

**Department of Washington
Marine Corps League
Minutes 17 March 2007**

JOINT OPENING CEREMONY: 1010 Appropriate.

WELCOME FROM LOCAL DET CMNDN'T:

Cmndn't Ed Falter – Glad to have you here today. The Auxiliary Ships Store will be moved to the hospitality suite during lunch where we will have dogs/hamburgers and other foods to support that like we usually do at the Staff meetings.

INTRODUCTION OF DIGNITARIES:

NAT'L/DEPT. OFFICERS:

- Nat'l VAVS Deputy Rep. Phil Ruhmshottel
- Legislative Cmte. Mbr. MCL Foundation Dir.& Bylaws Co-Vice Chair Dennis Dressler
- National Staff Illustrator Mike Kneefe.

GUESTS: None.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Cmndn't Tim Rubertt -	SrVice Cmndn't. Bill McCutchin -
Jr. Vice Cmndn't. Ed Falter	Judge Advocate Daniel Abbott -
Adjutant/Paymaster: Chuck Foster - A	Chaplain George LaFrazia -
Sgt. at Arms: Rex Hopper -	Jr. Past Cmndn't Dennis Dressler -

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: None.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Commandant Tim Rubertt - Motion to accept as published and distributed. 2nd John Witham. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. **John Stofiel** - Received letter sharing that the Vietnam Traveling Wall will be on display in front of the Military Museum in Chehalis, WA 21-24 June 2007.
2. **Tim Rubertt** – There are some issues on dues being sent in as some detachments have not revised their dues since the \$6.00 increase by National. You need to ensure that on your installation reports that they reflect the change so that renewal dues are correct.
3. **Tim Rubertt** – I received an email from the Commandant of the Olympia Detachment indicating he was not receiving information. Marine Ball shared that he had not received anything from Dept. since Aug. and according to my Cmndn't he has not received anything either. Tim Rubertt – I know that our Adj/Paymaster has sent out the minutes of the last staff meeting to all the Detachment Cmndnt's and Adjutants. Tim Rubertt will share with Marine Ball following the meeting about information sent to the Detachment.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER: Charles Foster - A **Cmndn't Tim Rubertt** shared report of Paymaster = as of 17 March 2007 checking account activity, 23 checks were written for a total of \$2066/52. Income from membership dues, new members, Bank Interest, and or annual life member rebate from Nat'l. HQ [Dept. of WA 264 LM's @ \$4.11 ea = \$1085.64] \$340666. Checking BAL. 1518.88
Savings BAL. 2319.44
2 Yr CD (Annual 3.4%) 1068.30
Total: 4906.62

I, [Chuck Foster] have reviewed books for dues renewals during same time frame 2005-2006, which is 3279.60 and 2006-2007 2139.60 which showed the Dept. is 1139.95 short in dues renewals for periods shown above. I projected membership renewals @ 2070.00 and projected a 15% strength increase 280.00 for 2007

PAYMASTER Cont'd:

for a total of 2350.00. The current dues renewals to date show 1054.00 which means we are down 1296.00 on projections for the year. With only 4 months to go in the year, we would have to renew 108 members per month up to the Convention in June 2007. So please each detachment, try and do what you can to get in the renewals. Rex Hopper moved to approve the Paymaster Report. John Witham 2nd Carried.

REPORT SICK/DISTRESS:

1. **Phil Ruhmshottel** - Chuck Foster underwent Heart Surgery and is home resting and recuperating and wants to thank all for their concerns and prayers; Cards to: 629 Hall Rd. Silver Lake, WA 98645-9792 [Shared under Joint Opening some stories of his recruiting effort of a former Corpsman who cared for him in the ambulance in route to the hospital while under duress and another incident where Chuck shared that just before he went into surgery he could hear voices and he knew his Corps Family was extending prayers for him.]
2. **George LaFrazia** – Columbia River Det has two Marines down, [Mick Leinweber under hospice care and Chuck Quatier who is now residing in a nursing care facility.]
3. Dan Abbott – Mt Olympus Det. shared that while their Adj/Paymaster Jim Graham was at the Quin Conference and on the day he was ready to leave he woke up blind in one eye, he had heart surgery previously and one of the clots broke off and went into his brain and went to the eye causing the blindness.
4. **Ed Hoover** – Wenatchee Det. Our Chaplain Edwin Asimakoupoulos has very bad bout with cancer and may not be with us much longer.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

