

**Marine Corps League
Baltimore Detachment #565**



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GUNG HO

*July - August 2025 * Vol. 29, No.4 * Editor Stuart Blair*

MCL 565 Guest of 4CEB Change of Command



The 4th Combat Engineer Battalion (4th CEB) is a combat engineer battalion of the United States Marine Corps reserve. Their headquarters are in Baltimore,

On Saturday 17 May at the 4th CEB Reserve Center, Baltimore, a relief and appointment ceremony was conducted inside the complex due to inclement weather.

Lt. Col. Lt. Col. Patrick W. Junick was relieved as Inspector Instructor Commanding Officer with Lt. Col. Devin M. Jewell appointed as the I & I CO. Lt. Col. Christopher M. Scarnell was relieved as CO of the battalion with Lt. Col. Matthew R. Murroe. Both officers offered moving, departing remarks.

Marine Corps League members from the Baltimore Detachment was presented an opportunity to meet Lt. Col. Jewell and Lt. Col. Murroe

Honoring Our Fallen Heroes Memorial Day 2025

The veteran's memorial is situated on land at Fort Avenue and Andre Street. Included in the memorial are flag poles for America's colors and a brick monument dedicated to military veterans. Earlier years the VFW maintained the area. After their departure the MCL Baltimore Detachment has continued the maintenance.

Every year since, the MCL Baltimore Detachment has conducted memorial services on Memorial Day. Today over 25 local residents the Memorial Day Services. We thank all who participated in this patriotic day of remembrance.



Commandant's Message

Greetings Marines,

Summer is upon us and I hope that everyone has made their plans for some fun and relaxing vacations. I'm hoping that you will also be able to include attending Marine Corps League Mideast Division Conference (June 27 -28, 2025) being held in Fredericksburg Va. and The National Convention being held in Grapevine Texas (Aug. 10-16, 2025). This is a time to get inform of some of the activities happening with Detachments across the country and to network with Leaguers from across the country.

At this time I want to say that the Detachment is trying to step up our Social Media presence, please check out our new Detachment web page and pass on and comments about additions you would like to see. Also the Detachment Facebook page is still a work in progress. It is up but still being worked on and any comments or post to be added at this time can be forwarded to me at commandant565@gmail.com, this is the email address to use for all correspondence for the Detachment Commandant.

For those who were not able to attend the Department of Maryland convention in May it was announced that there were two Detachments that had close and turn in their Charter (Mountainside Marine Det. In Cumberland and Free State Marine Det. In Bowie). Recruiting new members is a problem across the State. Some Detachments have talked about partnering up with nearby Detachments to be able to sponsor and participate in more activities. This is something I hope we can discuss in the future. The banquet this year was a change from the past as it was an informal Hawaiian Luau.

Let's try to come up with ideas for activities and gathering besides the detachment monthly meeting. It would be nice to be able to socialize more than once a month. And a reminder that there will be no meeting in July, hopefully you will be able to join Marine Stuart Blair on a trip to The Evening Parade at Marine Barracks, 8th & I.

Semper Fi

Earl Ruff Jr
Commandant

Sr. Vice Commandant's Message

Greetings,

Its summer, the weather is great, a lot of celebrations and events going on in the city and throughout the entire State. We have even planned a trip to the Marine Corps Museum at Quantico, something well worth getting on the bus for. It's the right time for all of us to get out, mingle and enjoy all the things that are happening. As always, when we see an EGA on a shirt, a bumper sticker, on a cap, please take the time to greet your fellow Marines and welcome them to one of our regular meetings or let them know we have a Facebook page to show off some of the things we do. For example, we held a VA/DAV Claims Clinic for veterans at our meeting hall on June 12, 2025.

Over the last few months, there are a lot things going on that involve the military and civilians, sometimes at loggerheads. The one thing we all have to remember is that some of us, old, salty Jarheads and new Corps Marines can be troubled with recurring memories of days past spent in war and all of us don't process the experience in the same way.

The VA Administration so often reminds us of the fact that PTSD and suicide are legitimate realities. There are more modern suicides than all the U.S. wars combined. That is unacceptable.

We can play a big part in reducing those numbers. The camaraderie that we experience in being around fellow Marines, men and women who have worn the same boots as us, is a great deterrent to mental health problems and just plain general enjoyment of life. We owe it to them and to ourselves to build on the brotherhood of the Corps. Meet, greet and invite them to The Firehouse, it is to the benefit of all Marines, Navy corpsmen and FMF chaplains to continue linking up with like-minded veterans.

Semper Fidelis

Ray Vaughn SVC

Jr. Vice Commandant Message

Hello, Marines,

As we dive into this month's newsletter, let's focus on two key pillars of our mission: membership and visibility.

Growing our ranks and making our presence known in the community are vital to our continued success. Let's commit to showing up, standing proud, and representing who we are—both in numbers and in spirit.

We welcome your ideas on how we can promote our detachment and the Marine Corps League as a whole. Every suggestion will be heard and given thoughtful consideration.

Let's also remember our fellow Marines—especially those we haven't seen in a while or our older members who might appreciate a check-in. A simple phone call or a personal invitation to a meeting can mean more than you know.

