

The following are the minutes of the Department of Georgia, Marine Corps League Quarterly business meeting held on March 19, 2011 in McDonough, 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 retired Superior Court Judge Dan Winn, a member of the Jake Puryear Detachment, who will be our guest speaker and Willie Brinkley an eleven year Marine veteran who is a prospective member..

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

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

ROLL CALL OF DETACHMENTS:

Fifteen Detachments were present. Absent were: West Chatham, Aubrey Gilbert, Dalton, Sergeant Major Louis Roundtree, North Georgia Mountain, King Bay, Savannah, Currahee Mountain and Waycross.

MINUTES:

Commandant Stollenwerck entertained a motion that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as they were electronically posted. Bernard Bledsoe made a motion to accept these minutes, the motion was seconded by Russ Vermillion and the motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1) The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications.
- 2) The MCL position on "don't ask don't tell" has not changed. We do and will support as set forth in our policies.
- 3) The MCL wants the League to support "Marine week" in St. Louis, Mo. on June 21, 2011. This event helps Marines and their families to attend a Major League baseball game. Tickets can be found in your latest Semper Fi magazine.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER:

We had a beginning balance of \$15,651.30. We had debits of \$1813.00 and credits of \$3759.49 leaving us with a balance of \$17,597.49. We are holding \$328.00 for the new Warner Robbins Detachment and \$136.00 for the Waycross Detachment. Bernard Bledsoe made a motion that we accept the paymasters report as given pending an audit. This motion was seconded by Russ Vermillion and the motion passed. The paymaster advised that all Detachments need to re-file their corporate papers with the State of Georgia by April 1 at a cost of \$50.00. If you are late it will cost \$75.00. Also all

Detachments need to have \$20.00 sent to the Department paymaster by April 15th which money will be used for the hospitality suite at this year's State Convention.

REPORT OF MEMBERS OR MEMBERS FAMILIES SICK OR IN DISTRESS:

Woodstock Detachment: John Newport had a quadruple bypass. Unicoi Detachment: Shirley Meskan and Roger LaBountey both WWII veterans are not doing well. Pless Detachment: C.C. Hinton recovering from four stints and his wife is receiving hospice care at home for cancer. Izell Clemons is out of the hospital and is doing better. Glynco Detachment: Bob Cooper just finished his 14th operation for cancer and Jim Cook had three stints. Eiland Detachment: Charles Waller had back surgery and a mild heart attack after the surgery. Jim Heathcock is also recovering from back surgery and Randy Dollar's wife has lung cancer. Upper Chattahoochee Detachment: Stan Linder at home and suffering from depression and Jane Barrett a member's wife is just out of the hospital. Schmittou Detachment: W.C. Moncus had a heart attack. Middle Georgia Detachment: Doug Corbin, Warren Smith, Cathy Kratly, Gary Sargeant and David Patton are all having problems.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

CHAPLAIN: Since his last report on December 4, 2010, the death of 15 Marines from the Department, have been reported to him. Four of those passed away in 2009 and three in 2010. He did not receive notification of the death of those seven men until after he made his 2nd Quarter report. Therefore, he has included them in this 3rd Quarter Report along with the five that were reported on time. You can see why Detachments need to be timely in reporting deceased members.

JUDGE ADVOCATE: He has copies of the 2010 Department bylaws on hand. Each Detachment will receive two copies, one for your Commandant and one for your Judge Advocate. He now has 15 Detachments with approved bylaws or statements indicating that their Detachment will fall under the Department and National bylaws. He advised that the National Judge Advocate for the MCL has recommended that all Detachments conduct both financial and material audits of your Detachments and Departments. If you do have Ceremonial rifles that are on loan to your Detachments they must be returned if you surrender your charter and they must be secured in a secured location (police, sheriff National Guard Armory) and not at your residence. The 2010 National bylaws are complete and change #16 is now available on the National web site. A hard copy of these bylaws can be obtained upon submission of a written request to the National Adjutant/Paymaster. The MCL has been granted permission to use the trademark (EGA) for internal use only. No permission is required for use on letter heads, business cards or announcements. If items are being developed for sale to the general public (caps, shirts, cups Jackets, etc) permission is required. If you are sponsoring an event (golf tournament, parade, etc) get 3rd party insurance to cover guests of non-MCL attendees. An event of 200 or more requires an insurance rider, if alcohol is being served and alcohol rider is also required. If any Detachment Judge Advocate or Commandant would like training on the duties of the Judge Advocate at this years convention please contact Tom Newton If

any Detachment needs a template for Detachment bylaws he will provide. His telephone number is (229-446-2209 and his e-mail address is newt1644@live.com.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDANT: The report from National as of December 31, 2010 shows that the Department of Georgia has 1175 paid members and 184 unpaid. The Department membership is up 3.43% and we added 39 new members without adding any new Detachments. We still have a high number of unpaid members. All Detachment Commandants and Junior Vice's need to work on getting your unpaid members back active and current in their dues. Application for Charter was approved and is on the way for 41 Marines in the Warner Robins area and they have requested to be known as the Central Georgia Detachment #1373. They have since increased this number to 48. The presentation of "The Grits Bowl" will be held at this year's State Convention in Pooler, Ga. This is between the Departments of Alabama and Georgia to see who had the largest percentage of growth from March 31, 2010 - March 31 2011.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDANT: The Commandant's Council for the Department of Georgia Convention will be held from 1900 to 2030 on Friday evening 20 May 2011. (This time is subject to change). Each Detachment is asked to describe highlights that have occurred during the year. It is requested that Detachments prepare a one-page synopsis of your highlights since last year's convention. Please make 30 copies of your synopsis so each Detachment can have a copy. Your presentation will be limited to three minutes or less. Detachments will present in the Detachment number sequence. All attendees are invited to attend the Commandant's Council. If the Commandant is not attending this convention please have one of your members designated to represent your Detachment and make the presentation.

