



PINEYWOODS POOPSHEET November 2007

Happenings Behind the Pine Curtain

“Stay Connected, Stay Involved, and Make a Difference Through *Your* Marine Corps League”

Pineywoods Detachment 1189
Marine Corps League

Volume 1, Issue 5
November 2007

McReynolds to Speak

Well-known and popular local District 12 State Representative, The Honorable Jim McReynolds, will be the guest of honor and speaker at this year's Birthday Ball.



McReynolds, a Marine from 1962 to 1968 where he attained the rank of Sergeant, has been in the State House of Representatives since 1997. He graduated from Port Arthur's Thomas Jefferson High School, received a B.S. in English from Abilene Christian University, an M.A. in History from Lamar University, and did post graduate studies at the University of Houston and Rice University before earning a Ph.D. in History from Texas Tech University. After graduation, among other positions, he was a professor of History at Stephen F. Austin State University.

A true Renaissance Man, McReynolds is a businessman, cattle and truck farmer, and stays busy working with children's organizations; he is also a member of the Philosophical Society of Texas, and has won many awards for his public and professional work.

McReynolds has been married to his wife, Judy, for more than forty-one years. They have two sons, Jackson and Jefferson, and three grandchildren, Jonathon, Taylor, and Abigayle.



**November Meeting:
AT THE DAV HALL!**

15th

The Author is unknown:

“A veteran, whether active duty, retired, national guard, or reserve, is someone who, at one point in their life, wrote a blank check made payable to ‘The United States of America,’ for an amount ‘up to and including my life.’ That is honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it.”

[Togetherweserved Newsletter,

Pineywoods Fair a Success

After many weeks of not knowing whether the Detachment would get a booth, the VFW and their Ladies Auxiliary proved they are good neighbors. They were kind enough to allow us to share their booth. The Detachment covered the five nights and days of the fair and many of its members filled the duty roster and



worked at the table “talking up” the Marine Corps League and our local group while selling raffle tickets. Thanks to Harley Holloway, pictured at left, Billy Duke, new member and website wiz Rich Barnhart, Jimmy Lee, Don Kirkley, Phil Devlin, and others for their efforts.

Pineywoods Detachment earned more than \$600 for their efforts and we received a bonus; we also gained a new member, Ted Morgan.

We have already reserved a booth for next year, so we need to make sure we have something appropriate to raffle. The traffic that passed through the Convention Center makes the Pineywoods Fair the perfect fund-raising opportunity. *Semper Fi!* and *Gung Ho!*

2007-2008 Officers

- Commandant—**
Roger Crone
- Sr. Vice-Commandant—**
Dan Singletary
- Jr. Vice-Commandant—**
Dennis Bradford
- Paymaster—**
Harley Holloway
- Adjutant—**
Will Lane
- Judge Advocate—**
Phil Devlin
- Chaplain—**
Billy Duke
- Sgt.-at-Arms—**
Benny Benavides

Commandant's Message by Roger Crone

DURING THE REGULAR OCTOBER MEETING, WE HAD THE UNUSUAL PLEASURE OF ACCEPTING AND SWEARING-IN NEW REGULAR AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS, ACCEPTING REGULAR AND ASSOCIATE RENEWALS, AND A NEW ASSOCIATE LIFE MEMBER. RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF MEMBERSHIP IS THE LIFE-BLOOD OF ANY VOLUNTEER SERVICE ORGANIZATION. OUR MOST VALUABLE GOAL IS TO DO GOOD WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY, FOR OUR MARINE CORPS FAMILY, FOR OUR FALLEN MARINES AND THEIR WIDOWS AND CHILDREN. WE CANNOT DO THAT WITH JUST A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE. I AM EXTREMELY PROUD OF THE RECRUITING EFFORTS OF OUR JR. VICE COMMANDANT, DENNIS BRADFORD, AND ALSO ALL OTHER MEMBERS WHO ARE INVITING MARINES AND

FMF SAILORS TO JOIN US. IF WE CAN CONTINUE THIS OUTSTANDING GROWTH THROUGH THE END OF THE MCL FISCAL YEAR (JUNE), WE WILL SUCCEED IN DOUBLING OUR DETACHMENT.

