

DETACHMENT

1417



SCUTTLEBUTT

June 2016

Year 1, Edition 6

## A Message from the Commandant

Greetings Marines and Associates! I hope that your summer is off to a fantastic start. Our detachment picnic is coming up very soon and I hope to see you all there. I want to take just a moment to ask you all to think about ways that our detachment can get involved in our community. There are a LOT of different ways that we can volunteer and help in our community that do not have to be a detachment organized activity. The VA Hospital is always looking for volunteers. I am also looking into getting a group together to get involved with a habitat for humanity build. There are community days that are help through United Way that we can be involved in. I am sure that many of you could find more things like these to get your fellow detachment members involved in. Fund raising is important, but being involved in the community as a non profit organization is as well. Just some food for thought.

Semper Fi!  
Commandant Ledford

**Next Meeting: June 28, 2016**



DVC Larry Thornton (and #1417's Post Commandant) models his new pisscutter. Congratulations!

### *Detachment 1417 Board:*

Commandant Ric Ledford

Sr Vice Bob Scar

Jr Vice Don Chatham

Judae Advocate Jack Albright

Past Commandant Larrv Thornton

Pavmaster Anthonv Guidone

Sercean-at-Arms Phil Swartz

Adjutant/Newsletter/Webmaster Phaedra Laushance

Detachment Email:  
[mcl.asheville@gmail.com](mailto:mcl.asheville@gmail.com)

News from the NC MCL

**BREAKING NEWS:**

Due to a recent possible scam in which someone from New York is trying to get Members and Associates to send the scammer their dues.

Below is a message from Jeffrey Jones, DoNC SRV Commandant:

“Please pay **ALL** dues renewals to the Detachment Paymaster, this will do 2 things. 1) Make sure the dues are forwarded to where they supposed to go and applied to Marines membership. 2) Help the Detachments out by getting their share of the Dues.

Jeffrey D. Jones

DoNC Senior Vice Commandant

Marine Corps League  
jdjones0311@aol.com

[\(252\) 205-6506](tel:2522056506)

(NOTE: Please see Anthony Guidone, Paymaster at our next meeting if you need to submit dues.)

Marines:

We have learned that the suppliers of the Red Blazers are running out of stock as the vendor has stopped making them. We have two places to order them but only what they have in stock is available until another vendor can be secured.

The locations;

[semperfistore.org](http://semperfistore.org)

Red Blazer \$135.00

[703-207-9588](tel:7032079588)

<https://www.marineshop.net/uniforms/marine-corps-league>

Mens blazer \$159.95



Womens blazer \$145.00

[703-640-7195](tel:7036407195)

Semper Fi  
John Dilday



**BREAKING NEWS:**

Here is the latest information from the "Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry" regarding the contamination of the water at Camp LeJeune, the air station, Camp Geiger, and the Jacksonville area. Please share this information with everyone who has

spent at least 30 days or more at these locations. This effects not only those who served at these locations, **BUT ALSO THEIR FAMILIES**. The effects of this poisoning can effect up to 4 generations in length going all of the way back to 1941.

The water there was permeated with carcinogenic poisons including, but not limited to, various fuels used. The adverse effects have been tremendous and devastating.

The VA healthcare system can test everyone who served there **AND** their families. The tests require 9 vials of blood. **ALL** family members, whether they were aboard the bases or not, qualify if the veteran served there for at least 30 days. This includes spouses, children, grand children, and great grandchildren. The effects of this poisoning can take years to surface.

460 diseases and conditions are designated as coming from that water that was contaminated. The fuel tanks at those locations were placed directed on the ground, and the welds rusted more quickly than anticipated, thus releasing fuel into the ground.

Again, it is very important that anyone who served at those locations and their family members be tested at the VA.

## **This month in Marine Corps history:**

(Courtesy of <http://www.mcu.usmc.mil/>)

**4 July 1801:** President Thomas Jefferson reviewed the Marines, led by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, LtCol William W. Burrows and the Marine Band, on the White House grounds. The smartly uniformed Marines performed drills and fired various salutes in observance of the new nation's 25th anniversary.

