



BRAZOS VALLEY DETACHMENT #1391
March 9, 2020 Detachment Meeting Minutes

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, Inc.
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Location: Cooper Old Time BBQ, 3055 Earl Rudder Freeway South, College Station, TX 77845

Officers Present:

Commandant, Benny Vallejo; Senior Vice Commandant, Doug Tennis; Junior Vice Commandant, Thorin Moser; Paymaster, Dave Sahm; Staff Judge Advocate, Roger Martinez; Past Commandant, Keith Stephens; Adjutant/ Web Sergeant, Ed Holcomb

Officers Absent:

Sergeant at Arms, Don Hutchcraft; Chaplain, Mary Jean Holcomb; PAO/Historian, Misti Moser

OPENING CEREMONY: The meeting was called to order at 1900.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP:

- Ellen Fuller was sworn in an Associate Member of the detachment.

GUESTS: None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

- The Adjutant presented the minutes from the February detachment meeting.
- Keith Stephens motioned to accept the minutes.
- Jeremy Williams seconded the motion.
- The attendees accepted the motion unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF THE PAYMASTER:

- The Paymaster presented the report for February.
- Keith Stephens motioned to accept the minutes.
- Reid Covington seconded the motion.
- The attendees accepted the motion unanimously.
- Benny Vallejo requested an updated roster of active members.

REPORT OF SICK/INJURED MEMBER OR FAMILY:

- The following have lingering medical issues, but have recovered sufficiently to attend the meeting:
 - o Mary Jean Holcomb
 - o Sherry Vallejo

REPORT OF OFFICERS: None

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- **Blinn College**
 - Tom Powell, Glen Saunders and Ed Holcomb will represent the detachment at the Blinn College Honor our Bravest veterans registration event on March 26th.
 - The current target for Blinn College is present two scholarships during the next Spring semester.

- **Chamber of Commerce**
 - Doug Tennis spoke at the Rotary Club on March 5.
 - They have requested that the detachment speak to them on Veteran's Day.
 - They are pursuing the possibility of a \$1,000 donation to the detachment in support of the proposed Blinn College scholarships.
 - Thorin Moser will give a presentation to the Collage Station Lions Club on March 16.
 - Keith Stephens and Benny Vallejo will represent the detachment at the Chamber of Commerce event on March 26th.
 - Red McClung will serve as the police escort.

- **Local Iwo Jima Ceremony:**
 - The detachment will host the local 75th commemorative anniversary of the Battle for Iwo Jima at Veterans Park on Thursday, March 26th, at 1700.
 - The ceremony will be held at the Letters from Home statue at the World War II Memorial in the park.
 - Bill Collopy will serve as historian at the event.
 - Dan Ward will provide the invocation and sing the National Anthem.
 - Wreath Across America will be presenting a special wreath for the event and will be providing a special challenge coin honoring the event.
 - The official duration of the battle was from February 19, 1945 through March 26, 1945, though sporadic fighting did continue for a while longer.

- **Local Poolee Family Night:**
 - The Poolee Family .Night is scheduled at the Museum of the American GI on March 31 at 1700.
 - Meals will be served to the Poolee families between 1800 and 1900, followed by the cleanup effort.
 - Typically there are 200 attendees, so we will need all the help we can get from the detachment.
 - Need a large pit to cook the hamburgers and hotdogs, or someone who can tow Benny Vallejo's pit.
 - In addition to the hamburgers and hotdogs, we provide lettuce and tomatoes, chips and cookies.
 - Last year there was plenty of food for the event.
 - We provide finger food so that we do not require plastic utensils.

- **Houston Poolee Event:**
 - James Harvey of the Galveston detachment has requested our detachments assistance with the Houston Poolee event scheduled for April 4th in Katy.
 - The will have 500 students attending the event.
 - Our assistance will be needed for three to four hours.
 - Benny Vallejo plans to leave his house at 8:30 AM.

- **Wreath Across America**

- o Wreath Across America has stated that if we sell 300 wreaths this year, they will give us \$1,500.
- o The cost per wreath is \$15.
- o The Detachment is already committed to provide \$350 for Wreath Across America.
- o To provide the detachment with credit for the wreath purchase, go to the detachment website and click on Wreath Across America presented in the home page Announcement section and follow the instructions provided.
- o Note that if wreaths are acquired by Wednesday, January 15, two wreaths can be obtained for the price of one, but the detachment will not get any funds from the transaction.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Upcoming Calendar Events:**

- o March 16: Presentation to the College Station Lion Club
- o March 26: Blinn College Veteran Registration
- o March 26: Local Iwo Jima Memorial
- o March 31: Local Poolee Family Dinner
- o April 4: Houston Poolee Event
- o April 5: Chili Fest T Post Removal

PROGRAM: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Chili Fest Cleanup:**

- o Chili Fest t post removal is scheduled for April 5th.
- o Need as many detachment members as possible to support the event.
- o Members who have T post removal equipment need to bring them.
- o Chili Fest this year is dependent on what happens with the corona virus. It is possible the event will be cancelled.

- **Buffet:**

- o Benny Vallejo is looking into the possibility of Coopers Old Time BBQ will support a buffee.

- **Vietnam War Memorial:**

- o The close of the Vietnam War will be commemorated on March 29 at the memorial in downtown Bryan at 1400.
- o The event will be hosted by the VVA.

- **Red Blazers:**

- o Glen Saunders will lead a committee to determine the feasibility of a group purchase of Red Blazers for the purpose of reducing the cost.
- o There are slight differences in shade, as demonstrated during the meeting, from different vendors.
- o The Marine Corps Store has not been a reliable source of blazers.

- The buttons for the blazers will need to be purchased from the Marine Corps Store if the blazer is acquired for a source other than the Marine Corps Store.
- The required buttons can be acquired for \$18.
- Members are not required to acquire a Red Blazer.

- Election of Officers:

- The following individuals were unanimously elected by those attending the meeting:
 - Commandant: Benny Vallejo
 - Senior Vice Commandant: Steve Ament
 - Junior Vice Commandant: Patrick (Red) McClung
 - Pay Master: Roger Martinez
 - Staff Judge Advocate: Jeremy Williams

- The following individuals have been selected to the designated appointed positions. Those attending the meeting unanimously approved the appointment:
 - Adjutant: Glen Saunders
 - Sergeant at Arms: Olivia Burnside
 - Chaplain: Al Diaz
 - Web Sergeant: Ed Holcomb
 - PAO/Historian: Thorin Moser

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Rest Home Visitations:

- Leonard Moore will chair a committee to perform rest home visitation.
- The visitations will meet all of the veterans in the rest home, not just the Marines and FMF Corpsmen.
- We will not be presenting a small gift at the visitation, as the American Legion does. This is because most of the residence are not veterans and therefore would be excluded.

CLOSING CEREMONY: The meeting concluded at 2000

Meeting Attendees:

Bill Brown	Ed Holcomb	David Sahn
Olivia Burnside	A.J. Kostic	Glen Saunders
Glenn Burnside	Roger Martinez	Keith Stephens
William Collopy	Leonard L. Moore	Doug Tennis
Reid Covington	Thorin Moser	Benny Vallejo
Al Diaz	Tom Powell	Jeremy Williams
Frank Fisner	Amy Raines	Kalick Huys-Williams
Ellen Fuller	Darrel W Ray	Noah Williams
Ted Hamilton	Teresa Ray	