

## **Marine Corps League**

**Cpl. Suzi Sannes**

**Detachment 1262**

**VFW Post 2057, NC Hwy 97, Rocky Mount, N.C.**

**04 Nov. 2013**

The November meeting was called to order by Commandant Charles Minton at 1903 hours. There were 18 members present.

The posting of colors, salute to the flag and Pledge of Allegiance were led by the Sergeant at Arms. The meeting was declared in order.

Roll call of officers: Jr. Past Commandant Vincent Tesoro was absent. Public Relations Officer Walt Pridgen arrived late.

Induction of New Members: No New Applicants.

Correspondence: Commandant Minton turned over the floor to Sr. Vice Commandant Rick Ferguson. The SVC acknowledged the personal accomplishments of his wife, Lisa Ferguson, associate member, in her work. She has been recognized nationally by her employer and has appeared in the local paper and company periodicals. ... Commandant Minton advises that the National Convention rooms are going fast and that one of the hotels is already booked at capacity. Alternate rooms are available at the Marriott and Embassy Suites if you are interested. ... Mid-Winter Conference is at Falls Church, Va. this time. If you are interested, see the Commandant after the meeting for attendance forms. Rooms are still available at the Marriott and Fairview Park for \$99.00/night, including breakfast. Attendance forms must be received no later than 13 January 2014. ... The United States Marines Youth Foundation will have a "Tree of Lights" this year as a fund raiser. Donations can be made at six levels of

acknowledgement from clear @ \$10.00 to red @ \$500.00 per light. Payment can be made through their website at <http://www.marineyouthfoundation.org/>.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Minutes of the October meeting were presented for approval to the general membership. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Jeri Mann. A second to the motion was made by Leo Nieves. Membership polled for discussion. Being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Paymaster Report: Presented to general membership by the Paymaster Larry Hill, detailing beginning balance of \$10,276.49, deposits of \$431.00, Payments of \$1,246.00, cash on hand of \$960.00, giving an ending balance of \$10,421.49. Motion to accept the report as submitted made by Bill Knight and seconded by Tom Deaner. Membership polled for discussion. Being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Sickbay Report: Chaplain Alan Clement advises that John Dinan is resting comfortably in his recliner, but has to remain in the upright position right now. He hopes to return to the meetings soon. He is currently walking with the aid of a cane.

Officers Report: Paymaster Larry Hill advises the membership that the Detachment once again has liability insurance. ... The national dues will increase by \$2.00 on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, going from \$18.00 to \$20.00 per renewal. Current costs are \$18.00 for National, \$5.00 for State and \$7.00 for Detachment. Discussion was held whether to raise the dues by \$1.00 - \$2.00, or absorb the cost internally. No decision made immediately and will be reviewed later. ... Commandant Minton reviewed the benefits of Life Membership, detailing the current cost and the projected cost by age group.

Marine Corps Ball: Commandant Minton advised the membership that we had the largest representation at the Marine Corps Ball in Greenville this year. 29 out

of 30 who bought tickets were there. Discussion was opened up regarding the Ball. Lisa Ferguson brought up the point that the music was not very agreeable with those in attendance that wanted to dance. The lack of a dance floor and the ladies being instructed to remove their high heel shoes so as not to catch in the carpet did not make it a pleasant experience. Sgt. Major Leo Nieves did not believe the Ball was complete without the formal ceremony. Discussion continued with various inputs regarding the event and the apparent lack of protocol. Lisa Ferguson and Moonie Sloan suggested the ladies of the detachment arrange the next Marine Corps Ball. Commandant Minton advised them that would be OK, but the Waynesboro Detachment has to have the option to put it on next year if they wish. If they should elect to not, then we certainly could pursue the possibility of the ladies handling the Ball.

Web Sergeant: Adjutant Rick Thomason gave a report of the status of the website. The site is ready for publishing and training is taking place for insertion of calendar events, photos and updates. We will need officer photos for the website. Walt Pridgen offered to bring his camera to the next meeting for the photos.

