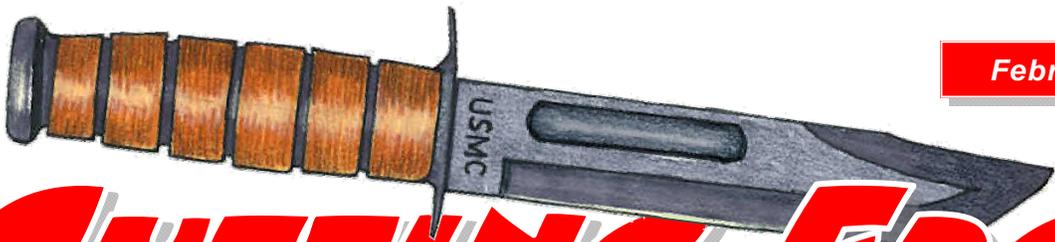


the



# 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))

# Eagle Scout Award Presentations

Editor's Note – The following article is a compilation of information provided by Joe Wright and Ray Sturm.



Detachment 1049 staff members presented Eagle Scout Good Citizenship Awards to local Eagle Scouts. Pictured (L-R) are Junior Vice Commandant Ray Sturm, Commandant Joe Wright, Eagle Scouts Sean Mihaly and Chris Keagy, Senior Vice Commandant Ed Dahling and Past Commandant Guy Hall. [Photograph provided by Joe Wright]

On January 13, 2013, **Commandant Joe Wright** presented **Eagle Scout Good Citizenship Awards** to **Sean Mihaly** and **Christopher Keagy** of Troop 804 of Millersville, MD. The Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held at Baldwin Hall in Millersville. Eagle Scout Chris Keagy is the grandson of detachment member **James Hayes**, who passed away in April 2012. Assisting our Commandant in the presentation were **Senior Vice Commandant Ed Dahling**, **Junior Vice Commandant Ray Sturm**, and **Past Commandant Guy Hall**.

In a subsequent ceremony held on January 20, 2103, **Junior Vice Commandant Ray Sturm** and **Adjutant Ben Wells** presented the Eagle Scout Good Citizenship Award to **Marc Sayan**, Troop 115 of Crofton, MD. The Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held at the **Community United Methodist Church** in Crofton.

## CONTENTS...

### Advertisements:

2013 Saint Baldrick's Campaign .....	7
2013 MHM Golf Tournament .....	7
Convention Book Advertisements .....	8
Dept. of Maryland Convention .....	5
Help Needed, MHM Golf Tournament .....	3
MD Veteran of the Year Banquet .....	8
Our Supporters... ..	13
<b>Birthdays</b> .....	8
<b>Bombastic Bumper Snicker</b> .....	5
<b>Chaplain's Corner</b> .....	3
<b>Color Guard...</b> .....	4
<b>Coming Events</b> .....	12
<b>Commandant's Message</b> .....	3
<b>Corps' History</b> .....	12
<b>Devil Dog Review (Motivational Graphics)</b>	
To observe a Marine is... ..	9
<b>Devil Dogs</b> .....	5
<b>Featured Foto</b> .....	14
<b>From the Editor</b> .....	2
<b>Have You Heard?</b> .....	6
<b>Humor</b> .....	9
<b>Junior Vice Commandant</b> .....	4
<b>Lest We Forget...</b> .....	8
<b>List of Officers</b> .....	2
<b>Membership Stats &amp; Renewals</b> .....	2
<b>Quotation</b> .....	4
<b>Rifle &amp; Pistol Team</b> .....	8
<b>Senior Vice Commandant</b> .....	4
<b>Women-in-Combat Debate...</b> .....	10
<b>Women in Combat, Five Questions...</b> .....	11
<b>Young Marines</b> .....	8



# the CUTTING EDGE

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

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## Detachment Staff:

- Commandant .....Joseph Wright
- Senior Vice-Commandant .....Ed Dahling
- Junior Vice-Commandant .....Ray Sturm
- Judge Advocate .....Charles Luthardt Jr.
- 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
- Sergeant-at-Arms .....George Martin
- VAVS Officer .....*Vacant*
- Web Sergeant .....Mike Hadley
- Young Marines Commander .....George Martin

## Auxiliary Staff:

- President .....Anita Ullery
- Senior Vice .....Chasity Wright
- Junior Vice .....Stephanie Del Valle
- Secretary .....Kathy Krutzfeldt
- Treasurer .....Nila Caulder
- Judge Advocate .....Chris Stevens
- Guard .....Patty Robidoux
- Toys for Tots Coordinator .....Dawn Parker



## Repeat National Award Winner

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

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



## From the Editor

by Mac McNeir

The decorum and respectful interaction of those detachment members at the January meeting, who held divergent opinions of the proposed by-law changes dealing with the selection of the **Detachment Marine of the Year**, were commendable.

