

March 2018

# the CUTTING EDGE

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

Ed Dahling, Editor / <http://mclaacdet1049.org/>

## Semper Fidelis!



On March 29th which is the National Vietnam Veterans Day, many public and administrative buildings will fly the flag of the United States. Also, a lot of citizens will raise the American flag in their homes and yards.

On this day is good for everyone to thank an American Vietnam Veteran for their service. If possible to buy them a free breakfast or lunch. There are also a lot of celebrations all across the US like honorary ceremonies, events, luncheons, and speeches.

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**National Award Winner**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner 2017  
Marine Corps League  
National Newsletter Award**

# the *Cutting Edge*

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

Editor – **Ed Dahling**

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

Phone .....410-570-8673

Email .....[editor@mclaaacdet1049.org](mailto:editor@mclaaacdet1049.org)

List Server:

e-mail:

[aa-county-detachment1049@lists.mclaaacdet1049.org](mailto:aa-county-detachment1049@lists.mclaaacdet1049.org)

web page:

<http://lists.mclaaacdet1049.org/mailman/listinfo/aa-county-detachment1049>



Detachment Website

<http://mclaaacdet1049.org/>

## Detachment Staff:

**Commandant** ..... Ray Sturm  
**Senior Vice-Commandant** ..... Ben Wells  
**Junior Vice-Commandant** ..... Pat Sharkey  
**Judge Advocate** ..... Chris Wise  
**Junior Past-Commandant** ..... Ed Dahling  
**Adjutant** ..... Norman Huffman  
**By-Laws Committee Chairman** Danny Fischio  
**Chaplain** ..... Bill Collins  
**Color Guard Commander** ..... Woody Bowman  
**Historian** ..... Joseph Wright  
**House Chairman** ..... Vacant  
**Legislative Officer** ..... Vacant  
**Newsletter Editors** ..... Ed Dahling  
**Paymaster** ..... Ed Dahling  
**Public Affairs (Information) Officer** Guy Hall  
**Quartermaster** ..... Fred Kaminski  
**Rifle & Pistol Team Captain** ... Ray Sturm  
**Sergeant-at-Arms** ..... Jim Galvin  
**VAWS Officer** ..... Vacant  
**Web Sergeant** ..... Joe Wright  
**Toy For Tots Chairman** ..... Chris Stevens  
**Young Marines Commander** ... Dallas Cooper

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

<http://deptofmdmcl.org>



**National Award Winner**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner 2017  
Marine Corps League  
National Newsletter**

## Membership Statistics

### Good Standing (Dues Paid)

Type	USMC	Associate	Multiple
Life Member-	78	9	6
Annual Member-	28	9	—



### New Members

		—
--	--	---

### Sub-Totals

107	17	6
-----	----	---

### Total

130
-----

## Members' Birthdays

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

Woody Bowman      Butch Cavey      Paul Downey  
 Frank Fleishman      Gary Frye Sr.      Jack Seal

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

## Quotation

***“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





## From the Editor

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

In 2017, President Trump signed the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act designating March 29 of each year as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. Our nation's Vietnam War Commemoration is an opportunity for all Americans to recognize, honor, and thank our Vietnam Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice during one of the longest wars in our country's history.

The commemoration recognizes all men and women who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces during the United States' involvement in Vietnam November 1, 1955 May 7, 1975. Nine million Americans, approximately 7.2 million living today, served during that period. The commemoration makes no distinction between Veterans who served in-country, in-theater, or were stationed elsewhere during those 20 years. All answered the call to duty.

If you have not logged into our Detachment web page lately you should it has been redesigned it has a whole new look. Thanks to Joe Wright.

The address it is [mclaacdet1049.org](http://mclaacdet1049.org).



Fred Kaminski, receives the Commandants highest Achievement award for many years of service as Chaplain For Detachment 1049. Congratulations Fred!



