

August 2024



The official newsletter of the Anne Arundel Co Detachment



It's that time of year again. School has started and the little ones are out. Please be careful in the early morning and when schools let out.

Bull & Oyster Roast

Marines, this is a Call to Arms. We need your help. The detachment's largest fundraiser is nearly upon us. We need your support. Please help by selling tickets. See the enclosed flyer for details.



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From The Editor

**ALL THE NEWS THAT'S
FIT TO PRINT.. AND SOME
THAT ISN'T...**

Greetings Marines,

Once again I am forced to apologize for the tardiness of this newsletter.

The National Convention is over and we have a surprise new Commandant.

All minutes from the convention will be posted on the national website and library. I encourage you to peruse them.

Additionally, the minutes and officer reports from our 31 August Department meeting will be posted shortly.

Our detachment's Bull & Oyster Roast is right around the corner. We need you help in supporting this effort. It is our largest fundraiser.

The Young Marines will be celebrating their birthday on 12 October. You are all invited to attend. We would love to see some red blazers out there. The Ball will be hosted at the American

Legion Post 276 on Quarterfield Rd in Severn, MD. Additional details are in the flyer posted in this newsletter.

As always, I am looking for news articles that may be of interest to our members. If you come across something, please forward it to me.

If you have any fresh ideas for a new section in the newsletter, again, just let me know.

**Semper Fi
Ray**



Commandant's Corner

Marines,

Thanks to American Legion Post #175, we now have electricity in our storage unit. Also, a special thanks to Marine **Ben Wells** who installed the lights and outlets in our new shed.

Our **Bull & Oyster Roast** on October 26th. Please donate a bottle of liquor for the "basket of cheer" and solicit donations for basket raffles. We have a 50/50 raffle running on the detachment's Facebook page and on the Adjutant's (**Deb Deene's**) Facebook page. Please help get the word out.

The Department of Maryland meeting went off as scheduled. The Department has \$7,365.89 in its account. The long anticipated update of the by-laws to be posted soon. Fundraising was also discussed. The Department has 892 MCL members, down 17 members from last year.

The Growl and lunch were great as always.

That is all!

Semper Fi

Burt



Detachment Colors

DETACHMENT STAFF

Commandant	Burt Helmka
Sr Vice Cmdt	John Dunker
Jr Vice Cmdt	Joe Peacy
Judge Advocate	Ray Sturm
Jr Past Cmdt	Ben Wells
Adjutant	Debbie Deene
Chaplain	Jim Sanchez
Sgt-at-Arms	Jim Galvin
Color Guard Cdr	Woody Bowman
Newsletter Editor	Ray Sturm
Paymaster	Ben Wells
Quartermaster	vacant
Public Affairs	Vacant
Marksmanship	Ray Sturm
Web Sergeant	Joe Wright
Young Marines	Ray Sturm

WEBSITE

<http://mclaacdet1049.org>

FACEBOOK

Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049, MCL

MEETINGS

The detachment meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at American Legion Post 175 at 832 Manhattan Beach Rd, Severna Park, MD

SOCIAL HOUR

Social hour commences immediately after the meeting. Come join us for a beverage and the telling of sea stories.

SUBMISSIONS

Submit articles, photos, or suggestions to Ray Sturm at Bandit6A@gmail.com by the Saturday following the detachment meeting.

Social Dinner
September 20
Casa Della Nonna



Social Dinner



18 October

1143 Central Ave

Edgewater, MD



Senior Vice Commandant

Greetings Marines!!

I hope all are enjoying one of the warmest summers, in my recent memory at least. Personally, I've been traveling for work & trying to keep the yard cut. My most notable memories this summer are attending the Department of Maryland Convention in Ocean City & initiation into the Military Order of the Devil Dogs by none other than Honorable 60th Chief Devil Dog Alan Sanning. As pup "Yabba Dabba Dunker" I'd like to think I made a big splash!!! I definitely got some laughs and had a great time. Additionally, I attended my first Mideast Division Conference & MODD Growl in Martinsburg Wv. I greatly enjoyed the comradery and variety of Marines, their stories, laughs and leadership!!

