

# 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](mailto:cmdt@mclaacdet1049.org)) / Mac McNeir, Editor ([editor@mclaacdet1049.org](mailto:editor@mclaacdet1049.org))

## Lejeune's Water - Toxic Since 1948?

*Editor's Note – The following Associated Press article by Martha Waggoner appeared on the Marine Corps Times website on March 15, 2013.*



U.S. Marines taking part in a training exercise at Onslow Beach, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.  
[USMC Photo – SSgt. J. Alvarez Jr.]

Drinking water contamination at North Carolina's sprawling Camp Lejeune military base could date to 1948, five years earlier than researchers had reported previously, a federal report indicates.

The **Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry** plans to release a report Friday on the contamination that has led to a long-running dispute between former residents and the Marines Corps.

TCE, an *industrial solvent* now known as a human carcinogen, likely first exceeded the maximum contaminant level in August 1953, but evidence shows its presence in the water supply might date as far back as **November 1948**, the report states. A copy of the report was obtained Thursday by **The Associated Press**.

**“Basically, it's vindication and confirmation for what I've been saying for nearly 16 years,”** said retired Marine **Master Sergeant Jerry Ensminger**, a leader in a protracted fight for information about the contamination. **“The truth is finally coming out.”**

Ensminger blames the contamination for the leukemia that killed his 9-year-old daughter, **Janey**, in 1985. Marines and family members have blamed the contamination for many kinds of cancers, including breast cancer in men and women, bladder cancer and liver cancer.

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(see Toxic Water on page 12)

# the CUTTING EDGE

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

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Senior Vice-Commandant .....Ed Dahling  
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Junior Past-Commandant .....Mac McNeir  
Adjutant .....Ben Wells  
By-Laws Committee Chairman .....Danny Fischio  
Chaplain .....Fred Kaminski  
Color Guard Commander .....Woody Bowman  
Historian .....Joseph Wright  
House Chairman .....Vacant  
Legislative Officer .....Vacant  
Newsletter Editor .....Mac McNeir  
Paymaster .....Ed Dahling  
Public Information Officer .....Vacant  
Quartermaster .....Fred Kaminski  
Rifle & Pistol Team Captain .....Ray Sturm  
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## From the Editor

by Mac McNeir

The recent detachment elections, which herald my being replaced as your Junior Past Commandant, as well as the fact that this will in all likelihood be my next to last newsletter, has made me a bit introspective and appreciative of all that my association with this detachment and you Marines has meant to me. The challenges and accomplishments that we have collectively faced and achieved have made me extremely proud that I chose to become a member of **Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049**.

My successor, **Mark East** has been transitioning into the role of *writer, editor, publisher* of **the Cutting Edge** and I am confident that he will do a fine job. So please support him in the production of this publication.

I recently had the honor and privilege of meeting some fine, young Marines of the **1st Battalion, 9th Marines**, who through their words and actions emphasized that the Corps remains in good hands. I only wish that the meeting had not taken place at the recent funeral of one of our own, **LCpl Taylor Wild**, who unfortunately was taken from us by a training accident in Nevada. Please keep Taylor and his family in your thoughts and prayers!

The article deadline for **the Cutting Edge's** next issue is **April 27th**.



## 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	
Total			
133			

## Renewals

[ Dues expire at end of indicated month ]

April 2013	May 2013	June 2013
Rich Gonzales Jr. Burton Helmka Joseph Stephens	Frederick Curtis (D) Gabriel Gutierrez Vernon Maher (D) John Vogel (D)	Harry Anderson (D) Frank Mondragon (D) Tim Muniz (D) Ben Wells

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

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



Joe Wright

Marines,

This article is my last as your detachment Commandant. I am appreciative for you entrusting me with the position of Commandant for the last two years and I hope that I have done well. Although I am saddened to be leaving my post, I look forward to working with our new leadership. There are still great strides that must be made by the detachment, but it cannot be done by a select few alone. As you have read time and time again in our articles, the detachment needs participation from more of our members. If more members would step up, everyone's tasking would be less arduous as the duties of the detachment would be spread around. We need members to make themselves available for functions and to bring ideas to the table with regard to community outreach and fundraising. This detachment is top notch and to remain at the top, we must operate as a unit.

The detachment nominated and elected the following officers by a single unanimous vote of the detachment at the March 25th meeting.

- Detachment Commandant ..... Ed Dahling
- Detachment Sr Vice Commandant .... Chris Kalwa
- Detachment Jr Vice Commandant .... Ray Sturm
- Detachment Judge Advocate ..... David Wells

Your newly elected officers for the 2013-2014 term of office will be installed at our detachment meeting scheduled for **Monday, April 22, 2013 at 1900 hours**. After the installation ceremony, there will be time for socializing, food and drink. Bringing your favorite covered dish if you wish to do so.

