

Marine Corps League

Department of North Carolina



Department Convention Minutes

25 June – 26 June 2021

Hosted by: Charlotte Detachment 750

Host Commandant: John Craig

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

Meeting start time: 0815

Meeting Location: Hilton at University Place - Charlotte

Host Contact: Robert Kellam

Contact Phone Number: 919-221-9806

Contact Email: Robert.KellamJr@hotmail.com

A. Opening Remarks by Dept. Commandant Rick Thomason

Called to order at 0819

1. Welcome all members and guests to the DoNC's 51st Annual Convention & special thanks to Charlotte Detachment for organizing it.
2. This meeting is dedicated in the memory of all North Carolina Marine Corps League Members who answered the final call over the past year, in particular Ken Parker and William Odom.
3. Colors presented by the Mecklenburg Young Marines
4. National Anthem sung by Ric Ledford
5. Pledge of Allegiance – Sgt-at-Arms – Ralph Farthing
6. Open Bible and Invocation – Chaplain Jason Hall
7. Presentation of Color Guard Certificates Of Appreciation to:
 - a) Jonathan Henderson, leader, Mecklenburg Young Marines
 - b) Vince Sothoron, YM member
 - c) Vargo Caleb, YM member
 - d) Thomas Sapp, YM member
 - e) Tucker Rollyson, YM member
 - f) Kenneth Parnell, YM member
 - g) Cayden Naylor, YM member
 - h) Victoria Gacek, YM member

B. Recognition of other Guests by the Host Detachment

1. Welcome remarks & thanks from the Host Detachment Commandant John Craig Charlotte Detachment #750
2. Guest speakers –
 - a) LtCol(Ret.) David “Bull” Gurfein of United American Patriots
 - b) David Streater of Charters of Freedom, Foundation Forward, Inc.

C. Recognition of National Officers

1. National Commandant of the MCL – Dennis Tobin
2. National Sr. Vice Commandant of the MCL – Johnny Baker
3. Past National Commandant of the MCL – Wendel Webb
4. National President of the MCLA – Evelyn Joppa
5. Mideast Division Vice President of the MCLA – Doris Bujanowski
6. National & MED Boy Scouts Committee & MED Sgt at Arms - Charles Minton
7. National Youth Physical Fitness Chairman - Devell (Bull) Durham
8. National Historian – Greg Ciesielski

9. National Marine 4 Life – Mark Munger
10. National POW/MIA Committee – Jeremy Barton
11. M.O.D.D. Chief Devil Dog – Tom Hazlett
12. M.O.D.D. Junior Vice Chief Devil Dog & MED Sgt at Arms – Jeffrey Jones
13. M.O.D.D. Deputy Police Dog – Rick Thomason
14. Mideast Division Assistant Vice Commandant – Rick Thomason
15. Mideast Division Sgt at Arms – Jeffrey Jones
16. Mideast Division Chapel of Four Chaplains – Jeremy Barton
17. Mideast Division Young Marines Liaison – Ryan Siemer (absent)
18. Mideast Division Past Vice Commandant – Steve Wilson
19. Mideast Division Past Vice Commandant – Jim Tant
20. Mideast Division Past Vice Commandant – Bruce Rakfeldt

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

1. 2020 Department Marine of the Year – none selected
 - 2021 also has none selected due to procedural technicalities.
2. Ask all past MOY & WOY Recipients to stand and be recognized

E. Recognition of Past Department Commandants

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

F. Recognition of Guests with Invitation to address the membership

1. Past Mideast Division Vice Commandant – Steve Wilson
 - He is glad to be able to be back involved again.
2. Past Mideast Division Vice Commandant – Jim Tant
 - Congratulations on the health of the department and celebrating our 50th anniversary; it has grown tremendously since he came on board.
 - Peter Meletis drew great knowledge from Steve Wilson as DoNC Commandant. He help the Department grow from 15 detachments to the 53 today. He challenged us to make a difference in others' lives. He passed away last fall. He could not have done all he did without his wife Vivian.
 - Presented God and Country Award of a plaque and NCO sword to:
 - Rick Thomason
 - Vivian Meletis

