



PINEYWOODS POOPSHEET

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 3, Issue 2



Editor: Rich Barnhart
P. O. Box 633781
Nacogdoches, Texas 75963-3781
Phone: 936-559-5571
Jarhead@PineywoodsMarines.org

Fall 2009
September
October
November

Upcoming Meetings: December 17, January 21, February 18
Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the DAV Hall, 3110 Appleby-Sand Road, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Marine Corps Birthday Ball, November 7th

The Pineywoods Detachment held its annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball on November 7th, 2009 at the Hotel Fredonia in Nacogdoches. The ball was attended by Marines and guests from throughout East Texas. During the ball dinner was served and the traditional Marine Corps Birthday ceremony was held, including posting of the colors, cutting the birthday cake, and presenting a piece to the Oldest Marine, the Youngest Marine, (Continued on Page 2)



Pictured above left, Guest of Honor Sergeant Major David W. Sommers, 11th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. Above right, Fallen Marine table.

Commandant

Dan Singletary

dan.singletary@co.nacogdoches.tx.us

Senior Vice Commandant

Dennis Bradford

padrebucky@yahoo.com

Junior Vice Commandant

Rich Barnhart

Jarhead@PineywoodsMarines.org

Judge Advocate

Phil Devlin

philip_devlin@msn.com

Adjutant/Paymaster

Will Lane

ww_lane@yahoo.com

Chaplain

Ken Rains

MCLDet1189@hotmail.com

Sergeant-at-Arms

Jimmy Lee

leejamf@yahoo.com

Junior Past Commandant

Roger Crone

rlcrone_49@juno.com



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First Place, National Newsletter Competition 2009,
Class I (Platoon size—up to 50 members).



Submission deadline is the 15th of the month during: February (Winter), May (Spring), August (Summer), and November (Fall) and may be mailed, phoned, or e-mailed to:

P. O. Box 633781

Nacogdoches, Texas 75963-3781

Phone: 936-569-8789 Email: Jarhead@PineywoodsMarines.org

Editor: Rich Barnhart

The Detachment also maintains a website at: www.PineywoodsMarines.org. If you see pictures on the website or in the newsletter that you would like to have a copy of, we will send you the originals upon request. Detachment members receive free email or CD delivery service. For non-Detachment members, donations are happily accepted.

(Ball, Continued from Page 1) and the Guest of Honor.

The oldest Marine was Sergeant James E. "Buck" Lee of Nacogdoches, Texas. Lee is a charter member of the Pineywoods Detachment and a World War II veteran. The youngest Marine was Lance Corporal Aaron Brittain (23). Brittain is a Nacogdoches native who was home on leave in November and is en route to his first tour of duty in Afghanistan. The Guest of Honor was Sergeant Major David W. Sommers, who served as the 11th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps from 1987 to 1991. During his talk, Sommers recounted the numerous Birthday Balls and ceremonies he has attended in his life, and remarked that the most memorable was a small ceremony he held with the few members of his Marine Infantry Squad before going on patrol in Vietnam. After his speech, Sommers was presented with a copy of the book *Uncommon Valor... Common Virtue: A Tribute to Bennett P. Blake, U. S. Marine on Iwo Jima* which was signed by the co-authors Roy M. Blake and Archie P. McDonald for SgtMaj Sommers.

Sommers enlisted in the Marine Corps on 25 March 1960. He served two tours in Vietnam, first in 1965 and again in 1968. He also served as a Drill Instructor at Parris Island, South Carolina; as Noncommissioned Officer-in-Charge of the Marine Detachment at the American Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela; and as the first enlisted Director of the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy at the Marine Corps Combat Development Command in Quantico, Virginia. He was selected as the 11th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps in 1987.

