



BRAZOS VALLEY DETACHMENT #1391

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3745
BRYAN, TEXAS 77805

Email: brazosvalley1391@gmail.com
Web: www.brazosvalleymcl.com
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Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2017

LOCATION: Kreuz Market Bryan, 768 N Earl Rudder Fwy, Bryan, TX 77802

OFFICERS PRESENT: Commandant John McGuire; Sr Vice Commandant Doug Tennis; Paymaster Glenn Burnside; Sergeant-at-Arms Olivia Burnside; Web Sergeant Ed Holcomb; Adjutant Thorin Moser; Jr Past Commandant David Sahn

OFFICERS ABSENT: Jr Vice Commandant Doug Crabtree; Staff Judge Advocate Roger Martinez; Chaplain Cary Tennis

OPENING CEREMONY: The meeting was called to order at 19:00

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP: None

GUESTS: Staff Sergeant Benton Gillis, SNCOIC RSS College Station

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: January meeting minutes were read.

- o Marine O. Burnside motioned for minutes to be accepted; PA Powell seconded; Regular members present voted unanimously in favor

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF THE PAYMASTER:

- o January:
 - Checking: \$3,423.46
 - Income includes:
 - o Account dividends \$0.15
 - o Memberships \$105.00
 - o Coins purchase \$50.00
 - Expenses include:
 - o Two \$500 scholarships \$1000.00
 - o New membership Dept payment \$10.00
 - o New membership Nat'l payment \$50.00
 - Ending balance: \$2,518.61
 - Savings: \$1,253.75
 - Total assets: \$3,772.36

REPORT OF SICK/INJURED MEMBER OR FAMILY:

- o Junior Vice Commandant Doug Crabtree still not feeling well. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

REPORT OF OFFICERS None

REPORT OF COMMITTEES: None



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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Upcoming calendar events

- o Mar 8 Det Leadership meeting
- o Mar 13 Det regular meeting (Officer elections)
- o Apr 5 Det Leadership meeting
- o Apr 10 Det regular meeting (Officer installation ceremony)
- o Apr 19 Poolee Family Day at Museum of the American GI
- o Jun Operation MRE! (Meat-Ready-to-Eat!)
- o Jul 4 Chappell Hill 4th of July parade
- o Jul 4 I Love America! Celebration
- o Aug Harry Bruce "Retreat Hell" Award presentation
- o Sep 13 Mexican-American War memorial dedication at Veterans Park
- o Nov 10 242nd USMC Birthday
- o Nov 11 Veterans Day
- o Nov Navasota Veterans Day parade
- o Dec Operation Seatback (Kyle Field seat removal fundraiser)
- o Dec Make-A-Smile-Happen (MASH)
- o Dec Detachment Christmas party

NEW BUSINESS:

- Detachment Officer nominations

- o Slate is as follows:
 - Commandant: Keith Stephens
 - Senior Vice Commandant: Doug Tennis
 - Junior Vice Commandant: Thorin Moser
 - Paymaster: Glenn Burnside
 - Staff Judge Advocate: Roger Martinez
 - Adjutant: Thorin Moser
 - Chaplain: Mary Jean Holcomb
 - Public Affairs Officer: Misti Moser
 - Sergeant-at-Arms: Don Hutchcraft
 - Web Sergeant: Ed Holcomb
- o No objections were presented / no additional nominations were offered.
- o Slate was proposed to be presented at the monthly meeting on March 13.