AFTER ALL THE PLANNING, CUSIN' AND DISCUSSIN, WE ARE READY TO PRESENT, PARTICIPATE IN, AND ENJOY OUR BEST BIRTHDAY BALL YET. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE EVENT WITH PRIDE AND THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK.

JUST A REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING (I.E.: DUES ARE CURRENT, NO INDEBTEDNESS TO THE LEAGUE OR PENDING DISCIPLINARY ACTION AT THE DEPARTMENT OR NATIONAL LEVEL). YOU MAY BECOME A LIFE MEMBER BY PAYING THE LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR YOUR AGE GROUP. NO OTHER FEES ARE

ADDED FOR THE DETACHMENT OR DEPARTMENT. AFTER SUBTRACTING A SMALL ADMINISTRATIVE FEE, THIS MONEY IS HELD IN TRUST BY NATIONAL MCL FOR ONE YEAR. FROM THE SECOND YEAR UNTIL THAT LIFE MEMBER TRANSFERS OR DIES, THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE WILL PAY ANNUAL DIVIDENDS TO THE DETACHMENT, I EXPLAINED ALL OF THIS TO MAKE AN APPEAL TO OUR RETIRED AND CAREER MARINES. YOU KNOW THE VALUE OF THE MARINE CORPS FAMILY. MARINES TAKE CARE OF THEIR OWN. BECOME A LIFE MEMBER!
SEMPER FIDELIS!

"Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness of the people; and not for profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men." John Adams

Civilians can roll up sleeves for troops

Decades-old policy restricting blood donations is ending. Americans will once again have freedom of choice when it comes to donating blood.

U.S. military officials have announced that civilians and former members of the military soon will be allowed to donate blood to injured troops. The policy change, announced Friday, is to take effect nationwide later this month, Navy Cmdr. Michael C. Libby said. It just needs formal approval from U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, Libby told *The Dispatch* yesterday. Libby is in charge of the Armed Services Blood Program. Those wishing to donate to the military, though, will have to go to a federal or Department of Defense property.

People have long been able to donate blood to a loved one awaiting surgery or to a part of the country that has been hit by a natural disaster, but civilian blood drives for the military stopped more than 50 years ago. Since then, only Department of Defense employees, retired and active military personnel and family members of active military personnel have been permitted to donate blood for use by the troops in the U.S. and overseas.

It is not yet known how the change will play out locally, said officials at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton. For example, it's unclear whether there will be specific civilian blood-drive times at the base.

Military installations across the country are prohibited from having civilians, including former enlisted men and women, give blood. Competition with civilian blood collections often is cited as the reason.

The American Red Cross has been allowed under military policy to collect and keep blood at military facilities. The Red Cross also sometimes sells blood to the military when it is needed. Military officials mentioned recent stories on the issue in *The Dispatch* when making the policy-change announcement.

One reason noted for the change was to help deal with a dwindling number of AB blood-plasma donors after the American Association of Blood Banks recommended that women who have been pregnant not donate plasma. Those women carry an antibody that can create a deadly lung condition in others.

Sara Duvall of Chillicothe was one person who wanted the military to ease restrictions. She wanted to host a blood drive in honor of her son, Lance Cpl. Aaron Reed, who was killed two years ago while serving with the Marines' Lima Company in Iraq.

Duvall enlisted the help of Hank Bobulski of the North Side, who was the first locally to earn an exemption to host a military blood drive. Bobulski won approval for Duvall to host a blood drive in Chillicothe.

"I'm just bowled over. I'm elated," Duvall said of the rule change. "It goes to show even one person can make a difference."

[From: Jodi Andes, September 11, 2007]

Marine Quote: "A ship without MARINES is like a garment without buttons."
ADM. DAVID PORTER, USN

**MARINE CORPS
MOTTO**

**Birthday Ball
Schedule of Events**

Semper Fidelis, "Always Faithful," is the motto of the Corps. That Marines have lived up to this motto is proved by the fact that there has never been a mutiny, or even the thought of one, among U.S. Marines.

