

**James M. Slay**  
**Detachment Marine**  
**Corps League**

**Richmond, Virginia**

[www.richmondmarines.net](http://www.richmondmarines.net)

- **Lou Seigel**  
**Commandant**
- **Nick Wennberg**  
**Sr Vice Commandant**
- **Rick Barden**  
**Jr Vice Commandant**
- **Tim Taylor**  
**Adjutant**
- **Bruce Russell**  
**Judge Advocate**
- **Lonny Fry**  
**Chaplain**
- **Jim Ralls**  
**Sergeant at Arms**
- **Johnny Day**  
**Paymaster**
- **Randy Abernathy**  
**Public Relations**
- **Dave Jennings**  
**Legislative**
- **David Charbonneau**  
**Quartermaster**
- **Dan Sierra**  
**Web Sergeant**
- **Rich Van Damme**  
**Scuttlebutt Newsletter**  
**Editor :**  
[rjv0402@gmail.com](mailto:rjv0402@gmail.com)

# The Scuttlebutt

**NEWSLETTER**

**MARCH 2024**

Marines.

This is the month you must give thought to who the next leadership team will be for the James M. Slay Det. As you know I will end my tour of duty in April, as will several of the officers and appointed officers. The listed submitted as of the 15th of March and those who may be nominated from the floor in April will guide the Detachment for the next year or two, think well about your choices for all offices.



Things are off to a slow start at C.S.A. this year, if there are any suggestions you would like to see done there, please let me know and I will see if it can be done, we are their Guest.

As a reminder starting April first we will start back to the outdoor shooting at Cavalier R&P, I will send out a notice one week before regarding where to meet for breakfast, fellowship and off to punch holes in the paper.

Things are progressing with the Golf tournament if you are a golfer, sign up and support the Detachments fund raiser for good reasons, the Vets and Toys for Tots, or a donation will help even if you don't want to chase that white ball all over the place.

Support your Detachment, come to the meetings, you may find some interesting things going on, get involved.....A Unit Lives or Dies by its Membership's Support or NOT.,

See you on the 23rd

Semper Fi,  
Lou Seigel  
Commandant, Detachment #239

Quartermaster Store Link:

<https://jamesmslay.itemorder.com/sale>

**MINUTES**  
**JAMES M. SLAY DETACHMENT**  
**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**  
**24 February 2024**

**0900 Call to Order**

Commandant Lou Siegel called the meeting to order, ordering the securing of quarters, posting of Colors, Pledge of Allegiance, opening prayer, and directing the Sargent at Arms to declare the meeting Open. A sufficient number of members were present to establish a Quorum.

**Roll Call of Officers**

All officers were present except the Chaplain, Lonny Fry.

**Introduction of Guests**

Phyliss Karamarkovich, Army veteran and sister of Associate member Roberta Richards.

**Presentation of Marine of the Year**

MOY – Bruce Russell

**Application for New Members**

Jack Raymondson, New Regular member and Dan Fisher, new Associate Member sworn in today.

New members sworn in before today presented with Covers.

**Reports of Officers**

Junior Vice Commandant – Rick Barden

No Report.

Adjutant – Tim Taylor

The minutes from the January meeting were presented for approval. Motion made and seconded; approval passed by voice vote.

Reminder that we hold an Officer Board meeting during the week before the general membership meeting and minutes are prepared from that meeting and are available at this meeting if anyone is interested in reviewing them.

Paymaster – Johnny Day

The transition from Bank of America to Chesapeake Bank is taking longer than expected but is close to being complete. Because of the delay however, I do not have the finance report for January completed yet but should have it by next month.

If you have submitted your payment to the Leatherneck Club but have not received a letter from me recognizing your donation, see me before you leave today so I can verify that you have donated for this year.

Newsletter Editor/Historian – Rich Van Damme

Scuttlebutt went out this week. If you didn't get it, let me know so we can verify your address.

**Senior Vice Commandant – Nick Wennberg - Committee Reports**

Honor Guard – Bruce Russell

Last year between December and April we had only 2 events. This year we are presently doing 2 events per week. We had an event on Friday with another planned for Monday, and currently have two for March and one for April. We have deposited almost \$2,000 to the Detachment account already this year.

Range Days - [Lou Seigel](#)

March 13, the second Wednesday of the month, we will get together at Colonial Shooting Academy for our monthly shoot. Would like to see an increase in participation – last month we only had 3 people. Meet at CSA at 1800 and we will head to Mission BBQ afterwards.