Please note our AA Co Detachment 1049 Bull & Oyster Roast is scheduled for Saturday, Oct 26th from 1300-1700 at American Legion Post 175 (our home post). I'm hopeful that I will have tickets for sale at our next meeting, Aug 19th, we'll need to sell about 120 tickets (capacity of the banquet hall). During Sep, I'll be gathering items for silent auction and would appreciate some help if you know business/folks who'd like to sponsor a auction item.

S/F
John

Junior Vice Commandant

Annual memberships were due August 31st. If you have not renewed, please do so at your earliest convenience.

Joe Peacy

MEMBERSHIP

Chaplain

Perspective

Life is filled with good things that make us happy and content. Life is also filled with pit falls and bad things that cause stress, and sadness. How we handle life's curve balls and life's softball pitches sure make life interesting.

My wife, son, and I recently traveled to southern California to visit my side of the family. We spent 10 happy days in Santa Barbara. It was beautiful, and we had a great time with everyone. Upon returning home, we realized my car had been stolen. I really valued that car both monetarily and emotionally. Some crook was getting a good payday. Uggh. Why did this have to happen to me?

I tried over the next week or so to put it in perspective, and I considered that at least no one was physically hurt during the theft. I was happy that it wasn't taken by force during a car-jacking. I was relieved that my wife or son weren't affected by some violent person or group. I'm actually pretty grateful because it could have been worse. I hope and pray that I can continue to be grateful no matter what life throws at me, whether it's softballs or really bad curve balls.

Jim Sanchez
Chaplain



Color Guard

No report



BSA Liaison and Eagle Scout Coordinator



Troop 216 at the Bowie BaySox game at PG County Stadium on September 9, 2024.

From Around the Corps

Warfighting, quality of life prioritized in USMC commandant guidance

A year into his tenure as the top Marine, Commandant Gen. Eric Smith has released his [planning guidance](#) to the Corps.

The last commandant's planning guidance, [issued in 2019](#) when [Gen. David Berger](#) assumed the post, [ushered in dramatic changes](#) to the service, including shedding tanks, reducing conventional artillery, restructuring infantry battalions and the creation of a new type of regiment.

Such documents are used by the top Marine to outline his priorities for the force in a variety of areas and set a tone with leadership for those priorities, and Smith's 24-page iteration continues the changes begun under Berger.

The general still wants Marines to balance crisis response missions with modernization, integrate with the Navy, improve quality of life, help recruit and retain other Marines and better use the Marine Reserve.



Smith also sees Force Design, which was the overarching plan to transform the Corps for modern combat under Berger, as the way to position the service to compete with China, Russia and other threats.

"I remain confident that we are on the right track as a service. Force Design remains a righteous journey, and we are in perhaps the most difficult phase - implementation," [Smith wrote](#).

Force Design has had its critics. More than a dozen retired generals and senior officers have written opinion pieces and openly criticized the changes started by Berger, which they say have made the Corps less combat ready.

Still, Smith remains steadfast to the plan in his guidance.

"Accepting near-term risk for long-term gain has, and always will be, the essence of Force Design," he [wrote](#).

The service's prioritization of its three Marine Expeditionary Forces, or MEFs, remains unchanged.

The East Coast-based II MEF will remain as a "force-in-readiness" for crisis response and continue to organize in battalion or regimental-sized elements.

The West Coast-based I MEF "remains our globally deployable MEF," Smith [wrote](#). The MEF's focus will continue to be the Pacific region.

And the Okinawa, Japan, based III MEF will stay leading the Corps' ongoing deterrence against the Chinese military.

From Around the Corps (continued)

Within those MEF commitments, Smith wants a "continuous" Marine Expeditionary Unit, or MEU, presence, requiring "heel-to-toe deployments", with one MEU each out of both I MEF and II MEF and the forward deployed 31st MEU in Okinawa being drawn out of forces deployed already to that region.

