

The Bonnyman Gazette

Monthly Detachment Newsletter

www.mclknnox.org

April 2009

Commandant's Corner



-by Jeff Tegzes

Greetings Marines,

It was good to see the usual enthusiasm and support from our Detachment for the Easter weekend Safety Break. Although our effort has not changed, it was obvious to everyone working the Safety Break that the economic hard times that our country is facing will have an effect on our fund raising. Folks out there simply have a harder time putting that donation in the jar! This hard fact makes it all the more important that we have a successful state convention in June. The surest way for us to do that is to sell ads in our Convention program Book to local businesses and organizations and have good Detachment attendance at the convention events.

(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.

Annual Rifle Shoot Scheduled for 30 May

The 2009 MSgt. William H. "Bill" Gerst Memorial Rifle Match will be held at the Volunteer Range in North Knoxville on Sat., 30 May. Again this year, we'll be shooting on the 300-yard bullseye target from the 200-yard line. Registration will begin at 0700 and shooting will begin at 0800.

The cost will be \$20.00, the same as last year; there is no cost if you just want to come out to watch. (or perhaps cheer on the participants?) At the March 2009 Detachment meeting, the members voted to only allow shooters competing M1 or M1A service-grade rifles. Of course, shoot for fun, you you want to bring shooting club will available but make with Doug Calvert one of those rifles the club. We will rounds, with a mix in the prone posi-(off-hand) posi-should be over be-



M1 and M1A service-grade Garand rifles must be used to compete for the trophy.

for the trophy to use vice grade Garand if you just want to can shoot any rifle to the match. The have some M1 rifles sure you coordinate if you plan on using or ammunition from shoot a total of 35 of rapid and slow fire tion and the standing tion. Shooting fore it gets too hot.

If you have questions about the shoot, contact Marine Doug Calvert at 482-3736.

Detachment/Auxiliary Meeting on 4/28/09

The next monthly meeting will be at the Navy Operational Support Center/Marine Corps Reserve Center, 2101 Alcoa Hwy., on Tuesday, 4/28/09, beginning with a social hour at 1700. **We will have PIZ-ZAS AND SOFT DRINKS so**

come hungry!!

During the business meeting we'll discuss the Rifle Shoot, the Stand Down for Homeless Veterans, Memorial Day activities, the Department Convention in June and other activities.

Odds & Ends

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. We obviously want to have a great turnout of our Detachment members so get your registrations in ASAP. The registration information is on our website and we'll also have the forms at the 28 April Detachment meeting. The registration cost is \$5 for MCL or Auxiliary members. If you want to have a really good time and don't want to risk driv-

ing home afterwards, you can stay at the hotel - a special room rate of \$99 plus taxes is being held for us until 20 May. The cost of the dinner on Saturday evening, 20 June, is \$35.

The convention is fast approaching so we really need to get out to find sponsors to take advertisements in our Convention Book or to get items for the Convention "goody bag" or "high-end" door prizes. Contact Junior Past Detachment Commandant David Hatfield if you have any questions about what it takes to get an ad in the Convention Book.

2009 Marine Mud Run - This year's Mud Run won't take place until Saturday, 19 Sept., but we've already started to get on-line registrations. We've set a limit of 1,400 runners this year (200 more than last year) and are requiring that they register on-line - that will simplify our paperwork and save a lot of time, as well. Now is the time to get out and contact possible sponsors for the race. Sponsor forms showing the various sponsor levels and what the sponsor receives for his or her support are available for downloading from our website.

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)

Stand Down for Homeless Veterans to be Held on 15 May

The Stand Down will take place on Friday, 15 May (note the date has changed since last month's newsletter), at the National Guard Armory on Sutherland Avenue. We will pick up the homeless vets that morning before 0800 and take them back to the designated drop-off points about 1700. During the day, they'll get food, counseling in many areas, some medical services, clothing, and legal assistance.

As in the past, we'll need a lot of volunteer support from Detachment and Auxiliary members to pull this off successfully. We

will need help before the event doing things like setting up tables and chairs and after the event for putting those items away. On the day of the event, we'll need help with manning the Amnesty Trailer, in the kitchen, coordinating moving the vets around the site. We'll have a sign-up sheet, volunteer registration forms, and more information at the 28 April meeting.

If you haven't helped at one of these events before, come out and help with this one. The homeless vets really appreciate it and you'll find it very worthwhile.

Young Marine Report - by Unit Commander Virgil Young

On 4 April, YM Recruits went to the Blount County Sheriff's Office Training Center. They participated in team-building exercises, ran as teams on the obstacle course used for BCSO police officer trainees, rode with BCSO instructors on the agency's pursuit-driving course, and practiced drill. On the same day, some YM and Adult Leaders went to a former strip-mining site near Petros, TN to help re-plant the area. After an interesting class on forest preservation and re-forestation, they helped plant about 700 new trees.

