

## **PL Wilson Detachment Meeting 2-10-09**

### **Minutes**

Commandant Cal Walters called the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

Posting of Colors and Detachment Prayer ensued.

51 Members and 10 guests were in attendance.

\$116 was raised at tonight's raffle.

### **A Roll Call of Officers was taken:**

Commandant Cal Walters Fell –Present

Sr. Vice Commandant Tom Claxton –Present

Jr. Vice Commandant Larry Kent – Present

Judge Advocate Gwyn Howard----Present

Adjutant Jerry Steele –Present

Chaplin Thurman Roland –Present

Public Relations Officer Tom Claxton –Present

Sgt. at Arms Charlie Malone—Excused

Webmaster Tom Wells—Present

Paymaster David Sprott ---Present

Service Officer AB Grantham---Present

Legislative Officer John Bankston----Present

### **Correspondence**

Adjutant read letter from St Mary's Home thanking members for their support and toys for the children during the Christmas Season.

### **Announcements**

Two new members, Robert Destafaney and Gerald Jowers as well as new associate members Pete Reihm, Cindy Bridges and Don Heithhoft, were sworn in at tonight's meeting. Additionally, new Life Member Josh Grantham was presented his "card" at tonight's meeting.

Next Detachment's Officer's Meeting will be 17 February 2009 at Post 88.

Next Detachment Meeting will be Tuesday March 10, 2009 at Post 88. Food will be provided by Jim Smith and Cathy Dyess

Devil Dog Growl is set for Sunday 29 March 2009 at Jerry Steele's Doghouse.

On February the 20<sup>th</sup> at 1330 there will be a Mardi Gras celebration for the Gillard Elementary School. Attendees can muster at the Post at 1130.

### **Prior Minutes**

Prior minutes were distributed and posted on the web site and were **approved by the members**.

### **Paymasters Report**

Paymasters report, for the month of January was read and **approved by the members**. It was noted that the Detachment now has over \$6, 672 in its account and an additional \$2,768.08 in the “fishing rodeo” account.

### **Standing Committees**

**Bereavement Committee---**Committee Member Bubba Jackson stated that the committee had made 1 visit this past month, and will forward the name of the Marine at next meeting.

**Retention/Recruitment---** Reported that with the induction of tonight’s new members, our total numbers now had increased from 184 to 189 and that our retention was at 135%. Additionally, the updated membership roster was passed out to the members present at tonight’s meeting.

**Historical Committee---**Bubba Jackson reported that he was continuing to post pictures to the scrapbook and that he was also preparing to participate in the Americanism Project sponsored by the MCL for “best scrapbook” award.

**Sunday Cooking---**AB announced that as a result of the “remolding” of the Post’s kitchen, Sunday Cooking was on a hold. But he hoped that all will be well by March 1<sup>st</sup> so that we get back to once again doing it right. Additionally, he stated that the schedule for the Food Handler’s License’s held at the Tillman’s Conner Convention Center will be published on the web and in the next newsletter.

**Fishing Rodeo---**Tom Claxton reported that the Alabama Motor Sports Commission was having some minor issues in its start up but that in the end it would be worthwhile and add more bang to its prestige. However, this delay would impact our plans for their direct involvement this year. Tom further stated that we would continue to have our rodeo, but on a smaller level. Additionally, Tom added that the Boat Show would be held at the Convention Center this March 5th-8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Special Committees**

**Phone Committee**---Sam Vaughn reported that he was working on the “mother of all phone plans” to insure that as we grow in membership that his committee will be able to “get the word out”.

**Rifle Committee**---Rick Stafford asked members to get involved with his committee if they had an interest in rifles and guns. He told members of several local organizations and ranges where they could participate and have some fun and activities.

**Semper Fi Riders**---Gwyn announced that the Southern Cruisers were hosting their Ball this coming Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> at Whiting Field. Tickets are \$100 a couple and proceeds would go to support St. Jude’s Hospital.

