



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
MINUTES - QUARTERLY MEETING –JULY 30, 2022



OPENING CEREMONY:

The meeting was opened per ritual by Commandant Bill Miller at 0900. The Mission Statement of the Marine Corps League was read.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND DETACHMENTS:

Department officers in attendance included:

- Commandant Bill Miller
- Sr. Vice Commandant Rex Delk
- Jr. Vice Commandant Lisa Delk
- Judge Advocate Alton Coleman
- Jr. Past Commandant Larry Heard
- Adjutant/Paymaster LuAnn Miller
- Chaplain Mickey Edwards
- Sergeant-at-Arms Merrill Tindall

District Vice Commandants in attendance included:

- District 3 – Russ Johnson
- District 5 – Frank Goalen
- District 6 – Frank Goalen

Appointed Positions:

- V.S.O. – Mickey Edwards
- Fallen Marines – Merrill Tindall
- Boy Scout Coordinator – Mickey Edwards
- Web Sergeant – Brent Eaton
- Historian – Bernard Bledsoe

Detachments in attendance included:

- Detachment 647 - L/Cpl Squire “Skip” Wells
- Detachment 783 - Unicoi
- Detachment 970 - Middle Georgia
- Detachment 1020 - “Jake” Puryear
- Detachment 1040 - 1st Sgt Charles F. Waller
- Detachment 1196 - Maj Stephen W. Pless
- Detachment 1260 - Maj Lawrence Des Jardines
- Detachment 1280 - North Georgia Mountain
- 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

Commandant Bill Miller welcomed everyone in attendance and noted that 14 Detachments are represented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Commandant Miller noted that the minutes of the May 14, 2022, annual meeting are available and have been posted on the Department website. Harry McCann moved to accept the minutes as posted. The motion was seconded. Adjutant/Paymaster Miller noted that the proposed and adopted budget was not attached to the minutes and recommended that the minutes be revised to include the budget. Bernard Bledsoe moved to accept the minutes as amended. Larry Heard seconded the motion, and it was approved. The minutes were accepted as amended.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commandant Miller reported receipt of a thank you card from Sgt. Abigail Perdy, one of the Young Marines in attendance at the Department Convention.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER:

The Paymaster's report was read. Claude Curly moved to approve the Paymaster's Report as submitted pending financial review. Harry McCann seconded the motion, and it was approved.

REPORT OF MEMBER OR MEMBER'S FAMILY SICK OR IN DISTRESS:

Chaplain Mickey Edwards reported receiving Notices of Death since the last meeting for Willie Joe Williams, Vera S. Newsome, Felix Demuth, and James Donald Justice. Members or member's family with health problems include Levi McKenna's bother-in-law, Levi McKenna, and LuAnn Miller.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Commandant: No Report

Sr. Vice Commandant: No Report

Jr. Vice Commandant: Jr. Vice Commandant Lisa Delk thanked the members for attending and reported that the Grits Bowl stayed in Georgia this year. Georgia realized growth of 2.6%, while Alabama lost 2.5% of its members. The Jr. Vice Commandant is working with Detachments to correct their rosters. She noted that National needs us to do the research and recommended that Detachments check their rosters carefully. Make sure all information is correct. If there are errors, call or email Jr. Vice Commandant Delk and she will advise what documentation you need to correct the errors.

Judge Advocate: Deferred his report until Judge Advocate training.

Sergeants-at-Arms: No Report

Adjutant/Paymaster: No Report

District Vice Commandants: No Reports

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

2022 Department Convention Committee: Funds for the 2022 Department Convention have been finalized. As Department hosted the Convention this year, the goal was to end in the black without generating too much revenue to keep costs down. Final figures had us in the black with a net gain of \$930.42. Past Department Commandant Heard noted that all the credit goes to his officers. Tony Gasper,

who helped staff the registration table, said it was easy to get people registered because everything was organized.