Let's reconnect, re-energize, and refresh our detachment.

Thank you for staying engaged and committed.

Semper Fidelis,

Michael Murphy, JVC

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to extend a warm **“Welcome Aboard”** to associate member **Donald Bennett Jr.** who recently joined our Detachment. Semper Fi!



**Semper Fi
Prayer Circle**

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

Supreme Commandant,

*On this Independence Day, I am reminded of
all those who have sacrificed for my freedom.
Let me not take my freedom, both physical
and spiritual, for granted. May I always
remember that a very high price was paid for
my freedom. My freedom cost others their
very lives.*

*Lord, today, bless those who have served
and continue to give their lives for my
freedom. With favor and bounty, meet their
needs and watch over their families.*

Amen

Sick / Distressed

Prayers go to those on our “Sick and Distress” list: Marian James, Jack Colleran, Diamond Kimos, Rosemary Koontz, Will Priest, and Joan Hansen.

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 James A. Scott
410.271.2560 / Email j716scott@gmail.com

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

James A. Scott
Chaplain



Maryland Veterans Commission

VA Benefit Supplement

REPORTED MDVMF Newsletter:

PTSD Claim

Disability compensation for PTSD

If you have posttraumatic stress from a traumatic event you experienced during your service, you may be eligible for VA disability compensation for posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Compensation provides tax-free monthly payments. Keep reading to find out if you may be eligible.

Find out how to get support anytime, day or night. You may be eligible for disability compensation if you have symptoms related to a traumatic event (the "stressor") or your experience with the stressor is related to the PTSD symptoms, and you meet both of these requirements.

Both of these must be true:

- The stressor happened during your service, **and**
- A doctor has diagnosed you with PTSD

You can file a claim online now. You can also file by mail, in person, or with the help of a trained professional.

File for disability compensation online

In our screening process, we'll focus on understanding your PTSD to help determine your eligibility for disability benefits. We won't offer you treatment during this process.

When you file a disability compensation claim, you'll also need to fill out a Statement in Support of Claimed Mental Health Disorder(s) Due to an In-Service Traumatic Event(s) (VA Form 21-0781).

Next MVC meeting will be Tuesday 15 July, 2025
100 Community Place, Crownsville, MD

Stuart Blair
Commissioner, MCL
Maryland Veterans Commission

VA Food Package

Any veteran who needs a free food package to help during the month, please call 410.605.7000, extension 55166 or 53108. This is a new program from the Maryland VA System. The Outpatient Nutrition offices are open Monday - Friday 7:30AM to 4:00 PM. You do not need to belong to the VA System to receive assistance. You must fill out the Maryland Food Bank Veteran Registration form prior to receiving a bag of food. A Nutritionist will assist you with your form and questions. This program is free to all retired and/or veterans of any branch.

Detachment Home Dispatch

Maintenance

The installation of the second floor and attic windows is now complete and looking great. Metal grids and ceiling tiles are being rehuned along with the shades and curtains. Help will be needed to place the two large AC units back in the windows.

Also, Milton continues with the large task of cleaning up, straightening and organizing additional museum items that were stored under the display tables in the museum. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Wednesday and Saturday 8:30 am to 12 noon.

Baltimore Detachment Hall Rental

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

General Note

We wish to give a big thanks to Marine Don Rollette for his generous donation to our detachment meeting chow. Semper Fi Don

Military Order of the Devil Dogs

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



Woof, woof,

Pedigreed Devil Dog" (PDD

Advancement within the MODD involves progressing from "Pup" to "Devil Dog" and finally to "Pedigreed Devil Dog" (PDD). The final advancement, to PDD, happens at the Supreme Growl, which is held in conjunction with the National Convention of the League.

The Supreme Growl is a large gathering where members advance to PDD, and it also involves other activities and ceremonies.

To advance to PDD, members typically need to:
Be recommended by the Detachment
Commandant and sponsored by two Devil Dogs or
Pedigreed Devil Dogs.

Sunday 1 June Hound Dog Pound 204 Growl
was held at the VFW Post 160, Glen Burnie

Friday 27 June
The Vice Supreme Growl was held at the Mideast
Division Conference in Fredericksburg, VA

Schedule

The 85th Supreme Growl will be held on 13 AUG 2025 at the
national convention, in Grapevine, Texas.

Merlin Pack Growl

*Dept. of Maryland Staff Meeting
, Host; LCpl Robert W. Deane Detachment
Saturday August 30

Remember: It is an honor to be a Devil Dog

*Woof woof,
PDD Stuart Blair
Barking Dog*

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 April 2025 are:

04 Apr	Robert Gillespie	#717	\$25.00
05 Apr	Christina Jackson	#915	\$25.00
06 Apr	Kelly A. Romeo	#842	\$25.00
08 Apr	Joe Bonner	#872	\$25.00
11 Apr	Welton McCallister	#399	\$25.00
12 Apr	Joe Crivello 3rd	#601	\$25.00
14 Apr	Dave Mioduszewski	#134	\$25.00
20 Apr	Mike Hergenhan (Easter)	#411	\$30.00
21 Apr	Myiesha Scott	#351	\$25.00

