

the CUTTING EDGE

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

Ed Dahling, Commandant (cmdt@mclaacdet1049.org) | Mark East, Editor (editor@mclaacdet1049.org)

Despite Challenges...Another Success!

Story by Mac McNeir



The Compass Pointe Golf Course bag-drop, prior to the arrival of the participants in the 8th Annual Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament...the sign says it all! [Photo by Mac McNeir]

Despite many challenges – a change in venue, a first-time tournament coordinator, a faltering economy, high temperatures, etc. – the **8th Annual Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament** can be regarded as another in a string of successful tournaments hosted by the **Anne Arundel County Detachment** of the **Marine Corps League** since the inaugural event in 2006.

Once detachment member **Burt Helmka** graciously stepped forward to serve as tournament coordinator, many decisions had to be made and actions taken that would have an impact on whether the 2013 tournament would be judged a success. Fortunately, previous tournament coordinators **Manny Airey** and **Mac McNeir** were ever-present in their support of Burt from the beginning (planning) stages of the tournament, through its entire evolution, concluding with the post tournament banquet on Friday May 31st.

Probably, the most important, as well as most difficult, decision was whether to move the tournament from the **Bay Hills Golf Club**, which had been the gracious host of previous tournaments, to a new site. Feedback from players, who had participated in past tournaments, indicated that a change was necessary because Bay Hills lacked many of the amenities of other courses in the immediate area.

(see Another Success... on page 6)

CONTENTS...

Advertisements:

Mideast Division Conference	11
Wounded Warrior Project (Golf)	11
Afghanistan Chow Hall Cutbacks	8
Birthdays	12
Bombastic Bumper Snicker	4
Chaplain's Corner	4
Cherry Point... Storm Ready	3
Color Guard	5
Coming Events	13
Commandant's Message	3
Corps' History	13
Devil Dogs, Military Order of	5
Doolittle Raiders Final Reunion	10
Earning the Title	8
Featured Foto	14
From the Editor	2
Have You Heard?	9
June Photo Grab-Bag	7
Junior Vice Commandant	4
Lawmaker Wants to Change Memorial Day	11
Lest We Forget... ..	12
List of Officers	2
Membership Stats & Renewals	2
Quotation	12
Rifle & Pistol Team	11
Senior Vice Commandant	4
The Few... The Proud... ..	5
Young Marines	12

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

Editor – Mark East

P.O. Box 804
Severn, MD 21144-0804

Phone410-969-9052

Emaileditor@mclaacdet1049.org

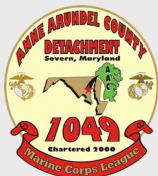
ListServer:

e-mail:

aa-county-detachment1049@lists.mclaacdet1049.org

web page:

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



Detachment Website

<http://mclaacdet1049.org/>

Detachment Staff:

CommandantEd Dahling
Senior Vice-CommandantChris Kalwa
Junior Vice-CommandantRay Sturm
Judge AdvocateBen Wells
Junior Past-CommandantJoe Wright
AdjutantJoe Wright
By-Laws Committee ChairmanDanny Fischio
ChaplainFred Kaminski
Color Guard CommanderWoody Bowman
HistorianJoseph Wright
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Newsletter EditorsMark East
PaymasterEd Dahling
Public Information OfficerVacant
QuartermasterFred Kaminski
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Sergeant-at-ArmsGeorge Martin
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Repeat National Award Winner

National Newsletter Competition
(Detachments of More Than 100 Members)

Visit the Dept. of Maryland web site at...

<http://deptofmdmcl.org>

From the Editor

by Mark East

I was at my second meeting back in October of 2012 and a boot to the formality of detachments meetings when **Mac McNeir** gave the newsletter editors report and asked for someone to take on the position of newsletter editor for our detachment. I was going through a similar scenario, where I had held a position with my *Home Owners Association* for way too long and wanted to give others the opportunity. Mac's request motivated me and by the time he had sat down I had decided that I was going to no longer be the *President of my HOA*. I then spoke soft enough to where only Mac could hear me say that I would take the position. I think Mac was surprised or at least his expression showed he was. I had never seen **the Cutting Edge** and had no idea of what he had accomplished for our detachment.

The skills and dedication that Mac has demonstrated year after year has set a mark that I can only hope to reach someday. I'm honored to be apart of **Anne Arundel Detachment 1049** and I will do my best to carry on the high standards that Mac has set with his design of **the Cutting Edge** newsletter. I look forward to hearing your comments as I move through the transition and try to make my mark in a similar way.

The article deadline for the next issue of **the Cutting Edge** is **June 29th**.



Membership Statistics

Good Standing (Dues Paid)

Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Memberships	71	8	5
Annual Memberships	26	5	–

Delinquent Dues (Still on Active Roster)

Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Annual Memberships	18	0	–

New Members

–	–	–
---	---	---

Sub-Totals

115	13	5
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Total

133

Renewals

[Dues expire at end of indicated month]

June 2013	July 2013	August 2013
Harry Anderson (D) Frank Mondragon (D) Tim Muniz (D) Ben Wells	George Arbic Tom Hancock	Robert Lucian Brian Nevel Earl Parker Franklin Wood Frank Zupancic

You are also asked to please advise the editor of any errors or omissions in the above listing as well as any changes to your contact information.

