

The following are the minutes of the Department of Georgia, Marine Corps League Quarterly Business meeting, held on December 4, 2010 at American Legion Post 3 in Macon, Georgia.

Meeting was called to order at 11:00AM. Colors were posted and the Chaplain led us in an opening prayer.

SPECIAL GUESTS:

The Commandant recognized Marine James Pack a former Montford Point Marine and Past Department Commandant for the state of Michigan.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

All elected and appointed officers were present and or accounted for.

ROLL CALL OF DETACHMENTS:

Eleven (11) Detachments were present. Absent were: Glynco, General Ray Davis, Dalton, Georgia Devil Dogs, Sergeant Major Louis Roundtree, Upper Chattahoochee, Unicoi, Kings Bay, Greater Atlanta, Clyde Thomason, Savannah, Currahee Mountain, Waycross and Warren Johnson.

MINUTES:

Commandant Stollenwerck advised that two corrections should be made to the minutes of the August 28, 2010 business meeting. These two items were noted and the corrections were made. A motion was then made by Bernard Bledsoe that the minutes as amended and corrected should be accepted. This motion was seconded by Michael Clark and the motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was received from National. (1) Regarding unauthorized solicitations. "The Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial Foundation" is seeking funds to establish a site in Washington, D. C. This is an unauthorized fund, permission was not granted. If you receive anything in the mail requesting funds and you don't know anything about them please check them out. (2) General James E. Amos is now the new Commandant of the United States Marine Corps. (3) We acting as a member of the Marine Corps League cannot support any political candidate. We can do so as an individual. (4) "Chain of Officer Reporting". If you have any questions about MCL policy or need to obtain any forms pertaining to the League, please use the proper chain of command Detachment, Department, Division and National. (5) Do not use "Executive Apparel of N.Y." to obtain your white MCL shirts. They are a former vendor of the MCL and they are using our mailing lists without permission. (6) "Tree of Lights" is a project of the MCL Youth Foundation which is soliciting funds to support the Young Marines on a national level. After discussing the matter, Dalton Hammock made a motion that the Department of Georgia should make a contribution in the amount of \$1000.00 to the

Youth Foundation for use by the Young Marines. This motion was seconded by Jim Hethcox and the motion passed. (7) "National Web Site Presence". Each Detachment in the Department of Georgia should have a web site and a web Sgt. and work with the Department of Georgia Web Sgt. Ron Kirstatter to make sure you have your Detachment on line along with your Detachment officers. (8) There is an urgent appeal for prayer for the 3rd Battalion 5th Marines who are currently in Afghanistan, and have lost nine Marines in the last few weeks.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER:

The balance on August 28, 2010 was \$17,256.32. We had debits of \$3747.52 and credits of \$2142.50 leaving us with an ending balance of \$15,651.30 as of December 4, 2010. The question was asked as to why our bank charged us with a \$7.50 bank fee and the paymaster advised that he would find out by the time of our next meeting. Michael Clark made a motion that we accept the report as given pending the resolution of the \$7.50 bank fee. The motion was seconded by Bernard Bledsoe and the motion passed.

REPORT OF MEMBERS OR MEMBERS FAMILIES SICK OR IN DISTRESS:

Lamar Scott of the McDonough Detachment lost his mother and mother-in-law and Vernon Smith lost his daughter. Charles Waller of LaGrange lost his mother-in-law. C.C. Hinton of Griffin just had colon cancer surgery and his wife who had cancer for the past several years has been taken of chemotherapy. Heb Bradley of Carrollton is doing better, but his wife has just been diagnosed with cancer and Michael Clark from Macon had just lost his mother.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT:

Since his last report in September the Department of Georgia has lost five (5) more Marines. This brings the total to 13 members passed on for the year. He advised that he would encourage all Detachment chaplain's to read the Chaplain's Corner in the Department New Letter. Commandants remember to have your Chaplain's submit their Death Notices to him as soon as a member passes.

JUDGE ADVOCATE:

The amendments for the Department by-laws have been incorporated and submitted via e-mail to the National Judge Advocate in October and a hard copy was sent on November 12th. The amendments are approved, but he still needs to have the Certification sheet signed. Hard copies will be sent to all Detachment Commandants and Judge Advocates plus they will be posted on the Department web page in the ADOBE format.

There are now 12 Detachments with approved by-laws or statements indicating that their Detachment will fall under the Department and National by-laws. Two Detachments are in the process of getting their membership to approve by-laws. With approval of the pending by-laws, the Department will have 56% of its Detachments with approved by-laws. If you want training at this year's state convention held in Pooler, Georgia pertaining to the duties of the Judge Advocate, please let him know and he will provide

the training. He further advised that he has a template for Detachment by-laws that is about 12 pages long. He will provide this to any Commandant who is interested along with an Approval/Acceptance page upon e-mail request from any Detachment Commandant or Judge Advocate. His e-mail address is newt1644@live.com and his telephone # is (229- 446-2209).