The calendar fund winners for May 2025 are:

04 May	Kris Magnani	#132	\$25.00
05 May	Bernadine Blair	#418	\$25.00
07 May	Janice Cornish	#929	\$25.00
11 May	Lisa Hergenhan (Mother's Day)	#743	\$50.00
13 May	Christina Jackson	#915	\$25.00
18 May	George Kesselring	#981	\$25.00
19 May	Milton Hazzard	#414	\$25.00
23 May	Jerome Scott	#580	\$25.00
24 May	Nettie Jackson	#847	\$25.00
26 May	Joseph Schvimmer (Memorial Day)	#914	\$100.00
30 May	Rick Adams	#624	\$25.00
31 May	Nettie Jackson	#847	\$25.00

Joe Crivello 3rd & Milt Hazzard donated their
winning of \$25.00 each to the detachment.

As of 31 May, the fund has sold no new Calendars.

The fund had a total of twelve (12) winners. One
won \$50.00 on Mother's Day, one won \$100 on
Memorial Day, and (10) won \$25.00 for a total
payout of \$400.00, leaving a balance in the fund at
the end of May of \$5,370.00.

MCL Scouting America Award Program

*Scouting . . .
Prepared for Life*



The Marine Corps League's Good Citizenship Award is a certificate given to Eagle Scouts who have earned the Scouts of America's highest rank. The award recognizes the Eagle Scout's accomplishments and the skills they've learned, which are valued by the Marine Corps League and other organizations.



*4 May 2025 - GCA presented to Madisom Baummer,
Chloe Diller & Abigail Bouyea of Troop 729
by Marines Stuart Blair & Jon Dewar*



*31 May 2025 – GCA presented to
Carter Davies & Evan Walk of Troop 427
By Marines Stuart Blair, Jon Dewar & Mike Murphy*



*14 June 2025 _ GCA presented to
Conall Brennan & Damian Kully of Troop 877
by Marines Stuart Blair & Mike Murphy*

Good Citizenship Awards Presented

In the fiscal year 2024 - 2025 there have been (81) eighty-one presentations of the GCA by the Department of Maryland.

Memorial Day Weekend

American Flag Placement

On Saturday 18 May 0830, a cool sunny morning Marine Stuart Blair coordinated with Scout Troop 729, an American flag placement on military veteran graves @ Prospect Hill Cemetery, Towson. Given the ideal weather the project was quite a success.



*S/F,
Stuart Blair, Chairman,
Eagle Scout Awards
MCL Dept. of MD*

Historic Marine of the Month



“Uncommon valor is a virtue”

July

Brigadier General John A. Lejeune

Command of U.S. Army's 2nd Division

On July 28, 1918, United States Marine Corps Brigadier General John A. Lejeune assumed command of the U.S. Army's 2nd Division in France during World War I. Lejeune remained in that capacity until August the following year, at which point the unit was demobilized. Lejeune was the first Marine officer to hold an Army divisional command, and following the armistice that ended the war, he led his division in the march into Germany.



August

Captain Samuel Miller, USNC

On August 24, 1814, Captain Samuel Miller led a detachment from Marine Barracks, Washington, in the Battle of Bladensburg in defense of the nation's capital. After fighting back three British charges, Captain Miller was wounded as British forces began to flank the Marines, forcing the Marines to retire to avoid capture. Eight Marines were killed and 14 were wounded.



Members Birthdays

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

JULY – BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Jack C. Colleran, Walter Cwik, Michael Gordon, Jr., George P. Adams, Don B. Reier, Edward C. Mattson, Jr., Robert R. Staab, William Marsich, Owen I. Fields, Charles W. Hilton, Jr., James A. Scott, Alfonso V. Cahill, Gerald D. Wilson, Jr. and Frederick M. Kellner, III.

AUGUST – BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Wayne C. Yealldhall, Martin M. Lynch, Diamond G. Kimos, Loy L. O'Berry, Byron E. Milam, Baron K. Ancrum and Steven M. Sarmiento.

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.

A Marine has two birthdays !

A Marine is considered to have two birthdays: their personal birthday and the Marine Corps birthday, which is celebrated on November 10th each year, marking the founding of the Continental Marines



BALTIMORE GUNG HO

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE BALTIMORE DETACHMENT

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

America's Independence . . . The Marine Corps Dedication

Independence Day is a significant day for the United States Marine Corps, as it represents the culmination of the fight for freedom and independence that the Corps is dedicated to defending. Marines view the holiday as an opportunity to reflect on their service and commitment to the nation, while also celebrating the freedoms they protect. It's a time to honor the sacrifices made by past and present Marines in the ongoing pursuit of liberty and equality.

Marines view Independence Day as an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of service and the legacy of freedom they are entrusted to defend. The holiday serves as a reminder of the core Marine Corps values of honor, courage, and commitment, and a chance to reaffirm their dedication to these principles. Independence Day is a time for Marines to demonstrate their pride in their service and their role in safeguarding the nation's freedoms. Marines understand that maintaining freedom requires constant vigilance and readiness. They use this day to recommit to being prepared to defend the nation whenever called upon.