



BRAZOS VALLEY DETACHMENT #1391

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3745
BRYAN, TEXAS 77805

Email: brazosvalley1391@gmail.com
Web: www.brazosvalleymcl.org
Facebook: [Brazos Valley MCL Facebook](#)



Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2017

LOCATION: Kreuz Market Bryan, 768 N Earl Rudder Fwy, Bryan, TX 77802

OFFICERS PRESENT: Sr Vice Commandant Doug Tennis; Jr Vice Commandant/Adjutant Thorin Moser; Paymaster Glenn Burnside; Chaplain Mary Jean Holcomb; Web Sergeant Ed Holcomb; Sergeant-at-Arms Don Hutchcraft; Jr Past Commandant John McGuire

OFFICERS ABSENT: Commandant Keith Stephens; Staff Judge Advocate Roger Martinez; Historian Misti Moser

OPENING CEREMONY: The meeting was called to order at 19:04

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP: None

GUESTS:

- 2nd Lt Nicholas Romer, wife Hana (USMC SSgt), children Danica and Mattis
- Donald Regmund

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Not read to facilitate guest speaker, detachment program, and upcoming events briefing.

CORRESPONDENCE: "Thank you" note read from Twin City Missions - thanking Al Diaz and Tom Powell both for donating Operation MRE briskets.

REPORT OF THE PAYMASTER:

- June:
 - o Checking: \$2,345.03
 - Income includes:
 - Operations MRE orders \$2,100.00
 - Detachment coins \$100.00
 - Life Membership \$200.00
 - Regular membership renewal \$60.00
 - Paid-for-Life Membership (PLM) payment \$7.64
 - Account dividends \$0.15
 - Expenses include:
 - MCL Department membership renewal \$10.00
 - MCL National membership renewal \$230.00
 - Items for Poolee Event \$23.94
 - Briskets for Operations MRE \$893.56
 - Ending balance: \$3,655.32
 - o Savings: \$1,254.06
 - o Total assets: \$4,909.38



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- July:

- o Checking: \$3,655.32
 - Income includes:
 - Operations MRE orders \$1,100.00
 - Account dividends \$0.21
 - Expenses include:
 - "Retreat Hell" Mameluke sword \$617.26
 - Operation MRE supplies \$182.36
 - Ending balance: \$3,955.91
- o Savings: \$1,254.06
- o Total assets: \$5,209.97

REPORT OF SICK/INJURED MEMBER OR FAMILY: Maggie McGuire in better shape and out-and-about; The McGuires thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers.

REPORT OF OFFICERS: None

REPORT OF COMMITTEES: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Upcoming calendar events

- o Aug 22 Texas A&M Vet Camp
- o Aug 30 Detachment leadership meeting (Kreuz)
- o Sep 11 Detachment regular membership meeting (Kreuz)
- o Sep 13 Mexican-American War Memorial dedication (Veterans Park)
- o Sep 27 Detachment leadership meeting at Kreuz
- o Oct 9 Detachment regular membership meeting (Kreuz)
- o Oct 20-22 Department Fall Conference (Houston)
- o Nov 10 242nd USMC Birthday
- o Nov 10 Veterans Day Wall of Honor ceremony (Veterans Park)
- o Nov 11 Veterans Day
- o Nov 13 Detachment regular membership meeting (Kreuz)
- o Nov Navasota Veterans Day parade
- o Dec Operation Seatback (Kyle Field seat removal fundraiser)
- o Dec 16 Wreaths Across America (Aggie Field of Honor)
- o Dec Make-A-Smile-Happen (MASH)
- o Dec Detachment Christmas party



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PROGRAMS:

