

The Col Phillip C. DeLong Detachment #1267
Marine Corps League, The Villages, Florida
Daniel Smyczynski, Commandant

Minutes of the Detachment
Meeting January 18, 2010
Bacall Recreation Center
1 900hrs.

CALL TO ORDER: **Commandant** Smyczynski directed the **Sergeant at Arms** Polkinghorn to secure the quarters and post the colors. **Color Guard Sergeant** Miner directed the color guard in posting of the colors and led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Chaplin** Hoffman gave the opening prayer and the meeting was declared open for business. The Commandant declared the meeting open with a special award ceremony due to special guests time factor involved. A special Certification of Appreciation Award and Distinguish Citizen Award was presented to Ms. Kinue Marcinowski for her support in the 2009 Toys For Tots Campaign. Ms. Marcinowski age 11, was also the first youngest person to receive the detachment's official coin which was presented to her by Commandant Smyczynski. The Commandant recognized special guest Senior Vice Commandant of District #5 Charles Smith, Deputy Adjutant Bob Beal, Jr. Past Commandant Lee Radford, Past Commandant Bernie McCarthy. Four visitors present were Chuck Cove, F. Fitzgerald, Tom Jordan and Jim Peterson.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND STAFF: Officers and staff present were Commandant Dan Smyczynski, Sr. Vice Commandant Lee Cerovac, Jr. Vice Commandant Roger Carignan, Judge Advocate Joe Olimpio, Adjutant Lydia Leduc, Paymaster Manny Lopez, Chaplain Ralph Hoffman, Sergeant Ar Arms Norman Polkinghorn, Historian Tom Ciesla, Public Relations Officer Jack Maiz, Communication Officer /Web Master Angelo Grotticelli, Newsletter Editor Lee Radford, and Color Guard Sergeant Charles Miner.

NEW MEMBERS: Two new applicants for membership in the detachment, Joseph R. McLaughlin and Joseph Zambrano were escorted from the meeting room. **Judge Advocate** Joe Olimpio reviewed the DD-214's and reported to the Commandant they were in order. The Commandant asked the membership if anyone had any comments about the nominees. **Jr. Vice Commandant** Roger Carignan gave a brief statement about each applicant. The Commandant asked the membership for a motion to accept the new members and the membership unanimously voted to accept the new applicants. The applicants were returned to the meeting room where the Commandant swore in both applicants in, **Chaplain Hoffman** gave a prayer and a five minute recess was declared

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for the membership to welcome the new members to the detachment.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: **Adjutant** Lydia Leduc reported the minutes of December were posted on the bulletin board in the rear of the meeting room and are available on the detachment web site.

REPORT OF PAYMASTER: **Paymaster** Manny Lopez gave a report as of January 18, 2010 there is \$4,822.00 in the operating fund.

REPORT OF CHAPLAIN: **Chaplain** Ralph Hoffman stated Jim Skinner is here tonight and is doing well. He also stated that the detachment be aware if not already that his wife and MCL member Frances Hoffman has been very ill and recovering from heart surgery. He personally wanted to thank everyone for all the letters, cards, emails and help during this time. He wanted everyone to keep her in their prayers.

REPORT OF OFFICERS: **Sr. Vice commandant** Cerovac had nothing to report. **Jr. Vice Commandant** Roger Carignan advised that he receive an official delinquent report from National on January 15th and is still reviewing upon completion of review, he will give a full report at February's meeting. **Historian** Tom Ciesla had nothing to report. **Sergeant at Arms** Norman Polkinghorn had nothing to report. **Public Relations** Jack Maiz nothing to report. **Color Guard Officer** Charles Miner had nothing to report.