The following events are scheduled to occur through **June 2018** 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  
Monday, 26 March 2018 @ 1900 (Ray Sturm)

**VFW Sunday Breakfast** hosted at VFW Post 160 on Sunday 4 March 2018.0800–1100

**Leadership College** Hosted by the Department of Maryland 22 April 2018 VFW Post 160 2597 Dorsey Rd, Glen Burnie, MD

**Monthly Meetings**, MCL Detachment 1049  
Monday, 23 April 2018 @ 1900 (Ray Sturm)

**.Friday Night Dinner, MCL Detachment 1049** Friday, May 4th 2018 from 1800 – 2000 (Ray Sturm)

**Department Of Maryland Department**  
Convention - 10-12 May 2018, Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City, MD

**Mideast Division Conference** June 15-17, 2018 Turf Valley Resort 2700 Turf Valley Road Ellicott City, MD 21042



the *Forty-Four* *Seaside*



# Commandant Ray Sturm

Greetings Marines,

I have a lot to cover this month. We still seem to be in the grips of Ol' Man Winter, but spring is around the corner, I promise. With spring comes our annual golf tournament on May 18<sup>th</sup>. We need your help.

I attended the National Mid-Winter Conference held in Fredericksburg, VA from 1-3 March. The following are highlights from the various speakers. Many of the actual presentations and officer's reports can be found on the new MCL library website created by our COO, Bill Borka. Please visit [www.mcleaguelibrary.org](http://www.mcleaguelibrary.org) for details.

The MCL donated to John Toomey's walking of the Pacific Crest Trail, which essentially runs from the Canadian border to the Mexican border. He raised over \$56,000 for veterans with PTSD.

**Johnny Baker**, the National JVC reported that efforts are underway to include the MCL in the Transition Assistance Program each Marine goes through prior to EAS. He said that approximately 33,000 Marines transition from active duty to the 1stCivDiv every year. These are potential members.

He also reported that the **new National Bylaws** are nearly complete. He managed to reduce the bylaws from over 200 pages down to 22. This was done by relocating items to the Administrative Procedures, which he is also working on. Stay tuned. More details will be coming out before the National Convention in August.

The MCL will be reestablishing a connection with the **Marine For Life** program. It was stated that the detachments can assist by offering the M4L organization a place to meet periodically. This could lead to an excellent networking opportunity for our members.

**Jarhead Java** has a good deal. MCL members can use the code "MCL" at checkout and receive free shipping. In addition, they will donate \$3 from every purchase to the League. See the national website for details. [www.mclnational.org](http://www.mclnational.org).

The long awaited new database is nearing completion. The intent is to start Beta testing with one MCL Division in about 60 days. Fingers crossed.

For those members who have family or friends applying for **MCL scholarships**, the deadline for submission is 16 July. Details are on line on the national website. Last year, \$700 was awarded to those selected.

The National Commandant made a presentation on IRS and State filings. Needless to say, we must remain diligent and meet all legal requirements. His presentation is on the new library site.

The Centennial Anniversary of the **1<sup>st</sup> Women Marines** is being celebrated in Washington, DC from 30 August to 3 September.



(See Commandant Page 5)





# Marines Helping Heroes CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

WALDEN COUNTRY CLUB ~ CROFTON, MD

Funds raised will benefit the Semper Fi Fund and Treat NOW Coalition to assist our active duty military and veterans in their treatment of Traumatic Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress.

**INCLUDES**

GREENS FEES & CART  
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HOT DOGS ON THE 10TH  
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BEER & BEVERAGES

**PRIZES  
GAMES  
CONTESTS**

**18 MAY 2018**

0730 | REGISTRATION  
0900 | SHOTGUN START  
1400 | AWARD LUNCHEON  
<https://MarinesHelpingHeroes.org>



**EVENT COORDINATORS**

Christine Stevens 443-742-1507  
MHMgolf@comcast.net

Ray Sturm 202-903-8480  
Bandit6A@gmail.com



The MCL is a 501(c)4 non profit organization. IRS EIN 52-2222871



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**Pistol Team**  
**Ray Sturm**

We are looking for shooters for the 2018 pistol season. Any interested shooters please contact Ray Sturm at [Bandit6A@gmail.com](mailto:Bandit6A@gmail.com).

Also, we will begin holding open shoots one evening per month at On Target on Annapolis Road in Severn. The next shoot will be April 19<sup>th</sup>

### (Commandant)

**Toys For Tots** was a huge success once again. Nationally, the program collected 18 million toys which were distributed to 7 million children. The T4T program is a highly ranked non-profit. 97% of funds raised go to the program, 3% goes towards overhead related to fundraising, and 0% goes to salaries. There were over 800 local T4T campaigns with 278 run by MCL detachments. The MCL's contribution to the effort was impressive with 3.9 million toys collected and 1.2 million children affected. Well Done Marines!

