

Marine Corps League Department of North Carolina



Minutes of The Winter Quarter Meeting 16 January 2016

Hosted by: Pfc. Terry Smith detachment #1193
Host Commandant: Robert Padgett
Salisbury, NC

Presided by: Commandant Charles Minton
Department of North Carolina
Marine Corps League

Meeting start time: 0930

Meeting Location: Salisbury VAMC Bldg. 6

Host Contact: Tom Richardson

E-mail: stamps@northstate.net

Phone Number: 336-803-1029

Morning Business Session

Opening Remarks by Department Commandant Charles Minton

- Meeting called to order at 0930 hrs.
- Posting of Colors by Sgt-at-Arms, Ralph Farthing. (no color guard detail)
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Sgt-at-Arms, Ralph Farthing.
- Chaplain Bill Boyd opens the bible and leads the invocation as per Ritual. Bible is opened.
- This Meeting was dedicated to Jim Haslip, Lonnie Hollar and William J. (Bill) Galvin (Past National Commandant), who have received their PCS Orders to stand guard at the entrance to the Supreme Commandant's residence.

Welcome remarks-

- DoNC Commandant offers thanks host Detachment: Pfc Terry C Smith Detachment #1193.
- Robert Padgett, Commandant Detachment 1193 welcomes all aboard for this meeting and hopes they will enjoy today's session.
- Tom Richardson provided direction as to noon meal and payment. Requested feedback as to how to better serve the League in the preparation and application of the Quarterly Meeting at this facility.

Recognition of National Officer's & National Marines of the Year

- National Marine of the Year 2006 & Navy Cross recipient - Joe Blick was absent
- National Marine of the Year 2001 & 50th Chief Devil Dog – George Barrows, Sr. is recovering from injuries sustained in a fall.
- Mideast Division Assistant Vice Commandant – Bruce Rakfeldt's presence was acknowledged by the Commandant.
- National Assistant & Mideast Division Sgt-at-Arms – Jeffrey Jones's presence was acknowledged by the Commandant.

Recognition of the Department Marine/Woman of the Year

- 2015 Department Marine of the Year – Sherry Trevinno (Capt. Jeb F Seagle Detachment) was absent.
- 2015 Department Woman of the Year – NONE
- Ask all past MOY & WOY Recipients to stand and be recognized.

Recognition of Past Department Commandants

- Jr. Past Department Commandant Gregory Hunt had work issues and was not able to attend

- DoNC Commandant asked that all of the remaining Past Department Commandants to stand and be recognized.

Recognition of Guests and Invitation to address the membership

- MODD NC Pack Worthy Pack Leader, PDD Terry Hightower's presence was acknowledged by the Commandant.

Roll Call of the Department Officers by Adjutant Rick Thomason

- Commandant – Charles Minton
- Sr. Vice Commandant - Jeffrey Jones
- Jr. Vice Commandant – Howard Boyd
- Judge Advocate – Scott Shermeyer
- Jr. Past Commandant – Gregory Hunt *
- Chief of Staff – John Staley
- Aide-De-Camp- John Dilday
- Chaplain – Bill Boyd
- Assistant Chaplin- Jeff Andre
- Sgt.-at-Arms & Asst Young Marines Service Officer - Ralph Farthing
- Paymaster – James Cox
- Young Marines Service Officer – Ralph Farthing
- Toys For Tots Coordinator – Larry Hill*
- VAVS Service Officer – Ken Parker
- Legislative Officer – Vacant
- Bylaws Committee Chairman – Lisa Ciesielski
- Eagle Scout Coordinator – John Harding
- Assistant Eagle Scout Coordinator- Larry Hill*
- Adjutant – Rick Thomason
- Assistant Adjutant & Web Sergeant– Scott Shermeyer
- Historian - Greg Ciesielski

*Denotes the individual was not present at time of roll call

Roll Call of District Vice Commandants by Adjutant Rick Thomason

NC West DVC's

1. West District – David Jackson
2. Northwest District – Chuck Wright
3. Midwest District – Glenn Perkins
4. Northcentral District – **VACANT**
5. Central District – Joe Vodenichar
6. Southcentral – **VACANT**

