

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

MIDDLE GEORGIA DETACHMENT #970

January 7, 2014

Meeting Minutes

**Opening by Ritual:** Meeting called to order and Marine Corps League Mission Statement read by Commandant Jeff Amerson. There were 26 in attendance on this date.

**Roll Call of Officers:** All officers were present with the exception of the First Platoon Leader and Second Platoon Leader, excused.

**Financial Report:** Paymaster Ray Walker gave the detachment financial report. Beginning balance: \$15,337.24; Disbursements: \$5,475.43; Deposits: \$5,745.73; Bank charge/Adjustments: \$6.00. Commandant Amerson made mention that the board of trustees needs to meet between now and our next meeting to audit the books.

**Report of Officers:** Commandant's report included the success of the Dublin VA project and a thanks to all involved; a great Christmas banquet with thanks to organizers Ron and Sue Chipman; a listing of the Detachment standing committees: recruitment and retention, color guard for which Ed Barbee will be coordinator, honor guard, David Mincey remains coordinator; family events coordinated by Bobby and Denise Shepherd; annual Christmas banquet and Marine Corps birthday banquet, Ron and Sue Chipman; Toys for Tots, Phil McGoldrick, Marvin Jackson, Tuffy and Bitsy Phillips, Bobby Shepherd, Bill Hall; Fallen Marine Program: Jeff Amerson, Bill Hall, Joe Barbee and Bobby Shepherd; Scouting: Bill Hall; Awards, Program, and Recruitment and Retention Committees are all for which a chairman is needed.

**Old Business:** Commandant asked for a report from Bill Hall regarding the detachment shirts on order. Bill said they should be coming soon and when they do, he will call. Commandant also highlighted the visitation program and reminded everyone to make him or Bill Hall aware if there is a member of our detachment who is in need of a visit and encouraged anyone reporting the need to come along too. Marvin Jackson reported the Toys for Tots in Monroe County went well and thanked all who participated, also making mention that the Vietnam Veterans group that has been managing the event may elect to no longer do so, and if they do, it was suggested that we work with the Sheriff's Dept. or local churches in the future. Marvin Jackson and Richard Bennett were given their Distinguished Service awards.

**New Business:** Joe Barbee pointed out that at the last staff meeting he introduced the subject of replacing the detachment's well-worn color guard equipment. He made a motion Ed Barbee be given the liberty to do the online research necessary to make an informed decision and also be authorized to make the necessary purchase with a budget up to \$800, including shipping, Ed Barbee seconded. The finance committee will review and approve Ed's findings. The finance committee consists of Bubba Wall, Paymaster Ray Walker, Sr. Vice Ed Barbee, and David Mincey. Beginning this year, Commandant reported the decision by National to require all members to present their blue membership card at meeting sign-in to ensure that all in attendance are in good standing in regard to dues and are qualified to vote. Anyone who needs help getting a replacement card, see Ray Walker. It was reported that the cube device for debit/credit card processing is available for detachments to acquire. Meeting refreshment volunteers are as follows: February: Bill Hall, March: Bob Shepherd; April: Bitsy Phillips; May: Annette Dyche; June: Joe Barbee; July: Marvin Jackson and October: Ron Chipman. The other

months' volunteers will be requested at the February meeting. Commandant announced we will have at least two fundraisers this year. The options of the annual Belk fundraiser charity ticket sale and the rose program fundraiser at Bass Pro Shop are being explored. Joe Barbee also suggested we explore options that cover Jones and Monroe Counties considering we are the Middle Georgia Detachment. The Commandant encouraged everyone to participate in the projects that we vote into effect. The staff meeting will be 6:30 on the Third Tuesday of each month, all are invited. Staff Meeting Caucus' are as follows: Mid-Winter : Feb. 14-15, Falls Church, VA; Southeastern Conference March 6-10, Inn at Opryland, Nashville, TN; Department of Georgia Convention, May 2-4, Lagrange, GA; National Convention, August 3-9, Charleston, WV, which will be host to the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Devil Dog Program. Commandant added that everyone should make it a point to come to at least one national convention. We will again participate in the annual Rock 'n Soul, tentative date being Sept. 6, 2014. The State Conference will be Sat. Jan 25, in Puller, GA. Commandants announced the new Life Membership rates: Ages 65+ \$200; 61-64, \$300; 51-60, \$300; 35-50, \$400; 35 and under, \$500. Joe Barbee emphasized the ease of paying the life membership via the "magic cube" card-swipe device. It was also announced that the portion of our annual dues (\$35) going to National increased by \$2 for a total of \$20. State dues remain at \$4. Our Detachment therefore will keep \$ 11, but an increase will be considered by the Staff and a recommendation will be brought by the finance committee to the Membership. Our meeting was opened and closed in prayer by Rev. James Jackson, Detachment Chaplain.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Annette Dyche, Adjutant