3. Past Mideast Division Vice Commandant – Bruce Rakfeldt
 - Glad to be together again in person and celebrate our 50th anniversary.
4. MCL Auxiliary President – Evelyn Joppa
 - Glad to be here with and support the League.
5. MCL Auxiliary Mideast Vice President – Doris Bujanowski
 - Wish you a wonderful 50th anniversary.
6. MODD NC Pack Worthy Pack Leader –PDD Greg Ciesielski
 - Had a great growl and raised over \$700 for the children’s hospital.

G. Chapel of Four Chaplains Presentation

1. Jeremy Barton performs the presentation ceremony
 - Legion of Honor Award
 - William Ric Ledford
 - Legion of Honor Humanitarian Award
 - Charles Gunter

H. Commandant Thomason recognized RDU Detachment #1482

1. The newest detachment commandant Bruce Goeden and the members were recognized.

I. MCLA Charter Presentation Ceremony

1. National President of the MCLA – Evelyn Joppa & Doris Bujanowski
 - The creation of the North Carolina Department MCLA was the dream of Pat Walker.
 - Presented Department Charter to the Department of North Carolina Marine Corps League Auxiliary to the new officers.
 - Barbara Dugan – President (Foothills unit)
 - Pamela Thomas – Sr Vice (Tar Heel unit) (absent)
 - Diane Randal – Jr Vice (Onslow unit)
 - Karen Barton – Judge Advocate (Foothills unit)

Call for Sgt at Arms to declare a 15-minute recess to excuse any guests, Honor Guard or non-members that may need to leave at this time- 0920

Meeting called to order - 0935

J. SgtMjr Houle – The Marines Museum

1. The bill was signed as of last night. The Marines Museum now has it's money.

K. Special Guest Speaker

1. Dr. David Streater Presentation on The Charters of Freedom Program (PowerPoint)
 - He has family who is/was a Marine. He was Navy.
 - The Charters of Freedom are the founding documents – Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Bill of Rights.
 - These are settings, not a monument.
 - A-political, A-religious
 - Help supplement education
 - Currently have 25 settings in North Carolina
 - Settings must be open 24/7 and built in the same manner as the original in the Rotunda in DC
 - The setting is a gift; the community is responsible for the sidewalks. They charge for military plates which could be placed on the settings.

L. 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
8. Assistant Chaplain – Bill Boyd (absent)
9. Sgt. at Arms - Ralph Farthing
10. Assistant Sgt. at Arms – Taine Pyle
11. Paymaster – Randal Rempfer
12. Adjutant – Laura Hamilton
13. Young Marines Service Officer – Ryan Siemer (absent – PCS to Hawaii)
14. Assistant Young Marines Service Officer – OPEN
15. Toys For Tots Coordinator– OPEN

- 16.VAVS Service Officer – OPEN
17. Legislative Officer – Phil Randall
- 18.Assistant Legislative Officer – Thomas Bates
- 19.Compliance Officer – Phil Randall
- 20.Bylaws Committee Chairman – Lisa Ciesielski
- 21.Eagle Scout Coordinator – Charles Minton
- 22.Assistant Eagle Scout Coordinator – Karen Barton
- 23.Marine For Life Liaison – Mark Munger
- 24.Web Sergeant – Kenny Joyner
- 25.Public Relations – Tim Manchester
- 26.Assistant Adjutant– OPEN
- 27.Historian - Greg Ciesielski
- 28.Chapel of Four Chaplains – Jeremy Barton

M. 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
 - d) Southeast District – Lee Walker
 - e) East District – Greg Ciesielski

N. Roll Call of Detachments

(By the Adjutant – “Per our Department Bylaws, a Convention quorum is met by having at least one Delegate from the majority of our Detachments present. As your Detachment is called, a Delegate shall rise, salute the Commandant, state they are a Delegate then state the number of members present.”)

