

THE BONNYMAN GAZETTE

September 2017

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 3

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

Jim Cotton (865) 279-4652

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: mclknoxville.org

Tim Shea

Detachment Quartermaster

Jerry Moat (865) 357-1261

ANOTHER GREAT MUD RUN IN THE BOOKS!



Around 1200 runners participated in the 14th Annual Marine Mud Run at Melton Hill Park on Saturday, 16 September. Detachment members built the course and provided a festive venue for this memorable event.

COMMANDANT'S CORNER

Marines,

Wow--that is all that can be said about the Detachment's performance coming through September with the Mud Run. Nice work to all involved. Once again the term "Gung Ho" fits this group of surly Marines. Nearly 1200 runners paid to participate in what you all got paid to do as youngsters at MCRD or other leisure spots that The Corps gave you the opportunity to visit. Work took place all year round and then kicked in full force for the 6 days leading up to the race. It is truly a team effort, but when you see Gene Furrow, David Hatfield, Brian Hudgins, Larry Winters and Jeff Tegzes, be certain to thank them for once again being as dependable and top notch--many hands made this happen, but those hands were the essential. If you did not have the chance to attend the run or to be part of the effort that is required, please plan to do so next year. This is our main effort at raising funds and it works!!! You are needed to be part of this day each and every year.

Hats off to Eric Nash and the National Level Award that the Detachment garnered with his efforts in Americanism. Way to go Marine!

Also, my professional apologies to the Officers for the last minute change to the last meeting location. The run prep and the incoming storm made for a hectic first of the week and the meeting need changed at that last minute.

Regards--See you at the picnic and at the meeting!!

Semper Fi

Tim Eichhorn, Commandant



JIM PUTMAN MEMORIAL RIFLE MATCH

Thanks to the Young Marines for pulling out targets at the Jim Putman Rifle match. You did a great job, looking forward to next year. We had a great match on the 9th. 10 MCL member signed up and 7 showed up and we had 20 shooters for the match. Lots of shooters really shot great except yours truly. I brought a shotgun to a Rifle match. Congrats to David Fugate who was the high shooter and match winner and to my son who won 1st place expert (which I will never live down) and to all the other medal winners. That's it for rifle matches for this year. Hope to see everyone at the next rifle match in March. **Our next pistol match is the Jim Peacock Memorial Match on October 21st at Camp Bonnyman.** Jay Holmes will be the coordinator for all future Detachment pistol matches. Jim Williams



VIETNAM MEMORIAL “WALLS THAT HEAL” IN KNOXVILLE

Our Detachment will participate in the presentation of the “Walls That Heal” in Knoxville on Sunday, 8 October from 1200 to 1600 at the Lynnhurst Cemetery. “Walls That Heal” is a replica of the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. and is presented at locations across the country to honor those who fell during the Vietnam War and to help heal those who fought and returned. Detachment members will participate in the 24 hour Vigil Watch at the memorial site on 8 October and will present a wreath to commemorate the names inscribed on the wall. **Howard Raines is the Detachment point of contact for any member wishing to participate in the vigil or ceremony on the 8th.** All Detachment members are encouraged to attend. The memorial can be visited at any time from 4 to 8 October.

100 YEARS AGO:

MARINES IN THE GREAT WAR

September 1917: The Marines were kept busy in training exercises supervised by the French Army. Subjects like field fortifications, trench mortars, flame throwers, and machinegun firing were emphasized by the French because of their continued belief that open, offensive warfare was a thing of the past and that the war would be won or lost in the trenches. Eventually, under General Pershing's guidance, training emphasis in the AEF would change to offensive operations.

Marines were often sidelined from training by the almost constant detachment of Marine companies for duty as service troops in rear areas. Marines served as guard detachments, on provost duty, and directing the movement of American troops through England and France. It seemed as though the Army leadership was trying to break up the Marine Regiments into small, scattered detachments in the hope that they would somehow disappear. Due to the surplus of senior officers, many Marine field grade officers were sent to Army training schools and were assigned to other headquarters and supply services throughout the AEF.

By the end of September, what was left of 5th Marines was transferred to the Bourmont training area. The rest of the Brigade would follow as they arrived from the U.S.



