



## BRAZOS VALLEY DETACHMENT #1391

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3745  
BRYAN, TEXAS 77805

Email: [brazosvalley1391@gmail.com](mailto:brazosvalley1391@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.brazosvalleymcl.org](http://www.brazosvalleymcl.org)  
Facebook: [Brazos Valley MCL Facebook](#)



Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2017

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

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Sr Vice Commandant Doug Tennis; Jr Vice Commandant/Adjutant Thorin Moser; Paymaster Glenn Burnside; Staff Judge Advocate Roger Martinez; Web Sergeant Ed Holcomb; Sergeant-at-Arms Don Hutchcraft; Historian Misti Moser; Jr Past Commandant John McGuire

**OFFICERS ABSENT:** Commandant Keith Stephens; Chaplain Mary Jean Holcomb

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

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP:** None

**GUESTS:** Jerry Boyd - FMF Corpsman, paramedic at St Joseph's; MCL member

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes for September regular meeting were read. **Marine Diaz motioned for minutes to be accepted; Marine McGuire seconded; Regular members present voted unanimously in favor**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

### REPORT OF THE PAYMASTER:

- September:

o Checking: \$3,116.09

▪ Income includes:

• Membership dues	\$355.00
• MRE Donation	\$37.41
• Coin donation	\$110.00
• Wine donation	\$20.00
• Hurricane Harvey Relief gift cards	\$1,150.00
• Account dividends	\$0.16

▪ Expenses include:

• Hurricane Harvey Relief gift cards	\$1,150.00
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▪ Ending balance: \$3,638.66

o Savings: \$1,254.22

o Total assets: \$4,892.88

**REPORT OF SICK/INJURED MEMBER OR FAMILY:** None

**REPORT OF OFFICERS:** None

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:** None



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### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

#### - Upcoming calendar events

- o Oct 20-22 Department Fall Conference (Houston)
  - The hotel did not receive any damage
  - The conference is still on schedule
  - [Click here for more details and to register](#)
- o Nov 10 242nd USMC Birthday
- o Nov 10 Veterans Day Wall of Honor ceremony (Veterans Park)
- o Nov 11 Veterans Day Ceremony (American Legion Post 159)
- o Nov 13 Detachment regular meeting (Kreuz)
  - Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony
  - KA-Bar giveaway
- o Nov 20 Bryan City Council Pledge of Allegiance (Bryan)
  - Det has been asked to administer the pledges for the meeting
  - Arrive at 17:50 to stage and rehearse
  - Pledge presentation starts at 18:00
  - Uniform: Red Detachment shirt and Det cover
- o Dec 2 Make-A-Smile-Happen (MASH)
- o Dec 3 Operation Seatback (Kyle Field seat removal fundraiser)
- o Dec 9 or 10 Detachment Christmas party
- o Dec 16 Wreaths Across America (Aggie Field of Honor)
- o Jan 2018 Det Scholarship presentations at Troops to College

#### - Harvey Relief:

- o Situation:
  - Marine Corps League members in southeast Texas affected
  - Marines of RS Houston, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn 23d Marines, and 4<sup>th</sup> AAV Galveston are affected - NONE HAVE FLOOD INSURANCE
    - RS Houston and 4<sup>th</sup> AAV reported only a few affected
    - 1/23 Family Readiness Officer Kristen Ruiz reported:
      - o 2 Marines/1 Corpsman in Corpus (C Co) affected
      - o Dozens of Marines in Houston (H&S, A Co) affected
      - o Lost all or nearly all of household



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- o Det 1391 donations
  - \$1,150 in gift cards to support 1/23 personnel:
    - 1/23 FRO took cards and distributed to those in need
  - Det currently has the following in hand and ready to donate:
    - Furniture, small appliances, water, dry goods
  - Det will hold donations until FRO calls for them since the Marines won't be able to take the items until their homes are repaired/rebuilt
    - Short-term storage is needed (3-6 mos.)
    - FRO asked that Det continue to support with monetary donations, appliances, furniture, clothing, etc
- Grant Funding Application:
  - o Det considering writing a grant to help fund veteran outreach activity in community
    - Maggie McGuire will manage application with assistance from Roger Martinez and Doc Powell
- Det Poker Night opportunity:
  - o Det invited to attend poker night at the Sheridan's place
    - 15-20 usually attend
    - Players can stay overnight - bring sleeping bag/cot
    - Bring food/drink
- Det Fishing Day opportunity:
  - o Det invited to fish at Sheridan's place
    - Bring kids - they will catch something!
    - Aim for early November date