- **Commandant Tim Rubertt** – Heavily involved with Det. activities. As far as Dept. haven't heard a lot from the detachments. There are a many detachments out there that are not getting their transmittals in. Annual dues are due on your join date anniversary; the way this runs, every month you should have renewals. I know when it comes time for submitting delegates for the conventions the selected delegate needs to a member in good standing.
- **SrVice Cmndn't. Bill McCutchin** - Since the Fall Staff meeting all of MCL responsibilities have been continued in my local detachment. We have been extremely busy with our T4T's effort. I was able to present an Honorary Marine Award to business man from Lynden, WA. He was honored for his support for T&T efforts and his support for Veterans in general. In addition to this I was able to present an appreciation award from the T4T's Foundation to the Haggens Grocery store management for their support in both Skagit and Whatcom Counties. At our Marine Corps Birthday dinner and ball, held 10 Nov 2006, Dick Francisco from the Whidbey Is. Det. and I had the honor of escorting our honored guest to the head table. Jus a footnote to this neither Dick nor I tripped and we got the General to his assigned spot. I have attended 4 Det. Staff meetings, 3 business meetings and 2 growls since our last Dept. Staff meeting.
- **Jr. Vice Cmndn't. Ed Falter** – The articles I have read in the Semper Fi Magazine along with other sources indicate that the MCL nation wide is doing well in our membership numbers. That being said, it is imperative that all detachments strive to retain members and to encourage the recruiting of new members at any opportunity. The MCL is perhaps, the best known of any Veterans organization in many areas of his country. If anyone asks someone on the street where to find a local veterans organization, they will likely refer you to the VFW, American Legion or the DAV. When asked about the MCL you are often met with a surprised or confused look and asked "Who are they?" Be prepared to answer that question. Use the opportunities and resources at your disposal to promote your detachment and auxiliary. Involvement in parades, memorial services and other public events will help to bring recognition to your organization and bring other Marines and family members to you. If your community does not sponsor certain events, such as a Memorial Day Parade, make an effort to get one organized and perpetuate the principles and purposes of the Corps and Country through this public

Jr. Vice Cmndn't. Cont'd:

demonstration of patriotism. Much of what I do with the MCL revolves around my duties as Det. Commandant of our local detachment. I enjoy the opportunities to speak publicly about the League and the events we are involved in. Use of local media has proven to be a great recruiting tool. We have the advantage in Yakima of having one talk radio station, which is listened to by a large number of the population. Their hosts are well known in the community and are accessible and they make it easy to "get the word out". The newspaper has a community calendar that is free to all non profit organizations. Use it to announce your meetings or other events. The same applies to the TV stations. Regular use of these resources will produce results and they can be contacted from home via email or phone. Use them! It was my honor, on March 4, 2007, to represent the Dept. of WA at the community memorial service in Pasco, WA for SSgt. Pfister, USMC. This service was attended by more than a thousand people and other members of the MCL. I had the opportunity to meet the Det Cmndn't and Sr. Vice of the Tri-Cities Det. and to extend a personal invitation to the Spring Staff meeting. I look forward to serving another year as Dept. Jr. Vice Commandant. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your questions or concerns regarding recruiting and retention. Everybody should have received two copies of the Nat'l bylaw revisions last week. I would recommend that each detachment take serious note of the development of a web site for the detachment and establish a link to the National web site. John Witham – who is taking care of our Dept. Web page? Dennis Dressler shared that he has been taking care of the Dept. Web page on the National site. Concerns were brought forward about our Dept. web site not being updated. John Stofiel – Ed Begley has been updating our Dept. website when he receives changes from the detachment. He has posted the Dept. Roster on the site each time I send it to him. It has a specific link Department of Washington (.pdf). The links he has on the web site for each detachment is not up to date, but he does have a link to the Dept Roster which is up to date. The problem with individual detachment links is receiving changes from the detachments.

- **Judge Advocate Daniel Abbott** – Completed an investigation of 'Stolen Valor' which resulted in the permanent expulsion of Mr. Roy J. Scott from the MCL for the following infractions: Fraudulent Documentation – DD 214; Impersonating an Officer and wearing of unauthorized Medals/Ribbons. This has been turned over to the FBI Approved the by-laws for two detachments and answered questions on the proper wearing of the MCL uniform. I did receive an inquiry from one detachment about an illegal raffle going on, but haven't had a chance to respond to that as of this date. Another note is that the revised bylaws changed Section 9 (Discipline) has completely changed. Andy Anderson, what are the steps if we question the validity of the member or future members DD-213/discharge. Dan Abbott – Question arises you can go to the National Archives and request a copy of the DD-214 original, you will need social security number/service number and you will receive not only the DD-214 but the full records of the individual. 'Tony' Spagnolini – What is the procedure for denying membership into the League? Tim Rubertt The membership approval is up to a vote of the detachment members to deny or accept the application. Phil Ruhmshottel – In the bylaws the detachment shall be the soul judgment for membership.
- **Jr.Past Cmndn't report Dennis Dressler** – Since the Fall Staff meeting in Oct. I have had several regular monthly activities in which I am involved. Each month I attend the Det. Bingo at the VAMC Nursing Home Care Unit. I attend the Det. monthly business meetings and serve as the Paymaster of the Lilac YM Unit. I participate in our T4T drive and work as a volunteer in the kitchen at the VFW when we hold our annual spaghetti feed fundraiser. I represented our Det. /Dept at the Marine Expo West at CamPen, the annual Quin Conference in SDiego, and attended Nat'l Mid-Winter Conference in Falls Church, VA. As a member of the National Legislative Cmte I worked on Capital Hill for two days working on bills that affect Veterans. This year we met with 9 members of the House/Senate and conversed with key staff members of at least a dozen other members of Congress. While at Mid-Winter Nat'l Cmndn't Ryan appointed me as a member of the Board of Directors for the Marine Corps League Foundation. Although not currently a Judge Advocate at any level I have answered questions from Marines about

