

Marine Corps League **Department of North Carolina**



Spring Membership Meeting Minutes **13 March 2021**

Hosted by: Tarheel Detachment 733
Host Commandants: James Lewis

Presided by: Commandant Rick Thomason
Department of North Carolina
Marine Corps League

Meeting start time: 0930

Meeting Location: Doubletree by Hilton, Raleigh-Durham Airport at Research Triangle Park

Host Contact: John Dilday

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Phone Number: 919-602-4483

DoNC Spring Membership Meeting Minutes – 13 March 2021

A. Opening Remarks by Dept. Commandant Rick Thomason

1. Meeting called to order 0930
2. Post Colors – JROTC
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Sgt-at-Arms – Ralph Farthing
4. Open Bible and Invocation – MCL Auxiliary 733 President – Pamela Thomas
5. This Meeting dedicated to all Marines, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains, and Associates that have received PCS Orders to stand guard at the entrance to the Supreme Commandants residence
6. POW MIA ceremony – Devell Durham
7. COA for color guard
 - Cadet PO1 Keigan L. Schmidt-Kersey
 - Cadet PO1 Rapley Henderson
 - Cadet PO1 Ethan L. Kohn
 - Cadet PO1 Benjamin M. Passiglia

B. Guest Speaker

1. Sgt. Maj. Joseph Houle – Sgt. Maj of the Museum of the Marine www.museumofthmarine.org
 - 21 years ago he stood in front of the League and announced he would get a museum built.
 - General Gray has become a member of the board, who in turn brought Lt. General McKissup onboard.
 - They have help get a bill in the House HB60 and Senate SB70 to help fund this project. These are individual bills and not part of another bill.
 - They told him to have an education component. A leadership course running one week has been created. It has been started in Swansboro High School. The kids are loving it.
 - The museum will be at Lejeune Memorial Gardens. We have about \$5M in artifacts in storage and ready to go.
 - First Civics class introduction video posted on the Department website.
2. Commandant Thomason read the DoNC Resolution and presentation to Sgt. Maj. Joseph Houle. (resolution posted on the Department website)

C. Recognition of other Guests by the Host Detachment

1. Thanks, and remarks by Host Detachment Commandant: Tarheel Detachment #733

D. Recognition of National Officers & National Marines of the Year

1. National Marine of the Year 2018 Jeffrey D. Jones
 - Presented National Marine of the Year 2020 to Rick Thomason.
 - Rick Thomas is the fourth National MOY from North Carolina.
2. National & MED Boy Scouts Committee & MED Sgt at Arms - Charles Minton
3. National Youth Physical Fitness Chairman - Devell (Bull) Durham
4. National Assistant Sgt At Arms – Ken Parker
5. National Historian – Greg Ciesielski
6. National Marine 4 Life – Mark Munger (absent)
7. National POW/MIA Committee – Jeremy Barton
8. Mideast Division Sgt at Arms – Jeffrey Jones
9. Mideast Division Chapel of Four Chaplains – Jeremy Barton
10. Mideast Division Young Marines Liaison – Ryan Siemer
11. M.O.D.D. Kennel CDD – PDD Tom Hazlett
12. M.O.D.D. Kennel Dog of the Year Jeffrey D. Jones
13. M.O.D.D. Kennel Mad Dog – Charles Minton

E. Recognition of the Department Marine/Woman of the Year

1. There was no 2020 Department Marine of the Year selected
2. Ask all past MOY & WOY Recipients to stand and be recognized

F. Recognition of Past Department Commandants

1. Jr. Past Department Commandant Jeffrey Jones
2. Ask all the Past Department Commandants to stand and be recognized.

G. Recognition of Guests with Invitation to address the membership

1. MODD NC Pack Worthy Pack Leader –PDD Greg Ciesielski
 - We had fun last night and collected 646 pounds dog food and 16 pounds cat food.
 - Over 1 ton of food has been donated since February.
2. MCL Auxiliary – Pamela Thomas
 - Our beloved friend, advocate and greatest supporter PATRICIA ANN WALKER passed the baton for us to continue to grow and it is our goal to build upon her incredible, purpose-filled life of caring, effective serving and making a positive impact in the world! Our Marine Corps League Auxiliary is finalizing steps to establish a Department with formation of a "3rd" unit in the Foothills! The DoNC MCLA officers are 1) President, Barbara Dugan; 2) Sr. Vice President, Pamela Thomas; 3) Jr. Vice President, Dianne Randall; 4) Judge Advocate, Karen Barton and 5) Treasurer, Norine Rosetti.
 - Travelers entering North Carolina are greeted with a sign that welcomes them to the "Nation's Most Military Friendly State" because NC is a leader supporting military families and its military installations to include the largest Marine Corps base on the east coast, MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE; NC has "1" of the largest military populations in the entire country; NC has 100 counties AND NC has 52 Marine Corps League detachments and only 3 Marine Corps League Auxiliaries! As responsibilities are delegated with inspired leadership, Auxiliary units will increase!
 - We are building partnership with our Durham VA Medical Center; Young Marines, First responders and Girl Scout programs !
 - As we enter our "3rd Year" in the state, we will execute our MISSION to "passionately support each other as we serve our Marines, their families, our communities and ALL VETERANS-- Citius, Altius & Fortius (SWIFTER, HIGHER, STRONGER) pressing forward as we elevate each other, focused on EXCELLENCE; remaining RESILIENT and GRATEFUL; Adding PASSION to our PURPOSE, I believe we will experience UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES with concerted, collective efforts, life-long learning and advocacy daily remembering WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE'VE BEEN ENTRUSTED TO DO!

- Welcome SPRING---a NEW SEASON and Thank you TAR HEEL UNIT 733 MARINE CORPS LEAGUE AUXILIARY MEMBERS for your willingness to ADAPT to something NEW; CONQUER obstacles that came our way & OVERCOME challenges that naturally come with "BUILDING, CONSTRUCTING & MAINTAINING!"
- In closing, we would like to acknowledge Mr. Lee Walker and announce our donation to Onslow Vietnam Veterans Memorial towards "1" of Patricia's final projects because her legacy is ongoing!