2023 Department Convention Committee: Marty Habecker is the 2023 Department Convention Chair, and the Convention will be hosted by Detachment 1373. Convention dates are May 4-7, 2023, at the Courtyard Marriott in Warner Robins. Early arrival is May 4, with registration open on May 5 and 6 outside the ballroom. The room rate is \$119.00/night plus tax, and the hotel will provide a link to book your room. The telephone number for the hotel is (478) 602-6200; ask for the 2023 MCL Convention rate. There will be a silent auction, and their hospitality room will be second to none. The hospitality room will be open Friday 1200-2300, Saturday 1200-1600, and Saturday following the banquet. Commandants' Council is Friday evening, and the members are invited to meet at a restaurant after the Council. A breakfast buffet is available on Saturday morning only at a cost of \$9.95/person, and tickets can be purchased at The Bistro from 0600-0830. The business meeting will begin at 0900. Seating for the banquet will begin at 1800. The menu includes beef brisket or chicken and herbed garlic mashed potatoes. There will be a cash bar in the ballroom during dinner. The cost for the banquet is \$50/person, and you can select your entrée when you register. The guest speaker will be General James Seahorn, who was a POW in the Hanoi Hilton. Checkout is Sunday morning and breakfast on Sunday is on your own. Documents for the Convention will be posted on the Department website. Scott Egan of Grunt Gear will be there. There is an April 15 deadline for booking rooms, placing program ads, and registering for the banquet. Commandant Miller reminded the members that we got a good deal on the Convention recently held in Alpharetta because hotels were anxious to book events as COVID restrictions were being lifted. Members should expect convention costs to be higher in 2023. He urged all Detachments to buy program ads, submit raffle items, and send in their \$20 convention support contributions.

Chaplain Mickey Edwards led the ceremony for the fallen.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Tony Gasper noted that the minutes indicate that the new Georgia Bylaws amendments will be submitted to National for approval; then they will be posted on the Department website. Judge Advocate Coleman said he will ensure that the approved Bylaws amendments are posted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Boy Scout Coordinator Mickey Edwards reported that he is down to about a dozen Eagle Scout coins. He noted that the cost of the coins is a pass-through expense for the Department as the coins are purchased by the Detachments. Previous orders were for 200 coins. Commandant Miller suggested that we order 400 coins to get a price break. Russ Vermillion made a motion to purchase 400 Eagle Scout coins. The motion was seconded by Rodney Riggs and was approved.

Boy Scout Coordinator Edwards noted that Scouting units are starting back up. He offered his assistance to Detachments that have not participated in an Eagle presentation before. He reported that, after the Department Convention, he went to the Academy in College Park to present an Eagle Scout coin to the grandson of a Medal of Honor recipient during his Eagle Scout award ceremony. He also presented the Eagle Scout coin to five scouts in Kings Bay.

Web Sergeant Brent Eaton prepared and distributed a proposed newsletter to the members for their comments. He proposed generating a newsletter quarterly. Commandant Bill Miller noted that a newsletter will only be successful if Detachments participate. He urged submitting photos, events, and milestones.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

Marty Habecker reported that James Murphy is the Scouting Coordinator for Detachment 1373. He has presented over 113 scouting awards and has been sending in scouting reports. He requested feedback when reports are submitted.

Ruben Scott talked about Sgt. Perdy, one of the Young Marines in attendance at the Department Convention. She wants to go to the Academy, and then wants to join the Marine Corps as infantry. She begins college this year. Ruben Scott provided a report on the Young Marines.

PRESENTATION:

Commandant Bill Miller wants to recognize not just individuals but also Detachments for the work they do. To that end, Detachments in good standing that have been chartered 15 years or more were awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation. Citations were presented to Detachments 564, 647, 665, 783, 921, 970, 1020, 1040, 1083, 1196, 1260, and 1280. Current members of these Detachments are entitled to wear the Meritorious Unit Citation ribbon.

Judge Advocate training was presented by Department Judge Advocate Alton Coleman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commandant Miller reported that Lisa Delk and LuAnn Miller will present Paymaster training at the next quarterly meeting. It will be a lunch and learn, and Detachment Paymasters and Commandants are urged to attend. A growl will be held after the training.

Sr. Vice Commandant Rex Delk addressed the issue of rifles loaned to Detachments from Tacom. He noted that an inventory must be conducted annually. Detachments need to maintain those rifles and make sure they know where the rifles are. If any are missing, a Police report must be filed and Tacom will send it to the ATF. Sr. Vice Commandant Delk noted that rifles are signed out to one individual. If that individual leaves the Detachment, the Detachment needs to change the responsible party on file with Tacom.

Brent Eaton noted that Detachment 1402 will hold their Birthday Ball on Saturday, November 12, 2022.

Doug Masini thanked Sr. Vice Commandant Delk for alerting their Detachment to a 95-year-old Iwo Jima Marine in the hospital who was heading to hospice. He had an opportunity to visit with that Marine and appreciated receiving the information.

Russ Johnson reported that Mike Boyce, a member of Detachment 1311, will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery on August 9, 2022. Thirteen Detachment members will be attending the interment.

CLOSING CEREMONY:

There being no further business, the Quarterly Business Meeting was closed by ritual at 1010.

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