OPENING CEREMONY:

The meeting was opened per ritual by Commandant Larry Heard at 0930. The Mission Statement of the Marine Corps League was read.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND DETACHMENTS:

Department officers in attendance included:
- Commandant Larry Heard
- Sr. Vice Commandant Bill Miller
- Jr. Vice Commandant Rex Delk
- Judge Advocate Lisa Delk
- Adjutant/Paymaster LuAnn Miller
- Chaplain Mickey Edwards
- Sergeant-at-Arms Levi McKenna
- Sergeant-at-Arms JR Millhorn

District Vice Commandants in attendance included:
- District 5 – Frank Goalen
- District 6 – Frank Goalen
- District 7 – Ed Barbee

Appointed Positions:
- Fallen Marines – Merrill Tindall
- Young Marines – James Berres
- Boy Scout Coordinator – Mickey Edwards

Detachments in attendance included:
- Detachment 647 - L/Cpl Squire “Skip” Wells
- Detachment 783 - Unicoi
- Detachment 970 - Middle Georgia
- Detachment 1020 - “Jake” Puryear
- Detachment 1196 - Maj Stephen W. Pless
- Detachment 1260 - Maj Lawrence Des Jardines
- Detachment 1311 - MajGen Warren R. Johnson
- Detachment 1325 - Sgt Clyde Thomason MOH
- Detachment 1326 - West Chatham
- Detachment 1333 - Waycross
- Detachment 1373 - Central Georgia
- Detachment 1402 - Columbus
- Detachment 1424 – Peach County

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Commandant Heard noted that the minutes of the January 8, 2022, business meeting are available and have been posted on the Department website. Russ Vermillion moved to dispense with the reading of the
minutes and accept the minutes as posted. Ed Barbee seconded the motion, and it was approved. The minutes were accepted as published.

PRESENTATION:

Marty Habecker and Jim Berres presented a check for $500 to Randy Wynn in support of the Fallujah Marine Reunion. Randy Wynn, a Purple Heart recipient, spoke about the second battle of Fallujah and the Marines with whom he served. He noted that it has been 17 years since they have seen each other. Theirs was the only unit in Fallujah to carry a battle axe. The reunion will be held July 21-23, 2022. Donations may be made payable to Randy Wynn with a memo notation of “Fallujah Reunion,” and should be mailed to 507 Scarlett Drive, Warner Robins, GA 31088. His Facebook page is Delta Co 1st Platoon Reunion 2022.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Jim Berres spoke about the Young Marines and the letter he sent to the Department and the Detachments requesting support. He is the Regimental Commander for Georgia and South Carolina, and he discussed the relationship between the Marine Corps League and the Young Marines. Two schools in Georgia have added the Young Marines program to their curriculum, and he is looking into getting more schools involved. He noted there are 350 Young Marines in Georgia between the ages of 8 and 18.

The meeting recessed at 1000 and reconvened at 1005.

Ed Barbee discussed an email relating to Sgt. Rodney Davis, a Medal of Honor recipient from Macon (1st Battalion 5th Marines) and noted that a $100,000 scholarship fund was established at Central Georgia Technical College. He said this is a clear example of Marines helping Marines.

Levi McKenna spoke on behalf of Bill Sirmon, the Department Marine-4-Life Coordinator. He reported that there have been personnel changes in the State of Georgia and noted that jobs are posted online on Linked In. If you know of someone that needs help, contact Bill Sirmon.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER:

The Paymaster’s report was read. Russ Vermillion moved to approve the Paymaster’s Report as submitted pending financial review. The motion was seconded and approved.

REPORT OF MEMBERS SICKNESS OR IN DISTRESS:

Chaplain Mickey Edwards reported that 15 newly-reported Marines passed between June 2021 and March 2022 including Frank R. Walker; Margaret L. Phillips; John David Patman; Earnest William Robinson; Robert A. Williams; Michael H. Boyce; Robert (Tuck) Middlebrook; William R. Dando, Jr.; D. R. Hardesty; Robert H. Lyle; George Arnold Tuttle; Richard L. Richter; T. Fred Harvey; Thomas E. Zaworski; and Russell C. DeMonbreun. Members with health problems include Karen Lawrence (#1311), Michael Clark (#970), and the former Sr. Vice Commandant of Detachment #1333.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Judge Advocate: Judge Advocate Lisa Delk reported that Detachment #783 received their Bylaws approval page. Bylaws for two Detachments are currently being reviewed. She suggested that Detachments get their Bylaws reviewed and approved. At the Department Convention, seven Bylaws amendments will be presented for consideration. The Bylaws Committee will meet briefly after the
quarterly meeting. Delegate forms will be sent out early next week via the Commandants’ email distribution list and will be posted on the Department website. The proposed Bylaws Amendments will not require changes to Detachment Bylaws. Proposed Bylaws amendments will be sent out within the next week. In response to a question from the floor, Judge Advocate Delk reported that the Credentials Committee has not yet been established. A discussion followed relating to the procedure for determining voting strength for Detachments. Also discussed was the composition of the email distribution list.