NC East DVC's

7. North District – John Staley
8. Northeast District – Bryan Balow*
9. South District – Richard Rust
10. Southeast District – Owen Smith *
11. East District – Steve Tracy

*Denotes the individual was not present at time of roll call

Roll Call of Detachments by Adjutant Rick Thomason

1. John V. Berg Detachment #257 (Kinston)*
2. Greater Greensboro Detachment #260 (Greensboro)
3. Onslow County Detachment #262 (Jacksonville)
4. Tar Heel Detachment #733 (Raleigh)
5. Charlotte Detachment #750 (Charlotte)
6. Blue Ridge Detachment #848 (Asheville)
7. Eno River Detachment #872 (Durham)*
8. PFC Charles D. Hare Detachment #914 (Monroe)*
9. Smoky Mountain Detachment #973 (Franklin)*
10. Shawn Knisley Detachment #983 (Fayetteville)*
11. Sand Hills Area Detachment #1001 (Aberdeen)
12. Paul Ray Purgason Detachment #1005 (Shalotte) (
13. Cherokee County Detachment #1011 (Murphy)*
14. Stanly County Detachment #1021 (Albemarle)*
15. Carolina Borders Detachment #1036 #1036 (Calabash)
16. Cherry Point Detachment #1067 (Havelock)
17. Cape Fear Detachment #1070 (Wilmington)*
18. Percy John Fulton Detachment #1075 (Winston-Salem)*
19. Gen. A Hal Turnage Detachment #1096 (Salisbury)
20. Iredell County Detachment #1097 (Troutman)
21. Davidson County Detachment #1103 (Lexington)*
22. Gen. Raymond G. Davis Detachment #1162 (Gastonia)
23. Catawba Valley Detachment #1163 (Hickory)
24. NC Foothills Detachment #1164 (Shelby)*
25. Cpl. Johnny A. Williamson Detachment #1165 (Asheboro)*
26. Cabarrus Detachment #1175 (Concord)*
27. Down East Detachment #1186 (Greenville)*
28. Brushy Mountain Detachment #1187 (North Wilkesboro)*
29. PFC. Terry C. Smith Detachment #1193 (High Point)
30. Tablerock Detachment #1197 (Morganton)
31. John E. Ferguson Detachment #1208 (Lenoir)*
32. LCpl. Alan D. Lam Detachment #1209 (Burlington)
33. Cpl. Chris S. Ebert Detachment #1221 (Spindale)*
34. Sgt. Doug Myers Detachment #1222 (Sylvia)*

35. Sanford Detachment #1223 (Sanford)*
36. PFC. Jerry L. McKinney Detachment #1232 (Wentworth)*
37. Carry-On Detachment #1236 (Clayton)
38. PFC. Bruce Larson Detachment #1242 (Huntersville)
39. Richmond Leathernecks Detachment #1252 (Rockingham)*
40. Air, Land, NC Detachment #1257 (Wake Forest)*
41. Albemarle Detachment #1258 (Edenton)*
42. Cpl. Suzi Sannes Detachment #1262 (Rocky Mount)
43. Outer Banks Detachment #1264 (Kitty Hawk)*
44. Capt. Jeb F. Seagle Detachment #1265 (Lincolnton)
45. Mt. Mitchell Detachment #1266 (Spruce Pines)
46. Gold Leaf Detachment #1276 (Wilson)
47. Orange County Regulators Detachment #1292 (Hillsboro)*
48. Walter Frank Osborne Jr. Detachment #1298 (Sparta)
49. Northwest Triad Detachment #1314 (Stokesdale)
50. Mountaineer Detachment #1320 (Watauga)
51. Hampstead Detachment #1321 (Pender)
52. Surry County Detachment #1322 (Surry)
53. Crossed Rifles Detachment #1346 (Harnett)*
54. Waynesborough Detachment #1350 (Wayne)
55. High Country Detachment #1389 (Ashe)
56. Swansboro Detachment #1407 (Swansboro)
57. Oriental Dragon Detachment #1413 (Oriental)
58. Asheville Detachment #1417 (Asheville)*

*Denotes the Detachment was not present at time of roll call

A Quorum was established with 54% of the Detachments represented at time of roll call.

