

**Marine Corps League
Department of North Carolina**



**Minutes of The Quarterly Meeting – Spring Quarter
11 March 2017**

**Hosted by: Ashville Detachment #1417 and Blue Ridge Detachment #848
Host Commandant: Ric Ledford and Denver Grant
Fletcher, NC**

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

**Meeting start time: 0930
Meeting Location: Clarion Inn
Host Contact: Ric Ledford
E-mail: mcl.asheville@gmail.com
Phone Number: (828) 777-2057**

09:30 – 12:00 Business Session

Opening Remarks by Department Commandant Charles Minton

- Meeting called to order at 0930 as scheduled
- Post Colors were posted prior to opening ceremony
- Pledge of Allegiance initiated by Sgt-at-Arms – Ralph Farthing
- Open Bible and Invocation by Chaplain Bill Boyd

- This Meeting dedicated to George Barrows, Ron Cooper, Minnie Lou Irwin and all Marines, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Chaplains, and Associates that have received PCS Orders to stand guard at the entrance to the Supreme Commandants residence

Welcome remarks-

- Commandant Minton expressed his heartfelt thanks to his DoNC Staff Officers and the Department membership for all their thought and prayers during the recovery period for his wife's cancer treatment.
- Thanks, and remarks to Host Detachment: Asheville Detachment #1417 and Blue Ridge Detachment #848
- Comments by Officers of both Detachments, Ken Bowden and Ric Ledford, giving their gratitude for coming, and detailing the lunch process, raffle item sale and 50/50 drawing at the end of the afternoon session.

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

- Navy Cross recipient Robert Ackerman acknowledged. When asked to address the membership, he stated he move here from Louisiana with his wife (WM) of 53 years and moved his membership to Detachment 1322. He retired as a full bird Colonel with 30 years of service.
- Mideast Division Assistant Vice Commandant Bruce Rakfeldt acknowledged.
- National Assistant & Mideast Division Sgt-at-Arms Jeffrey Jones acknowledged
- National & MED Boy Scouts Committee & MED Sgt at Arms Charles Minton was presiding officer and did not acknowledge his position.
- National Youth Physical Fitness Chairman Devell (Bull) Durham was not present.

Recognition of the Department Marine/Woman of the Year

- 2016 Department Marine of the Year Rick Thomason (Cpl Suzi Sannes Det. #1262) was acknowledged.
- 2016 Department Woman of the Year was not nominated. Commandants recommends the Detachments look closely at their Associates and make a nomination for 2017.
- All past MOY & WOY Recipients were asked to stand and be recognized.

Recognition of Past Department Commandants

- Jr. Past Department Commandant Bruce Rakfeldt was acknowledged.
- No other Past Department Commandants were in attendance.

Recognition of Guests and Invitation to address the membership

- MODD NC Pack Worthy Pack Leader PDD Bruce Rakfeldt addressed the membership with details of the Grand Growl coming up on June 2nd, 2017. This is the 25th Anniversary of the N.C. Pack and is going to be a “Grand” event with specials challenge coins, for free at registration, a Worthy Pack Leader Raffle, toys and weapons.

Roll Call of the Department Officers by the Adjutant

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

***Denotes that the Officer was not present at time of roll call**

District Vice Commandants by the Adjutant

NC West DVC's

1. West District – Larry Thorton
2. Northwest District – Chuck Wright
3. Midwest District – Glenn Perkins
4. Northcentral District –Chuck Stotz*
5. Southcentral – Denny Mathias*

NC East DVC's

6. North District – John Staley
7. Northeast District – Mike Black*
8. South District – Richard Rust*
9. Southeast District – Owen Smith
10. East District – Steve Tracy

***Denotes that the Officer was not present at time of roll call**

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)*
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 (Shallotte)
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)~~ (Charter surrendered)
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 that the Detachment was not represented at time of roll call**

A Quorum was met with 51.7 percent of Detachments present (Quorum is met at 40%)

Adjutant's Report: The abbreviated minutes of the Winter Quarterly were sent out to the Detachments for dissemination to the general membership and posted on the DoNC website. A quorum was not met and the minutes were ended at the conclusion of the roll call of Detachments. No vote of acceptance required.

Adjutant expressed appreciation for the guidance by the DoNC Staff Officers and opportunity to learn through involvement with the various DoNC Detachments.

Adjutant asked if there were any questions. None were voiced.