**Jr. Vice Commandant:** Jr. Vice Commandant Rex Delk extended congratulations to the Detachments on cleaning up their rosters. He noted that that 60% of members were in a paid status last quarter; with a total of 79.5% paid this quarter. He reported that Albert Compy is interested in starting a Detachment in Gilmer County. The Glynco Detachment (#716) sent back their Charter, and the Detachment will be closed out with all life members being transferred to the Georgia Devil Dog Detachment (#952). The DLC Marines (#1462) currently have 32 unpaid members and 1 paid member. The paid member will transfer to the Central Georgia Detachment (#1373), and the DLC Marines Detachment will be closed.

**Sr. Vice Commandant:** Sr. Vice Commandant Bill Miller had no report, but will provide a Department Convention update during Committee Reports.

**Commandant:** Commandant Larry Heard thanked Detachment #1373 for hosting the quarterly meeting, and noted there was a great turnout for the Friday evening gathering. He reminded the Detachments to submit their ROIs and make sure they are correct. If they are not correct, they may be returned to you for resubmission. He also reminded the membership to follow the chain of command. If you can’t resolve an issue at the Detachment level, take it to the Department. Do not go directly to National.

**REPORTS OF APPOINTED OFFICERS:**

Mickey Edwards, Department Chaplain, reminded the membership that Notices of Death still need to be sent to the Department Chaplain in addition to submitting them to the Department Paymaster with a Dues Transmittal.

Mickey Edwards, Boy Scout Coordinator, noted that scouting activity is picking up and reminded Detachments to send in their Boy Scout reports.

Merrill Tindall, Fallen Marines Program, advised that Fallen Marine notifications should also be sent to the Department Chaplain. A discussion followed regarding the Notice of Death submission procedure.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

2022 Department Convention Committee: Bill Miller reported that we currently have 23 pre-registrations, with 40 reception tickets and 40 banquet tickets sold. Fourteen full-page ads are currently planned with a business reserving the back cover of the program book. Shirt orders to date total 11. Convention Chairman Miller stated that the Department is currently in a deficit position but noted that additional registrations, program ad purchases, and preorders will decrease the deficit. Silent auction and raffle proceeds have not been factored into the convention budget.

Detachment #1373 volunteered to host the 2023 Department Convention, and Detachment #1333 intends to host the 2024 Department Convention.

**REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

Bill Miller noted that the Finance Committee is currently a Special Committee comprising the Sr. Vice Commandant as the chair and Alton Coleman, Merrill Tindall, Levi McKenna, and Marty Habecker
serving as committee members. It is recommended that the Finance Committee be made a Standing Committee. They are currently working on a budget that will be submitted to the membership for approval at the Department Convention. Committee Chair Miller noted that this will provide a better view of the state of the Department.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:**

Rusty Hurst announced a fundraiser for Detachment #1402. Tickets are $10/each, and the prize is a $500 gift card of the winner’s choice. The drawing will be held at the Department Convention. Rusty Hurst also noted that March 29 is Vietnam Veterans Day.

Terry Holland discussed the National Infantry Museum.

Waycross Detachment #1333 is holding a rifle raffle for a 308. Tickets are $1/each.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The National Convention will be in Daytona Beach, Florida, from August 15-19, 2022. The convention hotel is the Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Hotel.

The 2022 Department of Georgia Convention will be May 13 and 14, 2022, at Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta North Alpharetta. Convention packets will be sent out again via the Commandants’ email distribution list.

An MODD Growl will be held following the quarterly business meeting.

**CLOSING CEREMONY:**

There being no further business, the Quarterly Business Meeting was closed by ritual at 1127.

Submitted by:
LuAnn K. Miller
Adjutant/Paymaster
Department of Georgia
Marine Corps League