

Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Detachment #924 Marine Corps League
Minutes of Meeting of 30th April 2019

Jim Williams, Commandant

Time: Location: Karns Youth Center, Karns, TN

Call to order: Commandant Jim Williams called the meeting to order at 18h30, and ordered Sgt-At-Arms Saathoff to Advance and Post the Colors, and to lead the membership in The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Chaplain Gordon led us in the opening prayer. Commandant Williams asked Sgt-At-Arms to declare the meeting open for the transaction of official business.

Adjutant called the Roll of Detachment Officers:

Commandant: Jim Williams (JW)	Present
Sr. Vice Commandant: Travis Bryan (TB)	Present
Junior Vice Commandant: David Terwell (DT)	Present
Judge Advocate: David Hatfield (DH)	Present
Junior Past Commandant: Tim Eichhorn (TE)	Present
Adjutant: Eric P. Nash (EPN)	Present
Paymaster: Lee Rhinemiller (LR)	Present
Chaplain: Gordon Adams (GA)	Present
Sergeant-At-Arms: John "Stony" Saathoff (JS)	Present
Web Sergeant: Tim Shea (TS)	Excused

Applications for membership: None.

Introduction of new members and guests:

Brian Townsend: I was in the Marine Corps from 72 to 76. I was actually came into this world in the Marine Corps. I was born at Camp Pendleton California. Both my parents were Marines. My dad is a retired Master Sergeant and my mom was in for 3 years. Till she got out because of me. She's never let me forget that. I was at the tail end of Viet Nam. Ammo Tech was my primary. But I was an ammo supervisor EOD. My last six months I was in MP's. Last duty station was Camp Lejeune.

Jeffery Lane: I was in 85 to 93. Stationed at Camp Lejeune and Camp Smith Hawaii. I drove trucks. And that's what I did, cause I was too lazy to run. And I have been doing it ever since. I just wanted to see what this was all about. So far I like every bit of it.

1. Adjutant's Report: Eric Nash. Minutes of previous meeting accepted as posted on the web site.
2. Correspondence received: A certificate of Commendation from the Department of Florida for Hurricane relief.
3. Paymaster Lee Rhinemiller:
 - a. The detailed breakdown of the report of the paymaster is on file with the official copy of the minutes and available upon request by members in good standing.
 - b. We have adequate funds several times more than our budget.

- c. I need some help. I've got proofs of the windshield card that looks good. Proofs for our new business card. Which have blanks so you can put your name number on so they can get back to you. The one that needs some work is the tri-fold. On the back we list 100 different committees. We can't even spell them let alone have the committees. So I am suggesting that we use this area to outline some of our major events. Mud Run, picnic, JW: Rifle shoot, pistol Shoot. LR: I need someone who can follow up with this. Make some simple changes to it and get it back to the printer. Get approval. I'll pick it up and get it paid for when it's done. I need someone to do the leg work. JW: I need a volunteer. Give it to Wayne (Jones).
- 4. JW: Chaplain, do we have any report on sick? We do have one back Frank Waller. Stand up. (Round of applause) We do have a member that does not get here very often Doug Calvert.
- 5. Jr. Vice Commandant David Terwell:
 - a. Want some help if I could. I am going through a data base. Part of my duty are. Trying to secure past dues and arrear, from past members. And trying to secure new members. And to excite some of those who have not been here in quite some time. In going through the data base. I have about 6 names here that there is no record for a phone number. Perhaps some of you might know them. If you do let me know.
 - b. A fellow who would like to become a member. Need someone to help Weldon Humphries, carpool to the meeting from Tellico Village. LR: He was at the dine in with his wife.
- 6. Judge Advocate David Hatfield.
 - a. The Detachment received a Meritorious Unit Commendation from the Department of Florida for donation to the hurricane relief. Those of you who were members as of 1st of January 2019 are hereby authorized to wear the Meritorious Unit Commendation (Department Level). This is the second one they have awarded us. I have to get a streamer. It's orange.
 - b. This afternoon I went on the National web site, just to check. They have 28 changes to the National By-laws. At 2 this afternoon I barely had time to look. So before next meeting, I will give you a brief synopsis on an e-mail. It will be an attachment. Basically what they want to change. Lee will do the mass e-mail.
 - c. Did everyone get an opportunity to sign up for the Memorial Day week end safety break? We have a really good time. It a little way up there. The 417 rest stop.
 - d. Hatfield passed out certificates to the presenters for JROTC assignments. We do not advertise it. But we talk to the family later and offer them a scholarship if they go to college. Scott Bailey's daughter was the only one to put in an application. Everything was filled out correctly. So she will be sent a check for \$500.00 dollars tomorrow. You got to have a 3.0 and close to 12 semester hours.
 - i. We are going to do this again come February of next year. If you got grandkids get on to them.
 - ii. I am the National Scholarship Chairman. The National Scholarship instructions and application is on the National web site now. It's an editable PDF. You can type it in and print it off. The deadline is 15th July 2019. Last year I was able to give everyone who was eligible \$800.00 each. That's for

