

The Bonnyman Gazette

Monthly Detachment Newsletter

www.mclknnox.org

July 2009

Commandant's Corner



-by Jeff Tegzes

Greetings, Marines! I often hear at meetings or League events "whatever happened to Marine ...?" The question is especially common this time of year as we review our membership roster to prepare for conventions and publish a new directory. Looking at the names and numbers, I am struck by the fact that while our Detachment is large by League standards at around 150, our monthly meetings rarely include more than 35 members! What this really means is that a small percentage of the Bonnyman Detachment is making all of the decisions and planning all of the activities for the year. If you have not been to a meeting lately, it would be great to see you again and hear about what you would like to do. The so-

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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.

Will We Have 1,400 Runners for the 2009 Marine Mud Run?

Our 6th Annual Marine Mud Run is scheduled for Saturday, 19 September. Our registrations are running a little behind where they were at this stage last year but we still expect to get about 1,400 runners this year.

We still have time to get out and contact possible sponsors for the race.

We already have including Coca- we need many forms showing levels and what ceives for his or available for our website.

We'll need a lot ing and after the race, we'll need "goodie bags" ners and setting day of the race, with parking, ing out timing drinks and iad of other need help clean-

so please sign up to help at the 28 July Detachment meeting. Help us have another successful and profitable Marine Mud Run.



Runners in the big mud pit during the 2008 race.

a few sponsors, in- Cola for drinks, but more. Sponsor the various sponsor the sponsor re- her support are downloading from

of help before, dur- race. Before the help preparing the we hand out to run- up the site. On the we'll need help registration, hand- chips, preparing snacks, and a myr- tasks. Finally, we'll ing up after the race

Detachment/Auxiliary Meeting on 7/28/09

The next monthly meeting will be at the Navy Operational Support Center/Marine Corps Reserve Center, 2101 Alcoa Hwy., on Tuesday, 7/28/09, beginning at 1730.

During the business meeting starting at 1830, we'll discuss the results of

the July 4th Weekend Safety Break, the 2009 Mud Run, the Detachment Picnic, and other activities. We will have an up- dated Detachment/Auxiliary Di- rectory available at the meeting.

Don't miss it!

Odds & Ends

Pavilion at Vets Nursing Home -

Unfortunately, our efforts to build the covered pavilion at the Ben Atchley State Veterans Nursing Home have been stymied for quite a few months while the nursing home staff has been trying to get the approvals they need from the bureaucrats in Nashville. We've been told that the nursing home staff now believes they've provided the last bit of information the state folks need so we hope to get the project moving ahead very shortly.

Stand Down in October? A fall Stand Down for Homeless Veter-

ans has been tentatively scheduled for Friday, 16 October, through Saturday, 17 October. Unfortunately, because of the upcoming deployment this fall of the Tennessee National Guard's 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, the National Guard Armory will not be available to us so we're searching for another suitable location. We'd like to do a two-day event this time. During the one-day Stand Down last spring, we weren't able to provide much in the way of medical services so we'd like to increase the medical services available at this event.

Birthday Ball - The Reserves have scheduled this year's Marine Corps Birthday Ball for Saturday, 14 November, so mark it on your calendars now. Our Detachment will probably host a smaller activity, probably a lunch, on the 10th, as well to celebrate the birthday of the Corps. We'll provide more details in the next couple of months.

Detachment Christmas Breakfast - The annual Christmas Breakfast will probably be on Saturday, 5 December. The Detachment officers are starting to look around for a suitable location but mark your calendars

2009-2010 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

Lloyd Morris (865-717-9250)

Adjutant

Virgil Young (865-675-4004)

Paymaster

Laimon Godel (865-690-1272)

Chaplain

Leroy Brown (865-806-2837)

Judge Advocate

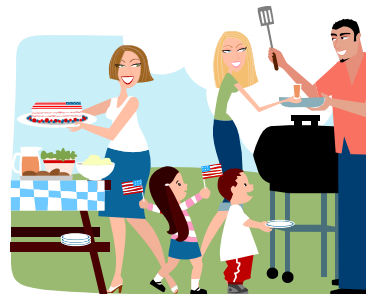
Bud Fitzgerald (865-966-5879)

Sergeant-at-Arms

Bill Ackerman (865-806-9868)

Annual Detachment Picnic on Sunday, 27 September

Our annual picnic is scheduled for Sunday, 27 Sept., at the Lenoir City Park on Loudon Lake. Arrive at 1300 and we'll eat at 1400. We will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, drinks, table settings, cups and glasses. There is no cost for the picnic but each family is asked to bring one dish for six to share based on the letter of the alphabet beginning



your last name: A-D - vegetable dish (baked beans, corn, squash, etc.) or items for burgers (sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, or lettuce); E-I - Chips (potato chips, tortilla chips, etc.) or dips for the chips; J-O - Dessert; and, P-Z - Fruit, salads (pasta salad, potato salad, etc.) or appetizers - bring on ice, if needed.

We'll give directions to the park in next month's newsletter.

Young Marine Report - by Unit Commander Virgil Young

A total of 34 YM participated in the 4th of July Parade in Gatlinburg, as did a number of Adult Leaders. Four YM served as a Color Guard and four others carried the banner of our YM unit as well as the League's Detachment banner. The rest of the YM rode in our unit's float or on the float of the Marine Corps League Detachment. It was a beautiful, cool summer evening and tens of thousands of people lined the streets of Gatlinburg to cheer for the parade participants.