After the traditional ceremony, Pineywoods Detachment Commandant Dan Singletary presented awards to six Pineywoods Detachment members. See the awards on pages five through eight. The ceremonies were following by an evening of camaraderie and dancing until late into the **night. Next year's Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held at the Fredonia Hotel during the evening of Saturday November 6th, 2010.**





234rd Marine Corps Birthday Ball



Clockwise from top left, shadow boxes to be presented to Sergeants Buck Lee and Billy Duke, who served as Marines in the Pacific during World War II; Local recruiters (left - right) SSgt Nix and SSgt Saucedo provide the Color Guard; Above: Marines and their guests enjoy the Pineywoods Detachment's Marine Corps Birthday Ball, November 7th at the Hotel Fredonia, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Below left, Sergeant-at-Arms Jimmie Lee and his wife Pamela. Below right, MGySgt Polly Weidenkopf (USMC Ret.) , Department of Texas Adjutant/Paymaster and husband Maj Nick Weidenkopf (USAF Ret.).





234rd Marine Corps Birthday Ball



Above left, Billy Duke holds the shadow box he received at the Ball and poses with his wife Helen (to his left) and their family. Above right, Priscilla Precella shows off the Marine Corps blanket that she picked out when she won a door prize. Below left, First Sergeant Chris Borel (USMC, Ret. and Detachment Life Member) and wife Robin (left) enjoy the Ball. Below right, Department of Texas Sergeant-at-Arms **Ron Tomonelli and his wife attend the Pineywoods Detachment's 2009 Marine Corps Birthday Ball.**





Detachment Awards

During the Marine Corps Birthday Ball on November 7th 2009, Pineywoods Detachment Commandant Dan Singletary presented awards to six Detachment members.

Sergeants James E. "Buck" Lee and Billy Joe Duke

Sergeants James E. "Buck" Lee and Billy Joe Duke

Joe Duke, both of Nacogdoches, were presented with shadow boxes containing United States flags which had been flown over Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C. in their honor. Lee and Duke both served in the United States Marine Corps from 1943 until 1946, although their careers took them in different directions. When the Japanese Army and Navy began the invasion of the Aleutian Island Chain in the North Pacific, Sgt Lee was sent to the islands with other Marines to defend against the Japanese invasion and to repel them from U.S. territorial soil. Sgt Duke was sent much further south in the Pacific. He participated in the invasion and liberation of Guam, and having survived that, was sent on to the invasion of Iwo Jima.



Above, World War II veterans Sgt Billy Duke (center) and Sgt Buck Lee (right) receive flags that had been flown over Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in honor of their service during World War II in the Pacific Theater. The flags were presented by Commandant Dan Singletary (left) at the Detachment Marine Corps Birthday Ball, 7 November 2009.

Ronnie Bowser

One of the most important programs of the Marine Corps League is the annual Toys for Tots campaign. New, unwrapped toys are collected to provide a joyful Christmas for needy children in the community. Money and toys donated by local citizens remain in, and are distributed to, children within the local area.

Usually organized through Marine Corps Reserve units, the Marine Corps League is also there to assist.

In Nacogdoches we do not have a nearby Marine Reserve unit, and up until 2005 there was not a Marine Corps League Detachment. But there was "Toys for Tots" thanks to the efforts of Ronnie Bowser. He is the area coordinator for Nacogdoches and Angelina counties.

He personally assumed the responsibility for the collection, documentation, and distribution, of thousands of toys from Nacogdoches and Lufkin.

This year, as we have since our organization was chartered, we assist Ronnie in his efforts, and he joined the Marine Corps League as an Associate Member. (Continued on Page 6)



Above, Ronnie Bowser (right) accepts the Individual Meritorious Commendation Medal for his work with Toys for Tots.



Detachment Awards

(Ronnie Bowser, Continued from Page 5) What began modestly has now grown to include drop boxes at more than 26 locations throughout the service area, and six scheduled fund-raiser events, which includes the live radio drive at the Wal-Mart locations in Nacogdoches and Lufkin.

The largest annual fund-raiser, the radio drive at Wal-Mart is supported by station KICKS 105, with local radio personalities including Danny Merrill onsite periodically throughout the event, and KICKS 105 gives bonus points to its club members who donate toys or money. In 2008, 297 toys and \$1,522 were collected.