Commandant's Message



Ed Dahling

Marines,

Our annual **Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament** was held on May 31st at the **Compass Pointe Golf Courses** and it was another successful event for Detachment 1049. At the time that this column was written, it appeared that we will be contributing more than **\$8,000** to the **Marines Helping Marines Program**. There is still money coming in, so this number will surely increase. I applaud all those who came out to support and serve as volunteers for the event.

Our next planned fund-raiser is the annual **Bull and Oyster Roast**, which is scheduled to take place on **October 19th**. Please make plans to attend. This is our largest fund-raiser and all of the proceeds go to our detachment. The price is currently pending; but, I am sure that our **Senior Vice Chris Kalwa** will have the price as well as additional information about the roast at our June detachment meeting.

Semper Fi!

Ed

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410-255-0070

Riviera Plaza
8479 Fort Smallwood Rd.
Riviera Beach, MD
410-437-4800



Cherry Point Certified as Storm Ready

NOTE – Following article by Cpl. Scott L. Tomaszycski, MCAS Cherry Point, NC (May 31, 2013).

Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point will receive a certificate of accreditation as a **StormReady** military installation today from the National Weather Service.



The StormReady program helps communities implement procedures to help safeguard their populations from the threats of severe weather, like notification systems and refining first responders' procedures.

"No community is storm proof, but StormReady can help communities save lives," said **John Cole**, a warning coordination meteorologist of the National Weather Service in Newport, NC, in a press release.

During severe weather, Cherry Point can stand up the emergency operations center, which directs how the station responds to an emergency situation. It can process information from the National Weather Service and the Navy's meteorological and oceanographic center to keep the Marines, Sailors and civilians informed on how the severe weather is developing so they can determine how to best prepare and what specific actions may need to be taken. Personnel who staff the EOC also direct the air station's first responder efforts.

"Through METOC and through our dispatch, we can send out notifications installation-wide that are the same information that they're getting outside the gates," said **Etta Lucas**, the mission assurance installation emergency manager. **"The notification system ensures that they get timely and accurate information that we're having severe weather so they can prepare and they can evacuate if they need to."**

In order to receive accreditation, communities apply online and must maintain standards set by the National Weather Service. StormReady communities have redundant methods of monitoring weather conditions, receiving weather warnings from the National Weather Service and alerting the public. They also hold educational outreach programs for the public, maintain an emergency operations center and train severe storm spotters.

So far, Cherry Point is the third Marine Corps installation after Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, NC, and Marine Corps Base Hawaii to receive StormReady Accreditation.



From the desk of the

Senior Vice Commandant



Chris Kalwa

Hello Fellow Marines,

Not much to report this month. I am working on getting the **Bull & Oyster Roast** together and trying to come up with some new ideas for bringing some money into our detachment's treasury. If anyone has ideas, feel free to call me – my phone is always on. Hope to see everyone at our next meeting. Remember to find new members they are the future of our detachment.

Semper Fi,

Chris Kalwa

From the desk of the

Junior Vice Commandant



Ray Sturm

Greetings All,

Springtime has faded and Memorial Day is recently passed. On orders from its civilian leaders, our military is beginning to withdraw from combat operations in Afghanistan. This is not a political column, nor should it be. However, I wanted to remind everyone of one simple thing. Over the last ten years, our nation called to arms a new generation of warriors. Make no mistake. Their patriotism and courage match that of those whose footsteps they follow. Many answered that call and made the ultimate sacrifice. Their names and battles will forever join Belleau Wood, Guadalcanal, Inchon, Hue City, Beirut, and countless other in future history books. We solemnly and correctly paused on Memorial Day to reflect and remember those who fell. Every one of you reading this understands.

However, we should also remember those warriors whose sacrifices continue. They might be in rehab at Bethesda or living right next door. Regardless of generation, they need our continued support. As Marines, we have always been **First In... First to Fight...** and **First to Help!** As a Marine, ask yourself, **'What have I done to help a fellow Marine or veteran today?'** If you cannot answer that question, please come to our monthly meeting. We need your help.

Semper Fi,

Ray Sturm



Chaplain's Corner

by Mac McNeir for Chaplain Fred Kaminski

Irene Airey, wife of **Past Detachment Commandant** and **Marine of the Year Manny Airey**, is home after a brief stay in the **Future Care** rehabilitation facility in Arnold, MD.

Past National Commandant Vic Voltaggio suffered a heart attack recently and was scheduled for a by-pass procedure on May 30th. No other information is currently available.

Department of Maryland VAVS Officer Dan Donnelly is home from the hospital. Medication and tests have been prescribed with a surgical procedure likely to follow.

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

410-760-4684 (home)



Marine Corps League
Department of Maryland

<http://deptofmdmcl.org>

Bombastic Bumper Snicker:



Courage...
is endurance for
one moment more!



Military Order of the Devil Dogs



The Fun & Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

Woof-Woof,

After a very busy Winter and Spring, the Dogs of **Pound 204** are lying low for a couple of months before it's time to start all over again.

All passport bones have been forwarded to the Kennel and at the Supreme Growl in August, I expect that, once again, **Pound 204** will be the *Pound that has donated the most bones to the Kennel for the children's hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan*. I also expect that the **Maryland Pack** will be the *Pack that has donated the most bones for the same cause*.

