



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
MINUTES – QUARTERLY MEETING
August 3, 2024**



OPENING CEREMONY

The meeting was opened per ritual by Commandant Rex Delk at 0900.

Sr. Vice Commandant Lisa Delk read the Mission Statement of the Marine Corps League.

Roll Call of Officers and Detachments:

A Quorum was present.

Department officers in attendance included:

Commandant Rex Delk
Sr. Vice Commandant Lisa Delk
Jr. Vice Commandant Larry Heard
Judge Advocate Marty Haebecker – Excused
Jr Past Commandant Bill Miller
Paymaster/Adjutant Edward Gizara
Chaplain Mickey Edwards
Sgt at Arms JR Millhorn
Sgt at Arms Brandy Creel

Department Past Commandants

William Miller 2022-2024
Larry Heard 2020-2022
Bernard Bledsoe 2005-2007

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

Americanism - Vacant
Boy Scout Coordinator – Mickey Edwards
Compliance Officer – Lisa Delk
Disaster Relief – Larry Heard
Fallen Marines – James Murphy
Historian – Terry Holland
Legislative Affairs - Vacant
Marine Corps JROTC – Jay Maxwell
Marine for Life – Vacant
Marine Liaison – Vacant
Marksmanship - Vacant
Newsletter – Brent Eaton
Public Affairs – Alton Coleman
Toys for Tots - Vacant
VSO – Mickey Edwards
VAVS – Vacant
Web Sergeant – Edward Gizara
Youth Physical Fitness - Vacant
Young Marines – Jim Berres

DETACHMENTS IN ATTENDANCE INCLUDE: **NEW MEMBERS**

Detachment 564 – Dog Company	02
Detachment 647 – LCpl Squire “Skip” Wells	01
Detachment 665 – Upper Chattahoochee	00
Detachment 783 – Unicoi	00
Detachment 1020 – Jake Puryear	04
Detachment 1040 – 1 st Sgt Charles F Waller	00
Detachment 1196 – Maj Stephen W Pless	03
Detachment 1303 – Currahee Mountain	00
Detachment 1325 – Sgt Clyde Thomason – MOH	02
Detachment 1326 – West Chatham	03
Detachment 1333 – Waycross	00
Detachment 1402 – Columbus	04
<u>Detachment 1438 - Lake Blue Ridge</u>	<u>04</u>
Total New Members 1 st Quarter FY2025	23

Commandant Delk reiterated his challenge to each Detachment to obtain 1 new member each quarter. We would have about a 12% growth rate if we can accomplish that.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Paymaster Edward Gizara stated that the minutes have been posted to the website, emailed to the Commandants List, and put at the front registration desk.

Commandant Delk asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Bernard Bledsoe (1040) moved that we accept the minutes of May 4, 2024. Russ Vermillion (1196) seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as posted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commandant Delk made note that as he receives emails from National, he is sure to pass them down to the Detachments.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER:

The Paymaster’s report was read. Commandant Delk spoke about what the Dissolved Account was. Harry McCann (1196) moved to approve the Paymaster’s Russ Vermillion (1196) seconded the motion. Discussion – Bill Miller asked for an explanation of Line 3 Expenses where it states Difference in Account of \$3.50. Edward Gizara explained that this could have been a typo in the account he made and was researching it. The report was approved as submitted pending financial review.

REPORT OF MEMBERS SICKNESS OR IN DISTRESS:

Members with health problems: Marty Haebecker (Dept Judge Advocate) is recovering from knee surgery, if any detachment has any Bylaws questions, forward them to Lisa Delk (Sr. V. Commandant).