Local service providers who benefit from Toys For Tots include Love INC, CASA, Head Start, Foster Parent's Foundation, The Women's Shelter, The Buckner Foundation, The Boys & Girls Club,

The Salvation Army, and Angel Tree. Last year they distributed more than 6,100 new toys, and served over 2,100 kids.

When he heard that 416 children were removed from a compound operated by West Texas cult, and that they had no toys, Ronnie immediately contacted the appropriate state agencies and arranged to send toys to them.

In addition to his selfless efforts on behalf of needy children, for many years, through his own generosity, Ronnie cooks and serves dinner to all the attending members of the local chapter of the Disabled American Veterans before their monthly meeting.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his outstanding and generous service to the community, to veterans, and to needy children throughout the two-county area and beyond.

It is with great pride that we present to Ronnie Bowser the Marine Corps League Individual Meritorious Commendation.

Buck Lee

Buck Lee is a World War II veteran and a long-time member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He has served as VFW Post 3893 Quartermaster, and Commander, in which capacity he achieved All-State Post Honors. He also served as the VFW District 19 Commander.

He organized numerous fund raisers for the VFW, enabling the local Post to award tens-of-thousands of dollars in **scholarships. He ran the VFW's Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen** programs, promoting patriotism in our youth.

He is a member of several local veterans groups, and attends every local and district organizational meeting that he can. He is present at most events honoring Veterans, including ceremonies, parades, and funerals. He also posts U.S. flags downtown on the square, at the Nacogdoches County Courthouse, and at his church on patriotic holidays, and has done so for more than a generation.

Buck worked for over two decades as the Nacogdoches **County Veteran's Service Officer, assisting veterans throughout East Texas with their Veterans Administration claims.** He also gave numerous talks to groups and individuals, instructing them on their benefits.

He has never forgotten his fellow veterans or his love for the Marine Corps. He became a charter member of the Pineywoods Detachment when it was formed, and attends all meetings and events that he can, health, weather, and hay permitting.

We honor Buck Lee's service to our Country, and his

continuing service to our community and his fellow veterans by awarding him the Marine Corps League DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN MEDAL - BRONZE.



Above, Buck Lee (right) receives the Distinguished Citizen Medal-Bronze.



Detachment Awards

Robert Austin Marshall

Many times those who go above and beyond what is asked of them do so in ways that serve a larger audience than the one reached within the strictest definition of the programs of the Marine Corps League at the detachment or even the department level. Robert Austin Marshall, a Life Member of the Marine Corps League, is one for whom that is true.

Marshall joined the Marine Corps in August of 1958 after graduation from Valley High School, West Des Moines, Iowa.

After completion of his first tour, during which he served aboard the USS Princeton, Marshall reenlisted and requested an aviation school. He completed Air Traffic Control School and received a Control Tower **Operator's certificate, then continued to Ground Controlled Approach school where he learned the intricacies of landing aircraft using radar.**

Marshall's duty stations include Atsugi, Japan, Mindoro Island and Cubi Point, Philippines, Udorn, Thailand, Ping Tung, Taiwan, Yokosuka, Japan, El Toro, California, Santa Anna, California, Yuma, Arizona, and Cherry Point, North Carolina.

Instructor duties include AC "A" School, Phase IV – Radar, and the ATC "O" Course, Phase III Terminal Instrument Procedures, at Naval Air Station Glynco, Brunswick, Georgia.

Marshall was designated Naval Air Crewman – Special Duty Observer in 1971, and in 1997, he was awarded the Admiral Robert B. Pirie Trophy as the Naval Air Traffic Controller of the Year.

Marshall was transferred to the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve at the rank of Master Sergeant in 1980, after twenty-two years of active service.

In 2003, Marshall began research for a history of Marine Corps Air Traffic Control operations during the Vietnam War for the Marine Air Traffic Control Association.

In 2004, he self-published the first edition of A History of Marine ATC in Vietnam, 1962-1975. The history is filled with information about locations, units, and personnel. Updates are published annually as additional stories and information becomes available.