Smith also focused on quality of life in his guidance, noting the [Barracks 2030 plan](#), which launched this year following a top-to-bottom inspection of all barracks in the Marine Corps.

Marine Corps Times reported [in April](#) that an estimated 87,000 Marines live in barracks and approximately 83% of those facilities are in "pretty good shape," said Lt. Gen. Edward Banta, deputy commandant for installations and logistics.

The Marines have averaged more than \$200 million in annual spending on barracks restoration and modernization in recent years, [Marine Corps Times reported](#). The service renovated 30 barracks buildings in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 and received funding for renovations on 13 additional buildings in fiscal 2024.

But the backlog goes back years, and in his guidance, Smith asked Marines for patience, and help.

"I need all Marines to understand that this project will take time. Many of us will not see the completion of this task during our careers," he wrote. "But I am committed to getting our junior Marines quick wins wherever possible – and if you have a good idea that can have a quick, low-cost and substantial effect on the morale or performance of your unit, I want to hear from you."

Article by Todd South Navy Times 9/3/2024



Aerial drone photograph of the newly resurfaced Camp Davis South outlying landing field taken on Camp Lejeune, N.C., Aug. 23, 2024. The runway will serve as a multipurpose field that is capable of supporting every airframe in the Marine Corps arsenal, including KC-130 Hercules transport aircraft, the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, the MV-22 Osprey, and other rotary-wing assets. (Cpl Daniela Chicas Torres/U.S. Marine Corps)

Editor's note: As I am sure you noticed by the new page name.. The Department of Veterans Affairs has changed it's name to The Department of Veterans and Military Families. Now, that's what I call progress.

Message from Secretary Anthony Woods:

Dear Friends -



When we hear "leave no one behind," our minds often turn to heroic acts—like a Navy SEAL diving into raging seas to save a fallen comrade or a soldier risking everything to rescue a separated teammate. But this ethos also extends to the quiet, enduring mission of identifying the remains of those missing in action or taken as prisoners of war and ensuring they are repatriated.

The [Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency](#) leads this vital effort, with a mission to provide the fullest possible accounting to their families and the nation, until they're home.

Earlier this month, we were deeply moved to learn of the recent identification of the remains of Private First Class Lemuel Dent Jr., a U.S. Army enlistee from Charles County and "Buffalo Soldier" who was buried in an unmarked grave in Italy.

It will be our honor to provide a final resting place for him at the Cheltenham State Veterans Cemetery alongside many others who gave their last full measure for this country. You can learn more about our five [Veterans Cemeteries](#) and consider submitting a pre-application to make it easier for loved ones to make final burial arrangements.

Sincerely,

Tony

Pre-Need Assistance for Final Arrangements:

Proactive planning can assist veterans and reassure their survivors regarding final arrangements. Pre-need determination of eligibility for burial benefits enables family members to honor final wishes and settle personal affairs. Veterans can apply to find out if they are eligible for interment in a VA national cemetery. Though participation does not guarantee burial in a specific cemetery, it does inform VA of preferences and helps to fulfill requests. [Read more](#) about the program and [learn how](#) to report a veteran's death to VA. Locate an [accredited representative](#) for assistance with survivor benefits claims.



Marine Corps League
Department of Maryland



National Bylaws & Administrative Procedures

UPDATE 2024

The newest 2024 version is now posted on the MCL website,
Member Library section.

They include all the changes approved at the 101st National Convention in California.

[Member Library – Marine Corps League \(mcleaguelibrary.org\)](https://mcleaguelibrary.org)

~ Our History ~ Customs ~ and Traditions ~

Royal Marines Origins Similar to Our Own

That twelve hundred land Soldiers be forthwith raised, to be in readiness, to be distributed into His Majesty's Fleets prepared for Sea Service.