**Detachment Elections** – Each of you is encouraged to either consider running for an office and ensuring that our detachment continues to be a meaningful contributor to the league’s various Department of Maryland activities or nominating someone that you feel worthy and capable of that undertaking.

**Detachment Marine of the Year** – Each of us has the opportunity to nominate a fellow member, who we feel has selflessly committed himself to our detachment’s growth and good-standing within the league and the community at large. Consider making a nomination.

**Saint Baldrick’s** – I am respectfully asking each of you to consider contributing to this year’s **Saint Baldrick’s** campaign to find cures for childhood cancers. See the advertisement on page 7.

The article deadline for *the Cutting Edge’s* next issue is **March 2nd**.



## 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
<b>Total</b>			
	133		

## Renewals

[ Dues expire at end of indicated month ]

February 2013	March 2013	April 2013
Chuck Albo Ed Grove Richard Hart	Robert Eckardt James LeGette	Rich Gonzales Jr. Burton Helmka Joseph Stephens

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,

It was a pleasure seeing such a large turnout for the last detachment meeting. If only we could see that on a regular basis. There are several important items that will be occurring over the next few months, and those items are detailed below.

## DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND CONVENTION

Anyone planning to attend the **Department of Maryland Convention** as a delegate must let us know so the appropriate paperwork can be completed. Delegates from all of the Maryland detachments will be electing the Department of Maryland Officers for the coming year as well as deciding the fate of other important items. If you are interested in serving as a delegate, please notify **Adjutant Ben Wells** or myself. I also want to remind everyone to push the sale of convention ads for this year's convention book. **We earn 50% of all sales over \$300!**

## Department of Maryland Marine of the Year – 2012

Our detachment will be submitting the name of one (1) nominee for this award prior to the next department meeting. If you have someone in mind that you believe to be deserving of statewide recognition as the **Department of Maryland Marine of the Year**, be sure to submit the required information as I outlined in the last (January 2013) newsletter.

## Detachment 1049 Marine of the Year – 2012

Nominations for the **Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 Marine of the Year** will be accepted until **18 March 2013**. If you wish to nominate an individual, be sure to follow the guidelines outlined in the last (January 2013) newsletter.

## Detachment 1049 Election of Officers for FY 2013 – 2014

We will begin the nomination process at the next detachment meeting; so if anyone is interested in running for an elected position, please let your intentions be known. Candidates (nominees) are needed for each of the following positions.

- Detachment Commandant
- Detachment Senior Vice Commandant
- Detachment Junior Vice Commandant
- Detachment Judge Advocate

## Friday Night Dinner

Our next Friday Night Dinner is **March 1st** and the detachment is looking for someone to prepare the meal for the evening. Anyone interested, let me know. Please remember, the number of people we have at the dinner dictates how much money we put back into our general fund.

Semper Fi!

*Joe*



## Chaplain's Corner

by Mac McNeir for Chaplain Fred Kaminski

**Charles Dorn**, the second oldest member of our detachment, passed away on January 22, 2013. See the *Lest We Forget...* column on page 8 for additional information.

Your thoughts and prayers are requested for a quick and complete recovery of **Dina Foster**, daughter of **Past Commandant Mac McNeir**, from surgery performed on February 7th.

Chaplain Kaminski requested that the following **Horace Mann** quotation be part of this month's column.

*"Be ashamed to die until you have won some victory for humanity."*

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)



## 2013 Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament

### – HELP NEEDED –

Detachment Members, Auxiliary Members & Friends,

The 8th annual iteration of the **Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament** is fast approaching and I am still in need of volunteers and ideas. I would like to meet periodically with those of you who have helped with the tournament in past years as well as those of you who would like to get involved for the first time.

