

The Bonnyman Gazette

January 2014

Volume 1, No. 47

The Bonnyman Gazette is the official newsletter of Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment #924, Marine Corps League, Post Office Box 145, Knoxville, TN 37901. Articles and photos are due to the Editor, no later than noon on the 15th of each month. You can email webmaster@MCLknox.org.

CATCH US ON THE WEB
MCLknox.org

Detachment/Auxiliary Meeting

The next monthly meeting will be at the Navy Operational Support Center/Marine Corps Reserve Center, 2101 Alcoa Hwy., on Tuesday, 1/28/2014. Social hour begins at 1730 followed by a business meeting starting at 1830.

Detachment Officers

Commandant

Laimon Godel (865-566-4949)

Junior Past Commandant

Virgil Young (865-675-4004)

Senior Vice Commandant

Lee Rhinemiller (865-474-9249)

Junior Vice Commandant

Howard Raines (865-577-4745)

Adjutant

Eric Nash (865-693-5711)

Paymaster

Jeff Tegzes (865-988-6247)

Chaplain

Leroy Brown (865-806-2837)

Judge Advocate

David Cates (865-548-4088)

Sergeant-at-Arms

Jim Williams (423-337-0120)

Editor Roy Ashley Retires

After four years of dedicated service as our newsletter editor, Roy Ashley has officially retired. The detachment is in great need of his replacement. This issue is an abbreviated one prepared by a few of your officers. We need a volunteer. Please contact Laimon Godel, 865-566-4949 to help out. What is needed most is short articles that the editor can insert into the newsletter. As editor, all that is needed is to place the content in the template.

Officer Election in January

If you would like to be considered for one of the Detachment's elected officer positions, please contact Junior Past Commandant Virgil Young at (865) 414-9550 or at vlyoung@chartertn.net before the election. However, remember at the 28 January meeting you can also make nominations from the floor. We already have some officer nominees but still need a nominee for Detachment Senior Vice Commandant and Detachment Judge Advocate. Both of these positions require very little time on your part so now is the time to step up and call Marine Young before they are taken.

Here is the current list of nominees:

Det. Commandant Candidate – Howard Raines

Det. Senior Vice Commandant – OPEN

Det. Junior Vice Commandant – Russ Dineen

Det. Paymaster – Jeff Tegzes

Det. Judge-Advocate - OPEN



Commandant's Message

-By Laimon Godel

Well this has been a fine two years to serve as your commandant. The detachment has seen growth and some outstanding events. I am thankful for all the help I have received from everyone in the detachment. When I was asked if I would serve, my only request was to receive training and mentoring from those who had gone before. I am pleased to say that I received all that I was able to absorb. Some of you know that I tried to follow the meeting protocol that is in the commandant's note-



book and that in a few cases I either got lost or jumped ahead. I could always count on Marine Nash to get me back on track during the meeting. And for that I am grateful.

As we move forward in 2014 keep in mind that we all need to help grow our detachment membership. Please be sure to invite other Marines who you come in contact with to our monthly meetings. We have windshield cards and business cards available to help spread the word.

Once again I thank all of the members, the auxiliary members and your friends and families that have made this two great years for me. I hope to see you at our January meeting.

Young Marines

OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

By: Virgil Young

Both units are preparing for their Parent Orientation meetings to tell interested kids and their parents about the Young Marines to help them decide if they want to join the 2014 Recruit Class. Each unit will hold its own Orientation meeting beginning at 1000 on Saturday, 1 February. The North Knoxville Unit will hold its Orientation at the Halls-Powell Boys & Girls Club, 1819 Dry Gap Pike, Knoxville, and the Lt. Bonnyman Unit will hold its Orientation at Eagleton Elementary School, 708 Sam Houston School Road, Maryville. If any of you have family or friends with children between the ages of 8 and graduation from high school

who might be interested in joining this Recruit Class, please have them bring those kids to one of the meetings to hear about our program.

We will begin our Recruit Classes within a month of the Orientation Meeting and will hold our Graduation Ceremonies in April.

Over the next month or two, Registered Adults from both units will take a Level I Shooting Coach Course administered by the National Rifle Association (NRA)'s Education and Training Division. This is the first step toward the eventual goal for each unit to have a rifle team that can compete in NRA and YM matches.

In February, the Registered Adults in each unit will also be electing the Unit Commanders and Unit Executive Officers who will lead the units over the next two years.

In March, two (or possibly three) of the YM in our units will be participating in a week-long United Nations (UN) Summit at UN Headquarters in New York City. One YM from each unit has already been confirmed to attend and there is a strong possibility that another YM may yet be approved to attend.





Marine Corps League Auxiliary

-By Connie Sexton

January Greetings to everyone. We will have our elections at the meeting. We have some correspondence from Tri-Cities Unit reporting on activities and donations that our support money goes for. Thanks to everyone who supported Toys for Tots and Wreaths Across America during December. The Detachment now has a display case in the lobby of the Reserve Center. The Unit Person of the Year Committee would like any suggestions and they will meet to vote at the meeting. Please submit any recommendations in writing to the committee at the meeting.

Our incorporation papers have been filed with the State for the Year and our 990 return has also been filed so we are up to date on our requirements.

Cookies by Misty. See you at the meeting. Connie Sexton

Navy Chief Todd Johnson Retires



After 24 years of outstanding Naval Service, Chief Johnson, Command Chief of the NOSC, Knoxville, retired. The retirement ceremony was held on Saturday, 11 January 2014 at the NOSC. Over 80 civilians plus the Navy reservists were on hand to see him “go ashore” The photo above includes the Chief and his family who also received awards. It was an emotional moment for the family and the audience.



