

PL Wilson Detachment Meeting 5-12-09

Minutes

Commandant Cal Walters called the meeting to order at 1905 hours.

Posting of Colors and Detachment Prayer ensued.

51 Members and 8 guests were in attendance.

\$108 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—Present

Paymaster David Sprott ---Present

Service Officer AB Grantham---Present

Legislative Officer John Bankston----Absent

Correspondence

Adjutant read aloud an e-mail from Department Commandant Johnny Baker asking fellow Marines to help support the legislation to pass Marine Corps Service Tag Bill (HB28) as well as the Vietnam Veterans (VVA) Service Tag Bill (HB58). Support is needed this Thursday and Friday with our local and state legislators. Additionally, the Adjutant read aloud an e-mail from MCL Member Bob DeStafney thanking League Members for their support and help in his endeavors in the Mobile area, as he was moving on to a new job as the Commandant of Cadets at the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo, California. Special thanks were noted to Cal Walters, Fred Walters and Tom Claxton.

Announcements

A moment of silence and pray was given in memory of Rick Stafford who had just recently passed away. Additionally, Gwyn Howard let our Members know that Rick's body was being transported to Beckman Williamson Funeral Home at 101 N Brevard Ave in Cocoa Beach, Florida. Their phone number is 321-784-0116, e-mail is bwfh@bellsouth.net

Both the CO and XO of 3rd Force Reconnaissance Co spoke to the Members present and stated that they were ready and willing to continue the good work between our "units".

Four new members, Ashford Kettler, John Gavin, Jimmy Reed and Robert Goodwin as well as 4 new Associate Members, Tricia Allen, Mikiko Goodwin, Tony Claxton and Art Slack were sworn in at tonight's meeting.

Next Detachment's Officer's Meeting will be 26 May 2009 at Post 88.

Next Detachment Meeting will be Tuesday 9 June 2009 at Post 88. Food will be provided by Herschel Mason and TBA.

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.

Hardy Canton reminded the Members that Post 88 elections were being held tomorrow night. Additionally, he stated that the Post's kitchen was slated for a Board of Health re-inspection later this week and hopefully we could get back to Sunday Cooking.

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

Spring Road Block set for 16 May. Muster will be 0900 at University and Old Shell intersection. Troops will be deployed here as well as the intersection of Grelot and Hillcrest. Proceeds will be split with 3rd Force.

Flag Day will be 14 June at the Memorial Gardens in the afternoon.

Prior Minutes

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

Paymasters Report

Paymasters report, for the month of April was read and **approved by the members**. It was noted that the Detachment now has over \$6,563 in its account and an additional \$2,768 in the "fishing rodeo" account.

Committee Reports

Bereavement Committee---Billy Crabtree reported that that the committee had made 3 visits this past month to our fallen Marines: Mack Reed 5-3-09, Reginald Dover 5-4-09 and Rev Gil Johnson 5-11-09. He then identified his committee members that attended 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 201 to 209. However, he stated that we had some members (13) that are now delinquent in their dues but he was working to resolve this issue. He then stated that we all need to be out there and recruiting and to see him after the meeting to get some "tools" to help in the recruiting effort.

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 has been scheduled for the next time the Sunday Cooking at the Post occurs.

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.

Cokes Rewards Committee---Jerry Steele reported that we were at about 2700 points and had many more to put into the system. He further explained that this year has been a little harder to put points into the system as we were now only allowed to place 10 codes a week instead of a day per e-mail account. However, he still encouraged all to participate and as a solution he wanted to add more e-mail addresses to our current three and bind them together in December so that we could make up for the number that can be placed into the system per week. Scott Reese volunteered to use 5 of his current e-mails to support this effort.

Unfinished Business

Joe Fell reported that the Mulherin Home visit last month went well as the feeders and bird bath were a big hit with the residents. Additionally, Cal Walters stated that the "Clean-up Day at the Post" went well and that we can actually find things up-stairs.

The Basket of Cheer tickets are still on sale through the Annual Picnic for our general fund raiser. Contents are worth over \$300. Tickets are \$3/ea or 2 for \$5. Bob Guesnard has sold over \$400 worth of tickets and has challenged all comers.

Cal stated that the contract with the 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 is still moving forward and should shortly be put in

place once the Detachment has acquired a debit card to place the monthly cost. Cost is \$55/mo and has a 30 day cancellation policy.

New Business

Larry Kent stated that the Annual Picnic will be May 23rd 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.

The PL Wilson Detachment is sponsoring 20-25 veterans from Biloxi tomorrow 13 May. Members wishing to go and help the veterans can muster at the Post at 1100 with the first pitch at 1135.

We will provide a color Guard for Memorial Day at the Magnolia Cemetery on May 25th. Ceremony starts at 0900. Color Guard will muster at 0800. John Gray will be recognized during the ceremony as the Mobile Area Veteran of the Year. Uniform is undressed blues.

There will also be an observance of Memorial Day at the Greens Veterans Home in Bay Minette at 1000. Cal Walters will be the guest speaker. Muster at Post 88 at 0900. Uniform is Red Blazer.

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

Officer's Reports

Sr. Vice Tom Claxton reported on the South Alabama Veterans Cemetery which had been proposed for Baldwin County. He stated that it was not moving well with our lawmakers in Montgomery. He asked members to call their representatives to let them know how they felt. He further asked members to join with him and others to go to Montgomery to show our "flags". Muster for the trip to Montgomery will be this Thursday at 0700 at the Battleship. Additionally, Tom with the "help" of Art Slack and Bill Carpenter told member about the recent Honor Flight and how well it had gone for the WWII vets. They encouraged other WWII vets to participate in future Honor Flights.

Chaplin--- Thurmond Roland reported on several members who were sick or in distress to include Charlie Malone, Al Tanner's wife, Harvey Bryant and Pete Bates. The Chaplin also let the members know that Mrs. Covington had recently passed away.

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

Webmaster---Tom Wells stated that he has recently updated the web with pictures. He also gave the web address as www.mobilemarines.org.

No other reports given.

Good of League

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

Post 88 Elections are May 13th at 7pm.

Hershel Mason and Danny Stevenson were assigned to be Co-Chairmen of the Hosting Committee. It will be their charge to enlist other members to help greet new and prospective members at each meeting. They will also be responsible to find volunteers to bring food to each future meeting.

Josh Grantham thanked all the members who attended his recent graduation party.

Roy LaFon stated that the Friends of the NRA were having a raffle. He further stated that tickets for a 45 cal. and an AR-15 were available for purchase. See him for details.

A motion to increase reimbursement for those providing food at our meetings, for up to \$100, was made and approved by the members.

Closing Ceremonies were conduct with the meeting adjourned at 2120 hours. Next meeting will be 9 June 2009.