Jr.Past Cmndn't Cont'd:

what my "take is" on several issues involving either the League or the MODD. As a member of the MCL Foundation. I am not asking for your money, what I am looking for is some deep pockets, if you know of a company who would be interested in sponsoring the MCL Foundation. If you would give me contact information I will contact them as a member of the board. The Foundation is the charitable arm of the League, we do scholarships, although there is a Scholarship Committee who selects the person for the scholarship, it is the foundation that builds the fund for it. We also provide support to the Humanitarian Relief Fund, providing funds to people in need. **Ed Hoover** – Wenatchee provided Company Name Alcoa

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Publications Cmte. Tim Rubertt – No Report.
By Laws Cmte. Daniel Abbott - No Report.
Rules Cmte. Daniel Abbott – No Report. Cmndn't directed that Convention Rules are placed into the convention program book.
Membership Cmte. Ed Falter – Reported in JrVice report.
Budget & Finance Cmte. Chuck Foster – A - to be reported at convention
Dept. Convention Cmte. Rex Hopper –
We are making good progress on the Convention, we have 2-3 members working on this and have accomplished quite a bit. Our Convention Chair Jim Renton is here and I will let him report on the registration. Jim Renton the Convention will be held at the Red Lion Inn at the Quay in Vancouver, WA 21-24 June 2007. Dinner is \$37.50. We have contacted other nearby bistros along the Columbia River for discount tickets for no host meals. Chief DD PDD Don Garland will be our Honored Guest. We are looking forward to you all being there, please register as soon as you can so we can stop sweating profusely on meeting our room night #s [REGISTRATION FORM **APPENDIX A**]
Awards/Citations Cmte. Doug Shurtleff – A Tim Rubertt – Get any nominations for awards to Doug. [SEE ATTACHED LETTER **APPENDIX B**]
Resolutions Cmte. Cmndn't asked for volunteer to chair, no volunteers.
Audit Cmte. As assigned by Dept. Commandant at Dept. Convention
Nominating Cmte. Jr.Past Cmndn't Dennis Dressler –
I have contacted all of the current Officers and all have stated they will stand for another term. Nominations may be made from the floor of the convention.
Chaplain George LaFrazia – No Report. [See Attached **APPENDIX C**]
Dept VAVS Rex Hopper –
Sent out letters to all of the Detachment Commandant's to distribute to their chair person letting them know that I would assist them in tying in with the VAVS, received no responses from the Detachments.
Public Relations Officer John Stofiel – I send out updated Dept. Rosters to Staff and Detachment Officers. No other activity.
Legislative Officer Michael P. Partridge – A - No report sent.
Americanism Chair Rick Crossley – A – No report sent.
Veteran Homeless Cmte. Bill McCutchin – No Report.
GVAC Phil Ruhmshottel
Shared about the Governors Veterans Advisory Cmte. Meeting and noted that Bldg. 9 was set up at Retsil to take in Homeless Veterans. The Veterans cemetery site has been approved and likely will be near Moses Lake, WA groundbreaking on Veterans Day 2008 and Opening on Veterans Day 2009. Shared about support of Fisher House that supports the wounded Veteran's families.
Dept. Webmaster Ed Begley – A No report sent in.
Marine of the Year President John Witham – we will meet prior to lunch and select our Marine of the Year for 2007-2008
Department Cmndn't Council Jr.Past Commandant Dennis Dressler –We will meet at Dept. Convention.

DETACHMENT REPORTS:

Puget Sound #336 Gene T. Van Absent

Mike Kneefe- the Det. is under new management since October. We have had 5 meetings with one cancellation due to weather. The Birthday Ball was well attended which included a group of Motorcycle Marines. Det elections were held in Dec and the new Cmndn't is Gene T. Van. Det Color Guard provides ceremonies at Tahoma National cemetery each month. Don Wilson is our Toys 4 Tots chair. Marine Earl Houchen, a member of the League since 1950, passed away 19 Feb. 07. His memorial was at Washelli's & final rest at Mr. Tahoma.

Tri-Cities #337 Glen Carter Absent No report provided.

Twin Harbors #442 Ronald Black Absent No report provided.

