

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, ntegzes@gmail.com, (865) 809-1585.

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

Tim Eichhorn (865) 368-6559

Junior Past Commandant

Jim Williams (865) 740-4155

Senior Vice Commandant

Travis Bryan (704) 363-4395

Junior Vice Commandant

Sam Ruble (865) 850-1326

Adjutant

Eric Nash (865) 693-5711

Paymaster

Lee Rhinemiller (865) 414-3460

Chaplain

Pearl Rich (865) 306-6744

Judge Advocate

David Cates (865) 548-4088

Sergeant-at-Arms

Stony Saathoff (865) 556-6524

Web Sergeant: mclknnoxville.org

Tim Shea

Detachment Quartermaster

Larry George (865) 789-6535



NEW MEMBERS ELIZABETH CARR AND TOMMY WEBB SWORN-IN AT THE MARCH MEETING. WELCOME ABOARD!

COMMANDANT'S CORNER

Marines of the Lt Alexander Bonnyman Detachment,

It is full speed ahead now with activities and opportunities to serve.

The pistol and rifle schedules are in place now that the weather will allow for shooting time outside.

The Detachment has a full table going into the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association Medal of Honor evening. This year marks the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I and the actions of SGT Alvin York, US Army, will be the topic of the evening.

On Memorial Day, as per our unit tradition, we will be serving at Virtue Cemetery in West Knox County to mark the solemnity and dignity of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

In June we host the state level convention for two days of meetings and classes capped off by a banquet Saturday night June 23rd. As Marines of the detachment, I highly encourage your participation in the conference and the meetings on Friday and Saturday, but most of all, please get out to the banquet that evening. It is a wonderful time to enjoy fellowship and camaraderie among Marines of all stripes from across the state.

Mud Run planning is in full swing right now and the jobs that need done are being initiated. Everyone of us has a seat at the table for this. It is too important not to rally around it and make it the success that it should be. Listen closely at the meetings and be prepared to lend a hand. You may be asked to work administratively before hand or you may be part of the parking lot crew or at the race finish. The bottom line is that you are needed. Do not miss this chance to get involved. This issue of the Gazette is chock full of opportunities to serve-find yours.

Thanks and Semper Fidelis,

Tim Eichhorn, Commandant





Business meeting at the Southeast Division Conference in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee in March.



Several homeless veterans are laid to rest with honors at the East Tennessee Veterans Cemetery in March. Detachment member Bob Brown participated as one of the bearers.

HELP WANTED!

Our Detachment is hosting the 2018 Department Convention, on June 21st – 23rd and with that comes the cost. Essential to financing the Convention without placing a financial burden on the Detachment is selling ads. Before you know it, the deadline of May 21st will be upon us. Help is wanted and needed to sell Convention Program Book Ads. **A form for program book ads and a cover letter for business managers is available at mcknoxville.org under Dept of TN 37th Annual Convention.** Help from members will also be needed to collect promotional and other give-away items to be included in the “goodie bags” given to convention attendees from around the state. **Members are also encouraged to donate items to be sold via “silent auction” at the convention.**

100 YEARS AGO:

MARINES IN THE GREAT WAR

April 1918: On 1 April, the Marine Brigade suffered its first combat casualty as Private Emil H. Gehrke of 3/6 died from shell fragments. It was a bad start to what would be a rough month for the Marines in the trenches around Verdun. As if the rotten food and mud were not bad enough, the Germans seemed intent on making life miserable for the Marines in the front line trenches and the rest areas. Several trench raids by German “Sturmtruppen” had to be repulsed at some cost to both sides. Marine counter raids were also costly. German artillery was particularly dangerous. On 12 April, 1/6 was located in a reserve camp and was devastated by a particularly heavy shelling. Most of the rounds were gas shells catching many Marines in their billets. Nearly the entire 47th Company had to be evacuated to hospitals and 28 eventually died from gas wounds. The entire company would have to be reorganized and retrained with Marines from the 2nd Replacement Battalion.