Paymaster's Report: Presented on the big screen and reviewed by the Commandant. Any questions should be directed to the Paymaster. Request for a motion to accept, subject to audit. Motion made and seconded. Vote by the general membership was unanimous to accept as presented.

	<u>Dec '16 - Feb 17</u>	
Income		
Cmdt's Expense Overage Reimbursement	795.00	
Investments		
Money Market	0.68	
Total Investments	<u>0.68</u>	
Other Types of Income		
Challenge Coins	-743.86	
Gun Raffle	1,389.01	
Miscellaneous Revenue		
Humanitarian	1,225.00	
Total Miscellaneous Revenue	<u>1,225.00</u>	
Total Other Types of Income	1,870.15	
Program Income		
Membership Dues	985.00	
Total Program Income	<u>985.00</u>	
Total Income	3,650.83	
Expense		
Department Officer's Expenses		
Commandant's Expenses	151.57	
Paymaster Expenses		
Postage, Mailing Service	37.28	
Total Paymaster Expenses	<u>37.28</u>	
Total Department Officer's Expenses	188.85	
Operations		
Bank Fees - Service Charges	-9.00	
Total Operations	-9.00	
Other Types of Expenses		
Dues (Loan to Det.)	120.00	
Other Costs	646.38	Mileage for hearing board/r
Total Other Types of Expenses	<u>766.38</u>	
Total Expense	946.23	
Net Income	<u><u>2,704.60</u></u>	

**February
28, 2017
Bank
Balances**

Money Market	9,182.76		
		Det. 1103 - To be held in Escrow until March 31, 2017	
Designated Checking	337.40		
	12,346.41		
Cash on Hand	21,529.17		
Designated	337.40		
			Usable Cash 21,191.77

Chaplain's Report-Bill Boyd

Name	Detachment	DoD	Received
Wayne A. Basak	Sandhills Area Det. 1001	1/2/2017	1/2/2017
Milton H. Donaldson	Sandhills Area Det. 1001	12/16/2016	1/2/2017
George M. Barrows	Onslow County Det. 262	1/13/2017	1/13/2017
Martin J. Doermann	Orange Co. Reg. Det. 1292	11/22/2016	2/8/2017
Kenneth P. Kurecki	Blue Ridge Det. 848	1/30/2017	2/8/2017

Of the last 12 members to accept orders to the Supreme Commandant's residence,

4 were regular members

8 were life members

- 6 reported in less than two weeks
- 2 reported in two weeks to 1 month
- 2 reported over 6 months
- 1 reported over 3 years
- 1 not reported to Department

3 reported by the Chaplain

6 reported by the Adjutant/Paymaster
3 reported by the Commandant

D.V.C.'s Report:

- **West District-Larry Thorton** – The last several months the Detachments have been concentrating on pulling together the Quarterly Meeting. He expressed his hope that all will enjoy it.
- **Northwest DVC-Chuck Wright** -

**Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period: 1187 1197 1208
1266 1298 1320 1389**

Detachment unpaid member status:

For each of your Detachments, list their Detachment number, total regular and Associate members, total unpaid members and their percent of unpaid members. The Department goal is 3%, or less):

<u>Detachment #</u>	<u>Ttl Reg & Assoc mbrs</u>	<u>Ttl unpaid mbrs</u>	<u>Ttl % unpaid</u>
1187	35	6	17.1
1197	71	2	11.7
1208	18	3	16.6
1266	66	8	12.1
1298	39	0	0.0
1320	Report sent blank twice		
1389	39	5	12.1

Total unpaid member percentage for this District: 4.2%

How many Detachments are in your District? 7 How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting? 4

What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 70% or better)? 57%

What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members? **2**
 (Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in 'good standing' in order to be considered an active Detachment)

What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members? **Making myself available at all times to discuss what the issues may be**

Midwest District-Glen Perkins-

Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period:

Contacted -6

Visited -4

Detachment unpaid member status:

For each of your Detachments, list their Detachment number, total regular and Associate members, total unpaid members and their percent of unpaid members. (The Department goal is 12%, or less):

Detachment #	Ttl Reg & Assoc Members	Total Unpaid Members	% Unpaid Members
1097	15	3	20
1162	31	4	12.9
1163	36	12	33
1265	17	1	5
1164	12	8	67
1221	10	3	23.08

Total unpaid member percentage for this District: incomplete

(Add up all of the Ttl unpaid mbrs and divide that number by all of the above Ttl Reg & Assoc mbrs to get the total unpaid percentage for your District) 27%

How many Detachments are in your District? 6

How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting?J

What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 60% or better. 50%

What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members? (Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in 'good standing' in order to be considered an active Detachment)? 0

What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members?