Olympia #482

Jim Simms – **David Ball** - Chuck Lang Det. Sgt at Arms and Parade coordinator is our Marine of the year. Our outstanding T4T program is due to the superior organization skills of Marine John Sager and the hours of hard work by the Marine of our Detachment. We have made a real mark on our community, received very positive press and enjoyed the support of the business community, and our T4t Program will be an even bigger success next year. 480 Thurston County families and 20 families from Ft. Lewis 'Stryker Brigade received more than 1900 donated toys. Communication with the Dept. of WA is almost non-existent, except with the efforts of the PAO John Stofiel. It is the responsibility of the Dept. Cmndn't to keep MCL members informed as to policies, activities, events and information of interests to our Marines. Such communication has not happened during the past year, and needs to be corrected if the future of the MCL is to grow, thrive and be of service to our communities.

Pierce County #504

George F. Hilbish II We continue to work with our Young Marine program, we have formed anew platoon each year. We have brought aboard 3 new members since our last report. The detachment donated \$100 to the National MC Scholarship program, \$500 to the Wounded Marines program and we have passed on three prospective employer/organizations that have apprenticeship programs to the M4L program. T4T: The detachment organized/operated the program in Pierce County, due to the heavy deployment of Marines out of our area. A total of 18,751 toys were distributed. We continue fund raising through the Marine Red Rose Program and our Annual Raffle at Gun Shows in Pierce County. We have moved our meeting site to: King Oscar Restaurant 8627 S. Hosmer St., Tacoma, WA 2nd Sat of each month at 0730. This has been a success and has increased attendance. Our Installation of new Officers was 16 December and they were installed by Chuck Foster. Our Birthday Ball was piggy-backed with 4th LSB at Ft. Lewis and we have set up an account to raise funds for the Ball. We participate with our Color Guard with the Pierce County Veterans Advisory Council. In a nutshell we have a very good, active and on going Det.

Hal Moe Evergreen#528 Dale W. Vick Absent No report provided

Olympic Peninsula #531 Harry Tachell Absent No report provided.

Melvin M Smith#586 James V. Stailey Jr.

Since our last report we have brought on 4 new members; Young Marines continue to strive in our community. The local Lilac City Young Marines have approx. 20 registered members and support the community in various ways. Currently they meet at battle ground games in the Hillyard community of Spokane. The second Wednesday of every month, the detachment hosts BINGO for residents of all services. Refreshments and snacks are served in addition to vouchers for the hospitals ship. Dave and Carol Hamm continue to attend VAVS meeting regularly at the Spokane VA Medical Center. Other than major remodeling projects, nothing new to report. Toys for Tots – Over 11,000 children received toys from approx. 3800 families. League hours were in the thousands in regards to volunteer time; fundraising - Coffee Stops on Sprague exit I-90. Birthday Ball - Plan to attend the "P" Btry 5thBn 14thMar Ball; I am very humbled by the support of many of our members from funeral honors to Toys for Tots. The year has been a tough and bitter sweet one due to a disconnect with our local I & I staff. The relationship and communication that used to be

Melvin M Smith#586 Cont'd:

present is almost none existent. With the exception of Toys for Tots the interaction between the league and the Spokane I & I staff has diminished. There are several Marines on the staff who remain friends with the League, but the rift has severed ties. I hope in the upcoming months to reestablish this partnership, and am positive it will happen after certain staff changes. I will leave out the details as to when or how the relationship started to crumble, but I remain confident that my actions have upheld the professionalism associated with our League and our Corps. Toys for Tots as always went very well. The league logged thousands of hours in response to this effort. A side event to the program year is our annual spaghetti feed. The efforts of many of our members resulted in over a thousand dollars in donations for T4T. Every month members host Bingo at Spokane's local VA hospital and the gratitude is always communicated. The league continues to attend funeral honors of our fallen comrades. Recently the ladies auxiliary hosted a Valentines Day dinner and auction. The event was well received and the attendance was greater than some meetings. April our detachment has coffee stops scheduled for our annual large fund raiser. As always there are the few and the proud who attend all events, services, fund raisers, and so on and I appreciate all they do. I intend to award those members for their dedication and hard work at the end of my term of office.

Wenatchee #806

John P. Gill – We are planning a membership drive as soon as the weather permits, sometime in April or May. We participate in Annual Memorial Day parade; we continue our fundraising with a coffee stop venue at Nason Creek on Hwy 3 - 6th of May and we are seeking all the assistance we can retrieve to start up a Young Marine program; we have retrieved 1 new member as of this report; we work with Homeless veterans in our community and have a Veterans Service Officer. We participate in Funerals and provide a Color Guard at various events in our community.

Columbia River #826

Rex Hopper – We have retrieved 6 new members as of this report. We intend to continue all of our current activities and anticipate adding to our Scouting events. Our Honor Guard has become well known and is being requested for a varied number of events such as funerals, scouts, schools, and community activities. We are and will continue to be strong in volunteering at the VAVS. We anticipate an increase in our local veteran facilities and intend to meet the increased demand for more volunteers. Our Det. is strong, our officers are dedicated and the future is bright. We encourage our members to participate in Dept. activities and many do. We are fortunate to have as many dedicated members and civilians working with our Lewis & Clark YM's. Our YM's are very active and have earned many honors for their excellence as a group and individually. We have a strong and active Auxiliary assisting us in many annual and special events. Two of their members are National MCLA members. President and VP.