Semper Fi!

Joe



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## OEF Casualties Memorialized

*Editor's Note – The following is an edited version of an article by Kevin Lilley (Staff Writer) appeared on the Marine Corps Times website.*

Ron White once memorized a deck of cards in 87 seconds. That's every card, every suit, in every position in the deck — from 1 through 52 — in less than a minute and a half. It was, at the time, an American record.



Former Navy reservist **Ron White** writes the names of 2,200 **Operation Enduring Freedom** casualties on a memorial wall — completely from memory. A feat requiring eleven hours. [Photo — Ron White]

White, a former reserve intelligence specialist first class, deployed to Afghanistan in 2007 as an individual augmentee. Back home again, he walked by the **Vietnam Veterans Memorial** and wondered to himself, "What will the Afghanistan monument look like?"

On February 28 in Fort Worth, Texas, he built a temporary one from memory: about 2,200 names, handwritten in white, on a 50-foot-wide, 7-foot-tall wall. **"It took me 11 hours,"** said White, a two-time national memory champion who has made media appearances for his recollecting skills. **"No bathroom breaks."**

The process began May 1, when he began memorizing the names from a book he carried everywhere. It was the largest memory project he'd ever undertaken; he started the website [www.americasmemory.com](http://www.americasmemory.com) to outline his effort and solicit donations for the **Wounded Warrior Project**...

...one memory stands out for the memory champ. A spectator arrived and asked when he'd be writing the name of **Army Pfc. Austin Staggs**, who died from small-arms fire in an insurgent attack in Nangarhar province in November 2010. White asked the woman whether she knew Staggs. **"He was my grandson,"** she replied. **"I came out here to watch you write his name."**

White told the woman it would be at least two more hours. She sat down in a chair and waited. About three hours later, he told her, **"Ma'am, I'm about 10 minutes away,"** and apologized for the delay. She said it was fine; it had given Staggs' mother time to come and watch the name go up.

*(see OEF Memorial on page 6)*

## OEF Memorial *(continued from page 3)*

From the desk of the

## Senior Vice Commandant



Ed Dahling

Fellow Detachment Members,

Spring is around the corner and we will soon be attending the **MCL Department of Maryland Convention** in Ocean City. Also, please remember that the **8th Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament** will be taking place at the **Compass Pointe Golf Course** on **Friday, the 31st of May**. We still need everyone's support in obtaining golfers, sponsors, and purchasers of tee-box sign.

Semper Fi,

*Ed Dahling*



### Chaplain's Corner

by Mac McNeir for Chaplain Fred Kaminski

**William Taylor Wild IV**, grandson of detachment member **Bill Wild** and his wife **Patricia**, was killed in a tragic accident while undergoing training at Hawthorne Army Depot, Nevada. See ***Lest We Forget...*** on page 10 for additional information.

**Sherrie Brewer**, sister of our Past Chaplain **Ken Webster**, has passed away. No other details are available at this time.

Please keep the Wild and Webster families in your thoughts and prayers.

Please contact our 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

## Junior Vice Commandant



Ray Sturm

Greetings all,

I would like to start this column by offering my sincere condolences to the family of **LCpl. William Taylor Wild IV, USMC**. Mere words can never fully capture the essence of the loss felt by those who knew and loved him. To our member **Bill Wild**, please know that your grandson and his comrades will be in our thoughts and prayers. I did not know LCpl. Wild, but was honored to attend his service. What I saw was a community and extended family united in its support and joined by the loss of such a fine young man, Marine, and American hero. Taylor was just 10 years old on that infamous day of 9/11. When his time came, like generations before him, he picked up the banner and followed in the footsteps of this father and grandfather and entered military service in defense of the country he loved. A high school athlete, Taylor became a combat veteran on foreign soil. His loss while training to go back into harm's way is a testament to his courage and dedication. He will be missed.

I would also like to thank the members of the other Detachments from the Department of Maryland who attended the various services in support of the Wild family. There are too many to mention, but you know who you are... thank you! Your compassion humbles me.

Semper Fi,

*Ray Sturm*



# Bombastic Bumper Snicker:



***Leadership is finding out  
what the troops like...  
and taking it away.***





## Military Order of the Devil Dogs



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

Woof-Woof,

The **Maryland Pack** had a very nice Growl last month, collecting \$152 for the children's hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan. That brings our total, with one Growl to go, to \$1,402. That should safely secure us as having donated more bones than any other Pack in the Kennel.

Four of the seven Pounds in the Pack were present. Maybe if we could get all Pounds to be represented at the Pack Growls, we could get even more bones for the children's hospital.

It appears as if we will have four or five Pups advancing at the Grand Growl, provided a couple of them make it to the Pound Growl on 14 April. We should also have three mongrels coming into the order if they show up for training on 14 April.