What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members? (These Detachments are a PRIORITY to get back to a level of 'good standing' or their Charters may be pulled? 0

Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the Department due to inactivity? If so, what Detachment names and numbers are they? Per the National By-Laws, do these Charters need to be surrendered and the Detachments dissolved? no

Special District projects you are involved in at this time: none

New Detachment Recruiting Efforts: none

Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why: 1221 has dropped from 40% to 23%; Election, t4t program, parades, and awards, dropped from 27% down to 12%

- **Northcentral District-Chuck Stotz-** (Email from DVC)

I regret that due to some health problems I will not be able to attend the Quarterly Meeting. This quarter I have met with 3 of the Detachments in the North Central Division, Greensboro 260, Salisbury 1096, Northwest Triad 1314. I have contacted all others by email or by phone. The only concern is Northwest Triad 1314. As of my last contact they have not found anyone to step up as commandant. Current leadership is fine but the future is unsure. I will make a concerted effort to work on this situation and try to resolve it by the next QM. Greensboro 260 has recruited 103 new members between July and December and their Commandant is working on recruiting more as the year progresses. Salisbury is stable but not growing and is having difficulty finding a permanent location for their meetings. I will stay on top of this. Thank you.

- **Southcentral – Denny Mathias**

Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period:

750 Charlotte

914 Pfc. Charles Hare – Monroe

1223 Sanford

1175 Cabarrus County - Concord

1242 Pfc. Bruce Larson – Huntersville

1252 Richmond County - Rockingham

<u>Detachment #</u>	<u>Total Reg & Assoc mbrs</u>	<u>Total unpaid mbrs</u>	<u>Total % unpaid</u>
750 Charlotte	39	15	38.46%
914 PFC C D Hare	0	1	100.00%
1001 Sandhills	25	3	12.00% *
1021 Stanly Co	21	0	0.00% *
1175 Cabarrus	43	12	27.91%
1223 Sanford	15	1	6.67%
1242 PFC B Larson	40	7	17.50%
1252 Richmond Co	12	3	25.00%

*** Reported to me this info in time to prepare this report. Otherwise, the info is from the 12/31/16 Detachment Report from National**

**** Reported numbers are significantly different that the National Report.**

Total unpaid member percentage for this District:

(Add up all of the Total unpaid members and divide that number by all of the above Total Reg. & Assoc. members. to get the total unpaid percentage for your District)

District Total	195	42	21.54%
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How many Detachments are in your District? 8

How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting?
.....1

What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 70% or better)?..... 12%

What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members?1

What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members?

Det 914 has reapplied for nonprofit status but has not been reinstated yet. I will work directly with them to increase membership. Ideas presented to them have not caused any action.

What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members?0

Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the Department due to inactivity?..... NO

If so, what Detachment names and numbers are they? Per the National By-Laws, do these Charters need to be surrendered and the Detachments dissolved?

Special District projects you are involved in at this time:

New Detachment Recruiting Efforts:

None during the past quarter.

Suggestions for the 'Good of the League' as a result of your DVC activities:

None at this time

Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why:

All detachments have maintained their activities. The active ones have been steadily growing members, conversely, detachments just maintaining are holding their own.

North District – John Staley

Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period: 3

Detachment unpaid member status:

For each of your Detachments, list their Detachment number, total regular and Associate members, total unpaid members and their percent of unpaid members. The Department goal is 3%, or less):

<u>Detachment #</u>	<u>Ttl Reg & Assoc mbrs</u>	<u>Ttl unpaid mbrs</u>	<u>Ttl % unpaid</u>
733	70	14	20.0%
872	12	0	0.0%
1236	44	1	2.3%
1257	45	6	13.3%
1292	16	3	18.7%

Total unpaid member percentage for this District: 11.9% *

*** Based upon membership rosters submitted figures.**

How many Detachments are in your District? 5

**How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting?
2**

What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 70% or better)? 40%

**What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members?
(Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in ‘good standing’ in order to be considered an active Detachment) 1**

What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members? Working with Commandant and staff

What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members? (These Detachments are a PRIORITY to get back to a level of ‘good standing’ or their Charters may be pulled) 1

Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the Department due to inactivity? If so, what Detachment names and numbers are they? Per the National By-Laws, do these Charters need to be surrendered and the Detachments dissolved? None

Special District projects you are involved in at this time: Installation ceremony at Air Land Detachment 1257 in December.