~ Charles II: Order in Council, 28 October 1664 (the order establishing the world's first permanent corps of Marines, the Royal Marines.

We are more familiar with.. "That two Battalions of Marines be raised.." the beginning of the Resolution from the Continental Congress creating the US Marine Corps on 10 November 1775. The Royal Marines are 111 years older than our Corps.

The Marines are properly the garrisons of His Majesty's ships, and upon no pretence ought they to be moved from a fair and safe communication with the ships to which they belong. *Wellington, to the House of Lords, 21 April 1837*

I should not deem a man-of-war complete without a body of Marines... imbued with that *esprit* that has so long characterized the "old Corps." *Commodore Joshua R. Sands, USN" Letter to Brigadier General Archibald Henderson, USMC, 1852*



Hound Dog Pound 204

Mer-lin Pack

Officers

Pound Keeper	Pat Sharkey
Sr Vice PK	Howard Koontz
Jr Vice PK	Bobby Lee
Smart Dog	Ray Sturm
Dog Trainer	Leonard Steipler
Mad Dog	Woody Bowman
Police Dog	Norm Huffman
Watch Dog	Burt Helmka
Barking Dog	Stuart Blair
Dog Robber	Burt Helmka

Next Growl

15 September

Dog House

Harry L. Cooper VFW Post 160



MODD

Hound Dog Pound 204

Pound 204 Growl	15 Sept	VFW Post 160
Pound 333 Growl	21 Sept	Jarrettsville
Pack Growl	23 Nov	Baltimore

Pound 204 Elections to be held on 15 September





Young Marines

Upcoming Events

1 Sept	Archery	Anne Arundel Archers	
6-8 Sept	Encampment	Tuckahoe State Park	
14 Sept	Fundraiser	MD Renaissance Festival	Volunteer bartenders
15 Sept	Unit Drill	AL Post 276	
21 Sept	Community Service	AL Post 276	Assist w/ Crab Feast
28 Sept	Rifle Range	TBD	
29 Sept	Unit Drill	AL Post 276	

On **October 12th**, we will celebrate the **Young Marines Birthday** at the **American Legion Post 276**. This is a Regimental (statewide) event. MCL members are invited to participate.

13 Oct	Unit Drill	AL Post 276
19 Oct	DDR Dash	Museum of the Marine Corps
27 Oct	Unit Drill	AL Post 276
1-3 Nov	Back Azimuth	Cheltenham

Drill is conducted at the American Legion Post 276 on Quarterfield Rd, Severn MD.
 All MCL members are invited to attend and observe.

Color Guard



American Legion Baseball Tournament
Joe Cannon Stadium
27 July 2024



Bowie BaySox at Prince George's Stadium
4 August 2024



Kayaking in Annapolis



Special thanks to Annapolis Canoe and Kayak. What a great experience for everyone.



Archery

1 Sept 2024



Special thanks to Instructor
Randy Buckley and his team
from Anne Arundel Archers.



Young Marines Birthday Ball

The Maryland Regiment

of the

Young Marines of the Marine Corps League

Cordially invites you to attend

The 2024 Young Marines Birthday Ball

To be held from 1:00 to 5:00 PM

on

Saturday, October 12, 2024

at the

American Legion Post 276

8068 Quarterfield Rd, Severn, MD

Tickets \$25 per Young Marine and \$30 per guest

Please register at

<https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/0380530d-3d1c-4c99-993e-eee7f1848aec>

or scan



Holiday Craft Fair

December 14, 2024

10am to 2pm

Bowie Elks Club

**1506 Defense Hwy
Gambrills, MD**



COME OUT AND SHOP AND SUPPORT LOCAL CRAFTERS AND THE ANNE ARUNDEL YOUNG MARINES

Jewelry, Knitting, Crocheting, Sewing, Fine Art, Crafty Vendors, Tupperware, Scentsy, Body & Skin Products, Children Books, Coffee, Baked Goods, Wooden Signs, Car Fresheners, Holiday Wreaths, Greeting Cards, Pampered Chef, Resin Art, Mosaics, Glass Art, T-shirts, Cups, Tumblers, and MUCH MORE.

