

9 September 2017
Meeting Time: 1000-1200
Location: Hoover Tactical Firearms



THE LT. GEN. VICTOR "BRUTE" KRULAK DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Business Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2017

ATTENDANCE -

I. OPENING CEREMONY

- Sr. Vice Commandant Valentin called the meeting to order at 10:00AM.
- Don Brooks led the color guard in the posting of the colors in Jeff Bacon's (Sgt.-of-Arms) absence.
- Harvey Jones gave the invocation.
- Adjutant Findley completed a roll call of the officers.
- Commandant Valentin recognized guests and visitors.
 - Eagle Scout Mason Strachan and his father
 - Mason was given a certificate by the detachment.
 - He thanked the detachment for its support of his Eagle Scout project to build a shady, outdoor patio for veterans to fellowship at a retirement facility.
 - He shared pictures of his project.
 - Dr. Uswatte—Guest speaker
 - Meghan Liskey—Present to discuss UAB's 9/11 Never Forget Flag-Placement Project
- Commandant Valentin asked for motion to approve July minutes, which were sent out via Brute Blast and uploaded to the Brutes Only" section of the detachment website.
 - Tweety Byrd made the motion and Clyde Pendleton gave the second.
- Commandant Valentin asked the Judge Advocate to present the applicants for membership.
 - Melvin White was the only applicant present.
 - He was sponsored by Brute O'Malley.
 - He was unanimously approved following a motion from Tweety Byrd and a second from David Gaut.
 - Sr. Vice Commandant Higgins swore-in Melvin White.

II. OFFICER/TRUSTEE REPORTS

- A. **Commandant** –Fernando Valentin (krulak.commandant@gmail.com)
- No report

- B. **Sr. Vice Commandant** – Carol Higgins (krulak.srvic@gmail.com)
- National Convention Report
 - Gave overview of National Convention in Overland Park, Kansas.
 - Brute O’Malley also attended.
 - They submitted a joint report of their observations and important announcements/developments.
 - O’Malley received the prestigious Distinguished Citizen Award, which is the highest award given for a Marine Corps League member.
 - Krulak Detachment recognized as the fastest-growing detachment.
- C. **Jr. Vice Commandant** – Al Barfield (krulak.jrvic@gmail.com)
- Delinquencies
 - We currently have 63 delinquent members, the majority being regular members
 - Shared recruitment tips and encouraged everyone to recruit new members.
 - Reminded members about our payment plan for Life Memberships; life memberships eliminate delinquency issues.
- D. **Judge Advocate** – Tom Krebs (krulak.judgeadvocate@gmail.com)
- Shared with members who may have missed the prior announcements about the success of HB440.
- E. **Paymaster** – David Landier (krulak.paymaster@gmail.com)
- We currently have about \$18,000 in the bank.
 - Currently have 153 members.
 - Made a motion to reduce the cost of memberships for those who recently paid, as they essentially only received a partial-year membership for the price of a full year due to National changing the due date.
 - The motion is that the detachment cover \$8 of the renewal cost for the 23 members who are eligible.
 - Discussion:
 - David Gaut suggested that the Paymaster or Jr. Vice Commandant send a specific email to those members who are eligible for the reduced cost as opposed to sending out a blanket announcement to everyone.
 - John O’Malley suggested that the detachment send a letter to the Department and to the National Paymaster outlining how the ruling to change the due date has negatively impacted our membership renewal rate.
 - John O’Malley gave the second and the motion was passed.
- F. **Chaplain** – John Simmons (krulak.chaplain@gmail.com)
- Absent
- G. **Adjutant** – Jessica Findley (krulak.adjutant@gmail.com)
- Reminded everyone that the minutes are uploaded to the “Brutes Only” section of the website at least one week prior to the next detachment meeting.
- H. **Jr. Past Commandant** – Ed Smith, Jr. (krulak.jrpast@gmail.com)
- Absent

I. **Sergeant-At-Arms** – Jeff Bacon (krulak.sgtatarms@gmail.com)

- Absent

III. **GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Uswatte, UAB, The Brave Initiative**

- Dr. Uswatte is a colleague of Robin Schafer’s and was asked to speak to the detachment about a study he is currently conducting.
- The Brave Initiative is a study of unique rehabilitation techniques for those affected by traumatic brain injury, whether resulting from stroke or otherwise.
- Asked detachment members to help recruit veterans for the study.

