

# THE BONNYMAN GAZETTE

May 2015

LT. ALEXANDER BONNYMAN DETACHMENT #924 MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

The Bonnyman Gazette is the official newsletter of the Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment #924 Marine Corps League, PO Box 145, Knoxville, TN 37901. Articles and photos are due to the Editor no later than the 15th of each month. The Editor is Jeff Tegzes, [ntegzes@gmail.com](mailto:ntegzes@gmail.com), (865) 809-1585.

CATCH US ON THE WEB AT:

[MCLknox.org](http://MCLknox.org)

## Detachment & Auxiliary Meetings

We meet monthly on the last Tuesday of the month at the Navy Operational Support Center / Marine Corps Reserve Center, 2101 Alcoa Hwy (Rt 129) Knoxville, TN 37920. Social hour begins at 1730 followed by a business meeting at 1830.

## Detachment Officers

### Commandant

Jim Williams (865) 740-4155

### Junior Past Commandant

Howard Raines (865) 577-4745

### Senior Vice Commandant

Eddie Knoebel (808) 391-4618

### Junior Vice Commandant

Scott Bailey (865) 765-6644

### Adjutant

Eric Nash (865) 693-5711

### Paymaster

Laimon Godel (865) 566-4949

### Chaplain

Leroy Brown (865) 806-2837

### Judge Advocate

Virgil Young (865) 675-4004

### Sergeant-at-Arms

Tim Eichhorn (865) 368-6559



**On May 8, 2015 Marines from the League went to Jefferson City to make Marine Charles Grey an Honorary Member of the Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Det. Marine Grey served from 1950-1954 and fought in Korea. Charles was in poor health so we went to him. We had a great time with the Family and gave Charles several challenge coins and a certificate. Sadly, Charles passed away two days after our visit and was buried with honors at Highland Memorial Park in Knoxville. Remember him in your prayers.**

## COMMANDANT'S CORNER by Jim Williams

Thanks to all who came out to the rifle match, we had the best day ever...two full relays, 20 shooters. The great smell of gunpowder filled the air! Dirt was flying and paper was getting holes all over the place. Thanks to the Young Marines who did a fantastic job scoring targets... both relays were done by 1000. Now That's Moving! Great job Young Marines. Thanks to Danny Guy for letting us have the match and working as the Range Safety Officer for the match. League shooters were Gary Miller, Jeff Tegzes, James Williams, Jim Williams, Bob Brown, Ron Lambert, Gene Collins, and Walt Taylor.





MCL Commendation awarded to JROTC Cadet Captain Ryan Hill of South Doyle High School by Marine Virgil Young

## HIGH SCHOOL JROTC CADET AWARDS

During April and May, Detachment members presented Certificates of Commendation to Navy, Army, and Air Force JROTC Honor Cadets at area High Schools. Awards were presented at Austin-East, Bearden, Central, Fulton, Farragut, South Doyle, And West High Schools. Cadets receiving the commendation are also authorized to wear the Marine Corps league Community Service Ribbon. Special thanks to the Detachment members who took the time to present these awards and make each ceremony a memorable event for deserving Cadets, their units, and parents.

**Always check the online calendar at [www.MCLknox.org](http://www.MCLknox.org) for the latest information on dates, times, and locations/maps for League meetings and events.**

## TOLLING OF THE BOATS IN OAK RIDGE

Our Detachment will post the colors, fire a rifle salute, and play taps during the annual Tolling of the Boats, Saturday, 13 June, 2015 in Oak Ridge. The ceremony honors all U.S. Submariners lost with their boats. The uniform is Dress Blue trousers with white short sleeve shirt. Marine Lee Rhinemiller is organizing the Detachment participants.

### RED BLAZERS AVAILABLE

Marine Corps League type 2 button red blazers are available at [uniformalwarehouse.com](http://uniformalwarehouse.com) for \$59.95-\$69.95. This company offers good quality at great prices. Official MCL buttons must be purchased from the MCL National Ship's Store and installed by you or your tailor.

### COMMITTEE FORMED FOR DETACHMENT

#### 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

You have heard the scuttlebutt, but this is no s\*\*\* ! The Charter Members and Past Detachment Commandants request that detachment members mark their calendars for Saturday, 22 August, 2015 for a grand celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the chartering and forming of the Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment. This event will be held at Rothchild's Catering & Convention Center in Knoxville. Detachment members are asked to provide comments, photos, activities, and achievements that deserve acknowledgement during the celebration. Committee Contacts are George, Connie, Patty, Laimon, Virgil, Big Jim, and Nolan.

