



The Scuttlebutt Newsletter
P.O. Box 4561
Glen Allen, VA 23058-4561
June 2019



JAMES M. SLAY DETACHMENT MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEETING

NOTE: NEW LOCATION—

**LAKEWOOD
1900 Lauderdale Drive
Richmond, VA 23238**

**The Fourth Saturday Of Each Month
Next Meeting 22 June 2019
www.richmondmarines.net
(804) 417-4569**

Commandant's Message

Slay Marines,

We are now in the month of June and summer is here. The days are getting hotter and longer and things are looking bright for our detachment. Last month, we conducted our first meeting at our new location, and everyone did a fantastic job. Everything ran extremely well with the assistance of the Honor Guard, Color Guard, and the membership. I couldn't be more pleased so thank you Marines.

As you know, we had many in attendance to include many special guests. We honored one of our own Dr. Bruce Heilman and presented three MCJROTC Cadets with the first ever Sgt. Bruce Heilman Scholarship Award. Each cadet was recognized and presented with a \$500 scholarship. Dr. Heilman's presented the award to each cadet and you could see the joy in his face.

Dr. Heilman's shadowbox turned out amazing and what a piece of artwork it was. I do not think it could have turned out any better than it did. Without everyone's generous donation this could have never happened. Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy cause. If you were unable to make the meeting you really missed out. Thank you to all who took part in the presentation and all the hard work that was put in to make this day special for Dr. Heilman and the Cadets.

Since we started out with a bang at our new location. I thought maybe we should continue that tradition and have a guest speaker at next month's meeting. So, I have invited Leashes of Valor to come out and give a 20-25-minute presentation. Danique Masinghill and Jason Haag with his dog Axel will be in attendance and I know this will be a meeting you do not want to miss. So, make plans to attend!

Our detachment officers are hard at work and we will be continuing our efforts to make this detachment the best in the state. On June 8th we will have a staff meeting with the elected officers. This meeting we will be going over several items, the upcoming months, and the growth of our detachment. I know that our detachment is eager and ready for the tasks at hand.

There are a couple projects that I am looking into and I have talked with a few of our members. Once we get all the specifics, I will let the membership know. With what I have in mind it would possibly feed new growth to our membership. Trust me it will be fun, but it would take work to make it happen, but we are Marines.

That's it for now and I look forward to seeing everyone at next month's meeting. Remember 0800-0850 chow and meeting starting promptly at 0900. Also remember your challenge coin because we all know that the Sergeant At Arms wants to take a dollar from you. Until then Marines....

Semper Fidelis
Mark Moore



James M. Slay
Detachment Marine
Corps League

Richmond, Virginia

www.richmondmarines.net

The Scuttlebutt

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2019

- **Mark Moore**
Commandant
- **Phil Hebner**
Sr Vice Commandant
- **Walter Cornett**
Jr Vice Commandant
- **Bruce Russell**
Adjutant
- **Dave Schneider**
Judge Advocate
- **Jim Ralls** Chaplain
- **Rick Barden**
Sergeant at Arms
- **Fred Marotta**
Paymaster
- **Spike Williamson**
Quartermaster
- **Rich Schollman**
Web Sergeant
- **Kevin O'Connor**
Scuttlebutt Newsletter
Editor
oconorsix@verizon.net

As was announced in the Commandant's Message, we will have a guest speaker at the June 22nd meeting. Danique Masingill and Jason Hagg from Leashes of Valor.

Danique is the President and Founder of Leashes of Valor. Jason is the CEO and retired Marine Corps Captain. Jason will also be bringing his dog Axel. They will conduct a 20-25 presentation/demonstration. This will be a another great meeting that you do not want to miss.

Here is what Leashes of Valor is all about:



OUR MISSION

Leashes of Valor is a national non-profit working to provide every veteran who needs one with a highly-trained service dog to assist them in mitigating the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

Our mission is to bring service dogs and veterans together in order to enrich and improve the lives of both.

Breakfast 0800 to 0850 and meeting starting promptly at 0900. I would like the meeting to be concluded by 1015 at the latest so the Military Order or the Devil Dogs can start their meeting soon after. Woof Woof!



Our first meeting at our new location: Lakewood.

MAY MEETING WRAP-UP

On May 25th at 0900 at Lakewood the Slay Detachment of the Marine Corps League held a unique ceremony. This was our inaugural meeting at this new venue as we have outgrown our former home at the VA CPA office. We now routinely muster around 60 members and each month we grow adding 35-50-year-old Marines and FMF Navy Veterans to complement our Korean and Vietnam veterans.



