

# The Bonnyman Gazette

Monthly Detachment Newsletter

www.mclknox.org

November 2009

## Commandant's Corner



-by Jeff Tegzes

Greetings Marines!

Congratulations and thanks for the great showing at our Birthday and Veterans day events this month. Our high visibility is important to the community and is great for recruiting new members. We will be welcoming some new Marines at our next meeting so don't miss the chance to make some new friends.

The Birthday Ball was fantastic, as usual, and we should not forget to thank the Delta Company Marines for putting on a very classy event for all of us.

We are busy finishing up this year's business by assembling a new slate of officers and laying out a calendar of events for 2010. There will be changes! Most of the current officers,

*(Continued on page 3)*

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

## Spread Some Christmas Cheer!

The Detachment's annual Christmas Breakfast will begin at 0800 on Saturday, 5 December, at Middlebrook Gardens, a catering facility at 9020 Middlebrook Pike. (It's located on Middlebrook Pike about halfway between the Cedar Bluff intersection and the Weisgarber intersection.) The cost for the first 60 people is \$11 thanks to an anonymous donor - after that the cost goes up to \$12.25. You can sign up and pay at the 24 Nov. meeting, which is also the deadline for payment. We'll have a good

breakfast, including our favorite Marine Corps dish - SOS - and will enjoy some traditional Christmas revelry. Remember to bring a new, un-wrapped toy to donate to the Marine Reserves' Toys for Tots



including our favorite Marine Corps dish - SOS - and joy some traditional mas revelry. Remember new, un-wrapped toy to the Marine Reserves' Toys Program.

On Saturday, 12 Dec. the Detachment and Auxiliary will join with our Young Marine Unit to bring some Christmas cheer to the veterans at the Ben Atchley State Veterans Nursing Home at 1 Veterans Way in north-west Knoxville off of the Pellissippi Parkway. We need to be there about 0930 - the festivities will begin at 1000 and last about an hour. We'll sing some Christmas carols and do what else we can to spread some Christmas cheer.

Dress for both events is Christmas casual with a Marine flair.

## Detachment/Auxiliary Meeting on 11/24/09

The next monthly meeting will be at the Navy Operational Support Center/ Marine Corps Reserve Center, 2101 Alcoa Hwy., on Tuesday, 11/24/09, beginning at 1730.

During the business meeting starting at 1830, we'll get an up-date on the

Pistol Match, the Marine Corps Birthday activities and Veterans Day events. We'll also discuss upcoming activities like the Thanksgiving Day Weekend Safety Break and Christmas Breakfast. Don't miss it!

# Odds & Ends

**“Aid and Attendance”** - This is an under-used special monthly pension benefit offered by the VA for veterans and surviving spouses who require in-home care or live in nursing homes. To qualify, a veteran must have served at least 90 days of active military service, one day of which is during a period of war, and must be discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. The benefit is \$18,234 annually (paid monthly) but can increase to over \$21,000 - a surviving spouse of a qualified vet gets \$11,715. For info, call 1-800-827-1000 or visit

<http://www.va.gov> and type in “Aid and Attendance” in the search block.

**Thanksgiving Safety Break** - We will have our last I-40 Safety Break over the Thanksgiving Day weekend. If you’ve not already signed up for a shift, you can do so at the 24 Nov. meeting or you can call Junior Vice Commandant Lloyd Morris at (865) 717-9250. Do your part to make sure this last fund-raiser of the year is a success.

**Do you have your Detachment Challenge Coin?** - Quartermaster Bill Henson has a good supply of our Detachment Challenge

Coins available for \$10 apiece. They are really sharp, with a picture of Lt. Alexander Bonnyman on one side and the MCL logo on the other - all in bright colors. (See pictures, p. 4.) I think they are the best ones around - they will certainly be admired by other Marines. They make great mementos to give to family and friends for special occasions. Remember, tradition says that if you’re in a location where alcoholic beverages are served without your coin and are challenged by another Detachment member who has one, you have to buy him/her the next round. Get yours now! Better yet, get several to carry in your car so you don’t get caught without one..