Mt. St. Helen's #889

Terry D. Reams – We currently have 36 members; Our Honor Guard has participated in 11 veterans funerals, we continue to conduct our coffee stops and do the Marine Rose Program for fund raising. We host Bingo for the Veterans residing in the VA Hospital - Vancouver; Detachment Reps at Quinn and Nat'l Mid-Winter conference; We have come up with a Marine Corps Shooting Team which is underway for this years competition. We are planning Memorial Day events, and some of our members are planning to attend the National Convention. We held our Annual Marine Corps Birthday celebration and our Annual Holiday Dinner event.

Mt. Olympus #897

Daniel W. Abbott – The Det. is strongly engaged in a grassroots effort t brings a "Virtual' VA Clinic to Port Angeles to help alleviate a current health crisis in medical care for Veterans. (Clallam County has a large per capita % of veterans in its population, many over 65) Six Det. members currently serve on committees formed to create public awareness of this need. In addition to the usual list of monthly business meetings, veteran's funerals and other forms of Veteran's service, and the monthly Bell ringing ceremony honoring deceased veterans, the detachment has been involved in: Annual Marine Corps Ball, Marine Reserve T4T's drive in which 7,326 toys were collected and distributed to 1856 children and their families; Co-sponsoring w/the USCG Air Station, Port Angeles, a community wide Veterans Day celebration in which Col. Sheryl

Mt. Olympus #897 Cont'd:

McConnell USMCR was the guest speaker. The Det. received an award from the Coast Guard for our participation. Col. McConnell also spoke at our Marine Corps Ball celebration and Jr. Past Cmndn't Don Clayton was awarded the Det. MOY medal. Two of our members serve on the Board of Directors of the Homeless Veterans Stand Down organization, now called "Voices for Veterans". These same two members also serve on the Clallam County Veterans Association. The Det. continues to support a project to name the Federal Bldg in Port Angeles after local Marine Medal of Honor recipient Richard B. Anderson. The Det. is also supporting an effort by the Korean War Veterans to name two State highways in Clallam County as Blue Star Memorial Highways. We have maintained our educational and charitable contributions at the same level for the past four years. This year, we have awarded two \$500 scholarships to local High School students and \$650 in leadership grants to the NJROTC Cadets as part of our sponsoring of the Port Angeles High School NJROTC program, whose director, Maj. Leo Campbell, USMC (Ret.) is Jr. Vice Cmndn't of our Det. The Det. also continues its support of the community-fitness program for all ages by furnishing security and logistical assistance for the Lincoln Park 10-K run. The Det. membership stands at 44, of who 13 are LM's we have added 8 new members since our last report.

Bruno Johnson #978

Robert T. Garrow Absent No report provided.

Mt. Rainier # 989

Stephen R. Paris – We have provided Color Guards for community events, and funerals. We have elected new officers and Past Dept. Cmndn't John Stofiel installed the new Officers; We continue to honor our 32 Marines at the Rock with flags and flowers; We continue to hold our 'Annual Turkey Shoot' of which this year we provided 10 turkeys to needy families and food bank in Eumclaw, Black Diamond and the Ashley House.

Skagit Valley Det. #1043

Bill McCutchin - Our Detachment has remained busy since the Oct Dept. Fall Staff meeting. This past T4T effort was huge for our detachment. We are comprised of Marines from three counties, Skagit, Whatcom and N. Snohomish. Skagit and Whatcom are both rather large counties. We have been granted LCO's to serve these two counties. Our Marines from Skagit Work independently from our brother Marines in Whatcom County. Skagit County has been established for the past three years as an independent LCO. This was the first year for Whatcom County. Marine Art Anderson is the coordinator from Whatcom and they had a great year. Marine Rick Crossley is the coordinator for Skagit operation. This year in Skagit we handled 20,180 toys, with 8,461 kids receiving toys from our efforts. That was an average of 2.03 toys per child. Donations collected totaled \$23,045.65 Whatcom had an equally impressive year. We can look forward to even bigger things from then next year. We continue to be as visible as possible in our communities. We had two flag folding ceremonies during Veterans Day celebrations and we also had a great turnout for our Marine Corps Birthday dinner and ball. Our Det. continues to support our local Boy Scout program. We also are involved in supporting the local Boys and Girls Club. With the school year drawing to a close we will be selecting a worthy candidate for our annual scholarship. Our Det. is committed to awarding a \$1,000. scholarship annually. Applications are sent to high schools in Whatcom, Skagit, Island and Snohomish counties. Each month we host a meal, which provides some fun and fellowship prior to our meetings. This also serves as a fund raiser for our detachment. Once every two months we sponsor dinners for the Sedro Woolley Legion Post, which is another fundraiser. We have taken in 9 new members since our last report.