New Detachment Recruiting Efforts: N/A

Suggestions for the ‘Good of the League’ as a result of your DVC activities: Detachments could publish an item in local newspaper or TV each month to publicize MCL and local detachment and its accomplishments.

Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why: Four detachments continue to do noteworthy accomplishments; one is working with members to become more active both in MCL and local community All detachments have supported Toys For Tots campaign by providing numerous hours collecting toys and funding and by attending special events.

- **Northeast District – Mike Black (Not Present)**

Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period: 2

Detachment unpaid member status:

For each of your Detachments, list their Detachment number, total regular and Associate members, total unpaid members and their percent of unpaid members. The Department goal is 3%, or less):

<u>Detachment #</u>	<u>Total Reg & Assoc mbrs</u>	<u>Total unpaid mbrs</u>	<u>Total % unpaid</u>
257	22	3	13
1186	30	13	43
1262	36	4	11
1276	15	1	0
1350	17	5	29

Total unpaid member percentage for this District:

(Add up all of the Total unpaid members and divide that number by all of the above Total Reg. & Assoc. members. to get the total unpaid percentage for your District) 21%

How many Detachments are in your District? 5

How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting?

2

What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 70% or better)? 40%

What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members? (Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in 'good standing' in order to be considered an active Detachment) 2

What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members? Working on recruiting and retention

What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members?

(These Detachments are a PRIORITY to get back to a level of 'good standing' or their Charters may be pulled) 0

Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the Department due to inactivity? No

If so, what Detachment names and numbers are they?

Per the National By-Laws, do these Charters need to be surrendered and the Detachments dissolved? No

Special District projects you are involved in at this time: None at this time

New Detachment Recruiting Efforts: None

Suggestions for the 'Good of the League' as a result of your DVC activities: None

Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why: None

- **South District – Richard Rust**

Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period:

Detachment unpaid member status:

<u>Detachment #</u>	<u>Total Reg & Assoc mbrs</u>	<u>Total unpaid mbrs</u>	<u>Total % unpaid</u>
Paul Ray Purgason #1005	43	5	15.63
Carolina Borders # 1036	44	0	0
Shawn Kinsley # 983	24	0	0
Crossed Rifles # 1386	Received no report from them.		

Total unpaid member percentage for this District:

(Add up all of the Total unpaid members and divide that number by all of the above Total Reg. & Assoc. members. to get the total unpaid percentage for your District)
15.63

How many Detachments are in your District? 4

How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting?

Don't know. I was unable to make it due to surgery which I had on Dec. 1

Still not released to drive. Visited 2 detachments before surgery. Will get

To the others after I can drive again.

What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 70% or better)?

What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members? (Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in 'good standing' in order to be considered an active Detachment) None

What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of 20 or more members?

What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members?

(These Detachments are a PRIORITY to get back to a level of 'good standing' or their Charters may be pulled) None

Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the Department due to inactivity? NO

If so, what Detachment names and numbers are they?

Per the National By-Laws, do these Charters need to be surrendered and the Detachments dissolved?

Special District projects you are involved in at this time:

New Detachment Recruiting Efforts:

Suggestions for the 'Good of the League' as a result of your DVC activities:

Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why:

- **Southeast District – Owen Smith**

Detachments visited/contacted during this reporting period:

#262 Onslow County. Phone and email

#1067 Cherry Point. Meetings – Installed Officers

#1070 Cape Fear. Phone and email (Scheduled for Installation of Officers had to cancel due to illness)

#1371 Hampstead. phone and email

#1407 Swansboro. Phone and email - Attended USMC Birthday Dinner

#1417 Oriental Dragon. attended meetings, phone and email - (Scheduled to Install Officers – cancelled due to illness)

Detachment unpaid member status:

<u>Detachment #</u>	<u>Ttl Reg & Assoc mbrs</u>	<u>Ttl unpaid mbrs</u>	<u>Ttl % unpaid</u>
262	136	7	5.15%
1067	75	12	21.43%
1070	100	10	11.65%
1321	77	28	19.48%
1407	58	0	0%
1423	23	0	0%

Total unpaid member percentage for this District:

Totals	469	57	12.15.0%
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How many Detachments are in your District? 6