## 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)

The 4th Annual Jim Peacock Pistol Match was held on 24 Oct. with 20 shooters, of which 13 were MCL members. We were all very pleased to have Cecelia Peacock in attendance, as well.

The competition for the MCL medals and Match Trophy was very close. Expert 1st Place for the 2nd straight year was Doug Calvert shooting 388-25X. 2nd Place was Associate Member Gary Miller shooting 386-19X, and 3rd Place was Jeff Tegzes shooting 380-13X.



Marine Doug Calvert with the Match Trophy.

Sharpshooter 1st Place was Jim Putman shooting 372-12X, 2nd Place was Jack McGivney shooting 369-8X and 3rd Place was George Helton shooting 368-8X.

Marksman 1st Place was Jim Williams shooting 363-15X, 2nd Place was David Cates shooting 346-0X and 3rd Place was Lee Buckner shooting 339-5x.

Thanks to all for making it a great day of shooting .

Gary Miller

# Pistol Shoot Results

## Young Marine Report - by Unit Commander Virgil Young

Before going to their regular drill on 24 Oct., some YM helped at the Susan B. Komen "Race for the Cure" event in downtown Knoxville. YM provided a color guard to lead a procession of breast cancer survivors to the starting ceremony for the race while others served as escorts for the survivors. At their regular drill later in the day, the YM heard a talk on "Internet Safety" from Blount County Sheriff's Office Deputy Kelly Heard.

7 Nov. began early when several YM and Adult Leaders participated in the Belk's Charity Sale

beginning at 0600. In addition to selling tickets for the sale, several YM and Adult Leaders helped during the sale hours at the Belk's department store in Turkey Creek. Starting at 0800, other YM and Adult Leaders put out flags on the graves at the state veterans' cemetery on Lyons View Road. Beginning at noon, all the YM and Adult Leaders began preparing for the 2009 YM Birthday Ball. The traditional cake-cutting ceremony began at 1800, followed by a delicious dinner. I then had the privilege of introducing Guest of

Honor Sgt Bradley L. Walker, USMC (Ret.). Sgt Walker was medically retired from the Marine Corps in July 2009 after losing both legs to an improvised explosive device (IED) in Al Anbar Province in Iraq in November 2006. Sgt Walker spoke briefly about his experience and concluded by say that he regretted none of his experiences in the Marine Corps. After the dinner, the YM enjoyed meeting and getting their pictures taken with Sgt Walker. Some of them stayed to dance until about 2130 before they began cleaning up the school.

## Commandant's Corner (Cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

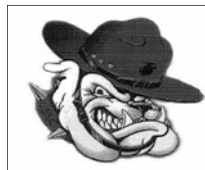
myself included, will not be available to serve next year and will be replaced.

If you have not yet served as an officer or it has been a while since you last served, now is the time to step up. New faces and new ideas are what keeps us going and attracts new members. There will also be some changes to the calendar, but there is still plenty of time for your input. If there is something that you think we should be doing, let's talk about it at the next meeting.

Another great job filling up the shifts for the Thanksgiving I-40 Safety Break. See you at the 24 November meeting and the Christmas Breakfast on 5 Decem-

ber.

Semper Fi, Jeff



## NEWS FLASH!

Did you know that the Junior Past Commandant is in charge of finding a slate of officers to serve for the next year? If Junior Past Commandant David Hatfield contacts you to see if you would be able to fill one of the officer positions, please consider it strongly. The current and past officers have put in a lot of hours to make this the best Detachment in the state. They did it for you so isn't it about time you re-paid the favor?

## Membership

We swore in no new members at last month's meeting and have gotten in no new membership applications since that meeting. However, we do anticipate that two new applicants will attend the 24 November meeting with all the necessary paperwork to be voted on at that meeting.

