

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS



Department Meeting Feb. 17, 2008

The Minutes

Minutes of Feb. 17,2008

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The February meeting was held at the Oakridge Detachment, Detachment 628, Bernardston, Ma. Commandant Joeseeph Caterina called the regular meeting to order at 13:02 and Sgt at Arms Robert Gore led the members in a hand salute and Pledge Allegiance to our flag. The Department Chaplain Arthur Enos opened the bible and led the membership in an opening prayer.

Commandant Caterina recognized the following Dignitaries:
Richard Gore, N.E. Div. Vice Commandant

13:10 Roll Call of State Officers

Roll Call was completed by the Adjutant and the results were as follows:

OFFICERS

Commandant	Joeseeph Caterina	P
Sr. Vice Commandant	Joe Summers	P
Jr. Vice Commandant	Robert A. Delong	P
Judge Advocate	Paul Porter	P
Chaplain	Arthur Enos	P
Jr. Past Dpt.Cmdt	Richard Gore	P
Financial O.Chairman	Phil Sullivan	P
Financial Officer	Frank Gillen	A
Financial Officer	Jim Hastings	P
Financial Officer	Domenic Ricci	P
Paymaster	Bernie Heaney	P
Adjutant	Francis J.Curnow	P
Chief of Staff	Paul O'Reilly	E
Scholarship Committee		P
Dave Epps Chairman		E
Mary Crowley		A
Ed Silvieri		A
Legislative Committee		
Warren Griffin Chairman		A
Matt Boyle		A
Public Affairs Officer	Frank Real	P
Dept Web Sgt.	Joe DeAlmeida	P
Field Music Officer	TBA	
Marine For Life	James E. Hastings	A
Awards Committee		
Frank Muise		P
Edward Silveira		A
Earl Skeen		A
Inspector General	Joe Summers	P
POW-MIA	Earl Skeen	P

Roll Call of State Officers (cont)

VAVS Chairman	Leonard O'Brien	A
VAVS Brockton	Leo P. Cardarelli	A
VAVS Holyoke	Brian P. Dupee	P
VA Liaison Officer	Paul E. Carew	A
Vietnam Veteran Liaison		P
Bill Marcelli		A
Stephen Stefan		E
Lewis Naple		A
Americanism	Dave Epps	P
Color Guard Captain	John Rice	E
Aide-de-Campe	Domenic Ricci	P
Toys-For-Tots		
Gerald Skeean Chairman		P
Frank Gillen		A
Convention Committee		P
Paul O'Reilly		E
Richard Gore		P
Earle King		P
William Byrne		P
Warren Griffin		P
Jim Hastings		A
Quartermaster	Joe Dymon	P
Sergeant at Arms	Robert Gore	P
Membership Committee		P
Robert DeLong Chairman		P
Orville Anttila		A
Uniform Committee		A
John Rutovich		P
Steve Whalen		
Liaison to the Devil Dogs	Bill Taylor	E

DISTRICT VICE COMMANDANTS

North Central District	George (Doc) Fregeau	P
Cape Cod District	David Baker	A
North Shore	Kenneth Oswald	A
North Middlesex	Art Enos	P
South Middlesex	Warren Griffin	A
South Central	Earl Skeean	A
South Shore	Marc Connolly	A
Western District	J.R.Rutovich	P

Roll Call of State Officers (cont)

MASSACHUSETTS DETACHMENT COMMANDANTS

Blackstone Valley 911	Clarence Porter	P
Burlington 123	Arthur Enos	P
William R. Caddy 124	Mary Crowley	A
Cape & Islands 955	Gene Monay	P
Cape Cod 125	Bradford Hutchenrider	P
Essex County 127	Joseph Cole	P
Capt. William Glynn	Richard Broadnax	A
Kelly-Sullivan 594	Bob Harrington	P
L/Cpl John Van Guyzen	Bruce Aldrich	A
Leo T. Fortier 130	Gerald Surprenant	A
Merrimack Valley 133	Neil Mitchell	A
Metro South 1115	Anthony Zarrella	A
Metro West 1037	David Berry	A
Norfolk County 136	Joseph Collins	A
North Central 1076	Paul Porter	P
Capt Jennifer Harris	John P. Stinson	P
Oak Ridge 628	John Barlow	P
Pequoig 1168	Bernie Heaney	P
Pittsfield 137	Louis W. Robesch Jr	A
Pvt. Charles J. Shutt 139	Domenic Ricci	P
South Central 1094	Bob DeLong	P
Ware 140	David Olsen	P
Westfield River Valley 141	Francis Curnow	P
William R. Caddy	Mary Crowley	A
Woburn Leathernecks 143	David Epps	A
Worcester 144	Steve Cheney	P

P = Present, A = AWOL, E = Excused

Motion to accept previous minutes made by Bob DeLong and passed.

Paymaster report accepted as read subject to audit.

