

The Bonnyman Gazette

Monthly Detachment Newsletter

www.mclknox.org

August 2009

Commandant's Corner



-by Jeff Tegzes

Greetings, Marines!

We took advantage of a great opportunity to talk to Knoxville Marines about the Marine Corps League last weekend at the Expo Mart Gun Show. The Gun Show sponsors graciously allowed us to use a table at no cost and I think that we had good results. Although the numbers of Marines who talked to us was not overwhelming, I was surprised that Marines from every generation that we met had no idea about the League or what we do. We have work to do to get the word out! I would be interested in hearing any ideas that you may have to help our recruiting efforts. Many thanks to the members who took time out of their weekend to give the Bonnyman Detachment

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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.

2009 Marine Mud Run is Only One Month Away

Our 6th Annual Marine Mud Run is scheduled for Saturday, 19 September, again at Knox County's Melton Hill Park and we have a lot to do between now and then. We still have time to get out and contact possible sponsors for the race. We already have a few sponsors, including Coca-Cola for drinks, more. Sponsor various sponsor receives are available for our website.



A Marine at the Reserve Center is designing this year's Mud Run t-shirt.

We'll need a lot and after the help starting at Center on Tuesday the "goodie runners. We'll up the site on day of the race, parking, registration, handing out timing chips, preparing drinks and snacks, and a myriad of other tasks. Finally, we'll need help cleaning up after the race.

but we need many forms showing the levels and what the for his or her support downloading from

of help before, during race. We'll need 1400 at the Reserve day, 9/15, preparing bags" we hand out to also need help setting Friday, 9/18. On the we'll need help with

Please sign up to help at the 28 July Detachment meeting or call Marine Karl Ekstrom at (865) 539-4497 to see where he needs help. Do your part to make sure we have another successful and profitable Mud Run.

Detachment/Auxiliary Meeting on 8/25/09

The next monthly meeting will be at the Navy Operational Support Center/Marine Corps Reserve Center, 2101 Alcoa Hwy., on Tuesday, 8/25/09, beginning at 1730.

Break over the Labor Day Weekend, the 2009 Mud Run, the Detachment Picnic, the Pistol Shoot and other up-coming activities.

During the business meeting starting at 1830, we'll discuss the I-40 Safety

Don't miss it!

Odds & Ends

Pavilion at Vets Nursing Home - We're still on hold waiting for approvals from Nashville, though now we've been told a decision should be coming within the next two weeks. Stay tuned ...

Labor Day Weekend Safety Break - We will have another I-40 Safety Break over the 4-day weekend of 4-7 September. Make sure you sign up for a shift - it will take a lot of Leaguers to man the trailer over those four days.

Stand Down in October? Planning continues for a fall Stand

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)

Down for Homeless Veterans in October. We've just found and are evaluating a potential site at a large church, though we would only be able to use it for one full day on 16 October. However, it looks like a good potential site. In addition, we were pleased to learn that the Kidney Foundation will participate this time with doctors and nurses conducting kidney function screening on-site. In addition, the Lions Club will participate to give vision and hearing exams. They will also be able to pay for glasses for any of the vets who need them.

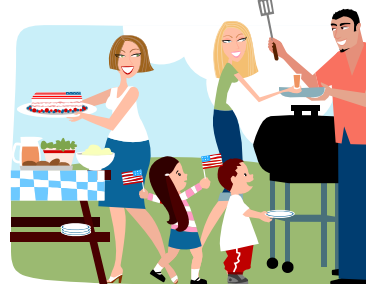
Birthday Ball - The Reserves

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 now.

Annual Detachment Picnic on Sunday, 27 September

Arrive at the Lenoir City Park about 1300 and we'll eat at 1400. We will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, drinks, table settings, cups and glasses. Each family is asked to bring one dish for six to share based on the letter beginning your last name: A-D - vegetable dish (baked beans, corn, squash, etc.) or items for burgers (sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, or let-



tuce); 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. Also, bring a folding chair to sit on. Marine Bill Ackerman will need to know how many people will be coming to the picnic so call him at 806-9868 with those numbers before Thursday, 24 Sept. You can also call him if you need directions.

Young Marine Report - by Unit Commander Virgil Young

On 25 July, we had promotion tests, oral boards, drill, and a class regarding the chain of command from the YM 1st Sgt. Two members of the Blount County Sheriff's Office brought the "Drunk-driving Golf Cart" and had the YM drive the cart through a course of traffic cones wearing special goggles that simulated the view of a drunk driver so they could see the effect. A number of YM got promoted at the final formation, including two YM to the highest YM rank available. YM Benjamin Brott and YM Patrick Lawson were each promoted to

the rank of YM Master Gunnery Sergeant (YM MGySgt). This is the first time in our unit's history that we've had two YM holding this rank at the same time.

