

The Bonnyman Gazette

Monthly Detachment Newsletter

www.mclknnox.org

November 2008

Commandant's Corner



-by Jeff Tegzes

(Jeff was unable to write a column this month so the following are some comments from the Editor.)

We were saddened recently to hear of the deaths of two of our Detachment's Life Members, Earl Richardson and Charles Burchett. While I didn't know Earl, I've gotten to know Charlie pretty well over the years and enjoyed listening to his stories about the Pacific battles he fought in during World War II and the later battles he led to keep liberal UT administrations and radical students from going too far during the Vietnam years. He was a fine man, fiercely independent and fiercely loyal. He was a perfect example of the men and women TV News Anchor Tom Brokaw called

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Bonnyman Gazette items are due to Editor Virgil Young (call 675-4004 or e-mail to vlyoung@chartertn.net) by the 15th of each month.

Christmas Party at Atchley Veterans Nursing Home on 6 December

We're going to do something a little different this year with our annual Christmas party. We're going to help spread some Christmas cheer to the almost 140 veterans in the Ben Atchley State Veterans Nursing Home at 1 Veterans Way in West Knoxville. Meet at the Nursing Home on Saturday, 6 Dec., about 1000, for a Christmas Program with those veterans who can manage to get to the activities room. We'll then distribute Christmas packages to the veterans their rooms. We've already collected the needed items and will be putting them in individual packages just before our monthly meeting on 25 November. We'll also have lunch with the vets, courtesy of the Nursing Home. So that we can tell them how many will be coming for lunch, sign up at the 25 Nov. meeting or call Chaplain Leroy Brown (806-2837). Don't forget to bring your new, unwrapped toys (no guns, please) to the nursing home and we'll get them to the Toys for Tots collection warehouse after the Christmas Party.



Join us for a wonderful Christmas celebration - the veterans in the nursing home will really appreciate it and you'll get a lot out of it, too!

Directions: Take I-40 to the Pellissippi Parkway. Go north on the Parkway (Rte. 162 North) toward Oak Ridge for 4.3 miles. Turn right on Coward Mill Rd. for 1.7 miles, then right on Veterans Way to the home.

Detachment/Auxiliary Meeting on 11/25/08

The next monthly meeting will be at the Navy Operational Support Center/Marine Corps Reserve Center, 2101 Alcoa Hwy., on Tuesday, 11/25/08, beginning with a social hour at 1730. During the social hour, we'll pack the items that we

will be taking to the State Veterans Nursing Home for our Christmas Party. The business meeting will start at 1830, when we'll get an update on the Thanksgiving Weekend Safety Break, and other activities.

Odds & Ends

Date Set for 2009 Marine Mud Run - Saturday, 19 Sept., is the date of next year's Mud Run so mark it on your calendars to make sure you can participate. We expect it to be bigger and better than ever. We still haven't made a final decision as to whether or not to move it to a different location that some folks advise might give us room for more runners but we'll need to make that decision by the first of the year.

Thanksgiving Weekend Safety Break - We will hold our last Safety Break of the year over the

2008-2009 Detachment Officers (with contact phone #)

Commandant

Jeff Tegzes (865-988-6247)

Junior Past Commandant

David Hatfield (865-577-7303)

Senior Vice Commandant

Lee Rhinemiller (865-458-2550)

Junior Vice Commandant

Jim Burnett (865-525-1830)

Adjutant

Virgil Young (865-675-4004)

Paymaster

Laimon Godel (865-690-1272)

Chaplain

Leroy Brown (865-806-2837)

Judge Advocate

Bud Fitzgerald (865-966-5879)

Sergeant-at-Arms

Josh Burnett (865-455-4060)

Thanksgiving weekend holiday. All of the slots for the 6-hour shifts are currently filled with at least two people but some of them still need that third person. If you have helped at the Safety Break, you know how important that third person is when it gets busy so check the sign-up roster at the 11/25 meeting to see if you can help.

