

**Marine Corps League
Baltimore Detachment #565**



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BALTIMORE
GUNG HO



*November - December 2023 * Vol. 27, No.6 * Editor Stuart Blair*

Baltimore MCL travel to Parris Island MCRD Graduation Week

Tuesday 10 October: After arriving at the hotel at the MCAS Beaufort, SC, Marines Harry Hierstter and Stuart Blair traveled to the Parris Island MCRD and met with 1st Sgt. McGee for introduction and then on to the base PX. On to the parade deck to observe the battalion march practice. Later we dined at a popular local seafood restaurant.

Wednesday 11 October: Harry and Stuart attended the visitor center for family orientation. Following the orientation, we tour the base on a tram, then returning to the visitors' center for a brief by the battalion EXO.

Thursday 12 October: with torrential down pour early morning canceled the schedule motivation run. A presentation at the all weather training facility for family and marine recruits was given by battalion Sgt Maj John Allen. The presentation was followed by recruit dismissal for a liberty with family until 1500. Marines Hiestter and Blair were the family for three Marine recruits upon which we took them to Traditions Restaurant for luncheon. Afterwards we went to the PX to allow the recruits some time treating themselves. Later they were returned to meet up with their DI and Platoon the Marines to the AWT Center for continued practice at the Parade deck.

Friday 13 October; Harry and Stuart were up at 040 and arrived headquarters for Morning Colors. Commanding General BGen Walker Field Spoke recognizing the veterans present. On to the parade deck stands preferred seating where we observed the graduation ceremony. Afterwards we returned to the visitor's center where we met up with a Marine just graduated and his family, you see here. We returned to the hotel, packed and were on our way home.

We thank Sgt Maj John Allen and Heather Rogers wife of 1st Sgt. Nathan Rogers for the scheduling and arrangements of our visit.



*MCRD Band * Graduation Day * Friday 13 October*



Marine Harry Hierstetter and Marine Stuart Blair congratulate Marine recruit upon graduation

Commandant's Message

Greeting Marines,

I hope this message finds everyone doing well. At this time we are seeing much unrest going on in the world. For those who have served in combat zones these wars may trigger memories of times gone by and those who served in support of war this may trigger memories of stressful times. Marines can understand and relate to the events that the countries, which the U.S. has shown support for, are enduring. I'm asking that you keep these countries and American Civilians who were caught in the middle of these conflicts in your prayers. That they may end this conflict quickly.

Here at the detachment we are trying to become more involved with the community in which we are located. Keep watch for announcements of community that we can help support.

Note that the Toys4Tots campaign has begun, let's support in gathering toys for the less fortunate children of Maryland. If you have a location where you can place collection boxes, the boxes will be available for pick up at the detachment.

Please be sure to check the Gung Ho calendar for upcoming detachment activities and events (Marine Corps Birthday, Veterans Day, putting up holiday decorations and holiday party). Come out, join in and stay safe.

Semper Fidelis,
Earl Ruff, Jr.



Sr. Vice Commandant's Message

Greeting Marines,

We are fast approaching the Marine Corps Birthday, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and the end of our Toys for Tots Program, Pearl Harbor Day. Lots of time to say "Thank You" to our living Veterans, and time to remember those who have joined the Commandant of the Universe to receive their heavenly reward is on our Birthday, and Veterans Day. A time for joining friends and family members who are still here with us, a time to give thanks to our Father for allowing us to see another day of celebration. We will remember the Veterans who gave all at Pearl Harbor, followed by delivering our toys and check so that we can make many of our youth have found memories during the holiday season. Shortly after these eventful days, we will think up celebrating a New Year. We pray that Our Heavenly Father allows us to see another year of service to our youth and veterans.

Our Paymaster has told us too many years now that we need to have some type of fundraisers to put more money into our Treasury. Both our Detachment and Department is suffering from not having enough funds. Our Detachments decreased funds results from several of our yearly donors passing, This means that we have less funds to make donations to assist others, and no donations to support our projects at the VA. We want to start our monthly Bingo at the Green Street Facility and we want to be able to see that every Veteran gets something during the type that we celebrate Valentine's Day with the Gold Star Mothers. There will be Afghans to distribute, but the Detachment never has enough of other items to give the patients at Loch Raven. We get enough

