



**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
MINUTES – QUARTERLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2024**



OPENING CEREMONY

The meeting was opened per ritual by Commandant Rex Delk at 0905.

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 Alton Coleman
Judge Advocate Marty Habecker
Jr Past Commandant Larry Heard
Paymaster/Adjutant Edward Gizara Chaplain Mickey Edwards
Sgt at Arms JR Millhorn
Sgt at Arms Walter Millhorn

Department Past Commandants

William Miller 2022-2024
Larry Heard 2020-2022
Randy Barnes 2016-2018

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

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

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Youth Physical Fitness - Vacant
 Young Marines – Jim Berres

| Department of Georgia Quarterly Meeting Roll Call | | FY25 | | | | Total |
|--|--|----------|------------|---------|--------------|-----------|
| | | 1st Qtr | 2nd Qtr | 3rd Qtr | 4th Qtr | New |
| | | 8/3/2024 | 11/02/2024 | | 5/2/2025 | Members |
| <u>564</u> | <u>Dog Company</u> | Yes | Yes | | | 5 |
| <u>647</u> | <u>LCPL Squire “Skip” Wells</u> | Yes | Yes | | | 2 |
| <u>665</u> | <u>Upper Chattahoochee</u> | Yes | No | | | 1 |
| <u>783</u> | <u>Unicoi</u> | Yes | Yes | | | 7 |
| <u>921</u> | <u>Lt. Col Jimmie Dyess</u> | No | Yes | | | 1 |
| <u>952</u> | <u>At Large</u> | Yes | Yes | | | 0 |
| <u>970</u> | <u>Middle Georgia</u> | No | Yes | | | 1 |
| <u>1020</u> | <u>“Jake” Puryear</u> | Yes | No | | | 13 |
| <u>1040</u> | <u>1stSgt Charles F. Waller</u> | Yes | No | | | 0 |
| <u>1083</u> | <u>Joseph Schmittou</u> | No | No | | | 2 |
| <u>1188</u> | <u>Gen. Ray Davis – MOH</u> | No | Yes | | | 0 |
| <u>1196</u> | <u>Maj. Stephen W. Pless</u> | Yes | Yes | | | 3 |
| <u>1260</u> | <u>Maj. Lawrence Des Jardines</u> | No | No | | | 0 |
| <u>1280</u> | <u>North Georgia Mountain</u> | No | No | | | 0 |
| <u>1303</u> | <u>Currahee Mountain</u> | Yes | No | | | 3 |
| <u>1309</u> | <u>Cpl Glenn Pair</u> | No | No | | | 1 |
| <u>1311</u> | <u>MajGen Warren R. Johnson</u> | No | No | | | 0 |
| <u>1325</u> | <u>Sgt Clyde Thomason – MOH</u> | TRUE | FALSE | | | 4 |
| <u>1326</u> | <u>West Chatham</u> | TRUE | TRUE | | | 2 |
| <u>1333</u> | <u>Waycross</u> | TRUE | TRUE | | | 1 |
| <u>1373</u> | <u>Central Georgia</u> | FALSE | TRUE | | | 1 |
| <u>1402</u> | <u>Columbus</u> | TRUE | FALSE | | | 7 |
| <u>1438</u> | <u>Lake Blue Ridge</u> | TRUE | FALSE | | | 2 |
| | | | | | Total | 56 |

Commandant Delk reiterated his challenge to each Detachment to obtain one new member each quarter. If we can accomplish that, we will have about a 12% growth rate.

Guest Introductions

Southeast Division Compliance Officer – Bill Lamar

Department Past Commandants

William Miller 2022-2024
 Larry Heard 2020-2022
 Randy Barnes 2016-2018

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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. Ash Todd (783) moved that we accept the minutes of August 3, 2024. Barbara Brammer (1402) seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as posted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commandant Delk noted that he received a call from Ryda Sardi about Disaster Relief and asked if he had heard anything from the Detachments.

Commandant Delk also received an email from a Marine in Louisiana about a Marine buddy of his from Vietnam who is suffering from a brain injury. He is asking for us to reach out to him once we have contact information.