Correspondence

- The DoNC Commandant addressed the email that went out regarding Active Duty Marines joining local detachments for free. His explanation mirrored the discussion held at the Commandant's Council earlier in the day. Information published was a FYI only and was never intended to indicate procedures to be implemented without a further thought process by the National Officers. Information will be passed along as the details of the program are worked out. Question was raised from the floor, "Does this include Reservists?" Answer from the Commandant was that because they are full time residents of the area, they will pay dues just like any other member.
- Tar Heel Detachment has some awesome news in that Capital City Young Marine Sgt. Maj. Cooper Johnson, representing the 2nd Regiment of North Carolina, has won Division 3 Marine of the Year. He will be one of six (6) Young Marines to participate in the upcoming 2016 National Marine of the Year Adult Leadership Conference in Los Vegas, Nevada. Hope was expressed that he will come back as the 2016 National Young Marine of the Year.

Adjutant's Report

- The Department Adjutant addressed the General Membership regarding a request received from the National Junior Vice Commandant, Denis Tobin. The NJVC has requested a Point of Contact for all DoNC Detachment Commandants and Adjutants. Several emails have gone out to the last known address of the Detachment Commandants, but several have failed to respond. Those failing to respond are: Detachments 257, 872, 914, 1005, 1096, 1164, 1175, 1186, 1187, 1193, 1197, 1221, 1222, 1232, 1252, 1258, 1264, 1292, (1320 received while here) 1346, and 1417. A request was made by the Adjutant to see him at the close of session to provide current email contacts for the Detachment Commandant or the successor. DVCs were requested to help in attaining this POC information and to verify that the Adjutant has their email address to continue sending them current DoNC information.

Paymaster's Report presented by James Cox as follows:

	<u>Sep - Nov 15</u>
Income	
Cmdt.'s Expense Overage Reimbursement	795.00
Investments	
Money Market	<u>0.24</u>
Total Investments	0.24
Other Types of Income	
Gun Raffle - M-1 Grand	-1,000.00
Gun Raffle - Stag Arm AR-15	<u>2,245.00</u>
Total Other Types of Income	1,245.00
Program Income	
Membership Dues	<u>2,005.00</u>
Total Program Income	<u>2,005.00</u>
Total Income	4,045.24
Expense	
Department Officer's Expenses	

Paymaster Expenses	
Postage, Mailing Service	83.20
Total Paymaster Expenses	83.20
Total Department Officer's Expenses	83.20
Meetings Expenses	
Host Detachment Allowance	200.00
Total Meetings Expenses	200.00
Operations	
Bank Fees - Service Charges	3.00
Total Operations	3.00
Total Expense	286.20
	3,759.04

- Motion was made to accept the Paymaster’s Report as presented. Motion was accepted. Being no discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed without dissent.
- The Paymaster requests all the Detachments use his current and correct address for communication.
Cox Accounting & Financial Services, Inc.
Attn: James Cox
4904 Professional Ct, Suite 102
Raleigh, NC 27609
919-604-7363
- 990 Reports are mandatory to retain you tax exempt status. Failure to report may result in a cost of \$440.00+ to get it reinstated. Do whatever is necessary to get current.
- Use proper procedure to remove inactive members from the roster as per current Bylaws. Call if you have questions.
- Question from the floor: “How do you transfer Life Memberships?” Paymaster detailed the transfer process and attaining of “Gold Cards” for PLMs.

Chaplain's Report presented by DoNC Chaplain Bill Boyd

- The list of Marines sick or distressed is quite lengthy, stated the Chaplain. Louis Sandoval - Lewis Pleasants - William Carr and Davis Lewis.
- The General Membership was asked to take a moment and pray for the sick and distressed.
- The following members have answered the final roll call since our last meeting:
James D. Tweed
Walter L. Stull
Frank A. Dusch, Jr.
William H. Ray
James Haslam
James W. Nall
London L. Gore
Wayne A. Queen
John W. Simma
Daniel Gross
William Dobson Smith
James C. Armstrong
Barry A. Shanahan
Maxine Perdue
Warren Potter
Maynard B. Reed
Francis Steltzet
Lonnie G. Hollar
- A prayer followed the reading of the names and sounding of the bell.
- Chaplain announced a meeting of the Detachment Chaplains at the end of the meeting afternoon session today.
- From the floor. "Could we have a moment of silence for the 12 Marines lost in Hawaii last week?" ... Moment of silence observed, followed by a prayer for the Marines lost.

