



PINEYWOODS POOPSHEET

Happenings Behind the Pine Curtain

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

Pineywoods Detachment
1189

Volume 2, Issues 3-5

November 2008



NOVEMBER MEETING:

20th

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.”



Construction continues on the new VA outpatient clinic in Lufkin. Additional photos will appear as needed in the future to keep you up on all the latest progress. Stay tuned!

Commandant

Senior Vice Commandant

Junior Vice Commandant

Judge Advocate

Adjutant

Paymaster

Chaplain

Sergeant-at-Arms

Junior Past Commandant

Dan Singletary

Dennis Bradford

Jimmy Lee

Phil Devlin

Will Lane

Rob Zurfluh

Ken Rains

Rich Barnhart

Roger Crone

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The Detachment also maintains a **WEBSITE** at:
www.pineywoodsmarines.org
Web Sergeant: Rich Barnhart

RICH BARNHART ADDRESSES LOCAL ROTARY

Pineywoods Detachment 1189 Sergeant-At-Arms, Web Sergeant, and life member Rich Barnhart spoke to the members of the Tuesday Fredonia Rotary Club lunch-time meeting, held at the Fredonia Hotel in Nacogdoches, Texas on August 26, 2008. He was invited to speak about the local Marine Corps League organization and its involvement in the community. Other detachment members attending the meeting included Dan Singletary (Pineywoods Detachment Commandant, life member, and Nacogdoches County Veterans Service Officer) and Mary Frances Bradford (detachment member and Rotarian). About 50 Fredonia Rotarians were in attendance.

Barnhart spoke on the values and mission of the Marine Corps League, and its support of active duty members and veterans. He noted that local activities include supporting local veterans and families by providing information, monetary support, and direct assistance. The detachment also cooperates with the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post in displaying numerous United States flags at the Nacogdoches County Courthouse on Memorial Day (observed), Memorial Day (traditional), Flag Day, July 4th, Patriot Day (September 11th), and Veterans Day. On Memorial Day flags are also displayed at Oak Grove Cemetery, where several World War I veterans are buried. Additionally, flags are displayed in front of Nacogdoches County Memorial Hospital at the Medal of Honor winner PFC Oscar P. Austin Memorial. Barnhart also pointed out that the hospital was originally dedicated to World War I veterans, but in the 1990s was rededicated to all Nacogdoches County veterans.

Also covered was the detachment's participation in local parades, and the observation of the Marine Corps Birthday, which includes a ceremony and formal Ball. The local ball will be held this year on November 8th at the Fredonia Hotel in Nacogdoches. The detachment's participation in the local Toys-for-Tots program was also discussed.

Barnhart also talked about the non-partisan nature of the Marine Corps League and other veterans' service organizations, and how the groups work closely with elected officials on veterans' issues, but stay away from endorsing any particular candidate or party. He also spoke about the other five veterans' service organizations in Nacogdoches and their contributions to the local community. Those organizations are the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Memorial Post 3893, American Legion Post 86, Disable American Veterans Memorial Chapter 83, Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 1952, and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 931.

Afterwards Barnhart fielded numerous questions from the Rotarians, and received very positive feedback on the local Marine Corps League Detachment. One Rotarian in the medical profession, who is administering a grant, was given instructions by Commandant Dan Singletary on getting in touch with area needy veterans. Another Rotarian offered a storage facility to help the Toys-for-Tots program. Finally, a Rotarian offered the name of a local former Marine who recently moved to the area, who could be contacted about membership.

All-in-all it was a very productive meeting, with a significant amount of information exchanged about the Marine Corps League and local veterans.

MARINE QUOTE: "The Continental ship *Providence*, now lying at Boston, is bound on a short cruise, immediately; a few good men are wanted to make up her complement." Marine Captain William Jones, *Providence Gazette*, 20 March 1779.

"Where liberty dwells, there is my country." Benjamin Franklin 1783



TIME FOR THE 2008 MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

The scene is one we will forever remember, lovely ladies in their ball gowns, dashing Marines in their Dress Blues, pomp, circumstance, history, and tradition. It's that time again. It's time for the celebration of the 233rd anniversary of the birth of the United States Marine Corps.

After the success of last year's Ball, the decision was made to move this year's festivities to the Banita Room in the Fredonia Hotel. For those unfamiliar with Nacogdoches, it is located at 200 North Fredonia Street, near downtown.

The sequence of events and menu are as follows.

6:00 pm-7:00 pm *Cocktails/Reception*

7:00 pm-7:15 pm *Opening Ceremonies*

7:15 pm-7:45 pm *Dinner:*

*Mixed Autumn Greens Salad served with a Choice of Peppercorn Ranch and Garlic Vinaigrette
Slow Roasted Chicken Breast Served with a Pan Sauce*



Pineywoods detachment "goodies are now available from two sources for those who want to wear our colors proudly. All manner of items are available from **Café Press** at <http://www.cafepress.com/pwm1189b>. These items are "printed" on the clothing or hat.