Our department also received a \$1000.00 donation from the Lake County Marine Corps League Foundation in Gurnee, IL.

The Paymaster's report was read. Ed gave an update on the new Disaster Relief Fund and explained how the Department was moving the balance of the funds into a separate Preferred Savings Account to help increase interest each month. A motion to accept the Paymasters Report pending further review was made by Barbara Brammer (1402). The motion was seconded by Bill Miller (1196). Hearing no discussion the motion passes as read, pending financial review.

REPORT OF MEMBERS SICKNESS OR IN DISTRESS:

James Boyle (647) is dealing with cancer. Bill Craig (1280) is dealing with terminal Leukemia. Riss Vermillion (1196) is going through throat cancer. Mike Brown (783) is dealing with Lung Cancer. John Boyington (1402) lost his son. Jim Murphy (1373) is having knee surgery. Mike Wilson (1402) is dealing with throat cancer. Frank Freeland (1402) just had back surgery. Jim Craig (1333) has diabetes. Sandra Robertson (1333) was diagnosed with a tumor in her arm, and her husband Joe Robertson had throat cancer. Lisa Delk (1196) her uncle recently passed away. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Judge Advocate: Marty Habecker is working with the Commandant of 921 and hopes to have the By-Laws completed in a week or two.

Junior Vice Commandant: Alton Coleman has spoken about delinquent members in each detachment and how this affects the Department and MCL National's budget. He urged all Detachment Jr. Vice Commandants to proactively seek out these members and get them to pay their dues. If you have issues or questions, please get in touch with Alton Coleman. He will schedule a Zoom meeting for Sunday, November 17th at 1900 hrs. Discussion will include Leadership, Growing the Detachment, developing your Brand, and building your Equity.

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Senior Vice Commandant: Lisa Delk asked if any of the Detachments have received or heard anything about the “Beneficial Ownership Information”. She stated it was born out of the Transparency Corporation Act. It is a report of who controls/owns the corporation. She stated that as a 501(c)4, the Marine Corps League is exempt from this report

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) stated that a rough draft is sent out. Commandant Delk stated he had some corrections. Brent said he would try to get the newsletter out earlier. He stated that he is looking for anyone who would like to join the Newsletter/Facebook Team to contact him.

Web Sergeant:

Ed Gizara has no report.

Fallen Marine:

We are still looking for a Fallen Marine Coordinator.

VSO:

We are looking for someone to take this position. Levi McKenna stated that he might have someone in mind for the position.

Young Marines:

Jim Berres spoke about what the Young Marine Program is all about. The ages range from 8-18 years old. They are taught everything a Marine knows except Advanced Weaponry and Tactics. Costs are going up, and they are short on funds and could use any assistance detachments could provide. Ed Gizara advised Jim Berres that he has coordinated with a Motorcycle Club to do a Poker Run to raise funds for the Young Marines Program.

Disaster Relief:

Larry Heard – The Department ran out to Augusta and brought them a few pallets of water and food to assist with Hurricane Helene Disaster relief efforts.

Sgt-At-Arms:

No report currently.

Boy Scout Coordinator:

Mickey Edwards stated that if any Detachment has questions about how to fill out the Scouting Report, just call him. He also has Scouting Coins for Eagle Scouts, which cost \$5 each.

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Historian:

Terry Holland (1402) had no report.

Compliance Officer:

Lisa Delk (1196) advised everyone that we have a guest with us today, Bill Lamar, the compliance officer for the Southeast Division. Lisa stated that if any detachment has concerns, questions, or issues with compliance questions, they should reach out to any of the Department Officers or the Board of Trustees.

District Vice Commandants:

Commandant Delk said we still need a District Vice Commandant for Districts One and Seven. If anyone knows of anyone who would be interested in these positions, contact Rex Delk with the information and he will contact the individual to discuss it.

District Two – Gary Verheyen

District Three – Jay Maxwell

District Four – Ronnie Griffin

District Five – Mickey Edwards

District Six – Merrill Tindall

Commandant Delk will swear in those District Vice Commandants who are here today.