**How many of these Detachments were represented at the last Quarterly meeting?
2**

**What percentage of your District Detachments were represented at the last
Quarterly meeting (The Department goal is 60% better)? 33%**

What Detachments in your District have 19, or less, total members? 0

**(Detachments must maintain a minimum of 15 members in 'good standing' in
order to be considered an active Detachment)**

**What are you doing to assist these Detachments to gain a total membership of
20 or more members? N/A**

**What Detachments in your District have 14, or less, total members? (These
Detachments are a PRIORITY to get back to a level of 'good standing' or their
Charters may be pulled) 0**

**Are there currently any Detachment Charters in your District being held by the
Department due to inactivity? If so, what Detachment names and numbers are
they? Per the National By-Laws, do these Charters need to be surrendered and
the Detachments dissolved? No**

Special District projects you are involved in at this time: None at this time

New Detachment Recruiting Efforts: Onslow, Swansboro, and Cherry Point are actively recruiting active duty members

Suggestions for the 'Good of the League' as a result of your DVC activities:

Detachments deserving special recognition in your District and reasons why:

Swansboro Det. # 1407 is very active in community programs, mostly associated with Camp LeJeune.

Cherry Point Det. #1067 Provided Color Guard, Pall Bearers, and Platoon members for funeral of 50th CDD George Barrows' funeral

Swansboro det. # 1407 provided Pall Bearers and Platoon members for funeral of 50th CDD George Barrows

Onslow County det. #270 Participated in funeral of 50th CDD George Barrows

- **East District – Steve Tracy (no hard copy)**

The Kitty Hawk Detachment is his only responsibility. He wishes it were closer so he could attend the meeting more often, but it isn't. They have 44 members with 8 delinquents as of the first of the month. Since the first of the week, two more have paid. They have recruited two MALs from the Edenton Detachment and are very active in the community. The Adjutant is doing an outstanding job of keeping the members and staff informed of what is going on and current with the affairs of the League.

Commandant's Report-Charles Minton

I want to thank each and every one of you for your support during the first half of this year, without each of you doing your part our Department could not function as well as we have been but I especially want to thank you for your prayers and thoughts since my wife's diagnosis and treatment of cancer, these last nine months have been very demanding on me and Donna and without the tremendous support of the Department officers, Staff and members I would not have been able to devote the time to my wife's care that she needed

During the quarter, I have attended several Detachment meetings

I have conducted an installation of officers for the Cape Fear Detachment #1070

I have also participated in and presented two Distinguished Citizen Certificates for Eagle Scouts.

I have attended the Funerals of George Barrows from the Onslow County Detachment #262 and Ron Cooper from the Down East Detachment #1186

I worked with the Gunny Claus program during the month of December

I presided over a chapter 9 hearing board for disciplinary actions which resulted in the expulsion of one of our members.

(Carried over from last Quarter) I represented the Department at the dedication ceremony of the new Marine Corps League National Head Quarters on November 18th in Stafford VA. If you are in the area I'd recommend stopping in and checking it out, they have done a great job in putting the place together and are still working on a few issues. They also now have a Ships Store on the second floor where you can physically purchase items that you need. They are located at 3619 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Suite 115 Stafford, Va. 22554.

If your Detachment has any Special events going on such as parades, Detachment Anniversary's Veterans or Memorial Day ceremonies etc... We would like to know about them so that we may be able to attend if possible. We want to support you as much as possible but we can't attend your events if we don't know about them.

I want to thank you for all that you do for the Marine Corps League, your Communities and our fellow Marines and Veterans in need. Without each of you doing what you're doing we wouldn't be able to help those in need and there would be no Marine Corps League.

Report of Staff Officers

- **Sr. Vice Commandant – Jeffrey Jones**

First of all, I would like to thank all of you for making these quarterly meetings. Your participation is what makes North Carolina one of the Best Departments in the Marine Corps League.

I started this quarter off by attending the funeral of our Past Department Commandant and 50th Chief Devil Dog George Barrows. George had a good send off as there was around 75 Marines present. The funeral procession was about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile long, led by a Caisson. At the end of January, myself with the help of Rick Thomason, Steve Tracy, Scott Shermeyer, Gunner Ski, Tim Manchester & Jerry Brown took down the ramp at George's house. The ramp stayed up 2 months and 2 days. The ramp was paid for by the charity organization "Military Missions in Action". The ramp was taken down in sections and is being stored in Wilson. It will be available for use by any Department member that needs to use it.

