occasion, I had the true pleasure of being reunited with the family of **Marine Sergeant Jason Ross**, an explosive ordnance disposal Marine who was an in-patient here at Bethesda last year. Jason had just returned to Bethesda for another surgical procedure.

Upon conclusion of the cook-out, the process of cleaning-up the picnic area and transporting all of the gear and unused supplies and consumables out to the front of the building was begun. Once everything was in front of Mercy Hall, a few volunteers then assisted Tony in reloading his SUV.

One thing is abundantly clear about these cook-outs, which is the fact that **Tony always needs help!** I encourage all of you to consider volunteering to help with at least one of these events in the future – even if your detachment isn't the official sponsor. The experience will give you a feeling of satisfaction for having served those who have paid a price for having served us. More importantly, you will meet some remarkable Marines (as well as corpsman, and others), who will leave you awe-struck from having experienced their positive attitudes, their drive to persevere, and their ever-present smiles.

Again, these events occur on the fourth Wednesday of every month from March through October and volunteers are always needed. ***Be part of a truly rewarding and memorable experience...you won't regret it!***



Marines Helping Marines Cook-Out (Random Photos)



Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 is a United States Marine Corps F/A-18 Hornet squadron, which is officially nicknamed the **'Silver Eagles'** and on occasion **'Joe's Jokers'** after their first commanding officer **Major Joe Foss**. The squadron has seen combat during **World War II**, the **Korean** and **Vietnam Wars**, and has deployed in support of **Operation Iraqi Freedom** and most recently in finished up a deployment to **Al Asad Airbase** in western Iraq.



During World War II, the squadron flew the **F4U-1 Corsair** as part of the Pacific campaign. At the conclusion of World War II, the squadron deployed to **Peking, China** to protect US interests in that area and supported the **III Marine Amphibious Corps** supervising the surrender and repatriation of 630,000 Japanese troops and civilians in North China.

In December 1949, VMF-115 became the first Marine Corps squadron to receive a full complement of **Grumman F9F-2 Panther** jet fighters and, during November 1950, was first to serve aboard a carrier, qualifying all of its pilots without incident aboard the **USS Roosevelt**. In February 1952, VMF-115 deployed to an airfield near **Pohang, Korea** for combat operations and provided decisive close-air-support during several battles including the famous withdrawal at the **Chosin Reservoir**.

In the spring of 1957, the Squadron received the Marine Corps' first **F4D Skyrays** and were designated VMF(AW)-115. After flying Skyrays longer than any other squadron, VMF(AW)-115 was re-designated VMFA-115 on 1 January 1964 and transitioned to the Mach II capable **F-4B Phantom II**.

In October 1965, the Eagles were deployed to **Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam** and flew more than 34,000 combat sorties, participating in such battles as the **Tet Offensive**, **Hue City**, **Khe San**, and **Task Force Delta**.

In October 1980, the squadron joined Carrier Air Wing 17 aboard the **USS FORRESTAL** and participated in Cold War missions such as intercepting and escorting various Soviet aircraft.

After flying the **F-4 Phantom** for more than 20 years, VMFA-115 began the transition to the **F/A-18A Hornet** on 1 January 1985, and officially stood up with 14 aircraft on 16 August 1985. The following year, the squadron became officially known as the **'Silver Eagles'**.

In July 1987, VMFA-115 participated in the **Unit Deployment Program** at **MCAS Iwakuni, Japan**. The squadron was recognized for superior maintenance, receiving the **SECDEF Phoenix Award** for Maintenance Excellence, and earned the **Hanson Award** as Marine Corps Fighter Squadron of the Year for both 1987 and 1988. This was the first time a Marine Fighter Squadron had won the Hanson Award two consecutive years.

In 1989, VMFA-115 returned to the Philippines and supported government forces during a coup attempt there. The squadron flew armed combat air patrol and escort missions, helping to stabilize the situation. The squadron's efforts were recognized again as the coveted Hanson Award became a **'Silver Eagle'** possession in 1990 for the third time in four years.

In March 2003, the **'Silver Eagles'** fought against Iraqi forces as part of **Operation IRAQI FREEDOM**, delivering more than 150 tons of ordnance. In October 2004, the squadron again deployed as part of **Operation Iraqi Freedom II**, providing close air support and overhead security in support of Iraq's historic democratic elections.

In July 2006, the squadron returned to **MCAS Iwakuni, Japan** and subsequently deployed to **Okinawa** and the **Republic of Korea**. The **'Silver Eagles'** were presented with the **Chief of Naval Operations' Safety Award** while in Japan.

In March 2008, the **'Silver Eagles'** deployed to **Al Asad, Iraq** for **Operation IRAQI FREEDOM** and was the first single seat **FAC-A Hornet** squadron to provide close air support and overhead security across Iraq.