A reminder to all annual dues paying members... your dues expire on **31 August**. It is not too early to renew. I will accept your renewal bones at any time. If remitting by check, make it payable to 'MODD, **Pound 204**.' Dues remain a paltry \$15. Mail your checks to me at **7944 Oakwood Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21061**.

Pound 204 has 20 **DDs** eligible for advancement to **PDD** next year in Charleston, West Virginia. Remember that you must attend two Pack Growls between Supreme Growls in order to be advanced. The next **Pack Growl** will be on **7 September**, and be hosted by the **Anne Arundel County Detachment**. Be sure to attend and get the year off to a good start.

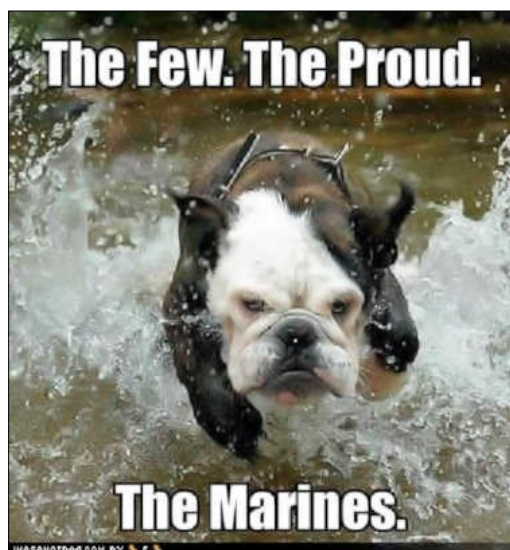
Pups desiring to advance to **DD** must attend two Pound Growls between Grand Growls in order to be eligible to move up. The next **Pound Growl** will be on **18 August**. I hope to see you there.

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

Woof-Woof,

Paul Taylor

PDD & Dog Robber



Color Guard

by Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman

Glen Burnie Memorial Day Parade



Marines from the **Cryptologic Support Battalion at Fort Meade** presented the colors along with members of **Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049**. Pictured from left to right are **PFC Christopher Claunch, Sgt Ian Fleeman, Cpl Eric Pickett and LCpl Brandon Wunderlich**.

New Members Desperately Needed...

Our color guard **NEEDS** some new members... especially members capable of marching in parades! The aging process and relocation of previous members have resulted in a severe shortage of members.

About the Marine Corps Color Guard

Citizens and community organizations can request ceremonial support – such as color guards, marching units, drill teams, casket teams, firing details, or salute batteries – from the Marine Corps for participation in their events. The Color Guard is a four-person formation of Marines in appropriate military uniform, who post and retire the flag and render to it, the proper customs and courtesies. This honored traditional detail adds dignity to any military-related activity while showing respect to our nation and those who have served it. During ceremonies, the Color Guard presents the flags of the United States and that of the Marine Corps – flanked by two rifle-bearers.

Let us not only safeguard but also reinvigorate this long standing tradition that our detachment... one that many past and present members have worked hard to maintain over the years.

Need more information? Want to volunteer? Call **Woody Bowman** at the following number ...

(443) 848-6216



Another Success... (continued from page 1)

That fact and other problems needed to be addressed if we were to maintain the support of our sponsors and the allegiance of our usual cadre of golfers. After careful consideration, the solution became obvious, we had to relocate to a new golf course and the move to **Compass Pointe** was made. As in the past, the assembly of a competent support staff was necessary if the successes achieved by prior tournaments were to be equaled. Fortunately, **Christine Stevens** once again stepped forward to oversee the activities of tournament volunteers – her leadership throughout the entire process was – as in the past – a major factor in the success of this year's event.

Upon arrival, golfers were greeted by a smoothly functioning check-in process, as well as a staff of volunteers selling *contest tickets* and *Mulligans*. The issuance of a 'goody-bag' – a practice abandoned last year – was resumed and well received...in no small part due to the inclusion of an attractive souvenir 'divot tool kit' (emblazoned with the **Marines Helping Marines** logo).

Once all of the golfers were checked in and provided with time to hit range balls and partake of a continental breakfast of doughnuts and coffee, the festivities were begun. Course professional **Josh Geppi** presented the rules that would govern tournament play and then turned the microphone over to the detachment's emcee **Mac McNeir**, who began his remarks with the introduction of eight Marines (four from the *4th Combat Engineer Battalion* and four from *Fort Meade's Marine Cryptologic Support Battalion*). These Marines had served in the 'Sand-Box' and were asked to serve as the tournament's guests of honor. **Manny Airey** was then called forward and presented with a suitably inscribed plaque commemorating his many years of dedication to the success of the **Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament** that he essentially founded. All present were then lead in the recitation of the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

It was then announced that this year's tournament was being dedicated to (1) *all the Marines and Navy Corpsman either killed or wounded in service to our country, since the 2012 tournament*; (2) **LCpl William Taylor Wild IV**, a local Marine and his comrades who perished in the Hawthorne, Nevada training accident earlier this year; and, (3) **Marine CWO-5 Len Altano**, who recently succumbed to an illness contracted while serving as a military attaché in the Bosnia-Herzegovina War. Taps was then played by detachment member **Ben Wells**. Opening ceremonies were then concluded and the golfers sent to their respective tee boxes to begin play.