Ashford Todd (783) Mike Brown has Lung Cancer and is homebound. Terry Holland (1402) has some members dealing with COVID-19 - Barbara Brammer, David Knopf, and Michael Wilson. Sr. Vice Frank Freeland just had back surgery. Commandant Delk stated that Bill Craig (1280) is dealing with Acute Leukemia, and Russ Vermillion (1196) was just diagnosed with Squamous Cell Carcinoma. Dutch Hut (Commandant 665) stated that Ed Currot has Lung Cancer.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Junior Vice Commandant: Alton Coleman asked how many Jr. & Sr. Vice, & Commandants we had in attendance. He spoke about camaraderie and networking. He also spoke on the roles and responsibilities of the Jr. Vice Commandant regarding recruitment and retention. Gerald Foulis (647) stated how tough it is to recruit new members. He has handed out over 140 cards with the MCL and his Detachment information on it and has not had any responses thus far. Terry Holland (1402) added that their detachment also collects the potential member's contact information and follows up with them. Also, by reaching out on social media, all Detachments need to find a way to connect with the younger generation of Marines. Bill Miller recommended Co-Sponsoring Community Events (Car Show, 5k, 10k, etc.) to let your community know who you are and what the MCL stands for. Commandant Delk asked about how the Jr. Vice Commandants would feel about having monthly Zoom meetings with the Department Jr. Vice Commandant. All agreed, and this will happen soon. Also, we need to do a better job getting pictures and events on our Facebook Page.

Senior Vice Commandant: Lisa Delk asked Sr. Vice Commandants if they had read the "Guidebook for Detachment Officers". Lisa strongly recommended that all officers download and read the Guidebook. As Sr. Vice Commandant, your most important duty is to assist and back up your Commandant. Lisa stated that the Sr. Vice is also responsible for training new officers and fundraising. Sr. Vice Delk stated that she has almost completed the transfer of Detachment 952, she is waiting on a few signatures and is hoping to have the new Detachment 952 set up soon.

Commandant: Commandant Rex Delk stated that our Department's biggest problem is delinquency. A paper was handed out to each member showing the number of delinquencies that the Department has (163). He stated that they would be presenting the budget day. He covered the number of paid members and the PLM (Paid Life Member) disbursements the Department is receiving. The 163 delinquent members equate to \$652.00 of funds that the Department does not have. The most the Department could make would be \$4620.48, and that is without fundraisers, which the Department is looking into.

Report of Appointed Officers:

Newsletter: Brent Eaton (1402) advised that he was not getting much content from the Detachments to have a newsletter. He asked all detachments to remember to send all event information and write-ups to him to get posted in the newsletter.

Web Sergeant:

Ed Gizara reported that he could use more eyes on the website for improvements and additional information.

Disaster Relief:

Larry Heard – No Report

Judge Advocate:

No report at this time

Sgt-At-Arms:

No report at this time.

Boy Scout Coordinator:

Mickey Edwards stated that he has received 14 reports, and he is revamping the form and will send it out via the "Commandants List". He stated that he is available if anyone needs assistance reaching out to the various Scout Councils. He asked all detachments to please complete and send in all reports.

Mickey reminded all detachments that he has the only item that they are authorized to give an Eagle Scout, and that is the Eagle Scout MCL Coin". Coins are \$5.00 each and are on hand if anyone should need them. Commandant Delk added that presenting at a "Court of Honor" is a great way to get your name out there in front of a lot of people. He stated that if you are not presenting at the Courts of Honor, you need to.

Historian:

Terry Holland (1402) reported that he had received everything from the previous Historian but is waiting to get an updated History of Detachment Commandants.

Compliance Officer:

Lisa Delk (1196) asked if anyone knew the three items that a Detachment needs to be in compliance with National. Detachments must have a current 990, SOS Registration, and a Current Report of Officer Installation. The MCL requires Detachments to file their SOS Registration Annually even though the State of Georgia will allow a unit to file every three years, National will not. ROI's need to be submitted promptly; Detachments need to Install Officers (even if the same) each year and must be completed on the ROI. SOS Registrations are due in January, if a Detachment does not file promptly, they could face higher Registrations costs and the possibility of being Administratively Dissolved by the SOS of Georgia. Lisa stated that she would have a complete list of all Detachments that are compliant and those that are not. If not, Lisa will be reaching out to find out why and how she can assist in getting a complaint.

Commandant Delk added that along with that, ROI's need to be completed properly and that if for some reason, an officer is unavailable to be Installed on that date and must be done on a subsequent meeting, ensure that you write Supplemental at the top of the ROI.