Sick & Distressed: None Mentioned

Officer Reports:

Commandant Caterina reports an inactive month due to family illness. Sr. Vice Joe Summers served as a back-up at the Mid Winter conference. Joe Caterina read the mid winter report. He pointed out that as of 31 Jan. 2008 the Dept membership was tallied at 2035. Additionally one new Detachment is in process to get its charter. The "Honorable Few" will be up shortly. Two older Det.'s are in work to be revived.

VAVS : Hospitals are being visited regularly and we are sponsoring a ward at Leeds. Regular breakfasts are held for Veterans at both Holyoke Soldiers and Leeds.

Toys for Tots: Commandant reported he is not pleased with the lack of cooperation between the Marine Reserves and the Marine Corps League. Further the delays in reporting on the Toys campaign was not in line with the actual Toys collected. We MUST get the numbers reported even if we are working as an individual Det.

NE Div Vice Gore spoke at this time on the subject. At the Mid winter in 2006 1.6 Million was reported in value of toys. Equal amts were presumed in 2007 but the reporting did not support that number. Due to (less reporting). \$39,000 cash was reported in to MCL. Coordination between designated civilians and the League is not showing due credit to the MCL efforts. A MajGen has been named as the new Director of the program in hopes of getting on the correct path. This new Director wants participation by the Marine Corps League.

Div Vice Gore pointed out that there are different options available to improve this program but we (MCL) need to foster new ways to make this happen.

On another note the NE Div Vice advised us that a new casual Blue Blazer is available through the Marine Shops with appropriate logos. Initial offering at \$360 each.

Extended discussion was held on the Toys issue, therefore Commandant Caterina broke protocol so that Gerry Skeeane could complete the subject area.

Toys for Tots:

Gerry advised we only had 60% reportability. A combination of misunderstanding in some cases but in any event the forms must be completed properly and in a timely manner. This would have been helpful in addressing the Mid Winter conference. There are 550 Detachments nationwide. It is obvious that incorrect reporting is unacceptable. It was further reported that the 25th Marines have been difficult to work with in recent years and this must be remedied.

Commandant Caterina , Marine Skeeane and DivVice Gore suggest we need to rethink the entire issue and discuss our game plan at the June convention. Discussion on this issue terminated at this time.

Senior Vice Summers: Joe reported that in addition to the Mid Winter conference he attended final services Richard Dennis at Bourne national cemetery on Feb 14th followed by services for Dick Smith at Chatam.

Inspector General: Joe also reported that no Det had requested assistance at any installations. However since he knew some were held he is requesting proper reports completed and sent to the correct place. Otherwise the process is delayed.

Jr Vice Robert A. DeLong: New membership report as of 12-31-07 shows a decrease in paid up and increase in unpaid membership. Bob has been talking to Det Officers to remedy the problem. He has been to meetings in Plymouth to assist new members with the formation of a

new Det. A number (21) of Police and Fire types are part of this new enthusiastic group. The "Honorable Few" have 17 members now with their charter in the works. Also the 80th Anniversary ribbon will be available at the convention but you must attend to get it!

Judge Advocate: Paul Porter reports Glynn Det By Laws are in process and Oakridge has completed theirs. Worcester has updated their 1937 version of By Laws with Pittsfield adopting the state version. Metro West will be complete in March.

Chaplain: Art Enos advises we have lost Twenty five Marines since last report. Essex' Burt Russell's funeral was attended by 26+ Marines who presented an impressive picture in their red blazers.

Motion made by Bernie Heaney and officers reports accepted by voice .

Standing Committee: Convention Delegate forms will be in a package to all and will be available on the web.

Mass Pack Leader DeLong: Check email for sign up for the convention DD Clambake. in his area.

VAVS: Brian Dupee reported a busy month of Jan into Feb. There have been concerts at Leeds, Breakfasts on Mondays also @ ward 4. Brian and Joe Mucha of Westfield have been spending a significant amount of time on Veteran projects. To date 287 hours have been credited to their efforts.

Joe Dymon suggested the Dept recognize the Young Marines at Westover with a certificate of appreciation for all the work in cooperation with Det 141.

NE Div Vice Gore advised that Rene' Gagnon Day will be celebrated on 23 Feb at Wolfeboro, N.H. at the Wright museum. Also the quad State convention will be held in S. Portland , Me. On April 18,19,20.

Paymaster: Recently tuned in Bernie announced PLM money has been made available with the Dept having \$4570 paid in due to membership but you must do the paperwork to get it. | 210 members have not been reported on! This is a Det function for your members.

Uniforms: J. Rutovich advises that a copy of the uniform manual will be published on the Dept web site by the time you read this. This should be helpful to those of you upgrading your uniforms. Note that encl 3 of the by laws will be the most correct if there is a conflict because the manual itself is an earlier printing.

Paymaster Heaney: Gave a brief (seminar) on IRS issues as they apply to the 990n or e-card directives. The key numbers are \$ 225,000 in assets and more than \$25,000 gross income per year. Bernie will give additional info at the convention if need.

Motion to close the meeting at 1459 made, 2nd and passed by unanimous loud voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francis J. Curnow
Adjutant Dept. of Mass.