DoNC Commandant calls for a 15 minute break after announcements.

- SVC Jeffrey Jones announces a "Fire Sale" on the remaining 85 tickets for the Stag Arms Rifle. They will sell as two for \$10.00, or half price (\$5.00) each.
- Being no further announcements the Sgt-at-Arms calls for a hand salute of the colors and requests the chaplain close the bible.

DoNC Commandant calls for the meeting to reconvene.

- Sgt-at-arms calls for a hand salute of the colors and requests the Chaplain open the bible.

D.V.C.'s - Report of Officers

- DoNC Commandant calls forward David Jackson of the West District. Last month he was going to resign as West DVC because of health issues. He is better now and will retain the position as WDVC, with the understanding that he no longer can drive to visit the detachments, but will make contact regularly by means of email and phone to promote detachment membership.
- DoNC Commandant calls forward MWDVC Glenn Perkins. He has visited all six of his detachments and all have been very active in TFT and fund raising events. No issues with any detachment.
- DoNC Commandant calls forward NWDVC Chuck Wright. Chuck elects to speak from his position on the floor. Chuck asks his Commandants to rise and be recognized. (5 out of 7). Membership at a District level is at 10.4%, total of 284 members. One Detachment is in trouble, but they are working on it. Funerals for this past Quarter were 60+. Not all Marines, but all were veterans. That's what counts. Fund raising. All detachments have had successful fund raisings this year. A successful trip to Paris Island for a disabled Father was funded to see his son graduate, with no expense to the Father.
- DoNC Commandant announces that the NCDVC position is vacant, but he is working on filling that position right now.
- DoNC calls forward CDVC Joe Vodenichar. District Participated in Marine Corps Ball and Honor Guard Ceremonies. Honor Guard Details and Flag presentation ceremonies.
- DoNC Commandant announces that the SCDVC is currently vacant also, but this too is being addressed.
- DoNC Commandant NDVC John Staley is called forward. He has only three Detachments but they are large and are extremely active. Detailed the activities of the Air Land Detachment in the funeral for a fallen Comrade. Good Business Awards being issued by Johnston County. Tar Heel Detachment celebrated its 25 anniversary this year in October, helped a homeless Marine attain a furnished apartment. All Detachments are doing well
- DoNC Commandant advises that NEDVC Bryan Balow is not present and he has no report for that district.
- DoNC Commandant calls forward SDVC Richard Russ. He has four Detachments and has visited with three of them. Crossed Rifles will be visited in February. Three Commandants have resigned from Carolina Borders Detachment 1036 and they are in the process of regrouping. Details given for other Detachment memberships.
- DoNC Commandant announced that the SEDVC Owen Smith is absent, but he has submitted a report, which he will read. Owen has six detachments, of which he has visited two. The other four he has been in contact via phone and email. Two of his detachments are at 0% unpaid, one at 5%, one at 8%, one at 10% and one at 11%. All are under the recommended 12% Department goal.
- DoNC Commandant called for EDVC Steve Tracy. Outer Banks is doing very well. Wounded Warrior projects and fund raisings are exceptional.
- DoNC Commandant calls forward Public Relations Officer Jack Jackson. Semper Fi Magazine is going down to four issues per year. Post everything you can on your Face

Book page. He will share it to the Department's page. Offers to help everyone with their pages if needed. Provide email and phone numbers of 910-467-1931 and ncmclpro@gmail.com for contact. Available any time, because he seldom sleeps.

Presentation of Awards/Remarks

DoNC Commandant advises he has awards left over from last year that were never presented and some that the recipient was not present to receive them.

- Called forward was Terry Hightower. Distinguished Service Award for his support in the Modern Day Marine Expos.
- National Junior Vice Commandant's Citation awarded to Jerry Jacobs of the Pfc. Bruce Larson Detachment 1242 in appreciation and gratitude for interest in the National objectives in 22 new members.
- DoNC Commandant asks if Tom Kopetzky is present and was advised no. Asked then if his Detachment was represented. It was and the representative was called forward to receive the award for Tom. An Award of Appreciation and Gratitude for his actions as VAVS Officer for the Department of North Carolina from 2014 to 2015 was issued by Gregory Hunt, Past Commandant, DoNC.
- Distinguished Citizens Award presented to Bruce R. Rakfeldt in appreciation and gratitude for meritorious service as the Assistant Vice Commandant Mid East Division of the Marine Corps League. Signed by Mike McClain and Roger Ware.