By: Howard Raines

Easter is not Far Away

The next safety break will be Easter weekend, April 18, 19 and 20, 2014. It seems like a long time but it's time to start planning for the year ahead.

Winter is on the way, or is it here? You know it could be worse. It could get cold, or even colder! Snow may soon be covering everything with a white coat of beauty. The kids will be sliding on the hills and making snow men or snow angels. Don't forget the old silk hat that made Frosty come to life. Go ahead, let your imagination go, its all in fun. Pick your shift now and let me know at the January meeting.

Exposure to Contaminated Drinking Water at Camp Lejeune

In the early 1980s at the Marine Corps Base in Lejeune, NC, it was discovered that two on-base water-supply systems were contaminated with the volatile organic compounds trichloroethylene (TCE), a metal degreaser, and perchloroethylene (PCE), a dry cleaning agent. Benzene, vinyl chloride, and other compounds were also found to be contaminating the water-supply systems. The water systems were contaminated from August 1953 through December 1987.

There is limited and suggestive evidence of an association between certain diseases and the chemical compounds found at Camp Lejeune during the period of contamination. VA will consider disability compensation claims based on exposure to the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune on a case-by-case basis.

Eligibility Requirements

- You must be a Veteran who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.
- You must have served at Camp Lejeune during the period of contamination (August 1953 through 1987)
- You must have a current disease and a medical opinion that states the disease is a result of exposure to the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune

Normally, VA will initiate a VA medical examination and request an opinion regarding the relationship of the disease to Camp Lejeune service. More information is on the web - just Google "camp lejeune drinking water" and you will find many references including the Camp Lejeune website.

February Calendar



12th Officer's Meeting
 13th Woman Marine Birthday
 17th President's Day
 18th Marine Breakfast, Loudon
 25th Marine Breakfast Oak Ridge
 25th MCL/Aux Meeting
 26th Marine Breakfast South



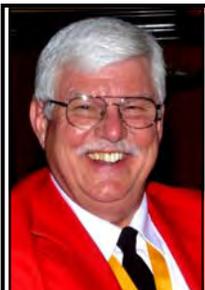
Always check the online calendar at www.MCLknox.org for the latest up to date dates, times and locations of meetings



March Calendar



3rd MODD Growl
 12th Officers Meeting
 15th Marine Dine In
 18th Marine Breakfast, Loudon
 25th Marine Breakfast, Oak Ridge
 25th MCL/Aux Meeting
 26th Marine Breakfast, South



Chaplain's Message

-By Leroy Brown

Greetings to Everyone

Happy New Year to Everyone. Hope everyone enjoyed the Holidays. I want to thank

Marine Bill Henson, Marine George and Connie Sexton, Marine David Hatfield, Marine Frank Waller and Pat Mullins for all the help with delivery of the fruit baskets. It is election time again so volunteer to help run your detachment this year. Remember our members the aged, shut-ins and those who are ill by calling or sending cards and in our prayers. Also our armed forces and our wounded warriors.

Semper Fi

Leroy

865-806-2837 or 865-816-7980

Devil Dogs Set 2014 Schedule

At their December Growl the Smokey Mountain Pound, Military Order of the Devil Dogs set their schedule for 2014. So before you curl up by the fire for the winter don't forget to mark your calendar for next year's growls that will be held on March 3rd, June 2nd, September 8th and December 1st. All growls will be held in Knoxville at Calhoun's Restaurant on Bearden Hill.

There will also be MODD Growls at the Southeast Division Conference in March and the Department of Tennessee Convention in June. And don't forget that 2014 is the 75th Anniversary of the Military Order of the Devil Dogs and there will be a special dog tag issued to those that attend the Supreme Growl at the August National Convention in Charleston, West Virginia.



The 11 Annual Marine Mud Run will be held on September 13, 2014 at Melton Hill Park.

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Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment 924
Marine Corps League
Application for Membership



Name _____ Phone (_____) _____
Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____+_____
Date of Birth ____/____/____ E-Mail Address _____ Service/Social Security No _____
Date of Enlistment/Commissioning ____/____/____ Date of Discharge/Retirement ____/____/____
Type of Application- New () Renewal () Type of Membership- Regular Member () Associate () Dual ()

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? () YES () NO *If yes is checked, I agree to waive my rights under the Privacy Act and disclose the nature of my felony conviction for consideration of membership in the Marine Corps League.*

I hereby apply for membership in the Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment, Marine Corps League, Department of Tennessee, and enclose \$28.00 for one year's membership that includes a year's subscription to the Marine Corps League quarterly magazine.

I certify that I am currently serving or have served honorably in the U. S. Marine Corps, on active duty, for not less than ninety (90) days and earned the Eagle, Globe and Anchor,* or have served or am currently serving in the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve and have earned not less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Points or that I have served or am currently serving as a U. S. Navy Corpsman who has trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps Device or Warfare Device worn on the Service Ribbon authorized for FMF Corpsman. If discharged, I am in receipt of a DD Form 214 or Certificate of Discharge indicating "Honorable service." ("Honorable Service" will be defined by the last Form DD 214 or Certificate of Discharge that the applicant received). *General discharge under Honorable Conditions is acceptable.* By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of honorable service/discharge upon request. I hereby authorize the National Executive Director, Marine Corps League to obtain an un-redacted copy of my latest DD Form 214 from the Marine Corps custodian of Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF), and/or verification of honorable service if deemed necessary to verify my eligibility for regular membership in the Marine Corps League. I understand the DD Form 214 may contain information such as military awards, training, and character of service.

*(Korean War Era Marines See National Bylaws, Article 6, Section 600)

Sponsor (where applicable)

Applicant's Signature