A little over five hours later, the golfers and our volunteers were treated to a mouth-watering selection of barbecue entrées and side-dishes, which were once again provided by **Mission BBQ** at no cost to the detachment... Mission BBQ's generosity significantly decreased our expenses and maximized the net proceeds that will be donated to the **Marines Helping Marines Program**.

Post tournament awards and prizes consisted of a wider selection of smaller yet valuable items, which ensured that a greater number of the tournament's participants had an opportunity to leave with a prize.

Special thanks also need to be extended to Marine **Lance Corporals Bottoni** and **Depriest** (students at Fort Meade), who although dressed in the *Summer Service C uniform*, cheerfully assisted with many tournament tasks throughout the duration of the day. They were outstanding young men, who made significant contributions to the successful evolution of the day's event!

Once again, the behind the scenes efforts and contributions of our volunteers, sponsors (many of whom have supported all eight of our tournaments), and members of assorted veterans organizations ensured that we finished in the black! As always, a special thanks to **Paul 'Doc' Gunther**, for again serving as our photographer.

A final figure for the amount of this year's donation to Marines Helping Marines has not been determined; however, the latest estimate of our Detachment Commandant, **Ed Dahling**, is approaching **\$9,000**.

Alphabetized listings of this year's sponsors and volunteers are provided below. My sincere apologies to anyone who may have been omitted from either list... any omission is likely a manifestation of my advancing 'old-timers' syndrome.

Sponsors

A. A. Co. Det. 1049, MCL	A. A. Co. Det. 1049, Auxiliary	Airey, Manny & Irene	American Legion Post 40
American Legion Post 40, Auxiliary	American Legion Post 40, Sons of	Anastasia, Ed & Grace	Arundel Golf Park
Asbestos Workers, Local 24	Bay Country Rentals	Broadleaf Tobacco	Bunkers in Baghdad, Inc.
Carraba's Restaurant	Choice Floor Center	Compass Pointe Golf Courses	Complete DataComm, LLC
Complete Landscaping Service	Cookies Kitchen	Golf Galaxy	Harbour Liquors
Harford Co. Det. 1198, MCL	Int'l Union of Elevator Constructors	Lauer's Supermarket & Bakery	LCpl Robert W. Deane Det. 770, MCL
Lindsay Family	Luthardt, Charles Jr.	Maiorana, Cassondra	McDonalds of Pasadena, MD
McNeir Family	Mission BBQ	MODD Pound 204	Mustang Athletic & Social Club
Pervi, Pete & Sue	Quality Built Homes	Ross, Ed	Sprinkler Fitters Local 669
Stockton, Don	Stoney Creek Democratic Club	Stoney Creek Senior Citizens Club	Sullivan, Thomas
Taylor-made Golf	Terminal Services	United States Naval Academy	Marine Cryptologic Support Bn.
The Green Turtle	VFW Post 160	VFW Post 160, Ladies Auxiliary	Woodmont C. C. (The Keepers)

Volunteers

Airey, Manny	Dahling, Ed	Del Valle, Stephanie	Gunther, Paul 'Doc'
Hancock, Tom	Helmka, Burt	Huffman, Norm	Krutzfeldt, Kathy
Maiorana, Cassondra	Maiorana, Tom	McNeir, Mac	Ryan, Michele
Stevens, Chris	Stevens, Scott	Sturm, Ray	Wells, David
Wright, Bud	Wright, Chasity	Wright, Joseph	



June Photo Grab-Bag



Color Guard Commander **Woody Bowman** (center) awarded a well-deserved plaque of appreciation by Past Commandants **Mac McNeir** (left) and **Joe Wright** (left) [A. A. Co. Detachment 1049 Photo]



Detachment member **Norm Huffman** (center) awarded well-deserved plaques of appreciation for both him and his wife **Jane** by Past Commandants **Mac McNeir** (left) and **Joe Wright** (left) [A. A. Co. Detachment 1049 Photo]



Marine Guests of Honor from the **4th Combat Engineer Battalion** – (L-R) **Sergeant Major Gamboa**, **Lt. Colonel Garza**, **Staff Sergeant Fuchs** and **Staff Sergeant Fahey**. [Photo by 'Doc' Gunther]



Marine Guests of Honor from **Fort Meade** – **Staff Sergeant Pointer** and **Master Sergeants Whitesel, Truitt and Grimm**. [Photo by 'Doc' Gunther]



The winning team (**Bob King**, **Greg Hartke**, **John Clark** and **Tom Chapitto**, who finished at 11 under par) receiving prizes from tournament emcee **Mac McNeir** and chairman **Burt Helmka**. [Photo by 'Doc' Gunther]

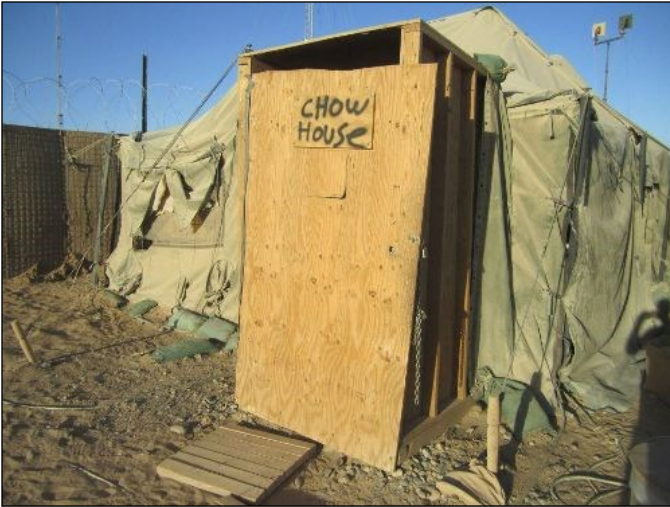


Joe, **Chasity** and **Bud Wright** grilling dogs and providing liquid refreshments for participating golfers at the turn between the North and East nines. [Photo by Mac McNeir]