I understand that many of us still work and have other obligations; however, if we pool our energies and resources, the burden on any individual should be of workable proportions.

Watch the detachment bulletin board for meeting information or contact me directly either by telephone (1-443-848-6652) or email ([goodfellas669@gmail.com](mailto:goodfellas669@gmail.com)).

Let's get together and make this year's event a successful one!

*Burt Helmka*

From the desk of the

# Senior Vice Commandant



Ed Dahling

Fellow Detachment Members,

Fund-raisers are always going on and now is no exception. We are selling ads for the *Department Convention Book*, as well as raffle tickets for the departmental and national conventions.

Finally, you should notice an advertisement for the **8th Annual Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament** – If we are to make this a successful event, we will need lots of golfers, lots of advertisers (tee boxes, greens, refreshment, cart, etc.), and lots of volunteers! With your help, we can make this year’s tournament the best ever!

Don't forget, we have a Detachment meeting on **28 February**. At that meeting, we will be accepting nominations for the offices of **Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant, and Judge Advocate**. We will also be looking for people to fill the appointed staff positions. So if you are interested in any of these positions please let someone know.

Semper Fi,

*Ed Dahling*

Have you nominated anyone to serve as a  
**2013 Detachment Officer?**  
 Be Part of the Process!

## Quotation

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.”

Theodore Roosevelt  
 26th President of the United States

From the desk of the

# Junior Vice Commandant



Ray Sturm

Greetings all,

I'd like to thank everyone for their positive input concerning the proposed by-law change. Your comments have been encouraging. As most of you know by now, I withdrew my motion to amend the process of selecting the **Detachment Marine of the Year (DMOY)**. Keeping a long story short, it was because of a technicality as to which by-law section to amend. **Section 300** deals with how we decide upon a detachment nominee for possible selection as the **Department of Maryland Marine of the Year**. *The Detachment by-laws do not include any guidance on how to select a Detachment MOY*. Essentially, two amendments are now needed, one to *clarify Section 300*, and one to *establish detachment procedures*.

I feel the **Detachment MOY** is our most prestigious award. It recognizes one member whose contributions to the detachment and our community stand above all others. This person represents all of our members and his selection should be made with appropriate diligence and in accordance with procedures that you the membership establish. In this light, **Commandant Wright** will be working with By-law **Committee Chairman Dan Fischio** to appoint members to the committee to write the amendments. As always, your input and suggestions are welcome and encouraged.

Semper Fi,

*Ray Sturm*



## Color Guard

by Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman

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

Our color guard, as always, is beginning its parade season by continuing their participation in the annual ceremony honoring those Sailors and Marines who served the Confederacy from 1861 to 1865.

The ceremony will take place on **March 9th at 11:00 AM at St. Anne's Cemetery**, which is located at Calvert and Northwest Streets in Annapolis, Maryland.

Spectators are welcome. For more information, call either...

410-551-7509

or

410-255-8321



# ALCOHOL TOBACCO & FIREARMS

should be a convenience store...

NOT a government agency.



## Military Order of the Devil Dogs



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

Woof-Woof,

The **Maryland Pack** had a very successful Growl last month in Southern Maryland, despite the fact that there was no bar for refreshments. But we got a lot accomplished anyway, and collected \$106 for the children's hospital in Grand Rapids, Michigan. That brings our total, after only two Growls, to \$1,309. Let's see some other Pack top that!

The Grand Growl is fast approaching. You should have already made your reservations at the **Princess Royale** in Ocean City. Any Pups desiring to advance at the Grand Growl let me know no later than mid-April so I can properly prepare the paperwork. And if you have not attended two Pound Growls since the Grand Growl, you cannot advance to DD.

**Pound 204** will Growl on **17 February** at the Dog House. Come early and enjoy the USMC breakfast provided by the **Anne Arundel County Detachment**. We will also be training two or three mongrels at this and the April Growl.

The **Maryland Pack** will growl again on **2 March** in Salisbury. Make plans to be there.

