



Commandant Ron Ashley

Department of Florida
Marine Corps League



Spring Conference April 27-30, 2017
Safety Harbor Resort and Spa-Safety Harbor

Minutes of Joint Session, MCL and MCLA

Date: 29 April 2017

Time: 0930

Location: Baranoff Ballroom

Presiding Officer: Commandant Ron Ashley

Opening Ceremony of the Joint Session of the MCL and MCLA

0930 Call to Order

Commandant Ashley called the meeting to order and directed the Sgt-at-Arms Tony Akers to advance the colors and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chaplain George Wanberg and MCLA Chaplain Eileen Grady opened the Bible and led the opening prayer.

Sgt-at-Arms By authority of the Commandant declared the meeting open for the transaction of official business.

Dedication of Conference:

Conference dedicated to Rosie Langevin , John J. Piazza Sr, Lawrence E. Riesenbech, James Buckles, Henry Markovich, William Butterworth, Charles Osburn.

Commandant

Commandant extends greetings to all attendees and thanks them for their continuing support of the Department and all they have done for Veterans and families and recognizes the efforts of the Conference Committee and their great work.

Acknowledgment of Dignitaries and Past Commandants:

National Vice Commandant Southeast Division- Jim Hackbarth

National Aide-de-Camp Southeast Division- Lou Calleja

National Auxiliary Jr. Vice President & Department Auxiliary Sr. Vice President - Evelyn Joppa

National Auxiliary Ass't Vice President SE Division/ VAVS Representative –Nancy Calleja

National Auxiliary Guard and MODD Fleas Madame Big Flea- Rogene Hackbarth

MODD Honorable Kennel Dog Robber & Worthy Florida Pack Dog Robber- Steve Joppa

Department of Florida Auxiliary President- Jean Tamburion

MODD Florida Worthy Pack Leader- Jerry Cecil

MODD Florida Hive Madam Big Flea- Georgia Dede-Leon

Our Spring Conference Banquet Guest of Honor is USMC Sgt Major Michael Rhine

Acknowledgement of Past Commandants present:

14th Department Commandant - Walt Russell

45th Department Commandant - Charlie Smith

49th Department Commandant - Lou Calleja

50th Department Commandant & Junior Past Commandant - William G. Cona

Honorary Department Commandant- Bob Beale

Past Commandant Department of Montana- Steve Joppa

Recognition of National Staff

Professional Development Program Chairman/Boy Scout Committee- Ron Ashley
Professional Development Program/ National Bylaws Committee- Lou Calleja
Professional Development Program-John Marsh
Professional Development Program- Mike Stewart

MCL Auxiliary President

Commandant introduces Jean Tamburrino , Marine Corps Auxiliary Department President.

President Tamburrino presented certificate to Nancy Colleja for 50 years of service to the Auxiliary.

Memorial Service

Names of our deceased members of MCL/MCLA since our June 16 Convention.

Lee Boyer, Gordon A. Gillis, Lograzio "Rudy" Di Biaso, Leland S. Nagy, James I. Magee, William "Bill" Zett III, Donald L. Keefe, Joseph B. Lonergan, George R. Wittshire, John Gariety, Jim Timrud, William McKillop, Dustin Wood, Clarence Osralider, Edward J. Morse, Roger Anderson, Charles E. Cannon, Walter Ryan, King Helie, Howard Keepler, John J. Piazza Sr., Robert J. Lantz, David Blackman, Nelson Glidden, William Van Orden, Paul J. Minehan, Thomas Botti Jr., Kenneth L. Cox, James J. Buckles, Donald A. Gillis, William F. Cole, Robert Lee Thompson, Marion "Red" Cummins, Gene R. Chrismer, William K. Casey, Don Barker, Phyllis Lee Malcolm, Murray Wolf, Bo Boy J. Davis, Albert P. Kasahowski, Peter Lynch, Robert D. Mercer, William J. McGrave, Lawrence E. Riesenbech, Henry Markovich, Grant Nutell, William Butterworth, Joseph Covella, Armand Marquis Achambault, Richard James LaCharite, Dennis L. Caudle, Charles Osburn, Richard F. Shea, William H. Adkins, Russell Messersmith, Gerald Morel, James G. McDonald, John H. Kleeman.

Commandant _____ ,

Having completed the Joint Session:

Chaplains closed the Bible

Sgt. at Arms announced a ten minute recess.

END OF JOINT SESSION



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REOPEN CONFERENCE

Sgt-at-Arms secured the quarters and led members in hand salute to colors. Chaplain opens Bible.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

Adjutant calls the roll of Officers:

Commandant Ron Ashley	present
Senior Vice Commandant George LaMont	present
Junior Vice Commandant Frank Glassford	present
Judge Advocate John Marsh	present
Junior Past Commandant William Cona	present
District 1 Vice Commandant R.L. Jugenheimer	present
District 2 Vice Commandant John A. Murdoch	present
District 3 Vice Commandant Barry Brown	present
District 4 Vice Commandant Mike Armstrong	present
District 5 Vice Commandant Charles Smith	present
District 6 Vice Commandant Andy Smith	present
District 7 Vice Commandant Brian Frank	present
District 8 Vice Commandant Cary Haerlin	present
District Asst Vice Commandant M. Ambrosino	present
District 9 Vice Commandant John Marsh	present
District 10 Vice Commandant Tony Gutierrez	present
District 11 Vice Commandant Joe Kowalsky	present

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Posted on Department website mclfl.org

Correspondence

Adjutant reports no correspondence at this time.