2009 SE Division Conference in Gatlinburg

Sevier County Detachment #1206 is hosting the 63rd SE Division Conference at the River Terrace Resort and Conference Center in Gatlinburg from 5-7 March 2009. The regis-

tration deadline is 2/3/09. Registrations are being handled by Steve Ellis Tours in Pigeon Forge. In addition to lodging arrangements, the tour company can provide discount prices on many of the popular entertainment venues in the area. The business meetings will take place on Saturday, 3/7/09, and only those Leaguers present may vote. The final banquet is that evening - the registration/banquet package is only \$50.00 if you just want to go up for the day. Registration forms will be available at the 11/25/08 Detachment meeting or you can call Steve Ellis Tours at (800) 953-7469.

2009 Department Convention

Our Detachment is hosting the 2009 Department Convention from 19-20 June at the Holiday Inn Select off the Cedar Bluff Exit of I-40. As the result of a lot of hard work by Detachment members in the past, we have a reputation for putting on an excellent convention and we want to make sure we continue to live up to that reputation. We anticipate that we will get about 120 convention attendees and that the final banquet will have up to 200 people.

Our Detachment officers have been putting the convention plans together for some time and

expect to have convention information out to all the detachments in the state by the first of the year. If the event is successful, it should result in substantial income for the Detachment - not off of the convention attendees but from advertisements in our convention program book.

If you know someone associated with a business that would like to advertise to about 200 people from around the state and support the League, please get the advertisement rates at our 22 Nov. meeting and ask for their support.

Young Marine Report - by Unit Commander Virgil Young

At the drill on 1 November, we had a Drug Demand Reduction presentation from a former drug dealer telling how his life was ruined by the use of drugs. Then 1st Sgt. Charles Wright from the I&I Staff worked with all the Young Marines on Color Guard Drill and Guidon Bearer movements. A number of Young Marines went before Promotion Boards, as well.

On 8 Nov., some of the Young Marines and Adult Leaders helped put out flags on the graves

at the State Veterans Cemetery on Lyons View Pike in preparation for Veterans Day. (See pictures, p. 4.) One of the graves decorated was that of Willie Sanders, the grandfather of Young Marine Dominique Sanders.

On Veterans Day, 11 Nov., Young Marines carried the YM and MCL banners in the 2009 Knoxville Veterans Day Parade.

On 15 Nov., the Adult Leaders and some of the YM Senior

NCOs met to plan our unit's schedule and activities for the next 6 months.

On 22 Nov., Young Marines will present the colors and blow "Taps" at the Bonnyman Memorial ceremony in the morning before going to Eagleton Elementary to prepare for that evening's Young Marine Birthday Ball beginning at 1800. Maj. Brian R. Griffing, the Inspector-Instructor with "D" Co. at the Reserve Center, will be the Guest of Honor.

Commandant's Corner (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

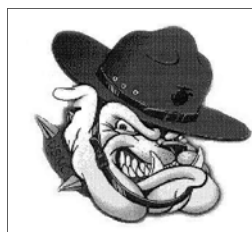
"the Greatest Generation" that fought to get our nation through World War II and then put down their guns to return home to continue to try to make the world a better place. Semper Fi, old friend. We'll miss you.

There are, I'm sure, a number of other veterans like Charlie in the Atchley State Veterans Nursing Home and we'll get to meet some of them at the 6 December Christmas Party. Please plan on attending - I know you'll enjoy it.

Speaking of the nursing home, I wanted to let you know we are pursuing building the pavilion at the home so that the vets can get outside and enjoy the weather on nice days. Some of the Detach-

ment officers met with the nursing home staff about a month ago to see exactly what they needed and then we got a quote from the company we'll probably get the pavilion from. Although there are still a lot of steps to be taken to get everything approved, the project is moving ahead. I believe it will result in the fairly near future in a pavilion that will see a lot of use at the nursing home and that we can all take a great deal of pride in helping to build.

Semper Fi, Virgil



Membership

Since our last meeting, we've received one new application for membership: Marine Richard Arsenault, 1076 Fate Rankin Rd., Jefferson City; served 8/61-8/67; recommended by Marine Vernon Tasse. His wife, Beth, was also in the Corps. Richard just underwent surgery on his achilles tendon so won't make our 11/25/08 meeting.

The following are members due for renewal in the near future:

Dec. - Brian Buckna, Bob Cunningham, Lou Eades, Jim Ferrell, and Gary Miller (Associate).