### NEW BUSINESS:

- Det meeting at Wiseman Gunworks
  - o Original plan was to hold October meeting at Wiseman Gunworks
  - o New workshop still under construction due to Harvey backlog
  - o Det meeting at Gunworks will be rescheduled for 2018
- Detachment Signatory for bank card
  - o Paymaster found that Teresa Carpenter and Eva Young are still signatories on Det bank account
  - o Proposal: Add Thorin Moser and remove Teresa and Eva
  - o **Marine Burnside motioned to add Thorin and remove Teresa and Eva; Marine McGuire seconded; Regular members present voted unanimously in favor**



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- Operation Seatback at Kyle Field
  - o Last game of season is Nov 11
  - o Options for Operation Seatback are Nov 17/18 or Dec 2/3
  - o Several members not available for weekend of Nov 17/18
  - o Dec 2 is MASH event
  - o Dec 3 is date of Operation Seatback; form up at 0900 at Kyle Field
  - o \$0.65 per chair
  
- Quilt for Jay Kimbrough
  - o Maggie McGuire made quilt for Jay with USMC logos - very nice

### GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Detachment Show-and-Tell:
  - o John McGuire - pet English bulldog
    - 1976: stationed with 1/8 at Camp Lejeune
    - Living in base housing and wanted bulldog
    - Cost \$250 (almost half of paycheck) - but Maggie insisted!
    - Went to Household Finance for loan
    - Got \$250 loan with 19-year payoff
    - Purchased dog and named him "Gunny"
    - Lived 10 years; was mascot for every unit
    - Wore Blues coat (which was used for 4 other bulldogs including current bulldog Molly)
    - "Gunny" was ordered to pose for base photo in Blues
    - TRIVIA: Sgt Jibbs was 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Corps mascot; Smedley Butler procured him
  - o Thorin Moser - Texas Marine Medal of Honor coin
    - Had volunteered to support TMMOH charity golf tournament
    - Coin given to volunteers
    - TMMOH memorial represents Marines and Navy Corpsmen that enlisted in or were born in Texas
      - 16 Marines; 1 Corpsman
      - 5 from WWII; 5 from Korea; 7 from Vietnam
      - 5 officers; 12 enlisted
      - 1 Aggie
      - 15 awarded posthumously
    - 3-D memorial located in the Great Lawn of Town Green Park near the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion in The Woodlands
    - For more information visit [www.texasmarinemedalofhonor.com](http://www.texasmarinemedalofhonor.com)



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- o Doug Tennis - items from Vietnam
  - Mint condition multi-blade USMC pocket knife
  - Republic of Korea Marine Blue Dragon
    - While a Corporal and assigned to 7<sup>th</sup> Marines in 1968
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade ROK Marines attached
    - ROKs were tough; NVA went out of their way to avoid ROKs
    - Tennis gave ROK Marine Corporal and EGA insignia
    - ROK incredibly grateful and offered Blue Dragon pin
  - Military Payment Certificates (MPC)
    - In Vietnam, Marine not allowed to have greenbacks
    - USMC could use Vietnamese piastres but were discouraged
    - Used MPCs instead
    - Denominations were \$.05, \$.25, \$.50, \$1, and \$20
    - To prevent counterfeiting, MPC bills would change often
  - Psyop "Chu Hoi" leaflet
    - "Chu Hoi" leaflets gave instructions to give up
    - VC/NVA could carry leaflet and say "Chu Hoi" when approaching USMC lines
  - Psyop "Booby Trap" leaflet
    - US government would pay for booby traps
    - Rewards for different booby traps listed on leaflet
  - Vietnamese coins
    - Vietnamese 10 Dong worth approx. \$.02 but Vietnamese would try to convince troops worth more
- o Bill Collopy - story of USMC bulldog tattoo
  - Assigned to 8<sup>th</sup> & I and "Chesty" lived in Center House
  - Chesty was allowed in dogrun by Post 1 (Collopy's post)
  - Post watch required to clean up dog poop
  - At Camp David, Officer of Day would walk posts with Chesty
  - Occasionally, Chesty would come inside posts but was not a good idea because he had gas
  - Midnight rations were usually bread and bologna - Chesty could eat one sandwich in two bites
  - 1968 - Chesty was in Collopy's post when two guys come over
  - One saw the bulldog tattoo on Collopy's forearm and also saw Chesty sitting in the post
  - He says to his friend while pointing to the tattoo - "Hey, Ralph, there's a picture of the dog!"



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**CLOSING CEREMONY:** The meeting concluded at 20:00.

### Meeting Attendees:

Bill Brown	Ted Hamilton	Thorin Moser
Glenn Burnside	Don Hutchcraft	Tom Powell
Olivia Burnside	Roger Martinez	Tony Rogers
Bill Collopy	Jim McClung	Roger O. Sheridan
Al Diaz	John McGuire	Roger N. Sheridan
Larry Farmer	Maggie McGuire	Wayde Smith
Ed Holcomb	Misti Moser	Doug Tennis