



Middle Georgia  
Detachment 970  
Marine Corps League

P.O. Box 4723  
Macon, GA 31213

# Now Hear This!

## COMMANDANT'S CORNER

December 2013

Marines,

As 2013 comes to a close, I have been thinking back over the activities of our Detachment. It has been a good year. We hosted the Department Convention in May, assisted the 1/5 with their fund raising for Sgt Rodney Davis, raised about \$1200.00 for Toys 4 Tots, celebrated our Corps' 238th Birthday and we are currently collecting clothes for the veterans at the Dublin VA Hospital. I wish to thank everyone that has helped make this year a success. These were all group activities. Thank You.

The year is not over, we are still collecting clothes for Dublin. Please, if you have not yet donated, check out the list of items needed and bring it by my house or come to Dublin on December 7th and help deliver these items. If you can't come to Dublin please have your donation to me by December 6th. Give me a call at 478-960-6897 for more information.

The Christmas Banquet is coming up on the 14th at Middle Georgia State College. We will gather beginning at 1730 with the meal at 1830. I encourage all to attend, cost is \$15.00 each. Please if you have not already signed up to attend give me a call by December 8th and let me know you are coming. I look forward to seeing everyone.

It has been a privilege serving you as your Commandant for 2013. I am confident that our new Commandant Jeff Amerson will do an excellent job for 2014. I encourage everyone to support our new 2014 officers. Your elected officers for 2014 are Jeff Amerson, Commandant; Ed Barbee, Sr Vice Commandant; Tuffy Phillips, Jr Vice Commandant; and David Mincey, Judge Advocate. Congratulations to all.

I hope to see everyone at the Christmas Banquet.

Semper Fi, Bill Hall, Commandant  
Middle Georgia Detachment 970

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## 2013 Detachment Officers

Commandant ..... **Bill Hall**

478-474-9807 ..... kq4fa@cox.net

Senior Vice Commandant ..... Jeff Amerson

Junior Vice Commandant ..... Paul Reynolds

Judge Advocate ..... David Mincey

Adjutant ..... Annette Dyche

Paymaster ..... Ray Walker

Sergeant at Arms ..... Ed Barbee

Jr. Past Commandant ..... Joe Barbee

1st Platoon Leader ..... Tuffy Phillips

2nd Platoon Leader ..... Carl Kitchens

Chaplain ..... Bob Burns

Chaplain ..... Rev. James Jackson

Chaplain ..... Paul Odom

## Detachment Meetings

1900 - 1st Tuesday of month

at the American Legion

5530 Thomaston Rd, Macon, GA



## Staff Meetings

1900 - 3rd Tuesday of month

@ Forest Hills United Methodist Church

Newsletter Editor ..... Carl Kitchens

478-994-3744 ..... cplkitchens@mac.com

Submissions should be  
emailed to Carl by the 24th of  
each month.

Publisher: Carole Dixon



# From the Sr. Vice

This will be my last newsletter article as Senior Vice. I will be looking forward to writing articles as your new Commandant next year.

We will start off with a bang next year, so hold on with me as I get used to being in front of everyone during our meetings and getting things organized. I hope to have everything ready so as to start off the new year right. I will need all the help I can get so do not be surprised if you get grabbed to help me keep the Detachment running smoothly.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Banquet on the 14th of December. Don't forget those of you that are helping with the Dublin VA Christmas benefit that we will need to be there by 8AM in front of the Admin. Office. I have room if anyone needs a ride..

Semper Fi  
Jeff Amerson,  
Sr. Vice Commandant

## DETACHMENT 970 MCL Calendar of Events 2013

### DECEMBER

14th Christmas  
Banquet

**Next Detachment  
Meeting  
January 7, 2014 -  
Next Staff Meeting  
January 21, 2014**

*Detachment Meetings  
are the 1st Tuesday of  
each month, and the Staff  
Meetings are the 3rd  
Tuesday of each month.*

## Toys For Tots - Walmart in Forsyth -Thanksgiving Weekend



The total in money donations to the Toys for Tots in Forsyth was \$2455.59 for November 29, 30 and December 1. Participants were Marvin Jackson, Bubba Wall, Tuffy Phillips, Bitsy Phillips, Michael Clark, Ed Barbee, Joe Barbee, Ron Chipman, Carl Kitchens, Denise and Bobby Shepard. Thank you for participating.

**Opening by Ritual**

Meeting called to order and Marine Corps League Mission Statement read by Commandant Bill Hall.

**Roll Call of Officers:**

All officers were present with exception of our Jr. Vice Commandant.

**Application for Membership:**

James Murphy, who is a dual member of Warner Robins Det.1373.

**Meeting Minutes:**

Motion was made to accept, as submitted, minutes for the October meeting by Michael Clark and seconded by Tuffy Phillips. The motion carried.

**Election of Officers:**

All by unanimous vote, the following have been elected to their respective offices: Jeff Amerson: Commandant; Ed Barbee: Sr. Vice Commandant; Tuffy Phillips: Jr. Vice Commandant; David Mincey: Judge Advocate.