For his years of dedicated service to the United States Marine Corps, Marine Air Traffic Control, and the Marine Corps League, we are proud to award The Distinguished Service Medal – Bronze to Robert Austin Marshall.

Phil Devlin

Phil Devlin is a charter member of the Pineywoods Detachment of the Marine Corps League. He has faithfully served as Judge Advocate for several years, taking his position seriously and always keeping the best interests of the Detachment at heart.

Phil recently rewrote the Pineywoods Detachments By-Laws. He spent hours meticulously going over every detail, defining the responsibilities of each officer, outlining proper election procedures, and ensuring that local By-Laws are in accordance with National Marine Corps League standards. Although his job keeps him on the road, Phil regularly attends Detachment and District meetings, works at fund raisers, and continuously supports the Detachment.

For his unswerving and tireless dedication to the United States Marine Corps, The Marine Corps League, and the Pineywoods Detachment, it with great pleasure that the Marine Corps League INDIVIDUAL MERITORIOUS COMMENDATION is presented to Philip J. Devlin.



Above, Phil Devlin and wife Cynthia attend the 2008 Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Phil was unable to attend this year's Ball.



Detachment Awards: Marine of the Year

Will Lane

The Marine Corps League National By-Laws, Enclosure Four, Awards, states the Marine of the Year award shall be presented **to a member who has “rendered services and performed deeds above and beyond the duties and obligations required of a regular member of the Marine Corps League.”**

Will Lane is a charter member of the Pineywoods Detachment. Since 2005, he has **never said “No” to anything asked of him.** He easily might be overlooked since he is quiet and requires little direction in the execution of the duties assigned to him and, furthermore, he completes any assignment in an outstanding manner.

Lane consistently supports the Pineywoods Detachment by contributing his time and talents as the following examples will show.

He cheerfully helps put flags up early in the morning and take them down before sunset around the Nacogdoches County Courthouse on the many patriotic holidays throughout the year.

He supports the Veterans’ Day Parade by manning the float, often decorating the float before the parade.

Lane attends many funerals for local active-duty military personnel, as well as those for military veterans of all eras and wars.

He mans a booth for the TOY FOR TOTS RADIO DRIVE during December each year, and, even in inclement weather, he receives and thanks contributors in his singularly kind and friendly way. In addition, he attends other Toys For Tots events such as the STONE FORT CYCLE CENTER RUN-FOR-THE-TOYS bike run.

He stands a post at the annual BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL held in Nacogdoches each June.

He provides transportation to meetings and events as needed for any of the Detachment’s older veterans.

He attends the annual Department of Texas District 2 Training Conference.

He represents the Marine Corps League at events and functions held by other veterans groups, **including those scheduled on Memorial Day and Veterans’ Day.**

He helped develop, and contributes to, the national-award-winning Detachment newsletter.

As Detachment Adjutant/Paymaster, Lane is charged with accounting for the Detachment funds, which he does without complaint or mistake.

He exemplifies the values of the Pineywoods Detachment, the Marine Corps League, and the United States Marine Corps.

The 2009 Pineywoods Detachment MARINE OF THE YEAR is Will Lane.



Above, Adjutant/Paymaster Will Lane reads the Commandant’s Birthday Message at the Marine Corps Birthday Ball after being named the Detachment Marine of the Year.

Editor’s Note: There were just too many pictures of the Pineywoods Detachment’s 2009 Marine Corps Birthday Ball to put them all in the newsletter. Please visit the Detachment’s website to view additional pictures, as well as Detachment awards from past years. www.PineywoodsMarines.org



Pineywoods Detachment at the Piney Woods Fair



Top left: Detachment Booth at the 2009 Piney Woods Fair in Nacogdoches County: (l-r) Dennis Bradford (Senior Vice-Commandant) and Dan Singletary (Commandant); top right: Locals having fun at the County Fair; bottom left: Detachment life member Chris Borel (left) talks with member Ronnie Bowser (center) while Dennis Bradford (right) is hard at work.; bottom right: Junior Vice-Commandant Rich Barnhart gets a hug from granddaughter Trinity.