Respectfully submitted,
Marian C. James, SVC

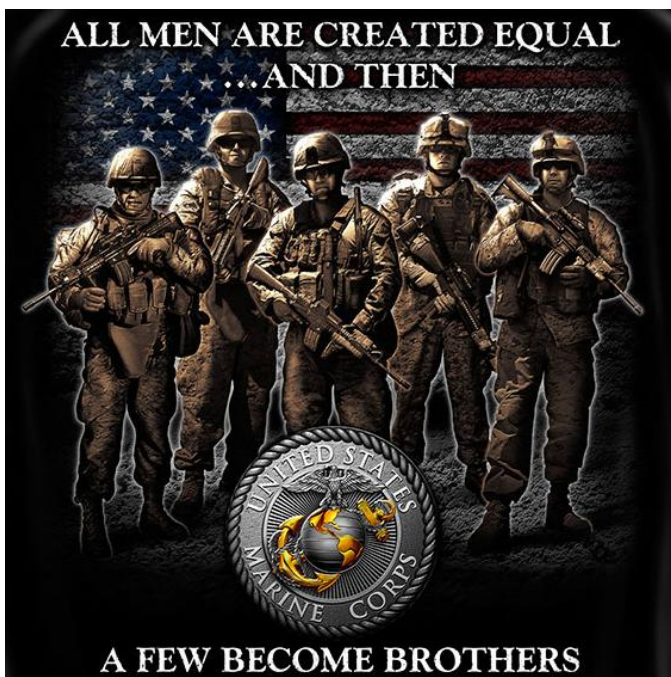
Jr. Vice Commandant Message

Greeting Marines,

It's that time of the year when the trees put on their autumn leaves show, splendid reds, oranges, and siennas, as they carpet the lawns and driveways, acorns crunch under your feet as you leave the house. The weather is turning a bit nippy, crunchy frost on the grass in the mornings and folks start to pull the heavy sweaters and gloves out of the cold weather storage. Get ready for the change in the weather and start planning for the coming holidays, home visits and family gatherings. As you plan for the coming Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas events, take the time to remember those members that have been out of the loop for a while. Make sure that invitations to Detachment get-togethers go out to all of them. Ask around in case some of the older members need transportation assistance to get to our celebrations. Three very important events kick off our Marine Corps Fall festivities, the Marine Corps Birthday, Armistice Day and the start of the Marine Corps Reserve Toys For Tots campaign. Our Auxiliary Ladies are prepping for their annual Kennedy Krieger Christmas Tree display in Timonium at the State Fairgrounds.

We have a lot of preparations to do, like planning for potluck dinners, uniforms all pressed, shoes shined to show off our pride at veteran's celebrations, doing a little shopping for age-appropriate children's toys. A lot of times we think of the babies and forget that pre-teens and teens look also forward to Christmas. In other words, we are coming up on the season to be jolly. Let's put our best efforts into hitting that target with a bang.

Semper Fidelis.
Ray Vaughn, JVC



Semper Fi Prayer Circle

*"And the Prayer of Faith
shall save the sick,
and the LORD shall raise him up"*

Pray for our Veterans

It's sometimes easy to lose sight of the sacrifice and courage of America's veterans and their families.

Prayer is a good way to express our thanks for the freedoms we enjoy and the veterans who protect them. Answer a few simple questions and we'll craft a prayer that will help express your gratitude and thanksgiving for the veterans in your life

Lord, we pray that you would open our eyes to see the needs of veterans in our communities. Open our mouths to uplift our veterans with honor and kindness. Open our hands in generosity to serve and care for them. Let us not be too busy or too distracted to honor their sacrifices. Amen

Sick / Distressed

Prayers go to those on our "Sick and Distress Ray Vaughn, Jerry Brown, Jack Colleran, Marian James, Will Priest, Nelson Dickerson, and Rosemary Koontz.

Most High God, god that Liveth, Heal and deliver all of us that are in need of your healing, mercy and grace Amen.

If you know of anyone sick or in distress, please call: Chaplain Harry Hierstetter. & Judith Hoffman 410-296-1088 / Email:1stsgtjwhusmc@comcast.net

As always may God's blessing be with all military and their families

*Harry Hierstetter / Judith Hoffman
Chaplains*

Military Order of the Devil Dogs

Detachment Home Dispatch

Maintenance

A big thanks to all who helped with our latest round of repairs, we got a lot done.

The firehouse roof has been completely replaced by Tony Hines Roofer; the work was overseen by our very own Jon Dewar.

