

# The Bonnyman Gazette

Monthly Detachment Newsletter

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January 2010

## Commandant's Corner



-by Jeff Tegzes

Greetings, Marines!

Now that the New Year is upon us, many things will change and many will stay the same. A new slate of officers will take the helm to provide the leadership and direction that we all expect. I am sure that all League and Auxiliary members will be there to support their officers and pitch in to make sure that we don't lose a step. We can get off to a great start by making sure that every available member is at our January meeting to nominate and elect the new officers and get involved in our upcoming projects. If you think that all you have to do is show up, eat cookies, and vote "yes", you couldn't be more wrong. There is much to be decided and we need to hear

*(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.*

## Elections and Dine In Coming Up

**Election** - Our election will be held at the 26 January meeting. The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of nominees: Commandant - Virgil Young; Senior Vice Commandant - Lee Rhinemiller; Junior Vice Commandant - Lloyd Morris; Judge-Advocate - Bud Fitzgerald; and Paymaster - Laimon Godel. (All the other officers are appointed positions and will be named later.) While this slate of nominees has been recommended, any Detachment member can make a nomination to fill one of the elective positions from the floor at the meeting. However, if you nominate someone, please make sure before you place the name in nomination that he or she is willing and able to serve if elected.

**Dine In** - Our Detachment Dine In will take place on Friday, 19 February, at the Bearden Banquet Hall, 5806 Kingston Pike, beginning with a social hour at 1900. A cash bar will be available. The buffet dinner will include filet mignon and chicken. Our Guest of Honor will be Major General Kevin Kuklok, USMC (Ret.) (See his bio on p. 2). After MGen Kukloc's comments, the recipients of the Detachment's "Marine of the Year" and "Semper Fi" Awards will be announced. The Dine In is open to Detachment and Auxiliary members as well as their spouses and friends. Dress will be semi-formal for the men, including the red League blazer if you have one, and equivalent dress for the ladies. Cost will be \$20 per person - bring your checks to the 26 Jan. meeting. If you can't make that meeting, call Commandant Jeff Tegzes before Monday, 15 Feb., so we can give the banquet hall a final count.

## Detachment/Auxiliary Meeting on 1/26/10

The next monthly meeting will be at the Navy Operational Support Center/ Marine Corps Reserve Center, 2101 Alcoa Hwy., on Tuesday, 1/26/10, beginning at 1730.

During the business meeting starting at 1830, we'll discuss up-coming ac-

tivities and have our election of officers for the up-coming year, followed by the installation of the new officers. We'll also have up-dated Detachment/ Auxiliary Directories available. Don't miss it!

# Major General Kevin B. Kuklok, USMC (Ret.)

MGen Kevin Kuklok served in the Corps more than 30 years, active and reserve, before his retirement in 2001. He attended the University of North Dakota, graduating in 1968 with a BS degree in Chemical Engineering. He subsequently earned a Masters Degree in Business Administration. He received his commission in 1968 through the Platoon Leaders Class and in 1969 he earned his Naval Aviator wings after graduation from Naval Aviation Flight Training. He was assigned to a UH-1 helicopter squadron at Camp Pendleton, CA before

going to Vietnam from Mar. 1970 to Mar. 1971, during which time he flew AH-1G Cobras. He completed his initial active duty assignment in 1972.

Then Capt. Kuklok joined the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing in 1973 at Marine Air Wing Santa Ana, CA. In 1976, he transitioned to Ch-46 Sea Knight helicopters at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mount Clemens, MI. Over the next few years, he served with different helicopter squadrons, including stints as CO of several squadrons. During his time as CO of HMM-764 from 1988 to 1992, the unit was activated for

five months in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He subsequently held increasingly more responsible billets that included Commanding General, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing and Commanding General, Marine Corps Reserve Support Command. His final position was as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and Operations, Washington, DC.

MGen Kuklok's military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal with valor device, and numerous others.

## 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)

# Christmas Party

The Detachment's annual Christmas Breakfast took place on 5 December at Middlebrook Gardens. As usual, Past Detachment Commandant George Sexton and his wife, Auxiliary President Connie Sexton, did a great job putting together the traditional Christmas music and the rest of the program.

the good food, including our favorite Marine Corps dish - SOS. I'm not sure the "ground beef"



*Toys donated for the Reserves' Toys for Tots Program at Detachment Breakfast Party.*

Also, as usual, everyone enjoyed

versus "dried beef" disagreement was resolved, but a good time was had by all. Thanks to George and Connie and the others who helped

organize the breakfast.

## Young Marine Report - by Unit Commander Virgil Young

On 11 Nov., four YM provided a color guard at A.L. Lotts Elementary School for the school's Veterans' Day celebration. They then went to join the League at the Knoxville Veterans' Day Parade, where they carried the colors while other YM carried banners for the League and the Young Marines.

During a regular drill on 21 Nov., volunteers from the legal community in Blount County came to conduct a "mock" trial related to a drug charge. Six people, including General Sessions Court Judge Robert Headrick, conducted the

court proceedings just like they would during a real trial. It was a great learning experience for all the YM.

On 22 Nov., the YM provided a color guard at the Lt. Bonnyman memorial service conducted by our MCL Detachment.