Report of Paymaster

Janis Beal presented her report

Report Of Audit Committee

George LaMont reports that the Audit Committee, consisting of George LaMont, Frank Glassford and Scott Westerfelt conducted an audit of Department funds, Scholarship Fund and Injured Warrior Fund. This included bank statements, checkbook balances and statements.

The audit of Department finances and Scholarship Fund was conducted on March 31, 2017 and the Injured Warrior audit was conducted on April 7, 2017. All statements and financial records were found to be correct.

Report of Any Member or Members Family Sick or In Distress

Members reported that Joan Cecil, Richard Booth and Scott Westerfelt have recently been ill or in distress. Scott, who was present, thanked everyone for their support during his illness.

Report Of Officers

All reports are posted on line at mclfl.org

Commandant - Everything is running smoothly and officers are fitting well into their positions. There has been a change in the dues schedule and current dues expire on August 31st. Dues for 2017/2018 must be received by Sept. 1st.

Senior Vice - report is posted on line. I am currently consolidating awards records into one document to simplify research in future.

Jr. Vice - Please send dues in on time. We are accepting dues at this time.

Jr. Past Commandant - Emphasized that Scholarship fund is in need. Majority of detachments have not returned ticket stubs. The Injured Warrior program is in good condition and has received some significant funding from several sources. The issue is that while funding is available we need members to refer those in need to the Fund.

Judge Advocate - Currently received 9 sets of bylaws and 7 have been approved and 2 are in process.

Report Of Standing Committees

Leadership School – Very successful with 63 graduates. National is in process of making quite a few changes which hopefully will be made clear at the Fall Conference.

Public Relation - On Line

Young Marines Liaison - On Line- Currently we have 650 Young Marines and 200 Adult leaders. John Gionet made presentations to Heart of Florida Det 1107, Sgt W. Hatcher Det 1120, Delong Det 1267 the Villages, for outstanding support of the Young Marines.

Boy Scouts - On Line

Ways and Means Committee - On line

Scholarship Committee- On line-Bill Cona again emphasized need to support Fund. Currently 32students have applied.

Injured Warriors - On line - need applicants

Convention Chairman - Department Convention is from June 21st until June 24th.

Please register by June 1. Convention will be held at North Orlando Hilton in Altamonte Springs.

Report of Special Committees

Lou Calleja made a presentation concerning a new pin to commemorate Vietnam conflict. Veterans who served between 1955 and 1975 will be eligible. More information to follow.

Unfinished Business No unfinished business

New Business

Fall Conference. Adjutant reports that bids were received from two Detachments.

Lance Corporal Justin J. Wilson Detachment submitted bid for October 5th to the 8th at the Palm Beach Gardens Marriot in Palm Beach Gardens Florida.

Sgt Walter P. Ryan Detachment submitted bid for October 26th to 29th at Hilton Garden Inn, Riverview Fl. Presentations were made on behalf of both Detachments.

A vote of the membership present was taken and a majority of votes favored Palm Beach Gardens Marriot in Palm Beach Gardens Florida October 5-8 2017.

Good of the League

Worthy Devil Dog Pack Leader Jerry Cecil remarks that Florida Pack is looking at sponsoring Spring conference.

George Wanberg announced a donation to Scholarship Fund of \$1000. from Leatherneck Detachment #1240

Brian Frank announced a donation to Scholarship fund of \$1000. from Sgt Walter Ryan Detachment #1226

A donation from the Arthur R Myers Detachment #472 to Injured Warrior Fund of \$1000.

A donation from Sgt Major T.H. Griggs Detachment # 1084 of \$ 11,100.

Award Presentations

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Safety Harbor Spa & Resort

Patti Armstrong

Carol Mazzara – Detachment 061

Leonardo Mazzara – Detachment 061

John Marsh – Detachment 063

Sergeant Major Michael Rhine – Detachment 1216

George Wanberg – Detachment 1240

INDIVIDUAL MERITORIOUS COMMENDATION

Michael Brennan – Detachment 054

William Cona – Detachment 054 (2 awards)

Stephen Lippman – Detachment 054

Kathleen Potthoff – Detachment 054

Kathy Sheppard – Detachment 054

John Marsh – Detachment 063

Anita LaMont – Detachment 466

Michael Armstrong – Detachment 567

Lou Calleja – Detachment 1045 & 1267

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION

Morris F. Dixon Jr. Detachment 054

Brooksville Detachment 466

Spring Hill Detachment 708

Charlotte County Detachment 756

Barefoot Bay Detachment 918

L/Cpl. Justin J. Wilson Detachment 1045

Sgt. Maj. Thomas H. Griggs Detachment 1056

Ocala West Detachment 1072

PFC Samuel R. Wall Detachment 1139

Sgt. Walter P. Ryan Detachment 1226

Col. Phillip C. DeLong Detachment 1267

Spring Hill Unit MCL Auxiliary

Villages Unit MCL Auxiliary

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD BRONZE

Janis Beal – Detachment 054

John Marsh – Detachment 063

Patricia Marsh – Detachment 063 & 466

Frank Glassford – Detachment 708

Announcements

Sergeant Major Mike Rhine will be guest speaker at tonight's banquet.

George LaMont announced that he would be running for Commandant in June election.
Frank Glassford has announced that he would be running for Senior Vice in June election.
Cary Haerlin has announced he would be running for Junior Vice in June election.

Closing Ceremony

Commandant directs Sgt-at-Arms to retire the colors. Chaplain will close the Bible.

Conference Closed after Banquet by order of the Commandant by Sgt- at – Arms.