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

Woof-Woof,

*Paul Taylor*

PDD & Dog Robber



## 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

Hotel Reservation Deadline for Special Rate - Monday, April 1, 2013

Be sure to state that you are with the  
Marine Corps League Convention

*Have you nominated anyone to be the  
2012 Detachment Marine of the Year?  
Be Sure to Make Your Choice Known!*

# Bombastic Bumper Snicker:



*It's not your attitude when winning...  
it's your resolve when you're not!*



# Have You Heard?

by Mac McNeir

## Highlights of the January 28th Meeting...

The meeting was brought to order by **Commandant Joe Wright**, who acknowledged the presence of the **Marine Corps League's National Marine of the Year, Jack Severn; Detachment Marine of the Year, Ed Ross; Department of Maryland Senior Vice Commandant, Stuart Blair; Department of Maryland Adjutant, Paul Taylor; and Past Detachment Commandants Guy Hall, Danny Fischio, and Mac McNeir.**

## New Applicants for Membership...

**Junior Vice Commandant, Ray Sturm** presented the qualifications of three applicants – **Jim Sanchez, Dallas Cooper, and Henry Shaefer** – for detachment membership. Having found all applicants to be worthy, a motion was made and seconded to accept all three applicants. A voice vote followed, which resulted in their acceptance into the detachment and their subsequent swearing in. A three minute recess was declared to facilitate the welcoming of the new members into the detachment.

## By-Law Change...

**Junior Vice Commandant, Ray Sturm** addressed the membership and pointed out what he believed to be some discrepancies with his currently proposed by-law change. He then asked that the motion to amend the existing by-law be rescinded and that a committee headed by the **By-Law Committee Chairman, Danny Fischio**, draft a revision to the current by-law to address the following issues.

- Section 300 of the detachment by-laws is poorly worded and needs to be revised to more clearly describe the selection and submission of a detachment candidate for the Department of Maryland Marine of the Year.
- Currently, no description of the process to be used for the nomination and selection of the Detachment Marine of the Year exists. An appropriate by-law addressing this process needs to be developed and made part of the detachment's by-laws.

Motion was made and seconded to rescind the proposed by-law change and was subsequently affirmed by a voice vote of the members in attendance.

**Until the By-Law Committee submits a revised by-law, and it is accepted by the detachment membership, the selection of the Detachment Marine of the Year will follow the same process as has been used in the past.**

## Correspondence...

**Adjutant Ben Wells** read a letter from the **Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs**, which solicited volunteers who would be willing to mentor military members who have gone astray and are now attempting to get their lives (futures) in order.

## Paymaster...

After **Paymaster Ed Dahling** read the paymaster's report, a suggestion was made by member **James Brady** (a past detachment Paymaster) that some money be transferred from our current savings account into a certificate of deposit in order to obtain a higher rate of interest.

**Commandant Joe Wright** said that this recommendation would be explored and reported upon at the detachment's February meeting.

## Saint Baldrick's...

**Past Commandant Mac McNeir** solicited detachment support for this year's campaign, which helps fund research efforts aimed at finding cures for the various forms of childhood cancers.

**Department Commandant Ed Ross** subsequently asked for a **\$100** detachment donation, which was subsequently authorized through established procedures.

## Rifle & Pistol Team...

**Team Captain Ray Sturm** spoke of a national pistol competition that *requires only that scores attained at any recognized competition, be submitted by mail* for consideration. He followed the announcement with a request for new members.

## Web Sergeant...

**Web Sergeant Mike Hadley** encouraged all members to subscribe to the list-server. Mike also stated that the **2013 Department Convention Announcement** is posted on both the detachment & department websites.

## Department Convention...

**Past Commandant Mac McNeir** asked that members start soliciting ads for this year's **Department Convention Book** as it is a major fundraiser for our detachment.

**Jim Brady** made a motion, which was subsequently authorized, that the detachment purchase **\$100** worth of convention raffle tickets and any proceeds realized be deposited into the detachment treasury.

## Mideast Division Convention...

**Commandant Joe Wright** has raffle tickets for a **42 inch HD, smart-TV** at a cost of **\$5 per ticket** or **5 tickets for \$20**. Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the division.