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:

BYLAWS:

Marty Haebecker reminded all Detachments to review their Bylaws, and if they have any questions, contact him.

Finance/Budget Committee:

Lisa Delk (Sr. Vice Commandant)

Convention Committee: Terry Holland (1402) reported that the Hotel is posted on the website, and you can register for your rooms. His committee wants to review the agenda with the Department and finalize the contract. He is also asking members to reach out to discuss possible menu changes. Commandant Delk commented that Detachments 564 & 1326, who hosted the previous year's convention, are also on that committee and to contact them for assistance. Rex stated that Detachments 1196 & 1325 will host the 2026 Convention.

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Youth Physical Fitness Coordinator:

Commandant Delk advised that Detachment 783 has someone interested in taking this position.

At 10:15, the Sgt-At-Arms put the meeting into recess for 10 minutes.

At 10:25, The Sgt-At-Arms put us back in session.

Commandant Delk reminded everyone that Rust Insurance will not cover any gun events and that you will need a supplemental policy for those events. Rust does offer a supplemental policy. Rex also wanted to remind everyone that if you have an event where alcohol is served and you are serving alcohol, you will need a supplemental policy.

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:

Tony Gasper (647) Spoke about the Montford Pointe Marine Association, they will be having their annual convention in Atlanta July 23-27, 2025. He would like to recommend that the Department have one of its members come to the next meeting to speak and possibly consider sponsorship for their convention. Commandant Delk mentioned that we do have a member who is a Montford Point Marine, James Pack, he is at large and has turned down the invitation on many occasions. Commandant Delk also spoke on Disaster Relief and what needs to happen to have better communications from Detachments, possibly forming a calling tree. We must know that every member is accounted for and doing well if a disaster occurs. We need to figure out a way for members to check in with their detachments and have one person from each detachment report to their District Vice Commandant. They will report to the Department Commandant, whether that be via phone, website, or Facebook.

Announcements:

Commandant Delk discussed social media and said that if you post events or information about your detachment, please also send it to “Doc” Coleman to be posted on the Department's Facebook site. Brent Eaton can pull from those posts and build a story for the newsletter. Exposure is significant.

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Commandant Delk installed three District Vice Commandants at 10:30 am, Mickey Edwards (1402), Ronnie Griffin (1196), and Merrill Tindall (1373) per the Installation Ritual.

Good of the League:

Commandant Delk reminded everyone that clocks will fall back tomorrow morning and sleeves will go down. He also commented that the Marine Corps' 249th Birthday is coming up to be safe and have each other's backs. Many balls occur throughout the Department.

Commandant Delk introduced Bill Lamar, he is the Southeast Division Compliance Officer. Bill Lamar distributed a handout to each detachment. He monitors each department/detachment and ensures that it complies with all applicable reports, IRS 990, Secretary of State registrations, ROIs, bylaws, PLM Audits, EINs, and the group status for each detachment. He also discussed the timeline for each report and when they are due. If the Detachment is not compliant, it will lose its voting rights at conventions.

BILL Lamar also said he will run for the Division Vice Commandant position.

When he first took over as Commandant Delk stated that all detachments are in sales, and how we communicate (sell) ourselves is how we will increase our membership. He urged all detachments to work on their “elevator speech” and said that at the next meeting, he would ask a few detachments to stand and tell us their elevator speech in 30 seconds.

Commandant Delk presented National Jr Vice Citations to detachments that had increased membership for the previous year.

| | |
|---|--|
| Det 1309 – Cpl Glenn Pair – 138.9% | Det 1020 – Jake Puryear – 132.84% |
| Det 783 – Unicoi – 115.15% | Det 1303 – Currahee Mountain – 109.09% |
| Det 647 – LCpl Squire “Skip” Wells – 108.7% | Det 1438 – Lake Blue Ridge – 106.52% |
| Det 564 – Dog Company – 106.25% | Det 1280 – North GA Mountain – 103.13% |
| Det 1333 – Waycross – 102.38% | Det 952 – Georgia At Large – 102.7% |
| Det 921 – LtCol Jimmie Dyess – 100% | |