Embroidered clothing and hats, as well as backpacks and portable stadium seats and other goodies are available in Nacogdoches at **Unlimited Designs** on NW Stallings Drive, next to License to Laugh, the defensive driving folks. It is also possible to have the embroidery sewn on the MCL red uniform cover there. Pricing is reasonable, and Kim Cartwright and staff are most helpful. Keep it local!

*Tender Roast Beef served with Au Jus and Horseradish Cream
Five Roasted Garlic Red Potatoes
Honey Glazed Carrots
Freshly Baked Rolls served with Sweet Cream Butter
Tea & Coffee*

7:45 pm-8:00 pm *Speaker
Doctor Jerry Holbert*

8:00 pm-8:30 pm *Awards*

8:30 pm-8:45 pm *Cake-Cutting and Closing Ceremonies*

8:45 pm-Until *Dancing and Camaraderie*

Cost for the evening is a modest \$25 per person, payable at the door or by pre-purchased ticket. Tickets are available from Rich Barnhart, Dennis Bradford, or Dan Singletary. You may also pay through PayPal® on the web at www.pineywoodsmarines.org.

Please make plans to join us for an evening of dining, dancing, and camaraderie on Saturday, 8 November 2008. You will not be disappointed.



Scenes from the 2007 Birthday Ball, clockwise from upper left: Cake ceremony; Rowdy and Jennifer; Bennie and Betty; Roger and Ronnie; Jim McReynolds; Ted and Joe;

"Children should be educated and instructed in the principles of freedom."-- John Adams (Defense of the Constitutions, 1787)



RICH BARNHART RECEIVES CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Pineywoods Detachment Senior Vice Commandant Dennis Bradford changed hats at the recent monthly meeting to become, for a moment, Department of Texas District 2 Vice Commandant.

Bradford presented Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms Rich Barnhart with a well-deserved Certificate of Appreciation for participation in September's District meeting in Terrell, Texas. Barnhart, who doubles Pineywoods Detachment Web Sgt., instructed attendees in the finer points of creating and operating a detachment website.

The presentation impressed several Department officers who were in Terrell for the meeting. Also in attendance were Past National Commandant Helen Hicks, Department Chief Devil Dog Robert Ogg, and Department Sergeant-at-Arms Ron Tomonelli.

THIS YEAR'S RAFFLE

This year's raffle is possible, thanks to the generosity of Cushing gunsmith Joe Corley owner of The Store. Our offering is a Mossberg Silver Series 12 Ga. Over & Under shotgun. It comes complete with five choke tubes. It is engraved on both sides of the receiver, as well as underneath, and on the trigger guard. The stock is solid wood. The gun is valued at just under \$700.

The drawing for this lovely weapon shall be held at the Marine Corps Birthday Ball on Saturday 8 November, at the Fredonia Hotel near Downtown Nacogdoches. Don't miss the festivities, join us.



CHARLES WILSON BUS SERVICE



The *Pineywoods Poopsheet* reported in an earlier edition that the TLL Temple Foundation granted a request for funds to purchase and operate a shuttle bus from the VA clinic in Lufkin to the VA hospital in Houston. Above is the bus operated for the benefit of disabled veterans in the East Texas area traveling to Houston for treatment.

The photographs show it heading northbound on US 59, returning from Houston following a recent visit to the VA hospital.

"Is life so dear or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

Patrick Henry, to the Virginia Legislature, 23 March 1775



VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

By Dan Singletary

Texas Veterans Land Board Increases Loan Rate Discount for Veterans with Disabilities

Recent federal legislation has allowed the Texas Veterans Land Board to offer veterans with disabilities a full 1% discount to its already low, below-market base rate in the Veterans Housing Assistance home loan program. Texas Veterans Land Board Chairman Jerry Patterson praised Congress for the swift passage of the Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act that will help ensure low home mortgage rates for veterans in Texas. "We have set our base interest rate at 0.50% lower than market rates and we re-set those rates every Friday to keep pace with market changes," Patterson said. "Now that this legislation has passed into law, we are now offering certain veterans with disabilities a higher discount to interest rates in our housing and home improvement loan programs. This can save these veterans thousands of dollars on home and home improvement loans and is a small way for Texas to show appreciation for their sacrifices," he said.

Not only will this discount be higher than in the past, to qual-

ify for the discounted interest rate, veterans must only have a 30% (was 50%) or greater compensable service-connected disability rated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). A complete description of this discount can be found at www.texasveterans.com or by calling the VLB toll free at 1-800-252-VETS (8387).