STANDING COMMITTEES: **Toys For Tots Campaign-** Joe Olimpio reported that over 32,000 toys were given away this year. Due to tough times toys were also given out to several others organizations in need. They were the Lake Hill School for Handicap Children (three Van loads full), The Church in Clermont (which was burglarized and all their toys stolen), and USMC Reserve Unit in Orlando. All in all this year was a very successful one and all volunteer help was greatly appreciated. **The Village Dragon Boat-** Lee Cerovac reported The Leatherneck team will be in Cape Coral on 26th of February for a race and their goal is to go to the National Dragon Boat races. He also stated the team is looking for paddlers if anyone is interested. “ **Chili Cook Off** ” Jack Maiz spoke on the “Chili Cook Off” on February 6th at Sumter Landing in which they will be needing volunteers to help in preparing and serving. Also each group will have a display, which will also be judged and volunteers will be needed for that also. **Commandant** Smyczynski announced in the January 2010 issue of Semper Fi Magazine page #7, there is a request for all Iwo Jima veterans to have a picture taken in their official MCL detachment uniform and sent to them by January 25,

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2010, so it may appear in the March/April 2010 issue. **Historian** Tom Ciesla will be taking pictures on Wednesday January 20th, 10:00 AM at Lake Miona Recreation Center for those veterans in our detachment. Also on page #46 **National Senior Vice Commandant** Vic Voltaggio stated he attended our detachment Marine Corps Ball in November. It was very well organized and he had a wonderful time. **Commandant** wanted to bring to the attention of the membership of a committee of quilters making and donating quilts to the Wounded Warrior Program in Camp LeJune. Details of this program will follow in our next meeting on February 15th meeting. **Night Golf Fund Raiser Chairman** Fred Geier announced on Thursday 22nd and Saturday 24th of April Night Golf official dates and advised a few spots are still available. The cost is \$20.00 per person or \$40.00 per couple. Solicitation for sponsors will begin soon and anyone with sponsor information, they are to see him after the meeting. This year is the first year our program will not only include The Villages Senior Scholars but will be opened to any graduating senior or family members of MCL Detachment #1267. All applicants will be reviewed and considered, he encouraged to submit applications to the committee. Webmaster Angelo Grotticelli will have application forms available for downloading for those wishing to apply within two weeks on our website. All applications are due by the 22nd of February. If you have any questions regarding this program, he encourages you to contact him. He advised that there is \$4200.00 available for distribution this year. The funds are growing for next year's scholarship program and funds raise this year on the Night Golf will go to fund scholarships for 2011.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The **Commandant** announced the viewing of a video of the distribution of toys in December by the Toys For Tots volunteers. Jack Maiz made the introduction of the video that was made by his friend Tim Martin. He advised the membership of two video. The other video was made by Phil Riggins. After viewing the video, **Chairman** Joe Olimpio once again wanted to thank all the volunteers for all their hard work and time given to make this program such a success. Certificates of appreciation were handed to those volunteers that could not attend a luncheon given prior to this meeting. At the luncheon over 300 certificates and 12 plaques were given out, these were well received by all. Joe Quinn stated the video was very well done and asked if it was going to be submitted to Quantico and thought it should win some kind of award. **Ralph Hoffman** wanted to know if the funds were ever given to the Little League as per the November 2009 membership meeting. The **Commandant** checked with the **Paymaster** Manny Lopez and as of today's date no check had been written. The amount of the check approved by the membership was \$500.00 as per stated in the minutes of November 2009 according to **Adjutant** Lydia Leduc. **Quartermaster** Jim Coleman advised the membership " Detachment Coin " are here and for sale at \$10.00 a

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coin. There also have been a few request and interest via email from others organizations. Any coins being mailed, will be at a cost of \$15.00 per coin, which will include shipping and handling.

CLOSING: The **Commandant** asked Lydia Leduc to lead the detachment in the singing of the Marine Corps Hymn followed by a moment of silence in respect for our deceased members. The Commandant directed the **Sergeant At Arms** Polkinghorn to retire the colors and **Chaplain** Hoffman gave the closing prayer. The Commandant asked the **Sr. Vice Commandant** Cerovac to perform the last duties of his office and asked the Sergeant At Arms to declare the meeting adjourned. The meeting was adjourned until the next meeting on February 15th 2010 at 1900hrs at the Bacall Recreation Center in The Villages, Florida.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia I. Leduc
Adjutant