

Marine Corps League
Major Stephen W Pless Detachment 1196
Minutes of February 18, 2025

The meeting was opened per ritual by Commandant Larry Heard at 1900.

A roll call of officers found all officers present with the exception of Sgt-at-Arms Lamar Scott, Sgt-at-Arms Raul Ferreira who were excused, and Quartermaster Jackie Ziegler who was absent. A quorum was present.

The previous meeting was cancelled due to extreme weather and hazardous driving conditions, so there are no minutes available. The minutes of the December meeting were posted on the website, and a motion was made to approve them by Rex Delk and second by Charlie Santiorello and passed by the Detachment.

The Paymasters report for December was read and a motion to approve pending financial approval was made by Roscoe Foster and Gordon Wimberly was second, it was approved by the Detachment. The report for January was read and a motion to approve was made by Roscoe Foster pending financial approval and second was by Harry McCann, it was passed by the Detachment.

The Paymaster reported on the new process of submitting dues to National and the possible increase of our dues.

Chaplain Ron Griffin reported on the following members who have had medical issues, Russ Vermillion, Jay Maxwell, Dena Santoriello, Harry McCann, and Olin Lundy who has a loss in his family. Rex Delk reported that Department Officers Mickey Edwards has been experiencing serious health problems and J R Milhorn suffered the loss of his father. Commandant Heard reported that he visited Buddy Simpson, and he will be in rehab in a hospital in Jackson, Ga for about another 3 months.

Officers Reports:

Senior Vice Commandant: no report

Junior Vice Commandant: no report

Judge Advocate: no report

Junior Past Commandant: no report

Commandant: Larry Heard reminded the members that if you have any questions, always stick to the chain of command. He also encouraged the members to be active in the Detachment, saying "It is what you make of it".

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Page 2

Standing Committee Reports:

Birthday Ball: Lisa Delk reported she had the flash drives with the pictures from the Birthday Ball for anyone who has not gotten theirs yet. The first planning meeting for this year will be March 4th in the Family Life Building at Connor Westbury at 1900. Please attend if you would like to help, being the 250th birthday, "We would like to blow it out". We made enough profit on the Ball that our coins for this year are paid for, and we could use any suggestion for the design of this year's coin.

Scouts: no report

Finance Committee: no report

Historian: Roscoe Foster

Honor Guard: Since our last meeting, the Honor Guard has done 5 funerals, one that got a bit fouled up due to confusion over the time zone going to Alabama, but the preacher told us that what we did was the most respectful things he had ever seen.

Marine of the Year: Working on it for later in the year

Marine For Life: No report

Military Affairs: There was a \$2500 donation from the Elks Club for the house to be used for homeless veterans.

Quartermaster: Not present. The members were presented with our new Quartermasters storage box. It is a large storage unit that we can maintain at our meetings and is beautifully decorated in Marine Corps style.

Toys for Tots: Raak Patel reported that it was a busy year, and he thanked Randy Cooper and Gordon Wimberly for their hard work in serving approx. 4500 kids. We have the same storage space for the coming years.

Unfinished Business: None

See page 3

Marine Corps League
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Minutes of February 18, 2025

Page 3

New Business: Olin Lundy advised that being the 250th Birthday of the Marine Corps, they are doing Marine Weeks all over the country. In August it will be in Atlanta and we need to be aware so we can participate.

Rex Delk discussed our balance in the general fund, and we need to have a fund raiser. The smoking of Boston Butts for Easter was presented to the Detachment. The Devil Dogs have done this yearly with great success. A motion was made by Rex Delk and second Gordon Wimberly and passed by the Detachment. Orders must be in by April 11th and the smoking will be Thursday April 17th.

Good of the League: Roscoe Foster spoke about the Toys for Tots train that he has and he is no longer able to maintain and operate, He would like to find a new home for it at no charge. He also has a pop-up trailer that has been used for food service. He also displayed numerous pictures that need to be passed on to someone who can maintain the history of the Detachment.

Announcements: Larry Heard asked Frank Goalen, Harry McCann and Charlie Santoriello to serve on the nominating committee of officers in our upcoming elections.

Russ Vermillion discussed the idea of our member putting a sticker/decal of his or her unit on one side of the Quartermaster box,

March 28th will be the 20-year anniversary of our Detachment; it was discussed to have a dinner to celebrate. It was decided to make our March meeting a dinner meeting.

Frank Goalen spoke about the Commemorative coins available from the U S Mint to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of the Marine Corps.

The meeting was closed per ritual at 1954.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Vermillion, Adjutant.