Piney Woods Fair: For the third year in a row the Detachment manned a booth at the Nacogdoches County Expo Center for all five days that the Piney Woods Fair, 7—11 October 2009. Detachment members gave out membership information, sold tickets to the Marine Corps Birthday Ball, sold raffle tickets on the rifle given away at the Ball, and greeted thousands of fair goers. A huge thank you goes out to all the members who manned the booth – Dan Singletary, Dennis Bradford, Ronnie Bowser, Will Lane, Phil Devlin, Chris Borel, Rich Barnhart and Kord Beckerdite, The Expo Center requires all organizations to man their booth for all five days, and without the dedication of our members, we would not have been as successful as we were. Several of our Detachment members worked shifts on multiple days.

The crowds were smaller this year and there was rain for a couple of days, but the Detachment still made money on the raffle which goes a long way toward covering the cost of the Marine Corps Birthday Ball that the Detachment hosts every November.

There are additional pictures of our booth and the Piney Woods Fair on the detachment website at: www.pineywoodsmarines.org/pic09pwf.htm .



District 2 Scoop

by District 2 Vice Commandant Dennis Bradford

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and that the New Year is everything we all wish. Since my last report, much has occurred.

The District held its annual meeting in September. The fine folks in Mineola were kind enough to host the get-together and put on a delicious spread of home-made **barbeque with all the fixin's**. Mineola Commandant Bill Hamby greeted all the attendees and discussed the leadership role of the detachment commandant. We were honored to be joined by Department Commandant Harry Bruce who spoke about **communication through the chain of command**. Big **"D"** detachment's Nick Weidenkopf spoke about websites, while Department Adjutant-Paymaster Polly Weidenkopf who went over both the required detachment paperwork, as well as a summary of the Military Order of Devil Dogs. After we finished with the program, Harry Bruce presented the first-place national newsletter competition award to the *Pineywoods Poopsheet* editor, Rich Barnhart.

In October, I attended the charter ceremony for the Terrell detachment. Commandant Mike White did a splendid job of organizing and working to obtain the charter. He held everyone together for more than three **years before they became "official."** They did not sit on their hands while completing the process, but have been active in the community where they collected Christmas toys, formed a color guard, and held many fundraisers. Congratulations to our comrades in Terrell.



District 2 meeting attendees

Also in October, I attended the Department of Texas Fall Staff Meeting in Temple. The Temple detachment held an excellent program with fine accommodations and wonderful food. The program covered all the right topics and those who attended learned much that was useful and met many old and new friends.

As you all know, Pineywoods Detachment hosted its annual Birthday Ball in November. The honored guest was the 11th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, David W. Sommers. Attendance was slightly better than last year so we are growing. I look forward to next year, as always.

November saw me return to Mineola. On this visit, I appointed Department of Texas Marine of the Year and Mineola Commandant Bill Hamby my District 2 Assistant Vice Commandant. Bill is a dedicated Leaguer and a tireless worker with a proven record of achievement.

December witnesses the wisdom of my choice. Bill Hamby has been working with local Marines in Tyler to form another detachment there. We had an organizational meeting attended by fifteen Marines, both active duty and veterans. Also at the meeting were Southern Division National Vice Commandant Ken Watterson and his Assistant Vice Commandant Ken Henry. Another meeting is scheduled for January with anticipated attendance sufficient to request a charter. Well done, Bill.

Until next time, Semper Fi!



Samaritan Counseling Center

Free Counseling for Veterans, Active Duty, & Family Members

The Samaritan Counseling Center in Nacogdoches offers free counseling for veterans, active duty, and for family members. Family counseling includes spouse, children, siblings, parents, etc. The service is made possible by a TRIAD grant from The Dallas Foundation. TRIAD stands for Texas Resources for Iraq - Afghanistan Deployment. The focus of the counseling is for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and their families who have been affected by the Iraq or Afghanistan conflicts. The services are available for troops and family members who are residents of Nacogdoches, Angelina, Houston, Shelby, San Augustine, Polk, and Trinity Counties.