Det 1188 & 1402 received the National Convention Streamers

Announcements: The National Mid-Winter Conference will be held Feb 27th – Mar 1st, 2025
The Next Department Meeting will be hosted by Det 1373 in Perry GA

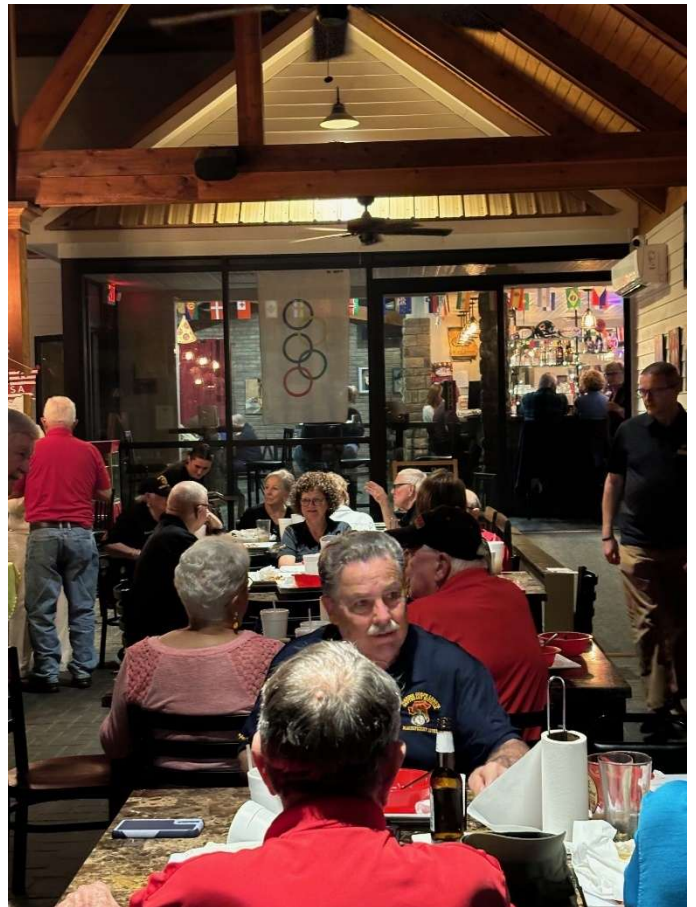
CLOSING CEREMONY:

There being no further business, the Quarterly Meeting was closed by ritual at 10:55 AM.

Submitted by:
Edward Gizara
Paymaster/Adjutant
MCL Dept of GA

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Friday night the Department Dinner was at the Brickery in Jackson, Ga. It was a packed house, and everyone had a great time, with great food and great camaraderie.



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8-3-23

DEPT OF GA. STAFF

SIGN-IN SHEET – ANNUAL MEETING –

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| Member Name | Detachment # |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Walter Melton | DET 1325 |
| Randy M Cooper | Det 1196 |
| Gary Verheyen | DET 665 |
| DAVE BLISS | DET 665 |
| Olin Lundy | 1196 |
| Edward Gizara | 564 |
| Larry Head | 1196 |
| Terry Holland | 1402 |
| Herbert Crowe | 1402 |
| RUSS VERMILION | 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 | 665 |
| TONY GASPER | 647 |
| Gordon Wimberly | 1196 |
| John Entwistle | 783 |
| Claudia Entwistle | 783 |
| GREG FISHER | 783 |

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| Member Name | Detachment # |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Tony Gasper | 647 |
| Katrina Watson | 1188 |
| Bret Eaton | 1402 |
| Randy Bennis | 1196 |
| Eddie Williams | 1188 |
| Bonita Johnson | 1188 |
| Bill Lamar | SE DIV Comptia |
| Donald Brown | 1188 |
| LEVI McKENNA | 1373 |
| MARTY HARECKER | 1373 |
| Troy Wesley | 0921 |
| Britt Miller | |
| Scott Barwick | 1333 |
| Jim Bunn | 1373 |
| BILL MILLEN | 1196 |
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