



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

**Detachment Business Meeting Minutes
January 2019**

Date of Meeting: 01/12/19
Location: Hoover Tactical Firearms
Recorded By: Jessica Findley
Date of Minutes: 01/13/19

Officers in Attendance: 6

1. Fernando Valentin (Commandant)
2. Carol Higgins (Sr. Vice Commandant)
3. Vernon Wood (Sgt-At-Arms)
4. Ed Smith Jr. (Judge Advocate/Jr. Past Comdt)
5. Jessica Findley (Adjutant/Interim Paymaster)
6. Harvey Jones (Assoc. Chaplain)

Officers Absent: 2

1. John Simmons (Chaplain)
2. Mike Jeffries (Jr. Vice Commandant)

Total Present: 31

Guest (G): 8

Officers (O): 6

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| 1. Fernando Valentin (O) | 10. Dan Copeland (G) | 19. Lillian Jones |
| 2. Carol Higgins (O) | 11. A.B. Grantham (G) | 20. Steven Weber |
| 3. Vernon Wood (O) | 12. Lisa Calamusa (G) | 21. William (Luke) Kuykendall |
| 4. Ed Smith Jr. (O) | 13. Daniel Thigpen (G) | 22. James Murphy |
| 5. Jessica Findley (O) | 14. Maura McGraw (G) | 23. Tom Krebs |
| 6. Harvey Jones (O) | 15. Patrick Hebdon | 24. Jim Alexander |
| 7. Ricky Pitts (G) | 16. Don Lehman | 25. Larry “Sarge” Dickerson |
| 8. Angie Pitts (G) | 17. Jeremy Harris | 26. Mac Hefner |
| 9. Chuck Purcell (G) | 18. Vernon Wood | 27. Sarah K. Higgins |

Meeting Minutes

January 2019

28. Philip Rushton

30. Jack Nolen

29. Tweety Byrd

31. Jason Alexander

1. Commandant Valentin called the meeting to order at 10:00am.
2. Sgt-at-Arms Vernon Wood led the posting of the colors. Jeremy Harris, James Alexander and Jason Alexander served as the Color Guard.
3. Chaplain Jones gave the invocation.
4. Department of Alabama Commandant, A.B. Grantham, carried out the installation of the 2019 Officers.
5. Incoming Commandant Higgins presented a gift of appreciation to outgoing Commandant Valentin.
6. 8 Guests present.
7. Lisa Calamusa was the only applicant for membership. Unanimously approved. Sworn in by COMDT Higgins.
8. Findley shared highlights from the December meeting minutes. Ed Smith made the motion to accept the minutes and Fernando Valentin gave the second. The minutes were approved.
9. Webmaster Findley gave update on website, asking members what else they would like to see included.
10. Paymaster reported that there is \$544 in checking and \$7,556 in savings account. There is \$8100 in the combined accounts. We currently have 88 members in good standing.
11. No Chaplain's report.
12. Commandant Higgins shared her strategy and vision for the upcoming year. She shared thoughts on potential events.
13. No Sr. Vice report.
14. No Jr. Vice report.
15. Judge Advocate Smith gave a report and shared an update on the National Bylaws. He also discussed the success of the appreciation cookout for Hoover Tactical in partnership with KMAA and the 911 Post of the American Legion.
16. Sgt. At Arms Wood asked about the Marine Military Expo. Sr. Vice Rodriguez shared an overview from the website. Webmaster Findley will send out a Brute Blast with additional information.
17. Paymaster Valentin asked for a volunteer to assist with the Ship Store. COMDT Higgins asked if there were any items we needed to have in stock. Sgt-at-arms requested that we connect with Black Ink in Scottsboro for new t-shirts.
18. Sgt-at-arms taking inventory on ammo after meeting. Suggested we use it for the upcoming shooting event or sell it to members. He will turn the inventory report in to the COMDT upon completion.
19. Sr. Vice Rodriguez shared information on the Flag Retirement Program. Mac Hefner discussed additional details for an annual ceremony. He has been in contact with the City of Hoover to discuss. Wanted to host it at Veterans Park in Hoover, but you can't have a fire or bury ashes there. Lots of obstacles to work through. Potential to partner with the HMS detachment and have them do a flag raising reenactment at the annual ceremony. Sgt-at-arms suggested we partner with other organizations. COMDT Grantham suggested connecting with the American Legion or VFW. Findley asked Mac Hefner to serve as the Chair of the Flag Retirement Program committee since it was his idea, and he accepted. Findley will send out additional details on the Flag Program. Potential partnership opportunity with Boy Scouts.
20. COMDT Higgins discussed with Jeremy Harris about the rules surrounding posts on Facebook. Findley will pass along all Facebook administration information to new officers.
21. Brute Lehman passed around birthday cards with Walmart gift cards attached (\$25 each) for Three Hots and a Cot and asked members to sign. Continuing to get door prizes from Home Depot, but they changed their process, so we need more door prize ideas and options. Send Brute Lehman ideas. He will be meeting with Mark Hamilton from Home Depot next month. He's asking someone to take on the coffee duties for meetings. Paymaster Valentin asked for an update on THAC. Lehman suggested

Meeting Minutes
January 2019

following them on Facebook. They're adding a dog run and additional space for residents. He also suggested the detachment become more engaged with them again.

22. COMDT Higgins recognized the guests from the Smitty (Dan Copeland and Chuck Purcell) and McLaughlin (Ricky and Angie Pitts) detachments. Chuck Purcell spoke about shooting competitions and encouraged Krulak detachment members to get involved in the competition and submit scores to National for the various national shooting awards. He was promptly connected to Jim Alexander.
23. Brute Jim Alexander discussed Brute Shooting Event. Asked for people to sign up. Thirteen Brutes have registered interest thus far.
24. COMDT Higgins asked if anyone had any requests for funds or Detachment presence. Ed Smith said he had a funding request from a member and will get with COMDT Higgins after the meeting. Paymaster Valentin spoke briefly about the Tag Fund Committee, which he serves on, and encouraged the detachment to pass along requests for assistance. There is more than \$80,000 in the Tag Fund, which comes from a portion of the sales of the Marine Corps license plates.
25. Sgt-at-arms spoke to his suggestion to recruit from the Bessemer Reserve station. He asked JV Hebdon to consider it for his recruitment strategy.
26. Krulak Detachment birthday coming up on January 28th. COMDT Higgins recognized Charter members who established the detachment; there were several present. COMDT Higgins may organize a small gathering on Saturday, January 26th to celebrate.
27. COMDT Higgins educated us all through some Marine Corps trivia.
28. The raffle brought in \$125 for the Brute Scholarship Fund.
29. Chaplain Jones closed us in prayer.
30. Sgt at Arms Wood led the detachment in the Marine Corps Hymn.
31. The meeting was closed at 11:40am.
32. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, February 9th, 2019.

Submitted by Jessica Findley, Outgoing Adjutant