## Adjournment...

The detachment meeting was adjourned in accordance with league rituals and will reconvene at **1900 (7:00 PM) on 25 February 2013.**



# 2013 Marines Helping Marines Golf Tournament



## Compass Pointe's North-East Golf Course

9010 Fort Smallwood Road  
Pasadena, MD 21122  
Phone: (410) 255-7764

**Friday, May 31, 2013**

4 Player Scramble  
Shotgun Start 9:00 AM

**ENTRY FEE – \$98**



## MARINES HELPING MARINES SUPPORTS



Wounded Warrior  
Regiment



Joint Task Force  
National Capital  
Region Medical



Brooke Army  
Medical Center



Naval Medical Center  
San Diego



Naval Hospital  
Camp LeJeune

*For additional information regarding registration,  
sponsorship or participation, please contact either...*

**Burt Helmka** at 443-848-6652 | [goodfellas669@gmail.com](mailto:goodfellas669@gmail.com)

– or –

**Jim Brady** at 202-314-1782 / [jbrady@ushmm.org](mailto:jbrady@ushmm.org)



## 2013 Campaign

I am pleased to once again be able to represent our detachment as a 'shavee' who will be raising money for this year's **St. Baldrick's Campaign**. For our new members, this campaign raises money to help fund the research being conducted to find/develop cures for the various forms of childhood cancer.

For those who wish to support me in the effort to cure and **eradicate childhood cancers**, here is the information on how to do so.

**METHOD 1** – You can contribute directly online, as a member of the detachment team at the following URL –

<https://www.stbaldricks.org/donate/>

- Enter Wayne McNeir into the *I'm donating towards the fund-raising goal of...* field.
- Click on the **SEARCH** button.
- Click on my name (**Wayne McNeir**) in the resultant display.
- Complete the form that is now displayed – my name should be displayed in the *Participants* field at the top of the form.

**METHOD 2** – If you wish to write a check, please make it payable to the '**St. Baldrick's Foundation**.'

Once I receive your check, I will transmit the funds to **St. Baldrick's** and update the website to reflect your generosity! Be sure to provide me with information such as...

- The name you wish to appear in the donor list...you may want to donate in someone else's honor; or
- the term '**anonymous**' if you wish to remain unnamed.

Regardless of the method that you chose, **your donation will be tax deductible!**

On behalf of some very special kids, thanks in advance for your support and your generosity!

*Semper Fi,*

*Wayne (Mac) McNeir*

Junior Past Commandant  
Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049

*Thanks to those who have already donated!*

**Contributions are  
running behind those  
of past years!**

*If you have not yet contributed; but plan to...*

*Please don't forget...  
the Children need you!*



# Lest We Forget...

**Charles Dorn**, the second oldest member of our detachment and Purple Heart recipient – earned on Iwo Jima – passed away on January 22, 2013. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Beatrice Dorn** (nee **Nolan**). He is also survived by his two sons **William** and **Michael** (also a Marine); his daughter **Catherine**; and numerous grandchildren and great grand children.

The viewing, with memorial services conducted by several veteran’s organizations – took place at **Stallings Funeral Home** in Pasadena, MD on Sunday, 27 January 2013. Funeral services were conducted at the **Linthicum Baptist Church** (611 S. Camp Meade Road) on Monday, 28 January 2013. Interment at the **Crownsville Veterans Cemetery** immediately followed .



## Members’ Birthdays

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

<i>Chuck Albo</i>	<i>Gary Barr</i>	<i>Robert Eckardt</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.*



Show Your Support  
for the Maryland  
Joint Veterans’ Commission...

## 2013 Veteran of the Year Marine Robert Wilcoxon

by Attending the Presentation Ceremony/Banquet

Bowie Elks Lodge #2309  
1506 Defense Highway (Rt. 450)  
Gambrills (Crofton), Md 21054

\$35 per person

Saturday, March 16, 2013  
from 4:00 – 8:00 PM

\$35 per person

Contact Stuart Blair @ 410-665-6440 for tickets  
Ticket Deadline – Sunday, March 10, 2013  
No Tickets Will Be Sold at the Door!



# Young Marines

Now that he has been sworn in as a member of our detachment, active duty Marine **Dallas Cooper** will soon be assuming my current position, as **Commander of the Annapolis Young Marines**, on **March 17th**.

Additional information will be provided as soon as the transition of leadership has been implemented.

Thanks & Semper Fi,

*George Martin*

Young Marines Commander

## Support Your Detachment by selling Convention Book Ads

Start contacting friends, business contacts, or whomever you feel might want to purchase advertising space in our **2013 Department of Maryland Convention Book**.

