

# Semper Fi

## "THE SCUTTLEBUTT"

<http://www.mcltraecoheedet115.org/>

November 2011 Edition



*Don Elseroad, Editor*  
355 Beaverview Drive  
Bristol, VA 24201-1880  
276-645-0482  
[53usmc73@bvunet.net](mailto:53usmc73@bvunet.net)



*SSgt Walter F. "Trae" Cohee III*

*Detachment # 115*

*Salisbury, MD*

*Original Charter Date May 10, 1970*

### DETACHMENT OFFICERS

2011 - 2012

*Commandant: Andy Bouma*

Senior Vice Commandant: Bob Miller

Junior Vice Commandant: Ed Elder

Junior Past Commandant: Jim Siegel

Judge Advocate: Ed Hearthway

Paymaster: Jim Siegel

Adjutant: Richard Hyson

Sgt-At-Arms: Walt Cohee

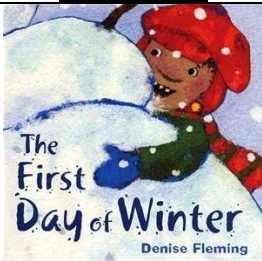

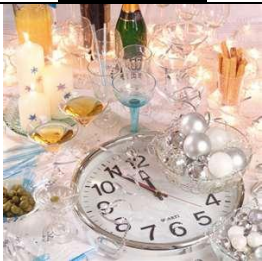
Chaplain: Jim Siegel

Web Sergeant: Don Elseroad

### MEETING TIME & PLACE

Meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on December 14th, 2011 at 1900 (7:00 P.M.) at the American Legion Post 64, 1109 American Legion Road, Salisbury, MD 21801. Please make every effort to attend.

### Important Upcoming Dates & Events

<u>December 21</u>	<u>December 25</u>	<u>December 31</u>
		

**February 16 thru 18, 2012:** The Marine Corps League Mid-Winter National Staff Conference will be held at the Tysons Corner Marriott in Vienna, VA.

The room rate is \$95 per night, single or double. Please make your room reservation directly to the *Tysons Corner Marriott* no later than January 20, 2012 at (703)734-3200. Be sure to tell them you are with the Marine Corps League.

**August 12 thru 18, 2012:** The P.L. Wilson Detachment #447 of the Marine Corps League will host the 2012 National Convention in Mobile, AL. More information can be found on the following link.

<http://www.mobilemarines.org/2012Natl.html>

**"Sick or in Distress"**

MCL Members Don ELSEROAD, 'Missy' HYSON wife of our Adjutant Richard HYSON , and Barbara MERRITT mother of member Jeff MERRITT are having or has recently had various health problems. Please keep these folks and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

**"Membership Happenings"**

**(Please advise the Editor of any errors)**

<b><u>DECEMBER "HAPPY BIRTHDAYS"</u></b> 7th Jeff MERRITT 18th Jim SIEGEL 19th Gloria HOWARD 24th Paul WARD	<b><u>DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES</u></b> 11th Tara & Richard CARRILLO (7 yrs) 
<b><u>DECEMBER MCL ANNIVERSARIES</u></b> Don ELSEROAD (17 yrs) Richard CARRILLO (8 yrs) George MURRAY, Jr. (3 yrs) David CHERRY (1 yr) Wayne LAWSON (Unk)	<b><u>MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE IN DECEMBER</u></b> Richard CARRILLO David CHERRY Wayne LAWSON George MURRAY, Jr.
<b><u>WELCOME ABOARD</u></b> None	<b><u>MEMBERSHIP'S RENEWED</u></b> None

**DON'T LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE**

Please send your \$22.00 checks made payable to "MCL Det 115" to our paymaster  
Jim Siegel, Paymaster  
30245 Southampton Bridge Rd  
Salisbury, MD 21804-2475

Initial dues for a new member are \$27.00 for the first year, thereafter yearly renewal dues are \$22.00.