Semper Fidelis was adopted about 1883 as the motto of the Corps. Before that, there had been three mottoes, all traditional rather than official. The first, antedating the War of 1812, was *Fortitudine*, "With Fortitude." The second, "By Sea and by Land," was obviously a translation of the Royal Marine's "Per Mare, Per Terram." Until 1848, the third motto was "To the Shores of Tripoli," in commemoration of O'Bannon's capture of Derna in 1805. In 1848, after the return to Washington of the Marine battalion that took part in the capture of Mexico City, this motto was revised to: "From the Halls of the Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli" – a line now familiar to all Americans. This revision of the Corps motto in Mexico has encouraged speculation that the first stanza of "The Marines' Hymn" was composed by members of the Marine battalion who stormed Chapultepec Castle.

It may be added that the Marine

6:00 pm-6:30 pm	Registration/Purchase Tickets at Door - \$15 per person
6:30 pm-7:00 pm	Cocktails/Reception
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Silent Auction at rear tables. Please mark your bids on each item's bid sheet. Bidding closes promptly at 8:00 pm. All proceeds to benefit "Marines Helping Marines"
7:00 pm-7:15 pm	Opening Ceremonies - Presentation of Colors
7:15 pm-7:45 pm	Dinner by Jennifer and Pete's Catering
7:45 pm-8:00 pm	Guest Speaker—State Representative and former Marine, The Honorable Jim McReynolds
8:00 pm-8:30 pm	Awards and Door Prizes
8:30 pm-8:45 pm	Commandant's Message, Cake-Cutting and Closing Ceremonies
8:45 pm-Until	Dancing Dress: <u>Military</u> —Evening Dress Blues Dress <u>Civilian</u> —Black Tie Business Dress Sunday Best

Corps shares its motto with England's Devonshire Regiment, the 11th Foot, one of the senior infantry regiments of the British Army, whose sobriquet is "the Bloody Eleventh" and whose motto is also *Semper Fidelis*.

Jan Hall the music teacher at Carpenter Elem school request veterans to attend their school program on Nov 9, 2007 @ 0815. The veterans will be up on stage and will have the change to speak if they want to. She will be sending me an invitation and I will pass it on as soon as I get it. Her phone number is 569-5070 ext. 266

Winston Churchill

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Events You Should Know

"If you will not fight for the right when you can easily win without bloodshed; if you will not fight when your victory will be sure and not too costly; you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a small chance of survival. There may even be a worse case: you may have to fight when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than to live as slaves."

Detachment Meetings
2007
20 December

2008
17 January
21 February
Nomination of Officers
20 March
Election of Officers
17 April
Installation of Officers
15 May
19 June
17 July
21 August

18 September
16 October
20 November
18 December

Marine Corps Ball
Thursday 8 November 2007
Registration at 6 pm
Dust off your Blues

Veterans Day Observance
Carpenter Elementary School Friday, November 9, at 8:15 am

Veterans Day Parade
10 November @ 11 am
Form-up begins @ 8:30 am

Marine Corps League
38th Annual Texas State Convention
1st weekend in June 2008 (tentative)
Corpus Christi, TX

As more information becomes available about these and additional events it will appear in future issues of your newsletter. If you have events of interest to the Detachment, contact the editor.

More Pineywoods Fair Pics



Volunteer Bryan Hatten at his post. Bryan was just one of several of our members who stood a post and helped cover our booth at Pineywoods Fair.



Billy Duke, hard at work. At right in red vest, is Helen Duke. Bud Nettles has his back to the camera.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

The Pineywoods Detachment website is up and running at www.pineywoodsmarines.org. The current as well as past editions of the newsletter are there so that anyone interested in the Marine Corps League, or the Pineywoods Detachment may see what we have been doing.

Over the past few months, the Detachment has been publishing the newsletter and mailing it to the members. The cost in postage, ink, paper, and time has been substantial, but we now have a mechanism for getting the word out without incurring the on-going expense.

As a result, this is the final copy that will be mailed to all members. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the editor at MCLDet1189@Hotmail.com, www.pineywoodsmarines.org, click on "Membership," and go to the bottom of the page, or call (936) 559-5571, and a copy will continued to be mailed to you.