We also had a representative of Sherwin-Williams look at our walls to give us an idea of how best to repair / repaint the walls.

A new flagpole has been ordered and hopefully will be shipped by the first week of November.

Parts have been ordered to repair the Duty Hut copier awaiting technician to install.

Another load of old ceiling tiles, electric parts and stereos equipment was taken to the dump by Jon Dewar and one of his employees.

BGE has installed a new electric meter for the T-Mobile equipment. The T-Mobile's contractor will paint the conduit on the outside back wall by the end of the month.

Milton has relocated the roof antenna to pool room for the time being and Earl has reprogrammed the TV. We are getting more channels now.

Ernie D. has repaired one of the kitchen cabinets and began remounting the vinyl baseboard along the 1st floor walls.

Now that the roof is done, Milton H. has started with the general cleanup the attic.

Help is still needed to replace the window slide assemblies (springs) in some of the 2nd floor windows, hopefully before it gets too cold.

As always, any help in the weekly upkeep and maintenance of the building would be greatly appreciated. The building is open between 8:30 AM till around 12 Noon, Wednesday, and Saturday.

Thank you,

Ernie Disney, and the building committee.

Baltimore Detachment Hall Rental

If you know of someone who is looking for a hall to rent, please keep your Detachment Hall in mind. We can seat 100 comfortably. Keep promoting the hall rental. Information call: Ernie Disney @ 410-977-7975.

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



Woof woof,

Merlin Pack Growl

9 September, the Maryland Pack Growl was held 27 August following the Dept. of Maryland Staff Meeting., MD., led by Pack Leader PDD Tony Rust.

Hound Dog Pound 204 Growl

Sunday 17 September Hound Dog Pound Keeper Paul Gunther conducted a growl at VFW Post 160 in Glen Burnie. Morning chow was tail waggin' delicious. The dogs maintained their mischievousness conduct throughout the growl, collecting many bones from fines of several infractions. A military weapon of value was donated for auction to benefit the children's fund. Also changing Pound 204 Growl day from Sunday to Saturday was discussed. Pound 204 Officers were elected and installed with Pat Sharky as Pound Keeper for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

3rd Gathering MODD

Hosted by Midwest Division MODD, the 3rd Gathering of the Devil dogs was held 5 – 8 October at the Sheraton Westport Chalet., Maryland Heights, Missouri. DD Fun and fund raising activities along with an eventful Growl were included in the gathering.

Schedule

Merlin Pack Growl

4 November

*Following DM Staff Meeting

Hound Dog Pound 204 Growl

10 December

Remember: It is an honor to be a Devil Dog

*Woof woof,
PDD Stuart Blair
Barking Dog*



Maryland Veterans Commission

Message from MDVA Secretary Anthony Woods

Like so many, I've been glued to the news coming out of Israel in the wake of the terrorist attack there and disgusted by the horrific accounts of violence. I'm saddened for those who've lost loved ones and for Jewish and Palestinian people around the world who now have reason to feel unsafe wherever they live. As an advocate for veterans, I worry about this new generation of people who will be asked to fight in response to this provocation. Many will die. Many more will be injured. All of them will witness violence that will change their lives forever.

I'm also saddened knowing many more civilians will die in the days and weeks ahead. War, despite best efforts to spare civilians, always results in the loss of innocent lives.

I hope this conflict can end swiftly and that a new path can be found that enables all to see the humanity in one another and that there can be lasting peace.

Sincerely -
Tony

Protect your benefits: Combatting Payment Redirection Fraud

Because of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act (PACT Act), more Veterans are getting more benefits than ever before, and that's why it's important to stay on high alert for criminals who want to take advantage of you.

Online scams can take a variety of forms, with scammers constantly devising new ways to trick people into giving them sensitive information to steal money and identities. Payment Redirection Fraud is a one example of this crime, which involves criminals impersonating others and using or diverting payments to bank accounts under their own control.

Payment Redirection Fraud . . . puts your VA benefits at risk

Payment redirection occurs when a bad actor obtains a Veteran's Personal Identifiable Information (PII) and uses the information to unlawfully access and gain control of personal information (email or bank accounts, va.gov, etc.). Once the information is compromised, the scammer redirects the victim's VA benefits payments to accounts or prepaid debit cards the scammer controls. Veterans' personal information is vulnerable to phishing attempts and an array of email scams.