**6 July 1990:** One of the oldest and most versatile attack aircraft in Marine Corps history, the A-4 Skyhawk, retired from the Corps' active aviation structure after over 30 years of service. The last two Skyhawks from MAG-32 flew their final flight from Cherry Point to NAS Patuxent River on this date.

**7 July 1941:** The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1st MAW) was activated at Quantico, Virginia. Within a year of activation, the Wing would participate in the Marine Corps offensive at Guadalcanal. That bitter campaign would be the first in a series of legendary battles in which the Wing would add luster to its reputation. The 1st MAW would earn five Presidential Unit Citations for gallantry in campaigns spanning World War II, Korea, and Vietnam



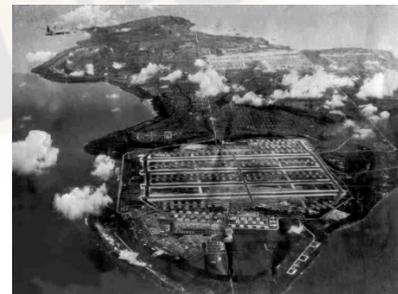
1<sup>st</sup> Marine Aircraft Wing patch

**11 July 1798:** President John Adams approved "An Act for Establishing and Organizing a Marine Corps", and it became law. The following day, the President appointed William Ward Burrows the Major Commandant of the new Corps. In August, Major Burrows opened his headquarters in Philadelphia, at that time still the capital of the new nation.

**14 July 1993:** The USS *Iwo Jima* was decommissioned after over 30 years of service in a ceremony at Norfolk Naval Base, Virginia. The ship was named for the World War II battle during which three Marine divisions ousted 20,000 entrenched Japanese troops. The *Iwo Jima* was commissioned 26 August 1961, and it was the first ship specifically designed as an amphibious assault ship from the keel up.

**18 July 1918:** The 4th Brigade of Marines began an attack near Soissons, France, as part of a three-division counterattack against the Germans. In the first two days of battle, the brigade sustained 1,972 casualties.

**24 July 1944:** The V Amphibious Corps, commanded by Major General Harry Schmidt, landed on Tinian, in the Mariana Islands. The following morning, the 2d and 4th Marine Divisions began a shoulder-to-shoulder southward sweep of the island. Organized enemy resistance faded within a week, and on 1 August, MajGen Schmidt declared the island secure.



North Field, Tinian (stock photo)

**26 July 1947:** The National Security Act of 1947 became effective, reaffirming the status of the Marine Corps as a separate military service within the Department of the Navy. The Act provided for Fleet Marine Forces, and confirmed the Corps' mission of seizing and defending advanced bases, as well as land operation incident to naval campaigns.

**28 July 1918:** Brigadier General John A. Lejeune assumed command of the 2d Division, U.S. Army in France, and remained in that capacity until August 1919 when the unit was demobilized. He was the first Marine officer to hold an Army divisional command, and following the Armistice, he led his division in the march into Germany



Brigadier General John A. LeJeune (stock photo)



## Bob Scar

"I started school in a K-8, one-room building a mile south of the farm. I finished in "town school" and graduated with 37 classmates in 1963. I went to the Marine recruiter with plans to enlist, serve, and come back for college later. After a test or 2, I was encouraged to consider PLC (Platoon Leaders Class), attend college (Iowa State), while being in the Marine Reserves. That sounded good and after another test, an "A" (aviation) was placed behind PLC. I did basic training in Quantico summer of 1964 (Pvt.) and summer of 1966 (LCpl.) I was married in 1966, graduated in 1967, and got brown bars (2Lt.). Orders to NAS Pensacola were cancelled at the last minute and replaced with orders to Williams AFB, Arizona to train with 80 Air Force guys, 2 other Marines, and 2 from Norway. We last 5 were labeled the "5 foreign exchange students" and that sticks to this day! I was fortunate to be among the 51 of 85 that finished.

