

# THE BONNYMAN GAZETTE

February 2021

VOLUME 25 NUMBER 8

The Bonnyman Gazette is the official newsletter of the Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment #924 Marine Corps League, PO Box 53293, Knoxville, TN 37950. Articles and photos are due to the Editor no later than the 15th of each month. The Editor is Jeff Tegzes, (865) 809-1585.

## Detachment & Auxiliary Meetings

We meet monthly on the last Tuesday of the month at the VFW Post 5154, 2561 Hobbs Road, Louisville, TN 37777. Social hour begins at 1730 followed by a business meeting at 1830.

## Detachment Officers

### Commandant

**Ken DeBoer (865) 771-8025**

### Junior Past Commandant

**Tim Eichhorn (865) 368-6559**

### Senior Vice Commandant

**Mike Napierkowski (908) 910-4193**

### Junior Vice Commandant

**David Terwell (970) 531-8173**

### Adjutant

**Elizabeth Carr (865) 686-2540**

### Paymaster

**Sam Ruble (865) 850-1326**

### Chaplain

**Ron Naugle (571) 565-6980**

### Judge Advocate

**Lee Rhinemiller (865) 414-3460**

### Sergeant-at-Arms

**Stony Saathoff (865) 556-6524**

### Web Sergeant: [mclknnoxville.org](http://mclknnoxville.org)

**Tim Shea (865) 408-7900**

### Detachment Quartermaster

**Larry George (865) 789-6535**

### Ladies Auxiliary President

**Charlene Cotton ((865) 279-4652**



New elected and appointed Detachment Officers were sworn in at the January meeting. Several officers returned from serving in 2020 to serve again along with some new faces. The 2021 Officers are listed on this page. They will all need our support for another successful year.

## COMMANDANT'S CORNER

Hello Marines,

I hope all are in good health and for those of you under weather, get well soon. Thank you for your support in my re-election for Commandant. We have a good slate of officers and will do our best. Those who decided not to be part of the new slate, thank you for your time and help. Semper Fi. The detachment is stable even with all the restrictions due to covid and the meetings well attended. Thanks to those who have made the effort.

We have many fundraisers coming up in May and June; a car show, the Marine Rose Program, and golf tournament. The Officers can't do this alone. We need you the membership to step up and help. We may have fallen, but we are going to get up and be stronger because we are Marines. Faith, trust, and fellowship - let's keep that in mind. We must guard against pettiness. Let's remember all those who have passed on and respect that which they created. A strong detachment needs support from all.

Please attend the next meeting. We will have many items from Jim Williams's collection of Marine Corps memorabilia for sale. This includes one of a kind items, clothing, pins, stickers, etc. Bring the bucks and leave with the booty.

The membership at the last meeting voted to cancel the Mud Run for 2021 due to the unknown from covid, and the expense. We also voted to set aside \$15,000 for the 2022 Mud Run. We have also postponed the Dine-In for the safety of all. We will pick it up later in the year.

Memorial Day brings us the Virtue Cemetery event with our Honor Guard, Young Marines, parents, neighbors, and families. Help make it a success. Larry and Kathy Winters have worked very hard and given numerous hours to this detachment and the Young Marines. We need to show our support and gratefulness; please attend.

Thank you all for what you have done. Remember the brotherhood will never end. Semper Fi.

Semper Fi, Ken DeBoer, Commandant



**MOTHUSI DID NOT GIVE US A FISH; HE TAUGHT US HOW TO FISH**

**“Bear ye one another’s burdens... For every man shall bear his own burden.” Galatians 6:2, 5**

These two verses seem to contradict each other. In the Scriptures a single word can have several meanings. The meaning of “burden” in verse five means that you must carry your own backpack (burdens that only you can bear; such as a sickness or death), but the “burdens” of verse two means that if you are sick or wounded the Marines will carry your pack for you (overburdens that others may help to bear). My definition of ‘indigenous principles’ is to allow others to carry their own gear when it is possible for them to do so but render a helping hand when it is needed.

The title of this article was spoken by Teko Melamu, of the Tswana tribe, to describe the ‘indigenous principles’ implemented by Mothusi (Moe-to-see), yours truly, to establish several churches and a Bible school in Southern Africa. Perhaps ‘indigenous principles’ were instilled in me by the Marine Corps, long before beginning missionary service more than forty years ago, in 1980. Following a tour of duty with the 26th Marines, I began to contemplate rejoining the fight with Combined Action Platoons. The motto of the officers and men of the Combined Action Units in I Corps was to “work yourself out of a job!” The methodology of training ‘indigenous’ people to bear the responsibility for themselves was used by CAP Marines in ‘Nam” and has been around for a considerable time. “...Princeton-educated General David Petraeus preached and was credited with this same gospel of counterinsurgency. Defeating an ‘indigenous’ resistance, the thinking went, required a unique approach to warfare. To oversimplify, it was less about killing the enemy than winning over and protecting the local population; less about guns and bombs than about hearts and minds. That meant forging personal relationships, training local security forces, and investing in expensive development projects. In short, it meant nation building. It was often described as the Petraeus Doctrine.” Quotation by Michael Crowley. Again, nothing new here! The Marines developed and practiced this same approach years before General Petraeus came upon the scene. General Westmoreland criticized the Marines for using these same tactics in jungle warfare during the Vietnam War. He thought it was a waste of highly trained Marine Corps personnel.