VENDORS PLEASE CALL ... Teresa Nash at 443-904-7778

Benefiting the Anne Arundel Young Marines



Special Raffle Item

Lectric XP 3.0 eBike

A national youth program for boys and girls ages eight to high school, focused on leadership, citizenship through community service, self-discipline, and living a healthy drug-free lifestyle.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CALENDAR

16 Sept	Detachment Meeting	American Legion Post 175
21 Oct	Detachment Meeting	American Legion Post 175
26 Oct	Bull & Oyster Roast	American Legion Post 175
9 Nov	Cake Cutting Ceremony	American Legion Post 175
18 Nov	Detachment Meeting	American Legion Post 175
23 Nov	Department of MD	Baltimore Detachment

Please send calendar additions to Ray Sturm at Bandit6A@gmail.com NLT the Saturday following the detachment's monthly meeting.

HELP Needed

If you are aware of a community event, and would like to see the Detachment set up a table or tent, please let us know. We are looking for recruiting events. We need new members.

Examples:

Festivals	Family Days
Street Fairs	Art Shows
Gun Shows	Church Events
Food Festival	Home Shows

BULL & OYSTER ROAST

WHEN

Oct 26, 2024

1pm to 5pm

\$55

Admit One

WHERE

American Legion Post 175

832 Manhattan Beach Rd, Severna Park, MD

**FEATURING • Pit Beef • Raw and Fried Oysters •
Ham • Turkey • MD Crab Soup • Salads • Sides •
Drinks**

For tickets call Burt at 850-635-5575

Checks payable to

MCL - Anne Arundel 1049

Benefiting Marine Corps League of Anne Arundel Co

The Marine Corps League is a IRS 501(c)4 non profit organization. Your donation may be tax deductible. Please consult your tax professional.



DJ

GAMES

PRIZES

July Minutes



Detachment Meeting Minutes
Anne Arundel County Detachment 1049
Marine Corps League
July 15, 2024

OPENING BY RITUAL:

Meeting called to order by Commandant Burt Helmka at 1900 hours.

The Pledge of Allegiance recited, followed by prayer by Ben Wells in caplins absence.

Members in attendance: 11

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Commandant	Burt Helmka	P
Sr. Vice Commandant	John Dunker	P
Jr. Vice Commandant	Joe Peacy	E
Judge Advocate	Ray Sturm	E
Jr. Past Commandant	Ben Wells	P
Adjutant	Debbie Deene	P
By-Laws Committee Chairman	Danny Fischio	E
Chaplain	James Sanchez	E
Color Guard Commander	Woody Bowman	P
Historian	Joe Wright	E
Newsletter Editor	Ray Sturm	E
Paymaster	Ben Wells	P
Public Information Officer	Vacant	
Quartermaster	Vacant	
Rifle Pistol Team Captain	Ray Sturm	E
Sgt-at-Arms	James Galvin	P
Web Sergeant	Joe Wright	E
Young Marine Commander	Ray Sturm	E

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: No report

ADJUTANT'S REPORT: Minutes from May are noted, and minutes will be posted on the detachment website along with the newsletter. Copies available on table.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PAYMASTER: The financial report was given by Ben Wells. This amount is as follows:

Checking:	\$ 7236.34
Savings:	\$ 2269.37
CD	\$ 2340.23 (CD's have been shut down and moved pending
CD	\$ 3144.17 paperwork from Morgan Stanley to invest;
	precise totals once all, set-in place.)
Total assets:	\$ 14186.17

Everything looks good just waiting to transfer and invest. We need to fundraise to keep our accounts replenished.

CHAPLAIN REPORT: No Report.

COMMANDANT: Commandant Helmka reported that the MD pack took care of the pack lead in W.Va...in June. The National convention is in Palm Springs, CA...