Most of you know of the effort **PDD Ross** and **DD McNeir** have put in getting donations for the **St. Baldrick's Foundation**, the organization dedicated to raising money for children's cancer research. On the **23rd of March**, leaguers and Devil Dogs descended on an Irish pub in Baltimore to witness volunteers getting Marine hair cuts and beard eliminations. Three of the spectators/supporters from **Pound 333** in Harford County got caught up in the mood and volunteered to be shaven. Those three Devil Dogs were our very own Pack Leader, **PDD Benson**, along with PDDs **Arnold** and **Wlock**. Something in the vicinity of \$6,000 was raised by our two volunteers, plus an additional thousand dollars or so from the three surprise participants from Pound 333. The St. Baldrick's Foundation thanks you very, very much and looks forward to serving you again next year.

Hopefully everyone has made reservations for the **Grand Growl**, on **Friday, 26 April**. The Devil Dog initiation will begin at noon with the Grand Growl following immediately thereafter.

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

Woof-Woof,

*Paul Taylor*

PDD & Dog Robber



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## Color Guard

*by Mac McNeir for Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman*

### 17th Annual Confederate Navy-Marine Corps Day



Our color guard (**Woody Bowman, Charlie Quick, Charlie Young, Paul Downey & Ray Gonzales** - not pictured) began the 2013 parade season with their participation in the annual ceremony honoring Confederate Sailors and Marines who served from 1861 to 1865. The ceremony took place on **March 9th** at **St. Anne's Cemetery**, in Annapolis, MD.

#### Coming Events...

##### Ferndale Day Parade – Sunday, May 5th

- Stage at North County High School by 11:00 AM
- Parade commences at NOON.

##### Glen Burnie Memorial Day Parade – Sunday, May 19th

- Stage at Corkran Middle School on Quarterfield Road by 1:00 PM
- Parade commences at 2:00 PM .

##### Memorial Day Posting of Colors – Monday, May 27th

- Stage at American Legion Post 276 on Quarterfield Road by 8:30 AM
- Ceremony commences at 9:00 AM .

##### Memorial Day Ceremony – Monday, May 27th

- Stage at Crownsville Veterans Cemetery by 10:30 AM
- Ceremony commences at 11:00 AM .

#### New Members are 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. Need information? Want to volunteer? Call **Woody Bowman** at the following number for more information.

(443) 848-6216



# Budget Cuts Curtail Marine Corps' Ceremonial Units

*Editor's Note – The following article by Hope Hodge (Staff Writer) appeared on the Marine Corps Times website on March 18, 2013.*

The Marine Corps' premier ceremonial unit is the latest target of federal budget cuts.



Future performances of the Corps' ceremonial units were canceled due to budget cuts. Pictured is the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon performing at the Gateway Arch in St. Louis in 2011.

[ Photo – Corporal Jeremy Ware, USMC ]

Several upcoming performances by the **Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment** were abruptly canceled Friday on orders from **Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel**, according to an official with knowledge of the situation. The unit is based in Washington and includes the '**Commandant's Own**' **Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps**, the service's official Color Guard and its famed **Silent Drill Platoon**.

All of the canceled shows – five total – were scheduled for this week at Marine Corps bases in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. The directive from Hagel's office restricts travel for all musical and ceremonial units, according to Marine officials at Camp Lejeune, N.C., where the Battle Color Detachment was to perform Friday.

Hagel's office could not immediately provide a copy of the directive.

On Monday, officials at **Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Ga.**, scrambled to announce cancellation of a performance set for Tuesday. The event was expected to draw a crowd of 5,000. At **Camp Lejeune**, public affairs personnel distributed a brief news release indicating federal budget cuts were to blame.

The Battle Color Detachment just returned to Washington from a weeklong tour of West Coast Marine Corps bases. Cancellation of its East Coast tour raises questions as to whether the unit will face a lengthy hold on such activity.

That's not immediately clear, said **Captain Jack Norton**, a spokesman for Marine Barracks Washington.

*(continued in adjacent column)*

**"At this time of budgetary uncertainty, all units ... are re-evaluating how money is spent and the Barracks is no different,"** he said, adding that currently there are no plans to

alter the unit's annual summer schedule, which includes Friday evening parades at the Barracks' headquarters and Tuesday sunset parades at the Marine Corps War Memorial near Arlington National Cemetery.

Also unclear is how much the military will save by curtailing performances of its prestigious show units. The Drum and Bugle Corps comprises 85 Marines, while the elite Silent Drill Platoon has 24 members. The Color Guard includes three teams of four Marines who travel yearly to hundreds of events throughout the country.

Though little has been said about the rationale of cancelling the tour, it may be part of a larger move to crack down on military and government activities considered nonessential. The Navy has cancelled a series of performances by the **Blue Angels**, its famed show squadron, and the **White House** announced Monday that its April 1 **Easter Egg Roll** may also fall victim to spending cuts.