We were sometimes called ‘Peace Corps Volunteers’ with guns, assigned to train a barefoot militia; the ‘Minuteman’ of Vietnam; to fight for HIS family, HIS home, HIS plot of ground, HIS neighbors, and HIS village. Abraham Lincoln said, “You cannot help man permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.” We soon found that if we did everything for the Nghia Quan, he would gladly sit back and let you. Instead, we were to equip and train the local rice farmers, while working ourselves out of a job, by helping the villagers to establish schools, clinics, and stability before moving on to another village. When you teach them to bait their own hooks, the villagers soon realized that a welfare state (socialism) doesn’t work long-term and it is better to learn the art of fishing than it is to receive a fish. They grabbed their poles and gear (carbines and grenades) and went fishing; because he began to realize that the village was HIS responsibility, sink or swim. He became acutely aware that success would come with HIS sacrifices, HIS gifts, HIS labor, HIS sweat, HIS blood, using HIS knowledge, according to HIS culture. Leadership is training and delegating responsibility to others to get the job done. We didn’t strive to make a little America overseas or clone little Americans to run around in the village wearing Ray Bans and Levi Jeans, but rather taught them that natural ‘indigenous’ growth can occur in any soil (Vietnam), amid any conditions (wartime).

The Lord once fed 5,000 men with two small fishes. One of the things that I remember best about the ‘Nam’ is teaching the Vietnamese people how to fish. Worms are good, but not to be compared with grenades! After throwing a few ‘frags’ over the side of the boat; two small men had 5,000 fishes! Miraculously good fishing! ‘Indigenous principles’ teach men to fish for themselves and the Lord will honor these principles as we trust Him and exercise faith in His ability to provide. The Marine Corps League is always ready to help others, but there are times when we have to step back and let people figure things out for themselves. If we are told that someone needs our help, but that someone responds to a query by saying that they are doing fine, then back off and give them the benefit of doubt, rather than invade their fishing spot during a personal trial. I’m like an ole’ hound dog when I’m sick or injured, I just want to curl up in a corner and be left alone. There are others who feel the same way. It’s like fishing in the solitude of your own private pond that is posted, no trespassing! We don’t want to pull the cane pole out of someone’s hands when the float starts to bobble. Dignity and pride allows a Marine to bait his own hook, drag in his own fish, and carry his own kit for as long as possible, “For every man shall bear his own burden.” The flip side of the coin is that we leave no man behind at the fishing hole and should always be ready to render a helping hand when it is needed. Especially if they hook a big one! “Bear ye one another’s burdens....” Semper Fi

**Chaplain Ron**





## MCL RIFLE AND PISTOL MATCHES

The next pistol match is scheduled for Saturday, 17 April. See the website for details. The rifle match schedule for 2021 includes a match on Saturday, 8 May and Saturday, 11 September. Details of both rifle matches can also be found on the website.

## MARINE ROSE PROGRAM

The Alexander Bonnyman Detachment participated in the Marine Rose Program during Veterans Day in November this year. This program involved Detachment Members distributing artificial commemorative roses selected sites throughout the area and accepting donations to support Marine Corps League projects. Last year, Detachment members set up at the Krogers in Farragut and the Lowes in Seymour. The hunt is always on for prime locations at high traffic businesses and shopping centers in and around Knoxville for rose distribution. **The Commandant is actively soliciting recommendations from the membership on locations to distribute roses for Memorial Day 2021.** If you have an idea about a good spot or if you have a connection with a local business, let him know. **The Marine Rose Program was a hugely successful fundraiser this year and will help make up for the loss of revenue to the Detachment due to the cancellation of the 2020/21 Mud Runs.** Get involved with this and other vital fundraisers to get us through this budget year's activities, programs and support for other organizations.



Two new members, Kenneth Johnson (left) and Lloyd Hansen (right), were sworn in at the January meeting. Kenneth was an 0369 with 1/1 at Camp Pendleton. Lloyd served in Vietnam and Gitmo as a forward observer. Welcome aboard!