We have been asked to start tracking funeral honor guard details. We can expect to see more coming down from National regarding funeral details, including some guidance in the form of an SOP.

**LtGen Rex McMillan** gave a presentation regarding the state of the **USMCR**. He said our reserve component is in great shape.. and the I&I staffs are working overtime to prepare for the next conflict. In addition to their battle preparations, they are tasked with providing funeral details for our fallen brothers and sisters. Last year, the I&I staffs conducted 22,000 funerals. That number is expected to rise to 25,000 over the next several years. The General came to ask for our help. He said, and I quote, "I'm here on bent knees. I need your assistance." He said he has no intention of giving up funeral details, but needs a little backup from the League. Even if we could provide a bugler, it would help tremendously. He has instructed his I&I staffs to reach out to the MCL detachments in the area. He said if we don't hear from them, to walk in and say he sent us.

Folks, now I'm asking for your help. If you would like to assist, please let me know. We have volunteer opportunities available in a wide range of programs from perhaps establishing a funeral detail, our nursing home visitation program, the golf tournament, etc. Semper Fi, \W/ Ray





## Corps History

by Ed Dahling for Joe Wright, Historian

### 3 March 1776

First Marine landing on hostile shores in the Bahamas.

### 3 March 1809

Five-year enlistments in the Corps replaced the previous three-year terms.

### 8 March 1928

Captain Merritt Edson sets out on epic CoCo River patrol in search of Nicaraguan rebel leader Sandino.

### 8 March 1965

9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade lands at DaNang, Republic of Vietnam – first U.S. ground combat troops committed to that conflict.

### 11 March 1778

Marines aboard the frigate BOSTON, assisted in the engagement and capture of the British merchant ship MARTHA. Future President John Adams seized a musket and joined the Marines on deck until the frigate's commanding officer, Captain Samuel Tucker, sent him below for safety.

### 13 March 1943

First Women Marine officer candidates arrive at U.S. Midshipmen School at Mount Holyoke College.

### 21 March 1945

General A.A. Vandegrift, 18th Commandant, becomes first Marine four-star general on active duty.

### 25 March 1804

Secretary of the Navy approves first formal Marine Corps uniform.

### 26 March 1945

Iwo Jima secured. Marines suffer 25,851 casualties.

### 31 March 1801

Lt. Colonel Commandant William W. Burrows & President Thomas Jefferson select site for Marine Barracks, 8th & I.



## Senior Vice Commandant Ben Wells



Hello Marines,

Spring is right around the corner and St. Paddy's Day is this weekend.

The Mid-Winter meeting was great and we learned new things and got to see some old friends.

We have had a couple of meetings for the annual Marines Helping Heroes' golf tournament which will be held May 18<sup>th</sup> and things are looking good. Please help us have another good golf tournament by helping sign up sponsors and golfers.

We had our first meeting for the annual 5K run and met the new players, so if you would like to part of this please let us know. All dogs, we have a Pound 204 Growl on April 8<sup>th</sup> and the MCL Maryland Convention starts May 11<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see everyone there.

Please patronize the next VFW Sunday Breakfast hosted at VFW Post 160 on the 1st Sunday of every month. 0800–1100



## 2018 Mideast Division Conference

June 15-17, 2018 Turf Valley Resort  
2700 Turf Valley Road  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Group code: 2844UW Phone: (410) 465-1500  
Room rates \$109 plus tax. Reservations must be made by 16 May 2018





## Color Guard

Color Guard Commander Woody Bowman

### – COMING EVENTS –

There are no events scheduled for our Color Guard until March of this year; but, you are reminded that... our color guard is always looking for new volunteers to join their ranks, and the schedule of future Color Guard activities will be published as it evolves.

Want to volunteer? Want to be part of the future of this valuable group? If the answer to any of these questions is **YES**, Call **Woody Bowman** at the following number **(410) 647-9655**

## Marine Corps League License Plates

Marine Corps League License Plates are available for a one time fee of \$30. You continue to pay your normal registration fee at the time it is normally due.