1 April we will be at the Cavalier outdoor range. Meet at Goochland Restaurant at 0800 for breakfast and then we will head up to the Range.

MCJROTC Liaison – Rick Barden, Phil Hebner

On 24 April, at 1830, Tucker HS JROTC will be holding their awards presentation for their students.

Don't have the names for scholarships and other awards yet but will get them to Lou as soon as I get them.

Nothing to report from Goochland HS JROTC at this time.

Houston-Holicky-Sitter – Joe Wadle

Guest for 12 March is Col. Dave Smith, USA(Ret), who has written a book on Revolutionary War heroes who were relatives of his wife.

We are booked through July of this year with the April speaker being Robin Hutton. She wrote the book Sgt. Reckless USMC, American War Horse.

Military Order of the Devil Dog – Phil Hebner

No Report.

Fund Raising – Nick Wennberg

We will not be using Mission BBQ for the lunch before the Golf Tournament as they were too expensive for what they offered. Instead, we will use the Birkdale Golf Clubhouse who has offered more food for less money, to include the lunch and the dinner after the Tournament.

Still working on a date for the Patriot 5K race this year.

Still waiting to hear from our supplier for the gun raffle at the Golf Tournament, but confident that it will happen.

There will also be a gun raffle in August for the Detachment with both a rifle and a pistol.

### **Unfinished Business**

Bruce Steeley – we still have vacancies for the election in April that need to be filled by March 15: Sr. Vice Commandant and Adjutant. We presently have at least one nominee for all other positions.

Also, an important position which is not elected, but appointed by the Commandant, is the Sgt at Arms that is also vacant, and we would like to have anyone who is interested to let us know as soon as possible.

The previously announced change to our meetings will not take place, leaving them on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month, but we will have functions in November and December.

On 2 November the Birthday Ball will be in the Lakewood Ballroom (where we regularly meet), and this will count as the November meeting as well. General Tony Zinni (Ret) will be the guest speaker. On the second Saturday in December there will be a family included Holiday breakfast get together, also in the Lakewood Ballroom, which will also count as a meeting, but no business will be discussed.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Good of the League/Announcements**

Quartermaster Dave Charbonneau announced that anyone who does not have a name tag to contact him so he can get one for you.

February Birthdays recognized by Sgt at Arms.

### **Closing Ceremony**

By order of the Commandant, the Colors were retired, the Marine Corps Hymn was sung, the Chaplain gave the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned until Saturday, 23 March 2024, at 0900.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tim Taylor, Adjutant



**James M. Slay Detachment 329**  
**Richmond Virginia**



**Greetings Happy Birthday for the Month of March**

You were first greeted by your loved ones. Now the Officers of Slay Detachment and fellow Members wishing you a Happy Birthday and a Special Anniversary too.

We sincerely invite you to attend the next meeting on **23 March 2024**. So we may personally greet you.

Johnny Day 1 Mar  
Ronald Coombs 4 Mar  
Ken Varndell 10 Mar  
Tom Mraz 14 Mar  
Lonny Fry 15 Mar  
Greg Edward 17 Mar  
Annabel Lewis 26 Mar  
Craig Peyton 26 Mar  
Nicholas Wennberg 26 Mar  
Carl Cash 28 Mar

**Special Anniversary Notice**

**Mr and Mrs Tim Sharpe 15 Feb 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Enjoy the rest of your Day**  
**YOU EARNED IT**

**Lou Siegel**  
**Semper FI**

We would like to **Celebrate Your Birthday** also please forward this special occasion to: [jimralls002@gmail.com](mailto:jimralls002@gmail.com), **we don't want to miss an opportunity to congratulate YOU**. Notice, we do not add the number of candles.

We will be honored to add you to our Happy Birthday/Special Anniversary list.

## Slay Detachment Elections

Slay Marines,

As chairman of the nominating committee, I am writing to our members to remind them of the upcoming elections for officers. We must fill the following leadership positions for the coming year. As of today, 18 March, 2024 we have vacancies for the following elected and appointed positions. See chart below.