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. PFC Charles D. Hare Detachment #914 (Monroe) (absent)
8. Shawn Knisley Detachment #983 (Fayetteville)
9. Sand Hills Area Detachment #1001 (Aberdeen) (absent)
10. Paul Ray Purgason Detachment #1005 (Shallotte)
11. Cherokee County Detachment #1011 (Murphy) (absent)
12. Stanly County Detachment #1021 (Albemarle)
13. Carolina Borders Detachment #1036 (Calabash)
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)
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)
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)
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 (Hillsborough) (absent)
42. Walter Frank Osborne Jr. Detachment #1298 (Sparta)
43. Northwest Triad Detachment #1314 (Stokesdale)
44. Mountaineer Detachment #1320 (Watauga)
45. Hampstead Detachment #1321 (Pender)
46. Surry County Detachment #1322 (Surry)
47. Crossed Rifles Detachment #1346 (Harnett) (absent)
48. Waynesborough Detachment #1350 (Wayne) (absent)
49. High Country Detachment #1389 (Ashe)
50. Swansboro Detachment #1407 (Swansboro)
51. Oriental Dragon Detachment #1413 (Oriental)
52. Asheville Detachment #1417 (Asheville)
53. RDU Detachment #1482 (Durham)

O. Adjutant's Report

("The minutes from the Spring Membership meeting are 27 pages long. 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. There was one DVC report added.
2. 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.
3. If you would like to receive emails 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.
4. If you are not getting my emails please check your spam filter and make sure the addresses are in your contact list to come through. The email address is doncmcla@gmail.com .
5. Please make sure a copy of your latest ROI is sent to the Adjutant as well as the Paymaster (who gets the original signed hardcopy).
6. An Excel spreadsheet titled "2021 DoNC Quick Reference 2021 05 16" 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.

7. It is imperative that the Detachment Commandant and Paymaster have emails. There is some data which is only sent to them.
8. If you make any detachment meeting change or position personnel change, please forward an updated ROI.

Commandant Thomason, asked for a motion to waive reading and approval of the minutes.

Ralph Farthing made to motion to waive the reading and approve the minutes. Second by Charles Minton. Approved by members present.

P. Paymaster’s Report – Randal Rempfer

1. Gave current financial update

Paymaster Report

02/28/2021 – 05/31/2021

• Cash brought forward 02/28/2021	
○ Checking	\$ 52,145.43
○ Money Market	\$ 9,192.05
○ Total	<u>\$ 61,337.48</u>
• Deposits made for the time period	
○ Checking	\$ 7,020.78
○ Money Market	\$ 0.23
○ Total	<u>\$ 7,021.01</u>
• Cash disbursed for the time period	
○ Checking	\$ 3,529.62
○ Money Market	\$ 0.00
○ Total	<u>\$ 3,529.62</u>
• Balance as of 05/31/2021	
○ Checking	\$ 55,636.59
○ Money Market	\$ 9,192.28
○ Total	<u>\$ 64,828.87</u>

2. PLM audit deposit was sent in May. National did say that they had 6 bounce back. If you did not get it, contact him or Bob Borka at National.

3. Form 990-N submissions – they are due now for nearly everyone.
4. Ask for motion to accept the Paymaster’s report as given, subject to audit. *Devull Durham made the motion to accept the report subject to audit. Second by Charles Minton. Approved by members present.*

Q. Chaplain’s Report – Jason Hall

1. Report of any deceased MCL member within the last quarter.
2. Please pause for a moment of silence for our fallen Marines.
3. Several names were quiet old and were Life Members. Please keep up with your members who may not always be around.

R. D.V.C.’s - Report of Officers – Each DVC will be given 3 minutes to give their reports on events and happenings within their District during the quarter.

Bruce Goeden made the motion to bypass the reading of the reports and to have them online. Second by John Dilday. Approved by members present.