The **3rd Battalion, 5th Marines** – nick-named the **'Dark Horse Battalion'** – was first organized on June 8, 1917 as the United States prepared for **World War I** and had among its number, veterans of the **Spanish-American War** and the **Boxer Rebellion**, along with a large number of raw recruits. The unit participated in campaigns and battles such as **Bois de Belleau**, **Vierzy**, **Château-Thierry**, **Pont-a-Mousson**, **Limey Sector**, **Fleury**, **Muese Argonne**, **Blanc Mont**, **St. Michiel**, **Leffincourt**, and **Soissons**. The French Government awarded the battalion the **Croix de Guerre** along with the **Fourriergerre** (pogey-rope) and changed the name of the area known as **Belleau Wood** to **'Bois de la Brigade de Marine'** – **'Wood of the Marine Brigade.'**



Following World War I, men of the 3rd Battalion served in the **Caribbean** and at home, guarding the U.S. Mail.

In March 1927, the 3rd Battalion deployed to **Nicaragua** to help the government defend against overthrow attempts by rebel forces. For the next six years, the battalion aided the Nicaraguan government until peace was finally restored.

World War II found the Marines of 3/5 at **Guadalcanal**, **New Britain**, **Peleliu**, and **Okinawa**. At Peleliu, they were the last Marine battalion to be shipped out before the U.S. Army took over.

During August 1950, the Battalion was deployed to engage the Communist force invading the **Republic of Korea**. The battalion fought at such places as the **Pusan Perimeter**, **Inchon**, **Seoul**, and **Chosin Reservoir**. After the signing of the truce, the 3rd Battalion returned to the United States, settling at MCB Camp Pendleton.

The 3rd Battalion fought in **South Vietnam** (June 1966 to March 1971) at such places as **Chu-Lai**, **Da Nang**, **Quang Nam**, **Operation Union** and **Union II** in the **Que Son Valley**; **Hue**; **An Hoa**; **Operation Swift** in the **Que Son Valley**; and the **Ross Combat Base**. The unit received **Presidential Unit Citations** for their actions in the Que Song Valley and the Ross Combat Base.

On December 1, 1990, the battalion deployed to the Middle East – in support of **Operation Desert Shield** as a battalion landing team (BLT) – and distinguished itself in combat operations in **Al Wafrah**, **Kuwait** during **Operation Desert Storm**.

En route home from those hostilities, 3/5 participated in **Operation Sea Angel**, delivering critical food, supplies, and humanitarian assistance to the cyclone ravaged country of **Bangladesh**.

The Battalion was part of the **2003 invasion of Iraq** and the removal of **Saddam Hussein**. In 2004, the Battalion wrested the city of **Fallujah** from insurgent control; and, along with several other units, participated in **Operation Phantom Fury** and was part of one of the biggest battles in Iraq up to that time.

On May 19, 2006, Darkhorse Marines captured three insurgents responsible for the kidnapping and detention of **Jill Carroll**, an American journalist for the **Christian Science Monitor**.

Members of 3rd Battalion 5th Marines conducted operations in the **Sangin District of Helmand Province, Afghanistan** in support of **Operation Enduring Freedom** between September 2010 and April 2011.





Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **December 21, 2012**. 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.

Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary
Monday, October 22, 2012 @ 1900 – Joe Wright / Anita Ullery

Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049
Friday, November 2, 2012 from 1800 to 2000 – Joe Wright

237th Marine Corps Birthday Celebration (Happy Hour)
Saturday, November 10, 2012 @ 1600 (4:00 PM) – Joe Wright

Marine Corps Birthday Ball, MCL Detachment 1049
Saturday, November 10, 2012 – *Canceled – Lack of Interest*

Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary
Monday, November 26, 2012 @ 1900 – Joe Wright / Anita Ullery

Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049 Auxiliary
Friday, November 30, 2012 from 1800 to 2000 – Anita Ullery

MODD Growl, Pound 204
Sunday, December 2, 2012 @ 0800 – Mike Hadley

Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary
Monday, December 17, 2012 @ 1900 – Joe Wright / Anita Ullery

Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049 Auxiliary
Friday, December 21, 2012 from 1800 to 2000 – Anita Ullery



FIREPOWER

The more, the merrier.



Corps History

by Mac McNeir for Joe Wright, Historian

1 October 1880

John Phillip Sousa named 17th Director of the Marine Corps Band.

1 October 2001

General Peter Pace becomes first Marine to serve as **Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**.

5 October 1775

Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the 2nd Continental Congress used the word '**Marines**' on one of the earliest known occasions, when it directed **General George Washington** to secure two vessels on '*Continental risque and pay*,' and to give orders for the '*proper encouragement to the Marines and seamen*' to serve on the two armed ships.