*Advertisement prices are as follows:*

Full Page 7 ½" x 10" .....	\$100
Half Page 7 ½" x 5" .....	\$55
Quarter Page 3 ¾" x 5" .....	\$35
Business Card 2" x 3 ½ " .....	\$25
Patron’s List - 1 Line.....	\$5
Outside Back Cover.....	\$200
Inside Front Cover .....	\$135
Inside Back Cove.....	\$135

Submit Ads & Payments to Senior Vice Commandant Ed Dahling  
@ 410-570-8673



## Rifle & Pistol Team

by Ray Sturm

At the January meeting, I mentioned the possibility of participating in the **National Service Pistol and Rifle Match**. The match takes place between 1 March and 31 October. The matches are ‘postal matches’ in that we would shoot at a local match and mail the results to National. In order to field a team, we need at least 5 shooters. If you have an interest in shooting, please contact me.



# Humor

## *United States Military Funding*

*A New Approach to Department of Defense Advertising*



Source – <http://www.strategypage.com>

TO OBSERVE A MARINE IS INSPIRATIONAL



TO BE A MARINE IS EXCEPTIONAL  
GYSGT CHARLES F. WOLF, JR.  
DEVIL DOG REVIEW

# For Women-in-Combat Debate... Strength is Key

NOTE – The following article by Jim Michaels of USA TODAY appeared in the online on-line version of the Military Times on February 3, 2013.

**QUANTICO, Va.** – The debate over whether women should serve in infantry and other direct ground combat roles has come to this: **Are they physically strong enough?**

To find out, the military services have launched an extensive effort to verify the specific physical requirements needed to succeed in each of dozens of fields that had been closed to women.



Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan - Lieutenant Colonel James Stone IV, Combat Logistics Regiment 2 Executive Officer, and Sergeant Major Lanette Wright uncased their unit's *Battle Colors* during a transfer of authority ceremony aboard Camp Leatherneck on January 26, 2013. Combat Logistics Regiment 2 assumed authority as the Logistics Combat Element for Regional Command Southwest from CLR-15.

***“We’re not going to just throw open the doors and say, ‘OK, go at it,’”*** said Marine Lieutenant General Robert Milstead, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. ***“We’re doing this responsibly.”***

In the past, the debate over women in the infantry and other combat-arms fields had centered on questions of privacy or the impact on discipline of having men and women share fox-holes.

But last month, the Pentagon ordered the service to lift the ground combat exclusion and to allow women the opportunity to join all fields, putting those other issues to rest.

***“If a woman can do it, then we’re all for it,”*** Milstead said. ***“But we just want to make sure.”***

The Pentagon has said if the services want to keep an occupation closed to women it will require the approval of the secretary of defense.

***“The burden has now shifted to the services,”*** said Nancy Duff Campbell, Co-President of the National Women’s Law Center.

The Marine Corps, the most male of the services, is about 7 percent female. The Army is 13 percent female. The Pentagon’s order could open as many as 230,000 positions to

women across all the services.

As it opens the new fields, the military said it will apply the same standards to men and women and will not lower requirements.

The task is not as simple as it sounds. Some requirements are straightforward. A tank shell weighs about 40 pounds, and a member of a tank crew would need the strength to take the shell off the rack and load it in the main gun.

Other requirements are more complex. An infantryman carries an average of 100 pounds of gear on his back, but other questions are more subjective. For example, how far should he be required to walk with that load or what height wall should he be able to scramble over?

When the Canadian and Australian militaries opened combat-arms fields to women, they learned some standards did not accurately reflect what is required for a specific field, Campbell said.

Officers say they are confident they know the physical requirements for the ground combat occupations. ***“We’ve been in the Marine business for a long time,”*** said Marine Colonel Jon Aytes.

But now it is isolating those physical requirements so it can create a *‘gender-neutral test.’* More than 30 primary occupations are closed to women in the Marine Corps.

***“The standards have always been there,”*** Aytes said. ***“It’s just that now we’re reviewing them.”***

The military knows that the standards process will be closely scrutinized, because it will determine how many positions are open to women. The Marine Corps has said that some occupations could remain closed if women do not qualify in sufficient numbers.

***“I think we are going to be challenged every step of the way,”*** Milstead said. ***“There will be people who question: ‘Why do you have that standard?’”***

The Marine Corps said it will not rush the process. The Pentagon required the services to create a plan by May 15th and complete the process of integrating women into ground combat units by 2016.