You must be a member in good standing and either the registered owner or co-owner of the vehicle.

Contact the Department  
License Plate Chairman, Craig  
Reeling, at 443-477-0670 or  
[Craig.Reeling@MarylandMarines.org](mailto:Craig.Reeling@MarylandMarines.org)



## Military Order of the Devil Dogs



## Military Order of the Devil Dogs (MODD) The Fun and Honor Society of the Marine Corps League

Woof woof,

With nine months of the Dog year gone, Anne Arundel County Detachment still has three Dogs in arrears. As such, they cannot attend Growls or hold office. They can rectify this by remitting a check for 15 measly bones to their friendly Dog Robber (me) at 7944 Oakwood Road, Glen Burnie, Md 21061. Make the check payable to MODD, Pound 204. If you no longer desire to be a Devil Dog, let me know and I can delete you from the roles. Dogs in arrears make the Pound look bad: **pay up or drop out.**

For those Pups desiring to advance to DD in Ocean City in May, let me know your intentions no later than the 8 April Pound Growl so I can get the proper paperwork done. You can advance only if you have attended two Pound Growls within the last year.

For those DDs desiring to advance to PDD in Buffalo, New York in August, let me know your intentions no later than the 11 May Pack Growl so I can get the proper paperwork done. You can advance only if you have attended two Pack Growls within the last year.

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

Woof woof,  
PDD Paul Taylor  
Dog Robber





# Marine Corps League

## Department of Maryland



Support Your  
**2018 Department Convention**  
Princess Royale  
Oceanfront Hotel & Conference Center  
Ocean City, Maryland  
1-800-4-ROYALE  
**10-11&12 MAY 2018**





## Junior Vice Commandant Pat Sharkey

Please consider a Life Membership as a potential cost reduction.

Life memberships may be a good remedy for some of you.

### The rates are as follows:

35 and under .....	\$500
36 – 50 .....	\$400
51 – 60 .....	\$300
61 and over .....	\$200.

Hopefully, this information will answer your questions about the cost of life memberships.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting,



**Confidential help for  
Veterans and their families**

## Chaplain's Corner Bill Collins

Early this month your Commandant, Sr.Vice & Chaplain attended the Mid-Winter National Staff Conference in Fredericksburg, VA. The conference provided a great opportunity to meet with Senior Marine Corps League officials. We spent time with Wendell W. Webb, Commandant and CEO of the Marine Corps League. We brought him up to speed on our efforts to support and promote Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment (HBOT) for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI's). The Commandant is familiar with HBOT and expressed his willingness to support our efforts. Many of us are not familiar with these brain related wounds and have questions as to why we are having so many suicides among our Veterans. We don't remember a problem of this magnitude associated with past wars. What is different? The answer is provided in a book that was distributed at the conference. The title of the book is "INVISIBLE SCARS" by Bart P. Billings, Ph.D. [www.DocUmeantPublishing.com](http://www.DocUmeantPublishing.com) In this outstanding book, Dr. Billings describes the VA & the military's decision to use brain/mind altering medications for combat stress and the effects these drugs are having on our veterans. This book is a must read for anyone who knows or treats those with combat related problems, such as, PTS, PTSD, or TBI. If you have difficulty getting a copy please let me know.

Our good buddy Manny was hospitalized briefly this month for a procedure to correct a medical issue. He is home and doing well. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers. If you are aware of anyone who is in distress and needs our help please call me 410-271-4847.

Bill Collins,  
Semper Fi



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Club meets every second Tuesday of each month  
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The Club offers training and classes in most of the shooting sports and promotes shooting sports for all ages and abilities. Garrison hosts the following events:

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- Bullseye Pistol Championship
- Trap Shoot
- JR's Club Shoot
- 4H State Match
- Club Crab Feast
- Club Christmas Dinner

Affiliated with the National Rifle Association and Civilian Marksmanship Program.



For more information contact club secretary

Thomas Betty, at (443) 850-5737

E-Mail: [secretary@garrisonrr.org](mailto:secretary@garrisonrr.org)

Website: <https://www.garrisonrr.org>

Garrison Rifle & Revolver members have the following facilities available for their use:

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- Indoor air rifle range
- Fifty point covered outdoor pistol range (25 & 50 yds).
- Ten point covered high power rifle range 200 yds with butts).
- A four field, lighted, outdoor trap range w/automatic and manual trap house.
- Messick Hall club house w/ kitchen & restrooms.
- Lower range house/meeting hall.