H. Chapel of Four Chaplains Presentation & Special Presentation

1. Jeremy Barton read through the presentation ceremony.
2. Legion of Honor Awards presented:
 - Taine Pyle
 - Kenneth Bowden
 - Jason Hall
3. Special Presentation
 - Devell Durham – Distinguished Citizen Gold award

15-minute break to excuse any guests, Honor Guard or non-members that may need to leave at this time - 1027

Meeting called to order - 1045

I. Roll Call of Department Officers

(By the Adjutant– “When called, each Officer shall rise and salute the Commandant.”)

1. Commandant – Rick Thomason
2. Sr. Vice Commandant – Keith Shearin
3. Jr. Vice Commandant – Ric Ledford
4. Judge Advocate – Denny Mathias
5. Jr. Past Commandant – Jeffrey Jones
6. Aide-De-Camp- John Dilday
7. Chaplain – Jason Hall (Absent)

8. Assistant Chaplain – Bill Boyd (Absent)
9. Sgt.-at-Arms - Ralph Farthing
10. Paymaster – Randal Rempfer
11. Young Marines Service Officer – Ryan Siemer
12. Assistant Young Marines Service Officer – OPEN
13. Toys For Tots Coordinator– OPEN
14. VAVS Service Officer – Ken Parker
15. Legislative Officer – Phil Randall
16. Assistant Legislative Officer – Thomas Bates (Absent)
17. Compliance Officer – Phil Randall
18. Bylaws Committee Chairman – Lisa Ciesielski
19. Eagle Scout Coordinator – Charles Minton
20. Assistant Eagle Scout Coordinator – Karen Barton
21. Marine For Life Liaison – Mark Munger (Absent)
22. Adjutant – Laura Hamilton
23. Web Sergeant – Kenny Joyner
24. Public Relations – Tim Manchester (Absent)
25. Assistant Adjutant– VACANT
26. Historian - Greg Ciesielski
27. Chapel of Four Chaplains – Jeremy Barton

J. District Vice Commandants

(By the Adjutant – “When called, each DVC shall rise and salute the Commandant.”)

1. NC West DVC’s
 - a) West District – Denver Grant
 - b) Northwest District – Chuck Wright
 - c) Midwest District – Glenn Perkins
 - d) Northcentral District – Grant Thayer
 - e) Central District – John Dilday
 - f) Southcentral – Denny Mathias
2. NC East DVC’s
 - a) North District – Bill Brown
 - b) Northeast District – Taine Pyle
 - c) South District – Howard Boyd (Absent)
 - d) Southeast District – Lee Walker
 - e) East District – Greg Ciesielski

K. Roll Call of Detachments

(By the Adjutant – “The senior member of each Detachment shall rise, salute the Commandant, state their Detachment position and the number of members present to ensure a quorum is met.”)

1. John V. Berg Detachment #257 (Kinston) (Absent)
2. Greater Greensboro Detachment #260 (Greensboro)
3. Onslow County Detachment #262 (Jacksonville)
4. Tar Heel Detachment #733 (Cary)
5. Charlotte Detachment #750 (Charlotte)
6. Blue Ridge Detachment #848 (Asheville)
7. PFC Charles D. Hare Detachment #914 (Monroe)
8. Shawn Knisley Detachment #983 (Fayetteville)
9. Sand Hills Area Detachment #1001 (Aberdeen)
10. Paul Ray Purgason Detachment #1005 (Shalotte) (Absent)
11. Cherokee County Detachment #1011 (Murphy) (Absent)
12. Stanly County Detachment #1021 (Albemarle) (Absent)
13. Carolina Borders Detachment #1036 (Calabash) (Absent)
14. Cherry Point Detachment #1067 (Havelock)
15. Cape Fear Detachment #1070 (Wilmington) (Absent)
16. Percy John Fulton Detachment #1075 (Winston-Salem)
17. Gen. A Hal Turnage Detachment #1096 (Salisbury) (Absent)
18. Iredell County Detachment #1097 (Troutman) (Absent)
19. Gen. Raymond G. Davis Detachment #1162 (Gastonia)
20. Catawba Valley Detachment #1163 (Hickory)
21. NC Foothills Detachment #1164 (Shelby) (Absent)
22. Cpl. Johnny A. Williamson Detachment #1165 (Asheboro) (Absent)
23. Cabarrus Detachment #1175 (Concord) (Absent)
24. Sgt WE Plueddemann Detachment #1186 (Greenville) (Absent)
25. Williams/Canter Detachment #1187 (North Wilkesboro)
26. PFC. Terry C. Smith Detachment #1193 (High Point) (Absent)
27. Table Rock Detachment #1197 (Morganton)
28. LCpl. Alan D. Lam Detachment #1209 (Burlington) (Absent)
29. Cpl. Chris S. Ebert Detachment #1221 (Spindale) (Absent)
30. Sanford Detachment #1223 (Sanford)
31. PFC. Jerry L. McKinney Detachment #1232 (Wentworth)

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

L. Adjutant's Report

("The minutes from the Fall Membership Meeting are 24 pages long. These were sent out via email to all Detachments. These are available for downloading from the Department Website. In the interest of time, I would like to request waiving the reading of the minutes and will gladly accept any corrections you may have concerning them.")

1. The most current version of the minutes is posted on the website. 2019 Convention minutes / 2020 DoNC Officer Installation / BOT meetings.
2. If you would like to email from me directly, besides through your detachment commandant or adjutant, please get me your Name, Email, Detachment #, and Phone # so I can add you to my email group.
3. Please make sure a copy of your latest ROI is sent to the Adjutant as well as the Paymaster (who gets the original signed copy).