Yakima Kittitas Valley #1055

Ed Falter - Our detachment is involved with our "Veterans Stand Down" assistance, we organize and participate in our annual veterans Day Parade, assist with the T4T's program with 4th Tank Bn whom we also participate with celebrating the Marine Corps birthday. Our Honor Guard provides colors and other support for memorial ceremonies and other community activities.

1210 LUNCH BREAK

1330 Re-opened meeting.

Lewis County Det. #1119

H. Allen Denison - This is our fifth year involved with T4T's and we set a new record. Our all Marine breakfast meeting is our premier on-going recruiting an outreach tool. We are averaging about 15-20 members at these meetings. Our upcoming events include Parades, veterans events and the Vietnam Traveling Wall. We have joined 2 new members since last report. Our Auxiliary Unit is supporting Iraq troops with care pkges and letters.

Whidbey Is. Det. #1210

Richard 'Dick' Francisco – Absent. **Tony Spagnolini** – Our Marine Corps Ball went exceptionally well. Our efforts with the T4T's went well, we had 4 of our members who put in a tremendous amount of hours and very positive response from the public. We received \$17,000 in donations and served 2,000 families. We received assistance from the YM's, while we worked our Marine Rose Program and raised \$1100. We participated in a couple of Veteran Memorials, one of which was a member of our Det. John Southward WO-2 (Ret.) who served in our Corps in 1924 to 1948. Community service activities we set up a couple of Flag poles for the VFW and the Rod and Gun Club, with a stipulation that the Marine Corps Flag would be flown. We are having a problem with the Island County Board of supervisors, a political deal, in that they are refusing to recognize us and the DAV, etc. We are forming a joint task force and we will assault them as appropriate. The Det. is now changing its name to Major Meagan McClung Det. who was killed in Iraq and her family lives on Whidbey Island. Mother and Father are members of the Det. We are now posting Colors at our local High School Football games. We are running around 80 members, we lose a few but seem to pick up more.

OLD BUSINESS:

John Witham – 60TH Anniversary Ribbon/Medal. The ribbon will be delivered to those in attendance the convention only those attending will be authorized to wear this ribbon/medal. What we need is a head count. The Dept. authorized the expenditure for the ribbon [approx \$1.25 ea. but not the medal, it will run \$10. The member must be in attendance at the convention Discussion on the attendance vs. registering. J/A shared that we should review just what the proposal was attendance vs. registered. John Witham took head count from members present for Det. attending the convention.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **John Stofiel** proposed placing ad in Dept Convention program book for \$50 inside front cover, 2nd Rex Hopper, carried. (3 Nays)
2. **Phil Ruhmshottel** I move that the Dept place a full page ad in the National Convention Program book in Albuquerque, NM, 2nd, carried. (1 Nay)
3. **Ed Falter** – establishing date for the Dept. Fall Staff meeting – 12-13th of October 2007 at Howard Johnson Hotel, Yakima, WA

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Washington Pack Growl 30 minutes following the closing.
2. Dept. WA Convention 60th Anniversary. 21-24 June 2007 Red Lion @ the Quay, Vancouver USA
3. 84th National Convention August 5th - 11th 2007 Albuquerque Marriott Albuquerque, NM. The primary hotel for the 84th National Convention, the Albuquerque Marriott, is sold out. The overflow hotel is the Sheraton Uptown is about 3 blocks form the Marriott. Rate is \$89.00, + 2 free breakfasts. They will supply a free shuttle to the Marriott. Please call them at: 505-881-0000 or Toll Free at: (800) 252-7772

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

1. **Ed Falter** - At the last Staff Meeting someone left behind National Colors, sent out an email to most of those who were in attendance, but received no response. Please pick up if it belongs to you.
2. **Tim Rubertt** anyone interested in hosting the Dept. Convention in 2008, give it some thought, take it back to your detachment and bring your proposal to the convention in June.
3. **Jim Stailey** – A lot of you have already seen the web site togetherweserved.com this is a website about and for Marines/Corpsman, kind of a site like the myspace.com Good place to fine Marines in your area (recruiting) and also you may find Marines you served with on this site.

4. **Dan Abbott** – We ordered rifles for our Det. through Army TACOM so we could do our own Honor Guard. Any Det. who wants to procure rifles, you can order up to 15 rifles for your Det. M-1 Garands already prepared to fire blanks. If you want the address contact me and I will send you the contact points. [dwagabbott@msn.com or 360-582-3824 they also provide free blank ammo. Ed Falter – WA Nat'l Guard is still doing there joint services program, they lowered their proved \$50 per funeral detail, and based on that income we are buying uniforms for our Honor Guard. Phil Ruhmshottel – The ammo is free but you will need to pay for the shipping.
5. **Phil Ruhmshottel** – We collected \$247 for our MCLA President Karen Washabaugh for traveling expenses and I am sure she will be extremely appreciative of this and I want to thank all for helping her out.
6. **Dave Severance** – I wanted to add to what Ed Falter said about the use of the media and other forms of publicity. We have a great logo, and I don't know if we can get this logo on the signs entering the cities in our communities like the other groups that do like the Lions, Kiwanis, and other service organizations, perhaps the Det. could check on that to see if they could retrieve the same opportunity. The other thing is the Flag Certificates that could be presented to local businesses who are flying the flag 23/7 properly, wherein you could take a camera take pictures of the presentation and submit to your local newspapers.