Others stopped by to pay tribute to family members and those they had served with. White finished the list, stepped away from the wall and saluted.

**"It was emotionally draining, physically and mentally,"** he said.

He plans to repeat the performance March 19 in San Antonio. He'd also like to write out the names in other locations around the nation throughout the year. He's considering creating a permanent wall — the one in his Fort Worth hometown is already down — but said plans are in the very early stages.

Right now, it's about finding more places to write the names, which White, 39, said gives him a chance to identify with the fallen and hold a personal connection to the notion of wartime sacrifice.

**"Literally,"** he said, **"they are not forgotten."**





# General Mattis Steps Down...

*Editor's Note – The following article by Dan Lamothe (Staff Writer) appeared on the Marine Corps Times website on March 25, 2013.*

With a short speech, **Marine General James Mattis** stepped down as head of **U.S. Central Command** on Friday and began preparing in earnest for retirement.

Mattis was replaced as the head of CENTCOM, out of Tampa, FL., by **Army General Lloyd Austin**. It's expected he'll retire following a short period of transition behind the scenes.



AL ASAD, Iraq – Marine Lieutenant General James Mattis, Commander of the U.S. Central Command, speaks to Marines with Marine Wing Support Group 27. [Photo – Cpl Zachary Dyer, USMC]

Mattis, famous for his salty comments, offered another during his change of command ceremony. Addressing **Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel** and **Army General Martin Dempsey**, chairman of the Joint Chiefs, he paid rank-and-file service members in CENTCOM a compliment.

*“Mister Secretary, Chairman, I would happily storm hell in the company of these troops, who I haven’t the words sufficient to praise, so I will not try,”* Mattis said, according to a transcript of the event. *“They know how strongly I believe in them, how strongly they have demonstrated to the world that free men and women can fight like the dickens.”*

In a March 14th email to *Marine Corps Times*, Mattis said he prefers to end his 41-year career quietly.

*“I’ve had some ‘riotous excursions of the human spirit’ alongside the young Sailors and Marines and it’s time to leave the stage to the young leaders who got their rank the old-fashioned way — they earned their stripes in combat,”* Mattis said. *“The Corps is in good hands, and it’s been a privilege to serve with the Leathernecks. Now it’s time to go.”*

*Editor's Note – The following quotes were not part of the article presented above. They are simply a collection of some of General Mattis' more memorable quotes. Some of the language is a bit 'salty' but appropriate for the situation.*

## Just A Few Notable Mattis Quotes

- *“There is nothing better than getting shot at and missed. It’s really great.”*
- *“Marines don’t know how to spell the word defeat.”*

*(continued in adjacent column)*

- *“The first time you blow someone away is not an insignificant event. That said, there are some ‘a ~ ~ holes’*

*in the world that just need to be shot.”*

- *“I come in peace. I didn’t bring artillery. But I’m pleading with you, with tears in my eyes: If you ‘~~~~’ with me, I’ll kill you all.”*
- *“The most important six inches on the battlefield is between your ears.”*
- *“You cannot allow any of your people to avoid the brutal facts. If they start living in a dream world, it’s going to be bad.”*
- *“You are part of the world’s most feared and trusted force. Engage your brain before you engage your weapon.”*
- *“I’m going to plead with you, do not cross us. Because if you do, the survivors will write about what we do here for 10,000 years.”*
- *“Demonstrate to the world there is ‘No Better Friend, No Worse Enemy’ than a U.S. Marine.”*



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## Why Yes... the Marines Were Here!



## How Did You Know?

**Devil Dog Review**



# Have You Heard?

by Mark East

## Highlights of the March 25th 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 Commandants **Guy Hall**, **Manny Airey**, and **Mac McNeir**.

## New Applicants for Membership...

Junior Vice Commandant **Ray Sturm** had no new member applications to present to the detachment. The effort to recruit both new and younger members needs to continue with vigor.

## Old Business...

- Past Commandant and current Newsletter Editor, **Mac McNeir** thanked everyone, who came out to support him and **Ed Ross** in their efforts to raise funds for children's cancer research. Mac also mentioned that three Harford County league members – **Don Benson**, **Pete Arnold**, and **Gene Wlock** – got into the spirit of the event, when impromptu auctions conducted by Ed Ross accumulated sufficient donations to convince them to have their hair cut. Mac reported that this year's effort appears to have raised approximately \$7,000 for the **St. Baldrick's Foundation**.
- **Mac McNeir** announced that there is a lack of activity with regard to getting golfers to sign up for our detachment's annual **Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament**. He stressed that the tournament staff will soon need to provide a prospective head count to the golf course's management, so we need to know how many intend to play...even if they do not plan to pay until the day of the tournament. Having the names of those golfers is essential for making cart assignments, rosters, and other signage.
- **Mac McNeir** presented a certificate of appreciation, on behalf of our **Marine Corp League 1049 Toys for Tots Coordinator Dawn Parker** to detachment member **Buddy Cadle** for his outstanding support of the **2012 United States Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots Campaign**. Good Job Buddy!