SR. VICE:

He advised that one of the main problems the MCL is having nationwide is the retention of its members. Currently the Department of Georgia has a 17.8% delinquency rate. He suggested that each Detachment should turn this job over to the Detachment Paymaster, because they are the one the quarterly membership lists are sent to. If each Paymaster would look and see whose membership is about to expire and then notify that member ahead of time, maybe their name would never appear on the delinquent list.

CHIEF OF STAFF:

Try and get your delinquent members current before the end of December 2010, because that is when the next membership list will be compiled and mailed out by national. If each Detachment can get their delinquent members current it would go along way in getting the "Grits Bowl" back from the Department of Alabama. Remember, the proceeds National gets from mailing out labels, cards and other items go to a good cause. Start now and try to get as many of your Detachment members to attend next years State convention in Pooler, Georgia and hosted by the West Chatham Detachment. All Commandants should have their own code, which will allow them access to the locator page and when they step down, this code should be passed on to the next Commandant.

COMMANDANT:

The Department continues to be represented at the Georgia Department of Veterans Services and the Atlanta VA Advisory Board meetings and participating in activities as appropriate. Commandants, read your by-laws and follow them. National continues to stress the retention of our membership. Attended Governor Purdue's Proclamation Signing Ceremony at the State Capitol and attended the Veterans Day Parade and Banquet in Atlanta. The parade honored Marines this year and had as the Grand Marshall and Banquet speaker R. Lee "Gunny" Ermey. The Young Marines from Atlanta also participated in the parade. The former Black sheep Detachment had a name change and is now known as the Georgia Devil Dogs Detachment #952 and are still located in Duluth.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Mike English from the West Chatham Detachment reported on the 20th Annual State Convention which is to be held in Pooler, Georgia from May 20-22, 2011. The hotel will be the Bradbury Suites at a rate of \$59.00 per night. The banquet will be held at the 8th Air Force Museum at a cost of \$35.00 per person. Early registration is \$6.00 per person before April 1, 2011 and \$8.00 after. A Parris Island trip is being planned for early Friday morning at a cost of \$25.00 and is limited to the first 50 who register. If you plan on going to PI you can check into the hotel on Thursday for the same rate. A trip is also

being planned to tour downtown Savannah at a cost of \$25.00. To obtain your registration forms you can go on line to either the West Chatham Detachment or the Department of Georgia.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

The Commandant advised that he is looking to establishing three (3) Districts in the Department of Georgia. A Northern, Middle and Southern. He is looking for three volunteers who would be known as District Vice-Commandants, whose job would be as a liaison and resource person for the Detachments to work with. These Marines would provide guidance and leadership and report directly to the Department Commandant and take appropriate action where/when needed. If interested in one of these positions please see Commandant Stollenwerck.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

For those who were not aware, there is a 3rd Battalion 5th Marine reunion every year. If interested, see Herb Bradley after the meeting.

The Joseph Schmittou Detachment in Athens, Georgia took the lead role in helping a young soon to be Marine "poolee" with the burial expenses for his father Rodney Lawrence who had passed away. Ten (10) members of the Schmittou Detachment plan on going to this Marines graduation in January.

The McDonough Detachment advised that there is a young man named Cole Haney in Conyers, Georgia who was planning on going in the Marine Corps, who has just been diagnosed with cancer. The request was that we keep him in our prayers.

Dalton Hammock advised the MCL National Mid Winter Conference will be held in Virginia this coming February 10-13, 2011 and this will be the first time he will be acting in his capacity as Chaplain for the National Marine Corps league.

The Jimmie Dyess Detachment advised that GySgt A.C. Young who is a member of the Young Marines in their area was just recently promoted to Master Sergeant and that their Detachment had a very successful Toys for Tots drive for the year.

The Aubrey Gilbert Detachment advised that their Young Marine Program has just graduated their first Platoon.

The Commandant advised that our next quarterly business meeting will be held in McDonough, Georgia on March 19, 2011. Details as to time and place will be posted.

The McDonough Detachment advised that their newest member is Marine Don Whitton aka Sgt. Grit.

The Chaplain then read the names of four of our recently deceased members since our last meeting. After the closing prayer and the retiring of colors the business portion of the meeting ended at 12:44PM.

Respectfully submitted

Everett A. Stewart

Adjutant Department of Georgia

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