



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE  
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA**



**MINUTES - QUARTERLY STAFF MEETING – DECEMBER 3, 2016**

**OPENING CEREMONY:**

The meeting was opened per ritual by Commandant Randy Barnes at 0901. The Mission Statement of the Marine Corps League was read.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND DETACHMENTS:**

Department officers in attendance included:

Commandant Randy Barnes  
Sr. Vice Commandant Al Yates  
Jr. Vice Commandant Guy Mitchell  
Judge Advocate Barbara Brammer  
Acting Adjutant Russ Vermillion  
Acting Paymaster Lisa Delk  
Chaplain David Epps  
Sergeant-at-Arms Larry Heard  
Sergeant-at-Arms Ed Barbee  
Jr. Past Commandant Ron Kirstatter

District Vice Commandants in attendance included:

District 2 - Frank Corrick  
District 4 - Craig "Doc" McNabb  
District 5 – Thomas Coursey  
District 6 – Harry McCann  
District 7 - Joe Barbee

Detachments in attendance included:

Detachment 647 - L/Cpl Squire "Skip" Wells  
Detachment 783 - Unicoi  
Detachment 970 - Middle Georgia  
Detachment 1040 - PFC George Eiland  
Detachment 1083 - Joseph Schmittou  
Detachment 1196 - Maj. Stephen W. Pless  
Detachment 1260 - Maj. Lawrence Des Jardines  
Detachment 1311 - Maj.Gen. Warren R. Johnson  
Detachment 1325 - Sgt. Clyde Thomason MOH  
Detachment 1326 - West Chatham  
Detachment 1339 - Henry County Leathernecks  
Detachment 1373 - Central Georgia  
Detachment 1402 - Columbus  
Detachment 1424 – Byron

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Commandant Barnes noted that the minutes from the August 27, 2016, business meeting are available and have been posted on the website. Michael Clark moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes as

they have been posted on the website. Roscoe Foster second the motion, and it was approved. The minutes were accepted with the correction of two typographical errors.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

A letter was received from the Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Detachment Marines thanking the Department of Georgia for the donation of \$2,800 for flood relief, which was distributed through the Marines Helping Marines program. The funds were disbursed to 26 Marine families affected by the flooding.

### **REPORT OF PAYMASTER:**

The Paymaster's report was read. Richard Jones moved to approve the Paymaster's Report as submitted pending financial review. Charles Polk seconded the motion, and it was approved. Commandant Barnes reminded the membership that EINs must be provided to National via the Department Paymaster if they have not already been submitted.

### **REPORT OF MEMBERS SICKNESS OR IN DISTRESS:**

Members deceased since the last staff meeting include David Aldridge, James Hammond, Ronald Johnson, and Melvan Hawkins. Remember Bill and LuAnn Miller as Bill is currently in the hospital.

### **REPORT OF OFFICERS:**

**Judge Advocate:** Encouraged members to read their Detachment Bylaws before calling the Department Judge Advocate. Based on questions received over the last few months, Judge Advocate Brammer confirmed that associate members are authorized to make and second motions, and they do have limited voting rights. She also noted that the Detachment Junior Past Commandant should chair the Financial Review Committee and he or she may appoint two additional members provided those members are not also members of the incoming or outgoing Executive Board.

**Junior Vice Commandant:** Reported on Detachment membership grown from March 1 to September 30, 2016. Nineteen Detachments have improved their unpaid member status. Total membership for the Department increased from March to June but then decreased from July to September. At the end of September, the Department had 1,577 members.

**Senior Vice Commandant:** No report.

**Commandant:** Encouraged Detachments to work on membership goals and requested that Detachments submit their quarterly reports to Bob Force, the Department Newsletter Editor, no later than the first of January. Commandant Barnes recognized that this is a very busy time of year and thanked those in attendance who made time to attend the staff meeting. He requested that Detachments step up to host upcoming staff meetings but received no volunteers. The Commandant requested that Detachment Junior Vice Commandants call each delinquent member to determine why that member has not renewed and submit a report of their findings.

### **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**2017 Department Convention Committee:** Commandant Barnes noted that the 2017 Department Convention will be held April 28-30, 2017, and is being hosted by the Joseph Schmittou Detachment in Athens, Georgia. Frank Corrick reported that convention documents will be made available on the Department website. The Convention Committee is considering a Saturday morning trip to the University's botanical gardens for guests. Convention material was distributed to the membership, and

additional information will be provided on the website. Detachments need to provide three raffle items to the host Detachment by the start of the convention. Detachments also need to submit \$20 to the Department Paymaster for convention support and are encouraged to purchase ads for the program book. Commandant Barnes noted that we still need a Detachment to host the 2018 convention. Central Georgia is considering putting in a bid. Commandant Barnes reported that the 2017 National Convention will be held in Overland Park, Kansas, from August 13-18 at the Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:**

Commandant Barnes noted that our next staff meeting will be February 4, 2017, in McDonough pending confirmation by the Hilton Garden Inn.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Thomas Coursey announced that he had the distinction of signing the transfer papers to lower Alabama for Jim Daughtry.

Levi McKenna announced that a fundraiser is being held for the Byron Detachment. They are raffling off an M1 Garand rifle, and tickets are \$10 each.

Ron Kirstatter asked if any additional information has been circulated about the Honorary Active Duty program and reported on his Detachment's experiences with recruiting active duty Marines. Commandant Barnes said he was not aware of any supplemental information about the program. Michael Clark noted that the Commandant of the Marine Corps is pushing the program and the National Commandant for the Marine Corps League is behind it.

Russ Vermillion invited members to volunteer to assist at Marine South or Modern Day Marine. It's a great opportunity to promote the Marine Corps League, and it's a lot of fun. Roscoe Foster shared some of his experiences at these events.

**CLOSING CEREMONY:**

There being no further business, the Staff Meeting was closed by ritual at 0955.

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