I have attended 10 new Detachments this quarter making my yearly total of 37 and a total of 56 Detachment visits. This quarter I traveled a total of 6,540 miles

for a yearly total of 22,377 miles so far. I still have 19 Detachments to visit and I am trying my best to visit them all.

I have also attended a North Carolina Veterans Advisory Committee meeting and a North Carolina Veterans Council meeting. Last weekend I attended the Mid-Winter conference in Fredericksburg, VA where a lot of good information was passed. The new database that Charles mentioned will be up and running nine weeks from the day it is ordered. This will be the sole server of the Marine Corps League. We will not be sharing this with any other company like we did the Blum server. That server we shared with over 150 others and was corrupt.

To date, the Department had cleared \$2,519.01 on the raffle of the rifle. It will be drawn for on June 3rd at the DoNC Convention. Let me know if you need tickets. I still have a few left.

At our January quarterly meeting that was affected by the weather I announced that I was running for your Department Commandant. I am asking for your support.

Presentation of the Department's Data Retained from The Quarterly Reports by The Adjutant

The Excel Spreadsheet depicting data pulled from Quarterly Reports was displayed on the overhead screen and reviewed. Membership was queried as to whether they wanted to see the spreadsheet once a quarter at the meeting, or would they like to see it on their computer and spend time comparing data. Membership implied they would like to receive it vis email. Various sections of the spreadsheet were discussed and a general overview given as to how to manipulate the fields. No questions were posed.

Report of Staff Officers (Continued)

- **Jr. Vice Commandant – Howard Boyd**

Over the past year, the Department of North Carolina's membership had an increase of thirty members now totaling 2,347 members. Our delinquency list decreased by 84 members and now stands at 434 delinquent members. While these numbers are positive from a year ago we need to continue our diligence in obtaining, growing and retaining membership.

The Department currently has 57 Detachments. Thirty-seven (37) small Detachments with membership between 15 and 50 members, Thirteen (13) medium Detachments with membership between 50 and 100, and Two (2) large Detachments of over 100

members. There are five (5) Detachments (872, 1186, 1222, 1282, and 1320) with less than 15 members however three of these 5 detachments (1186, 1222, and 1320) can increase their membership to over 15 by reducing their delinquency list.

Department By-laws Section 555 states that a Detachment may be suspended or revoked for the persistent failure to maintain a minimum of fifteen (15) members in good standing. The Department is not in favor of revoking any Detachment as long as they show efforts of improvement.

Detachments, please remember that at the end of each budget year the Department presents a Junior Vice Commandant Recruitment and Retention Award as a membership incentive. This award recognizes those Detachments with the highest percentage of membership increase and highest percentage of decrease in unpaid members over the year. This information will be collected from the March 2016 roster to March 2017 roster. This award is presented to one Detachment in each division small, medium and large. Now is the time to begin working toward obtaining this award.

I attended the Midwinter conference, George Barrows funeral and visited three Detachments since the last Quarterly. Asked if there were any questions.

• **Judge Advocate – Scott Shermeyer**

I attended the Midwinter Conference for the first time this year. Impressed that there were over 200 hands on deck for the conference. Also, attended the funeral of George Barrows, Sr., participating as the Honor Guard and accompanying the casket to the point of internment at the Veterans Cemetery in Jacksonville.

While at the Conference, I first heard of the 50/50 term. The MCL National is looking to have the membership reach a point of 50% under 50 years old and 50% over 50 years old. Understandably there is some lack of participation by the younger group of Marines. We must work on making the MCL interesting to them. It took me 10 years to really get interested in the League and its functionality. 10 years after that, (20 years since joining) I am your Department Judge Advocate.

WE did lose one Marine to Chapter 9 proceedings last year. We exhausted all possibilities of settlement and proceeded as per the National Bylaws. A meeting was scheduled for the Fall Quarterly, but all parties were not available. It was then rescheduled for the Winter Quarterly, but was not held because of snow. We finally convened the board and heard the case. A decision was rendered that was the best for all parties and the ruling processed through channels. The right to appeal still stands at this time. Feel free to give me a call at any time regarding matters of the Leagues purposes and procedures.

The matter of the Blums has been resolved and is no longer an issue. A non-disclosure agreement was signed by both parties and remains in effect. We will never know the full term of settlement by the parties.