- 2nd Lieutenant Nicholas Romer
 - o 2017 recipient of Det 1391's Harry Bruce "Retreat Hell" award
 - o 33 years old
 - o Born in Suffolk, England (U.S. father and British mother)
 - o Married with two children
 - Wife - Hana (SSgt USMC)
 - Daughter - Danica, 6
 - Son - Mattis, 3
 - o Joined Marine Corps in 2001
 - o Graduated from MCRD Parris Island
 - o Graduated artillery school in Ft. Sill, OK
 - o 1st duty station - 11th Marines (2001-2006)
 - One tour in Iraq (Operation Phantom Fury in Fallujah)
 - o Served as instructor at artillery school
 - o Served as Drill Instructor (2006-2009)
 - o Served with 5th Marines operating HIMARS rockets
 - Two tours in Afghanistan
 - o Served as Assistant Marine Officer Instructor at Boston University
 - Supported five other schools: Boston College, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Tufts University
 - o Applied to Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program
 - Graduated from Texas A&M with degree in Ag Development
 - o Promoted to Master Sergeant (August 1, 2017)
 - o Commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant (August 11, 2017)
 - o Reports to The Basic School on September 28, 2017
 - Top MOS choices:
 - #1 Artillery
 - #2 Logistics
 - #3 Intelligence
 - o Insight:
 - "Recycled Leadership" Second chance to make a difference as an officer within junior ranks.
 - Hope to have positive impact on platoon of Marines.
 - Not oriented to making policy - just want to make my Marines tactically the best.
 - When I hang up my uniform, I will be able to say this route was the most fulfilling.



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PROGRAMS (cont'd):

- John McGuire's Recommended Marine Corps Reading
 - o Semper Fi - Nihart/Chenoweth
 - o Heroes of the USMC: 1861-1955 - Jane Blatenly
 - o Marine Officers Guide - U.S. Naval Institute
 - o Tarawa - Robert Sherrod
 - o Fields of Fire - Jim Webb
 - o First to Fight - LtGen Victor Krulak
 - o Soldiers of the Sea - Bob Heinl)
 - o A Fellowship of Valor - Joe Alexander
 - o Chesty - Jon Hoffman

- Detachment Show-and-Tell:
 - o Benny Vallejo - Jar of sand from Iwo Jima
 - Given by Marine neighbor [Captain William Harrison Charlton](#)
 - o John Withers - shared airwing knowledge
 - Discussed definitions of KC, HMM, VMFA, VFMTA
 - Showed pic of his squadron intercepting 2 Russian Bears of coast of Hawaii
 - o Doug Tennis - Marine Handbook from 1967
 - Handbook from when he went to bootcamp
 - Included instruction on M1 rifle

NEW BUSINESS:

- Life Membership presentation
 - o Jr Vice Commandant Tennis presented Doc Powell with his Life Member plaque

- Mexican-American War Memorial dedication
 - o Det #1391 donated over \$1,000 and name will be on Memorial plaque
 - o Encourage all hands to be present for Sep 13 dedication ceremony
 - Wear detachment cover/det shirt or USMC cover/red shirt
 - o Special Guest: Gen Michael Hagee, 33rd Commandant of the Marine Corps
 - Detachment leadership proposed that Det #1391 submit Gen Hagee's name to be posted on BVVM Wall of Honor and pay the \$150 fee.
 - **Marine McGuire motioned that Det 1391 pay fee; Marine Holcomb seconded; Regular members present voted unanimously in favor.**



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- Benevolence Fund Discussion:

- o Tom Marty (Adjutant/American Legion Post #159) spoke with 100%- disabled Marine in financial need
- o Marine is married with two children
 - Has rent debt of \$750
- o American Legion will donate \$500 but asked Marine to complete financial plan
 - Det #1391 asked to support with remainder
Marine Holcomb motioned that Det 1391 pay remainder to renter; Marine Tennis seconded; Regular members present voted unanimously in favor.
 - Paymaster Burnside will coordinate payment with renter

- 2017 Department of Texas MCL Convention:

- o Jr Vice Moser attended event in Beaumont, TX
 - Det #1391 received colors streamer for attending event
 - Det #1391 did not place in "Category 1" (Small Detachment) activity award
 - (...but Det #1391 is in running)
 - Awards go to detachments active in their community
 - Activity is reported to Department via monthly reports
 - If a member participates in event, then remember to send the information (date, event, # of Det attendees) to Adjutant)
 - Det #1391 did receive a Meritorious Unit Commendation from Department based on our activity and a recommendation from District 5 Vice Commandant Richard Torres
 - Det #1391 was one of nineteen detachments awarded
 - Note there are 47 detachments in Texas

CLOSING CEREMONY: The meeting concluded at 20:12.

Meeting Attendees:

Bill Brown	Ed Holcomb	Tom Powell
Glenn Burnside	Mary Jean Holcomb	Wayde Smith
Olivia Burnside	Don Hutchcraft	Cary Tennis
Bill Collopy	John McGuire	Doug Tennis
Al Diaz	Maggie McGuire	Benny Vallejo
Larry Farmer	Thorin Moser	John Withers