

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
MIDDLE GEORGIA DETACHMENT #970
February 4, 2014
Meeting Minutes**

Opening by Ritual: Meeting called to order and Marine Corps League Mission Statement read by Commandant Jeff Amerson.

Roll Call of Officers: All officers were present with the exception of the unfilled position of 1st Platoon Leader. There were 24 members and 2 associate members present.

Meeting Minutes: Motion was made to accept the minutes as published by Michael Clark and seconded by Bob Burns. The motion carried.

Application for Membership: Pat ('P.J.') O'Hanlon, having been a Detachment 970 charter member, has presented his application and DD214 for new membership, which were reviewed and approved beforehand by Commandant Amerson, who then swore-in P.J. as a Detachment 970 member. Chaplain Jackson then offered a prayer for our new member.

Financial Report: Paymaster Ray Walker reports as follows: Beginning balance: \$15,641.54; Disbursements: \$1869.35; Deposits: \$290.00; Adjustments: \$3.00; New Checks: \$88.10; Ending balance: \$13,971.09. Carl Kitchens asked when we are going to give away monies that were designated for donation. After discussion, including an answer from Paymaster Walker that some is going out now to ROTC units and more will go out after the budget comes out, motion was made to accept, pending audit, the Paymaster's report by Carl Kitchens and seconded by Tuffy Phillips. The motion carried.

Sickness and Distress: Commandant made a call to Joe Press, who has undergone his 2nd knee replacement surgery in January. He is doing well with physical therapy. Also, Commandant announced the passing of Al Gerhardt on February 3, 2014; and encouraged all to make every effort to be present at his funeral on February 5th at St. Peter Claver Church. Commandant and Bill Hall will perform the Fallen Marine Program at graveside. Murray Alford, having been moved to Baptist Village and Arnold Cotton who also was close to Al, will need our encouragement and support.

Officers' Reports: Commandant reported that he and Bill Hall performed the Fallen Marine Program for Henry Ogles.

Committee Report: Color Guard committee reports they will be on duty Sunday, February 9th. They will submit a report to commandant which will be highlighted next month. Family Committee announces a March 27th dine out night at 6:30 p.m. The location will be O'Charley's, 3740 Bloomfield Drive, Macon, 31206, 478-477-2050.

Unfinished and Old Business: Belk Store fundraiser was discussed. Phone calls to Belk have to date not been returned, but Commandant and Tuffy Phillips are planning to stay on top of this. Also Commandant reported that effective Jan.1, 2014, National passed a \$2 increase in annual dues. Commandant asked for recommendations or a motion. Ed Barbee made a motion not to raise the current annual dues rate of \$35 and Ray Walker seconded the motion. The motion carried by vote.

New Business: Volunteers for the open months of social gathering refreshments are, August: Ed Barbee; September: Leonard Pless, Jr; and P.J. O'Hanlon; November. All other months' volunteers: March: Bob Shepherd; April: Bitsy Phillips; May: Annette Dyché; June: Joe Barbee; July: James Jackson; October: Ron Chipman. Also, discussed at the staff meeting and suggested for discussion are other

organizations to consider as donation recipients: Homes for Our Troops and the Semper Fi Fund. Commandant recommended donating to both with the option to specify a Georgia only recipient of the Home for Our Troops. Levi McKenna added that we can also make 'in kind' donations for the homes, such as doors, windows, etc. Joe Barbee, noting both of these to be outstanding causes, made a motion we donate \$1,000.to each, which was seconded by Bill Hall. The motion carried by vote.

For The Good of the League: Commandant reminded everyone that the requirement to present the membership card at time of meeting sign-in is forthcoming. Secondly, Tuffy Phillips stood to highlight details about the Annual Pistol/Rifle Shoot. All that are interested in taking part in this event, contact Tuffy. Finally Levi McKenna expressed thanks for well-wishes and personal cards during his family's time of need in January. Commandant stressed the importance of every league member attending their own state's convention to meet other members in our state; this year's being in LaGrange, GA, May 2-4; as well as making it to at least one National convention, this year's being in Charleston, WV, Aug. 3-9. Other convention's noted: Mid-Winter, Falls Church Virginia, Feb. 14-15; and 2014 Southeastern Conference Convention, Inn at Opryland in Nashville, TN, March 6-10. There being no further business, Commandant Jeff Amerson closed the meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted, by Annette Dyche, Adjutant