Afghanistan Chow Hall Cutbacks Anger Some Marines

NOTE – Edited story of Dan Lamothe, staff writer, *Marine Corps Times*

Check out the photograph below. It shows the modest chow hall at **Combat Outpost Taghaz**, a small combat outpost in Afghanistan where I lived with Marines for about a week last fall while gathering information for a couple of stories. The adviser team shared the base with a platoon from the **3rd Battalion, 8th Marines**, which provided over-watch security in the region.



The chow hall at **Combat Outpost Taghaz**, in Helmand province, Afghanistan. [Photo by Dan Lamothe]

I bring this up after reading today that some service members at **Camp Leatherneck**, the Marine Corps' largest base in Afghanistan, are angry that commanders have apparently decided to dump the midnight ration service [Mid-Rats] and 24-hour sandwich bar in its chow halls. It plans to replace them with pre-packaged *Meals, Ready to Eat* [MREs]. **Lt. Colonel Cliff Gilmore**, a Marine spokesman, told NBC News.

The decision won't be popular at Leatherneck with everyone. NBC News quotes an email one Marine wrote his wife as an example. *"This boils my skin,"* the email said. *"One of my entire shifts will go 6.5 hours without a meal. If we need to cut back on money I could come with 100 other places. Instead, we will target the biggest contributor to morale. I must be losing my mind. What is our senior leadership thinking? I just got back from flying my ass off and in a few days, I will not have a meal to replenish me after being away for over 9 hours."*

That's one side of the debate. The other side will come from Marines living on small bases with chow halls like the one pictured above. In many of those locations, Marines have never had three hot meals per day. In some, they've had just one. There also is no ice cream, salad bar, refrigerated soda and other creature comforts on a lot of those smaller bases. Instead, there's usually one dutiful Lance Corporal or Corporal, doing the best he can to put together a decent meal each night for his fellow Marines on base.

As someone who has bounced around all over Helmand province in the last few years, I can understand some disappointment with meal services being cut back at Leatherneck. In particular, for those working overnight, having a sandwich readily available was certainly a sweet deal.

The outrage expressed in some corners here seems a bit over the top, though. Seriously, **"I will not have a meal to replenish me"**? Infantrymen all over Afghanistan have been hanging in there just fine with MREs in off hours for years. For the time being, there's also the massive PX store on Leatherneck, which is stocked with snacks of all kind and probably can offer some relief.

No one is going to starve anytime soon.



EARNING THE TITLE



For those who understand, **No Explanation is Necessary!**

For those who don't understand...

No Explanation is Possible!



BROADLEAF

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1-410-315-8118

Supporter of Marines Helping Marines



Have You Heard?

by Mark East

Highlights of the May 20th Meeting...

The meeting was brought to order by **Commandant Ed Dahling**, who acknowledged the presence of **Department of Maryland Adjutant, Paul Taylor**; and **Past Detachment Commandants Guy Hall, Mac McNeir and Joseph Wright**.

New Applicants for Membership...

Junior Vice Commandant, Ray Sturm had no new member applications to present to the detachment. Be sure to make other Marines aware of the Marine Corp League.

Correspondence...

Bob Foley's wife sent a letter to the detachment stating that Bob has been diagnosed with a form of dementia that significantly effects the frontal lobe of the brain. Bob is now residing at the **Atria Manresa** care facility at **85 Manresa Road, Annapolis, MD 21409**. If you can, please plan a visit to see Bob.

Sick or in Distress...

Mac McNeir announced that **Irene Airey (Manny's wife)** went into the hospital about 4 weeks ago and has recently been transferred to a rehabilitation facility in **Arnold, MD**. Our detachment has sent flowers to her and wished her a speedy recovery. Please keep Manny and Irene in your thoughts and prayers.

Report of Officers...

Commandant Ed Dahling reminded those in attendance of the coming **Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament** and the **Mideast Conference**. (See advertisements)

Judge Advocate Ben Wells mentioned that *By-Law changes* are in progress for the Department of Maryland and an effort is underway to make sure that all detachments have the information necessary to ensure that their by-laws are correct. **Junior Past Commandant Wright** reinforced the Judge Advocate's information at the detachment level by stating that the By-law Committee will be meeting in the near future to hash things out.

Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman reported that we have reached a new low in representation for the recent Memorial day Parade in Glen Burnie. The four Marines of the *Cryptologic Support Battalion* at Fort Meade presented the colors as our detachment could only muster two Marines to represent Detachment 1049. Woody went on to mention that it was the worst showing of support that he has ever experienced. Woody has temporarily obtained support from the Fort Meade Marines, who will continue to support our color guard until Veterans Day. Woody then stated that if our detachment cannot provide support for the 23 functions that serve our fellow Marines and our community... it would perhaps be appropriate for the detachment to consider disbanding our color guard altogether.