**Trailer Committee**---**AB** reported that a new floor had been installed in our trailer. Special recognition was given to Harold Dorsey and Dennis Mott for their help and support. Mention was also given to the new “sound system” that the trailer will have for our up-coming events.

**Green’s Veteran Home**---Jim Gunnel reported that the quilts for the 150 residents would soon be completed. He further stated that the coordinator of the quilts project had asked that our members help with the presentation to the veterans. It was suggested that we help with the presentation after our next league meeting in March so that proper notice and coordination can be made.

**Golf Tournament Committee**---Josh Grantham reported that the committee was in the process of getting the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual tournament together. Date is set for April 10<sup>th</sup> (17<sup>th</sup> backup) with a 1pm shotgun start. Profits would be used to offset the cost of a bronze statue for Cpl Harrington (a 3<sup>rd</sup> Force Reconnaissance Marine) who was killed in Iraq. Bust of Cpl. Harrington would come from the “Operation Never Forget” program. Cost to participate in the tournament is \$75/ea and teams are \$280. Joe, Perry and Tom were volunteered to help provide, respectively, food, drinks and sponsorships.

## **Officer’s Reports**

**Commandant**---Cal Walters presented to the members a proposed Fiscal Budget for 2009. **Motion was made and approved by the members to accept this budget.**

**Chaplin**--- Thurmond Roland reported on several members who were sick or in distress to include Charlie Malone (who is at Mobile Infirmary room 3825). He also reported on Dick Barnett, Ricky Reid, John Bungee, Tom Claxton’s grandson, Crabby, Joe Fell’s wife, AB’s wife and Sam Vaughn.

**Sgt at Arms**---acting Sgt Reid reported that there were still many raffle tickets available tonight.

**Webmaster**---Tom Wells reported that the website was being update with new pictures and that the member's forum was being revamped. Additionally, Tom stated that the officer's section was nearing completion.

**Judge Advocate**---Gwyn Howard reported that as a result of his inquiry to the Penelope House, he had received an e-mailed outlining the various areas that needed repairs or assistance. Gwyn ask members to review the e-mail and get back with him if they wanted to help.

**Legislative Committee**---John Bankston reported that he had meet with some of our local Commissioners and government officials to continue the plans for our Veterans Parkway which would stretch over 37 miles. He also stated that statues would be placed at the beginning and end of the Parkway.

**Cokes Rewards Program**---Jerry Steele reported that while the program had acquired 6,259 points for the Toys for Tots Program in 2008, in large part to Cal Walters, he felt that as we had a good start in 2009, we could do even better in 2009. He encouraged all to participate and place collection "jugs" in high traffic areas to help get the program in high gear.

No other reports given.

### **Good of League**

It was stated that the Officer Installation and Awards Ceremony was a successes. All that attended were more than satisfied with the food and ceremony. Additionally, the Veterans and members who attended this year's Senior Bowl were pleased with the results and had a great time.

Division Conference is set for March 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> in Gatlinburg, Tn. All interested need to ensure reservations and travel plans.

Department Conference set for June 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> in Dothan, Al. Attendance is highly encouraged.

It was announced that tickets for a "Basket of Cheer" would soon be available for raffling for our Annual Picnic May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Destafaney told members that the Bay Bears were honoring Hank Aaron on his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. Members were encouraged to attend; tables are \$500 for 10 people or \$75 for individuals.

Pete Reihm told members about the "Honor Flight Program" and how south Alabama is now forming its program to provide a one day charter flight and transportation for WWII

veterans to visit the WWII Memorial in Washington D.C. on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Cost to WWII Veterans is free. The program is looking to take about 90 veterans from this area and about 50 support personnel. Total cost of south Alabama's program is about \$75-\$80k. Pete provided applications for the veterans.

**Closing Ceremonies** were conduct with the meeting adjourned at 2140 hours. Next meeting will be March 10, 2009.