If you are interested in serving in any of the above leadership positions, or any other leadership position, please contact me at [rbsteeley@comcast.net](mailto:rbsteeley@comcast.net) or Marine Jim Barrett [jbarrett1966usmc@gmail.com](mailto:jbarrett1966usmc@gmail.com) or Marine Rich Van Damme [shipdad@comcast.net](mailto:shipdad@comcast.net) or Marine Phil Hebner [phil.hebner2@gmail.com](mailto:phil.hebner2@gmail.com) as soon as possible. If you are nominating someone other than yourself, you must obtain their permission and verify they are a member in good standing (dues paid) and are willing to serve if elected or appointed.

If you have any questions about the duties of these positions, please contact me and I will send you the information.

Please give this request serious consideration. Marines lead from the front and we need to nominate some good leaders like yourself to lead our detachment.

Semper Fidelis, Bruce Steeley  
[rbsteeley@comcast.net](mailto:rbsteeley@comcast.net) / 804.397.9011

As of this printing we have the following positions and interested candidates:

<b>Commandant</b>	<b>Nick Wennberg</b>
<b>Sr. Vice Commandant</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
<b>Jr. Vice Commandant</b>	<b>Joe Kelleher</b>
<b>Adjutant</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
<b>Judge Advocate</b>	<b>John Clickener</b>
<b>Paymaster</b>	<b>Johnny Day</b>
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	<b>Vacant</b>

## Rifle and Pistol Shooting

Colonial Shooting Academy		Cavalier Shooting Range	
10 January			
14 February			
13 March			
10 April		1 April	
8 May		6 May	
12 June		3 June	
10 July		1 July	
14 August		5 August	
11 September		2 September	
9 October		7 October	Rifle Champs
13 November		14 October	Pistol Champs
11 December			

POC: Lou Seigel at 804-492-9202 (home) or 434-391-5909 (cell).

Looking forward to another fun and Safe shooting year.

### Paymaster Corner,

We are accepting donations for the 2024 Leatherneck Club. Please mail your check to our new address; PO box 245 in Charles City VA 23030. If you would like to pay electronically please contact me by email at [paymaster329@gmail.com](mailto:paymaster329@gmail.com) and we can make arrangements. Once your Leatherneck Club donation is received I will send you a donation letter by email.

### Golf Tournament

I am writing to let you know that WebSgt was working with Marine Bob Gilliam and turned out a signup sheet that you can print off the website. The WebSgt also put the flyer and made it possible to sign up using the old snail mail or using Google Forms. You can print your Golf Team members and send it in with a check to the paymaster. Also, a Team Captain or a Single player can go to the website and register and pay using the VENMO account. The detachment is working on getting PayPal up and running. The detachment has an account with PayPal, but we have a few things left and that should be up and running to accept payment for the golf tournament.

I am attaching the flyer, and I am also putting the link where they can go to sign up for the golf tournament. I have attached what the website looks like when they click Inaugural Devil Dog Open on the <http://www.RICHMONDMARINES.net>. The person would need to scroll all the way down until they see either the red or green icon. The green icon is to print and send in with a check to the paymaster and the red button is to sign up and pay over the internet.

Just remember that if they want to be a sponsor then that company needs to send the paymaster an email at [paymaster329@gmail.com](mailto:paymaster329@gmail.com).

The link to get to the screen below is [Inaugural Devil Dog Open \(richmondmarines.net\)](http://www.RICHMONDMARINES.net)

Semper Fi,  
Nick





# INAUGURAL DEVIL DOG OPEN

May 20, 2024 • Birkdale Golf Course  
8511 Royal Birkdale Dr., Chesterfield, VA 23832

Benefiting **Veterans & Athletes United (VAU)**, the **Marine Corps League** and  
**Richmond Marine Corps Junior ROTC Schools**.

Fifty percent of proceeds go to VAU, and fifty percent go to Marine Corps League  
Detachment Col. James M. Slay #329. The JROTC program will receive proceeds  
from the Marine Corps League.