COMMANDANT: Have received thank you letters from the Young Marines Units within the State of Georgia for the donations the Department of Georgia gave to them. The Department of Georgia has also recommended that the Raymond G. Davis Metro Atlanta Young Marines be awarded a National Unit Commendation for their voluntary service to their community on two separate occasions. Mid Winter Conference Items: MCL members are now eligible to join the Pentagon Credit Union. The National Commandant indicated that uniform issues of the past are now under control (no khaki shirts), would like to thank all MCL members for their service; we need to get away from private agenda's, to enhance communication and a special need for training, specifically the Professional Development Program and using the proper Chain of Command when resolving issues that pertain to the league. The secretary of the VA indicated that they were working on improving Veterans access to help and assistance; the elimination of the claims backlog and funding for the homeless. There was a strong emphasis on reducing our delinquent membership nationally and that the Uniform Committee reported new bylaws would be introduced at the upcoming National Convention on standard basic guidelines for the MCL cover. The Commandant advised that we now can order a large variety of items through the National Semper-Fi store to include the red blazer. Lastly he advised that the Marines Helping Marines/Wounded Warrior Program is critically low on donations and made a strong appeal for financial help. S.E. Division Conference Items: We had members from 10 Detachments and a presence on every organizational level

present from the Department of Georgia. The Department volunteered to host the 2013 S.E. Division Conference. Three of our Detachments have expressed an interest in co-hosting this event and selection will be by the bid process. The Department received the Thomas B. Perrone Award for the greatest net membership increase in the S.E. Division for the year 2010. The Department has Locator pages posted on the National website. We now have to keep them updated. In the most recent March/April 2011 Semper-Fi magazine the National Commandant recognized 20 Departments with increased membership for this quarter. Leading in this category was the Department of Georgia with a 5.28% gain. The new Central Georgia Detachment # 1337 Charter will be presented in the near future and credit is to be given to Michael Clark for this accomplishment. Please read the new Department bylaws and become familiar with them. If there are two or more candidates for a Department office, each candidate must make a brief presentation (3 minutes) on their experience's and what they hope to accomplish. Lastly our Commandant advised that due to personal reasons, he will not seek re-election for Commandant of the Department of Georgia.

DETACHMENT REPORTS:

At this time the Detachments that were present talked to those present on what has been going on in their Detachments. Seeing how most of this information was in our quarterly News Letter, this information is not being reported in these minutes, but can be retrieved off the disc this information was transferred to.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Our Chief-of-Staff Michael Clark advised that Detachment ads for this years State Convention have to be into the host Detachment by April 1, 2011 along with your payment. If you plan on going to the convention and the Parris Island trip make sure you have registered. If you plan on applying for a scholarship through the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, make sure you fill out the application correctly and completely or else it will be rejected. Lastly, before a member is notified that his dues are about to expire have a program in place to contact that member at least 30 days before they are due, this way that persons name will not appear on the delinquent list.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Cookie Salinas that the Department of Georgia either sponsor or endorse the solicitation of donations to purchase Dress Blues for Lance Corporal O'Moro Mitchell (who has been given five years to live) and that any excess be given to Mitchell in cash, goods or services and that the Department appoint a liaison person from the Department to handle this request. This motion was seconded by Walt Scott and the motion passed. Salinas was then appointed by the Commandant to handle this matter for the Department. Bernard Bledsoe then made a motion that the Department of Georgia pay \$500.00 from its treasury for this purpose and that the Detachments will cover that amount or more. This motion was seconded by Dalton Hammock and the motion passed.

A representative of the Georgia Devil Dog's Detachment then addressed the group to ask for a Department sponsorship for their Iwo Jima Float which is used in local parades and will be in the Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C. After a brief discussion this matter was tabled until the upcoming State convention in Pooler, Georgia when more facts will be presented to the Department.

The Commandant then asked for a motion from the Department of Georgia to make a donation to the Wounded Warrior Fund. Chad Long then made a motion that the Department of Georgia give \$2600.00 to the (WWF) the equivalent of \$100.00 each for each of our 26 Detachments. This motion was seconded by Michael Clark and the motion passed.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

Judge Dan Winn was then introduced as our guest speaker at which time he talked to those assembled on certain unknown facts and events concerning the Japanese in the Pacific during WWII and how certain groups were trying to change the reporting of history. Bernard Bledsoe advised that if anyone would like to work at the upcoming Marine South Expo to be held at Camp LeJeune or the one to be held at Quantico in September please see him after the meeting. Everett Stewart of the Jake Puryear Detachment advised that their local McDonald's in Rome, Georgia is working with them in putting on an "ALL YOU CAN EAT" pancake breakfast and that it was an easy fund raiser if your membership is willing to assist. See him for details.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Michael Clark advised that he will be running for the office of Commandant for the Department of Georgia at this years State Convention to be held in Pooler, Georgia

CLOSING:

The Chaplin then read the names of our recently deceased members since our last meeting, a list of which will be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

After the retiring of the colors and a closing prayer by our Chaplin, the meeting was ended at 1:52 PM to be reconvened in Pooler, Georgia on May 21, 2011.

Respectfully submitted

Everett A. Stewart
Adjutant Department of Georgia