Jan. - David Brown, Jack Diemer, Jesse Mitchell, Jeff Tegzes, and Heidi Timmerman.

Recent Pictures of Interest



Young Marines carry the banner in front the Reserves' Humvee pulling the Detachment float in the 2009 Knoxville Veterans Day Parade.



Young Marines in front of the grave of Willie Sanders, grandfather of YM Dominique Sanders.



Auxiliary Report - by Connie Sexton

Greetings, everyone. November and December are very busy months and we have a lot to do in a short time. MCL Chaplain Leroy Brown asks that we bring lotions and whatever else we want to put in the bags to the November meeting so that they can be put together for the State Nursing Home visit on December 6, 2008. Don't forget to

bring your Toys for Tots at that same time. Terry Cates has already arranged to get several items for the bags including calendars and small tablets, etc.

We should think about elections for January. Cookies by Dorie and Eleanor.

See you at the meeting. Connie

Chaplain's Report - by Leroy Brown

Greetings, Marines.

The ranks of the "greatest generation" are sadly being rapidly depleted. We've recently lost two of them who were life members: Marine Earl G. Richardson, who died on Oct. 20th, and Marine Charles R. Burchett, Sr., who died on Nov. 9th. Marine Jim Peacock is very ill. He is at home and visitors are welcome. Marine Jim Ferrell has been ill, but is on the mend. Keep these Marines and their families in your prayers.

Thanks to all who came to the Marine Corps birthday luncheon and cake-cutting ceremony. The Veterans Day parade was a success. Our thanks to the Young Marines, the Marines of Delta Co., and the Ladies and Detachment Marines who rode our float – it looked good as usual thanks to Marine David Hatfield. Our Christmas party is Dec. 6th - the presents are almost ready to wrap. Semper Fi, Leroy



Upcoming Activities

December 2008

4th - YM Adult Staff Mtg.
6th - MCL Christmas Breakfast
- YM Toys for Tots Collection
16th - MCL Officers' Mtg.
8th - Devil Dog Growl (Pigeon Forge)
20th - YM Drill - Christmas Party

(There will be no Detachment/Aux. monthly meeting in December.)

January 2008

8th - YM Adult Staff Mtg.
10th - YM Drill
24th - YM Drill/NCO Campout
27th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

More Daffy Definitions

The Washington Post once asked readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting or changing only one letter, and supply a new definition. Here are a few more good ones:

Bozone - The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating, creating a Bozone layer.

Karmageddon: It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's, like, a serious bummer.

NEWS FLASH!

Detachment Member Joe Edlemon was the Guest of Honor at the Birthday Ball at the Crown Plaza Hotel on 15 Nov. Joe has a million jokes and stories and he used that repertoire to keep the attendees in stitches as he talked about his Marine Corps career and the history of the Marine Reserve unit in Knoxville - great job, Joe!

February 2008

5th - YM Adult Staff Mtg.
7th - YM Drill
14th - YM Recruit Parent Orientation
11th - MCL Officers' Mtg.
21st. - YM Drill
24th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

Application for Membership
Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment # 924, Marine Corps League
Knoxville, TN

Date: _____

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Home Ph.# _____
Business Ph.# _____ E-mail _____ Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

Date of Enlistment/Commissioning ____ / ____ / ____ Date of Discharge/Separation/Retirement ____ / ____ / ____

Type of Application: () New () Renewal Type of Membership: () Associate () Regular

I hereby apply for membership in the Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment, Marine Corps League, Department of Tennessee, and enclose \$35.00 for one year's membership, which includes a year's subscription to the Marine Corps League quarterly magazine. I certify that I have served as a U.S. Marine for more than 90 days, that the character of my service has been honorable, and if discharged, I am in receipt of an honorable discharge. I am attaching to this application proof of my honorable discharge/service (retired military ID, DD-214, Honorable Discharge Certificate, etc.).

(Sponsor's Name) _____

_____ Applicant's Signature

Upon completion, return to your sponsor, or mail application to **→**

LT. ALEXANDER BONNYMAN DETACHMENT #924
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
PO BOX 145
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

(Include your \$35.00 dues payment - check or money order payable to "Marine Corps League" - plus proof of honorable service, which is required by our Detachment.)

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