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
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 - e) East District – Greg Ciesielski

S. Commandant’s Report – Rick Thomason

1. A man much wiser than I said that if you were to be a great orator of words, you should start your presentation to spur their interest and end with them wanting more. But the most important aspect was to keep the beginning and end close together. The Department of North Carolina celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2020, and because of that, you get something free. Ok, free got your attention. So, I have accomplished the

first task. Your “freeby” will be a medal and ribbon authorized by the National Uniform Committee, celebrating our anniversary. As a member of the Department of North Carolina Marine Corps League, a member in good standing, and an attendee of this meeting, you are authorized to wear the ribbon or medal as per the National Administrative procedures. The part in the middle is me telling you that since the last meeting, I have concentrated mainly on attaining compliance in the state of every detachment. It is not a task I did solely but was supported by my elected staff and Compliance Office Phil Randall. We are gaining ground and only have one detachment that has failed to turn in a report. I attended multiple funerals, folded, and presented flags to widows and family. The last being the hardest I have ever done. Close friend and fellow Marine Ken Parker left for a Permanent Change of Station on June 8th, 2021. Now for the part making you want more. Will Rogers said “There are three kinds of men. There is the one that learns by reading. There is the one that learns by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence for themselves.” Don’t be the third one. The Department has a wealth of knowledge available to anyone who asks. You do not need to reinvent the wheel. Use the free resource that is available to every member of our department. Make the call or send the email. It makes the Officers feel needed. This will be my last report as your Department Commandant, but not the last time you see me. I am still committed to the wellbeing of the Department and each of the 53 detachments future.

2. Communication – Please regularly check the DoNC website for meeting minutes, updates, and other vital information necessary to carry out the business of the league. The website is www.ncmcl.org .
3. Discuss 2021 National Convention – ‘Submit **full** Detachment Delegate strength’ encourage members to attend if possible.

T. Report of Staff Officers

1. Sr. Vice Commandant – Keith Shearin
 - a) The activities of the Sr. Vice Commandant since the Department Spring Membership Meeting has been continuous. I have traveled our Department from the mountains to the ocean, with stops at Detachments in between. I feel that even though there is recovery to be made since the decrease in restriction of the COVID-19 pandemic,

our Department is beginning to gain traction and move in a positive direction. The primary duty of my post is Department Fundraising efforts. This year's fundraiser was slightly slowed due to early restrictions place on our Detachment. Many of the early gun shows throughout the state were cancelled, but since the 2021 Spring Membership Meeting I was able to attend 4 gun shows. That paired with the sale of tickets by our motivated membership netted our Department over \$7000 in fundraising profit. This did not reach our anticipated goal but considering the abbreviated timeframe we had to operate within we were able to surpass the previous year's fundraising. I have also been working actively with the Department Aide-de-Camp in planning the upcoming Department events. We have secured the location for the 2021 Fall Membership Meeting and the 2022 Spring Membership Meeting. We are currently discussing with several Detachment about hosting the 2022 Department Convention, with the hope being having an announcement either at this years Department Convention or either the 2021 Fall Membership Meeting. I was proud to represent the Department at this year's Mideast Division Conference hosted by the Department of Delaware. The Department of North Carolina is leading the charge of our Division and striving to set the example for others in the Marine Corps League. The Department is continuing to work with our active-duty Marines in promoting the Marine4Life program. The gatherings for this program seems to be attracting more Marines at each event, with interest in Marine Corps League benefits being nurtured at each event. It has been a pleasure to serve as your Senior Vice Commandant during your tour, it has been an honor to part of your staff and working with you during the unusual and difficult times of the past 15 months.

