



The Scuttlebutt Newsletter
P.O. Box 4561
Glen Allen, VA 23058-4561
January 2020



JAMES M. SLAY DETACHMENT MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MEETING

NOTE: NEW LOCATION -LOOK FOR SIGNS TO NEW MEETING ROOM—

LAKEWOOD

**1900 Lauderdale Drive
Richmond, VA 23238**

**The Fourth Saturday Of Each Month
Next Meeting 25 January 2020
0830 Breakfast—0900 Meeting
www.richmondmarines.net
(804) 417-4569**

Once a Marine ... Always a Marine



04Jan 2020

Detachment Financial Summary for 2019

Major sources of Income

Breakfast.,	\$2,619.00
Dues... ..	\$2,985.00
Honor Guard Gifts	\$5,188.88
Leatherneck Club	\$3,200.00
Patriot Race	\$3,289.00
Raffles	\$4,461.00
Heilman Fund	\$5,053.00
Toys for Tots Dinner.	\$1,345.00
Quartermaster Sales	\$1,129.00
TOTAL.	

\$29,269.00

Major Expenses

Breakfast	\$2296.00
Dues	\$2093.00
JROTC,501 's, McGuire	\$8291.00
Fixed Operating Items	\$4395.00
Patriot Race	\$1389.00
Heilman Scholarships + Shadow Box	\$1954.00
Quartermaster purchases	\$1257.00
Misc. Expenses.....	\$4025.00
TOTAL.	\$25, 700.00

TOP NET + or-

Heilman Fund	+ \$3,099.00
Breakfast Sales.....	+ \$323.00
Toys for tots Dinner	- \$1,545.00
Dues	+ \$892.00
Quartermaster	- \$128.00
Patriot Race	+ \$1,900.00
Honor Guard	+ \$4,502.00
Raffles	+ \$3,599.00
Misc. Expenses	- \$4,025.00

Net + of \$8,745.00

Fred Marotta
Detachment Paymaster

James M. Slay
Detachment Marine
Corps League

Richmond, Virginia

www.richmondmarines.net

The Scuttlebutt

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2020

- **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
- **Steve Farmer**
Quartermaster
- **Bob Gilliam**
Web Sergeant
- **Kevin O'Connor**
Scuttlebutt Newsletter
Editor
oonorsix@verizon.net



Marines,

2020 is going to be another great and active year for the Slay Detachment. As an organization we have become more focused as well as more expanded in the veterans and general community. We really need the outstanding efforts by all members to contribute. You should be seeing our budget plans in your email and if you look at it closely you will see that we need participation in all aspects of the detachment..

Like all veterans organizations we need to identify and bring other Marine veterans to join us. (I'd say recruit but that might scare some of us). With our fund-raising—to support our mission - we will ask for your help. But most of all we need some energy and creativity on your part to grow our membership.

Attend our meetings, read the newsletter and talk to other Marines to really know what's going on and what you can do.

Semper Fidelis

Leatherneck Club 2020

As you can see in the Financial Statement on page 2 of this newsletter, the Leatherneck Club is one of the most important sources of funding for our organization and helps us fulfill our mission.



This issue of the Scuttlebutt still shows the Leatherneck Club participants for 2019 and the February issue will reflect the 2020 contributors. We encourage any Slay Detachment member who can afford it to start the new decade off with that support.

The James M. Slay Detachment, is a not-for-profit 501c4 Veteran's Service Organization.

Contact Detachment Paymaster Fred Marotta at: Paymaster329@gmail.com

Or mail your payment to:

Slay Detachment, MCL, P.O. Box 4561, Glen Allen, VA 23058-4561

Semper Fi

Lonny Fry shared this story with the Scuttlebutt:

Assailant Suffers Injuries From a Fall

Orville Smith, a store manager for Best Buy in Augusta, Ga., told police he observed a male customer, later identified as Tyrone Jackson of Augusta, on **surveillance cameras** putting a laptop computer under his jacket. When confronted, the man became irate, knocked down an employee, drew a knife and ran for the door.