Chambers (left) and USMC Sgt. Bruce Heilman (right), 93, of Richmond, Virginia.

Doctor Bruce Heilman, Sergeant Bruce Heilman USMC WWII Okinawa and Occupation of Japan veteran will be 93 in June and still travels the country on his Harley Davidson motorcycle. He was President of The University of Richmond for 25 years and has been Chancellor ever since (NOT Emeritus). He is an active member of the Slay Detachment and a frequent speaker at the Houston-Holicky-Sitter Veterans Luncheon Group. He is on many boards including the NMMC-MC Historical Foundation and Marines Memorial Assn. and he knows well every living CMC.

Bruce Heilman (right) at the Rolling Thunder Memorial Day program in Washington DC.
Photo courtesy, Washington Post.

We honored him on May 25th with a ceremony at the beginning of our monthly business meeting. Our Detachment Commandant Mark Moore (along with several past Commandants including two past State Commandants) presented him with the Shadow Box you see in the attached picture. We also initiated an annual Scholarship for the outstanding Senior Cadet of the area MC JROTC units. It was inspiring to have Dr. Bruce's family and the Cadets; their parents and Marine leaders of their respective High School MC JROTC units present at this opening ceremony.

The Detachment was not surprised that this was largest turnout of its members in Detachment history and we had local media and have some great shots of the ceremony as well as a Detachment formation and formation of our genuinely Outstanding Honor Guard.



Heilman Scholarship recipients with the Marine Corps JROTC Marine Staff from their schools.



Slay Detachment Honor Guard at the Heilman Presentation.



Marine Veterans Color Guard about to Present the Colors.



Interesting how Sgt Bruce Heilman outranks the 1st Sgt and MGySgt !



Special Presentation recognizing Cecil McNair's Dedication and Support at McGuire VA Hospital and as the detachment liaison.



Volunteers and Runners/Walkers Needed!!

On Saturday 6 July we will be looking for volunteers to help manage our 12th Annual 5K trail run. Need help with registration, course marshals, and traffic/parking.

But also need more participants—So tell friends, neighbors and family about this event along the James River.

<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Midlothian/Patriots>

Contact: Kevin O'Connor 804-387-1526
or oonnorsix@verizon.net

Urgent Care – Where and When You Need It

You've probably seen news about the MISSION Act, which expands same-day services in primary care and mental health, as well as expanded telehealth to Veterans in their homes. Under the MISSION Act, urgent care is now a supplemental benefit for eligible Veterans. Urgent care in VA or the community (i.e., non-VA) is for those minor injuries and illnesses that do not require emergency room care. This support for urgent care does not *replace* the important relationship that you have with your VA health care team.

If you need to use the new urgent care benefit, it is important that you go to an urgent care location in your community that is within the newly established VA contracted network. It is also important to know the following details about the prescription component of the benefit:

- If the urgent care provider gives you a prescription, you can fill a 14-day supply of that medication at the VA or in a pharmacy within the VA contracted network.

If you choose to fill an urgent care prescription at a pharmacy outside of the VA network, you will be required to pay for the prescription at the time of pick up and then file a claim for reimbursement at your local VA medical facility.

If you arrive at an urgent care network location and have any difficulty receiving care, you can call 866-620-2071 to receive assistance.

A personal Note: I share this at the risk of embarrassing myself, but to illustrate the new care services. In mid-June I thought I had an external ear infection. I swim almost every day so thought, “swimmers ear”?

So about 1:30 (13:30) I went into a VA listed Minit Clinic at a nearby CVS Drug Store. The Nurse Practitioner was on her way out to lunch and showed me how to register on a kiosk at the store to see her as soon as she returned. Right on time she returned, entered data into the computer and examined my ear.

No, not swimmers ear” but the tip of my hearing aid was lodged deep in the ear canal. I had not worn my hearing aids for a couple of days and never considered that the tip I had improperly replaced came off inside.

Bottom Line: As mentioned above, for minor illness or injuries we have a convenient option for treatment. So go online and look up your VA approved local same-day community providers. Editor....

Houston-Holicky-Sitter Luncheon Tuesday 9 July 2019 Kyle Watts, Contributing Author Leatherneck Magazine

Kyle Watts is a former Marine Captain. He served on active duty from 2009 to 2013 as a Communications Officer with Marine Aircraft Group 39, out of Camp Pendleton, CA. Since leaving active duty, Kyle has worked as a contributing author for Leatherneck Magazine, covering a wide variety of current events and historical topics. He lives in Richmond, VA with his wife, Bridget, and their three children.