Those members interested in helping save our color guard and preserving our standing as a preeminent patriotic community service organization should contact **Woody Bowman**.

Newsletter Editor...

Mark East advised detachment members that the production of *the Cutting Edge* is in a transitional stage and for the present time to please send articles and other forms of correspondence to both him and Mac.

Mac McNeir Detachment Marine of the year and outgoing editor of *the Cutting Edge* announced that he has submitted three different 2012-2013 issues of *the Cutting Edge* to the **National Marine Corp League Newsletter Competition Committee** for consideration in the league's annual newsletter contest.

Rifle & Pistol Team...

Team Captain Ray Sturm attempted to recruit participants for a competition scheduled for June 1st as well as other future competitive events.

Young Marines...

Commander Dallas Cooper reported a very busy schedule for the Young Marines during the coming months. A listing of their June activity's is provided on page 12.

New Business...

Mac McNeir and Joe Wright presented **Norm Huffman** and his wife **Jane** (who was unable to attend the meeting due to her attendance at another service commitment) with plaques expressing the detachment's appreciation for their dedication and steadfast support over the past two years.

Mac McNeir presented **'Woody' Bowman**, with a plaque as a sign of the detachment's sincere appreciation for his dedicated and indefatigable service as our **Color Guard Commander** for nine years and his long term support of **Toys for Tots**. Past Commandant McNeir went on to state that Woody has always been there when needed and has never sought any public acknowledgement for his efforts.

Good of the League...

Vic Halme (see *Lest We Forget...* article on page 12) suggested that a roster be passed around to make sure all the contact information is correct.

Adjournment...

The detachment meeting was adjourned in accordance with league rituals and will reconvene at **1900 (7:00 PM)** on **June 24, 2013**.



Doolittle Raiders Final Reunion

NOTE – Article by staff writer Robert Jacques appeared on the General Aviation News website on May 1, 2013.

The Doolittle Raiders held their 71st and final public reunion in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, April 16-20.



Of the 80 men who took part in the daring mission to bomb Japan, only four are still living. Three were able to attend this final reunion: **Lt. Colonel Richard Cole**, 97, co-pilot on plane #1 who flew with **Colonel Jimmy Doolittle**; **Lt. Colonel Edward Saylor**, 93, an engineer on plane #15; and **Staff Sergeant David Thatcher**, 92, an engineer and gunner. The fourth, **Lt. Colonel Bob Hite**, 95, co-pilot of plane #16, could not travel due to illness.

The surviving Raiders elected to have their final reunion at Ft. Walton Beach since this is where their mission began in 1942 at nearby Eglin Air Force Base. That's where the men and their B-25 bombers came to practice short field takeoffs using less than 500 feet to get airborne. This was the maximum distance on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Hornet the bombers could use to get airborne.

On April 18, 1942, 80 men flying 16 B-25s took off from that aircraft carrier and bombed several cities in Japan, then headed to Chinese airfields. However, the carrier task force was spotted by a Japanese trawler, and the planes had to takeoff 200 miles farther away than planned. This meant the planes used more fuel and could not reach the airfields in China. Some of the planes ditched along the Chinese coast, while others crash landed in the mountains.

The pilot of plane #8 decided to land in Vladivostok, Russia, in hopes of getting more fuel to continue into China. The Russians confiscated the airplane and interred the crew for about a year before they escaped through Iran. After the war, the Russians did not return the airplane and it remained 'lost.'

At this year's reunion, **Charles Runion**, from Lebanon, TN, came with a fascinating story that gave closure to this tale of the 'missing' airplane. In the mid-1990s a friend of his, who spent time in Russia and had made friends with a Russian Air Force officer, was taken to an area where derelict and broken aircraft were scattered. He recognized only the nose section of a B-25 and went over to inspect it closely.

The front of the airplane had been crushed and heavily damaged, but he was able to obtain the data plate. He later gave this historic and rare data plate to Runion, who brought it to the reunion to show the Raiders. Runion displays the data plate in his own aviation museum in Lebanon called '*Wings Remembered*.'

The Raiders' mission caused very little strategic damage to Japan, but it proved to the Japanese people they were vulnerable to an attack, and it raised American morale considerably. The Raiders were all volunteers and are an important part of American history and legacy.

Over the years, the Raider's reunions have been in various cities and the public has always been allowed to attend. However, there are certain private events the Raiders do not open to the public.

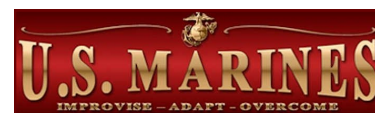
One of these is the ceremony where they drink a toast to the memory of a Raider who died since their last reunion with special silver goblets given to the Raiders by the city of Tucson, AZ, when they had a reunion there in 1959. There are 80 goblets with each man's name engraved twice. One is *right side up* and the other is *upside down*. When that person dies, the goblet is turned upside down and placed in a special display box. The goblets are on display at the National Air Force Museum in Dayton, OH.

This year, the Raiders raised a toast and turned over a goblet to the memory of **Tom Griffin**, 96, who died on February 26th. He was the navigator on plane #9.