## Correspondence...

- Adjutant **Ben Wells** discussed our policy for giving money to causes/persons as a result of a recent spate of written requests received. Ben stated that he believed, because of our limited finances, *we should generally limit our contributions* to helping Marines and Marine families.
- The **Memorial Day Foundation** has requested a donation of \$100 to provide flowers to veterans on Memorial Day at a cost of \$15 per bouquet. No action was taken on that request.
- Adjutant Wells read a thank you letter from the **Marine Corp Heritage Foundation** acknowledging our detachment's recent \$100 donation.

## Report of Officers...

- Commandant **Joe Wright** stated that he was approached by **Mike Betts** of the Howard County detachment, who asked if we would join them in co-sponsoring a **Marines Helping Marines Cook-Out**. Commandant Wright is currently

checking out the financial viability of that request.

- Commandant **Joe Wright** stated that he has passed our detachments **Marine of the Year nominees** onto the selection committee.
- Commandant **Wright** noted that our next **Leadership College** will take place here at **VFW Post 160** on **April 13th**. Individuals should either complete an application or call him for more information.
- Junior Vice Commandant **Ray Sturm** advised us that beginning on **April 1st**, all new members will be required to fill out the *new membership form*. The new form can be found in the league's **Semper Fi** magazine or obtained from **JVC Sturm**. **Jim Brady** stated that a **DD-214** is necessary to become a full member; otherwise, applicants will be sworn in as associate members.
- Commandant **Joe Wright** announced that all delegates, who are taking guests to the **Department of Maryland Convention**, need to provide their guest's names to him as soon as possible.

## Rifle & Pistol Team...

Team Captain **Ray Sturm** announced that the registration deadline for the upcoming **Department of Pennsylvania Pistol Match** is **May 15th**. The tournament will take place on **June 1st**.

## New Business...

- Past Commandant **Guy Hall** requested a donation to support the **Boy Scouts of America** who place flags on the 1,500 veterans graves at the local veterans cemetery. A subsequent 'pass-the-hat' collection amongst the members resulted in a total of \$70 being donated to the cause.
- Past Commandant **Mac McNeir** made a motion to contribute \$100 to **Marines Helping Marines** in memory of **LCpl. Taylor Wild**. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Past Commandant **Mac McNeir** announced that a pot-luck celebration will follow the officer installation at next month's meeting. Please bring a favorite dish or other food/beverage.
- Past Senior Vice Commandant **Chris Thompson** bade farewell to the detachment as he is returning to Georgia. Chris's countless contributions will surely be missed!

## Adjournment...

The detachment meeting was adjourned in accordance with league rituals and will reconvene at **1900 (7:00 PM)** on **22 April 2013**.





# Sponsors & Golfers Needed!

for our detachment's

## 2013 Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament



**Compass Pointe's North-East Golf Course**

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## 2013 Warrior Games... The Marine Team

*Note – The following is an edited version of an article by Hope Hodge, which appeared in the Marine Corps Times on-line column Battle Rattle on March 25, 2013.*

The Marine Corps **Wounded Warrior Regiment** has just announced the team that will represent the Marine Corps at the **2013 Warrior Games** on May 11-17 in Colorado Springs, CO.

The 48 athletes include 21 active-duty Marines from **Wounded Warrior Battalion West**, 21 USMC veterans, and six Marines from **Wounded Warrior Battalion East**. They competed for spots on the Corps roster for the week-long Marine Corps trials aboard **Camp Pendleton** scheduled for the beginning of March. It would seem that home field advantage worked out well for the West Coast Marines, but they will all play on the same team moving forward.



Members of the Marine Corps Track and Field team display medals earned at the 2012 Warrior Games. [Photo by Patrick Onofre, USMC]

- Archery
- Basketball (wheelchair)
- Cycling
- Field
- Shooting
- Swimming
- Track
- Volleyball (sitting)

All troops assigned to one of the Wounded Warrior Battalions train at least three to four hours a week in one of these athletic disciplines as part of the **Warrior Athlete Reconditioning (WAR) Program**, so some of these men and women are *really good!*

And—no surprise here—the Marines play to win. At the 2012 Warrior Games, the Corps cleaned up with a winning tally of 89 medals to the Army's 63. The other services had a combined total of 57.





# Lest We Forget...

*Editor's Note – The following is an edited version of information obtained from the Barranco & Sons Funeral Home memorial notice and The Marine Corps Times website. Photo from the Associated Press.*



**Lance Corporal William Taylor Wild IV**, USMC, 21, a resident of Severna Park died on March 18th while training at Hawthorne Army Depot, Nevada.