### 2015 MARINE MUD RUN MEETING

Commencing 1630, May 26, 2015 a Marine Mud Run Meeting will precede the monthly Marine Corps League Meeting at the Navy-Marine Corps Operation Center. Please join me with the 2015 Volunteer Coordinator, Marine Bryan Hudgins, for introductions and a round table of plans, inventory, and discussion to bring the 2015 Marine Mud Run into sharper focus. Mark your calendars for 0 dark thirty Saturday September 26, 2015 for the Mud Run.

### 2015 Memorial Day Service

Our detachment and the Lt. Bonnyman Young Marine Unit will jointly conduct a ceremony on Memorial Day (Monday, 25 May) at the Sgt. Mitchell Stout Medal of Honor Memorial/Virtue Cemetery in Farragut. Detachment Commandant Jim Williams will participate in presenting a wreath during the ceremony and the detachment's rifle detail will fire a salute, as well.

Parking is very limited near the memorial so the Young Marine bus will provide shuttle service from the parking lot at the Virtue Cumberland Presbyterian Church (enter 725 Virtue Rd., Knoxville, TN 37934 in your GPS device) to the memorial. The shuttle service will start at 10:15am - the service will start promptly at 11am. It is a very short ride from the church to the memorial. If bad weather threatens, we will hold the service in the church activity room so come on out and to join us even if the weather isn't good.

Marine Virgil Young

### CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Greetings to all,

Memorial Day Safety Break is coming up and we need more people to volunteer. To fill out the roster, go to the Detachment website or call Howard Raines. I am glad that Marine Wayne Jones and his lovely wife Susan made it safely from Florida. Marine Gus Aiken is doing well and Marine Ed Simpson is in rehab after heart bypass surgery. Marine Bill Schmidt is doing well and still fighting. Pray for all our ailing members and our men and women in uniform. Mattie and I wish everyone a safe and joyous Memorial Day weekend.

If I can be of service to anyone call me at 865-806-2837 or 865-806-2988.

Semper Fi and God Bless

Leroy Brown, Chaplain



Detachment ball caps are available for sale at League meetings. See the Supply Officer.

### MCL AUXILIARY

Hello to all our members and friends this Spring or Summer or whatever this weather is. At the meeting we need to bring any figures we want to put in our reports or at least an idea of the activities, charities, patriotic events, etc. that you have participated in during the last year, April 30 to May 1.

The Department Convention is in Pigeon Forge this year, June 18-21. Please come if you can, even if it is just one event or to visit to see what goes on at the convention. Our unit will contribute desserts for the hospitality room. Let me know if you can help with a dessert donation, working at the hospitality room, or helping with registration.

Do not forget Mud Run is coming up 9-16. I need all the volunteers I can get for on site package Pick-up (registration).

Sue Brown lost her daughter Cicily. We are all sad about her loss and hope Sue and her granddaughter Maggie are doing well.

Ginger Huffman has had a recurrence of cancer and can use all our support and cheer.

Charlotte will be doing cookies this month.

See you at the meeting.

Connie



Connie Sexton  
Unit President

### UPCOMING MCL CONVENTIONS

The MCL Department of Tennessee State Convention will be held 18-21 June in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. The MCL National Convention will be held on 9-15 August in Scottsdale, AZ. For more information, see the Department of Tennessee website (link to calendar) at: [godel.com/html/mcltn.htm](http://godel.com/html/mcltn.htm) or call Laimon Godel at 865 566-4949. Registration forms and convention schedule for the state convention are available at the May Detachment meeting.

### HONOR AIR OPENS TRIPS TO VIETNAM VETERANS

The next free Honor Air trip from Knoxville to Washington DC will be on 7 October 2015. The trip will be open to WW2, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans. Applications and information is available at [honorairknoxville.com](http://honorairknoxville.com).

June Calendar

Devil Dog Growl	1
Officers Meeting	10
Submariners Memorial	13
Newsletter Deadline	15
Tanasi Breakfast 9am	16
Dpt of TN Convention	18-21
South Knox Breakfast	29
Detachment Meeting	30



Junior Past Commandant Howard Raines recognized for dedicated service.

July Calendar

Officers Meeting	8
Newsletter Deadline	15
Tanasi Breakfast 9am	21
South Knox Breakfast	27
Detachment Meeting	28

**MORE HELP IS NEEDED FOR THE MEMORIAL DAY SAFETY BREAK. GO TO MCLKNOX.ORG, FIND AN OPEN TIME SLOT, AND SIGN UP NOW!**

SCRATCHES FROM THE CLAWS OF THE BARKING DOG

Mark your calendars for the remaining Devil Dog Growls... 1 June, 31 August, and 7 December. All Growls will be held at Calhoun's Restaurant in Bearden Hill. Calhoun's is located at 6515 Kingston Pike near the I-40 Papermill Road Exit in West Knoxville. We meet in the private dining room on the left. Opening ceremonies will begin at 1800. We are having good attendance, yet could always use more friendly faces.