On 5 Dec., the YM collected toys and money for the Marine Reserves' Toys for Tots Program at four Knoxville-area locations. As a result of their efforts that day, the YM were able to turn over 179 toys and \$2,043.17 in cash to the Reserves.

On 12 Dec., the YM went to the Atchley State Veterans Nursing Home to sing Christmas carols, visit with the veterans, and distribute a YM Christmas card to each of the nursing home residents.

On 13 Dec., the YM participated in the Union County Christmas Parade and handed out YM information to the parade observers.

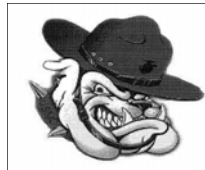
Finally, to conclude the YM year, on 19 Dec. we had swim quals at the Maryville College pool, followed by a Christmas Party.

## Commandant's Corner (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

from you!

It has been a great honor to be your Commandant. I have come to appreciate the reach and power of our League and the energy and selflessness of our members. We will need all of our capabilities to accomplish what we have always done along with a few new challenges. Work on this year's Marine Mud Run has already begun and our building project for the State Veteran's Nursing Home will soon be taking off. I will still be here to help make things happen and I expect to see every available League member stepping up. Semper Fidelis, Jeff



## NEWS FLASH!

Beginning with the February 2010 issue, the *Bonnyman Gazette* will have a new editor. After serving as editor and primary writer since the first newsletter issue was printed in September 1995, Marine Virgil Young will turn the newsletter over to Marine Roy Ashley in February. As a former Marine photographer and the editor of our Detachment's award-winning "Americanism" notebook, Roy is very well qualified to take over as the new editor. Thanks, Roy!

## Membership

At the last meeting, we swore in two new members, a husband and wife who are both Marines: Angie Heidbrink (served 6/86-8/07) and James Heidbrink (served 3/94-5/06). They live at 120 Devyn Lane, Lenoir City, TN. Since then, we've gotten in a request from Marine Gilbert Malach, 2541 Hobbs Rd., Louisville (served 8/53-8/55) to switch his life membership to our Detachment.

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

**Feb.** - Bill Alexandersen, Richard Arsenault, Poe Bostic, Bob Campbell, John Denton, Gary Schmitz, and Dale Strote. **Mar.** - Jim Burnett, Josh Burnett, and Brian Groenhout.

# Recent Pictures of Interest



*Detachment Honor Guard at Bonnyman Memorial Service - Nov. 2009.*



*New Detachment members Jim and Angie Heidbrink are sworn in at Nov. 2009 meeting.*



*Waiting for the Christmas Breakfast to begin.*



*Thanksgiving weekend I-40 Safety Break duty.*

## Auxiliary Report - by Connie Sexton

Greetings and Happy New Year.

Our elections for Unit officers for the new year appear to have everyone in about the same place. We will do our installation at the January meeting.

Cookies for the 26 January meeting will be provided by Charlotte Helton.

Hello to all our members - I hope that the holidays were good to you and your families. Hello to Pat and Fred Gettings up in Greeneville and to Barbara and Wes Arnold in Mississippi - hope you are doing well and staying warm.

Special thanks to all our members who attended the memorial

for deceased Marine Corps League member Jim Ferrell over the New Year's week. Glad to see our members at the send off for Delta Company, also. Thanks, ladies.

Connie

## Chaplain's Report - by Leroy Brown

Greeting, Marines.

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and I wish everyone a prosperous New Year.

The Detachment Christmas Breakfast was a success, with plenty of food and fellowship. Thanks to George and Connie Sexton and Bill Ackerman who made up the program and made the arrangements. Thanks again.

It is with sadness that I report the passing of three of our mem-

bers: Marine David F. Brown passed away on 1 Nov. 2009; Marine James T. Turner passed away 12 Dec. 2009; and Marine Jim Ferrell passed away 22 Dec. 2009. Our condolence to the families. The Detachment was well represented at the viewing of Marines Turner and Ferrell. The Detachment Honor Guard did an outstanding job performing the funeral service for Marine Ferrell. Marine Ferrell's family appreciated it and was impressed by the performance of the Honor Guard, as was

the funeral director. Thanks to everyone who participated.

The Bonnyman Detachment and Sevier County Detachment saw the Marines of Delta Company off on the start of their deployment to Afghanistan. We wish them well and let us remember them in our prayers. We have members who are ill so remember them in your prayers.

I wish to thank everyone for all the help I received the past two years.

Semper Fi, Leroy

## Upcoming Activities

### February 2010

4th - YM Adult Staff Meeting  
6th - YM Regular Drill  
8th - MCL Officers Meeting  
11th-13th - MCL Mid Winter Conference (Washington, DC)  
13th - YM Recruit Parent Orientation  
19th - MCL Dine-In  
20th - YM Regular Drill  
23rd - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

### March 2010

1st - Devil Dog Growl  
4th - YM Adult Staff Mtg.  
4th-7th - SE Division Convention  
6th - YM Drill/Recruit Training Day 1  
9th - MCL Officers Meeting  
13th - YM Recruit TD 2  
20th - YM Recruit TD 3  
27th - YM Drill/Recruit TD 4  
30th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

### April 2010

1st - YM Adult Staff Mtg.  
10th - YM Drill/Recruit TD 5  
13th - MCL Officers Meeting  
17th-18th - YM Recruit Campout (TD 6-7)  
24th - YM Drill/Recruit TD 8  
27th - 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.)**