

## **PL Wilson Detachment Meeting 4-14-09**

### **Minutes**

Commandant Cal Walters called the meeting to order at 1907 hours.

Posting of Colors and Detachment Prayer ensued.

40 Members and 7 guests were in attendance.

\$121 was raised at tonight's raffle.

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

Commandant Cal Walters –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—Excused

Paymaster David Sprott ---Present

Service Officer AB Grantham---Present

Legislative Officer John Bankston----Present

### **Correspondence**

Adjutant read a letter from Mike Dow's Community Foundation in which the Foundation had made a \$1000 donation to our recent Golf Tournament supporting Operation Never Forget.

### **Announcements**

The PL Wilson Detachment celebrated its 30 year anniversary tonight. One of the founding members, Ken Skipper was in attendance at tonight's meeting. Bulldog Pound #184 provided the cake and chow.

Six new members, Richard Ivy, Nick Nichols, Ray Lowinski, Ken Sowell, Jay Buchson and Bill Dickens as well as 1 new Associate Member, Eugene Looney were sworn in at tonight's meeting.

Next Detachment's Officer's Meeting will be 28 April 2009 at Post 88.

Next Detachment Meeting will be Tuesday May 12, 2009 at Post 88. Food will be provided by John and Debbie Bange.

Devil Dog Growl is set for Sunday 31 May 2009 at AB's Doghouse.

Department Convention is set for June 5-7 in Dothan, Alabama. Attendance is highly encouraged. Need registration returned by May 1 and hotel reservation need to be made by 14 May. Additionally, a 42" TV will be raffled as a grand prize.

Cmd. Mack Herrin stated that a final Yard Sale at Post 88 will be held this Thursday/Friday/Saturday starting at 7:30 am. Additionally, he stated that the Post's Kitchen was slated for a Board of Health inspection next week. Lastly, he told our members that the Wal-Mart cards are still available to us for sale during the Post's Sunday Bingo Events.

Hardy Canton presented a check for \$600 from Post 88 to our Detachment in support and as a sponsor of the "Veterans and Bay Bears Baseball Outings". Additionally, Hardy stated that he was also running for election as the next Post Commander.

Jim McEvoy let Detachment Member know that he too was running for election as Post 88's new Commander.

April 25<sup>th</sup> is the date set for our Mulherin Home visit to install the bird feeders and bird bath. Muster will be 1000 at the Post. Uniform is red poly shirt and covers.

Spring Road Block set for 16 May. Details to follow.

### **Prior Minutes**

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

### **Paymasters Report**

Paymasters report, for the month of March was read and **approved by the members**. It was noted that the Detachment now has over \$8,849 in its account and an additional \$2,768 in the "fishing rodeo" account.

### **Committee Reports**

**Bereavement Committee**---Jim Gunnels reported that that the committee had made 5 visits this past month to our fallen Marines: Paul Otterbauch 3-14-09, Leonard Web 3-17-09, Freddie Hall 3-17-09, Joseph Fillingham 3-19-09 and Alvin Watson 3-17-09. He then identified his committee members and thanked them for their help and support.

**Retention/Recruitment**--- Larry Kent reported that with the induction of tonight's new members, our total numbers now had increased from 194 to 201 and that our retention was approaching 156%.

**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. Additionally, a committee meeting had been scheduled for next Sunday.

**Sunday Cooking**---AB announced that as a result of the “remolding” of the Post’s kitchen, Sunday Cooking was still on hold. But he hoped that all will be well by mid May 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.

**Semper Fi Riders**---Gwyn announced that the riders were planning a trip to St Jude’s this Saturday. Starts at the Eastern Shore Shopping Center and ends at Lulu’s. Members are meeting at Bama Bells at 0800. It’s \$20/rider \$30/couple. Ride starts at 1100.

**Golf Tournament Committee**---AB Grantham reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual tournament was a success. Enough money was raised to acquire the bronze statue from the “Operation Never Forget” program for Cpl Harrington (a 3<sup>rd</sup> Force Reconnaissance Marine) who was killed in Iraq. Bust will be placed at the new Navy/Marine Corps Reserve Center at Ft. Whiting during the Marine Corps Birthday Ball in November.

**Cokes Rewards Committee**---Jerry Steele reported that we were at about 1600 points and had many more to put into the system. He encouraged all to participate and place collection “jugs” in high traffic areas to help get the program in high gear. Suggestions were made to place some containers at the Mobile Harley Shop and Mulherin Home as well as other location that our Detachment supports.

## **New Business**

Annual Picnic will be May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Walter’s Park. Kickoff is at 1100. Volunteers are needed to bring a covered dish. Members and 1 guest are free, other guests are \$5/ea children are \$3/ea. There will be a horseshoe tournament and lots of entertainment for the children.

Bay Bears are sponsoring 20-25 veterans from Biloxi this coming April 16<sup>th</sup> and 13 May. Members wishing to go and help the veterans can muster at the Post at 6:30.

There will be a Detachment workday at the Post this April 25<sup>th</sup>. Much maintenance and organization needs to be made to our spaces and areas upstairs and down. Show time is 1200.

We will provide a color Guard for Memorial Day at the Magnolia Cemetery on May 25<sup>th</sup>. John Gray will be recognized during the ceremony as the Mobile Area Veteran of the Year.

**Motion was made to contract with a phone calling service which will allow the Detachment to make up to 200 member calls multiple times a month for “reminder” calls of upcoming events or information. Cost is \$55/mo and has a 30 day cancellation policy. Motion passed.**

Flag Day celebration will be this June 14<sup>th</sup> at Pinecrest Cemetery. Uniform will be undressed blues. Details to follow.

### **Officer’s Reports**

**Chaplin---** Thurmond Roland reported on several members who were sick or in distress to include Tom Dubose, Jimmy Strickland and Charlie Malone.

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

No other reports given.

### **Good of League**

Tickets are still available for sale for the “Basket of Cheer” which will be used to help offset the cost for our Annual Picnic May 23rd.

It was stated that the PL Wilson Detachment has been selected to host the 2010 SE Division Conference in Mobile.

Gwen Howard stated that the recent St Jude’s Radiothon had raised over \$108,000 to help the children’s hospital in large part to the support of Detachment Members. Additionally Gwen stated that our detachment has an opportunity to present the money to the hospital in Memphis and that he was working on the details.

Perry Vaughn stated that there had been a great Growl held this past month at Charlie Malone’s Grand Doghouse and that here had been much whimpering and whining, but all for a good cause.

Bubba Jackson reported that his hunting lodge was nearing completion and that he would like to invite the members to a turkey hunt this season. He will provide more details as they are know.

Members were made aware that Ed Regis brother, Jim McHenry, has recently published a book called "Quest for Forgiveness" and is now on sale.

**Closing Ceremonies** were conduct with the meeting adjourned at 2105 hours. Next meeting will be May 12, 2009.