Bad actors are leveraging publicly available information from internet sources, social media, dark web, etc., to gather PII:

- With enough demographic information, they can call the National Contact Center and change Veterans' bank accounts to redirect their payments.
- With stolen passwords and credentials, they can access Veterans' information through VA.gov.

When a fraudulent payment redirect case is reported or suspected, Veteran Benefits Administration's (VBA) Benefits Delivery Protection and Remediation (BDP&R) team investigates the incident and confirms the fraudulent activity by:

- Determining the necessary actions to protect the Veteran's benefits.
- Reporting those responsible for the alleged fraud.
- Immediately reinstating the Veteran's benefits, making the Veteran whole again.
- Diligently working to serve America's Veterans and remaining committed to protecting all Veterans and beneficiaries, specifically the most vulnerable, from fraud and abuse.

Veterans Day

Many of you are participating in Veterans Day events around the state. Communities across the state pull out all the stops to honor their veterans through a variety of programs and events. Check out the events in your community to find out how and where you can participate and celebrate Veterans Day in 2023. Events are in-person unless otherwise noted.

Thank you for all you do,

S/F,
Stuart Blair, PDC
Commissioner, MCL

MCL Scouts BSA Award Program

"On My Honor"

*Scouting . . .
Eagle Scout for Life*



Scouts BSA and the Marine Corps League have agreed to initiate a plan of mutual support to foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism among America's youth. We encourage Councils to expand their involvement of support for causes specific to the Marine Corps League and our nation's veterans at large. The Marine Corps League will encourage and expand their involvement of Detachments in support of BSA programs toward our mutual goals for a better and more patriotic America. The Marine Corps League believes strongly that our youth are our future and that it is our responsibility to prepare them for that future. The Scout Oath and Law that the BSA instills in youth is a strong foundation for future success. The Boy Scouts of America and Marine Corps League are excited about formalizing and strengthening our relationship and the future opportunities for us to work together to support America's youth!

The Marine Corps League Department of Maryland considers it an Honor and Privilege to recognize America's future leaders for earning the Scouts of America Eagle Scout Award by presenting them the Marine Corps League's "Good Citizenship Award" Certificate and to have the Eagle Scout become aware of the skills that he has mastered to become an Eagle Scout are also held in very high regards by the Marine Corps League and Corporations throughout the United States.

The local Marine Corps League will make every effort to be able to have a member attend the ceremony in order to present the award.

+*NOTE: If you know of or part of a Scout BSA Troop in your area, inform the Scout leaders of the MCL Eagle Scout Award Program. Access on line @ Marine Corps League, Dept. of Maryland or Contact me: Phone 410-665-6440 Email: thistleman@verizon.net

Stuart Blair, Chairman

Detachment Programs

Detachment General Fund

Pick Three Lottery Calendar Fundraiser

The proceeds from this are used for detachment general expenses, assistance to a detachment Marine or family member in need and the Baltimore Green St. VA Medical Center Project

The calendar fund winners for the month of July 2023:

01Jul	Steve Szymanik	#941	\$25.00
07Jul	Steve McCarthy	#323	\$25.00
10Jul	Joy Jamine Feliciano	#805	\$25.00
12Jul	Judith Hoffman	#005	\$25.00
13 Jul	Jim Myers	#999	\$25.00
19Jul	Steve McCarthy	#323	\$25.00
26Jul	John McCurdy	#526	\$25.00
27Jul	John Dysard	#801	\$25.00
28 Jul	John Cernik	#506	\$25.00
31Jul	Janice Cornish	#345	\$25.00

The fund had a total of ten (10) winners in July. All Won \$25.00 for a total payout of \$250.00 leaving a balance

In the fund at the end of July of \$4,445.00.

The calendar fund winners for August 2023 are;

01Aug	Sean Robinson	#335	\$25.00
03Aug	Rachel Green	#920	\$25.00
05Aug	Milton Hazzard	#414	\$25.00
07Aug	Milton Hazzard	#314	\$25.00
09Aug	Daryl Baylor	#685	\$25.00
14Aug	Bronson Sweeney	#565	\$25.00
23Aug	Virgil New	#734	\$25.00
25Aug	Grealine Y Ford	#952	\$25.00
29Aug	Welton C. McCallister	#322	\$25.00
30Aug	Dave Mioduszewski	#517	\$25.00
31Aug	Ella H. Pierce	#371	\$25.00

The fund had a total of eleven (11) winners in August.