Outside on the sidewalk were four Marines collecting for the Toys for Tots program. Smith said the Marines stopped the man, but he stabbed one of the Marines, Cpl. Phillip Duggan, in the back; the injury did not appear to be severe.

After Police and an ambulance arrived at the scene, Cpl. Duggan was transported for treatment.

"The subject was also transported to the local hospital with two broken arms, a broken ankle, a broken leg, several missing teeth, possible broken ribs, multiple contusions, assorted lacerations, a broken nose and a broken jaw...injuries he sustained when he slipped and fell off of the curb after stabbing the Marine," according to a Police report.

From a USO Publication—

Some Things Only Marines Know About The Corps



By Joseph Andrew Lee

Editor's note: The author served 10 years in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Eleanor Roosevelt is rumored to have once described Marines as having “the cleanest bodies, the filthiest minds, the highest morale, and the lowest morals of any group of animals” she had ever seen.

Whether or not she actually said that, and whether or not those things are true about Marines is largely debatable, but here are some facts most Marines won't debate:

1. Marines have their favorite words – “Outstanding” is by far any Marine's favorite adjective. It's often used to describe the type of day a Marine is having, but the limits of its usage are tested daily by Marines everywhere looking to add a little motivation into their diction.

2. CHAOS is more than a theory – Defense Secretary James Mattis' nickname CHAOS is actually an acronym that stands for “Colonel Has An (Another) Outstanding Solution.” The tongue-in-cheek nickname was first given to Mattis while he was a colonel at Twentynine Palms, California.

3. Marines don't use their pockets – Whether in cammies or dress blues, Marines definitely have lots of pockets in their uniforms, but they don't dare use them. Items in their pockets create a bulky, sloppy appearance, so Marines will go to any length to not use their pockets, even to the point of carrying things in their socks.

4. Nicknames are kind of a thing – If your name is too long or difficult to pronounce, it's likely that drill instructors will rename you “Alphabet.” If you wear glasses, it's likely drill instructors may rename you “portholes.” Luckily, nicknames assigned in boot camp aren't likely to stay with a Marine into the Fleet.

5. The Fleet – The FMF (Fleet Marine Force) is the name Marines give to the “real life” Marine Corps beyond the “pipeline” that includes Marine Corps Recruit Training and MOS (Military Occupational Specialty) school.

6. Marines don't steal; but they do acquire – Rumor has it there was once a single thief in the Corps, and ever since then Marines have occasionally found the need to ‘acquire’ his or her things back. The cycle is never-ending.

7. Marines are tough as nails – In 1959, Marine Lt. Col. William Rankin is the only known person to survive a fall from the top of a cumulonimbus thunderstorm cloud. He ejected from his plane at 47,000 feet and fell 40 minutes through the middle of the storm and survived.

There ar 15 more examples in the USO story. Check it out at:

<https://www.uso.org/stories/2092-here-are-22-things-only-marines-know-about-the-corps>

Editors Note:

I hope that most of the Detachment appreciate both the volume and the quality of services that our Detachment Honor Guard provides to the veteran and military community. If not, here is a review of the units history and current activity.

As noted, the average age of the members is about 71 years old. They are always looking for new member. Please consider joining. Contact Spike Williamson as noted below.

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

The mission of the James M. Slay Detachment Honor Guard is to provide Military Honors for funerals, memorial services, dedication ceremonies, and other occasions as requested regardless of service branch. Our unit is certified by the Department of Defense to conduct Military Honors.

The unit was formed in 2012. As of January 2020, the average age of our Honor Guard is approximately 71 and many are Vietnam War veterans. Our primary operating area is within a fifty-mile radius of Richmond, Virginia. This includes the Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Amelia, Virginia.

We have provided Military Honors for more than 240 veterans, 80 of which were in 2019. Approximately 39% of all the funerals have been for Marine veterans, 31% have been Army veterans including those who served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, 23% have been Navy veterans, 7% have been Air Force veterans, and 1 has been a Coast Guard veteran.