The Marine Brigade also suffered another serious blow with the dismissal of their Brigade Commander. The very popular Brigadier General Charles Doyen, USMC, was relieved by General Pershing for failing his Army physical exam and was returned to the States. Pershing was known to be a stickler for maintaining high physical and mental standards among his officers, but Marines would see the change as largely political. Doyen had built the Marine Brigade from the ground up and his loss was heartbreaking and humiliating. He was replaced by Brigadier General James A. Harbord, U.S. Army, Pershing’s Chief of Staff. Pershing told Harbord that he was getting the best brigade in the AEF and “if it fails, I’ll know where to place the blame.”



General James A. Harbord, USA, Commanding Officer, 4th Brigade (Marine), 2nd Division, AEF

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY IN KNOXVILLE



Knoxville area Vietnam Era Veterans gathered at the East Tennessee Veterans Memorial in downtown Knoxville on 29 March for the 5th Annual Vietnam Veterans Day Ceremony. The event was hosted by the Captain Bill Robinson Chapter 1078 of the Vietnam Veterans of America. League member, Gerald Madden, and many other Vietnam Era Veterans received a commemorative pin in honor of their service during the Vietnam War (top picture). League member Bob Brown is also a member of Chapter 1078 and participated in organizing and conducting the ceremony.



MCL AUXILIARY

The Lt Alexander Bonnyman MCL Auxiliary presented an American Flag to Girl Scout Troop 20047 of Seymour. David Cates assisted Girl Scout Troop 20047 of Seymour. David Cates assisted with obtaining the flag through Woodmen of the World. Bill Voight presented a demonstration on display and care of the flag. Under Bill's guidance, the Scouts practiced folding and securing the flag. Troop Leader Tanya Allen expressed appreciation, "Our troop was organized last year. Having our own flag is a landmark as our troop grows. Thank you so very much."

Kathy is providing cookies at the April meeting. See you there. Bill Voight presented a demonstration on display and care of the flag. Under Bill's guidance, the Scouts practiced folding and securing the flag. Troop Leader Tanya Allen expressed appreciation, "Our troop was organized last year. Having our own flag is a landmark as our troop grows. Thank you so very much."

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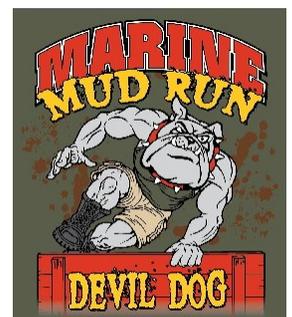
Charlene Cotton, President



APRIL MUD RUN MEETING

An organizational & budget meeting for the 2018 Marine Mud Run will precede the April Detachment meeting commencing at 1630 April 24, 2018, in the large conference room across the hall from the Delta Company offices. Contact Marine Nolan Sharbel, PDC, with any questions & input at (865)385-1221.

The Mud Run is scheduled for Saturday, 15 September. **New members are needed to join the Mud Run Committee to plan and execute this event!**



May Calendar		June Calendar		July Calendar	
Rifle Match	12	Devil Dog Growl	4	Safety Break	7-8
Officers Meeting	14	Officers Meeting	11	Officers Meeting	9
Safety Break	27-28	TN Department Convention	22-23	Detachment Meeting	31
Memorial Day Ceremony	28	Detachment Meeting	26		
Detachment Meeting	29				

SCRATCHES FROM THE CLAWS OF THE BARKING DOG



The 2018 Growl schedule is: 4 June, 24 September, and 3 December. All Growls will take place 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.

Barking Dog

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.

RED BLAZERS AVAILABLE

Marine Corps League uniform 2 button red/scarlet blazers are available at:

uniformalwarehouse.com

Prices range from \$69.95 to \$79.95, depending on size. This company offers good quality at reasonable prices. Official MCL buttons can be purchased through the Detachment Quartermaster and installed by you or your tailor.