6 October 2008

The first **Marine Special Operations Individual Training Course** begins at Camp Lejeune, NC.

6 October 1945

Major General Keller E. Rockey, Commanding General, III Amphibious Corps, accepted the surrender of 50,000 Japanese troops in North China on behalf of the Chinese Nationalist government.

7 October 2001

The War in Afghanistan began as the armed forces of the **United States**, the **United Kingdom**, **Australia**, and the **Afghan United Front** (Northern Alliance) launched **Operation Enduring Freedom**.

14 October 1918

Marine flyers, 2nd Lieutenant **Ralph Talbot** and Gunnery Sergeant **Robert G. Robinson**, win Medals of Honor.

16 October 1820

Lieutenant Colonel **Anthony Gale**, 4th Commandant of the Marine Corps, having been found guilty of habitual drunkenness and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman by a General Court Martial, was dismissed from the Marine Corps.

17 October 1820

Archibald Henderson appointed Commandant...a position he held until his death, a period of 38 years.

18 October 1859

86 Marines, under 1st Lieutenant **Israel Green**, USMC and Lt. Colonel **Robert E. Lee**, USA, capture abolitionist **John Brown** at Harpers Ferry, Virginia.

23 October 1983

At 0622, an explosive-laden truck slammed into the BLT headquarters building in **Beirut, Lebanon**, and took the lives of 241 Americans – including 220 Marines. This was the highest loss of life in a single day for Marines since D-Day on Iwo Jima in 1945.

24 October 1915

Marine Corps Recruit Depot was moved from Norfolk and re-established at Parris Island, South Carolina.

31 October 1955

Lieutenant General **Lewis B. 'Chesty' Puller**, who earned five Navy Crosses – and an Army Distinguished Service Cross – retires.



Bombastic Bumper Snicker:



Dead Enemies are Peaceful Enemies...

Blessed Be the Peacemakers !



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.

Marines everywhere should 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@mclaaadet1049.org or contact the MCHF directly by telephone at 800-397-7585 or their website @ <http://www.marineheritage.org/MakeDonation.asp>.



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www.MarineMoms-Bethesda.org

Post Office Box 22
Cordova, MD 21625
Phone (443) 786-0603

September 16, 2012

Commandant Joseph A. Wright
Marine Corps League Anne Arundel County 1049 Detachment
c/o VFW Post 160
2597 Dorsey Rd
Glen Burnie, MD 21061

Dear Commandant Wright,

It is with great pleasure that I introduce you and Anne Arundel County 1049 Detachment to our organization, Marine Moms-Bethesda!

Marine Moms-Bethesda's mission is to directly enhance the lives of wounded, injured, and ill active duty combat patients and their families, all service branches, at military hospitals and VA medical centers, providing them with luncheons and comfort items, online resources, and emotional support, letting them and their families know our Nation supports them.

Currently our small group of volunteers serves luncheons to wounded Warriors and their families at Walter Reed NMMC on the combat surgical ward (and include the combat families from ICU), on the Traumatic Brain Injury Ward, and at Mercy Hall, one of the smaller wounded Warrior transition barracks. In addition to serving luncheons at Walter Reed, last year we expanded to Richmond VA Medical Center (Hunter-Holmes McGuire) in Richmond, Virginia, serving active duty combat patients and their families from the Spinal Cord, Polytrauma, and PTRP units.

Marine Moms-Bethesda's roots began in October 2005 when two Marine moms visited Bethesda Naval Hospital to bring some cheer to Marines from their sons' battalion, Third Battalion, First Marine Regiment, who were wounded in action in Iraq. We have since grown to 28 very active hands-on volunteers, with many others in the background helping us.

If you would like to learn more about us, please visit our website, www.MarineMoms-Bethesda.org, or if you wish, you may contact me at 443-786-0603.

Thank you for your time, and more importantly, thank you for your service to our country. It is because of men and women like you that our country is free!

Warmest Regards,

Jane LeCompte
Co-Founder, Marine Moms-Bethesda
Jane@MarineMoms-Bethesda.org
443-786-0603

Enclosures: Brochure



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

(Address Correction Requested)



Featured Foto

Marines at **Camp Leatherneck** kneel beside a battlefield cross to pay their final respects to **Sergeant Bradley Atwell** during a memorial ceremony on September 20. During the ceremony, Marines paid tribute to Atwell, an aircraft electrical instrument and flight control systems technician with **Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16**, from Kokomo, Indiana.

Atwell was killed in action while engaging insurgents, who had attacked **Camp Bastion** (which is adjacent to Camp Leatherneck) in Afghanistan on September 14th.

Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Raible, Commanding Officer of VMA-211 – a Harrier squadron – was also killed in action while leading his 'Air Wing' Marines in an armed response to the enemy incursion.

[USMC Photo by Corporal Mark Garcia].