On 18 April, the YM went to the Maryville College swimming pool for an introduction to SCUBA diving. After a basic class, they got in the water to try out the equipment. They all had a great time. In the meantime, the YM Recruits had their Recruit Campout. On Saturday and Sunday, they had classes on field skills, YM General Orders, and standing a firewatch. They got a Drug Demand Reduction class from a Maryville PD officer and saw a demonstration about how his K-9 partner finds hidden drugs. They were taught how to

put up a tent from shelter halves and then slept in them during the night. For their evening meal Saturday night, they were given Meals-Ready-to-Eat (MREs). After their meal, they took turns looking through a night vision scope trying to find a Young Marine hidden in tall brush. After a chapel service Sunday morning, they got a home fire safety lecture from the Blount County Fire Department and then participated in an exercise in escaping a house fire with the Fire Department's "Little House That Smokes." It was a very busy weekend!

Commandant's Corner (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

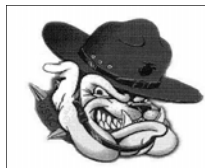
If you have an idea for a business that might take out an advertisement, but can't contact them yourself, let me know and we will get someone after it! WE CANNOT BLOW THIS OPPORTUNITY! Copies of the advertisement flyer with advertisement rates for various sizes of ads are on our website for downloading. Remember, if a company wants to make a donation of drinks, etc. that we might be able to use for the convention, we'll put their advertisement in the book in exchange for those goods.

While there is work to be done, don't miss the fun at the next meeting (PIZZA) or the Rifle

Match in May (you don't need your own rifle).

Also, think about registering soon for the 2010 National Convention in Greensboro, North Carolina, August 8-14, 2010. We won't have a national convention closer to Knoxville than this one for probably a dozen years. Don't miss the opportunity for a great trip.

Semper Fidelis, Jeff



Membership

At the last meeting, we voted to accept the application for membership of two Marines: Edward Simpson, 3740 Huff Ferry North, Loudon, TN (served 10/64-10/68) and Jimmie Putman, 278 Sisson St., Oliver Springs, TN (served 2/55-2/59). Since then, we got in an application from Marine R. Ken Pelfrey, 2839 Bakertown Rd., Knoxville (served 2/83-2/86 & 9/89-8/99)

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

May - Capt. Richard Callas (Assoc.), John Lambert, Ron Phillips, and Joe Williams. **June** - Jay Holmes, Mark Jakubowski, Jimmy Johnson, Jerry Jones, Wayne Jones, and Rodney Rockett.

Recent Pictures of Interest



Detachment members serving as pallbearers at the interment of deceased member Jim Peacock.



Detachment Honor Guard firing a salute at the interment of Marine Jim Peacock.



Detachment Senior Vice Commandant Lee Rhinemiller presents the folded flag to Cecelia Peacock, the widow of Marine Jim Peacock.



Commandant Tegzes with Laimon Godel, Detachment "Marine of the Year" and recipient of the "Semper FI" Award.



Detachment members and spouses at the SE Division Convention banquet.

Auxiliary Report - by Connie Sexton

Hello, everyone. I hope everyone had a good Easter.

At the next meeting we will finalize the basket fundraiser for the convention and go over our reports to finalize them.

Planning for the convention and the Stand Down is going well.

Doris Ekstrom was selected as

the Unit member of the year so congratulate her the next time you see her.

Cookies will be provided by Dorie for this month's meeting.

See you there. Connie

Chaplain's Report - by Leroy Brown

Hope everyone had a great Easter.

Marines Rhinemiller, Fitzgerald and Commandant Jeff Tegzes and I visited George Sellar, a Marine from Michigan. He was assaulted and robbed in West Knoxville March 2nd and is recovering at the Patricia Neal Rehab Center.

It is with sadness I report the passing of two more of our members: Marine James Dahl, a WWII Vet, and Marine Neil Wilson, a Vietnam Vet. Thanks to

Marines Lee Rhinemiller, Bud Fitzgerald, George Helton, Lloyd Morris, and Jeff Tegzes who helped with the rifle detail for Marine Wilson.

The Smoky Mountain Military Vehicle Club is having a Military Vehicle Show at the Atchley State Veterans Home at 1000 on 16 May - everybody is welcome.

Marines Gary Arney and Jim Burnett are having medical problems. Give them a call or drop them a line.

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:

Sarchasm - The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

Caterpallor - The color you turn after finding half a worm in the fruit you're eating.

NEWS FLASH!

Young Marines National Executive Director Lt. Col. Mike Kessler, USMC (Ret.), will be the Guest of Honor at the graduation of the 2009 Young Marines Recruit Class on 2 May. The graduation will take place at the Eagleton Elementary School, 708 Sam Houston School Rd., Maryville, TN. The ceremony will begin at 1300 and there will be a short reception after the ceremony. Detachment members and their friends are always welcome.

Upcoming Activities

May 2009

2nd - YM Drill/Recruit Graduation
7th - YM Adult Staff Meeting
12th - MCL Officers Mtg.
15th - Stand Down for Homeless Vets
23rd - YM Drill
23rd-25th - Safety Break
25th - Memorial Day Service
26th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting
30th - Annual Rifle Shoot

June 2009

4th - YM Adult Staff Meeting
6th - YM Drill
7th-12th - YM Trip to Parris Island, SC
16th - MCL Officers Meeting
18th -20th - Department Convention
27th - YM Drill
30th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

July 2009

2nd - YM Adult Staff Meeting
3rd-5th - July 4th Weekend Safety Break
14th - MCL Officers Meeting
28th - 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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