After 53 weeks and with silver AF wings, I went to MCAS Cherry Point, was assigned A4's and got carrier qual., gunnery and bombing, aerial refueling, etc. over 5 months and earned gold wings. Then to MCAS Beaufort for about 12 months in single-seaters. A4 replacement pilots were not in great demand in RVN, since 2 squadrons had been withdrawn. Extra hours and experience before combat flying were welcome. To Chu Lai Feb. 1970. 235 missions with VMA-311, a 3 1/2 month FAC tour with 3/5, Co. C, 2nd Platoon, and home Feb. 1971. The RIF kicked me off active duty from Yuma Jan. 1972. A couple stints in the reserves (NAS Alameda and NAS Jacksonville) on and off 1973-1977.

I have 2 daughters, Atlanta and Melbourne, FL (2 grandkids in Florida). My first wife, Connie, died from cancer in early 1998. Lisa and I were married in 2003 and moved to this area from New Mexico the fall of 2006"

***Bob is currently our Senior Vice Commandant!***

In our newsletters we are now making it a point to showcase the Marines of our detachment. You are

just as important as all the others. So, please take a moment to provide us with a brief bio of yourself so we can share with your fellow detachment members. Below is a fairly simple outline you can use. Or you can do your own narrative to highlight your Marine Corps career and your civilian life.

Outline:

1. Name & Rank at discharge
2. Years of Service
3. M.O.S.
4. Favorite duty station
5. Occupation after the Corps
6. Family/Pets/Hobbies
7. Please share some history of any actions you were involved in or any significant experiences while serving. Also, please include a photo. Please have this information back to either Ric or Phaedra so we can get it in the newsletter. All Marine Minute's need to be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Ric's email is: [elrock66@gmail.com](mailto:elrock66@gmail.com)  
Phaedra's is: [broncogalinnh@aol.com](mailto:broncogalinnh@aol.com)



**MCL Annual Summer Picnic:**

July 9: 1100 to 1400 (11am to 2 pm)

Asheville Firefighters Camp, Clayton Road, Asheville.

A food signup will be available at the June 28, 2016 meeting. **Extra hands on deck for set up and take down is requested.**

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**Monthly Dinners:**

**(All dinners begin at 1800 (6pm))**

August 9<sup>th</sup>: Olive Garden, Airport Road

September 13<sup>th</sup>: Fuddruckers, Charlotte Street  
October 11<sup>th</sup>: Little Pigs BBQ, McDowell Street  
November 10<sup>th</sup>: Birthday Ball, Asheville Event Center (More information to follow)  
December 6<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Party, O'Charley's

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**HAVE YOU VISITED OUR NEW WEBSITE?**

**Our website address is:**

[www.ashevilmcl.org](http://www.ashevilmcl.org)

**CHECK IT OUT NOW! EXCITING THINGS ARE BEING ADDED ALL THE TIME!**



**usmc birthday ball for detachment 1417 will be held on November 10, 2016 at 6pm at the Asheville Event Center. For more information, see betsy watts.**

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Detachment 1417 received another gold ribbon for 100% participation at the DoNC Quarterlies. (Pictured (l to r) Post Commandant Larry Thornton, Commandant Ric Ledford, Jr Vice Commandant Don Chatham, Associate Member Jolanda Phillips. Seated: Member Bob Lawrence)

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW DUE. *PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR INFORMATION AND DUES TO THE PAY MASTER ONLY.* THANKS!

## Memorial Day



Members of #1417 attended both remembrances At the Veterans Cemetery and in Downtown Asheville. Here are just a few photos from Memorial Day 2016. Special Thanks to Brandon Wilson for being the Keynote Speaker, and to Commandant Ledford and DVC/Past Commandant Thornton for the presenting of the wreath.





Members of #1417 get together on June 17<sup>th</sup> to enjoy an Asheville Tourists game. The weather was hot, but the times were great. We look forward to going to another game soon!



Are you on Facebook? Join us on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/marinecorpsleagueasheville/>

(We even have National as a fan!)



"Good night, Chesty, wherever you are!"

(And Happy Birthday!)



Take me out to the ballgame!!