Marines travelling to training areas tightly packed into the infamous “40 & 8” rail cars (capacity: 40 men or 8 horses).

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

I am so pleased to be able to give a report on our members even though I have not caught up with everyone so if I have not included you please let me hear from you so that I can catch everyone up on your progress.

I would like for you to know that I will be starting my Cardiac Rehabilitation Therapy, hopefully, next week. This past week I injured my back and spent a day at Parkwest but was allowed to return home late in the evening. Thus, who knows about the Therapy portion of my recovery.

Enough about me for now so let's catch everyone up on our members. I am happy to report some exciting news about those members who have had health issues.

First of all, I was able to visit with our own Joe Eddlemon who is still residing at Ben Atchley Nursing Home. He was in good spirits and we had a great time together. And, of course, I have a message to you from Joe. He wanted to pass on to you his cure for getting old – and that is, die young. Thanks Joe for that word of wisdom.

When I spoke with Jinny Raines she also had some great news regarding her health issues. I do not have any specifics to share with you, only that she will be receiving treatment that she and the Dr. is excited about. Wonderful Jinny!

Good news regarding Mattie Brown also. Mattie is finished with her therapy and the results were very positive. Wonderful news that we all love to hear. Thanks for sharing that with us Mattie.

I understand that Bill Boyd underwent triple-by-pass surgery several weeks ago at Tennova Hospital in Powell. Please forgive me Bill for not being in touch with you but you were in my thoughts and prayers. We wish you a speedy recovery and hope to see you soon.

When I reached Jerry Moats to see how he was doing after his surgery I was told that he is doing much better now and is well on the road to recovery and hopes to see everyone soon. Great news Jerry. We look forward to seeing you as well.

Connie Saxton has been keeping me updated on Gen Vadeboncoeur and I greatly appreciate that. There is also great news about Gen. She was told by her Dr. that her spine is not involved with her injuries and they expect a complete recovery. Also, her arm and wrist are recovering nicely and she will soon be moved to a nursing home in Blount County. I will forward that information to all as soon as it has been finalized.

The last great bit of news is about Tim Shea. At the same time that I had my heart attack he underwent triple by-pass surgery. Everything went well for him and I am happy to report he is back and going strong again. Yea Tim.

One last note, I have received several phone calls from William Turner asking that we keep him in our thoughts and prayers. When you have a moment please contact him and let him know he is in our prayers.

I know this has been a long article but there has just been so much going on among our members that I felt needed to be reported to update everyone on the status of our sisters and brothers. Please keep all in your thoughts and prayers and let them know you are thinking about them.

God bless and keep you safe in his loving arms.

Pearl Rich, Detachment Chaplain

MCL AUXILIARY

Hello to all Unit members and League members. The Mud Run is over and it certainly went well at our end of things. Thanks to all who helped and to the YM family members who were wonderful to work with.

Our Amendment did not pass this year. However the by-law change period has changed to one year and we will try again next year. Susan Jones has agreed to step in as acting Judge Advocate since Lois is busy with Joe and has her own health problems to contend with. Thanks Lois for a wonderful job over the years.

Thoughts to Patty Mullins whose mother is not doing well. Thanks to all who have sympathized with me on the loss of my brother. Barbara Jean had surgery and is recovering slowly, thoughts to her as well. Vern Tassey had fallen and broken several ribs, hope he recovers well. Gen Vadeboncoeur has been in an auto accident and broke bones in her neck, her arm and hand. She should be going to Life Care in Blount County soon.

Hopefully it will be a great picnic. See you all at the meeting.

Cookies this month by Barbara Tassey.

See you at the meeting,



Connie Sexton, Unit President

DONATION FOR DISASTER RELIEF

The Detachment Membership voted at the August meeting to donate \$1000.00 to the American Red Cross for disaster relief following the hurricane in Texas. Since that time, another hurricane struck Florida and relief agencies will be hard pressed to provide aid in the two stricken areas. All members are encouraged to donate to the Red Cross or any other agency or charity providing assistance to the thousands of Americans in need of help to recover from these disasters.