***“This is a very emotional issue,”*** Milstead said. ***“We’re not dragging our feet. We’re doing this responsibly.”***



# 5 Questions About Women in Combat That Must Be Answered

NOTE – The following article by Dan Lamothe appeared in the on-line version of *The Marine Corps Times* (the *Battle Rattle* column) on January 24, 2013.

It's now widely reported that **Defense Secretary Leon Panetta** will announce today that he is lifting the Pentagon's ban on women being assigned to combat units. A briefing will be held with the media this afternoon, with Panetta and **General Martin Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs**, taking questions from the press.



SSgt. Kimberly Taylor and Cpl. Austin Walswick, along with interpreters Susan and Salim Mandokhil, conduct a 'children's shura' once a week in Sangin, Afghanistan, to educate the children and engage with the local populace. [Photo by James Lee, Staff Photographer]

Make no mistake, women have served in combat for years. They've earned valor awards, led convoys through hostile countryside and given their lives at times in service to our nation.

Still, there's a variety of questions that must be addressed as the Pentagon and the individual branches of service formulate plans to address the ban being lifted. Here are five worth addressing:

## 1. How will the individual services comply?

The Pentagon may be lifting this ban, but there are serious questions that service members will have about how the change will be implemented. Will women be allowed in the infantry, for example? If so, when? What standards will they have to meet in order to qualify?

## 2. How will cultural issues be addressed?

Word of the decision last night was met nearly immediately by an outcry by many male combat veterans. Life with the grunts isn't easy, as even this humble war correspondent can attest firsthand.

At times, living in a war zone means defecating without privacy, bathing out in the open and huddling with others for heat, especially in maneuver units. Those details aren't optional – they're a fact of life, especially on small combat outposts and patrol bases that aren't well established.

Simply put, it won't always be possible to have separate facilities for women. How will the services develop policy to address that, and how will it play out practically during the next war?

## 3. What's it mean for Selective Service?

The Selective Service System requires all male citizens and legal aliens living in the U.S. to register between the ages of 18 and 25. Women are exempt. If the ban on women in combat is lifted and all citizens must be treated equal, does that mean women should be required to register in case a military draft is needed in a future crisis?

A major legal decision would appear to be required, and it has the U.S. Supreme Court's name written all over it.

## 4. How will the military handle cohabitation in combat?

During previous embeds in Afghanistan, I've watched as Marines in Female Engagement Teams complied with a different set of rules than the male grunts they served alongside.

Check back on this 2011 cover story I wrote on the issue. **Corporal Michele Greco-Lucchina**, a female Marine I met in dangerous section of Marjah district in 2010, said at the time that it could get "**very, very messy**" to deploy men and women together in infantry units.

*"In any work environment, you're going to have sex tension, especially when you're deployed and nothing can go on,"* she said. *"When we were out there, we had to find ways around it because the infantry battalions were not ready for us. We used what they used. If they showered, we weren't around, and if we showered, they weren't around."*

*"But that can cause many problems on a lot of levels, and I know the battalion commanders and company commanders and senior enlisted, that was, I think, their main concern: 'How is this going to affect our male Marines?'"*

One policy in place at the time called for FET Marines to not stay on any one outpost for longer than 30 days to alleviate some co-location concerns, Greco-Lucchina said. That worked for a unit complementing the infantry, but it's not an option if women are in the infantry itself.

## 5. How will a culture of fairness be adopted?

Without a doubt, there are women who are strong enough, fast enough and tough enough to handle frontlines combat. Hopefully, we can all agree on that.

Where it gets complicated is determining what it takes to make sure anyone serving in a unit in danger can handle the physical exertion they'll face. As pointed out here, the Corps has been experimenting with establishing "*common physical performance standards.*" What's that mean now that the ban on women in combat units has been lifted?





