

The Bonnyman Gazette

Monthly Detachment Newsletter

www.mclknnox.org

December 2008

Commandant's Corner



-by Jeff Tegzes

Greetings and Happy New Year, Marines!

I hope that you are all enjoying a happy Holiday Season. This time of year gives us all a much needed break, but we all know that we have to start planning for our big projects in 2009. I am most concerned about two big conventions, the Division Conference in March and our own Department Convention in June. Both conventions are a great opportunity to show off East Tennessee and have fun in the process. Since we are not having our own Dining-In in Knoxville this year, the convention banquet in Gatlinburg will be our big social event this spring. For our own convention in June, we need to start thinking about who will be working at plan-

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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.

Election of Officers at 27 January Detachment Meeting

It's time again for our annual election of officers, which will take place at our regular monthly meeting on 27 January. We are fortunate this year in that most of the current officers have agreed to serve another year. The slate of nominees presented by Junior Past Commandant David Hatfield, the chair of the nominating committee, for the upcoming year is as follows: Commandant - Jeff Tegzes; Senior Vice Commandant - Lee Rhinemiller; Junior Vice Commandant - Lloyd Morris; Judge Advocate - Bud Fitzgerald; and, Paymaster - Laimon Godel. David also said that the incumbents in the appointed positions serve another year: Young; Sergeant-at-Arms - Josh Burnett; and, Chaplain - Leroy Brown.



Any detachment nomination to fill one of the elective positions from the floor at the January meeting. However, if you nominate someone, make sure that person is willing and able to serve if elected.

Please come to the 27 January meeting to cast your vote and to show your support for those who will lead our detachment through the next year.

The installation of officers will take place right after the election.

Detachment/Auxiliary Meeting on 1/27/09

The next monthly meeting will be at the Navy Operational Support Center/Marine Corps Reserve Center, 2101 Alcoa Hwy., on Tuesday, 1/27/09, beginning with a social hour at 1730. The business meeting will start at 1830, when we'll get an

update on the Christmas Party at the Atchley State Veterans Nursing Home and other activities. Then we'll have our election of officers for the coming year. Don't miss it.

Odds & Ends

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 registration 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,

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)

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 1/27/09 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. Registration information has been sent to all the other detachments in the state

but a lot of work remains to be done in the six months before the convention. Contact one of the officers to see how you can help.

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 in January so planning can commence.

Nursing Home Christmas Party a Great Success

As you can see from the pictures on page 4 of this newsletter, we had a great turnout at the Christmas party at the Atchley State Veterans Nursing home on 6 December. Detachment and Auxiliary members pitched in to help stuff the Christmas bags for the event at the November Detachment/Auxiliary meeting and then turned out in force for the Christmas Party, as well.

On the day of the event, the community room at the nursing home was packed with home residents and Leaguers for a program of Christmas cheer. Eve-

ryone enjoyed singing Christmas Carols sharing the holiday spirit.

After the program, Leaguers and Auxiliary members gave out the gift bags that had been prepared. Finally, they shared a wonderful lunch with the nursing home residents.

Those who had not previously visited the Atchley Nursing Home were very impressed with the facility, the quality of its staff, and the delicious food. Our thanks to everyone who made the visit such a success - we look forward to many future visits there.

Young Marine Report - by Unit Commander Virgil Young

On 22 Nov., Young Marines presented the colors and played "Taps" as part of the Detachment's memorial service at the Knoxville memorial to Lt. Alexander Bonnyman. Later that day, the YM celebrated the 233rd birthday of the Marine Corps at the YM Birthday Ball. After a traditional cake-cutting ceremony, we enjoyed dinner before hearing from the Ball's Guest of Honor, Maj. Brian R. Griffing, the Inspector-Instructor of "D" Co. After Maj. Griffing's remarks about the meaning of the Marine Corps' core values, a DJ

played music for dancing. There were about 120 people who enjoyed the festivities.

On 6 Dec., YM manned four locations to collect funds and toys for the annual Toys for Tots drive. In spite of the bitter cold weather, the effort was very successful, with Young Marines turning over more than \$1,600 in cash and two pick-up loads of toys to the Marine Reserves.

On 20 Dec., the YM had a Christmas party at the Atchley State Veterans Nursing Home in West Knoxville. They sang car-

ols, shared cake and punch with the vets, and gave each veteran at the home a Christmas card wishing them the best in the coming year.