The tradition that has yet to happen is the opening of a special bottle of *1896 Hennessy Cognac* by the last surviving Raiders (Doolittle was born in 1896). Later this year, the four remaining survivors will open the bottle and have that final toast. Whenever it is, it will be very private.

When the announcement came that this would be the last reunion the public could attend, reaction was swift. Less than 48 hours after the reunion was announced, all available seats were sold. More than 600 people attended events throughout the weekend to see, hear, and meet these heroes.

To support the 71st Reunion, four B-25 bombers flew into the Destin, FL airport, which is adjacent to Ft. Walton Beach, for static display and to sell rides. Two World War II era North American T-6 trainers also arrived for static display.



Marine Corps League



2013 Mideast Conference June 28 - 30

**Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, 901 Dual Highway,
Hagerstown MD 21740 (301-733-5100)**

Hotel Reservations

To make reservations, contact the hotel directly and mention that you're attending the Mideast Conference. Rooms for Conference attendees have been blocked with a group rate of **\$79 per night** (plus tax – King or Double)

Rooms will be made available starting **Thursday June 27th** through **Monday July 1st**, for those who would like to come early and stay an extra day.

The *Hospitality Suite* will open on **June 27th at 5:00 PM** (Thursday evening) through **June 30th at 6:00 PM** (Sunday evening). The **Department of Maryland** and **Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049** are the co-hosts of the Hospitality Suite.



I'm happy to report that the 2013 shooting season is well underway. With the addition of **Ben Wells**, the detachment rifle team doubled in size. Ben picked up his new rifle on May 2nd and joined me in representing the detachment at the **Department of New York Matches** on May 4th. New rifle shooters are welcome as the **Dept. of Pennsylvania Rifle Match** is right around the corner.

Not to be outdone, the detachment's pistol team competed in the **Dept. of Pennsylvania Service Pistol Match** on **June 1st**. First time shooter **Ben Wells** joined **Ed Grove**, **Frank Zupancic**, and me for a great day of shooting. The official results of both matches will be reported in a future edition of this newsletter.

Both teams need shooters! Experience is not required!



Lawmaker Wants To Change Memorial Day

NOTE – The following is an edited version of an **Associated Press (AP)** article appeared in the online version of the **Marine Corps Times**.

HONOLULU – U.S. Representative **Colleen Hanabusa** wants to move the date of Memorial Day to encourage more Americans to focus on honoring military service members.

The congresswoman from Hawaii plans to introduce a bill changing **Memorial Day** from the **last Monday of the month to May 30th**.

Hanabusa said, *“many Americans have begun to celebrate the long weekend as the beginning of summer rather than honoring those who died courageously in battle.”*

The weekend is known for shopping and leisure activities as well as memorial services. Hanabusa said the holiday was originally celebrated on May 30 until Congress changed the date in 1968. She said she is carrying on the effort of the late **Senator. Daniel Inouye** from Hawaii, who advocated a date change during his career.



Come Together On Monday, August 12th

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Lest We Forget...



Victor Patin Halme, a resident of Glen Burnie for 27 years, passed away at home on June 1, 2013. Victor was born on September 29, 1941 to the late **Walter** and **Edwina Halme**. He graduated from Frayser High School in Memphis, TN. Vic initially served as an active duty Marine

followed by a stint in the active reserves from 1959-1962. He subsequently retired from the United States Army as a Master Sergeant in 1986. He earned numerous decorations, which included the Bronze Star Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm. Vic was a lifetime member of VFW Post 160; Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 of the Marine Corps League; the Military Order of Devil Dogs, Pound 204; and American Legion Post 276. He enjoyed surfing, golfing, fishing and was an avid sports fan, who loved spending time with his family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, **Dean Halme**. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, **Martha**; two daughters, **Victoria Lazarus** and husband **Riq** and **Michelle Boyer** and husband **Charlie**; five grandchildren, **CJ**, **Jessica**, **Brianna**, **Braxton** and **Nicholas**; mother-in-law, **Lillian Summers**; sister, **Regina Yeatman**; and sister-in-law, **Rita Halme**.

A viewing took place at the *Singleton Funeral & Cremation Services* of Glen Burnie, MD on the evening of June 5th, which also featured a Marine Corps League memorial service attended by members of the **Mount Airy**, **Harford County** and **Anne Arundel County** detachments. In addition to his family and friends, many members of military fraternal organizations were in attendance.

A *Celebration of Life* service was held at the Singleton facility on Thursday, June 6th at 10:00 AM. The interment ceremony immediately followed at the *Maryland Veterans Cemetery* in Crownsville, Maryland.

Donations may be made to the **Wounded Warrior Project**, 4899 Belfort Road, Ste. 300; Jacksonville, FL 32256 and/or the **American Heart Association**, 415 N. Charles Street; Baltimore, MD 21201.



Quotation

"The patriot's blood is the seed of freedom's tree!"

Thomas Campbell

Poet, 1777 to 1844



Young Marines

The month of **May** was very a busy one for the **Annapolis Young Marines**. As always, we would love to have all of you attend and assist us in supporting the following events.

Scheduled June Events

June 7th - 9th ... Division Encampment in Cheltenham, MD

June 9th Truck and Car Show fundraiser at VFW Post 160, Dorsey Rd, Glen Burnie, MD. Be sure to visit the '**Dunk a Marine**' attraction

June 15th Hogs and Hero's Korean War Memorial Ride
Call 1-443-610-0527 for additional info (Ask for 'Pappy')

If you have an event that you would like us to attend please contact me, **Jennifer Landon**, at ajmjl@aim.com.