4. An Excel spreadsheet titled “2021 DoNC Quick Reference DDDD” has been sent out to all detachments. Please make sure this is shared with all of your detachment members. It will be updated on occasion with a new dated version to be sent out.
5. Rosters get sent to the DVCs and the Detachment Commandants. If you do not get yours, please go through the DVC. There are usually multiple attachments in addition to the rosters themselves. With the coming of the digital age, this may be changing soon. We saw some of this already this year.
6. It is imperative that the Detachment Commandant and Paymaster have emails. There is some data which is only sent to them.

Commandant Thomason asked for a motion to waive reading of the minutes. Charles Minton made the motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes. Second by Ralph Farthing. Approved by members present.

M. Paymaster’s Report – Randal Rempfer

1. Financial update

Paymaster Report
06/01/2020 – 02/28/2020

- Cash brought forward 06/01/2020
 - Checking\$ 55,695.06
 - Money Market\$ 9,191.36
 - Total\$ 65,156.42

- Deposits made for the time period
 - Checking\$ 8,362.89
 - Money Market \$ 0.69
 - Total \$ 8,363.58

- Cash disbursed for the time period
 - Checking \$ 12,182.52
 - Money Market \$ 0.00
 - Total\$ 12,182.52

- Balance as of 12/31/2020
 - Checking \$ 52,145.43
 - Money Market \$ 9,192.05
 - Total **\$ 61,337.48**

MCL, Department of North Carolina
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
Fiscal Year 2020/2021

| Income | FY-20/21 | Actual 20/21 |
|------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Investments | | |
| Money Market | 2.75 | 0.69 |
| Total Investments | 2.75 | 0.69 |
| Other Types of Income | | |
| Detachment Escrow Acct. | | 0.00 |
| Total - Escrow Accounts | | 0.00 |
| Fundraising Revenue | 20,000.00 | 70.00 |
| 2020/2021 Gun Raffle | | 1575.00 |
| 2021 Calendar Raffle | | 0.00 |
| Challenge Coins | | 0.00 |
| Compat Wounded Vet Signs | | 0.00 |
| 2020 Calendar Raffle | | 10195.00 |
| 2019/2020 Gun Raffle - MIA | | 6340.00 |
| Total Other Types of Income | 20,000.00 | 1,645.00 |
| Program Income | | |
| Humanitarian/Disaster Relief | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Cmtdt Overage Reimbursement | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Life Member Interest Rebate | 2,750.00 | 0.00 |
| Membership Dues | 5,750.00 | 4035.00 |
| Total Program Income | 8,500.00 | 4,035.00 |
| Total Income | 28,602.75 | 6,680.68 |

*2019/2020 Gun Raffle - Late Entry

MCL, Department of North Carolina
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
 Fiscal Year 2020/2021

| Expense | FY-20/21 | Actual 20/21 | |
|--|------------------|----------------|--|
| Advertising | | | |
| Convention Ad Book | 250.00 | 0.00 | *Convention Ad Books |
| Mid-East Division Ad Book | 150.00 | 0.00 | |
| MCL National Ad Book | 100.00 | 0.00 | |
| Total Advertising Expenses | 500.00 | 0.00 | |
| Department Officer's Expenses | | | |
| Adjutant Expenses | 600.00 | -274.30 | 874.30 |
| Chaplain Expenses | 500.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 |
| Commandant's Expenses | 1,825.30 | 0.00 | 1825.30 |
| | | | *Less Expenses for National Convention (Cancelled), and DoNC-State & Fall Membership Mtg (Cancelled) |
| DVC Expenses | | | |
| Central | 400.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| East | 400.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| Mid West | 400.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| North | 400.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| North Central | 400.00 | -238.00 | 638.00 |
| North East | 400.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| Northwest | 400.00 | 75.25 | 324.75 |
| South | 400.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| South Central | 400.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| South East | 400.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| West | 400.00 | 0.00 | 400.00 |
| Total DVC Expenses | 4,400.00 | -162.75 | |
| | | | *Convention Room Cancellation |
| Jr. Vice Commandant's Expenses | 600.00 | 0.00 | 600.00 |
| Judge Advocate Expenses | 600.00 | 0.00 | 600.00 |
| Paymaster Expenses | | | |
| Postage, Mailing Service | 600.00 | 221.89 | 378.11 |
| Printing and Copying | 100.00 | 104.88 | 14.88 |
| Supplies | 100.00 | 64.32 | 35.68 |
| Paymaster Expenses - Other | 400.00 | -85.02 | 485.02 |
| Total Paymaster Expenses | 1,200.00 | 306.05 | |
| Sr. Vice Commandant's Expenses | 600.00 | 0.00 | 600.00 |
| Total Department Officer's Expenses | 10,325.30 | -181.00 | |
| Facilities and Equipment | | | |
| Multi-Media Expense | 100.00 | 0.00 | |
| DoNC Paymaster Laptop | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Total Facilities and Equipment | 100.00 | 0.00 | |
| Meetings Expenses | | | |
| Mid-East Division Conference(s) | 200.00 | 0.00 | |
| Mid-East Division Host | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Convention/Membership Mtg. | 250.00 | 0.00 | *Hosting Expenses |
| Host Detachment Allowance | 600.00 | 200.00 | *Guest Speaker Room & Gift |
| Total Meetings Expenses | 1,050.00 | 200.00 | * Tri-Annual Meetings |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|---|
| Operations | | | | |
| Bank Fees | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Bank Fees - Business Checks Order | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Books, Subscriptions, Reference | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Free Conference Call / One Number | 50.00 | 27.65 | | * Conference Calling |
| Square, Inc. Fee | 0.00 | 0.00 | | * Card Reader |
| Web Site Expenses | 0.00 | 87.92 | | * Domain & Hosting |
| Total Operations | 50.00 | 116.67 | | |
| Other Types of Expenses | | | | |
| 2018 Calendar Raffle/Winners | 0.00 | 100.00 | 8415.00 | Balance to Date |
| 2020 Calendar Raffle/Winners | 4,500.00 | 3110.00 | 7085.00 | Balance to Date |
| 2018/2020 Gun Raffle - MIA | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6340.00 | Balance to Date |
| 2021 Calendar Raffle/Winners | 1,500.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | Balance to Date |
| 2021 Gun Raffle: Three (3) Rifles | 2,500.00 | 2347.31 | (772.31) | Balance to Date |
| Awards | 400.00 | 57.50 | | |
| Combat Veteran Sign Purchase | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | Balance to Date |
| Disaster Relief | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8889.39 | Balance to Date |
| NC Veterans Council | 150.00 | 150.00 | | |
| Wreath Across America | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Gunny Clause | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | | *601 (C)(3) Update |
| Humanitarian Fund-General Aoot | 2,500.00 | | | |
| Deborah Alba (FY-20) | | 0.00 | 2300.00 | (Promissory Note: Payback by 08/2021) |
| Jeremy Tank (FY-18) | | -1000.00 | 0.00 | PAID IN FULL (08/2020) |
| Regina Hlokmn (FY-20) | | -225.00 | 500.00 | (Promissory Note: Payback by 12/2020) |
| Humanitarian Fund - General | 0.00 | 200.00 | | *Funeral Expenses (200.00) Kenny Joyner |
| Total Humanitarian Relief Fund | 2,500.00 | -1,025.00 | | |
| New Detachment Allowance | 300.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Total Other Types of Expenses | 16,350.00 | 4,739.81 | | |
| Total Expense | 28,375.30 | 4,824.38 | | |
| Net Income | 127.45 | 756.31 | | |