Commandant's Report:

- DoNC Commandant, Charles Minton, reports that he has represented the Department at the Modern Day Marine Expo in Quantico, Va., Memorial Service for Marine Jim Haslam, visited several detachments on the East side of the state, presented Department Meritorious Unit Awards to Detachment 733 & 1197.
- Reporting of information is critical to the functionality of the DoNC. When National requests information and we have no Point Of Contact for your Detachment, we have searched old ROI, Quarterly Reports or call DVCs to try to get up with you.
- Quarterly Reports are not being submitted as they were intended to be. When you receive the Report, fill it out and send it back. Shouldn't take more than five (5) minutes for the Adjutant/Paymaster to fill in the blanks. Especially if you do one every Quarter.
- Detachment information sheets are being sent out again. Each officer position should be filled with their contact information. It is OK if you do not have a position filled, i.e. VAVS Officer or Eagle Scout Coordinator. Just leave that blank. It will make it easier for the Staff Officer to contact the correct officer to start with. Our JA can contact your JA or our Adjutant and contact your Adjutant. If you have an election coming up in the next couple of months, and you know who the officers are going to be, go ahead and put their names in the correct location on the form and send it in.
- ROIs are available on the website. It should be filled out on the computer and NOT hand written. They were not intended to be handwritten. There is not enough room for hand writing the information on the form. If there is a change of staffing during the

year, pull up your old ROI and change the position or fill out another ROI and submit it to the Paymaster. Any time you change officers, send in the ROI. Even if there is no change at the next election, you must submit a ROI for the election period.

- NC DVC and SC DVC positions have been available for some time. The NC DVC position is being taken by Chuck Stotz. The SC DVC position is still available if there is an interested party. Please contact The Commandant or Senior Staff Officer about filling the position. District includes Charlotte Detachment 750, Pfc. Charles D. Hare 914, Sandhills Area 1001, Stanley County 1021, Cabarrus County 1175, Sanford 1223, Pfc. Bruce Larson 1242, and Richmond Leathernecks 1252. This is one of those districts we are looking at redoing because of its size.

Announcements from the floor

- Request to recognize Ashville Detachment 1417 as a late arrival due to inclement weather. Three Marines and one Corpsman present.
- DoNC SVC, Jeffrey Jones, announces there are only ten tickets left for the raffle drawing. The drawing will be made at close of business today.
- Table set up outside in the hallway support the Gunny Claus bikes for 2016. Raffle is for the new Colt .45 made for the Marine Corps and a Bernelli 12 gauge, Super Black Eagle II shotgun.

Recess of the meeting for lunch called by the DoNC Commandant

- Sgt-at-arms calls for a hand salute of the colors and requests the Chaplain close the bible. Meeting is in recess until 1300 hrs.

11:30 – 13:00: Lunch Break

Afternoon Business Session

DoNC Commandant calls for the meeting to reconvene at 1300 hrs...

- Sgt-at-arms calls for a hand salute of the colors and requests the Chaplain open the bible.

Report of Staff Officers

Sr. Vice Commandant Jeffrey Jones reports that since the Fall Quarterly he has attended two Marine Corps Balls, two Veterans Day ceremonies and represented the Department at the funeral of Jim Haslam. Attended The N.C. Veterans Conference and served on the N.C. Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee.

- This was his first year for volunteering with Gunny Claus. It was awesome.

- Has visited seventeen (17) different Detachments and plans on attending more soon. Requested if you would like him to attend, let him know well in advance and advise what the uniform of the day will be.

Jr. Vice Commandant Howard Boyd reports that the Department has experienced a reduction in membership of 8% (98 members) from June to September. We currently have 1,072 members as of September, so our net is a negative 96 members. Unpaid regular member's membership has increased by 13% during the same period. We increased by 49, to 452 regular members unpaid. We went plus 22 to 106 Associate Members unpaid and Multiple Members was one (1) unpaid. Currently we have 567 members on the roll unpaid. We already know the next reported numbers will be decreased by 18 members because of the Chaplains Report.