Our membership dues will be coming due in August.

Commandant also reported on the MCL app is an article about the shooting in PA involving a fellow marine Dave Dutch of Westmoreland County PA. Detachment, please keep him in our prayers.

I am working with Senior Vice Dunker on our Bull & Oyster roast, and it is well under control. I will have flyers ready to distribute at our next meeting. I am asking everyone to donate a bottle of liquor or beer for our basket of cheer fundraiser.

A Department meeting is scheduled on August 31, 2024, in Salisbury Maryland. This is on the Maryland MCL website

SENIOR VICE: John Dunker stated we will have our Bull & Oyster Roast on October 26, 2024, from 1-5 pm. The September dates were not available. The facility will hold approximately 100-120 people max. We will have tickets available for our next meeting. We are still getting pricing from the legion the oysters as well as the DJ. Desperately needing baskets and fundraising for this event. We are waiting for pricing before we have the tickets printed and distributed. We will have our normal or as Norms special some lay down boards that day as well.

JUNIOR VICE: No report.

JUDGE ADVOCATE: No report.

JR. PAST COMMANDANT: No report.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: No report

QUARTERMASTER: As Commandant Helmka reported in leu of no current Quartermaster position. There are items available for sale in the footlocker if anyone is interested. There were several shirts ordered in different sizes.

BY LAWS- No report.

HISTORIAN/ WEB SERGEANT: No report.

MARINE FOR LIFE: No report

COLOR GUARD: Woody Bowman shared that the Severna Park parade was a great success. Members of the FT. Meade color guard assisted. Was informed tat our contact at the veteran's cemetery Pat Ritter will be retiring. I have no additional dates until November 1 ,2024.

YOUNG MARINES: No report

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Ben Wells reported that we still do not have electricity for our storage as originally promised. Commandant Helmka is asking everyone to donate a bottle of liquor or beer for our basket of cheer fundraisers.

Ms. Jane is willing to assist Debbie with live raffles for fundraising. We can do 12 of these a year.

GUEST/VISITOR- No report

NEW BUSINESS: No report

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

We will need to start planning and requesting donations from the community for the Bull & Oyster roast. Debbie will start a live FB fundraiser to assist in costs starting in August into September, we will call it an after-Labor Day raffle. Nila Caulder suggested we simply do this and see where we end up after the roast. People have more money after the new year.

Jim asked us to reach out to him and confirm everyone's email address and telephone number for future social dinners so we may be contacted as a reminder. These are great social times and very nice, we would like more participation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commandant announces that the American legion will be hosting legion baseball at Joe Cannon stadium and as asked for volunteers to assist. The dates will be July 26 to the 29 contact Burt so he can inform the commander of the legion if anyone is willing and able. We would be selling 50/50 tickets and Tee shirts and manning the entry.

Our next social dinner will be on August 30, 2024, at Cas Del a Nona at 6:30.

CLOSING CEREMONIES: Sgt. at Arms Jim Galvin closed the meeting IAW MCL rituals. The next meeting to be held on August 19, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Deene, Adjutant
Marine Corps League - A. A. County Detachment 1049



Welcome to

American Legion Post 175

832 Manhattan Beach Rd

Severna Park, MD

Post Operating Hours

Monday: 2 PM to 11 PM

Tuesday—Thursday 11 AM to midnight

Friday: 11 AM to 2 AM

Saturday: Noon to 2 AM

Sunday: Noon to Midnight

Kitchen Hours

Tue: 11 AM to 2 PM and 4 PM to 8 PM

Wed: 11 AM to 2 PM

Thur: 11 AM to 2 PM and 4 PM to 8 PM

Fri: 11 AM to 4 PM

Bar Deli Hours

Daily until 10 PM

We would like to thank all of

Our Sponsors, Supporters, & Friends

For your commitment to our community and charitable causes
throughout the year.



Stromberg Metal Works, Inc.