On 8 August, 52 YM participated in the "Rowing Adventure" at the Smoky Mountain Rowing Center on the Tennessee River west of Knoxville. Under the leadership of rowing coach Sarah Arms, members of the East Tennessee Rowing Organization (ETRO) showed the YM on rowing machines the proper technique to use in the racing boats or "shells." Then the YM were

shown the eight-person racing shells and told how the "riggers," "oarlocks," and other parts of the boats help the rowers get maximum speed out of the boats. Finally, each of the YM, and several of the Adult Leaders, got to go out on the water to see what it's like to participate as a member of an eight-person team rowing the racing shells. After helping the members of ETRO put away the boats and equipment, the YM went home tired but much more knowledgeable about the sport of rowing and appreciating the total body workout this sport provides.

Commandant's Corner (Cont.)

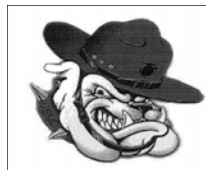
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ment more visibility.

Planning for the Mud Run continues at a good pace. Improvements to the race course and the usual enthusiasm from the Delta Company Marines led by Sgt Flowers should make this year's race run smoother and more enjoyable for all runners. As usual, a maximum effort from our membership will be needed during the week of the race to pull off another memorable event. For now, our focus needs to be on business sponsors for the race! Some of our past sponsors will not be back this year and we need to replace them.

Labor Day weekend and our Safety Break are almost here. If you can't make the meeting to sign up, call the Junior Vice ASAP to get on a shift. See you at the next meeting and the picnic.

Semper Fidelis, Jeff



Membership

At the July meeting, we swore in as our newest member Marine Charlie R. Richardson, 1575 Colemar Rd., Knoxville, (served 4/68-8/69). He was sponsored by Marine Bud Fitzgerald. We also approved a request from Marine Bob Brown to transfer his membership to our Detachment. Please go out of your way to welcome them and to get to know them at future meetings and other Detachment activities.

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

Sept. - Rod Creigh, Steve Peck, and Jim Turner. **Oct.** - Jeff Ball, Harry Cate, Tommye Kelly, Philip Kentfield, Nathaniel King, Ken Oakley, and Charles Smelcer.

Recent Pictures of Interest



Rowing coach Sarah Arms works with the YM on their rowing technique before getting onto the water.



YM listening to the coxswain's instructions in the 8-man racing shell.



YM driving with the "Drunk Driving Goggles" - look out for that cone!



His grandmother and Unit Commander Young pin YM MGySgt chevrons on YM Benjamin Brott.



His parents pin YM MGySgt chevrons on YM Patrick Lawson.

Auxiliary Report - by Connie Sexton

Hello, everyone.

The annual picnic is shaping up well, hope to see you there. The date is September 27 - it will be held again at the Lenoir City Park.

The Marine Mud Run will need volunteers, date is September 19. The Stand Down for Home-

less Veterans will also need volunteers and is tentatively scheduled for October 16.

At this month's meeting, we need to discuss assistance for the VA and the East Tennessee Nursing Home. We will also discuss a possible Fisher House donation.

Gen Vadeboncoeur will provide cookies for the meeting - see you there.

Connie

Chaplain's Report - by Leroy Brown

Greetings, Marines.

Sept. is coming up and we have a lot of activities where we need help so sign up and help out.

Marine Gus Aiken is doing well and will try to be at the next meeting. Marine Gene Collins is also doing well and hopes to see everyone around the first of the year. Marine Jim Burnett is doing well and his son Josh is driving out of Knoxville now. Lt. Col. David McMillan's daughter continues to recover and is back on active duty. Let us keep our

ailing Marines in our prayers.

I had the privilege of taking a cruise on the only operational WWII LST left - LST-325, in Evansville, Indiana. She is one of only two WWII LSTs to be preserved in the US. LST 325 is being restored and is currently serving as a museum for the men who bravely served their country aboard LSTs. For more information or to donate, visit website www.1stmemoial.org.

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

NEWS FLASH!

Cyndi and Jim Coogan just became grandparents again in a BIG way - with triplets! Cyndi's son, Gary Winger, and his wife, Sheila, presented them with two granddaughters - Faith and Delanie - as well as a grandson - Gary - on 10 August at the UT Medical Center in Knoxville.

All three babies were relatively large for triplets, weighing from 3 pounds two ounces to 4 pounds seven ounces, and are doing well. Of course, they'll be in the hospital for a while putting on weight and gaining strength but the prognosis for all of them is good.

Upcoming Activities

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. Staff Mtg. (Lebanon)
- YM Drill
13th - MCL Officers Meeting
16th-17th - Stand Down for Homeless Veterans (?)
24th - YM Drill
27th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

November 2009

5th - YM Adult Staff Mtg.
7th - YM USMC Birthday Ball
10th - 234th Marine Corps Birthday
11th - Veterans Day Parade/Luncheon
14th - "D" Co. Reserve Birthday Ball
21st - YM Drill
24th - MCL/Aux. Monthly Meeting

The Bonnyman Gazette

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Marine Corps League
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Knoxville, TN 37901

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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.)