Over the past seven (7) years we have performed Military Funeral Honors at seventy-six (76) different locations. During 2019 about half (49%) of the Military Funeral Honors were performed at the Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Amelia. We have performed Military Honors in conjunction with members of the different branches of the United States Armed Forces.

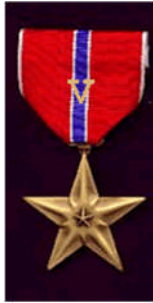
In addition to Military Honor we have provided rifle salutes for events, such as, Wreaths Across America, Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances, including those at the Virginia War Memorial, Pearl Harbor Remembrances, and other dedications. We have also performed flag folding presentations to various church and civic organizations.

To request services of the Honor Guard or for information regarding the Honor Guard please call 804-325-4199 or email rvahonorguard@gmail.com.



[06 January 2020](#)
[Spike Williamson](#)

**Houston-Holicky-Sitter Luncheon
11 February 2020
Ron Echols, USMC
James M. Slay Detachment Member**



The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting
the **BRONZE STAR MEDAL** to

**STAFF SERGEANT RONALD EUGENE ECHOLS
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For meritorious service in connection with combat operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam while serving with Company M, Third Battalion, Twenty-Sixth Marines, Third Marine Division from 17 July 1967 to 16 June 1968. Throughout this period, Staff Sergeant ECHOLS performed his demanding duties in an exemplary and highly professional manner. As a Platoon Sergeant, he displayed initiative and leadership far exceeding that normally expected of a Marine of his rank and contributed significantly to the efficiency and morale of his unit. On numerous occasions, Staff Sergeant ECHOLS served as a Platoon Commander, a billet normally assigned to a commissioned officer, and repeatedly disregarded his own safety to maneuver his unit against the enemy. While his company was deployed on Hill 881 South during the siege of Khe Sanh, he worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and welfare of his men despite constant North Vietnamese mortar and artillery fire. His resolute determination and bold initiative inspired all who observed him and greatly enhanced the combat posture of his company. Staff Sergeant ECHOLS' exemplary leadership, outstanding professional ability and steadfast devotion to duty throughout contributed significantly to the accomplishment of his unit's mission and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the United States Naval Service." Staff Sergeant ECHOLS is authorized to wear the Combat "V".

FOR THE PRESIDENT,

/S/ H. W. Buse, Jr.

H. W. BUSE, JR.

**LIEUTENANT GENERAL, U. S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC**

Houston-Holicky-Sitter Luncheon

MC: Col. Bill Parrish, USMC Ret.



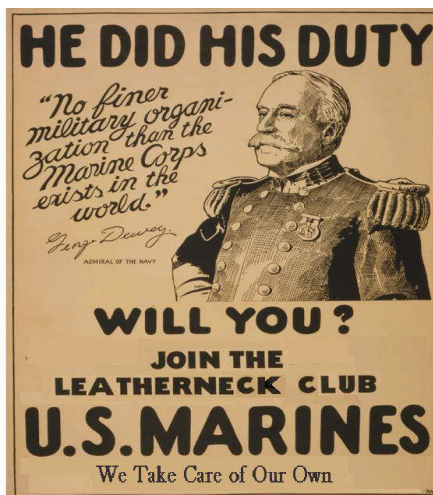
The Houston-Holicky-Sitter Veterans' lunch group is an informal forum for veterans of all branches of the armed forces. Col. Joseph J. Holicky, Jr. (USMC, ret.) and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Col. Carl L. Sitter (USMC, ret.) began having lunch together in the mid 1970's following their retirements. 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 11 February (The second Tuesday of every month)
 Speaker: Ron Echols, USMC—Slay Detachment Member
 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 Fred Smith



Begin or renew your Leatherneck Club Membership for 2020. 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 Fred Marotta at: Paymaster329@gmail.com