- b) The rifle raffle ended bringing in approximately \$9,955 minus expenses gave a profit of \$7,607.89

2. Jr. Vice Commandant – Ric Ledford

- a) Glad to be part of Team Turtle
- b) This is a summary of my activities since the March Membership meeting held in Durham. I have visited 12 Detachments both in person and virtually, participated in the Mud Run with DoNC Team Turtle and attended the funeral of our friend Ken Parker. I forgot to add that I did 2 officer installations. I have performed the National

Anthem and represented the Dept of NC at the City of Asheville Memorial Day ceremony and at 2 minor league baseball games. I have put 2700 miles on my vehicle in the interest of the Department and fulfilling my duties as Jr. Vice Commandant. I have been working with the Detachments that needed assistance with their Compliance Reports and Bylaws. I provided examples to one DVC for him to give to the Detachments in his area. I have been working on the information for the scholarship program and will get finalized program details and the application form once the program is approved and a Scholarship Committee is formed. I have been truly honored and humbled to serve as the Dept of NC Jr Vice Commandant these past two years. I sincerely appreciate the support provided by my fellow Department officers and that of the Detachments which I served.

3. Judge Advocate – Denny Mathias
 - a) I apologize for those who have sent in their bylaws and I have not responded in the last month.
 - b) Detachment Bylaw status, we have 38 detachments approved all of the way through. Some need to send in a soft copy.
 - c) Bylaws are how your organization runs. They are important. You need to pay attention to them.
 - d) National Bylaw amendment proposals for 2021 is 50, accumulating from last year. Read them in advance. Anyone can submit a bylaw change.
4. Bylaws Committee Chairman – Lisa Ciesielski
 - a) No proposed bylaw amendments can be heard because they were not posted in time. DoNC Bylaws Section 800 – Amendments item “B”
5. Sgt.-at-Arms – Ralph Farthing – no report.
6. Aide-De-Camp – John Dilday
 - a) Discuss upcoming Membership meetings and host Detachments for them
 - i. **Fall 2021** – Shawn Knisley Det #983, Fayetteville, September 10-11
 - ii. **Spring 2022** – William Canter Det #1187, Wilkesboro
 - iii. **Convention 2022** – to be voted on later in meeting (Greensboro potentially)

- iv. **Fall 2022** – Mountaineer Det #1320, Boone
- v. **Spring 2023** – need detachment host to volunteer
- vi. **Convention 2023** – to be voted on in 2022
- vii. **Fall 2023** – need detachment host to volunteer

U. Report of Project Leaders

(3-5 minutes)

1. Toys For Tots – OPEN
2. Eagle Scout Program – Charles Minton
 - a) Last year there were 252 certificates handed out. This year there have been 87.
 - b) Females are now in Boy Scouts and they are earning Eagle at an alarming rate. They have done a class of 1000.
 - c) Please list on your reports the number of female vs male.
3. Marine For Life Liaison – Mark Munger
 - a) Detachment commandants please talk to your liaison and have them reach out to him.
 - b) We provide a connection point. We do not recruit.
 - c) Mark.munger@usmc.mil
 - d) LinkedIn is a huge connection spot.
4. Young Marine Program – Ryan Siemer (absent)
 - a) Ryan has PCS'd to Hawaii and he will be transferring his membership.
5. VAVS Program – OPEN
6. Fund-Raising – Keith Shearin
 - a) The funds were included in the financial report.
7. Compliance Officer – Phil Randall
 - a) Thank you to all of the work from the detachments. We are in good shape.

*Commandant Thomason “At this time I ask for a motion from the Floor to accept the Officer and Committee reports as given or submitted.”
Gunny Ski made the motion to accept the reports. Second by Charles Minton. Approved by members present.*

V. Unfinished Business

1. Scholarship Program – Ric Ledford
 - a) This is for a community college / tech-trade school.
 - b) It is for MCL family members in good standing for at least one year.

- c) Must be accepted into the school and must remain a member in good standing for one year after completing the program.
- d) We must vote to accept the implementation of the scholarship program.
- e) There will be five \$1000 scholarships
- f) Edward Winsper made the motion to implement the scholarship program. Second by Bob Lenz. Approved by members present.