There is no charge for services, all contact is confidential, and no information is shared with the military. Services offered include: Individual, Marital, Family, or Group Counseling. Issues addressed include: Pre-deployment anxiety; Problems related to parents or family members being deployed; Reorientation to civilian life; Post-traumatic stress; Marital and family problems; Adjusting to divorce; Child custody loss; Financial or legal stress problems; Depression or anxiety; Substance abuse problems; Anger management; Loss due to death or injury.

There are two locations in our community:

903 North Street
Nacogdoches, TX 75961
936-564-4064

607 S. Chestnut
Lufkin, TX 75901
936-639-6512



Other News

The Caregiver Assistance and Resource Enhancement Act, HR 3155: This article was published in the November/December 2009 edition of the Marine Corps League magazine SEMPER FI. The House of Representatives has approved HR 3155, which would authorize support services to caregivers for educational, nursing care, medical care and lodging and subsistence of disabled veterans who deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. We believe more needs to be done to assist full-time caregivers. We thank Rep. Michael Michaud of Maine for this bill.

Marine Corps Aviation Visits Nacogdoches: As reported in THE PINE LOG, the student newspaper of Stephen F. Austin State University (SFASU), Marine pilot Captain Rick "Hansel" Birt took a group of eight SFASU students up for a gut-wrenching but still fun flight during November 2009. All of the students had a turn in the cockpit with Capt Birt and also had hands on the controls of the King Air dual-prop airplane. The visit was arranged by Capt Thomas R. Cantu (USMC), who is stationed at College Station, TX. The visit was designed to show off Marine Aviation and Marine Corps Officer programs. Capt Birt, an EA-6B Prowler pilot, spoke at length to the students about the Platoon Leaders Class (PLC) and the Officer Candidates Course. It was pointed out that most Marine Officers enter service through the PLC program. There are currently SFASU students who are participating in the Marine Corps PLC program.