members, associate members and auxiliary members. Their children and their grandchildren. And your legal step children. Keep it in mind.

- e. We had our Department Spring Conference. It did take an hour and a half to get through my report.
- f. Hatfield showed the Marine coaster being sold for the convention. \$12.50 or two for \$25.00. Old style coasters.
- g. We did come up with an officer's slate for the Department.
- h. Lee (Rhinemiller) has a new form. Income voucher form for money taken in. It will be added to the web site.
- i. MOH dinner is closed out. TE: We have a total of ten from the Detachment.
- j. Sam Ruble is the Marine of the Year.
- k. Lee Rhinemiller received the Semper Fi Award.
- l. By-law, E-mail burst to the membership for next month. Give you a chance to read them without having to sit through reading them all, we'll have a sheet with 28 blanks and you will be able to vote your conscience just like at the Department meeting. When we go to Billings Montana will know what you wanted us to say. We're talking about Life Membership fees doubling. We're talking about membership fees going to \$50.00. Everybody going to \$50.00. Right now we are at \$28.00 (Bonnyman Detachment). National wants a standard amount nationally for when they go to paying dues on line. Example: The state of New York. Nobody pays membership dues. They have so many millionaires that died and gave them money. But they still got to send it to National.
 - i. Q: Are those By-laws on line? DH: Yes. The ones that were approved last August are on there. You can download those on your computer. Because the paragraph they want to change they have to cite on the change. Just like on a Marine Corps change of order.
 - ii. The changes are supposed to tell you what the law says now and then the change. Then give the rational. But these LCpl start out with the rational. They don't know what they are doing. If you hear the subject you'll say no. But some of these guys do it correctly.
- 7. JW: One more thing on this party next month on the by-laws. Ken DeBoer is going to bring in food. So at least will have something to digest.
- 8. Paymaster: Lee Rhinemiller. You heard Dave talk about chasing down delinquents.
 - a. We currently have 10 delinquent members. That's 3 more than I've seen since 2006, on our delinquent list.
 - b. We had as many as 17 delinquent, not long ago. Dave has been working to clean them up. That's one issue with the past dues.
 - c. They moved everyone to 1st of September to pay their dues. At this time we have 13 members who have not paid their 2020 dues. You want to do some quick arithmetic. Think of how many names 6 to a page I'm going to fill out by then. And when they hit National along with all the other dues from across the country you're going to be lucky to get your dues paid by Christmas.
- 9. Historian/Adjutant: Eric P. Nash.
 - a. The Americanism book. I need any photos of events you have been to military or veterans please. Any one has any question on what they might have done for the

Americanism book come talk to me. Tegzes: What's the cut off for the book? EPN: 30 may for the state. July 31st for National.

b. Boy Scout Certificates. I have about 20 certificates going for 2019.

10. Jr. Past Commandant: Tim Eichhorn. No report.

11. DH: If you look at the news letter the next to the last page. You see Vets4warriors. This is the number you should have in your wallet. Because if you learn of some Marine not a member of the League or a veteran. Who's thinking about suicide or something like that. This is the number you need to get him in contact with. Down in Smyrna we took a survey. How many Detachments in this room have had a suicide? 4 Detachments and we were one of them. We had a member commit suicide many years ago. You need to have this number on speed dial. Even if you have to report them. These are good guys. They're professional. They will call them or the individual can call them. And talk them out of this.