W. Awards

Commandant Thomason assisted by Adjutant Hamilton

1. Certificates of Appreciation
 - a) Randal Rempfer, Paymaster
 - b) Ralph Farthing, Sgt at Arms
 - c) Lisa Ciesielski, Bylaws Committee Chair
 - d) Thomas Bates, Assistant Legislative Officer
 - e) Phil Randal, Legislative Officer
 - f) Mark Munger, Marine for Life
 - g) Ryan Siemer, Young Marines
 - h) Kenny Joyner, Web Sergeant
 - i) Taine Pyle, Assistant Sgt at Arms
 - j) Tim Manchester, Public Relations
 - k) Greg Ciesielski, Historian
 - l) Charles Minton, Eagle Scout
 - m) Karen Barton, Assistant Eagle Scout
 - n) Jason Hall, Chaplain
 - o) Bill Boyd, Assistant Chaplain
 - p) John Dilday, Aid de Camp
 - q) Jeremy Barton, Chapel of the Four Chaplains
 - r) Laura Hamilton, Adjutant
 - s) Keith Shearin, Sr Vice
 - t) Ric Ledford, Jr Vice
 - u) Greg Ciesielski, DVC
 - v) Lee Walker, DVC
 - w) Howard Boyd, DVC
 - x) Taine Pyle, DVC
 - y) Bill Brown, DVC
 - z) John Dilday, DVC
 - aa) Grant Thayer, DVC

- bb) Glenn Perkins, DVC
- cc) Chuck Wright, DVC
- dd) Denver Grant, DVC
- ee) Denny Mathias, DVC
- ff) Denny Mathias, Judge Advocate
- gg) Scotty Bryan, furthest distance traveled
- 2. Department Level Meritorious Unit Awards
 - a) Charlotte Detachment 750, Convention
 - b) Shawn Knisley Detachment 983, 2021 Department Rifle Raffle
 - c) Greater Greensboro Detachment 260, Eagle Scout Program
- 3. Distinguished Service Awards
 - a) Randal Rempfer, Paymaster
 - b) Ralph Farthing, Sgt of Arms
 - c) Laura Hamilton, Adjutant
 - d) Keith Shearin, Sr Vice
 - e) Ric Ledford, Jr Vice
 - f) Walter Reggie Sawyer, over 200 rifle raffle tickets sold
 - g) Kathryn and Ronald Medder
- 4. Board of Trustee Commendation
 - a) Denny Mathias

X. Flag Poles

- 1. Commandant Thomason announced that there are flag poles for sale in the hallway.

Y. Recess of the DoNC Convention morning session

- 1. Chaplin to close Bible
- 2. Sgt-at-Arms to announce that the meeting will reconvene at 1300.

Recess for lunch at 1123 - Reconvene at 1300

Z. Special Guest Speaker: (1215)

- 1. Lt. Col, (USMC Ret.) David “Bull” Gurfein of United American Patriots (PowerPoint presentation) <https://www.uap.org/>
 - a) This organization presumes the military members are innocent until proven guilty for charges during conflicts. It provides legal representation to them.

- b) We protect our warriors rights by raising money to provide legal assistance.
- c) We provide family support and provide a stipend to the warrior while in prison to maintain communication with their family.
- d) We assist the person when they get out in getting back on their feet.
- e) We are apolitical.

AA. Reconvene the afternoon DoNC Convention meeting - 1318

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

BB. Paymaster Discuss and vote on 2020-2021 budget.

- 1. Proposed budget
 - a) The only two new line items is the laptop replacement and scholarship. No other changes from last year.
 - b) We set the estimated fundraiser to \$9,500.