**DON'T DELAY...JOIN TODAY  
THEN CONSIDER GOING 'LIFE'  
NOW IS THE TIME TO DO IT**

**Military Retirees' COLA to rise by 3.6 percent**

After two years of having no annual adjustment, military retirees will receive a 3.6 percent cost-of-living adjustment effective Dec. 1. The money will first appear in January checks.

The same percentage increase will apply to Social Security, federal civilian retired pay and other government entitlements linked to the Consumer Price Index. The retiree increase is larger than the 1.6 percent pay raise expected on Jan. 1 for the military. The difference result from the fact retired pay is adjusted to keep pace with consumer prices while military basic pay rises to keep pace with private-sector wages.

Since 2009, there has been no retiree cost-of-living adjustment because weak economic conditions kept overall consumer prices flat or falling. Thing have been different this year.

Although the job market remains bleak, the cost of goods and services has been rising. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the index of consumer prices was 3.9 percent higher in September than one year earlier. Gasoline, energy and food costs were the primary reason for the jump.

The COLA for military retirees is 3.6 percent, and not 3.9 percent, because COLA increases are calculated by comparing consumer prices for three months - July, August and September - to costs for the same three months in the previous year.

The two-year freeze in retired pay and other entitlements was not the result of Congress or the administration trying to save money, although that has been a popular belief. There is a chance, though, that future COLAs could be capped or even denied as a result of ongoing deficit-reduction talks in Congress.

The Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, empowered to come up with a package of \$1.2 trillion over 10 years in savings, is considering a change in how COLAs are calculated that would result in annual increases that are as much as 0.5 percent smaller than the current calculation. The proposed new formula would have lower consumer prices by disregarding price increases in some goods and services if people could use a less expensive alternative product or service.

### Part B Monthly Premium Effective 2012

You pay a Part B premium each month. Most people will pay the standard premium amount. However, if your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from 2 years ago is above a certain amount, you may pay more.

If Your Yearly Income in 2010 was		You pay
File Individual Tax Return	File Joint Tax Return	
\$85,000 or less	\$170,000 or less	\$99.90
above \$85,001 up to \$107,000	above \$170,001 up to \$214,000	\$139.90
above \$107,001 up to \$160,000	above \$214,001 up to \$320,000	\$199.80
above \$160,001 up to \$214,000	above \$320,001 up to \$428,000	\$259.70
above \$214,000	above \$428,000	\$319.70

### Holiday Mail Deadlines Set

The United States Postal Service and Military Postal Service Agency have released deadlines to ensure packages arrive to Military and State Department post offices overseas by Dec. 25, 2011. Deadlines to ensure arrival by Dec. 25 are Nov. 12 for parcel post mail; Nov. 26 for space-available mail; Dec. 3 for parcel airlift mail; Dec. 10 for priority mail and first-class mail, letters and cards; and Dec. 17 for express mail military service. Not all Military or State Department post offices are eligible for Express Mail Military Service. For information on mailing deadlines and restrictions, email the Military Postal Service at: [MPSA-TR@conus.army.mil](mailto:MPSA-TR@conus.army.mil) or visit the [Military Postal Services Agency website](#).

### EPA Rules Lejeune Water Contaminant Causes Cancer

A long-anticipated report by the Environmental Protection Agency determined this week that exposure to the chemical degreaser **TCE causes cancer in humans**. In the Camp Lejeune community, this means that those who lived and worked on base between the 1950s and 1980s, when solvents including **TCE contaminated the water supply**, may have finally proved what was making them sick.

The report, recently released, found that **exposure to TCE, short for trichloroethylene, is convincingly linked to kidney cancer, non-Hodgkin lymphoma and liver cancer, with more limited evidence that it causes bladder, esophageal, prostate, cervical, and breast cancers, as well as childhood leukemia**.