The next big event scheduled is the Parents' Orientation for our next Recruit Class. The Orientation will take place on Saturday, 14 February, at the Reserve Center. If you know someone who would like to get a child into the 2009 Recruit Class, have them contact me or go to our website (www.ymknoxville.org) to register for notification about the meeting.

Commandant's Corner (Cont.)

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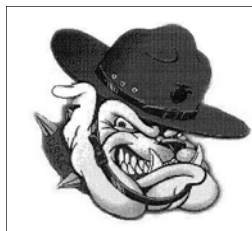
ning registration, meals, entertainment, advertisement book sales, prizes, ceremonies, and all the little details that will make the convention a huge success for the Department of Tennessee and a money maker for our Detachment! Think about what you can do and be ready to sign up at the next League Member Meeting.

No, I have not forgotten about the Mud Run. We will have to start early to match or surpass last year's fantastic Mud Run event and continue to fund our very special projects for the Marine Corps Reserve and the State Veteran's Nursing Home.

Thank you all for a great year with the Marine Corps League

and Auxiliary. We really do great work and it is an honor to be your Commandant!

Semper Fidelis, Jeff Tegzes



Membership

We've received no new applications for membership since the last meeting. However, if you're still paying annual dues, you might want to think about becoming a life member. With annual dues of \$35 per year, it makes sense to consider the money you'd save in just a few years by paying your one-time life membership fee instead of annual dues.

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

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

Feb. - Bill Alexandersen, Ed Bostic, Bob Campbell, John Denton, and Dale Strote.

Recent Pictures of Interest



Pictures related to League and Young Marine parties at the Atchley State Veterans Nursing Home in December 2008.



Marine Charlie Burchett's widow, Joyce Burchett, with other family members at November 2008 Detachment meeting.

Laying the wreath at the Lt. Bonnyman memorial service on 22 November.



Detachment Honor Guard fires salute at Lt. Bonnyman memorial service on 22 November.

Auxiliary Report - by Connie Sexton

Greetings, everyone.

Since there is no meeting in December, please think about the officers' election to be held in January 2009.

We also have a lot of work to do in connection with the planning for our Department Convention coming this June. Since we are

hosting the Convention, we want to make sure it is done right.

See you in January. Cookies will be brought by Charlotte Helton.

Connie

Chaplain's Report - by Leroy Brown

The Christmas Luncheon at the Veterans Home was a great success thanks to everyone's help.

We've given out 6 Christmas Fruit Baskets so far this year. I had the privilege of meeting some of our older members and was able to chat with them. They thanked the Detachment for the baskets and for thinking of them. If you can and have the time, please visit our older members. I know you will enjoy it and they will appreciate it. Marine Lee Rhinemiller and I visited with

Jim and Cecilia Peacock. Jim is doing well and is in good hands with Cecilia. Thanks to Marines George Sexton and David Hatfield for also delivering baskets.

We have several members who have medical problems and we need to keep them in our prayers.

From the Browns, we wish everyone "Happy Holidays!" and a prosperous new year.



Upcoming Activities

January 2009

8th - YM Adult Staff Mtg.
10th - YM Drill
13th - MCL Officers Mtg.
24th - YM Drill & NCO Leadership Meeting
27th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

February 2009

5th - YM Adult Staff Mtg.
7th - YM Drill
10th - MCL Officers' Mtg.
14th - YM Recruit & Parent Orientation
21st - YM Drill
24th - 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:

Reintarnation - Coming back to life as a hillbilly.

Cashtration - The act of buying a home, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period of time.

Hipatitis - Terminal coolness.

NEWS FLASH!

As a result of the thoughtfulness of the Burchett family, the Young Marines have recently gotten a much-needed financial boost. After the death of League Member Charlie Burchett, his widow, Joyce Burchett, asked that donations to the Young Marines be made in lieu of flowers at Charlie's funeral. Since then, we've gotten donations in Charlie's memory from 37 donors totaling \$2,123. Our thanks to Joyce and to all the donors.

March 2009

5th - YM Adult Staff Meeting
5th-7th - 63rd SE Div. Conference
7th - YM Drill/Recruit Training Day 1
10th - MCL Officers' Mtg.
14th - YM Recruit Training Day 2
21st - YM Recruit Training Day 3
22nd - YM Regimental Staff Mtg.
28th - YM Drill/Recruit Training Day 4
31st - 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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