DoNC BUDGET - Proposed			
	June 2021/May 2022	Actual 20/21	
Income			
Investments			
Money Market	2.75	0.00	
Total Investments	2.75		0.00
Other Types of Income			
Detachment Escrow Acct.		0.00	
Total - Escrow Accounts			0.00
Fundraising Revenue	9,500.00	0.00	
2021/2022 Dept. Raffle		0.00	
Challenge Coins		0.00	
Compat Wounded Vet Signs		0.00	
2020/2021 Gun Raffle		9955.00	
2020 Calendar Raffle		10195.00	
Total Other Types of Income	9,500.00		0.00
Program Income			
Humanitarian/Disaster Relief	0.00	0.00	
Audio/Visual Allocation	3,631.63	0.00	
Cmndt Overage Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	
Life Member Interest Rebate	2,750.00	0.00	
Membership Dues	5,500.00	0.00	
Total Program Income	11,881.63		0.00
Total Income	21,384.38		0.00

Expense				
Advertising	500.00	0.00		
Department Officer's Expenses				
Adjutant Expenses	600.00	0.00		600.00
Chaplain Expenses	500.00	0.00		500.00
Commandant's Expenses	3,540.70	0.00		3540.70
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	0.00		400.00
North East	400.00	0.00		400.00
Northwest	400.00	0.00		400.00
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	0.00		
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	400.00	0.00		400.00
Printing and Copying	100.00	0.00		100.00
Supplies	100.00	0.00		100.00
Paymaster Expenses - Other	400.00	0.00		400.00
Total Paymaster Expenses	1,000.00	0.00		
Sr. Vice Commandant's Expenses	600.00	0.00		600.00
Total Department Officer's Expenses	11,840.70			0.00

Facilities and Equipment			
Multi-Media Expense	100.00	0.00	
AV Equipment Allocation	3,631.63	0.00	
DoNC Paymaster Laptop	400.00	0.00	
Total Facilities and Equipment	4,131.63		0.00
Meetings Expenses			
Mid-East Divison Conference(s)	225.00	0.00	
Mid-East Divison Host	250.00	0.00	
Convention/Membership Mtg.	250.00	0.00	
Host Detachment Allowance	600.00	0.00	
Total Meetings Expenses	1,325.00		0.00
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	0.00	
Square, Inc. Fee	50.00	0.00	
Web Site Expenses	135.00	0.00	
Total Operations	235.00		0.00
Other Types of Expenses			
2021/2022 Dept. Raffle: (TBD)	2,500.00	0.00	0.00
Awards	400.00	0.00	
Blue Collar Scholarship	5,000.00	0.00	* Five (5) \$1,000
Recipient-1			0.00
Recipient-2			0.00
Recipient-3			0.00
Recipient-4			0.00
Recipient-5			0.00
Combat Veteran Sign Purchase	0.00	0.00	0.00
Disaster Relief	0.00	0.00	8889.39
Wreaths Across America	1,000.00	0.00	
Gunny Clause	0.00	0.00	
Humanitarian Fund-General Acct (MARINE IN NEED)	2,500.00		Remaining Bal.
Hunanitarian Fund - General	0.00	0.00	
Total Humanitarian Relief Fund			0.00
New Detachment Allowance	300.00	0.00	
Total Other Types of Expenses	11,700.00		0.00
Total Expense	29,732.33		0.00
Net Income	(8,347.95)		0.00

c) Jeremy Barton made the motion to approve the budget. Second by Reggie Sawyer.

- d) Bull Durham asked about the time line for the scholarship; will it be for this year or next year?
 - i. Ric Ledford stated that we wanted to get the program approved and on the budget.
 - ii. We plan to get the committee together and have the applications ready for the fall membership meeting.
 - iii. Our goal is to award the first five scholarships before the next convention.
 - iv. Most college students will know if they are accepted by March or April. We plan to distribute the scholarships by the spring membership meeting.
 - v. Some of the students will go in mid-sessions such as some trade classes. Not all of the classes start at the same time.
 - vi. Only item left is to get the committee together to make sure the details are finished.
 - vii. If this is not in the budget, it cannot be spent. All because it is in the budget doesn't mean it must be spent.
- e) Vote - Budget approved by members present.