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

NEXT MEETING: Department Convention 21-24 June 2007, Red Lion @ the Quay Vancouver, WA

Present at Dept. Staff Meeting 17 March 2007: [29]

Dan Abbott, Andy Anderson, David Ball, Al Dennison, Dennis Dressler, Ed Falter, Ed Hoover, Rex Hopper, George Hilbish, Shane Inman, Mike Kneefe, George LaFrazia, James Mclean, Bill McCutchin, James Montgomery, Stephen Paris, Terry Reams, Jim Renton, Robert Rivas, Tim Rubertt, Phil Ruhmshottel, David Severance, Tony Spagnolini, Jim Stailey, John Stofiel, Herman Swanson, Jerry Wachsmuth, Jack Warren and John Witham

Detachments Represented: (13 of 18 detachments)

Mt. Olympus #897 (1), Pierce County #504 (3), Olympia #482 (1), Lewis County Det. #1119 (1)
Melvin M Smith#586 (3), Yakima Kittitas Valley #1055 (2), Wenatchee #806 (2),
Columbia River Det. #826 (4), Skagit Valley Det. #1043 (4), Puget Sound #336 (1), Mt. Rainier # 989 (2)
Mt. St. Helen's #889 (2), Whidbey Is. Det. #1210 (1)

**DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
60th ANNUAL CONVENTION 21-24 JUNE 2007**

HOST

COLUMBIA RIVER DETACHMENT #826 – MCL/LEWIS & CLARK POUND #225 MODD/
COLUMBIA RIVER UNIT-MCLA - LEWIS & CLARK YOUNG MARINES.

HONORED GUEST

Chief Devil Dog
Pedigreed Devil Dog Don R. Garland

LOCATION

Red Lion at the Quay Vancouver, Washington, 100 Columbia Street, Vancouver, WA 98660-3159

Reservations: 360-694-8341 Fax: 360-694-2023; Indicate Marine Corps League when calling.

Single/Double Occupancy: \$99.00 Triple Occupancy: \$109.00 Quad Occupancy: \$119.00

Riverview upgrade: \$15.00:

***Above rates include a roaring start breakfast each morning**

*Free High Speed wireless internet access.

*** After 25 May the blocked rooms will be open to the public.**

CONVENTION PROGRAM ADVERTISING [Feel Free to solicit Ads from other supporters]

A. Color/BW Inside front or back cover and outside back cover: \$50.00

B. Full page color: \$25.00 C. Full page black and white: \$15.00

D. 1/2 page black and white; \$10.00 E. Business Card: \$5.00

F. Honored Supporter (Name and Title Listed on “Honored Supporter Roster “): \$3.00

SATURDAY LUNCHEON ON THE PATIO

Columbia River Det/Auxiliary will provide @ Hospitality Rm. 125 – free will donations.

SATURDAY EVENING DINNER/INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS/AWARDS

1. Dinner Halibut & Chicken Combo plate - \$37.50

2. Prime Rib of Beef – \$37.50

Includes salad, dressing of choice, drinks, Reg/Caf Coffee, Tea, milk; Dessert: Cheesecake

MOBILE RV PARK SITE [No Special Rate]

7603 NE 13th Ave. Vancouver, WA 98665

Phone: (360) 695-1158 / Fax: (360) 735-8388

Toll Free Reservations: 1-877-756-2972

Email: vancouverrv@juno.com

Web site: http://www.vancouverrvparks.com/west_side2.html

Directions to Convention Site from RV Park:

Total Est. Time: 9 minutes Total Est. Distance: 4.85 miles

N on NE 13th Ave. toward NE 78th St; Left on NE 78th St.; Merge onto I-5 S via ramp on the Left toward Portland; Take the WA-501 / Mill Plain Blvd exit- Exit 1C- toward City Center / Port of Vancouver; Keep Right at the fork to go on onto Mill Plain Blvd; Get over into Left lane and turn Left onto Washington St; Turn Right onto W 3rd St; Turn Left onto Columbia St.; End at 100 Columbia St.