- A Charter is being turned in within the North Central District. Davidson County Detachment 1103 in Lexington membership will be deducted from the roster unless we can get them transferred to another Detachment.
- Carolina Borders Detachment 1036 in Calabash members are from South Carolina. They have made issue with the formation of the Shallotte Detachment as having violated the 25 mile "Gentleman's Rule". The Shallotte Detachment was not a new Detachment, but was one resurrected from Oak Island that had gone under. They said it hampers their ability to do fund raisings, so they have gone into South Carolina to do fund raisings since half their members are from South Carolina. Discussion has been made by the residents of South Carolina to form their own Detachment in Little River South Carolina. They will be six (6) miles away from Calabash. The Borders Detachment is having issues with the proximity of the other Detachments. Their membership base is in the 70-80 year olds.
- We need to get the younger Marines involved. We need to promote our ideas and ideals. Research shows that young people like to volunteer, but not to join. Maybe we need to get younger Marines to volunteer to make them aware of what we do and not push joining initially.

Judge Advocate report by Scott Shermeyer

- Attended the Modern Day Marine Expo in Quantico, Va.
- Nominate and selected for Craven County Veteran of The Year
- Several calls and emails regarding National and DoNC Bylaws
- Reviewed Bylaws and changes for Detachments 1262, 1036 and 1321. Bylaw changes become effective as soon as ratified by the Detachment. DoNC only checks for conflicts with DoNC and National Bylaws. Review is only a formality. Submit the entire document for review.
- DoNC Convention is June 11, 2016. Sixty days prior to that is the end date for submission to the DoNC for changes in the DoNC Bylaws.

Bylaws Committee Chairman Lisa Ciesielski advises she has received nothing and has no report to submit.

Sgt.-at-Arms Ralph Farthing advises he has nothing at this time.

Aide-De-Camp John Dilday expressed appreciation to Robert Padgett and Tom Richardson for putting together a great Quarterly Meeting. Next Quarterly Meeting will be held on March 18-19, 2016 and Hosted by the Greensboro Detachment. Chuck Stotz has already put together an outstanding program. It will be held at the Holiday Inn, Greensboro Airport in Greensboro, N.C. . . . He has negotiated a price of \$60.00/night + taxes. Hospitality room will be “Out of sight”.

- Mid-Winter Conference will be held March 3-4-5, 2016.
 - State Convention will be June 10-11-12, 2016 and hosted by the Gastonia Detachment, Gen. Raymond G. Davis Detachment 1162. Announcements will be coming out soon.
 - National Convention will be in Tulsa, Oklahoma the week of August 8th-13th. If you are going you need to get your reservations in now because the initial hotel is filled and they have an alternative hotel.
- Fall Quarterly Meeting is hosted by the Tablerock Detachment out of Morganton, N.C. Dates are yet to be determined, but it will be early September 2016.
Winter Quarter Meeting will again be held in Salisbury.
- Next State Convention will be held in Raleigh as a combined effort of the TarHeel Detachment, Carry-on Detachment and The Air Land Detachment.
 - From the floor: “Do you have the numbers for the Holiday Inn?” Response was 336-668-0421 X 509 for March 18-19.

Report of Project Leaders:

Toys For Tots Project Leader report Larry Hill was read by the DoNC Commandant

- Ten Detachments supporting the Program
- Collected 99,123 toys
- 19,129 kid served
- Money collected was \$28,814.36

The following is a report of the activity the Detachments have completed during the year as listed above:

<u>Detachment</u>	<u>Toys Collected</u>	<u>Children Served</u>
TarHeel Det. #733	4,169	UKN
Charlotte Det. #750	3,194	UKN
Percy John Fulton Det. #1075	27,853	-
Catawba Valley Det. #1163	12,767	4,124
Cpl Johnny A Williamson Det. #1165	17,610	1,300
Cabarrus County Det. #1175	24,582	8,779
Carry-On Det. #1236	3,500	1,750
Cpl Susie Sannes Det.#1262	4,648	3,176
N.W. Triad Det. #1314	small amount	

Swansboro Det. #1407	360	360
Oriental Dragons Det. #1413	800	
Total	99,483	19,489

Detachments supporting a Marine Corps Reserve Unit's Toys for Tots Campaign.
 Detachments conducted or supported a Detachment Member's Toys for Tots Campaign
 Detachment supported a Toys for Tots Campaign other than a USMC Unit or a MCL Det.