IV. **COMMITTEE/SQUAD REPORTS**

A. “Second Chance” Gun Donation Drawing (David Landier)

- We still need members to step up to collect donations for the gun drawing.
- Flyers can be downloaded from the website on the home page or under the “Events/Fundraisers” tab. You can then print them. Otherwise request digital or print copies of the flyer from Jessica Findley (krulak.adjutant@gmail.com)
- Request tickets from David Landier (krulak.paymaster@gmail.com)

B. Shoot with the Brutes (David Landier)

- Reminder that Shoot with the Brutes will be held on Saturday, October 28th, at Brock’s Gap Training Center. Shooting will begin at 1000 and will end at 1700.
- There are new firearms and other new features/activities at the event this year, and with that comes the need for more volunteers.
- All Brutes encouraged to sign up for a volunteer position. We need everything from those working the registration table and passing out refreshments, to those demonstrating how to use the firearms and directing traffic. Sign up on the Shoot with the Brutes website under the “Volunteer” tab. [Or click here to be redirected to the sign-up page.](#)
- There is a committee meeting after the detachment meeting today.

C. Three Hots and a Cot (Don Lehman)

- No report.

D. Scholarship Committee (Don Lehman)

- The scholarship committee is now fully functional and in the process of getting procedures in place and the application finalized.
- Sarah Kate Higgins was nominated for a scholarship. Don Lehman made a motion to award her a \$1500 scholarship for college. David Gaut gave the second. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Birthday Ball Committee

- The detachment’s Marine Corps Birthday Ball will be held on Friday, November 10th, at The Club.
- The cost is \$60 per person or \$400 for a table of 8.
- This year, in addition to dinner, there will be a cocktail hour, live music, dancing, a guest speaker, and of course the traditional cake cutting ceremony.

- The menu is strawberry salad, NY strip steak medallions, broccoli, twice baked potatoes, plus The Club’s famous orange rolls.
- Please RSVP to Adjutant Jessica Findley as soon as possible at krulak.adjutant@gmail.com or 205-914-4343.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Hoover Tactical Appreciation

- Postponing to accommodate HTF’s schedules

VI. FOR THE GOOD OF THE DETACHMENT

A. Zamora Sportsman’s Giveaway (Jessica Findley)

- This even twill be held on Saturday, September 23rd from 10am-3pm.
- We will set up the gun drawing table at the event and promote Shoot with the Brutes
- Let Adjutant Jessica Findley know if you can attend.

B. 9/11 Never Forget Project (Meghan Liskey)

- Meghan Liskey from the Young Americans for Freedom group at UAB spoke about the 9/11 Never Forget Project.
- She asked our detachment to assist with setting out flags on the UAB campus tomorrow at 5:30pm.
- We will put out 2,977 flags; one for each person who lost his/her life on 9/11.

C. Department Quarterly Meeting

- Commandant Valentin and Sr. Vice Carol Higgins will attend the quarterly Department of Alabama meeting in Millbrook on Saturday, September 23rd. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Let Commandant Valentin know if you would like to carpool.

D. Alabama Department Newsletter

- The Alabama Department received the 2nd place award in the national newsletter competition at the National Convention.
- Dianna Grantham has been the long-serving editor of the Alabama Department Newsletter and deserves the credit for the award.
- Dianna announced that she would be stepping down this year, and our very own Brute, Sr. Vice Carol Higgins, will be assuming the role of Alabama Department Newsletter editor.

E. Louisiana/Texas Disaster Relief

- Brute John O’Malley made a motion to contribute \$2000 to National’s hurricane relief efforts to assist Marines and Marine families who have been impacted by the recent storms.
- David Gaut gave the second.
- There was much discussion.
- Judge Advocate Tom Krebs suggested that we keep the funds to be used here at home in Alabama rather than sending it to other places.
- O’Malley noted that we have funds and should help them since they are part of the Southeast Division.
- Krebs moved to modify the motion to provide \$1000. There was no second to this motion.
- The motion passed with one dissent from Tom Krebs.

F. James Cook Assistance

- Brute John O'Malley made a motion to assist Brute James Cook with a car payment in the amount of \$988/month for three months with the understanding that we would ask the Tag Fund and the Alabama Marine Foundation to help cover some or all of the cost.
- Tweety Byrd gave the second and the motion was passed.

G. Lamar Scott Military Display

- Brute John O'Malley made a motion to provide Lamar Scott with \$500, which would be matched by Hoover Tactical, to assist him in bringing his military display to Alabama to set up at Hoover Tactical for one week.
- Greg Garcia gave the second and the motion was passed.

VII. DONATION DRAWING

- All of the money brought in from the donation drawing goes in the scholarship fund.

VIII. RETIRING OF THE COLORS/ADJOURNMENT

- Harvey Jones gave the closing prayer.

****NEXT OFFICIAL DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE OCTOBER 14, 2017****

###

Submitted by

Jessica A. Findley
Adjutant