John Irwin made the motion to accept the Paymaster report subject to audit. Second by Bill Brown. Approved by members present.

2. Proposed budget discussion to follow business meeting.
3. ROI Submissions with the new form.
4. Form 990-N submissions – It takes only 11 minutes to setup an account and file the 990 on the IRS website. There are several detachments who have not filed 2019.
5. All detachments need a budget to be compliant with IRS.
6. Notice of Death
 - Chaplain fills out the Notice of Death as normal and sends it up the chain.
 - A Transmittal with the correct code (NOD) must also be sent up the chain to the Department Paymaster. This allows for administratively an immediate processing while the chaplains are doing their process.
7. National has been sending emails. If there is an error, then that member has a hold placed on the processing. The will still send the transmittals back. We need to look at the returned transmittals to make sure everything was processed correctly.
8. PLM Audits – National is no longer cutting live checks. ACH transfers will happen in April. Detachments must have a current ROI for last

year, even if you have not had an election. Send transmittals to him and the adjutant, not directly to national.

9. Database – It is access to your detachment’s information. Officer information and Member information. This is an ROI driven access database.

10. *Power point was shown and discussed. Power point is on the Department website.*

11. Audio / Visual discussion about the current equipment and proposal for new needed equipment. (Denny Mathias) An estimate of needed equipment is just under \$10,000. A team is needed to learn how to use the equipment and a minimum of three team members be present at every Department meeting. All six will need to know how to hook everything up.

- A/V team volunteers – Denny Mathias, Grant Thayer, Kenny Joyner, Earl Linthicum, Jeff Mitchel, Tyrone Ashe.
- Charles Minton made the motion to use up to \$10,000 from the unallocated fund to purchase the new A/V equipment. Second by Lee Walker (and others). Approved by members present.

N. Report of Staff Officers

1. Sr Vice Commandant Keith Shearin report:

- Greetings my fellow Marines, Sailors, and Associate Members of the Department of North Carolina. I hope that all are doing well and looking forward to the upcoming events that are planned for the Marine Corps League with excitement and anticipation to once again be given the opportunity to fellowship with all the brothers and sisters of the Corps.
- As you may have guessed the actions of the Department have been limited due to conditions that are out of our control. Many of our Detachment have not been meeting regularly due to various reasons with the well being and safety of the membership being the top priority. With proper planning and precaution taken it is the hope of the Department Staff that we will have a memorable and enjoyable Department Convention in June.
- The Department fundraising efforts have also been hindered by the COVID-19 restrictions. It was my intention to attend numerous gun shows that were scheduled throughout our state, but many of

those gun shows were canceled because of limits numbers allowed to gather. With that being considered, tickets have been given to all the DVCs and they should have been offered to the Detachment for purchase and sale. As of today, the Department has distributed over 2000 of the five thousand tickets. Our breakeven number was 1500 tickets sold.

- We have approximately 105 days until the drawing will be held for the rifles, I am willing to travel to any area within our state to bring the rifles and assist Detachments in selling of raffle tickets. I have participated with several Detachments in doing this and we have had several successful events to aid in the sell of tickets, while also aiding those Detachments in potentially recruiting new members for their area. If a Detachment desires assistance, please reach out to me and let me know. If my calendar is not booked, I will gladly travel to your area. Remember, for every 100 tickets sold by a Detachment that is one free ticket into the drawing for the Detachment to possibly win a rifle that they can in return raffle off and raise money for themselves.
- Please remember, I am always available to talk with any member of the Marine Corps League. I will assist you and your Detachment in bring awareness of the Marine Corps League so that we can all prosper and grow.
- The current fundraiser is a multi-rifle raffle.
- The decision for the current fundraiser was approved by the BOT.
- Normally the fundraiser is approved at the Spring Membership Meeting and ready for the Convention.
- We started behind for the current fundraiser and most of the gun shows we would normally attend to sell tickets were also cancelled.

O. Recess of the DoNC Membership Meeting morning session

1. Chaplain to close Bible
2. Detachment raffle items were drawn.
3. Sgt-at-Arms to announce that the meeting will reconvene 1 hour from now.