Total Detachments participating in Toys for Tots program.

Legislative Project Leader Jeffrey Jones, who has attended The Veterans Council Meetings in Raleigh reports:

- First, deadline to register to vote is February 15th if you are not registered to vote.
- House Bill 0005 is a Military Veteran's Special Plate to include Women Veterans.
- House Bill 0256 is handicapped parking for a Veteran plate.
- House Bill 0842 is Medicaid waiver protection for Military Families taxation.
- House Bill 0114 is Equal tax treatment for government retirees.

Young Marine Program Leader Ralph Farthing will give a report in Greensboro.

VAVS Program Leader Ken Parker has no report to offer. Only one other Detachment turns in any hours other than his own.

- DoNC Commandant requests any hours related to the Veteran services in any aspect, be turned into Ken.
- Question from the floor: "Are the VAVS hour not on the Quarterly Report? Does he not get those numbers from the Detachment"? Response from the DoNC Commandant: Adjutant was asked how many Quarterly Reports were received for this reporting period. Response: Thirteen (13). Commandant states that 13 out of 58 Detachments reporting is not accurate information. Individual reports need to go to the Project Leaders for proper reporting and accountability. If we are doing the work, let's get the recognition for it.

Eagle Scout Program Leader report read by Lewis Pleasants as incomplete. Total Awards presented 98. Total reports received 10. No report received on 24.

- Commandant suggests using the BSA for TFT and other endeavors.

Fund-Raising Program Leader Jeff Jones announces that the grand total of \$4055.00 profit from the sale of tickets.

- The Chaplain closes the Bible in preparation for drawing of the winning ticket.
- Winning ticket was present. ... Tim Manchester
- Chaplain reopens the bible.

DoNC Commandant requests a motion from the floor to accept the reports as given. Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed without dissent.

Unfinished Business

- Web Site – SVC advises that the new DoNC website is under construction as we speak. He introduces the new Web Sergeant, Robbie Savage and asks that he will give us a brief overview and introduction of the new website.
- Robbie Savage uses the computer/projector to go over all the major aspects of the website, displayed for all members to see.
- Once it is up, notification will be sent out to the Detachments.
- Name of the website is owned by the DoNC so we will not to worry about losing it as we did with National.
- Question from the floor: “Will there be a map with locations of the detachments on the locator page”. Response: Yes... The map will have stars at the physical location of the detachment. When your cursor hovers over it, the name and address will appear.

Commandant asks if there is any unfinished business – There was no response.

New Business

- SVC Jeffrey Jones presented the MI Garand that will be raffles off this time. Weapon was purchased from a MCL member for \$1,000.00. Has been verified as “Like New” condition by an armorer. Tickets are \$10.00 each.
- Gunny Claus program was discussed in depth by Steve Winsted. First year he saw 34 kids. Last year they saw 10,000 children. Previous year it was 15,000. Commandant Minton was called forward as was Tim Meyers, Chuck Wright, and Jeffrey Jones. These men saw 10,000 active duty Marine Corps children and 500 Special needs children of Marines. Dave Wood Commander of the “First Bike Battalion”. Dave acquired 582 bicycles for Marine Children this year. Dave addressed the membership with details of the bike program. There is a website for the Gunny Clause Program WWW.Gunnyclaus.org . Details of upcoming and past events can be found there. Steve will pick up any toys you have all year long. Just contact him at Detachment 750 and he will come get them.
- Denny Mathias of the Charlotte Detachment addressed the membership With a motion: “To have the Department Commandant to write a letter, that recognizes that the National Board of Directors will reconsider, at the Mid-Winter Conference, the expulsion of Jim Tant and that the DoNC will support their decision, should they reinstate Marine Jim Tant”. Commandant acknowledged the motion and asked for a second. Multiple seconds were voiced in a show of support. Commandant opened the floor for discussion. ... Denny Mathias advises he met with the new National Council at Scottsdale for 30 minutes and discussed what happened with Jim Tant. He asked for information in writing about the situation. He also met individually with Jim Laskey, Wendell Webb and Richard Gore for 30 minutes each. His last conversation with National General Council assured him that the expulsion of Jim Tant would be brought before the floor, discussed and overturned at the Mid-Winter Conference this year. This motion is only to show support for the findings of National in returning Jim Tant to the League. ... SVC and JA recommends rephrasing the