The National Judge Advocate, Johnny Baker, has proposed the complete revision of the National Bylaws, reducing it to 18 pages of Bylaws, with everything else coming

under Administrative Procedures. He then proposed that all administrative Procedures come under the direct control of the National Board of Trustees, removing it from the control of the general membership. There would be no discussion or oversight by the Department or Detachment. This the DoNC JA was in effort to place all subordinate groups under the direct control of the National BOT. He does not agree with the proposal. Discussion followed with much dissent over the proposal. Efforts to clarify the proposal were made by Howard Boyd, Ken Parker and Bruce Rakfeldt. Discussion of voting for bylaw changes followed. Question from the floor as to whether or not there was a template for the Detachments to use for Bylaws. JA advised that there is no official template other than to utilize another detachment that can be amended to suit their needs. No further questions.

Presentation Video “Recruitment and Retention” shown to detail the “Fireteam” concept and membership recruitment and retention (19 minutes)

Link to the video
[Recruitment and Retention](#)

DoNC Commandant Minton followed up with comments to the Detachments. Comments from the floor on posting notices in local papers for the MCL Detachment. SVC Jeffrey Jones tell everyone that Public Service Announcements are required to be done for free by newspapers and radio stations. Use them. Further comments by the membership on what they felt was needed to insure continued acquisition of Marines below the age of 50.

Recess of the meeting by the Sgt. at Arms Ralph Farthing and blessing of the lunch meal by Chaplain Bill Boyd

12:00 – 13:00: Lunch Break

1300 Business Session returns to order with hand salute by Sgt. at Arms Ralph Farthing and opening of the bible by Chaplain Bill Boyd.

Report of Staff Officers(Continued)

- **Bylaws Committee Chairman – Lisa Ciesielski**

Proposed bylaws were read to the general membership by the Chairperson. Discussion followed, given by the DoNC Commandant and DoNC Judge Advocate for clarification. DoNC SVC reminded everyone that we will be voting on the DoNC Convention site for 2019 at this year’s convention. We vote two years in advance of the convention to allow plenty of time for preparation.

- **Sgt.-at-Arms – Ralph Farthing**

“Nothing to report at this time.”

- **Aide-De-Camp – John Dilday**

Report summarized by the DoNC Commandant... John wished to thank the Asheville Detachment and the Blue Ridge Detachment for all they did to bring this Quarterly Meeting about. The 2017 DoNC Convention will take place on June 2nd-4th in Raleigh at the Doubletree Hotel by Hilton. Details will be sent out as to reservations and registration. The fall Quarterly will be held in Calabash, providing they can find a venue large enough to accommodate the Department. Locations for the 2018 meeting are being set up now and will be published when confirmed. John would like to personally thank all of you who stepped up to support GySgt. Jason Carter and his family. He is now at the Wounded Warrior Battalion East, Camp LeJeune in therapy. If you would like to be considered for the 2019 DoNC Convention, now is the time to get your letter in so we may consider it at the convention and vote upon it during the business session.

Report of Project Leaders:

- **Young Marine Program – Ralph Farthing**

It was requested that all the DVCs check with their Detachments to see if they support the Young Marines Program. If they do, would you please have them send him a report of what is going on in their area. Unless he receives a report, he has no idea of what is happening. He has no other contact with the Young Marines. He just received a report this morning.

- **VAVS Program – Ken Parker**

Reports submitted by 17 Detachments indicate over 3,204 hours reported. Ken continued to elaborate on the criteria for true reporting of VAVS hours as per the VA guidelines. We need to track the volunteer hours to separate the true VAVS hours from community service hours and service to veterans away from the VA. Commandant verified that we were working on a change in reporting to separate the hours. Discussion followed, detailing instances of hours in service to the veterans and whether they qualified as VAVS hours.

- **Fund-Raising – Jeff Jones**

The M1A rifle raffle has cleared \$2,519.01 so far. Tickets are still available. More challenge coins were ordered to fill orders in excess of the initial order. Coins are still available if you did not get them on the initial order.

Commandant Minton asked for a motion from the Floor to accept the Officer and Committee reports as given or submitted. Motion made, seconded and voted upon. Motion passed without dissent.

New Business

DoNC SVC, Jeffrey Jones requests a motion to fund new Women Auxiliaries that start up with a \$100.00 donation. Motion made and seconded. Discussion opened and question asked as to whether or not there needed to be a line item added to the budget. The SVC stated that the line item existed for the new Detachments, so the new Auxiliary could be added to the description and not have to add another line item. Vote taken and motion passed without dissent.