Ed Gizara (564) spoke about the Health & Comfort kits that are available from the DNVF free of charge. He explained how they were handing them out to veterans and the benefit to the Detachment. 564 was able to pick up two new members.

Chaplain:

Mickey Edwards reported that we have had 6 deaths since the last Quarterly Meeting, they are Tom Holland, Jimmie Hammondtree, Walter James Taylor, Kenneth Lee Gerdes, John Francis Burkart, and Johnny H. Harris. Mickey asked all Detachments to review their rosters every quarter and that if they see someone who has passed, to be sure to get the NOD to him ASAP. He stressed how awful it is to have a family member receive a sympathy card for a loved one who had passed away the previous year. Lisa Delk stated that the paymaster must also send in the transmittal with the NOD to the Department Paymaster, otherwise they may not drop off the roster.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**Finance/Budget Committee:**

Lisa Delk (Sr. Vice Commandant) began with the introductions of the Finance Committee, Brandy Creel (783), Kyly Cudihy (1326), and Jerry Foulis (647) along with Rex Delk, Lisa Delk, and Ed Gizara. Lisa reported that after looking at the past four years' financial records, the Department is operating at around a \$500 per year deficit. One way to increase income is to change how the Department does its 50/50 raffle at Department meetings and the convention. Beginning this year, the Department will run all 50/50 raffles at any Department function. Lisa presented what the current

budget is, and how each amount is decided. Lisa continued line by line for each expense. She explained where the income is and where we need to be based on the current income. She continued to show how the budget would look if all delinquent members paid and with a \$1 or \$2 increase to Department Dues. One item missing from the budget is Young Marines. With the current numbers, we do not have the funds to support Young Marines. One way we are looking to help support Young Marines is to reach out to a motorcycle club and do a Poker Run to benefit Young Marines.

Lisa brought up why it was not feasible to use the money in the Preferred Savings account, and that if we did, it would only be a short-term fix, and eventually the money would run out.

Lisa Delk presented the proposed budget for FY 2024-2025. Russ Vermillion (1196) stated that this has come up before and that paid members feel as though they are carrying the Detachment. It was explained that Life Members do contribute through the PLM Distributions each year, Tony Gasper (647) also stated that you cannot put any additional dues on Life Members as this would be a violation of National Bylaws. Bill Miller (1196) asked the reason why the Department was not including the interest from the preferred savings account. It was explained that the committee decided not to include the interest as it was not in the best interest of the Department.

Commandant Delk called the question on the floor for a motion to accept the budget as presented. Bill Miller (1196) made the motion to accept the Annual Budget as presented. Ashford Todd (783) seconded the motion. With no discussion, the Budget was passed.

At 10:52, the Sgt-At-Arms put the meeting into recess for 10 minutes.

At 11:00. The Sgt-At-Arms put us back in session.

Convention Committee: Terry Holland (1402) reported that the hotel has been booked for the 2025 convention. It will be at the Doubletree by Hilton in Columbus, GA. He advised that the website would be up shortly.

Unfinished Business:

Commandant Delk advised that the Department has reintroduced the District Vice Commandants for the Department. There will be seven districts, most will have three detachments, and one will have four. He asked if anyone would be or knew of someone who would be good for the positions. District Vice Commandants would be responsible for attending at least one meeting of each detachment in their district each quarter. They need to know the rituals and be able to share the information with the officers of the detachments. Rust Insurance will not provide insurance for any weapons. If you are having a raffle or other event where a weapon would be the prize, you may not have the weapon present. If you prefer, you may look to get a supplemental policy for the event. Liability would fall back on the Officers of that Detachment.

New Business:

Commandant Delk stated that the Southeast Division is looking for a Physical Fitness Coordinator. The person must be youthful and fit. The Department is also looking for a youthful and fit member to take over the same position for it. The Department is looking at possibly getting one of the Young Marine Detachments to take the Department position. He also spoke about social media and discussed whether they were helpful or not. If you are posting to your site, get it to Doc so it can be posted on the Department's Facebook page.