- Golfers can arrive at 1000
- **Shotgun start** at 1200
- **Lunch** will be provided prior to tournament
- **Dinner at Birkdale Clubhouse** to follow the tournament with a **live auction**



[www.RICHMONDMARINES.net](http://www.RICHMONDMARINES.net)



# INAUGURAL DEVIL DOG OPEN

May 20, 2024 • Birkdale Golf Course

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

### **GOLD SPONSOR: \$5,000 X 1**

- Logo/Name will appear in the front of the tournament booklet on page 2 with a full-size company description
- Logo/Name on a banner before entering the golf course
- One team's green fees paid

### **SILVER SPONSOR: \$2,500 X 2**

- Sponsorship of either the front 9 holes or the back 9 holes
- Logo/Name in the tournament booklet before the front 9 holes pages or the back 9 pages, as well as on page 3
- Name on a banner with your logo
- One team's green fees paid

### **BRONZE SPONSOR - \$1,500 X 3**

- Logo/Name in tournament booklet on pages 4/5 with company description
- Name on banner with logo
- One team's green fees paid

### **HOLE SPONSOR: \$500 X 18**

- Logo/Name in tournament booklet attached to a description of the hole

### **CORPORATE SPONSOR: \$150**

- Logo/Name on event banner

### **BEVERAGE CART SPONSOR: \$500 X 2**

- Logo/Name on the cart and in tournament booklet

### **LUNCH SPONSORS: \$750 X 2**

### **DINNER SPONSORS: \$750 X 3**



## **REGISTRATION** fee is \$100 per person

- Scan this QR code or click the **RED BUTTON** below to register online and pay using Venmo
- OR if you prefer to pay by check, click the **GREEN BUTTON** below, FILL IN, then print, and mail the form and your check to the address on the form.

Potential sponsors will need to email [paymaster329@gmail.com](mailto:paymaster329@gmail.com) in order to see what sponsorship levels are still available. If interested in sponsoring, the sponsor will need to send an email mentioning which hole they would like to sponsor to that same address in order to see if that specific hole is still available. They will then receive a link for Venmo or Zelle to pay for the sponsorship fee. Once the payment is successfully processed, their sponsorship is considered reserved.



[www.RICHMONDMARINES.net](http://www.RICHMONDMARINES.net)



**Last Honors for Herb Delbridge.** On March 1st a contingent of Detachment members traveled to Arlington National Cemetery for Herb's interment and to pay Last Respects.





## MARINE of the YEAR

This year Marine Bruce Russell was selected as our Detachment's Marine of the Year. He was selected by the past recipients of this award.



## We Meet Marines Wherever We Go

After conducting a burial service in Chesterfield County members of the Honor Guard were approached by a gentleman who wished to speak with them. Turns out that this individual was a South Korean Marine (ROK) and was just interested in talking with U.S. Marines. A new friend in our small world.



The detachment has a new mailing address:

P.O. Box 245, Charles City, VA 23030

The old address will remain active for one year and mail will be forwarded to Charles City.

Have I missed putting something in the Scuttlebutt that you were expecting to see or read? I'm sure I have. If so, please let me know. When I put the SB together I am usually doing it in a hurried state. I scan through my emails trying to find items I was supposed to include and some I know are there but I can't find them. My apologies.

Lou requests that you bring to the detachment meeting any issues of you Semper Fi magazine you no longer need. They are going to put new labels over your address label, compliments of the Slay Detachment. These will be delivered to the VA.

### **Richmond Marines, James M. Slay Detachment #329**

[Richmondmarines.net](http://Richmondmarines.net)

This is your location on the net to keep track of what is going on with your detachment. Between this and the *Scuttlebutt Newsletter* you should be well informed.

The website will grow if you help. If you have any suggestions, please forward them to the webmaster (Dan Sierra) at [329WebSgt@gmail.com](mailto:329WebSgt@gmail.com)



## HOUSTON-HOLICKY-SITTER VETERANS FORUM

*MC: Col. Bill Parrish, USMC Ret.*

HHS Veterans' Forum meets next on Tuesday **April 9, 2024**.

**Location will be Publix, 2250 John Rolfe Pky, Henrico, VA 23233. We will be in the Community Meeting Room on the 2nd floor.**

Guest speaker will be Robin Hutton, author Sgt Reckless (USMC), America's War Horse. Her bio is on the following page.

Doors open at 1115, the program begins at 1150, and the program will conclude by 1300. Lunch may be purchased from the Publix' Deli.

The Houston-Holicky-Sitter Veterans' Forum is an informal forum for veterans of all branches of the armed forces. Col. Joseph J. Holicky, Jr. (USMC, ret.) and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Col. Carl L. Sitter (USMC, ret.) began having lunch together in the mid 1970's following their retirements. Over the years other veterans and local active duty Marines joined them for lunch. In the early 1980's Lt. Col. L.W. "Chip" Houston (USMCR, ret.) became part of the leadership team and served as its Master of Ceremonies for over 25 years. Today nearly 100 veterans meet each month to carry on the HHS tradition and to hear prominent guest speakers address military history, national security issues, and other topics of interest to veterans.