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). Expert training will be provided and no experience (other than Boot Camp) is necessary. Contact Marine Lee Rhinemiller for details.

SAFETY BREAK SCHEDULE

There will be a total of three Safety Breaks this year beginning 27 and 28 May for the Memorial Day weekend. The 4th of July Safety Break will be 7 and 8 July. Finally, the Labor Day Safety Break will be 2 and 3 September. **Contact Howard Raines to fill an open slot for the Memorial Day Break.**

USMC SUPPORT OF MARINE FUNERALS

Family members of deceased Marines can request military honors for a funeral through the following Headquarters Marine Corps hotline: **(866) 826-3628**

Do not call Marine Reserve Centers directly! They cannot provide honors without direction from Headquarters Marine Corps.

VETERANS IDENTIFICATION CARD

The VIC is a portable and secure alternative to a DD-214 that can be used to obtain discounts on promotional goods and services offered to veterans. Individual's that do not have a Veterans Health Identification Card (VHIC) or retirement card issued by the Department of Defense will be able to apply for a VIC online using **www.vets.gov**

YOUNG MARINE REPORT by Kathy Winters

The Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Drill Team went to Smyrna the weekend of March 16-18th. We took eight Young Marines including three recent graduates. It was a great learning experience. None of our team had previously been to a drill competition. Every other unit had older and more senior Young Marines. It's tough to compete when you have a young unit. The Regiment helped clean the greenway for the City of Smyrna earning community service hours. The best part, everyone had a great time.

Swim qualifications in Sevierville were a great success. All but one Young Marine earned a Class I ribbon. Thanks to Marine Elizabeth Carr and volunteer Deanna Davis for their help.

Honor Air was a great evening for all of us. Our Young Marines were very well received by the returning veterans. Most of them paid special attention to our group. There were not many Marines but we were able to greet two Marine Corps League Members. Marine Tim Shea led them in a big "Oohrah" for the crowd. Larry Winters represented the League and was able to hand out cards and literature. Marine Elizabeth Carr was part of the Honor Guard.

One of our Adult Leaders died suddenly this past Thursday. Many of you may not know Mike Alford. He was our relief bus driver for many years. He became inactive due to illness. Laurie Alford was our Paymaster and is still the Regimental Paymaster and Adjutant. Their son, Patrick Alford, is a Young Marine who graduated from our Unit, and is now serving in the Marine Corps and stationed at Camp LeJeune.

The National Young Marines has just announced the passing of R. Lee Erme, the Gunny in Full Metal Jacket. He has been the Celebrity Spokesperson of the Young Marines for many years. Some of our Young Marines will remember our time with him in Washington, D.C. Semper fi.

Our Pistol Match season begins the 28th of April, and our Young Marine Rifle Team will begin their practice sessions after the MCL Match. See you all at Camp Bonnyman.



Tim Shea is welcomed home by Young Marines after his Honor Air trip to Washington, D.C.

ETVMA MEDAL OF HONOR EVENING

The East Tennessee Veterans Memorial Association presents the 8th Annual Medal of Honor Evening, Honoring World War I Medal of Honor Recipient Sgt. Alvin C. York, United States Army. The event will be held **Monday, May 7th, 2018** at The Historic Foundry Building at 747 World's Fair Park Drive, Knoxville TN. Social hour begins at 5:30pm, followed by dinner & presentation at 6:30pm. The first table reserved for the Alexander Bonnyman Detachment is nearly full, but an additional table can be reserved if needed. Contact the Adjutant if you want to reserve a seat. Purchase tickets at the ETVMA website etvma.org.

2018 PISTOL MATCH SCHEDULE:

Jack McGivney Memorial Pistol Match, 28 April

16 June

14 July

18 August

22 September

Jim Peacock Memorial Pistol Match, 20 October

All matches will be held at the Camp Bonnyman Pistol Range



THE BONNYMAN GAZETTE

Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Det. # 924

Marine Corps League

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Marine Corps League



Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

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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