motion to say we will support any decision National makes. Discussion followed. Motion remains as initially presented. ... Multiple speakers in a show of support for the reinstatement of Jim Tant. ... "Point of Order" was brought up by the Mid-East Division Assistant Vice Commandant, Bruce Rakfeldt, stating that the resolution issued in April of 2012 and acted upon a year later, makes this motion improper. You cannot void a motion in the present that has already been acted upon in the past. Discussion follows from the membership. DoNC JA advises the Commandant that he must make a ruling on the validity of the Point of Order. ... Commandant rules that the motion stands as presented. ... Commandant calls for acceptance of the motion. Motion passes without dissent.

- Commandant asks if there is any other New Business to be brought up at this time? ... None proposed, so he moved on to the next item on the agenda.

Good of the League

- **DoNC Commandant** read an email from Pete Meletis detailing the need of Marine Steve Wilson for financial support for his wife Judy. Her medical condition requires that she receive a lifesaving lung transplant at Duke Hospital. \$15,000.00 needs to be raised prior to acceptance into the program for housing at the facility. A "Go Fund Me" account has been set up and a bank account established for the project. If the funds are not used, they will be returned to the individual donors. Pete is in the audience and can provide further details.
- Chuck Stotz asks the Commandant if there is any new information on National regarding the Executive Director and the firings. What is going on now? ... Commandant responds that there is little information passed down at this time because of the current litigation between the MCL and the Blums. SVC Jeffrey Jones advises that more details can be found in the minutes of the Fall Quarterly.
- John Grindel of Tablerock Detachment 1197 addresses the membership, making a motion that the DoNC send a check to the Judy Wilson Fund in the amount of \$500.00. Motion was seconded immediately. ... Commandant advises this would come under new business. Would they like to open up "New Business" again? Motion by John Irwin to open New Business again. Motion passes ... Motion to donate \$500.00 to the Judy Wilson Fund is put before the membership for vote. Motion passes without dissent.
- Request from the floor to display a Freedom Lantern produced by The Buck Stove Corporation in Spruce Pines, N.C. . His Detachment has made about \$1,000.00 selling these lanterns so far. The owner of Buck Stoves was a Viet Nam Veteran and wanted to produce something you could use as a center piece of any home to honor those veterans who did not return. They will sell for \$200.00, of which he will donate \$100.00 to any nonprofit you choose. The lanterns cost \$87.00 to produce. He will sell it for \$100.00 and then send a check to your Detachment for \$10.00. Lantern and display materials were left up front for inspection after the meeting.
- Ralph Farthing requested Greg and Lisa Ciesielski advance front and center to be recognized for the outstanding work they did to preserve our Department Charter. It has been framed, matted and sealed to prevent further damage. They have asked for no money and incurred all the expense on their own. We owe them a great deal of appreciation for what they have done.
- Jeffrey Jones announced he has raffle tickets available for the new raffle. See him after the close of business.

Announcements

- Charles Minton announces his intent to run for DoNC Commandant
- Jeffrey Jones announces his intent to run for DoNC Senior Vice Commandant
- Howard Boyd announces his intent to run for DoNC Junior Vice Commandant
- Monica Lockwood promoted the sale of blankets made by the Detachment 1265's Chaplain. \$25.00. She will have pictures on her Face Book page with details on where to send the money.

Closing of the Meeting per Rituals Manual

- Colors are retired by Sgt-At-Arms Ralph Farthing.
- Chaplain Bill Boyd offers a prayer and close the Bible.
- Sr. Vice Commandant Jeffrey Jones performs the last duty of his post.
- Sgt.-At-Arms declares the meeting closed for the transaction of official business.
- Singing of the "Marines Hymn" by all Marines present
- Dismissed by the Commandant.

Minutes reviewed by Commandant Charles Minton and respectfully submitted by Adjutant Rick Thomason for discussion, revision and/or acceptance as written.