An Active October Meeting! Several New Members

The October meeting proved to be an active one. Several items of business were discussed. The main issue was the second reading of a change to the Bylaws that would enable a new meeting day, place, and time. The proposal passed overwhelmingly. Beginning in November, we will meet on the third Thursday of the month. Meetings will be held at the Disabled American Veterans hall located at 3110 Appleby-Sand Road, which is at the corner of Appleby-Sand and East Austin in Nacogdoches.



Not present was Linda Campbell, an associate member.

Associate member Mary Frances Bradford renewed her membership for the coming year and Betty Benavides paid her life membership dues. Way to go and thanks to both.

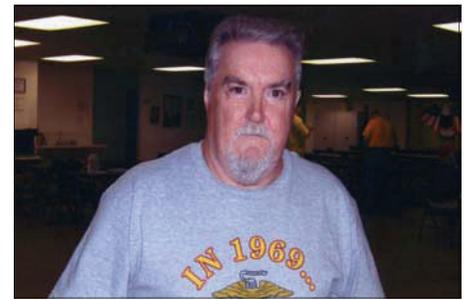
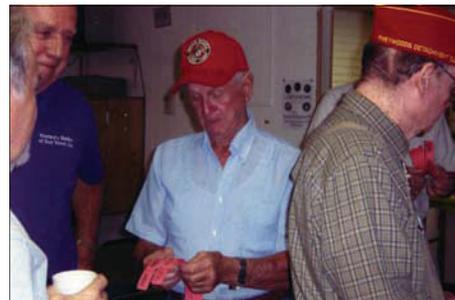
It appears that our recruiting efforts are beginning to show some results. We swore-in several new members, both regular and associate. Present for the ceremony were Rich Barnhart, Rowdy Yates, and Rob Zurfluh, who became regular members, and Ronnie Bowser, an associate



New member Ronnie Bowser talked about the Toys-4-Tots program. He has been the driving force behind this excellent program in Nacogdoches for the past several years. He described its growth and encouraged us to participate this year.

We also welcomed back Joe Stewart, whom we have seen in awhile. Buck Lee and Don Kirkley were also present. Both seemed to be in good health and spirits.

Also, Rich Barnhart explained his plans for the new Pineywoods Detachment website, its cost, the service provider, as well as the services provided. The members authorized him to make arrangements with the provider, and to set up the site.



Photos: Top left: Rich Barnhart explains the Internet options we have. Middle right: Ever-bubbly Betty Benavides. Middle left: Ronnie Bowser tells of his experiences in the Nacogdoches Toys-4-Tots program. Bottom left: Buck Lee holds "court." Bottom right: "Smilin" Don Kirkley pauses for a photo.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MEMBERS



Toys-4-Tots guru, Ronnie Bowser



Webmaster supreme, Rich Barnhart



Former Corpsman, Rob Zurfluh



Former Anti-Tank Marine, Rowdy Yates

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER By Dan Singletary

VETERAN LEGISLATION STATUS 13 OCT 07: For a listing of Congressional bills of interest to the veteran community that have been introduced in the 110th Congress refer to the Bulletin House & Senate attachments. By clicking on the bill number indicated you can access the actual legislative language of the bill and see if your representative has signed on as a cosponsor. Support of these bills through cosponsorship by

other legislators is critical if they are ever going to move through the legislative process for a floor vote to become law. A good indication on

that likelihood is the number of cosponsors who have signed onto the bill. A cosponsor is a member of Congress who has joined one or more

other members in his/her chamber (i.e. House or Senate) to sponsor a bill or amendment. The member who introduces the bill is considered the

sponsor. Members subsequently signing on are called cosponsors. Any number of members may cosponsor a bill in the House or Senate. At

<http://thomas.loc.gov> you can also review a copy of each bill, determine its current status, the committee it has been assigned to, and if your legislator is a sponsor or cosponsor of it. To determine what bills, amendments your representative has sponsored, cosponsored, or dropped

sponsorship on refer to <http://thomas.loc.gov/bss/d110/sponlst.html>. The key to increasing cosponsorship on veteran related bills is letting

(Continued on page 6)

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Billy Duke

Our dear friends and comrades, Benny and Betty Benavides have been in relatively good health for the last week or so, but they have each had their concerns, and Benny has been in and out of the hospital over the past couple of months. We extend our good wishes for their continued improvement.