Raffle Tickets: Paymaster Larry Hill gave a report of the expenses to date and of the potential profit.

Toys For Tots: Judge Advocate/TFT Coordinator David Sannes addressed the membership. It is time to get out the boxes to the stores. If you are available, contact Rick Ferguson for details on where they go. Dwight Harper will be in the warehouse every day. Contact him if you can help in the warehouse in any capacity. ... Color Guard needed for the Rocky Mount TFT Christmas Parade this coming December 1<sup>st</sup>.

26 Oct. Golf Tournament: Moonie Sloan was recognized and addressed the membership. In spite of several setbacks this year, they were still able to raise \$1,243.80 for the Detachment this year. She promised the membership that next year will be different and more money will be made than this year. She let everyone know that the leftover food went to feed the homeless and was not wasted. Moonie presented the check to Commandant Minton who acknowledged her effort and thanked her for the donation.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Joe Pisarik was acknowledged and addressed the membership. He would like to retract his motion made at the last meeting to donate money to Johnny Burundi's charity, for unspecified reasons. He stated he has been privileged to some information that makes his motion worth reconsidering. Walt Pridgen seconded the motion to retract and was passed without discussion. Joe Pisarik then made a motion that we provide the same amount to Chuck Lewis' charity, "Walking For The Fallen". Walt Pridgen seconded the motion. Discussion was held and a vote taken. Motion passed without dissent.

Paymaster Larry Hill advised the membership that National no longer sends out renewal notices and the renewals were now the responsibility of the detachment and the individual. Larry provided a listing of those whose renewal was coming due in the next two months.

Commandant Minton advises that in the past we have authorized program funding and development that needs to be revisited and re-established in the near future.

Pancake Breakfast at Applebees: Commandant Minton gave details of a fund raising event that can generate income for the detachment without exceptional cost to us. Details of an Applebees Pancake Breakfast were shared with the membership and the responsibilities that go along with it. General discussion was held and input taken from Joe Pisarik who has been involved in one of these breakfasts before. The VFW has attempted to utilize Applebees for a breakfast and had trouble getting people to buy the tickets. People would donate to the VFW, but didn't want to buy a ticket. Commandant suggested we consider it in the future. ... David Sannes addressed the membership regarding a potential money making venture that would cost up nothing. The detachment can be paid for allowing people who play online games to access those games through our website portal. Commandant Minton suggests we get more information on this before we commit.

Good of the League: Bill Knight addressed the membership to request we make a donation to the VFW Post 2057 for them allowing us the use of their facility to hold out meetings. Commandant Minton advised the membership that we do make donation to the VFW when requested. Our last donation was made when the ice machine broke beyond repair and needed to be replaced. No motion was made, no further discussion followed. ... Walt Pridgen has the shirts on hand that were ordered at the last monthly meeting. Pick them up after the meeting. ... Wally Darling asked who was the Marine of The Year? Commandant Minton advised Wally that the MOY was been selected, but the medallion and certificate will not be presented until the December meeting. ... Joe Pisarik stated that the VFW is considering having a Christmas party to include the American Legion, DAV and Marine Corps League. We would all meet at the Golden Corral for an evening meal. Discussion followed regarding the term "party". It was decided that a gathering at the VFW with food and a DJ would be much more fun than a meal at the Golden Corral. A tentative date was set for January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014. This would allow all the Christmas and New Year celebrations to get out of the way. It was agreed that further discussion was to be held at the next meeting regarding food and a DJ.

Being no further business, the colors were retired and the meeting was closed at 2019 hours by the Sergeant at Arms; The Chaplain read the closing prayer and general membership dismissed.

Next meeting scheduled for 02 Dec., 2013 at the VFW Post 2057 on NC Hwy 97, Rocky Mount, N.C.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Thomason/Adjutant

Cpl. Suzi Sannes Detachment 1262