**Commandant's Correspondence:**

Request from Pine Point Hospice Care of Central Georgia for the color guard detachment on Nov. 11, 2013, to which the Commandant replied our color guard is already booked.

Homes For Our Troops requested the color guard for their Hawkinsville event, and reply was made that Det. 1373 will do it.

We will loan equipment to Det. 1373 for this event. Tom Hisel corresponded with Commandant via email regarding our missing the opportunity to perform our duties and pay respects at Bud Stuckey's funeral.

Commandant said he plans to meet with Phil McGoldrick to get advisement about crafting a package to be distributed to all funeral homes for the purpose of informing families of our services.

Louis Johnston informed us that to his knowledge, Bud Stuckey was our last Guadalcanal veteran, dying just short of his 93rd birthday. Commandant commented that Bud was a fine man and a 'cactus airforce' Marine, and that he is sorry we could not honor him at his funeral.

**Financial Report:**

Paymaster Ray Walker reports as follows: Beginning balance: \$15,088.24; Disbursements: \$172.00; Deposits: \$464.00; Bank Charge: \$3.00; Ending balance: \$15377.24. Motion was made to accept the Paymaster's report by David Mincey and seconded by Jeff Amerson. The motion carried. Ray also reported a record total collected at the Macon WalMart Toys for Tots event: \$1,221.73, the highest gift being a check for \$100, second highest, \$50. Toys also were donated. Commandant thanked, by name, all 13 participants in this event, headed by Tuffy Phillips.

**Sickness and Distress:**

Wirt Durdin, Squad Leader, Squad 7, reported Howard Hardison is holding his own and indicated he would appreciate a visit from detachment members.

Michael San Paolo, due to a recent surgery, will be out for the rest of the year and would appreciate a visit from detachment members as well.

Ray Walker reported Ken Gerdis had knee replacement surgery from which he is healing and doing well.

Tom Hisel is out sick as well.

Arnold Cotton, WWII Veteran, is at Carlyle Place Assisted Living and visits by the detachment are welcome.

**Officers' Report:**

Sgt at Arms, Ed Barbee reported 30 regular and associate members and guests present. Tonight's 50/50 raffle prize is \$29. He also reminded everyone of the various sign-up sheets on the back table.

Ron Chipman introduced his guest, Sgt. Maj. Ret. Ray Riggins of Forsyth, USMC '57-60; then in '67, he joined the USMC Reserves and retired right after Desert Storm, retiring from the phone company around the same time.

**Old Business:**

Under unfinished business, Marvin Jackson asked about the commemorative coins the Rodney Davis Detachment is selling as a detachment fundraiser. The Coins are \$13, which includes shipping. Commandant is taking orders and will have an order form at the back table.

Commandant gave a colorful description of his visit to the Marine Corps Museum in Washington, DC, the highlight being his viewing of the Iwo Jima flag; the WWII Memorial, the Vietnam Wall and the Korean monument, and promises to present his photos as a presentation program.

**New Business:**

Marvin Jackson announced he was glad to have a sufficient number of volunteers for this year's Toys For Tots in Forsyth, but would be glad also to see a few more turn out anytime from Fri. - Sunday, November 29-Dec. 1. Phil McGoldrick announced the Veterans Day ceremony at Macon Memorial Gardens will be at 11:00 a.m., Nov. 11., with BBQ being served. The guest speaker will be M. Gunnery Sgt. Brent Dirr of Albany. Our Color Guard detail will be present to perform their duties. Attendees are encouraged to bring a toy to donate to Toys for Tots

**For The G DecDDDecdkdkfjerjoieur[934u5dddddrrrood of the League**

**The Staff meeting is 7 p.m., November 19th, at Forest Hill UMC. All are welcome to attend.**

The Marine Corps birthday party is Nov. 9, with gathering period commencing at 1800 and dinner at 1900. Col. Ted Robinson will be our MC for the occasion, which will include a slide show. Non-MCL members, \$25; members, \$15.

Christmas at the Dublin VA is December 7th. Final donations must be to Commandant's house by Dec. 6th. Meet at the VA at 8 a.m. in front of the Administration Bldg. or at 7 a.m. at the Am. Legion Post from which we will carpool to Dublin. There has been a donation of \$500 given for the purpose of buying personal items, socks, etc. Ed Barbee also collected, as of this meeting, \$550 of his \$750 goal, which he and Bitsy Phillips will spend shopping for the veterans. Diabetic socks were suggested for the veterans. Commandant emphasized the importance of making the Dublin VA Christmas donations and visit a Detachment annual affair.

The Christmas banquet will be December 14, at Middle Georgia State College, the cost: \$15; non-MCL members, \$25. Deadline for sign-up is Dec. 7; and there not being another meeting prior, Commandant directed everyone to call him or leave a message if they are not on the sign up list as of this meeting. The gathering period will be 1730 and the dinner at 1830. There will be a cash bar. Ray Walker will take payment at the door.

Those interested in purchasing a golf shirt, sizes S-XL is \$25, XXL is \$26 and a \$1 more for each additional 'X'. Commandant will be ordering them in about a week.

There being no further business, the November meeting was closed by ritual.

Minutes submitted by Annette Dyche, Adjutant.