Commandant Roger Crone has also been struggling to get a handle on his health with concerns regarding his medications. A reaction to a couple of his meds left his doctors and him searching for answers to was causing his poor health. As of this writing, he is, once again, in Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital. We hope everything settles down and he is ready to go as soon as possible.

**Pineywoods Detachment 1189
Marine Corps League**

P. O. Box 633781
Nacogdoches, Texas 75963-3781
Phone: 936-559-5571
e-mail: MCLDet1189@hotmail.com

Editor: Dennis Bradford
Submission deadline: 5th/month



**"Once a Marine,
Always a Marine"
Semper Fidelis**



Detachment Logo Finished

After many attempts, we have a Detachment logo. It will look great on shirts and caps! It is similar to what the members approved, but thanks to Rick Zurfluh, brother of new member Robert "Z" Zurfluh, more professional.



Wise Words

Need to hear some encouraging words? The Editors [of *Texas Marine*] thought comments made by Cen-Tex's new Commandant Buzz Perez at their Officer Installation might be of interest to you...

"The purpose of the Marine Corps League, as written in our National Charter, is to join together in camaraderie and fellowship, for the purpose of preserving the traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps. I'm sure we've all heard that at one time or another, but what does it mean? Let me paraphrase that for a clearer understanding – to get together with other Marines, have fun together (oorah!), make sure our glory is not forgotten, and take care of our fellow Marines. Pretty simple and LOTS of fun, huh?... Some of the ways we can do this are having each other over for a steak night or a backyard BBQ, having poker games, getting together for an afternoon matinee and watching a vintage movie about Marines, going to the rifle range together, participating in parades and ceremonies, visiting hospitalized veterans and on and on... Our organization is about much more than a monthly meeting. That meeting is simply a time for the Detachment to take care of its business matters.

"Along those lines, I will be conducting training for our elected and appointed officers. We will all know our job, and our fellow officers' jobs, and be able to lead the Detachment with skill and efficiency. Now for some who are thinking, "that is more work than I wanna do," I ask: what work? Remember the days when we were miles and miles away from home, pulling long duty in some steamy jungle or some dusty desert or some cold mountain top? That was the work. Now we can join together and just enjoy being Marines!"

Good words. Let's think about how we in Pineywoods Detachment can improve our participation and fun!

Marine Corps History

13 November 1982: The Vietnam Veterans Memorial, containing the names of more than 13,000 Marines who lost their lives in Vietnam, was dedicated this date at the Memorial site in Washington, D.C. The dedication and parade that preceded it were part of a week-long National Salute to Vietnam Veterans.

27 November 1950: In a carefully planned assault, eight Chinese Communist divisions in Korea launched a massive attack which had as its expressed purpose, the destruction of the 1st Marine Division. This action led to the successful southward Marine Corps attack out of the Changjin (Chosin) Reservoir to the coastal port of Hungnam.

(Entries courtesy: US Marine Corps History Web Pages)

Life Memberships

The following Detachment members are Life Members of the Marine Corps League.

Bennie Benavides
Betty Benavides
Dennis Bradford
Strimple Coyle
Roger Crone
Phil Devlin
Don Kirkley
Dale Koonce
Buck Lee
James Lee
Jack Sanderson
Dan Singletary
Joe Stewart

(Continued from page 5)

our representatives know of veteran's feelings on issues. At the end of some listed bills is a web link that can be used to do that. Otherwise, you can locate on <http://thomas.loc.gov> who your representative is and his/her phone number, mailing address, or email/website to communicate with a message or letter of your own making. [Source: RAO Bulletin Attachment 13 Oct 07]

Life Membership Dues National Marine Corps League Website

<u>Age Grp</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>As of 01/01/09</u>
0-35	\$400	\$500
36-40	\$350	\$400
41-50	\$350	\$400
51-60	\$250	\$300
61-over	\$125	\$150

To become a Life Member, you must already be a "Member in Good Standing". That means becoming a member and paying your initial dues first. Yes, according to the Bylaws, you could join the League, pay your dues and then pay your Life Membership Dues all in the same day.

BIRTHDAYS

The following Detachment members have a birthday to celebrate in November.

Dan Singletary

Happy birthday and many happy returns!

Also, apologies to any we have missed. Please notify the Editor.