DoNC JA, Scott Shermeyer makes a motion to present the Onslow County Auxiliary with a check for \$100.00. Motion made and seconded. The money was already presented to the Auxiliary in August at time of Charter, but was never brought before the Department due to a lack of quorum at the Quarterly Meeting. Motion is for a formal record of disbursement. Vote taken and motion passed without dissent.

DoNC SVC, Jeffrey Jones request the establishment of a "Humanitarian Fund" to be added to the budget as a line item. The Commandant and the Staff Officers would make the determination as to fund the request. The project to build the ramp for George Barrows was one example. Another was a request for financial assistance by a Marine Suffering from PTSD who was trying to relocate to California be closer to home. We had to hold a phone survey of the Staff Officers to authorize the \$500.00 payment to the family. Question raised as to whether the Fund will be maintained at \$1,000.00 all year, or for the entire year? DoNC JA clarified the difference between the non-discretionary funds and the allocated funds. Suggestion from the floor was that each Detachment donate \$50.00/year to the Department for the fund. That would be over \$2,500.00/year. Question asked as to whether this would be a onetime payment to the Marine, or could they keeping requesting our help? Discussion resulted with clarification by Howard Boyd and Jeffrey Jones. Guidelines will have to be established, hopefully before the next Quarterly.

Good of the League

DoNC JA, Scott Shermeyer brought up the fact that no Marines were reported as deceased at the Midwinter. SVC Jeffrey Jones clarified that it was a National issue, not our reporting. DoNC Chaplain confirms that the reports are being sent in.

Commandant Laura Hamilton addressed the membership on the issue of the Department Paymaster and the Department Adjutant having to provide their personal computers, recording devices and thumb drives for the documentation of Department business. To insure a smooth transition from one Adjutant/Paymaster to another, at

time of appointment, she recommends that the Department provide them with computers and a recorder to perform the job they are assigned. DoNC JA, Scott Shermeyer addressed the membership. He will provide both Computers, associated software and thumb drives required to do the jobs of the Adjutant and Paymaster, through his business, Carolina Computer Care. When he took over the job as Adjutant, he assumed the Department had a computer. He found out it belonged to Bruce Rakfeldt. He continued on using his personal computer. He will not supply a recorder. He added that they were still working on the sound system, of which he has donated a great deal of the material. Hopefully it will be complete by the DoNC Convention.

DVC Chuck Wright addressed the membership. Gunny Claus is represented at this meeting by four of the seven actively involved members of the program. Last year they saw over 11,600 children in 23 days. Some of the children were in Texas and California. We go where we are requested. \$11,000.00 was raised in 90 days this past year. This year they are starting earlier so to raise more money for the children and to cover expenses. Thirty-One Industries donated \$8,000.00 worth of gifts for the children. We have 6,000 items still in storage for the upcoming Christmas season from Thirty-One. Question asked from the floor as to what happened to the \$15,000.00 his detachment donated to the Gunny Claus Program. DoNC Commandant Minton spoke up to say it went to the Bike Battalion and not the Gunny Claus Program. They are looking at not allowing that to happen again this year. The funds were supposed to go to Gunny Claus. Question from the floor as to whether it was a conflict with the MCL. Commandant Minton gave an overview of the Program and a visual representation of the Gunny Claus uniform was displayed overhead.

Announcements

- **Officers intentions**

Commandant Minton announced he will be running for Junior Past Commandant next year.

SVC Jeffrey D, Jones announced his intent to run for the position of Commandant,

JA Scott Shermeyer announced his intent to run for the position of Junior Vice Commandant.

Adjutant Rick Thomason announced his intent to run for the position of Senior Vice Commandant.

JVC announced he would not be running for office this time because of other commitments. He thanked the membership for all the support he has had over the last four years.

SVC Jeffrey Jones announced that Denny Mathias has announced his intent to run for the position of Judge Advocate. A letter of intent has been sent out to the Department. Glen Perkins announced his intent to run for the position of Junior Vice Commandant.

Being no further announcements, we moved to the closing ceremony

Closing of the Meeting per Ritual

- Commandant Minton thanked the Department for the opportunity to serve over the last six years
- First verse of the Marines Hymn sung
- “Good Night Chesty, wherever you are!” by the Commandant
- Colors retired by Sgt. At Arms Ralph Farthing
- SVC performed the last duty of his office
- Chaplain offered a prayer and closed the Bible
- Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Thomason
DoNC Adjutant
252-903-0386