

Meeting Time: 9:30am-1200pm
Location: Hoover Tactical Firearms



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

Business Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2017

ATTENDANCE - 57

MEMBERSHIP

- New Members - 2
 - o Regular - 1
 - o Associate - 1

I. OPENING CEREMONY

- Commandant Valentin called the meeting to order at 10:00AM.
- Sergeant-At-Arms, Jeff Bacon, led the color guard in the posting of the colors.
- John Simmons gave the invocation.

II. OFFICER/TRUSTEE REPORTS

A. **Commandant** - Fernando Valentin (krulak.commandant@gmail.com)

- The February meeting minutes were approved.
- The first Brute Breakfast Buffet was a success. The members voted to have breakfast served at all future detachment meetings, at a cost of \$5 per person.
- Commandant Valentin recognized all the special guests present.

B. **Sr. Vice Commandant** - Carol Higgins (krulak.srvice@gmail.com)

- Brute Jessica Rafferty, one of our members and a Marine, just got engaged.
 - o Passed around a card to be signed by detachment.

C. **Jr. Vice Commandant** - VACANT

- Commandant Valentin announced that Ed Leach resigned from his position as Jr. Vice Commandant.
- Commandant Valentin asked members to step up to fill the position.

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- Three individuals came forward, and their names are being passed on to the Nominating Committee, which is headed by Jr. Past Commandant Ed Smith, Jr. We expect to have a vote at the April meeting.
 - Commandant Valentin announced that the detachment has new business cards.
 - o Urged members to take some and give them out to potential members encouraging them to attend a meeting.
 - o The cards will be on the sign-in table at each detachment meeting.
 - o If someone wants personalized business cards with their own name and contact information, inform Adjutant Jessica Findley at krulak.adjutant@gmail.com.
- D. Judge Advocate** – Tom Krebs (krulak.judgeadvocate@gmail.com)
- Krebs announced that the speaker for our April meeting will be retired police captain, Charles Kennedy, who brought to justice the sadistic leaders of a so-called Christian boot camp in Prichard, Alabama.
 - Read the Newsweek article detailing Captain Kennedy’s achievement [here](#).
 - We expect a huge turnout at the April meeting and will potentially have some elected officials and media present.
 - All members should attend and bring guests; encourage religious leaders in our communities to attend.
- E. Paymaster** – David Landier (krulak.paymaster@gmail.com)
- A. The current account balances are as follows:
 - o Checking: \$6,109
 - o Savings: \$15,100
 - B. David announced that membership renewal notices were mailed out and encouraged everyone to submit their renewal payments as soon as possible.
- F. Chaplain** – John Simmons (krulak.chaplain@gmail.com)
- Members should let John know about any members who are sick or in the hospital.
 - Send prayer requests to John at krulak.chaplain@gmail.com.
- G. Adjutant** – Jessica Findley (krulak.adjutant@gmail.com)
1. Committees/Squads
 - o Jessica encouraged members to fill out a Committee/Squad Interest Form if they haven’t already. Committee/Squad Interest Forms will be on the sign-in table at each Detachment meeting.
 - o Each member should plan to join at least one committee or squad.
 - o You can fill out an interest form online at <https://goo.gl/forms/TQPMSeNqN86pt7Bf2>. Otherwise, pick up a hard copy at the next detachment meeting.
 2. Member Directory

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- Sarah Kate Higgins (Sr. Vice Higgins' daughter) will be taking headshots at our detachment meetings as part of the detachment's effort to create a membership directory with each member's picture, name and perhaps a brief bio.
- Be sure to have your picture taken!

3. Reserve Station Family Day

- The Detachment will attend the Reserve Station's Family Day event on Sunday, April 24th, from 1100-1500.
- We will be responsible for manning the grill.
- We will also have a table set up with detachment flyers and membership information.
- More details and a sign-up sheet will be sent out at a later date.

4. Website

- Jessica unveiled the new website design to the membership and informed everyone that it would go live in the next week or so.

H. **Jr. Past Commandant** – Ed Smith, Jr. (krulak.jrpast@gmail.com)

1. Trent Winstead

- Ed Smith reminded members that we assisted Trent Winstead in purchasing a car last year.
- Trent is now in school at Wallace State, and the detachment voted to disburse restricted funds to pay for books and to pay for six months of car insurance.

2. Marine of the Year

- Presented Brute Don Lehman with the Marine of the Year Award.

3. Officer Medals

- Presented elected and appointed officers with medals for their service.

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

- Jeff Bacon discussed elements of the proper Marine Corps League uniform.

III. SWEARING-IN OF NEW MEMBERS

- Commandant Valentin swore in the following new members:
 - Ceasar Rodriguez (Regular)
 - Ron Haygood (Associate)

IV. GUEST SPEAKER: RAY LOONEY, ALABAMA MARINE FOUNDATION

- Ray Looney and Jim McLean spoke to the membership about the Alabama Marine Foundation (www.alamarinesfoundation.org).
- The purpose of the Foundation is to raise funds and to make charitable contributions and grants to deserving individuals and other non-profit organizations, including

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- veterans organizations, educational institutions, and governmental entities which support its goal of promoting the general welfare of Marines and their families.
- They make money by parking vehicles and selling parking spots at Alabama football games. We are welcome to help them park cars.
- They will help steer younger marine vets to the Marine Corps League.
- Brutes should consider becoming a member of the Foundation. It costs \$15 and you can [join online here](#).

V. COMMITTEE/SQUAD REPORTS

A. Three Hots and a Cot (Don Lehman)

- Don reported that THAC had their sports park dedication at the Clay veterans home; it was well attended.
- Don reminded everyone that THAC is in constant need of consumables like cleaning supplies, toiletries and paper goods.

B. National Cemetery/Veterans Memorial Park (Don Brooks)

- Don Brooks recommended that the detachment start a "Flag Retirement Program."
- Stay tuned for information about Memorial Day events.
- The detachment will have a table at the Gun Show at the BJCC.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- Budget/Bylaws (Fernando)
 - o The 2017 Budget was passed.

VII. FOR THE GOOD OF THE DETACHMENT

A. Brute Post-Meeting Social

- Going forward, the members will rendezvous after detachment meetings at Bar 31 (<https://www.bar31birmingham.com>). Commandant Valentin is buying the first round of drinks for everyone after the meeting on April 8th.

B. Clyde Pendleton

- Clyde told the detachment about an Islands of the Pacific Tour he will be taking later in the year.
- If anyone is interested in learning more, click [here](#).

C. Take the Reins 5k and 10k

- The family of deceased Marine Cpl. Clay Ward, who lost his battle with PTSD in 2009, spoke to the detachment about a memorial run called "Take the Reins", which will be held on June 10th at Veterans Park in Hoover.
- The detachment voted to contribute \$300 to the event and urged members to participate.

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- For more information, [click here](#).

D. Ron Haygood/American Legion Appliances

- The American Legion has a number of appliances, including stoves, dishwashers, and refrigerators, that they are fixing up to give away to veterans in need.
- Ron offered to give 4 appliances to the Marine Corps League so we can fix them up and give them away to Marines in need or sell them.

E. Office

- Hoover Tactical has provided an office for the detachment to use in the Hoover Tactical building.
- We will be painting and fixing up the office and will keep everyone posted on our progress.

VIII. DONATION DRAWING

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

IX. RETIRING OF THE COLORS/ADJOURNMENT

****NEXT DETACHMENT MEETING WILL BE APRIL 8, 2017****

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Submitted by

Jessica A. Findley
Adjutant/Aide-de-Camp