Recess for lunch - Reconvene in 1 hour

Lunch recessed at 1140. Reconvene at 1300.

P. Reconvene the DoNC Membership Meeting afternoon session

1. Sgt-at-Arms to bring meeting to order
2. Chaplain to open the Bible

Q. Chaplain's Report – Pamela Thomas presented report

1. Report of any member or member's family known to be sick or in distress.
 - Jason Hall's wife had Covid 19 and now has heart problems.
 - Bill Boyd's wife is sick.
2. Report of deceased MCL members since the last meeting was presented in a Power point.

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|------------|
| Ernest H. Briggs | Capt. Jeb F. Seagle Det 1265 | 9/6/2019 |
| Duane Howard McCartney | Sanford Det 1223 | 9/29/2019 |
| Thomas E. Chandler | Cpl Chris S Ebert 1221 | 9/30/2019 |
| Patrick Goodrow | Carry On Detachment 1236 | 9/25/2019 |
| William Mize | Gold Leaf 1276 | 10/17/2019 |
| John Partain | Blue Ridge Det 848 | 10/5/2017 |
| John Joseph Kopp | Cape Fear Det 1070 | 1/27/2019 |
| Robert (Bob) S. Martin | Cape Fear Det 1070 | 10/26/2019 |
| Herbert L. Brennan Jr. | Swansboro Det 1407 | 10/14/2019 |
| Roger Stockton | Greater Greensboro Det 258 | 8/10/2019 |
| George Weitzman | Greater Greensboro Det 259 | Unknown |
| Bill Seawell | Greater Greensboro Det 260 | Unknown |
| Myron J. Tucker | Catawba Valley Det 1163 | 9/7/2019 |
| William Reece | Catawba Valley Det 1163 | 12/30/2018 |
| Tom J. Murphy | Catawba Valley Det 1163 | 6/20/2019 |
| Jimmy R. Holman | Catawba Valley Det 1163 | 12/11/2019 |
| Albert Duspiva | Blue Ridge Det 848 | 11/24/2019 |
| Rudy Hrubala | Hampstead Det 1321 | 12/8/2019 |
| Jeri L. Mann | Cpl Suzi Sannes | 11/2/2019 |
| Finney Greggs | Onslow County Det 262 | 11/21/2019 |
| Robert Harold Efirid | High Country Det 1389 | 12/25/2019 |
| Zoe B. Faircloth | Johnny Williamson Det 1165 | 12/24/2019 |
| Ronald G. Wilson | Sandhills Area Det 1001 | 12/24/2019 |
| Claude L. Coltrane | Johnny Williamson Det 1165 | 1/4/2020 |
| Roy McKain | Cpl Chris S Ebert 1221 | 5/30/2014 |
| Joan Deaner | Cpl Suzi Sannes Det 1262 | 1/20/2020 |
| Joseph S. Parrish | Onslow County Det 262 | 1/25/2020 |
| Andrew Gray | High Country Det 1389 | 1/25/2020 |
| Richard Smith | Cherokee Det 1011 | Unknown |
| Marjorie Thaggard | Cherokee Det 1011 | Unknown |
| Howard Wilson | Cherokee Det 1011 | Unknown |

| | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------------|
| Donald Chapman | Blue Ridge Det 848 | Unknown |
| Richard W. Engle | Waynesboro 1350 | 2/24/2020 |
| Robert F. Ochs | Cape Fear Det 1070 | 2/19/2020 |
| Mack Drake | General Raymond E. Davis Det. 1162 | 11/??/2019 |
| Jerry O. Smitherman | Charlotte Det 750 | 1/1/2020 |
| Verlone Cherry | Iredell County Det 1097 | 3/7/2020 |
| Marion John Foster | Richmond Leathernecks Det 1252 | 11/26/2017 |
| Robert Dwayne Hassler | Richmond Leathernecks Det 1252 | 11/30/2017 |
| Timothy Warren Bonner | Air, Land, Nc Det1257 | 2/19/2020 |
| William A. Fossum | Carolina Borders Det 1036 | 9/29/2019 |
| Hartford Kramer | Carolina Borders Det 1036 | 5/x/2018 |
| William Knight | Cpl Suzi Sannes Det 1262 | 3/16/2020 |
| David J. Stack | Greater Greensboro Det 260 | 11/13/2017 |
| Leonard Samelak | Cherokee Det 1011 | 9/9/2014 |
| Robert Schwartz | Cherokee Det 1011 | Unknown |
| James Martin | Cherokee Det 1011 | 10/30/2008 |
| Stanley James Loferski | Sandhills Area Det 1001 | 4/2/2020 |
| Kenneth L. Jalbert Sr. | Cpl Johnny A. Williamson | 4/25/2020 |
| Robert (Bob) J. Gomial | Tar Heel Det 733 | 4/22/2020 |
| George Ellsworth | Greater Greensboro Det 260 | 4/13/2020 |
| Joseph A. Kennedy | Greater Greensboro Det 260 | 4/20/2020 |
| John H. Hall | Carolina Borders Det 1036 | 11/25/2010 |
| Robert Roubaud | Blue Ridge Det 848 | 6/15/2020 |
| Joseph B. Tedder | Gen. Raymond G. Davis Det 1162 | 2/20/2020 |
| James Kruczek | PFC Bruce Larson | 7/4/2020 |
| Francis T. McNeive | Onslow County | 5/29/2020 |
| Francis B. Thurber IV | Cherry Point Det 1067 | 2/1/2020 |
| Paul Michael Desruisseaux | General Allen Hal Turnage | 7/19/2019 |
| James P. Brennan | Blue Ridge Det 848 | 6/24/2017 |
| Dora P. Brennan | Blue Ridge Det 848 | 9/6/2019 |
| Carl R. Cox | Blue Ridge Det 848 | 1/10/2018 |
| Loran Dean Marlow | Blue Ridge Det 848 | 10/14/2017 |
| James D Hostetter | Blue Ridge Det 848 | 3/27/2019 |
| Donald Tancredi | Cape Fear Det 1070 | 8/12/2020 |
| Eugene R. Klum | Carolina Borders Det 1036 | 8/14/2020 |
| Ihor Suwanyk | Onslow County Det 262 | 8/1/2020 |
| Russell Edwin Spalti | Oriental Dragon Det 1413 | 9/2/2020 |
| Kenneth E. Vinal | Sandhills Area Det 1001 | 8/10/2020 |
| Samuel J. Wood | Hampstead Det 1321 | 10/5/2020 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Walter N. Watts | Asheville Det 1417 | 9/10/2020 |
| Linda C Grudger | Asheville Det 1417 | 9/3/2020 |
| Conrad A. Shaw | Williams/ Canter | 9/30/2019 |
| Cornelius D. Tindal | John V. Berg Det 257 | 9/20/2020 |
| Burl J. Thomas | Iredell County Det 1097 | 10/6/2020 |
| John A. Studds | Smokey Mountain Det 973 | 5/10/2017 |
| John G. Dotty | Cabarrus Det. 1175 | 8/29/2020 |
| Peter Meletis | Iredell County Det 1097 | 11/21/2020 |
| Charles W. Setzer | Sandhills Area Det 1001 | 12/10/2020 |
| Chris A. Hofahl | Cherry Point Det 1067 | 1/1/2021 |
| Michael R. Tam | Iredell County Det 1097 | 12/11/2020 |
| Tom Perone | Air, Land, NC Det 1257 | 12/26/2020 |
| Santino Mazzu | Tar Heel Det 733 | 11/26/2020 |
| William G. Young | Iredell County Det 1097 | 11/13/2020 |
| James Vierheller | Williams/ Canter | 12/9/2010 |
| Charles D. Hiller Sr. | Shawn Knisley Det 983 | 11/23/2020 |
| Peter F. Lydens | Surry County Det 1322 | 11/20/2020 |
| Eleanora M. Briggs | Captain Jeb F. Seagle Det 1265 | 1/9/2020 |
| Andrejs Bedelis | Shawn Knisley Det 983 | 1/6/2021 |
| Robert L. Dobbins | Richmond Leathernecks Det 1252 | 12/22/2020 |
| Joseph McDonough | Carolina Boarders Det 1036 | 12/ /2020 |
| Jerry H. Welch | PFC Jerry L. McKenny Det 1232 | 12/24/2020 |
| James B. Hunter Jr. | Charlotte Det 750 | 1/3/2021 |
| Larry L. Schelekwy | Charlotte Det 750 | 10/27/2020 |
| Marshall W. Blake | Northwest Triad Det 1314 | 12/11/2019 |
| Phillip S. Donaldson | Cabarrus County Det 1175 | 12/20/2020 |
| Dorothy S. Cole | Cabarrus County Det 1175 | 1/7/2021 |
| Cathy S. Williams | Iredell County Det 1097 | 2/7/2021 |
| James D. Cooke Jr | Air, Land, NC Det 1257 | 2/9/2021 |
| Richard A Markvart | CPL Johnny A. Williamson | 2/22/2021 |
| John Babb | Cape Fear Det 1070 | 2/16/2021 |
| Frank Devaney | Swansboro Det 1407 | 2/19/2021 |
| Gene G. Aderhold Sr. | Cherokee Det 1011 | 2/27/2021 |
| Harry Chaffin | Tar Heel Det 733 | 9/20/2020 |
| Dorcett Clement | Tar Heel Det 733 | 2/19/2021 |

3. Please pause for a moment of silence for our fallen Marines.

R. D.V.C.'s - Report of Officers – Each DVC submitted a report which was posted on the website.

S. Report of Staff Officers

2. Jr. Vice Commandant – Ric Ledford

- a) Discuss activities since the last meeting
- We lost two detachments this last year.

- We need new recruiting options in the community. You have to be active in the community to get exposure.
 - Younger Marines want volunteer projects.
 - Habitat for Humanity volunteering.
 - Maybe volunteer at the animal shelter where dogfood is given.
 - Invite a new Marine to a social event before a business meeting. This lets the new person be more relaxed around the group and the family can help support the new member. This will help retain them.
 - Send virtual meeting links to the officers so they can attend. This way the officers can be involved more and not just when there is an issue.
- b) Overview of the Department Scholarship Program proposal draft.
- Board of Trustee meeting last summer brought up the idea of a scholarship. Not all communities have 4-year schools; most have a 2-year close by.
 - Blue Collar type of jobs at two-year community colleges / trade schools.
 - Available for any member or member's family.
 - Rick Thomason – the target is five \$1000 scholarships.
 - We will need to vote on it at the Convention.
 - We will also need a scholarship committee to filter through the applications.

PURPOSE-MISSION-ELIGIBILITY

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Dept. of NC MCL Scholarship Program is to provide eligible Marines, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains and their immediate dependents an opportunity to advance their academic education in a technical training program. We have an opportunity to assist and encourage many Veterans who live in communities where the traditional four-year college option is not available. There are many Technical Community Colleges throughout North Carolina that offer quality technical education programs. Additionally, in these areas, skilled workers are in demand. Welders, Carpenters, Auto Mechanics, Nurses and so many more skilled laborers are needed daily to keep our communities running. Our organization is here to provide assistance to our Marine brothers and sisters and their families.

MISSION: To provide eligible applicants an opportunity to advance their career or start a new one. Provide an opportunity to have a better way of life and have a feeling of accomplishment. Provide a support network through the Marine Corps League and lead by example in assisting our brothers and sisters.

ELIGIBILITY:

Those eligible to apply for a scholarship are: Regular members of the Department of North Carolina Marine Corps League, their spouse, children, stepchildren, adopted children or grandchildren. The Sponsoring member's membership ID number must be provided with the application.