The Veterans Land Board stands ready to assist Texas veterans realize their dream of home ownership. The VLB continues to offer the best veterans' benefits in the nation including land, housing and home improvement loans, state veterans' homes and state veterans cemeteries. [Source: Texas Veterans Land Board News Release, September 26, 2008]

MY APOLOGIES

I must apologize for missing the September and October editions of *Pineywoods Poopsheet*. Many things conspired to prevent its timely appearance including the demise of TWO computers, an insane schedule, and on top of everything, my dog ate the first draft. Well, that's what my students tell me. While I anticipate that Will Lane shall soon be ready as replacement editor, I have purchased a new computer, printer, and associated hard- and software so we should be back on track. Thanks.

**As you can see, Pineywoods has a full schedule of events for all members
MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

DETACHMENT 2008 MEETINGS

16 October
20 November
18 December

2009 MEETINGS

15 January
19 February
***Nomination of Officers**
19 March
***Election of Officers**
16 April
***Installation of Officers**
21 May
18 June
16 July
20 August

RAFFLE

MOSSBERG SILVER RESERVE
12 ga Over & Under
Shotgun
Tickets Available from Dan
\$1 each/6 for \$5
Drawing at the Birthday Ball
8 November

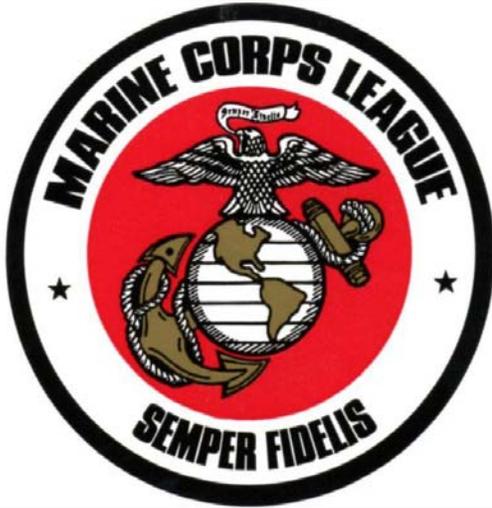
PINEY WOODS FAIR

8-12 October
Nacogdoches Expo Center
Fundraising and Publicity
Schedule your times with Dennis

2008 MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

8 November 2008
Fredonia Hotel
Nacogdoches, Texas
\$25 per person
A limited number of hotel
rooms available at a reduced
rate Mention "Birthday Ball"
**Make your plans now to
join us!**

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.



**"The name of American,
which belongs to you... must
always exalt the just pride
of Patriotism."
George Washington**

**"It is the duty of every good
citizen to use all the
opportunities which occur
to him, for preserving
documents relating to the
history of our country."
Thomas Jefferson**



Marine Corps History

2 September 1945: The Japanese officially surrendered to the Allies on board the battleship MISSOURI in Tokyo Bay. With General Holland Smith transferred home in July 1945, the senior Marine Corps representative at the historic ceremony was LtGen Roy S. Geiger, who had succeeded Smith as Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific.

16 September 1814: A detachment of Marines under Major Daniel Carmick from the Naval Station at New Orleans, together with an Army detachment, destroyed a pirate stronghold at Barataria, on the Island of Grande Terre, near New Orleans.

5 October 1775: Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the 2d Continental Congress used the word "Marines" on one of the earliest known occasions, when it directed General George Washington to secure two vessels on "Continental risque and pay", and to give orders for the "proper encouragement to the Marines and seamen" to serve on the two armed ships.

31 October 1919: A patrol of Marines and gendarmes, led by Sergeant Herman H. Hanneken, disguised themselves as Cacos and entered the headquarters of the Haitian Caco Leader, Charlemagne Peralte, killing the bandit chief, and dispersing his followers. Sergeant Hanneken and Corporal William R. Button were each awarded the Medal of Honor.

Life Membership Honor Roll

**The following Detachment
members are Life Members**

Rich Barnhart - Betty Benavides
Dennis Bradford - Mary Frances
Bradford
Chris Borel - Strimple Coyle
Roger Crone - Phil Devlin
Billy Duke - Don Kirkley
Dale Koonce - Buck Lee
James Lee - Jarrie Love
Jack Noble - Jack Sanderson
Dan Singletary - Joe Stewart

Semper Fi!

CONSIDER LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Life Membership Dues National Marine Corps League Website

Age Grp	Current	As of 01/01/09
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 **SEPTEMBER:**

**Dennis Bradford
Mary Frances Bradford
Bryan Hatten
James Matlock
Ted Morgan
Joe Stewart**

**OCTOBER
Ronnie Bowser
Charles Collins
Ken Garrett
and NOVEMBER
Betty Benavides
Willie Burns
Dan Singletary**

Happy birthday and
many happy returns!
Also, apologies to any we have missed.