- Recruiting Sub-Station College Station update

- o Staff Sergeant Benton Gillis
 - new Staff Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge
 - familiar with area and excited to work with Marine Corps League
- o Date/location set for Poolee Family Day
 - April 19 at Museum of the American GI
 - Det 1391 committed to support event with chow
- o Date/location set for RS Houston Poolee Event
 - April 22 in Pasadena
 - SSgt Gillis requested support for covering poolee t-shirt costs
 - Paymaster suggested offline discussion for local contact



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- KBTX interview:
 - o Original proposal was to be on Brazos Valley This Morning
 - o First News at Four asked that our Detachment be on their show
- Presentation: "Six Months of Glory: 1st Marine Division in Korea"
 - o In 1950, 1st Marine Division had one infantry regiment
 - 5th Marines
 - Half-strength due to post-war drawdown
 - Inadequate equipment and ammunition for training
 - o North Korean forces advanced to Pusan
 - In July 1950, 1st Marine Brigade ordered to participate in a counterattack starting at Masan - which reinforced United States Army units during the Battle of Pusan Perimeter
 - o General MacArthur demanded combat troops
 - The USMC committed to providing a division
 - Plan to build up 1stMarDiv division from units of 2nd Marine Division, Marine Barracks, and USMC Reserves
 - Many Marines were WWII veterans
 - 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines ordered while in transit through Suez Canal to report to 1st Marine Division as 3/7
 - USMC had to source many Marines from Reserves
 - o Requirement to determine who was deployable
 - WWII Veterans had priority
 - Marines that went to Boot Camp were essential
 - Not unusual for Reserve Marines not to have gone to Boot Camp
 - Many Reserve Marines had only attended training that took place for a couple of hours on one evening during the week
 - o Camp Pendleton operated on a 24-hour schedule to in-process Marines
 - o U.S. Navy found that they lacked shipping as well as embarkation officers to move the Division to Korea
 - o 1stMarDiv tasked to make Inchon Landing on Sep 15, 1950
 - Some units were still at sea and arrived just in time
 - Despite extreme tides, Division landed and entered outskirts of Seoul on Sep 24, 1950
 - Serious combat ended on Sep 28, 1950 - which included significant urban terrain combat to liberate a major country capital
 - o 1stMarDiv tasked to embark on ships and sail to the eastern side of the Korean peninsula to put ashore at Wonsan.
 - Disembarked and given mission to march to the Yalu River
 - 5th and 7th Marines advanced to the Chosin Reservoir
 - Sub-zero temperatures were norm



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- Ten Chinese infantry divisions attached on 27 November 1950.
- 1stMarDiv fought their way back to Wonsan suffering over 900 killed and missing, over 3,500 wounded and more than 6,500 non-battle casualties mostly from frostbite during the battle.
- Equipment, KIAs/WIAs were evacuated during movement towards Wonsan
 - Except for 117 KIA's buried in mass grave at Koto-Ri
- Aviation played a critical role providing close air support and medevacs
- o Summary:
 - In six months..
 - 1st Marine Brigade secured Pusan Perimeter
 - 1st Marine Division:
 - o formed in matter of weeks
 - o executed one of greatest amphibious operations
 - o liberated a major national capital with urban combat
 - o executed a winter campaign despite never having done one
 - o despite being written off as surrounded and outnumbered, fought determined and numerical larger enemy forces
 - USMC strengthened argument for existence

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Show and Tell:
 - o Doug Tennis: short timer's stick
 - allowed only if 100 days left of tour in Vietnam; if 10 days left, then allowed to carry it
 - o Thorin Moser: Armada de Chile LST-93 Valdivia cover, obtained while cross-decked from USS Portland during Unitas in 2002 deployment to South America
 - Valdivia was previously the USS San Bernardino
 - During the cross-deck, discovery made that navigator on USS Portland was also a navigator on the Unitas deployment in 2000 in which the USS La Moure County (LST-1194) ran aground.
 - A concern because the next portion of the deployment would take the USS Portland through the Strait of Magellan
- Wreaths Across America:
 - o BVMCL represented very well at all stages of WAA
 - o Organizational/Planning meeting on Feb 22 at 1900 at AmLeg

CLOSING CEREMONY: The meeting concluded at 20:08.

Meeting Attendees:

Bill Brown	Ed Holcomb	Amy Raines
Glenn Burnside	John McGuire	David Sahn
Olivia Burnside	Maggie McGuire	Wayde Smith
Bill Collopy	Thorin Moser	Doug Tennis
Larry Farmer	Tom Powell	



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