Marine Clayton Narveson celebrated his 97th birthday at the January member's meeting. Clayton fought on Tarawa and Iwo Jima and is a member of the Alexander Bonnyman Detachment. Wishing you many more Clayton!



Marines Elizabeth Carr, Susan Schmidt and Pearl Rich each received a quilt to commemorate their service. The quilts were presented at the January meeting by Marsha Rupp representing "Quilts of Honor"

## February Calendar

Officers Meeting	8
Detachment Meeting	23

## March Calendar

Devil Dog Growl	1
Officers meeting	8
Detachment Meeting	30

## April Calendar

Officers Meeting	12
Pistol Match	17
Detachment Meeting	27



## SCRATCHES FROM THE CLAWS OF THE BARKING DOG

Smokey Mountain Pound 271 Growls are currently being held at VFW Post 5154 in Louisville. The 2021 Growl schedule is set: 1 March, 7 June, 13 September and 6 December. **The new charter for the "Sergeant Major David R. Hatfield Pound 271" will be presented at the 1 March Growl.** Be sure to be there for this historic event! See you there! Woof Woof!

PDD Ken Ciolfi, Pound Keeper

## mclknoxville.org

The Detachment Webmaster is Marine Tim Shea. **mclknoxville.org** is up and will be updated to post events or news. The Bonnyman Gazette will continue to be posted in color on the website.

## 1ST ANNUAL RODS AND HOGS SHOW

The Detachment has scheduled the first annual car and motorcycle show scheduled for Sunday, May 15th at the Parkway Drive-In Theater in Maryville. Marine Larry Winters has taken charge of planning this event. **This event will be a major fundraiser for the Detachment and will require maximum volunteer support from the membership to make it a success.** See the website for details in the flyer and decide how you can help.



## MEMBERS NEEDED FOR THE HONOR GUARD

**The Detachment Honor Guard/Firing Detail is looking for new members to provide honors and salutes at memorial events and funerals.** Members must be able to handle the M1 Rifle (9.5 pounds) and will need the League undress uniform (white SS shirt and Dress Blue trousers). The "U.S. Marines" Red Satin jacket is also worn in cold weather. Expert training will be provided and no experience (other than Boot Camp) is necessary. Contact Marine Larry George for details.

## RED BLAZERS AVAILABLE

Marine Corps League uniform 2 button red blazers are available at **uniformalwear-house.com** Prices range from \$69.95 to \$79.95, depending on size. Red blazers are also available at **J.C. Penney** as the "Stafford Blazer" Official MCL buttons can be purchased through the Detachment Quartermaster and installed by you or your tailor. MCL authorized pocket badges for wear with the blazer can be ordered at: **www.pocketbadge.com**

## ALEXANDER BONNYMAN UNIT YOUNG MARINES REPORT

The Lt Alexander Bonnyman Unit had a 'normal' month with no cancellations.

The Change of Command ceremony went on as planned on January 9, 2021 after being delayed due to Covid. None of our Young Marines present had seen the Ceremony, never mind participated. So with a short practice, they did a good job. Daniel Kelly is the new Unit Commander. Larry Winters, as Battalion Commander, will help him learn as much as he can. Eight MCL members attended the ceremony and one Auxiliary member. That was the biggest turnout ever by the League for a Young Marine function. It was greatly appreciated. All those red jackets make a statement.

On January 23rd, we were back to business. Our focus that day was a First Aid Class, which many needed for promotion. Mr. DeLeeuw, one of our Adult Leaders is also a Fireman/EMT. He conducted the class. It was a great hit as the Young Marines were able to practice some of the skills learned.

Adult Leader, Joe McCarter Jr., led a DDR class. His focus was on the physical and social aspects of drug abuse. Of course, the Young Marines were very interested in what he sees in his real job as a Blount County Sheriff. "Gunny" is a detective for Blount County.

We decided that we will return to Whispering Springs again this June for a week, as our Unit Trip. The kids love it there. And we will be in an environment where we are 'safe' from the Covid cancellations and the loss of deposits made.

Our next recruit class will begin on Saturday, 10 April 2021. We already have ten 'recruits in waiting'. Hopefully this year will give us a smooth transition. Also waiting for warmer weather will allow us to use Camp Bonnyman more effectively and keep the Young Marines outside in a healthier environment.



Larry Winters passes the unit guidon at the Change of Command.

Daniel Kelly, Unit Commander, Alexander Bonnyman Unit



Joe McCarter's Drug Awareness Class.



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DISCOVER THE POWER OF CONNECTION

Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Det. # 924  
Marine Corps League  
Post Office Box 53293  
Knoxville, TN 37950-3293

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

**PLEASE PRINT IN PEN**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_+\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Service/Social Security No \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ 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