CC. New Business

- 1. 2022 Convention bids - We can hold the Department Convention anytime from 01- May through 15-July, per the Bylaws. Conventions are typically held in June
 - a) RDU Det #1482 volunteered.
 - b) No other detachment volunteered. Bull Durham made the motion to accept RDU's bid. Second by Jesus Vega. Approved by members present.
 - c) Date to be determined, not to conflict with MED or National.
- 2. 2023 Convention bids - We can hold the Department Convention anytime from 01- May through 15-July, per the Bylaws. Conventions are typically held in June
 - a) Onslow Det #262 volunteered.
 - b) No other detachment volunteered. Devell Durham made the motion to accept Onslow's bid. Second by Jesus Vega. Approved by members present.
- 3. Commandant Thomason - propose setting limit for purchase of item to be determined by the new Sr Vice. *Jeffrey Jones made the motion to set*

*a limit of \$2,500 for the Sr. Vice Commandant raffle for this year.
Second by Reggie Sawyer. Approved by members present.*

4. Other New Business

a) 50th Anniversary ribbons / medals

- i. Extras are available = \$2 ribbons / \$3 metals
- ii. This is the lowest ribbon on the bar.

b) National Commandant Tobin

- i. Thanked Commandant Thomason for his outstanding leadership.
- ii. COVID has forced us into the 21st century.
- iii. Headquarters is getting back to normal.
- iv. Red blazers – there are 8 places where they are available. A list is on MCL library webpage.
- v. We are working with the lady who makes the red covers as she cannot get the red dye right now. We may have to limit the number a detachment can purchase at one time.
- vi. Bylaw changes need to be read before arriving at National. They will not read everything before voting.

c) National Sr Vice Commandant JD Baker

- i. The Board of Trustees meet more now than pre-COVID.
- ii. Get signed up for the National Convention.
- iii. Working on getting transmittals online this fall for Department to National transfer. There are no regulations on Detachment to Department procedures.
- iv. The Marine Corps Reserves will be shrinking. This will affect Toys For Tots and funerals.
- v. It is important to keep the MCLLeague and Marine Corps relationship.
- vi. Younger Marines communicate in what they are using – social media, etc.
- vii. Commandants Corner is on Facebook.

d) National Past Commandant Wendall Webb

- i. New data base creation has come a long way this last year.

e) MODD CDD Hazlett

- i. Devil Dogs must be invited to join

f) National Public Relations Mike Francis

- i. There is a video contest for all detachments.
- ii. The MCL uniform is the red cover. Be in compliance!

DD. Election of Officers for the 2021-2022 year

1. Election Chairperson will be. Past Cmdt Bruce Rakfeldt assisted by the Credentials Committee.
2. New officers elected for this upcoming year
 - a) Commandant – Ric Ledford
 - b) Senior Vice – Julieane Froncek
 - c) Junior Vice – Jeremy Barton
 - d) Judge Advocate – Kenny Joyner

EE. Good of the League

1. Lewis Pleasants - Mud Run, June 4, 2022
2. Daphne Kappos – Knows an Iwo Jima Marine who will be turning 100 on October 25th. I would love to shower him with cards.
3. Bull Durham – HB 746 – would require all public schools to fly the POW-MIA flag. Reach out to your representative about this.
4. Doc Kaczmarek – get out to see your physician. If they put you on medicine, take it. Stay as healthy as you can so you can be here next year.
5. Detachment 750 will be celebrating Sgt Coy Shue 100th birthday on September 24th.

FF. Announcements

1. National Convention registration – Register ASAP (bring a copy to confirm registration) details at <https://www.mcleaguelibrary.org/convention/> for events and pricing.

GG. Recessing of the Meeting per Ritual until the Banquet at 1800

1. Remarks by Cmdt. Thomason
2. Singing of the Marines Hymn
3. Sgt. at Arms - Retire the Colors
4. Chaplain – Closing Prayer and closes the Bible – Jason Hall

Sgt. at Arms declared this meeting in recess until the opening ceremony of the Department Banquet tonight.