Taylor was born December 17, 1991 in Baltimore, MD. He grew up in the Whitehurst Community in Severna Park. Taylor was active in the Green Hornets sports program playing football, baseball, basketball and wrestling. He graduated from Severna Park High

School in June 2010. He was a proud member of the wrestling and baseball team, including the 2009 State Championship team. He earned a Minds in Motion award through his studies.

He joined the Marine Corps in October 2010. After graduating from boot camp, he attended the School of Infantry and was stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC assigned to the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines. He deployed with the 1/9 to Afghanistan in May, 2011 and returned on Christmas Day 2011. Upon returning, he completed Advanced Mortarman Course. In September of 2012, he volunteered to deploy for a mission to Kuwait. Most recently, he was training at the Mountain Warfare School in California and Hawthorne Army Depot in Nevada. During his career, he earned the *Combat Action Ribbon*, *Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal*, *Sea Service Deployment Ribbon*, *Afghanistan Campaign Medal*, *Global War on Terrorism Service Medal*, *National Defense Service Medal* and *NATO ISAF Medal*.

Taylor was an avid Baltimore Ravens and Baltimore Orioles fan. He also enjoyed spending time boating with friends on the Severn and Magothy River and skeet shooting in Maryland and North Carolina. Taylor was known by all for his smile which he shared with everyone.

Taylor is survived by his parents, **William** and **Elizabeth**, brother, **Griffin** and sister, **Libby** all of Severna Park; grandparents **William** and **Patricia Wild** of Glen Burnie and **Jan Sprinkel** and **Judy Graham** of Annapolis; and several aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandmother, **Elizabeth Sprinkel**.

Viewings took place March 28th at **Barranco & Sons Funeral Home**. A Memorial Service was held on March 29th at **Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis**. Interment took place at **Arlington National Cemetery** on April 2nd.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Taylor's name to the **Marines Helping Marines Program**. Donations can either be made...

via the Internet at the following URL

[www.marineshelpingmarines.org](http://www.marineshelpingmarines.org)

or via mail by sending a check (made payable to **Marines Helping Marines**) to the following address...

MHM Hospital Program  
512 Thorton Court  
Myrtle Beach SC 29579



## Members' Birthdays

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

<i>Chuck Albo</i>	<i>Gary Barr</i>	<i>Robert Eckardt</i>
<i>Charles Fisher</i>	<i>Chris Kalwa</i>	<i>Bill Merrill</i>
<i>Tim Muniz</i>	<i>George Owings</i>	<i>Jack Severn</i>
	<i>Franklin Wood</i>	

*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.*



## Rifle & Pistol Team

*by Ray Sturm*



Attention Shooters! The deadline for the **Department of Pennsylvania Pistol Match** is fast approaching. If you are interested in shooting, please contact me right away. The match is usually limited to the first 200 shooters. Registration forms and liability waivers are available on the **Department of PA** website at

[www.pamcleague.org](http://www.pamcleague.org).

Please complete the forms and return them to me with your registration fee. We would like to field at least one team of 5 shooters. If you are unable to access the site, but would like to shoot, send me an email at [Bandit6A@gmail.com](mailto:Bandit6A@gmail.com).





# Baldies Rise to the Occasion

by Mac McNeir

On Saturday afternoon, March 23rd, the 2013 edition of an event performed annually by members of the **Anne Arundel County Detachment** of the **Marine Corps League** took place at its normal venue –an Irish Pub. Among those taking part were some old hands, some first-timers, and a few civilians with a common purpose. That purpose of course was to gather at **Dougherty's Pub**, on Chase Street in Baltimore, to (1) have their heads 'shaved' thereby showing their solidarity with the young victims of childhood cancers and (2) to raise as much money as possible to assist with the funding of the research necessary to hopefully find cures/treatments for the many forms of childhood cancer.

The current state of the economy combined with a significantly smaller number of 'shavees' – those being shorn – played a major role in the total donations collected being less than last year's effort. Fortunately, the somewhat smaller than usual **Anne Arundel County** contingent was augmented by a cadre of Marines from the **Harford County Detachment**. Although the Harford County Marines had come to support the event while not participating as 'shavees,' a series of impromptu auctions resulted in several of them actually getting into the barber's chair and leaving the event with far less hair than they had when they first arrived. What provided the inducements necessary for them to have their heads shaved was **Department of Maryland Commandant Ed Ross** cajoling the assembled patrons into contributing to significantly sized bribes (ranging from \$100 to \$500). The Marine shavees, included **Ed Ross, Mac McNeir, Don Benson, Pete Arnold, and Gene Wlock**. The final determination of the total donation is yet to be made; but, it appears that it will be in excess of \$8,000. A commendable feat for these shavees, whose initiative made up for their smaller team size.