HHS is apolitical, and promotion of political interests is prohibited. HHS is a not-for-profit group, but it is neither a 501c3 nor a 501c4 organization.





**Robin Hutton** has spent her adult life working in major event productions and the motion picture business. She was the writing and producing partner of Tom “Billy Jack” Laughlin for over thirty years until his death in 2013. Currently she is President of Angels Without Wings, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation that spearheaded the development and dedication of six national monuments to Sgt. Reckless, the famous Korean War horse.

Her first book, *Sgt Reckless: America’s War Horse*, was a *New York Times* Bestseller, as well as the 2015 Equine Book of the Year from American Horse Publications, and a 2016 Gold Medal winner from Military Writers Society of America. Her latest book, *War*

*Animals: The Unsung Heroes of World War II*, was a 2019 Gold Medal winner from Military Writers Society of America. The heroes in this book inspired a new project, the *Animals in War & Peace Medal of Bravery and Distinguished Service Medals*. The inaugural ceremony for this medal was held on November 14, 2019 in Washington, DC on Capitol Hill, and on March 6, 2024 the fourth annual medal ceremony took place. This ceremony also launched the *Animals In War & Peace Museum* - a traveling museum to commemorate these war animals who fought side-by-side with our military war heroes.

**AWARDS:** Ms. Hutton received three Certificates of Appreciation from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as an award from the Department of Defense’s Korean War 60th Anniversary Commemorative Committee. In 2014 she was named “Patriotic Citizen of the Year” by The Military Order of the World Wars and The Military Order of the Purple Heart for her charitable work. She also received the Ambassador for Peace Medal from the South Korean Government. On November 13, 2019 she was awarded the very first Sgt Reckless Award, a new medal presented by the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame where a new monument to Sgt. Reckless stands.

In 2020, *Sgt. Reckless: America’s War Horse* was chosen as a selection on the Commandant of the Marine Corps’ Professional Reading List. In 2022, Robin was named the 2022 Writer of the Year by the Military Writers Society of America.

**Education:** Bachelor of Science, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY 1976 - Magna Cum Laude

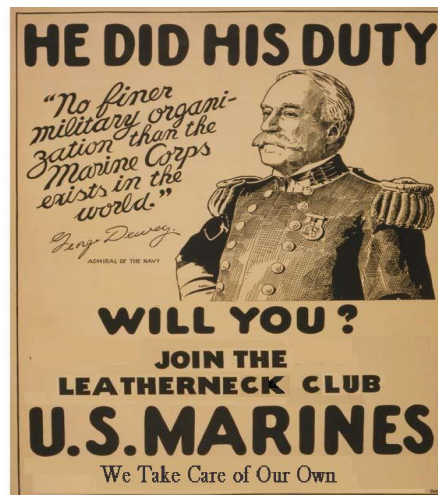
## Marine Corps Reading

Do you enjoy reading about Marine Corps history? How about military history in general? If you do then I have a web site for you. It's the Marine Corps History Division. Posted are many publications which are in PDF format for you to open and download. Here is the address (I hope the link works). <https://www.usmcu.edu/Research/History-Division/>

Open the link, then click on Publications, then click on Books by topic, and then choose a topic. Then just pick a book and click on the image. Enjoy

## 2024 WES PRUITT LEATHERNECK CLUB

Rich Van Damme  
Greg Lee  
Clint Harrington  
Bob Hartley  
John Clickener  
Richard Zimmer  
Roberta Richards  
Phil Hebner  
Kevin O'Connor  
Thomas Milhausen



Spike Williamson  
Jamie Pleasants  
Bob Gilliam III  
Lou Seigel  
John Beall Jr  
David Charbonneau  
Tim Taylor  
Fred Marrotta  
William Akers  
William Jeffress



Begin or renew your Leatherneck Club Membership for 2024. Your \$100 annual membership fee supports the activities and efforts of the James M. Slay Detachment, a not-for-profit 501c4 Veteran's Service Organization. Contact Detachment Paymaster Johnny Day at: [Paymaster329@gmail.com](mailto:Paymaster329@gmail.com)