Don't forget to mark your calendar for those who are planning on attending the Growl at National 9-15 August at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona.

I will not be at the 1 June Growl. Patty and I will be enroute to Montana. Hope to be back for the Growl at the State Convention 18-21 June.

Woof Woof DD Frank Waller, Barking Dog



Bill Gerst Rifle Match top MCL shooters L to R: Gary Miller, Jeff Tegzes, James Williams, and Jim Williams



Marine Charles Grey with his wife at home.

SEMPER FI!

**Young Marine Report — by Virgil Young**

In April, both units had their Recruit Graduations. Marine Lori Polchies was the Guest of Honor at the North Knoxville Unit graduation and Marine Tim Eichhorn was the Guest of Honor for the Lt. Bonnyman Unit graduation.

On 15 April, YM from both units helped welcome home the 125 WWII and Korean War veterans who went on the 18<sup>th</sup> Knoxville Honor Air Flight to Washington, DC. Our YM got to assist some of the returning veterans through the long reception line at the airport. One YM, however, was much more involved than that. YM/GySgt Patrick Alford of the Lt. Bonnyman Unit had applied for and gotten approval months before to be one of the official Honor Air escorts. He received training on his duties and was assigned specifically to assist veterans William Phillips, Jr., Lowell Poling, and Herman Moore on the flight to DC, during the visits to the memorials, and on the return flight. Our thanks to YM Alford and the other YM and adults who helped honor these veterans.

I am disappointed to report that, as the TN Regiment CO, I had to cancel the TN Regiment Field Meet scheduled in April when we did not get enough participation from other units around the regiment to make it worthwhile. However, to partially make up for that cancellation for the YM from the Lt. Bonnyman Unit who were looking forward to attending, our unit will have a weekend campout from 15-17 May at the Cumberland Mountain State Park outside of Crossville, TN. (I hope it's warmer than the 27-degree weather we endured sleeping overnight in tents during our Recruit Campout in late March!)

I was fortunate to be able to attend the Adult Leaders' Conference in Las Vegas, NV with Registered Adults Larry and Kathy Winters from 6-10 May. Of course, YM/SgtMaj Tyler Ward, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Young Marine of the Year (YMOY) from the Lt. Bonnyman Unit, and his grandparents, Carroll and Sherry Ward, also attended, since YM Ward was in contention for National YMOY. He and the other five Division YMOYs had to answer random questions related to drug demand reduction for about an hour in front of all 400+ attendees at the conference and YM Ward did extremely well. I was told he also did well when he went before the National Selection Board. Unfortunately, he was not selected as the National YMOY but he represented himself, our division and our unit very well and took home some nice consolation prizes, including a trophy, a Division YMOY ring, and a \$1,500 check.



YM Alford escorts Honor Air Vets



Honor Recruit Autumn Cox and Commandant Williams



Graduation Guest of Honor Tim Eichhorn with smallest recruit



YM escorts Honor Air Vet in wheelchair

**GOLD STAR FAMILIES MEMORIAL MONUMENT**

Tennessee's new Gold Star Families Memorial Monument honoring the families of servicemen and women killed in the line of duty is now becoming a reality. The memorial will be established in the new East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery, located on Governor John Sevier Hwy in Knox County.

Joleen Dewald and Rene' Goupil, Honorary Board Members of the Hershel Woody Williams Medal of Honor Foundation are leading the project in cooperation with American Legion Post 2 in Knoxville and Knoxville County Mayor Tim Burchett. The committee for the memorial will be comprised of several Gold Star families, Legion members, veterans and other citizens from East Tennessee.

A Gold Star family is a wife, husband, mother, father, stepmother, stepfather, parent through adoption, foster parents who stand or stood in loco parentis, children, stepchildren, children through adoption, brothers, sisters, half brothers, half sisters, aunts, uncles, grandchildren and grandparents of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States that sacrificed their life for our way of life and the American flag under which they served.

The Gold Star Family Memorial was created by Medal of Honor Recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams to remember those families who have made the ultimate sacrifice. A fundraising campaign was launched at the annual Mountain Man Memorial March in early April. The total amount of funds needed to complete the project is \$39,000.

<http://hwwmohfoundation.org/knoxville.html>

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Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Det. # 924

Marine Corps League

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## Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment 924

### Marine Corps League



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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 no 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