(Questions/Inquiries contact John Stofiel @ 1-800-945-5421 enter code 01/360-693-4407 or jfstofiel@aol.com

Convention Schedule:

Thursday 21 June

1300 – 1700 Early Arrival Registration
1700 – 1800 Dinner (No Host)
1300 – 2300 Hospitality/Auction Room 125

Friday 22 June

0800 – 1000 Convention Registration
0800 – 1000 Breakfast/Coffee & Rolls Hospitality Room
1000 – 1100 Joint opening Ceremony {West River Rm.}
1100 – 1200 MCL/MCLA Business meeting (West River/Gulls Nest Rm's.)
1200 – 1330 No Host Lunch
1330 – 1600 MCL/MCLA Business meeting (West River/Gulls Nest Rm's.)
1600 – 1700 Det. Cmndnt's meeting & Dept. Cmndn't Meeting. {West River Rm.}
1700 – 2300 No Host Dinner/ Hospitality/Auction Room 125

Saturday 23 June

0800 – 1000 Registration/Hospitality Room 125 [Coffee & Rolls]
0900 – 1000 Joint Commandant/President no host Breakfast (Hotel Restaurant)
1000 – 1100 MCL/MCLA Business meeting (West River/Gulls Nest Rm's.)
1100 - 1230 Patio Luncheon (River Deck/Rm. 125)
1230 – 1330 Memorial Ceremony (River Deck)
1330 – 1500 MCL/MCLA Business meeting (West River/Gulls Nest Rm's.)
1500 – 1700 MODD Grand Growl/Grand Flea Scratch (West River/Gulls Nest Rm's.)
1700 – 1830 Hospitality/Auction Room open
1830 – 1900 No host Bar in Ball Room
1900 – 2200 MCL/MCLA Installation of Officers/Awards
2200 – 0001 Hospitality Room 125

Sunday 24 June

0800 – 1000 Marine of the Year Breakfast meeting. (Hotel Restaurant)
0800 – 1000 No host breakfast and on the road again

REGISTRATION FORM {Please print legibly]
Registration and fees are **due June 8th, 2007**
Late Registration fee or at door \$ 7.00 per person

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

(Please scribe above how you want your name and title to appear on your Convention Badge.)

DETACHMENT: _____

AUXILIARY UNIT: _____

Hotel Confirmation # _____

RV Site Confirmation# _____

Arrival Date: _____

Detachment Delegate _____ Alternate _____

Registration fee: # _____ (\$ 5.00 per person) _____

Convention Ad # _____ (Circle: A B C D E F) _____

Saturday Banquet: # _____ Halibut-Chicken Combo plate - \$37.50 _____
_____ Prime Rib of Beef – \$37.50 _____

Total Enclosed: _____

All artwork and fees for the convention should be mailed to:
Adjutant John Stofiel
6204 Kansas St.
Vancouver, WA 98661-6924.

Ads may be emailed to: jfstofiel@aol.com and will be posted in Convention Program booklet upon receipt of check/money order.

Upon Registration you will receive our 60th Anniversary Ribbon w/60 Device centered. Need to be in attendance to receive. Washington Colors Green Stripes on White background.

APPENDIX B

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
AWARDS CHAIRMAN REPORT
SPRINT STAFF MEETING
March 17, 2007

Greetings Marines

Sorry for my absence but the weather in Yuma is just too nice to venture north into the PNW. My contact information is as follows: Yuma land line –(928) 344-6869, my cell (509) 951-2595 and email Lindashurtlett@aol.com The email address is good only till the end of March, we will be heading to Spokane at that time and it will change again after our arrival in Spokane. Sometimes the cell number is a problem as we are between towers in Yuma and disconnects frequently. Our house is in the county.

All nominations for awards should have been ready at this meeting. As of March 1st I have had a couple of calls requesting information on awards but nothing in writing has been submitted. If you have nominations for awards please pass them on to your Department Commandant and I will get with him prior to the Dept. Convention and get things in order.

AS I have stated in many of my reports, the nomination does not have to be a formal letter, a brief note with the name and what they have done for the Dept. and/or Detachment will at least get me started. I will also need the name and number/email of the person submitting the nomination so I may contact and get blanks filled in if needed.

Detachment Commandants please note that there are awards (Bronze) that can be awarded locally and do not have to go through Dept. The Dept. awards (Silver) must be forwarded to the Dept. Commandant via the Dept. Awards Chairman for approval.

I will be at the Dept. Convention in June and am sincerely hoping that some of you will have submitted some names for Dept. recognition. I am sure that there are members of the Dept. who are going “Above and Beyond” to help their fellow Marines and communities.

Thanks and Semper Fi

Doug Shurtleff
Awards Chairman

**CHAPLAINS REPORT
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON**

So far this year we have had nineteen League members pass on to join the Supreme Commandant; the WW11 Marines are leaving us very quickly. All necessary notifications have been sent to National and Department offices and cards sent to survivors when known. Death notices are available at no charge from National or I can send one from my supply.

I take part in the quarterly memorial services at the Veterans hospital. Perform color guard and flag folding ceremonies for school and scout groups.

I continue to work in our detachment VAVS program and act as coordinator for the nursing home visitation program. Our visitation program includes a monthly lunch with veterans in one of the area nursing homes.

Respectively submitted,

George LaFrazia
Chaplain
17 March 2007