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

**Dec.** - Brian Buckna, Bob Cunningham, Louis Eades, and Jim Ferrell.

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

# Recent Pictures of Interest



Shooters at 4th Annual Jim Peacock Pistol Match.



Diners are 2009 Detachment Birthday Dinner at Carrabba's Italian Grill.



"Oldest Marine" Joe Eddlemon has piece of birthday cake at MCL Birthday Dinner.



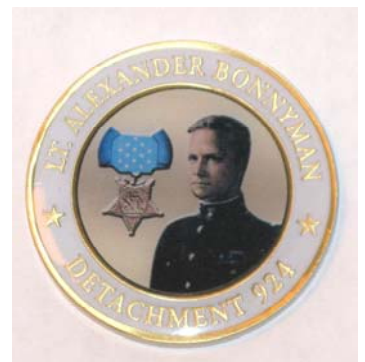
Marine Sgt. Brad Walker, Guest of Honor at YM Birthday Ball, with one of our smallest Young Marines.



Back of Detachment Challenge Coin



Detachment float loaded and ready to go for the 2009 Knoxville Veterans Day Parade.



Front of Detachment Challenge Coin

## Auxiliary Report - by Connie Sexton

Greetings, all.

The Marine Corps Ball was very nice this year. Hope everyone had a good time.

Our dinner at Carraba's was very nice, too. Several of us attended the Marine Corps Birthday ceremony at the East TN Veterans Nursing Home on Nov

10. There was a nice cake and punch. About 5 Marines and an Army Pearl Harbor veteran joined us for a nice morning program.

We will have elections at the November meeting. If you would like to run for an officer position, please just let us know at the meeting.

See you at the Christmas breakfast. There will not be a meeting in December.

Cookies for November meeting will be by Doris Ekstrom.

Connie

## Chaplain's Report - by Leroy Brown

Greeting, Marines.

November is a great month. We celebrated the birthday of our beloved Marine Corps and a day for us to honor all Veterans, past and present. We also have a day to be thankful and to give thanks for living in the greatest nation in the world.

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, some of us had the honor to visit with four Marine Veterans and one Army Veteran who was at Pearl Harbor on 7 Dec. 1941 and now is an honorary Marine. We shared sea

stories and cake and punch provided at the Ben Atchley State Veterans Home. Thanks to the Detachment and Auxiliary members, as well as other spouses, who came out.

Commandant Jeff and I had a nice visit with Emmett Moore, Marine veteran of Okinawa. Others visited retired Marine Col. Sid Garland, a recipient of a Silver Star for his heroism on Okinawa. I had a nice visit with Marine Winston Byers, who is recovering from surgery. Ma-

rine Jim Ferrell is recovering from an auto accident.

The Marine Corps Birthday Ball was a success. It was nice to see the old Corps and the new Corps partying together.

If you are not attending League functions, you are missing out on some good times. Get your act together and join us.

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

Semper Fi, Leroy

## Upcoming Activities

### December 2009

3rd - YM Adult Staff Mtg.  
5th - MCL Annual Christmas Breakfast  
- YM Toys for Tots Collection  
7th - MODD Growl  
8th - MCL Officers Meeting  
19th - YM Swim Quals and Christmas Party  
(NO DETACHMENT/AUX. MEETING THIS MONTH)

### January 2010

7th - YM Adult Staff Mtg.  
9th - YM Drill  
12th - MCL Officers Meeting  
23rd - YM Drill  
26th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

### February 2010

4th - YM Adult Staff Meeting  
6th - YM Regular Drill  
9th - MCL Officers Meeting  
11th-13th - MCL Mid Winter Conference  
(Washington, DC)  
13th - YM Recruit Parent Orientation  
20th - YM Regular Drill  
23rd - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

**The Bonnyman Gazette**

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**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.)**