Good of the League:

The Department was represented at the South Carolina Convention and the Alabama Convention. Doc Coleman stated that SC was very similar to ours, but that they do Colors each morning at the Hotel. They have two days of Business Meetings and a Growl on the 2nd day. They have six breakout sessions.

Larry Heard reported on the Alabama Convention, they also do a similar convention as to ours.

Announcements:

Commandant Delk reiterated the subject of recruitment and retention and how important it is to be able to capture someone's attention as well as let them know what they can get out of it. Terry Holland (1402) had a question on Volunteer Hours and how they are collected. Rex advised he would find out and report back. Bill Miller (1196) stated the only hours he knows of are the VA hours.

CLOSING CEREMONY:

There being no further business, the Quarterly Meeting was closed by ritual at 11:24 AM.

Submitted by:

Edward Gizara

Paymaster/Adjutant

MCL Dept of GA

8-3-23

DIRTY OF GRA. STATION

MEMBER-IN SHEET - ANNUAL MEETING -

Page 1 of 1

Member Name	Detachment #
Walter Melton	DET 1335
Randy M Cooper	DET 1196
GARY VERHEYEN	DET 665
PAVE CRISS	DET 665
Olin Lundy	1196
Edward Gizarra	564
Larry Hurd	1196
Terry Holland	1402
Herbert Crowe	1402
Russ Vermillion	1196
Mickey Edwards	1402
MARK AG MEDINA	783
RODNEY BIGGS	1325
SCOTT BARWICK	1333
REX DELK	1196
LISA DELK	1196
Allen "Doc" Coleman	783
Tommy Coleman	783
Dutch Hut	655
TONY GASPER	647
Gordon Wimberly	1196
John Entwistle	783
Claudia Entwistle	783
GREG FISHER	783

9-3-23

DIEP OF GR STAFF MEET.

MEMBER-IN SHEET - ANNUAL MEETING -

Member Name	Detachment #
BREKST BARRETT	665
Padrick Jewis	783
GARY WIMSETT	783
William K. King	1303
DAVE CORNBELUS	1303
ANDY FOLLEST	1303
DALE GREENE	1438
Joe Nichols	783
Ash Todd	783
BRANDY CREEL	783
Gene Free	1020
ALLEN STUBBS	1020
Carol Griffin	1196
Ron Griffin	1196
Harry McCann	1196
Barbara McCann	1196
BILL MILLER	1196
LWANN MILLER	1196
Jerry Follis	647
Bernard Bladson	1640
WYNA ROSTHAVEN	783
John Collins	665
A. SWARD	665
CARVIN TRIPLET	783

Marine Corps League Department of Georgia Approved Budget - FY 2024/2025

Income

Paid members	362
Department Dues	\$4.00
Dues Income - Detachments	\$1,448.00
Dues Income - PLM Distribution	\$2,520.54
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50/50 Proceeds (est)	\$150.00
Total Income	\$4,122.54

Expenses

Annual SOS Registration	\$50.00
Awards	\$50.00
BOT - CMDT Expenses	\$50.00
BOT - SVC Expenses	\$50.00
BOT - JVC Expenses	\$50.00
BOT - JA Expenses	\$50.00
Commandant's Discretionary Fund	\$250.00
Convention Ads	\$1,035.00
Donations Disaster Relief	\$100.00
Donations - Misc (MCLF)	\$100.00
Lunch & Learn Expenses	\$600.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$25.00
Postage	\$150.00
PO Box	\$368.00
Sergeant-at-Arms Expenses	\$50.00
Staff Meeting Expenses	\$600.00
Convention Streamers	\$100.00
Supplies	\$50.00
Technology Expenses	\$592.00
Website - Domain Registration	\$20.00
Website - Web Hosting	\$125.00
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Total Expenses	\$4,465.00
Surplus/Deficit	-\$342.46

1st Quarter Department Meeting August 2nd 2024 Young Harris, GA



Group Dinner Friday Evening



All members are encouraged to attend the Quarterly Meetings