12. Marine 4 life coordinator for Tennessee. He works for the Marine Corps. He an Individual Ready Reserve (IRR). He travels out of state sometimes. He went to Ohio a couple of months ago. Trying to talk a Major out of suicide. All colors all ranks. Vets4warriors is not the VA. And not the wounded warrior project.

a. David Townsend: Guest. I'm not a member yet. But that number needs to go to friends and family. When a person is contemplating suicide they become very quiet and self centered and once they reach that threshold there they won't reach out.

b. The other Detachment member that committed suicide was the Jr. Past Commandant of that Detachment. He had medical issue. He didn't want to put his wife through it.

c. Brian Hudgens: Also if you have an event they will send you material. We had an event in Crossville and several people picked up the material. DH: This is not just for Marines. Any Veterans.

13. Sgt at Arms Saathoff no report.

14. Dave Hatfield: Color Guards.

a. Lee do we have signup sheets for 27th May 2019. Memorial Day at Virtue Cemetery. The Mitchel Stout Memorial. The direction will be in the Bonnyman Gazette. It's going to be just us. The Young Marines do not have enough for the Ceremony. And the family of those buried there.

b. And 8th Jun 2019: Tolling of the Boats Ceremony. They hope to do it at the old site of the peace bell. With the submarine association. They read off the names of all the boats that went down. We provide the color Guard and the rifle detail along with the bugler. It's a real nice ceremony. EPN: Dave the Peace bell site has been moved down the hill onto the flat area across the creek. We meet at the McDonalds on Illinois Ave. At 08h00. Come even if you not in the ceremony. It a good time.

NEW BUSINESS:

From the Staff meeting: Adjutant Nash: The following was read to the Detachment.

MOTION: Lee Rhinemiller: Make a \$500.00 donation now (to the Karns Youth Center).

Review it at the end of the year (budget). 2nd by Travis Bryan. Board of trustee voted. Passed by a voice vote. At this time we have to bring it before the body to be voted on here.

Commandant Williams called for a Motion. Leroy Brown made a motion to accept the motion of the Board of Trustees. 2nd made by John Saathoff. Motion passed by voice vote.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

- Charlene Cotton MCLA: We are here to present the Doris Ekstrom Leadership Award. Many of you knew Doris. She was a unit President and a Senior Vice President. And served the unit in any way she could. In her active years. Our Unit continues to make a donation to St Junes in her memory. If you are interested in adding to our collection we would be happy to receive that. She served as Unit President 2001 and 2006. She was person of the year. The Debra Evans Award and the SEDiv Francis Watt Award. This award is not made annually. It is made as need arises. We had hoped to have two recipients here tonight but one is still in sick bay. I'd like to ask **Patty Mullins** to come forward. When you have someone that does and does you expect them to be there. But sickness can show how much she can be missed. So we have a certificate and a gift. These are Eagle Globe and Eagle earrings. (Round of applause)
- EPN: There is a MODD Growl on Tuesday the 7th at Calhoun's. All members are expected.
- John Luethke: There is a program at Ciderville Music with David West on Memorial Day weekend. Laura and I have gone in years pass and it's really good.
- LEE Rhinemiller: I have put together a schedule. There are 13 items just for May. Please look at it on the web site. Send me corrections if needed.
- Brian Hudgens: We are starting a Detachment in Crossville. We are having our first fund raiser there with a golf tournament on 28th of September. Flyers are on the back table.JS: Same day as the Mud Run? BH: I don't know. TE: If you're not going to the Mud Run go play golf. BH: OH! Is the Mud Run on the 28th too? A: Yes.
- JW: We had a pistol Match Saturday. We had a pretty good shoot. We had an 82 year old. For those of you who think you are too old to shoot. He took everything. He won everything. We had a good time. We got fed. Next month the 11th of May is our rifle match. This year I have an extra M-1A if you need one. You need to be there at 07h00; Gate closes at 07h30.
- Vern Tassey: I want thank everyone who bought meat sticks.

End of Meeting: Sgt-At-Arms retired the colors. Chaplain led us in the closing prayer.

Commandant Williams adjourned the meeting at **19h35. Next meeting the 28th of May 2019.**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Eric P. Nash
Detachment Adjutant**