You may also contact the Annapolis Young Marines at the following email address.... annapolisyoungmarines@aol.com.

Thanks to **VFW Post 160** and **Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049** for their ongoing support of our unit.

Thank You,

Jennifer Landon

Young Marines Executive Officer

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Members' Birthdays

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

Troy Bryant

Danielle Campbell

Walter Cooper

William Russell

Robert Di Lauro

Garland Downey Sr.

Francis Miller

Rudolph Snyder

Joseph Stephens

Raymond Sturm

NOTE – If you were born in June and your name is not Listed above, please contact the editor to be included in the future.





Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **October 19, 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.

Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary

Monday, June 24, 2013 @ 1900 (Dahling/Ullery)

2013 Mideast Division Convention

Friday, June 28 through Sunday, June 30, 2013
Clarion Hotel and Conference Center, 901 Dual Highway,
Hagerstown MD 21740 (301-733-5100)

Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049

Friday, July 5, 2013 from 1800 – 2000 (Ed Dahling)

Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary

Monday, July 22, 2013 @ 1900 (Ed Dahling / Anita Ullery)

MODD Growl, Pound 204

Sunday, August 18, 2013 from 0800 – 1100 (Mike Hadley)

Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary

Monday, August 26, 2013 @ 1900 (Ed Dahling / Anita Ullery)

Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049

Friday, August 30, 2013 from 1800 – 2000 (Anita Ullery)

Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049

Friday, September 6, 2013 from 1800 – 2000 (Ed Dahling)

Staff Meeting, MCL Department of Maryland

Saturday, September 7, 2013 from 0900 to 1100 – Stuart Blair

MODD Growl, Maryland Pack

Saturday, September 7, 2013 following the Staff Meeting – Don Benson

Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary

Monday, September 23, 2013 @ 1900 (Ed Dahling / Anita Ullery)

Bull & Oyster Roast, MCL Detachment 1049

Saturday, October 19, 2013 @ 1900 (Chris Kalwa)



Corps History

by Mark East

2 June 1918

At dawn on this date, the crack German 28th Division attacked along the axis of the Paris-Metz road hitting the American 2nd Division, including the 4th Marine Brigade. The Marines opened with deadly rifle fire and helped hand the German troops a setback which set the stage for Marine victory at Belleau Wood which would soon follow, although at great cost.

12 June 1961

President John F. Kennedy signed a presidential proclamation calling for the American flag to be flown at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, 'at all times during the day and night.' Discussions between the Attorney General's office and Marine Corps officials earlier in 1961 on improving the visibility and appearance of the monument led to the proposal to fly the flag continuously, which by law could only be done by Congressional legislation or by Presidential proclamation.

8 June 1995

A Marine tactical recovery team from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit stationed on board the USS Kearsarge rescued a downed USAF pilot, **Captain Scott O'Grady**, from Bosnian-Serb territory in Bosnia.

10 June 1898

The 1st Marine Battalion, commanded by **Lt. Colonel Robert W. Huntington**, landed on the eastern side of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The next day, **Lieutenant Herbert L. Draper** hoisted the American flag on a flag pole at Camp McCalla where it flew during the next eleven days. Lt. Col. Huntington later sent the flag with an accompanying letter to **Colonel Commandant Charles Heywood** noting that 'when bullets were flying... the sight of the flag upon the midnight sky has thrilled our hearts.'

15 June 1944

Preceded by naval gunfire and carrier air strikes, the V Amphibious Corps assaulted the west coast of Saipan, Marianas Islands. By nightfall, the 2nd and 4th Marine Divisions, moving against heavy opposition, had established a beachhead 10,000 yards wide and 1,500 yards deep.

20 June 1993

The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit returned to Mogadishu, Somalia, to stand ready to assist United Nations forces in maintaining peace in the war-torn country. Earlier that month, the 24th MEU had been ordered to cut short Exercise Eager Mace 93-2 in Kuwait to respond to possible contingency operations in Somalia.

26 June 1918

Brigadier General James G. Harbord, Commanding General of the 4th Marine Brigade, notified American Expeditionary Force Headquarters that Belleau Wood was 'now U.S. Marine Corps entirely.' After 20 days of combat, and at a cost of over 4,000 casualties, the 4th Brigade of Marines had proven its fighting heart. The grateful Commander of the French 6th Army would soon decree that in all official correspondence, Belleau Wood would henceforth bear the name, 'Bois de la Brigade de Marine.'

25 June 1966

In Vietnam, Operation Jay began about 30 kilometers northwest of Hue, and lasted nine days. The 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines landed north of the North Vietnamese 812th Main Force Battalion, and the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines landed south of the enemy's position. Caught in between the two Marine units, the enemy suffered over 80 dead in nine days of fighting.



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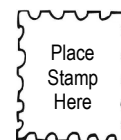


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Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049
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(Address Correction Requested)



Featured Photo



The Marine Corps War Memorial is one of 24 historic sites selected to compete for \$1 million in preservation grants. Users can vote for the site they think should receive the funds at www.preservedmv.com. [Gina Harkins / Marine Corps Times]