It also needs to be pointed out that moral support was provided by Marines and auxiliary members from the **Mount Airy, Harford Co., Howard Co. and Baltimore** detachments. The 2013 *shavees* and *supporters* are identified below the following photo.



## Shavees

Mac McNeir (A.A. Co.)      Ed Ross (A.A. Co.)      Pete Arnold (Harford Co.)  
Don Benson (Harford Co.)      Gene Wlock (Harford Co.)

## Supporters

Dawn Parker (A.A. Co.)      Paul Taylor (Baltimore)      Evie Remines (Harford Co.)  
Craig Reeling (Harford Co.)      Mike Betts (Howard Co.)      Al Jahnigen (Mt. Airy)  
Breeze Reed (Mt. Airy)

(Hopefully, no one was missed)



## Young Marines

The Annapolis Young Marines have been busy in February, as six members of the unit were sent to **Frozen Chosin**. They had a great time and won several awards.

In March, we retired our long standing **Commanding Officer George Martin** and commissioned a new one **Dallas Cooper**. We will miss Mr. Martin; but, he will still be involved in the unit. We also had a great *Steak Dinner* at the **VFW**. I would like to take this time to thank everyone that came out and supported the Young Marines. It means a lot to them!

The Young Marines are currently working towards a **Presidential Volunteer Award**. If you know of an event you think may fit our unit, please contact me at...

[annapolisyoungmarines@aol.com](mailto:annapolisyoungmarines@aol.com).

We have a number of events coming up; so, please come out and support the unit if you're in the area.

- May 19th ..... Massing of the Colors at Fort Meade
- May 25th ..... Memorial Day Flag ceremony at Kalas Funeral Home in Edgewater
- May 27th ..... Annapolis City Memorial Day Parade with Truckin for Troops and Wounded Warrior Project.
- June 7-9th..... Division 2 Encampment in Cheltenham Md.

We will also be ordering *T-Shirts* for the unit. If you would like to order one to show your support for our unit, please contact me at...

[annapolisyoungmarines@aol.com](mailto:annapolisyoungmarines@aol.com).

Thank You,

**Jennifer Landon**

Young Marines Executive Officer

## Quotation

### The version most quoted reads...

*"Do not fear the enemy, for your enemy can only take your life. It is far better that you fear the media, for they will steal your HONOR."*

Samuel Langhorne Clemens  
aka Mark Twain  
American Author and Humorist

### However, the full version reads...

*"Do not fear the enemy, for your enemy can only take your life. It is far better that you fear the media, for they will steal your HONOR. That awful power, the public opinion of a nation, is created in America by a horde of ignorant, self-complacent simpletons who failed at ditching and shoemaking and fetched up in journalism on their way to the poorhouse."*

# Toxic Water (continued from page 1)

Wells at the base were contaminated by fuel leaks and other sources of pollution before being closed three decades ago. Health officials have said they think as many as 1 million people may have been exposed to tainted water. Tests done in the early 1980s showed that water at a base treatment plant was “highly contaminated” with chlorinated hydrocarbons.

The federal agency had initially set 1953 as the date for the earliest known contamination in a letter written in January to the Department of Veterans Affairs. In that letter, the agency said computer modeling showed drinking water in the residential area called **Hadnot Point** was unsafe for human consumption as far back as that year.

That was still four years earlier than Marines and their dependents can secure health care and screening for illnesses related to the water. **President Barack Obama** signed a law last year granting health care and screening to Marines and their dependents on the base between 1957 and 1987. This week, **Senator Richard Burr** filed to extend coverage back to 1953.

The report lays out levels at the **Hadnot Point** and **Holcomb Boulevard** water treatment plants on base for various contaminants, including TCE, PCE, vinyl chloride and benzene. All those chemicals are classified as causing or probably causing cancer. It also includes one other chemical that's not carcinogenic.

For TCE, the maximum level of 783 parts per billion (*ppb*) was reached in November 1983 at Hadnot; at Holcomb it was 66 *ppb* in February 1985, the report says. The highest level allowed in drinking water is 5 *ppb*, set in 1989, meaning the Hadnot Point level was almost 157 times the highest level allowed now.

The Hadnot plant opened in 1942 and the second plant in the early 70s. Until the summer of 1972, the Hadnot treatment plant supplied all finished water distributed to bachelor and family housing units, the report says. It noted that the Holcomb Boulevard plant came online that year and its finished water was not contaminated except when it received water transfers from Hadnot Point.

Marine Corps Spokeswoman **Captain Kendra Motz** said Thursday that tests called for in Navy documents from the 1960s through the 1980s would not have detected chemicals such as TCE and PCE. The Navy instructions did not address such chlorinated hydrocarbon solvents until the **Environmental Protection Agency** began to regulate them in the late 1980s, she added.