October Calendar		November Calendar		December Calendar	
"Walls That Heal in Knoxville	4-8	Veteran's Day Parade	10	Christmas Breakfast	2
Department Staff Meeting	7	Detachment Birthday Dinner	10	Devil Dog Growl	4
Officers Meeting	9	Knoxville Marine Corps Ball	11	Officers Meeting	11
Jim Peacock Pistol Match	21	Officers Meeting	13	Wreaths Across America	16
Detachment Meeting	31	Bonnyman Memorial Ceremony	22	No Detachment meeting this month	
		Detachment Meeting	28		

SCRATCHES FROM THE CLAWS OF THE BARKING DOG



The 2017 Growl schedule is set! Growls will be held on Monday, 25 September and 4 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.

Barking Dog

STATUS OF mclknnoxville.org

The Detachment website is currently being rebuilt by Marine Tim Shea. **mclknnoxville.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.



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.

AMERICANISM AWARD FOR 2017

The Alexander Bonnyman Detachment was awarded First Place in the Large Unit Category for the 2017 Detachment Americanism Book. The award was presented at the MCL National Convention in August. The award plaque was passed on to Detachment Adjutant Eric Nash at the August meeting who was responsible for compiling and submitting the Detachment's Americanism Book. The Americanism Book is a detailed account of the Detachment's activities and accomplishments throughout the year. This award recognizes the Bonnyman Detachment as one of the premier detachments in the Marine Corps League. **Congratulations Eric on a job well done getting the word out on our exceptional Detachment!**



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.

YOUNG MARINE REPORT by Kathy Winters

Following a very successful pistol match, August 16, 2017, at Camp Bonnyman, the Lt. Alexander Young Marine Color Guard presented the colors at the Friends of the NRA Banquet. This year, with the help of other Bonnyman Young Marines, we helped with games and selling tickets. The Friends of the NRA have been very generous in purchasing equipment for our Rifle Team. It was a very long day.

We squeezed in a Drill on August 23rd, getting back to basics. Mr. Winters and Mr. McCarter taught basic field skills, knot trying, and map reading. Mrs. Winters taught a DDR class based upon the dangers of mixing alcohol and drugs, even prescription medicine. We brought it home, as one of our former Young Marines committed suicide after this lethal combination. He had not been in our Unit long and had a very unfortunate family situation.

On Monday, August 25th, Virgil L. Young, Jr., notified us that he would be leaving the Young Marine Program, after almost 20 years of dedicated service. Not only does he leave our Unit, but he is our Regimental Commander, our Divisional XO, and our Schools Director. He leaves a big hole in the Program. The Winters honored him at the Marine Corps League meeting the next night. We wish him well in his future plans.

After a complicated process, we were granted permission from National Head Quarters, to induct an Honorary Young Marine. This fourteen year old is a Hospice patient. His caretakers contacted us. He is not expected to have a long life and wanted a career in the military. Colonel Bill Davis, CEO of the National Young Marines, wrote him a memorable letter and sent a Certificate naming him an Honorary Young Marine. He also sent his personal challenge coin, a Distinguished Order of Merit, and other gifts. Mr. and Mrs. Winters, along with YM SGT Holland and YM CPL Max Jones drove to Claiborne County to present this award. His caretakers and some family members were also present. As we left, YM SGT Holland, summed it all up, "I am so blessed."

On the 9th of September, we had our annual Aviation Day at Seymour Air Park. As it was a beautiful East Tennessee day, we had more pilots and planes than usual. All of the Young Marines, a few guests, and the Marine Corps I and I staff were able to fly. The Marines had a static display and allowed the kids to play and investigate their equipment. Food was prepared and served by Stephanie Bailey. After the planes left, we moved to the other end of the Airport to Camp Bonnyman, set up camp, and spent the night. MRE's and Smores were the hit. Of course, sausage and biscuits in the morning were better. Again, thanks to Mrs. Bailey. Now we look forward to the Marine Mud Run, the MCL picnic and The Wall That Heals.



HONORARY YOUNG MARINE, VIRGIL YOUNG RECOGNIZED, AND TRAINING AT CAMP BONNYMAN



THE BONNYMAN GAZETTE

Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Det. # 924

Marine Corps League

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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