- If a committee member's family member applies for a scholarship, they must recuse themselves during the review of the application so as not to give the pretense of favoritism toward that applicant.
- Applicants deemed eligible by the scholarship committee will be granted one (1) scholarship. Any applicant not selected may reapply at the next open application period.
- The application period will be open from October 1st until March 15th of the following year.
- The Scholarship will be awarded no later than July 1st in order to ensure the funds are deposited in the applicant's school account prior to the start of the fall semester.

(The

committee would likely meet during the summer conference that is typically held in June each year) **We could review the applicants via email and teleconference.**

- Scholarships will be available for Technical, Trade and/or Specialty Schools that are accredited and for which there is a tuition or fee cost.
- The applicant at the time of application must provide a letter of acceptance from the institution that provides the student account information. No scholarship money will be given directly to the applicant.
- Within 30 days of the applicant entering the first term, applicant must notify the Scholarship Chair of their enrollment.
- If the applicant fails to enroll in the year of the award, the funds must be returned to the Scholarship Committee Chair.
- Applications must be submitted to the Scholarship committee no later than March 15th of the year the applicant is to enroll in classes.

AUTHORITY: The Dept. of NC Technical Scholarship program is tax exempt under 501(c)(4) as a private Non-Profit Veterans program under the Marine Corps League, Dept. of North Carolina by Federal ID Tax Exemption, Number **23-118555**.

NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED: The Department of NC MCL will award 5 scholarships annually. Each scholarship will be \$1,000. **Spoke with Welding instructor at Nash Community College. \$1000.00 would make the most difference in a qualifying student's chance of completing the course selected. We do not want to exceed the annual raffle income.**

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: The scholarship committee will be governed by the Department of NC MCL elected officers, consisting of the Department Commandant, Sr. Vice Commandant, Jr. Vice Commandant, Judge Advocate and 3 regular members of the DoNC. The Committee Chair who shall be appointed by the elected officers.

REQUIREMENTS: Applicants must follow the requirements outlined below for scholarship to be eligible for consideration.

- Completed and signed the application
- Submit required supporting documents
 - = DoNC Membership ID Number
 - = Letter of acceptance from the Technical/Trade College
 - = Student Account information. (Scholarships will be sent directly to the school)
- A brief description of the trade you are pursuing and what you hope to gain from your education.

Completed application package must be mailed to the following address. **We could use the Paymaster's address**

_____, Committee Chair
P.O. Box _____,
_____, NC _____

Applications must be received no later than March 15th. Late applications will not be considered.

DRAFT

ELIGIBLE TRADES: The following trades will be considered as Technical Education. Others may be considered on a **case-by-case** basis if they meet the definition of a Technical trade.

- Auto/Diesel Mechanic
- Auto Body Collision Repair
- Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- Residential/Commercial Construction
- Plumbing Technician/Apprenticeship
- Electrical Technician/Apprenticeship
- HVAC Repair/Installation
- Culinary Training
- Nursing
- Engineering Technical Training
- Land Surveying
- AutoCAD Design
- Injection Molding Manufacturing
- Computer Repair/Programming

3. Judge Advocate – Denny Mathias
 - a) Discuss activities since the last meeting
 - There were zero grievances
 - b) Detachment Bylaws status
 - 31% of the detachment bylaws are certified.
 - AP / SOP are not needed for detachments.
 - If the detachment bylaws reference an AP / SOP, then a copy of it must also be turned in as part of the bylaw approval procedure.
 - 2018 is a good date for the detachment bylaws to be update to. This was the last big update for National.
 - c) National Bylaws Amendments for 2021 deadline is March 31st.
 - d) Department Bylaw Amendments for 2021 deadline is April 25th.

T. Commandant's Report – Rick Thomason

1. Report on activities since the last meeting.

As I sat down to write my Commandant's Report for the Spring Membership meeting, my train of thought left the station without me. I began thinking back to becoming your Commandant and the anticipation of traveling the state and representing the Department of North Carolina at Mideast and National events. It was not to be. My mind wandered to the times of limitless socializing and personal contact. The times of back slapping and hand shaking. Of shared spaces and open laughter. There is no need for me to expand upon the limitations and restrictions upon which we all endured. It would be like preaching to the choir. You lived it and survived. Some did not and some are still suffering the after affects of COVID-19. Our 2020 convention was not to be. But there was an opportunity to hold an impromptu and informal (and not publicized outside the League), Commandant's Council during which we honored Past Commandants and presented them with personalized Challenge coins and Awards. It would be the only time I was ever able to meet Pete Melitis. For that I can thank Denny Mathias, Vivian Melitis, and the members of Detachments 750, 1097 and 1242. Without their endeavors and hard work, it would have never happened.

Life goes on, as does the passing of good people. I attended funeral services for three Past Department of North Carolina Commandants and one Past National Commandant. Presented the Highest Award I could as Department Commandant to the "founding force" of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary in North Carolina, and just over one week later stood by her family at her funeral. I have had the solemn honor of folding and presenting the colors to Marine, Navy and Army wives and family during the Pandemic. I could not let them go to their Maker without the appropriate honors. As we lost League members within our Department, I make it my policy to be notified by the Department Chaplain so that every family member listed on the Notice of Death received a personalized Sympathy card from me as soon as I was notified. This I will continue through my term as Commandant.

As I approach the end of my term in office, I can say few things that I mean any more than thank you for never giving up. We will overcome the adversity and be stronger for it.

U. Report of Staff Officers

4. Bylaws Committee – Lisa Ciesielski

- Deadline is April 25th – email or snail mail must be received by Lisa by this date.