Operation Order 12-09 For: Official Visit of Lieutenant General Claus

1. An official staff visit by LtGen Claus is expected at this base on 25 Dec. The following directives govern activities of all personnel during the visit:
 - a. Not a creature will stir without permission. This includes Officers, Warrant Officers, Staff Non-commissioned Officers, Noncommissioned Officers, and mice. Marines may obtain special stirring permits for necessary tasks through the Battalion S-1 Office (See Company Office for PAR).
 - b. All personnel will settle their brains for a long winter nap no later than 2200 hours, 24 Dec. Uniform for the nap will be: pajamas -- cotton, light-weight, general purpose, olive-green; and cap -- battle-dress, utilities, Woodland pattern. Equipment will be drawn from supply prior to 1900 hours. While at supply, all personnel will review their personal hand receipts and sign a Cash Collection Voucher, DD Form 1131, for all missing items. Remember that this is the "season of giving."
 - c. Personnel will utilize standard "T"-ration sugarplums for visions to dance in their heads. Sugarplums are available in "T"-ration sundry packs and should be eaten with egg loaf, chopped ham, and spice cake to ensure maximum visions are experienced. "T"-ration sundry packs can be picked up at the Base Dining Facility (BDFAC) from 0800-1800 24 Dec 98. The S-4 will coordinate the acquisition and distribution of the "T"-ration sugarplums and accompanying items.
 - d. Stockings -- wool, cushion sole, olive-green -- will be hung by the chimneys with care. Necessary safety precautions will be taken to avoid fires caused by carelessly hung stockings. Platoon commanders will submit stocking handling plans to the S-3T, Training Chief, prior to 0800 hours, 24 Dec. All Platoon commanders will ensure their subordinate personnel attend mandatory stocking-hanging safety classes and are briefed on the safety aspects of stocking hanging by the Safety Officer. Stocking Safety will be taught 18 Dec 98 at 1900 in the conference room of Bldg 321. Stocking Licenses will be issued at that time. Stockings will be issued out of the pebble shack on a first come first serve basis from 1400 - 1600 on 19 December.
 - e. At first sound of clatter, all personnel will spring from their racks to investigate and evaluate the cause. Immediate action will be taken to tear open the shutters and throw up the window sashes. On order, Operations Plan (OPLAN) 7-98 (North Pole Contingency), para 6-8-A9(3), dated 4 Mar, this office, takes effect to facilitate shutter-tearing and sash-throwing. Platoon Commanders, Platoon Sergeants, and all Marines of the Guard will be familiar with procedures and are responsible for seeing that no shutters are torn or sashes thrown in the barracks prior to the start of official clatter.
 - f. Prior to 0001 hours, date of visit, all personnel possessing Standard Target Acquisition and Night Observation (STANO) equipment will be assigned "wondering eyeball" stations. The Sergeant of the Guard will ensure that these stations are adequately manned even after shutters are torn and sashes are thrown.
 - g. The Company Training Chief, in coordination with the U.S. Transportation Command (CinC-Trans) and Motor T, will assign one each Sleigh, Miniature, M-24A3 and eight (8) reindeer, tiny, for use by LtGen Claus. The assigned driver must have a current sleigh operator's license with rooftop permit and evidence of attendance at the winter driving class stamped on his Department of Navy Form 348. Driver must also be able to clearly shout "On, Dancer! On, Prancer!" etc.
2. LtGen Claus will initially enter Bldg 302 through the front entryway. All buildings without chimneys will requisition Chimney Simulator, M6A1, for use during the visit. Request chimney simulator on Department of Navy Form 2765-1, which will be submitted in four copies to the Company Gunnery Sergeant prior to 20 Dec. Personnel will ensure that chimneys are properly cleaned before turn-in at the conclusion of visit.
3. Personnel will be rehearsed in the shouting of "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!" or "Merry Christmas To All, and To All a Good Night!" This shout will be given upon termination of the visit. Uniformity of shouting is the responsibility of the Battalion Sgt Maj.

FOR THE COMMANDER (Signed)



Hometown Heroes

For the last several years here in Nacogdoches, the Stephen F. Austin State University Men's Lumberjack Basketball team has honored a local veteran at halftime. The veteran takes center court and the announcer reads his or her bio while everyone stands and cheers and applauds. Many Pineywoods Detachment members have participated in the past. There are plenty of dates available this season in from November 14th through the winter until March 4th. U.S. Army Korean Conflict veteran C.W. (Bud) Nettles manages the program and can be reached at home at (936) 462-8519. If you choose to participate, please let Commandant Dan Singletary know ahead of time. When you are honored, you also get complementary tickets to the game so that you may bring friends & family along. We encourage all Detachment members to participate and to spread the word about the program to other veterans you know and to friends and neighbors who may have relatives who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

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.”

Guest Speaker at JayCees Luncheon

Junior Vice-Commandant Rich Barnhart spoke to the Nacogdoches JayCees (Junior Chamber of Commerce) at their Friday lunch meeting on November 6th. He was invited to speak about the Detachment and its involvement in the community. Other Detachment members attending included Dan Singletary (Commandant) and Dennis Bradford (Senior Vice-Commandant). About 20 JayCees were in attendance.

Rich 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 providing information, monetary support, and direct assistance to local veterans and families. Also discussed was the **Detachment's cooperation with the VFW Post in displaying U.S. flags at the Nacogdoches County Courthouse on patriotic holidays, and hosting a Marine Corps Birthday Ball every November since 2005. The detachment's participation in the local Toys-for-Tots program was also covered.**

RIFLE WINNER

Terrence Reeves (below left) of Nacogdoches won the Rifle Raffle. The winning ticket was sold by Detachment Commandant Dan Singletary (below right).