On 11 July, 42 YM participated in a "Discover SCUBA" program at

the pool at Maryville College. Professional instructors from "Dive With Us" provided initial instruction on SCUBA diving and then showed the YM how to put on the equipment used in SCUBA diving. All of the YM got to put on the equipment and swim around the pool. "Dive With Us" is providing a big discount for any YM or YM family members who want to take lessons leading to SCUBA certification.

Upcoming planned events include a "Rowing Adventure" on 8 August at the Smoky Mountain

Rowing Center and a hike in the Smokies in October to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Smoky Mountain National Park.

Unfortunately, we've had to cancel the 2009 Regimental Encampment that our unit was scheduled to host in September. The event had been planned for a year and the other Unit Commanders had committed to attend but when the registration deadline passed, not a single other unit had responded. We're working with the Regt. CO to make sure this kind of thing doesn't happen again in the future.

Commandant's Corner (Cont.)

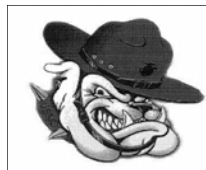
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cial hour before the meeting is a great opportunity to get reacquainted and meet new members. I can promise you that we will get through the League's business as quickly as possible at the member's meeting. I don't like sitting on those metal chairs for hours any more than you do!

I am also concerned about our ability to fully man the trailer during our holiday I-40 Safety Breaks. With a 150member detachment, there is no reason why we cannot fill every shift of a four-day safety break with alternates for emergencies. It is simply not right that some members should have to pull double shifts to fill up the roster. Labor Day

weekend is coming up fast. If you can't make the meeting to sign up, call the Junior Vice ASAP to get on a shift. Have a great summer. See you at the next meeting and the picnic.

Semper Fidelis, Jeff



Membership

At the June meeting, we swore in Marine Jason West as our newest member. We've received no new applications but we have gotten in a request to transfer membership to our Detachment. Marine Bob Brown, 134 Oostagala Dr., Loudon, TN (served 12/66-4/70) has requested to transfer his life membership to our Detachment. We'll vote on that request at the 28 July Detachment meeting.

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

August - John Bell, Charles Cardwell, John Dempster, Steve Fisher, Doug Kahr, Steve Petty, and Ron Sexton (Assoc.). **Sept.** - Rod Creigh, Steve Peck, and Jim Turner.

Recent Pictures of Interest



Members of the Detachment and Auxiliary prepare the Detachment float for the 2009 Gatlinburg 4th of July parade. By the time they finished, its lights and music rivaled any of the professionally prepared floats in the parade.



Young Marines receive instruction on SCUBA diving at the Maryville College pool.



Young Marines put out flags at the state veterans cemetery before Memorial Day 2009.

Auxiliary Report - by Connie Sexton

Hello everyone, hope the summer is going well thus far. The State Convention is over and went pretty well. Thanks again to all our members and Detachment wives who helped.

Fourth of July parade was inspiring as usual - there was a huge crowd. Thanks to our members who attended, including Randi

Oberhauser all the way from Ohio.

We had our awards at the last meeting and Doris Ekstrom was selected as Unit Member of the Year. Gen Vadeboncoeur received the Distinguished Service Award. Thanks to Eleanor Ekstrom, Charlotte Helton, Barbara Tassey, Lois Eddlemon, Dorothy

Robbins, Pat Gettings, Betty Little, Ruby Henson, Abbe Tegzes and Mattie Brown who also received awards from the Unit.

Cookies in July will be by Ruby Henson.

See you at the meeting and at other up-coming activities.

Connie

Chaplain's Report - by Leroy Brown

Greetings, Marines.

Hope everyone had a great 4th of July holiday celebrating the birthday of our great nation. My son, Sgt. Aaron Brown, was home on leave so the Browns had a enjoyable time. My son and I rode the mule in the New Tazewell 4th of July Parade along with other units of the Smoky Mountain Military Vehicle Club and with part of the TN National Guard.

The July 4th weekend Safety

Break went well for Marines Lloyd Morris, Jim Putman and myself. We had a great time. We need more people to help out. Be sure to sign up for the Labor Day weekend Safety Break.

Marine Gus Aiken had a complete hip replacement so give him a call or send him a card.

If I can be of assistance to anyone, call me at 865-806-2837

Semper Fi, Leroy

NEWS FLASH!

Detachment Quartermaster Bill Henson (947-3749) keeps a small inventory of League items that includes the official MCL cover in all sizes along with the cover emblem. He also has some of the other items you'll need to put together an MCL uniform, including collar emblems, and he even has one of the gold vests that can be worn with the red jacket on formal occasions. Of course, he has a large supply of the red Detachment ball caps. If you're interested in one of the red embroidered polo shirts, he has a good local contact that can get them back in just a couple of days.

Upcoming Activities

August 2009

6th - YM Adult Staff Meeting
8th - YM Drill
11th - MCL Officers Meeting
22nd - YM Drill
25th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

September 2009

3rd - YM Adult Staff Meeting
4th-7th - I-40 Safety Break
5th - YM Drill
8th - MCL Officers Meeting
13th - YM Regimental Staff Mtg.
14th - Devil Dog Growl
19th - 2009 Marine Mud Run
27th - Detachment/Aux. Annual Picnic
29th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

October 2009

1st - YM Adult Staff Mtg.
10th - Fall Dept. Mtg. (Lebanon)
- YM Drill
13th - MCL Officers Meeting
16th-17th - Stand Down (?)
24th - YM Drill
27th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Det. # 924
Marine Corps League
PO Box 145
Knoxville, TN 37901

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Learn more about us at www.mclknox.org

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.)