- One proposal received so far.
 - Someone needs to consider submitting a change for the MOY so the bylaws and procedure match.
5. Sgt.-at-Arms – Ralph Farthing – no report
 6. Aide-De-Camp John Dilday
 - There were over 70 members registered for this weekend.
 - Discuss upcoming Membership meetings and host Detachments for them
 - i. **Convention 2021** – Charlotte Detachment #750, Hilton Charlotte University Hotel, June 25-26
 - ii. **Fall 2021** – Shawn Knisley Detachment #983, Fayetteville September 10-11
 - iii. **Spring 2022** - need host volunteer
 - iv. **Convention 2022** – to be voted on in 2021
 - v. **Fall 2022** - need host volunteer
 - vi. **Spring 2023** – need host volunteer
 - vii. **Convention 2023** – to be voted on in 2022

V. Report of Project Leaders
(3-5 minutes)

1. Toys For Tots – OPEN position until the Convention – no report
2. Eagle Scout Program – Charles Minton
 - He received only 4 reports directly from the detachments.
 - 34 reports were received overall.
 - 46 Eagles Scouts presented so far this year.
 - Karen Barton – Since January 2019 when girls were allowed into the Scouts, over 1000 girls have reached Eagle Scout rank nationwide.
 - They are working with Venture Scouts and Sea Scouts for recognitions with the National Liaison.
 - You can honor an Eagle no matter when they earned the Eagle rank.
3. Marine For Life Liaison – Mark Munger (absent)
4. Young Marines Program – Ryan Siemer (absent during the afternoon)
5. VAVS Program – Ken Parker
 - First Quarter had 223 hours with 36 detachments reporting.

- Second Quarter had 192 hours with 31 detachments reporting.
 - Third Quarter had 386 hours with 32 detachments reporting.
6. Fund-Raising – Keith Shearin
- 2450 tickets for the rifle raffle have been distributed. Only 500 have been received back.
 - Let him know where you are having problems.
 - 90 days left to sell.
 - We will do a Face Book live drawing on June 13th as dated on the tickets. The name will go back into the bucket after each draw.
 - The weapons assigned for the draw will be: 1) Browning X-bolt 2) Remington 270 3) Henry Golden Boy
7. Compliance Officer – Phil Randall
- June 1st is the compliance deadline.
 - Need to have the form to Phil by May 1st so he can review it.
 - Rick Thomason – Compliance is NOT an option. He does not want to leave a mess for the next commandant. Compliance will not go away.

W. Unfinished Business

1. Fund raising update. –
 - Keith Shearin – weapon - already covered earlier.
 - Keith Shearin – calendar program results
 - i. We cleared \$10,195 for the program
 - ii. Just under half of the calendars were sold.
2. Ask the Floor if there is anything. - none

X. Training Presentations

1. Detachment Adjutant – Laura Hamilton
 - The adjutant training power point is on the Department website.
 - Help your adjutant keep up with the data for the reports. This data will help with the Compliance Report.
 - The adjutant is the hub for the Detachment.
 - File the 990s every year. Please keep your tax status current.

- Email or call if you have any questions. If you have someone interested in the position and have no idea what to do – pull up the training, email or call me.
2. Compliance Form – Phil Randall – already covered earlier.
 3. Database Access by Detachment Paymasters & others – Randal Rempfer – already covered earlier.
 4. Detachment Fund Raising Opportunities – David Anderson & Heather Dane
 - Camping For A Cause (Ohio did this in a January)
 - It was a homeless awareness fundraiser. Their Detachment 1187 and the VFW went in together to do this.
 - The target was \$3000. They raised over \$12,000.
 - There was no change in the date based on the weather. It snowed on them. They slept in cardboard boxes.
 - The cost was \$25 per box to camp. There were about 30 campers.
 - Got the word out. Went to every elected board meeting in the area for two months. Went to all kinds of assistant groups.

Y. New Business

1. Greg Ciesielski – Department Historian
 - He has put together a book on of the DoNC history from 1925 to current.
 - In the 1940s there were 14 Detachments and created a Department – it faded away.
 - In the 1970s the Department started again.
2. Vietnam Moving Wall will be in New Bern April 8 to 11.
3. Tyrone Ashe – Wake Tech has created an ACTS program which is not a 2 year degree. It would be good if this could be part of the scholarship.

Charles Minton mad the motion to accept all of the officer reports as given. Second by Greg Ciesielski. Approved by members present.

4. Kenny Joyner – any detachment wanting information updated on the Department website just send it to him.
5. Al Pasquale has been League member for 51 years.

Z. Good of the League

1. Al Pasquale's daughter has Covid 19.
2. Lewis Pleasants – Mud Run is June 5th. www.SemperFi1075.org has the information.
3. Bruce Goeden – Dorset Clemmer's funeral was this morning.
4. Denver Grant – Billy Cochrane of Detachment 848 is in bad health.
5. Reggie Sawyer - Thurman Smith of Detachment 983 is on dialysis.
6. Bill Covington of Detachment 1322 is getting better. He is 97 years old.
7. Denny Mathias – Convention – June 25-26 in Charlotte
 - www.NCMCL2021.com has the current information. You can register for the hotel through that site.
 - There will be 2 memorabilia rooms
 - Banquet is \$45
 - Registration is \$10
8. Bull Durham – read scripture to cover all of those present. Also, tonight is spring forward one hour.
9. CDD Hazlett – hopes to see most of the dogs in Greenville, SC.

AA. Announcements

1. Announcements of intent to run for an elected position in the Department.
 - Keith Shearin - Commandant
 - Ric Ledford – Commandant
 - Jeremy Barton – Jr Vice Commandant
 - Anyone can announce running for an office at the convention.
2. Announcement of intent to run for an elected position in the Mideast Division
 - Rick Thomason – MED National Vice District Commandant

BB. Closing of the Meeting per Ritual

1. Remarks by Cmdt. Thomason
2. Singing of the Marines Hymn
3. “Good night Chesty, wherever you are!”
4. Retire the Colors
5. Sr. Vice Commandant's last duty – Keith Shearin
6. Chaplain – Prayer and close the Bible – Pamela Thomas
7. Meeting adjourned - 1517