SHIP'S STORE



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!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Detachment Meetings

(next six months)

- 17 December
- 21 January
- 18 February
- 18 March
- 15 April
- 20 May

Meetings are held third Thursday of the month, at 7 pm at the DAV Hall, 3110 Appleby-Sand Road
Call (936) 559-3781 for info

TOYS FOR TOTS

Hastings - Free Movie Rental
5 December 2009

WalMart - Toy Drop Off & Radio Remote
12 hours a day
Nacogdoches & Lufkin
11 & 12 December 2009

See Ronnie Bowser for additional information on any Toys For Tots functions
936-564-6200 or Ronnie.Bowser@era.com

HOMETOWN HEROS

Now through March 2010

Stephen F. Austin State University Men's Basketball
Games, Nacogdoches, Texas
See article page 11 for more information.

MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

6 p.m. 6 November 2010
Hotel Fredonia, Nacogdoches, Texas

MCL NATIONAL CONVENTION

8 - 14 August 2010
Greensboro, North Carolina*

*See Junior Vice Commandant Rich Barnhart for details
(936) 569-8789 or Jarhead@PineywoodsMarines.org

RECENT EVENTS

The following events have occurred since the last newsletter was published:

VFW Labor Day Fundraiser Cookout/Antique Car Show/Motorcycle Show/42 Tournament on Monday, September 7th, noon - 5 p.m. Thanks to all Detachment members/VFW members who sold tickets and participated, particularly to Don Kirkley (VFW Post Commander) for running the entire operation, Will Lane for grilling burgers and dogs out in the sun all day, Dennis Bradford for handling the car and motorcycle registration and voting all day, Ken Raines for organizing and running the 42 tournament, and Rich Barnhart for hanging around and eating. It is important to show our support for all local veteran organizations, particularly since many of us are in several different groups.

Eagle Scout Ceremony, Saturday, November 14th. Senior Vice-Commander Dennis Bradford presented nine Eagle Scouts of Boy Scout Troup 103 of Nacogdoches County with Marine Corps League Certificates at the First Baptist Church of Nacogdoches. Over 100 people attended the ceremony, including District Judge and Scout Master Campbell Cox and U.S. Congressman Louie Gohmert (R-Tyler). Gohmert also presented the Eagle Scouts with American flags that had been flown over the U.S. Capital and with copies of the U.S. Constitution.

Veterans Day Parade, November 7th, 11 a.m. the **Detachment participated in the joint veteran's float again this year.** There was a large turn-out of parade participants and viewers. Pictures and video of the parade are available on the Detachment website.

Detachment Booth at the Piney Woods Fair, October 7-11. The Detachment manned a booth for all five days of the fair. See article on page 9.

Detachment Visit with the Nacogdoches JayCeas, November 6th at noon. Detachment Junior Vice-Commandant Rich Barnhart was the guest speaker at the Friday lunch meeting of the Nacogdoches JayCeas (Junior Chamber of Commerce). See article on page 13.

There are only two kinds of people that understand Marines: Marines and the enemy. Everyone else has a second-hand opinion.

Gen. William Thornson, U.S. Army



“Accept the challenges so that you can feel the exhilaration of victory.”

General George Patton Jr

“We're surrounded. That simplifies the problem.”

Lt. Gen. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, USMC



Marine Corps History

15 September 1950: The 3d Battalion, 5th Marines landed on Wolmi-do Island in Inchon Harbor and secured it prior to the main landing. The 1st Marine Division under the command of Major General Oliver P. Smith landed at Inchon and began the Inchon-Seoul campaign.

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.

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.

Life Membership Honor Roll

The following Detachment members are Life Members

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

Semper Fi!

CONSIDER LIFE

Life Membership Dues

National Marine Corps League

<u>Age Grp</u>	<u>Cost</u>
0-35	\$500
36-40	\$400
41-50	\$400
51-60	\$300
61-over	\$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 Bradford
- James Matlock
- Theodore Morgan
- Joseph Stewart, Jr.

OCTOBER:

- Ronnie Bowser
- Charles Collins
- Kenneth Garrett
- Dee Randall

NOVEMBER:

- Betty Benavides
- Willie Burns
- Dan Singletary

Happy birthday and many happy returns!