All won \$25.00 for a total payout of \$275.00 leaving a balance in the fund at the end of August of \$4,170.00.

Auxiliary

*Reaching Further . . .
. . . Touching More*



Greetings,

We welcome our 2 newest members, Kathern Pratt, our new Secretary/Treasurer, and Jackie Giblin, our new Chaplain. I will remain the Senior Vice President, and Bernadine Blair will remain Judge Advocate. Anita Ullery will no longer be able to be Senior Vice President due to a job conflict. Joan Hansen will be stepping down as President at the Ocean City Convention in May 2024.

We will definitely need candidates for Junior Vice President and President for the Auxiliary.

The upcoming Auxiliary meeting and Department meetings are as follows.

October MCL/MCLA meeting October 27. The meeting starts at 7:30PM.

The Quarterly Department Meeting will be held at L/Cpl Deane AL Post 171 on November 4th. Coffee and donuts at 8AM. The meeting starts at 9AM. The Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held at the MCL Detachment 565 on November 10, starting at 7PM. Formal attire requested.

If all goes as planned we will be able to participate in the 34th Annual Festival of Trees, November 24 – 26, one of our main projects for the year. This large money making activity for the Kennedy Krieger Institute for Children. Last year we gave a monetary donation in lieu of a decorated tree. This year we hope to decorate and donate a tree. When we meet again we will work on decorations for our tree.

MCL/MCLA 565 meeting on November 17 at 7:30 PM
MCL/MCLA 565 Christmas party will be held December 22nd. The festivities begin at 2PM. This event will be catered. Desserts are welcome and bring any special dish you like.

I like Linda S. Chamberlain, National Auxiliary President's motto "We may not have it all together, but together we have it all, and together we can make anything happen."

God Bless America

*Rosemary Koontz
SVP*

Marine Corps History Question of the Month

In each month's "GUNG HO" we will feature a question about U.S. Marine Corps history. The question will test your knowledge of well known facts of Marine Corps.

The answer to each question will be in the following issue.

Answer to September / October Question

During World War II, this regiment was assigned to the 2nd Marine Division and participated in combat operations on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian, and Okinawa, earning three Presidential Unit Citations in the process. What regiment was this ?

8th Marine Regiment

November - December Question

December 1950, a Marine officer led his battalion into Hagaru-Ri, Korea after four days of intense fighting in the mountain passes against a numerically superior hostile force. His battalion, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, helped clear the way for the 5th and 7th Marines. Who was this Marine officer that was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism ?

- a) Col Robert D. Taplett
- b) Lt Col Robert Thomas Bell
- c) Col William E. Barber

Lt Col Raymond G. Davus

Members Birthdays

We would like to wish the following Marines a "**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**" and many more:

NOVEMBER - BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Robert C. Kennick, Joseph J. Kelly, Carroll F. Dixon, Jr., Raymond A. Chatary, Sr., Joseph Schvimmer, George J. Carson, Judith A. Hoffman, Tony N. Boston, William L. Priest, John H. Acton, Chris Glinos, Darrel L. Oxyer and Jonathan Dewar.

DECEMBER - BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

James L. Davis, John M. Davis, Sr., Harry R. Carroll, William E. Ellwood, Larry R. Smith, Marian C. James, Gary Roundtree, Sr. John J. Merritt III and Jeremy Greer

Marines, if you had a birthday this month and your name did not appear, please let me know.

Stuart Blair, 410-665-6440,

Email: thistleman@verizon.net

BALTIMORE
GUNG HO

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
BALTIMORE DETACHMENT

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"To observe a Marine is inspirational, to be a Marine is exceptional."

Honoring Marines * Pearl Harbor

Pearl Harbor, 07 December 1941, 0755, the Marines were completely taken by surprise when the Japanese onslaught began. However, they organized quickly. Some were posted on the Barrack's parade ground and sentry posts with their rifles and ammunition, ready to fire on passing planes.

Marine Corps losses at Pearl Harbor included 112 Marines killed and missing in action and at least 64 wounded. The heaviest Marine losses came from the ship's detachment aboard the Arizona, only 3 officers and 12 enlisted men survived from a Marine detachment of 82

Each year on Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Survivors, veterans, and visitors from all over the world come together to honor and remember the 2,403 service members and civilians who were killed during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.