## SHAMROCK AWARDS & ENGRAVING

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# Have You Heard?

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

## *February 26th Meeting Highlights . . . . .*

### **OPENING BY RITUAL:**

Meeting called to order by Commandant Ray Sturm at 1900 hours.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by prayer by Guest Chaplain Fred Kaminski.  
Members in Attendance: 23

- Edward Dahling Dept. Paymaster, Past Det. Commandant, Detachment Marine of Year (2016)
- Manny Airey Past Det. Commandant, Detachment Marine of Year (2005), Dept Mar(2014)
- Wayne McNeir Past Detachment Commandant, Detachment Marine of the Year (2013)
- Joe Wright Past Detachment Commandant, Detachment Marine of the Year (2015)
- Woody Bowman Color Guard Commander, Detachment Marine of the Year (2014)

### **APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:**

There were no applications for membership.

### **READING OF THE MINUTES:**

Minutes of the January meeting were distributed via the detachment list server (e-mail).

### **PAYMASTER:**

Paymaster Ed Dahling gave a hardcopy report:

### **Chaplain REPORT:**

Invited to attend the meeting on 2/27 with the Veterans Advocacy Group. Talk about HBOT and suicides. They will be presenting bill pertaining veterans suicide.

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

- Get articles in on time.
- If you have something you would like to see in the newsletter, send it to Ed Dahling

### **QUARTERMASTER:**

- Passing around the shopping list for the Semper Fi Store to take orders so that he can head to the store to fill the orders instead for paying large shipping fees.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Nila Caulder thanked the detachment for the \$500.00 donation to the Fisher House. \$63,499.00 was raised as of the last count.

Looking at different coins and should have an update at the March meeting.

Marines Helping Heroes 501c3 organization paperwork moving along and documents are ready for signature. We will start filing with the state once documents are signed. We will file with federal once the state documents are completed.

(continue on page 12)





# Have You Heard?

by Ed Dahling Editor Emeritus

(Continue From Page 11)

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion made to loan Marines Helping Heroes \$2,000 to cover organizational start up fees. Motion was voted on and approved.

Motion made to donate \$500 to the USO Gateway Lounge at BWI Airport to help them offset the cost to replace their freezer. Motion was voted on and approved.

## **. GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:**

The detachment Commandants award for 2017 was presented to Fred Kamanski for everything he has done for the detachment. This will be Fred's last meeting because he is moving out of the area.

### **Nominations for Detachment Officers were made:**

Commandant: **Ray Sturm (reportedly will be his last term...Again)** – by Nila Caulder

Sr. Vice Commandant: **Ben Wells** – by Manny Airey

Jr. Vice Commandant: **Chris Wise** – By Pat Sharkey & **Burt Helmka** by Ben Wells

Judge Advocate: **Pat Sharkey** – by Ben Wells

Elections will be held next month.

If you plan to attend the Department Convention, please notify us so you are registered as a delegate.

Due dates for convention are-

6 April – Hotel Reservations

23 April – Advertising

27 April – Delegate/Non-Delegate/Guest Registration

27 April – Banquet Reservations

10 May – Convention Begins

Looking for volunteers to become part of the Sunday morning cleanup crew at the VFW.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1-3 March Mid Winter Conference.

8 April Pound 204 Growl.

18 May Marines Helping Heroes Golf Tournament

## **CLOSING CEREMONIES:**

Commandant Sturm closed the meeting IAW MCL rituals. The next detachment meeting will take place on March 26 2018 Prayer was given by Acting Chaplain Fred Kaminski as well as an outstanding playing of the Marines' Hymn on the harmonica.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Wright, Adjutant  
Marine Corps League - A. A. County Detachment 1049



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

(Address Correction Requested)



A graphic illustration of the future Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer Gallagher (Illustration by MC1 Raymond Diaz/Navy)

Two new Arleigh Burke-class destroyers, the Ralph Johnson and the Patrick Gallagher, have been named after Vietnam War Marine Corps veterans