## Coming Events

The following events are scheduled to occur through **May 31, 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.*

### Marine Corps League Mid-Winter Conference

Thursday, February 7 through Saturday, February 9, 2013  
Fairview Park Marriott, Falls Church, VA

### MODD Growl, Pound 204

Sunday, February 17, 2013 from 0800 – 1100 (Mike Hadley)

### Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary

Monday, February 25, 2013 @ 1900 (Joe Wright / Anita Ullery)

### Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049

Friday, March 1, 2013 from 1800 – 2000 (Joe Wright)

### Staff Meeting, Department of Maryland

Saturday, March 2, 2013 from 0900 to 1100 (Ed Ross)  
American Legion Post 64, 1109 American Legion Road,  
Salisbury, Md. 21801 (410-749-9814)

### MODD Growl, Maryland Pack

Saturday, March 2, 2013 following the Staff Meeting (Don Benson)  
American Legion Post 64, 1109 American Legion Road,  
Salisbury, Md. 21801 (410-749-9814)

### Monthly Meetings, MCL Detachment 1049 & Auxiliary

Monday, March 25, 2013 @ 1900 (Joe Wright / Anita Ullery)

### Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049 Auxiliary

Friday, March 29, 2013 from 1800 – 2000 (Anita Ullery)

### 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 for Joe Wright, Historian

### 1 February 1967

Operation Prairie II began in Quang Tri province by elements of the 3rd Marine Division. During the 46 day search-and-destroy operation, 93 Marines and 693 enemy combatants were killed.

### 2 February 1944

The 4th Marine Division, as part of the first assault on islands controlled by the Japanese before the start of World War II, captured Namur and eight other islands in the Kwajalein Atoll.

### 2 February 1968

Operation Hue City, Tet Offensive began in Vietnam.

### 5 February 1918

1st Marine Replacement Battalion sails for France (WWI).

### 6 February 1968

The 1st Battalion, 1st Marines with two companies, and the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines with three companies, recapture Hue's hospital, jail, and provincial headquarters. It would take three more weeks of intense house-to-house fighting, and nearly a thousand Marine casualties, before the imperial city was secured.

### 11 February 1922

BGen John H. Russell appointed U.S. High Commissioner and personal representative of the President to the government of Haiti. This nine-year assignment placed this future Commandant in supreme command of both the occupying American force and the Haitian Gendarmerie.

### 15 February 1898

28 Marines and 232 seamen lose their lives when the battleship USS Maine is mysteriously hit by an explosion and sunk in the Havana, Cuba harbor.

### 19 February 1945

4th and 5th Marine Divisions assault Iwo Jima.

### 20 February 1815

Captain Archibald Henderson leads Marines in the USS Constitution's capture of HMS Cyane and HMS Levant, which occurs 3 days after the end of the War of 1812.

### 20 February 1962

Lieutenant Colonel John H. Glenn Jr. orbits the earth in first manned American space capsule.

### 23 February 1945

Men of the 5th Marine Division raise flag on Mount Suribachi.

### 24 February 1991

The I Marine Expeditionary Force and coalition forces began a ground assault on Iraqi defenses in the final chapter of Operation Desert Storm. 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions breach Iraqi defensive positions.

### 26 February 1991

A Marine recon unit was the first U.S. force to enter Kuwait City and retake the American Embassy.

### 28 February 1991

Operation Desert Storm ends. I Marine Expeditionary Force, with a strength of more than 92,000 for the operation, becomes largest Marine Corps operation in history. 24 Marines were killed in action during the Gulf War.

### 28 February 1967

PFC James Anderson Jr. is first black Marine to win the Medal of Honor.



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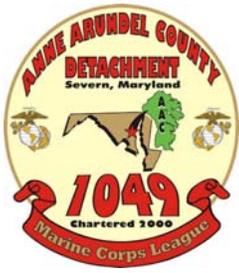
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## Marine Corps League

Department of Maryland

<http://deptofmdmcl.org>



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

(Address Correction Requested)



# Featured Foto



In the Fall of 2012, Jack Severn and Ken Webster, members of Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049 of the Marine Corps League, returned to Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their graduation as members of Platoon 358 on October 23, 1962. During their visit, they were reunited with their Drill Instructor, Sergeant Leonard Patchin, which really made their visit a special occasion. A portion of their old 3rd Battalion barracks, which will soon be torn down, can be seen in the background.

[ Pictured (L-R) – Jack Severn, Leonard Patchin & Ken Webster / Photo provided by J. Severn ]

EDITOR'S NOTE – It would seem that our two detachment members are smiling a lot more than they probably did when they were originally welcomed to MCRD Parris Island by their DI, Sgt. Patchin.