### RAO BULLETINS

Each month your editor attempts to review all RAO Bulletins and put articles deemed important to veterans into our newsletters and I will continue to do so. However, what may be important to me may not be important to you and I may very possibly overlook something you as a veteran might like to know about, so I am providing a link below that will take you to ALL current bulletins so that you might look them over. The

below bulletin is dated November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

[http://209.85.48.22/9056/110/0/p1032244/Bulletin\\_111101\\_PDF\\_Edition.pdf](http://209.85.48.22/9056/110/0/p1032244/Bulletin_111101_PDF_Edition.pdf)

SEPTEMBER 2011



## FRANCHISE NEWS



## Salisbury, MD Minuteman Press Owners SUPPORTS OUR TROOPS

For the past 3 and a half years Diana and Jeff Merritt, owners of the Salisbury Minuteman Center in Maryland, have been giving their time to help support our service men and women who are deployed overseas. They started a non-for-profit organization in their area called Operation We Care.

On Sunday May 22nd, 2011 they held a packing party at the Powellville Fire House in Powellville, MD. Diana said they had 150 volunteers come in from all areas and they were able to send about 250 packages with various items. They were overjoyed with the amount of people who came out and volunteered their time to make sure the members of the armed services who are overseas know that they have support back home.

The basis of the organization is to send packages overseas to men and women serving in the military. The packages contain anything that the soldiers may need, including but not limited to phone cards, instant coffee, baby wipes, and body wash. They hold events through-out southern Maryland to raise money for postage, and have two packing parties a year around Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Minuteman Presses corporate office is honored to have Diana and Jeff as owners of one of our Minuteman Press centers. For more information about Operation We Care, [www.operationwecare.org](http://www.operationwecare.org).



4



The fall issue of the Wood-O-Gram can now be viewed on the following link.

<http://moddkennel.org/Portals/11/Woof-O-Gram%20Fall%202011%20Complete%20.pdf>

### EVERY DAY PRAYER REQUEST

Life in Iraq and Afghanistan is very difficult to bear right now. Our troops need our prayers for strength, endurance and safety. Stop for a moment each and every day and say a prayer for our troops around the world.

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.

Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen."



### The Final Roll Call

The following Marines/Corpsman paid the ultimate sacrifice for God, Country and Corps since the last issue of 'The Scuttlebutt' was published.

Harper, Lance Cpl. Scott D.

Winston, GA

Basteau, Lance Cpl. Jordan S.

Pekin, IL

[Barfield, Lance Cpl. Jason N.](#)

Ashford, AL

[Dunning, Staff Sgt. Stephen J.](#)

Milpitas, CA

[Daniels, Lance Cpl. Nickolas A.](#)

Elmwood Park, IL

If You Are Not Willing To Stand Behind Our Troops,  
Please, Please Feel Free To Stand In Front Of Them!

*On behalf of a grateful nation.*

**FREEDOM IS NOT FREE**  
**Support Our Troops**



I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands,  
One Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

From your editor

If you are receiving this newsletter via "Snail Mail" and have email capability, please email me at [53usmc73@bvunet.net](mailto:53usmc73@bvunet.net) so that I can add you to my address book and cut down on the postage.

*Any comments or suggestion on what should be in our newsletter! Articles/information you need! Let me know!* The newsletter will go to press on or about the weekend following each meeting.

Don Elseroad, Editor

### Quotes about Marines

*Marines know how to use their bayonets. Army bayonets may as well  
be paper-weights.*

Navy Times; November 1994

### LINKS TO CHECK OUT

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=s0XpK1QHP2s#!](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=s0XpK1QHP2s#!)

<http://www.airspacemag.com/military-aviation/Last-Men-Out.html>

<http://www.npr.org/2011/10/24/141589693/the-osprey-good-reviews-but-a-costly-program>

<http://www.allproudamericans.com/No-Laughing-at-the-Tomb-of-the-Unknown-Soldier.html>

[http://www.youtube.com/watch\\_popup?v=vcnH\\_kF1zXc&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=vcnH_kF1zXc&feature=player_embedded)

-- *Once a Marine, Always a Marine* --