The estimated monthly contamination gives researchers the information they need to do human health studies. The agency is working on four studies expected to be released this year and next year: birth defects and childhood cancer; health survey of Marine Corps personnel and civilians; male breast cancer and mortality.



## CAMP LEJEUNE

HISTORIC DRINKING WATER



On March 15, 2013 the **Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)** released its “**Chapter A: Summary and Findings**” water modeling report for the Hadnot Point and Holcomb Boulevard Water Treatment Plants and Vicinities for Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C.

(<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/lejeune/hadnotpoint.html>).

This report provides ATSDR's assessment of past exposures to a class of chemicals known as *volatile organic compounds* (VOCs) in the drinking water distributed by these two Camp Lejeune water treatment systems. These VOCs were commonly used as solvents for cleaning machinery and weapons, for dry cleaning, and some are found in fuels.

ATSDR's water modeling estimates that the first month any VOC exceeded the current **Environmental Protection Agency** (EPA) regulatory standards in drinking water in the Hadnot Point system was August 1953, and at least one VOC exceeded the current standard in Hadnot Point drinking water from August 1953 through January 1985.

This release marks a major milestone towards the completion of scientific efforts pertaining to this issue and another step in ongoing efforts to provide comprehensive science-based answers to the health questions that have been raised. ATSDR will use these results and the results of a similar water model developed for the **Tarawa Terrace** area in 2007 to estimate chemical exposures for several of their on-going health studies.

Since 1991, the Marine Corps has supported scientific and public health organizations that are studying these issues. We continue to support these initiatives and are working diligently to identify and notify individuals who, in the past, may have been exposed to the chemicals in drinking water.

For **more information** about these efforts, or to update your contact information, either...

go to <http://www.marines.mil/clwater/>,

call (877) 261-9782 or

e-mail [clwater@usmc.mil](mailto:clwater@usmc.mil).

For **the complete report** and for information about studies being conducted by ATSDR, either...

visit <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/lejeune/> or

call (800) 232-4636.

To **contact Veterans Affairs** to learn more about the health care benefits, either...

go to <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune/> or

call (877) 222-8387 (Healthcare) or

call (800) 827-1000 (Benefits).

Sincerely,

*The Camp Lejeune Historic Drinking Water Program*



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## Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **June 30, 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, April 14, 2013 from 0800 – 1100 (Mike Hadley)

### **Marine Corps League Leadership Course**

Saturday, April 13, 2013 from 0800 – 1600 (Craig Reeling)  
(443-477-0670)

### **Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary**

Monday, April 22, 2013 @ 1900 (Joe Wright / Anita Ullery)

### **2013 Department of Maryland Convention**

Thursday, April 25 through Saturday, April 27, 2013 (Ed Ross)  
Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel & Convention Center  
9100 Costal Highway, Ocean City, MD. (1-800-4-ROYALE)

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

Friday, May 3, 2013 from 1800 – 2000 (Joe Wright)

### **Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary**

Monday, May 20, 2013 @ 1900 (Pending 2013 Election Results)

### **2013 Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament**

Friday, May 31, 2013 / Shot-Gun start at 0900 (Burt Helmka)  
Compass Pointe (North/East Course), Pasadena, MD.

### **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)



## Corps History

by Mac McNeir

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

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

### **2-3 April 2003**

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

### **3 April 1945**

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

### **8 April 1956**

Six recruits drown in Ribbon Creek at MCRD Parris Island.

### **9 April 1942**

105 Marines among American captives on Bataan Death March.

### **13 April 2003**

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

### **14 April 1865**

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

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

Marine Corps operational involvement in the Vietnam War begins, when HMM-362 arrives at Soc Trang in the Delta south of Saigon – as part of **Operaton Shufly** – to air-lift Vietnamese troops into battle.

### **18 April 1983**

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

### **19 April 1995**

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

### **20 April 1861**

Marines burn Norfolk Navy yard to prevent Confederate seizure.

### **24 April 1980**

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

### **26 April 1965**

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

### **27 April 1805**

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

### **30 April 1975**

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



## Marine Corps League Department of Maryland



Support Your

# 2013 Department Convention

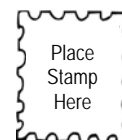
**Princess Royale  
Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center  
Ocean City, Maryland  
1-800-4-ROYALE**

## 26 - 27 April 2013



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

(Address Correction Requested)



Featured Foto



Camp Lejeune, North Carolina - An assistant jump master gives Marines from Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 27, 2nd Marine Logistics Group the 'OK' to jump during an airborne exercise near Camp Lejeune, NC, on March 20, 2013. Marines jumped from a height of 1200 feet to meet their quarterly requirement. [ Photo by LCPL Devin Nichols, USMC ]