

Marine Corps League

Northwest Arkansas Detachment # 854

Meeting of July 15, 2019

Meeting Opening: Commandant Graham opened the meeting at 1830, according to ritual.

Roll Call of Officers:

Commandant	Craig Graham	Present
Senior Vice Commandant	Kenny Evans	Excused
Junior Vice Commandant	Tom Wanket	Present
Judge Advocate	Kathy Jeffrey	Present
Paymaster/Adjutant	Kelley Collins	Excused
Sergeant at Arms	Gene Rogers	Present
Chaplain	Rhonda Evans	Excused
Web Sergeant	Kelley Collins	Excused
Junior Past Commandant	David Niemann	Excused

Acknowledgement of Visitors:

- National officers; Lonnie Young
- Sheldon Duncan – from Rogers AR

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

- Because there was not an officers' quorum the reading and the motion to accept the June minutes will be carried over to the August meeting.

Paymaster Report:

- No Paymaster's Report as Paymaster was excused.

Sick and Distressed:

- Rhonda Evans – at home and recovering
- Don Burri – no news – Kenny was to call Lou and check on him
- Jay Adams – doing better, present at meeting
- Lloyd (don't know last name) – Jay Adams visited with Lloyd and believes that Lloyd will probably no longer attend meetings due to declining health.

New Members:

- Sheldon Duncan – Originally from Rogers. Five years active duty as Huey crew chief with HML 269 and 467.
- Will act on application at next meeting

Correspondences:

- None

Report of Officers:

Commandant Graham –

- A separate Gmail account was set up for use by the Commandant of the Detachment. It will be transferred to future Commandants for Detachment communications.

Senior Vice Commandant Evans –

- Excused

Junior Vice Commandant Wanket –

- Young Marines have relocated to the National Guard Armory near XNA.
- Three new Young Marines have joined.
- Young Marines will have a car wash in Pea Ridge on July 20, 2019, to raise funds for Class C uniforms for their color guard.
- Friday, August 9, 2019, afternoon the Young Marines will provide the color guard at the Naturals baseball game. They are also selling tickets to the game as a fundraiser.

Judge Advocate Jeffrey –

- Leftover food from the Heroes on the Water lunch last month was used this month to provide the group with another lunch. They were very appreciative.
- The BetterVets Community Summit will be Friday, July 26, 2019, from 2 to 7 p.m. The Marine Corps League and the Young Marines will have a table for information.
- On Wednesday, August 7, 2019, the Military Order of the Purple Heart will be holding a fundraiser at all Slim Chickens Restaurants in northwest Arkansas. Tell the cashier you are supporting MOPH Chapter 460 at the time of your order to provide 15 percent of the cost to MOPH.
- Is updating the Detachment Bylaws; more to come

Junior Past Commandant Niemann –

- Excused

New Business:

- Lonnie Young recommended the language used to explain how the proceeds from the food truck and other fundraisers are then transferred to the Rose Program needs to be clear that the money goes into some other account (General, Food Truck, etc.) before it can be transferred to the Rose Program account.
- National MCL Convention – Aug 4-10 in Billings MT
 - Kathy updated ad with current pictures and Kelley placed the order for it to be in the convention book

- Gene Rogers provided 2 banners that were used on truck that the MCL mannded during the 4th of July parade.
- Commandant Graham carried the Marine Corps flag as part of the inter-service color guard at the 4th of July parade.
- Tom Wanket reported WalMart has a new volunteer program that pays volunteer organizations \$10 per hour for each hour its members help in the community. The Volunteers Always Pays Program runs from June 1 to the last part in August. He will send out the information to those who request it.

Unfinished Business:

- Lonnie Young reported he expects to hear from the BB&BBQ committee on working the parking lot soon.
- Lonnie Young brought his MCL items to transfer responsibility to other MCL members before the meeting

Good of the league:

- Ball is coming up so get it on your calendar and start inviting people. It was a great time last year.
- Jay Adams reported he and fellow service dog owners will be in a new commercial about how service animals can help veterans who have PTSD and/or are suicidal.
- Jay Adams reported he is involved a VA pathology misdiagnosis situation in Minnesota similar to the one that took place at the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks.

Committees:

- Ball Committee
 - Volunteers
 - ✦ Ann Marie Graham, Craig Graham, Tom Wanket, Kenny Evans, Kelley Collins, Steve Coil, Rhonda Evans, JD Evans.
 - Start looking for donations and raising money. Lonnie Young suggested starting donation outreach in January when companies are setting their budgets. Commandant Graham stated regardless, the Detachment will do outreach throughout the year.
 - Venue and date are set; November 16, 2019 at Embassy Suites
 - Lonnie Young asked that a motion be made at the next meeting to rent a 10x10 storage space for all the Detachment's items from flags and plaques to color guard equipment.
 - Ann Marie Graham suggested at least two big-ticket items be obtained for raffles during the ball and the possibility of a wine/whiskey grab for \$10 per item to encourage more interaction and participation. She noted while money is still made off the silent auction, more needs to be done.
 - Commandant Graham mentioned ride sharing for those who don't like to drive at night
 - Commandant Graham reported Restless Natives has tentatively agreed to play at this year's ball.
 - Ball flyer is in final proofing.

- Commandant Graham noted donation letters, a brochure, and a list of accomplishments were sent to committee members. He agreed to send it out to all Detachment members.
- The tickets are \$70 per person and sponsors are being sought to purchase entire tables worth.
- Food truck
 - Ann Marie –
 - ✦ The Detachment worked the food truck at the 4th of July Parade. Food costs were \$130. Food was purchased using the Young Marines tax-exempt number. Lonnie Young cautioned using another nonprofit's number to purchase items and suggested this be looked into to see if it is allowed. Tom Wanket reported there is still a lot of food left for the next event. Tyson donated the hot dogs which were sold for \$2 each. It is estimated the Detachment sold 70 hotdogs.
 - ✦ July's shooting club event fell through.
 - ✦ More help is needed during future food truck events.
 - ✦ Heroes & Hot Rods Aug 30-31 Highfall Holland Barn Venue; Friday 3-7 & Saturday 8 – 6; not confirmed

Meeting Closed:

Being no further business, Commandant Graham asked Sergeant at Arms to close the meeting at 1920, according to ritual, until August 19 at 1830 when it will reopen for official business.

Upcoming events:

- Better Vets Summit – Jul 26 in Springdale AR
- Heroes & Hot Rods – Aug 30-31 in Highfall AR
- National MCL Convention – Aug 4-10 in Billings MT

If you have an event, please let Kelley know and be sure to check out our calendar on the web to see what we have coming up.

<https://www.nwamarinecorpsleague.com/calender>