I am originally from Zanesville, OH. Attended Bob Jones University in South Carolina and graduated with a BA in History prior to getting my commission in 2009.

Also, in case you might be interested, I have written several articles for Leatherneck in years past. Below is a list of everything I've written for them so far.

"John Moses Browning's Impact on the US Marine Corps", published July 2013

"Gunpowder in Their Blood: Four Generations of George Van Orden", published August 2014

"Mayhem From The Heartland: The Warriors of 2d Battalion, 24th Marines", published August 2016

"Hail to the Chief: The President's Own Supports the Inauguration", published April 2017 (Cover Story)

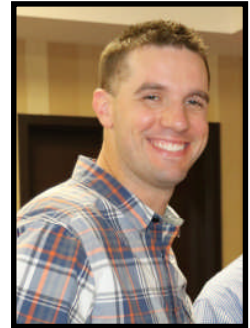
"First to Fight: 1st Force Recon in Hue City", published February 2018

"The Flying Ladder: Emergency Extractions and the Lifesaver from the Sky" and "Flying Ladder: Reunion", published April 2018 (Cover Story)

"Chosin Twins: The Service and Sacrifice of the Thosath Family", published June 2018

I currently have a story about Corpsmen who served with Force Recon in Vietnam for publication in March 2019. Also, a story on the veterans of 2/26, their experience at LZ Margo in September of 1968, and their 50th anniversary reunion of it this past September, is pending publication.

Editor's Note: This was the write up from Kyle that we received for his scheduled December 2018 presentation that had to be cancelled due to a snowstorm. The editor apologizes for not having an appropriate update. So some of the publishing information may be out of date.



Slay Detachment Marines Ron Echols and Joe Washington at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. Joe and Ron were members of the famous 3rd Battalion/ 26th Marines posing in front of the Map and description of the unit's incredible role in Vietnam.

Houston-Holicky-Sitter Luncheon

MC: Col. Bill Parrish, USMC Ret.



The Houston-Holicky-Sitter Veterans' lunch group 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.

Uniform: Whatever you want to wear.

Cost: The chow: Optional but available at the Publix Deli on Main floor.

Date: Tuesday 9 July 2019 (The second Tuesday of every month)

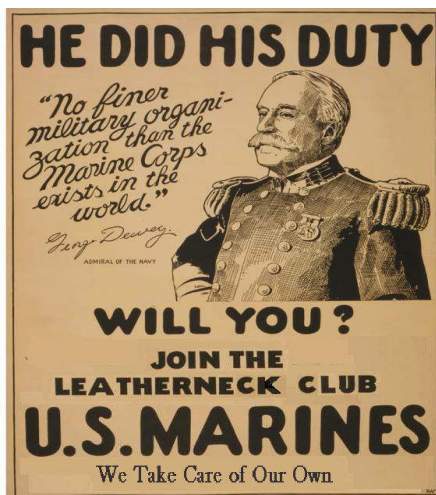
Speaker: Kyle Watts - Bio page 7

Chow: 1130 - Speaker - 1210 - Secure at 1245.

Where: **"IMPORTANT" Location — Publix (Formerly Martins)**
2250 John Rolfe Parkway, Henrico, VA 23233

2019 LEATHERNECK

Bill Akers
 Jim Barrett
 John Beall
 Mike Boudreau
 Herb Delbridge
 Ron Echols
 John Clickener
 Phillip Gee
 Bob Gilliam
 Tim Godbey
 Clint Harrington
 Bob Hartley
 Phil Hebner
 Houston Holicky Sitter
 Luncheon Group
 Bill Jeffress
 Ed Kemp
 Greg Lee
 Annebel Lewis



Tom Mraz
 Tom Milhausen
 Kevin O'Connor
 John O'Connor
 Wes Pruitt
 Jim Ralls
 Bruce Russell
 David Schneider
 Lou Seigel
 Fred Smith
 Bruce Steeley
 David Taylor
 John Thomas
 Richard VanDamme
 Joe Wadle
 Bill Wagner
 Joe Washington
 Jerry Wells
 Spike Williamson
 Richard Zimmer

In Memoriam
 Chip Houston Pat O'Hare
 Bill Lyell



Begin or renew your Leatherneck Club Membership/Support for 2018. For a contribution of \$100 you will support our standard monthly donation to: , Virginia Dept. of Veterans and Family Services Project, USMC Wounded Warriors Project, USO Gift Cards in Richmond, and the Slay Det. Ladies Auxiliary.
 Contact Det. Paymaster Fred Marotta at : fredmarotta@gmail.com