



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

**Detachment Business Meeting Minutes
February 2019**

Date of Meeting: 02/09/19
Location: Hoover Tactical Firearms
Recorded By: Jessica Findley
Date of Minutes: 02/10/19

Officers in Attendance: 7

1. Carol Higgins (Commandant)
2. Ceasar Rodriquez (Sr. Vice Commandant)
3. Fernando Valentin (Paymaster)
4. Ed Smith Jr. (Judge Advocate/Jr. Past Comdt)
5. Vernon Wood (Sgt-At-Arms)
6. John Simmons (Chaplain)
7. Harvey Jones (Asst. Chaplain)

Officers Absent: 2

1. Patrick Hebdon (Jr. Vice Commandant)
2. Steven Weber (Adjutant)

Total Present: 22

Guest (G): 0

Officers (O): 7

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Fernando Valentin (O) | 11. William (Luke) Kuykendall | 21. Tom Donaldson |
| 2. Carol Higgins (O) | 12. James Murphy | 22. Al Wood |
| 3. Vernon Wood (O) | 13. Tom Krebs | |
| 4. Ed Smith Jr. (O) | 14. Jim Alexander | |
| 5. Ceasar Rodriguez (O) | 15. Mac Hefner | |
| 6. John Simmons (O) | 16. Philip Rushton | |
| 7. Harvey Jones (O) | 17. Tweety Byrd | |
| 8. Jessica Findley | 18. Jason Alexander | |
| 9. Don Lehman | 19. Oather Alred | |
| 10. Jeremy Harris | 20. Slade Bridges | |

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1. Commandant Higgins called the meeting to order at 10:05am.
2. Sgt-at-Arms Vernon Wood led the posting of the colors. Jeremy Harris, Tweety Byrd and Slade Bridges served as the Color Guard.
3. Chaplain Simmons gave the invocation.
4. Findley shared highlights from the January meeting minutes. Ed Smith made the motion to accept the minutes and John Simmons gave the second. The minutes were approved.
5. No Webmaster report.
6. Paymaster shared impact report. Vernon Wood asked what the bottom line needs to be to cover our debits. Paymaster noted we should be raising about \$20,000 per year. Tom Krebs asked when the last audit was taken. Paymaster Valentin said it has been a couple years. Tom Krebs recommended one of his associates who will undertake it at no cost to the detachment. Tom Krebs made the motion to undertake an audit. The second was given by Vernon Wood. The motion passed. Reported that there is \$485 in checking and \$6,256 in savings account. There is \$6,741 in the combined accounts. We currently have 88 members in good standing.
7. Chaplain Simmons shared that Amy Roberts, Al Barfield's daughter, is in critical condition at Princeton Medical Center, room 591.
8. No Sr. Vice report.
9. No Jr. Vice report (Absent).
10. No Judge Advocate report.
11. COMDT Higgins working to organize a car show. Hoping to get the venue for free, perhaps the Hoover Met. If we can get tons of cars, motorcycles, trucks, etc. and sell food and snacks, we can potentially make a good return. Sr. Vice Rodriguez has been in touch with owners of about 50 cars/trucks of showcase-quality who might be interested in having their vehicles on display. Philip Rushton suggested a place in Alabaster. Vernon Wood suggested a place in Montevallo.
12. Don Lehman noted that April 27th is Hoover Day, where they also have a car show as part of it. Paymaster Fernando suggested having a draw. Don Lehman suggested getting a place under the tent.
13. COMDT Higgins has a message into Disney World and Talladega Super Speedway for tickets to use as potential raffles. Don Lehman suggested Barber Motor Sports for the museum or races. Paymaster suggested that venue for potential car show as well. Findley recommended something more near-term, such as gift basket for Mothers' Day. Jim Alexander recommended drafting a cover letter to take to Costco for items. Confident they will donate.
14. Jim Alexander looking for a good date for the shooting event at Warrior Ranch in Brookwood, AL. Ideally, it would be a Saturday. Suggesting April 6th, but it's the same date as the quarterly Department meeting. Just need a date to determine cost. Twenty members have signed up for the shoot. Open invitation for guests. Vernon Wood asked if this was in lieu of SWTB. COMDT noted it is in addition to SWTB. Paymaster noted that if we need a lot of planning for SWTB, perhaps not enough time this year. Vernon Wood stepped up to volunteer to organize the SWTB event for next year 2020. Will try to get the Smith Detachment involved. Will be convening a committee.
15. COMDT recommended a turkey shoot for the Fall. Jim Alexander suggested we consider having it at the same venue as the Brute Shoot, in Brookwood, AL.
16. Vernon Wood noted a news story: Charles Krulak left his wallet at a high school basketball game; a young man, Harold Tubbs, found it and returned it; Mr. Tubbs always wanted to be a Marine; Krulak was impressed by the Tubbs' integrity and honor. Vernon Wood recommended that we invite him to a meeting to honor him.
17. Vernon Wood wants members to get to know one another better. Suggested a photo, contact information, and short bio of each member for a member directory/book. Tom Krebs asked for cost for printing and binding. Findley recommended a digital, online version. Don Lehman noted that printing them needs updating every year. COMDT will ask her daughter, Sarah Kate to come to the

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next detachment meeting to take headshots of members. Sarah Kate is a professional photographer. COMDT asked members to bring boot camp pictures and bios next month.

18. COMDT noted the new email addresses for the 2019 officers. Findley will include on the Leadership section of the website where officers are listed.
19. COMDT asked for members to look through the ship store inventory to determine what else we might need to order.
20. COMDT noted that her son Gil will get his Eagle Scout badge tomorrow. The detachment will present him with a certificate.
21. Ed Smith and Mac Hefner have been working on the Flag Retirement Program and have connected with several folks about hosting a flag ceremony.
22. Findley reminded members of upcoming events that we need to start planning for, including the picnic, Toys for Tots, Scholarship Application release, Speaking Engagements, and the State Convention. Don Lehman noted that grandchildren have to be dependents to qualify for the scholarship. Also noted the need for a new venue for the picnic, since we no longer have the contact for Indian Springs Village community center. COMDT recommended asking attendees to bring a toy to any event/fundraiser we host.
23. Al Wood noted the kick-off/inaugural game for the Birmingham Iron. Veterans received discounts, including their family members, bring proof of veteran status. Tickets start as low as \$10. Next Saturday is military appreciation themed game. Looking for 25 veterans to attend to be in the tunnel as team runs out onto field. You can get a free ticket for the game. Let Al Wood know if you want to attend. You can reach him at awood@ssv.org.
24. COMDT now working at the Tuscaloosa VA. Learning about all the benefits for veterans and other general VA-related info and shared with the detachment. Tom Krebs raved about the Tuscaloosa VA and recommended members go there. Ed Smith noted that KMAA has developed a grassroots Veterans Suicide Prevention Program. Don Lehman shared information about the KMAA's SPARE program. They are getting a lot of good traction and attention about the program. Noted that 70% of veterans are not registered with the VA.
25. The raffle brought in \$65 for the Brute Scholarship Fund.
26. Chaplain Simmons closed us in prayer.
27. Sgt at Arms Wood led the detachment in the Marine Corps Hymn.
28. The meeting was closed at 11:50am.
29. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, March 9th, 2019.

Submitted by Jessica Findley, on behalf of Steven Weber, Adjutant