

**DELTA DIABLO DETACHMENT 1155
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

**MEETING MINUTES OF 15JUL04
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL
BRENTWOOD CALIFORNIA**

Attendance was taken by signup. There were 40 attendees.

Opening Ceremonies

COM Dale Cook opened the meeting at 1847 Hours. SAA Nielsen conducted the opening ceremonies. ADJ Myers conducted a roll call of Detachment Officers. All Detachment 1155 Officers were present: COM Cook, SVC Doug Mercado, JVC Len Bregman, ADJ Booth Myers, PM Ian Oxford, CHP Leslie Harrold, JA/QM Larry Stiles, and SAA Bob Nielsen.

CHP Leslie Harrold gave the Invocation.

New Members

Four prospective members were introduced to the Detachment. In the sequence below, they gave their names and a brief description of their backgrounds in the Corps:

- Sergeant Mariela Pena of Oakley, CA - Joined the Marine Corps eight years ago and went to boot camp at MCRD Parris Island. Sergeant Pena is currently in the Active Marine Corps Reserve and is a member of the 4th Landing Support Battalion, 4th FSSG located in Concord, CA.
- Staff Sergeant Robert Whitcomb of Concord, CA - Joined the Marine Corps sixteen years ago and went to boot camp at MCRD Parris Island. SSGT. Whitcomb served eight years of Active Duty in the Corps and served in the 1st Gulf War in 1991 as well as in Somalia. He also served in the 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance (LAR) Bn. in Operation Iraqi Freedom last year and has experience as both Scout/ Sniper and Amtrac Mechanic. SSGT. Whitcomb is currently in the Active Reserve in the 4th Force Reconnaissance Detachment in Reno, NV.

- Don Tennenbaum - Joined the Corps in 1947 and went to boot camp at MCRD San Diego. Don was in the 11th Marines in Korea and was in the landing at Inchon, the battle for Seoul, and the Chosin Reservoir action. Other duty included duty at MCRD Parris Island and duty as a barber on board ships in the Mediterranean. Don left the Corps in 1955.
- Rob Cecchini of Brentwood, CA - Joined the Marine Corps in 1994 and went to boot camp at MCRD San Diego, served in the Marine Corps and was honorably discharged as a Sergeant from the Marine Corps base in Quantico, VA in 1998

Later during the meeting three of the above candidates, Mariela Pena, Robert Whitcomb and Rob Cecchini were formally sworn in by COM Cook. There was a brief recess afterward to welcome the new members to the Detachment.

Minutes

Minutes of the June 17, 2004 Detachment meeting were not read at the meeting, since they were published in the Detachment's June Newsletter. Two corrections were noted by COM Cook; the cost for the two Detachment signs was \$45 per sign instead of \$45 for both, and the date for the Yountville "All Marines Day" is September 19, not September 12 as reported in the newsletter. A motion to accept the minutes with the above corrections was made, seconded, and approved.

Commandant's Report

COM Cook requested four volunteers for a Detachment Color Guard ceremony at Bunker's on Tuesday, July 20. The ceremony is to be hosted by the ladies group "The Delta Connection" and the theme will be "God Bless America". Members Duane Edwards, Dick Walsh, Frank Grimley and Larry Stiles volunteered and will arrange to practice before the ceremony. Chaplain Leslie Harrold will be a guest speaker at the event

All appears well in the effort to have the new Danville Veteran's Hall named after John Ray Boswell. John was a "China Marine" later taken prisoner by the Japanese following the surrender of Corrigedor in the Philippines in

1942. John later reenlisted and served as a Drill Instructor at Parris Island. In recent years he lived in Danville until his death earlier this year.

Our August meeting will be led by SVC Mercado, as the COM will be in Baltimore at the 4th Marine Division of WWII Association Meeting. Tri-Tip will be provided by Member Kevin Ford.

We will have a Detachment picnic starting at 1500 hours (3:00 p.m.) on August 28. Tri-Tip, Ribs and Turkey are possibilities for the main course. Cost will be \$10 per family. Details will be published in the next issue of the "Gung Ho!"

The Annual "All Marine Day" at the Yountville Veteran's Home on September 19 will feature free refreshments, and a barbecue (probably tri-tip) meal. All Marines, former Marines and family members (adults only) are invited. Our Detachment is donating \$100 to help support this event.

Marine Corps' 229th Birthday: the 4th Landing Support Battalion of Concord will be hosting a 229th Marine Corps Birthday Ball at the Marines' Memorial on November 5 for \$65 per person, and the Marines' Memorial Association will host a Birthday Ball the following week on November 13th for \$119 per person.

The "President's Own" Marine Band from the Marine Barracks in Washington D.C. will be at the Masonic Temple in San Francisco on Sunday, November 7. Admission is free.

The next Devil Dogs Meeting will be on September 18 in Pleasant Hill.

The Detachment operated a hot dog stand on the evening of July 10 following the Brentwood Cornfest fireworks. Attendance at the Veteran's Hall was unfortunately poor, and the effort showed a profit of only \$15.22. Excess hot dogs and buns were donated to the Brentwood 4-H Club at the County Fairgrounds 4-H encampment.

Officer's Reports

SVC Mercado - No report

JVC Bregman - No report

ADJ Myers requested that those Members who have not yet turned in a copy of their DD-214's or equivalent proof of military service, to please do so in the near future. ADJ Myers also requested that everyone in attendance please sign the Detachment Attendance Log. There was a brief report on the previous week's meeting of the Marine Corps Coordinating Council at the Marines' Memorial in San Francisco. Upcoming events are the "All Marine Day" at Yountville on September 19 (Editor's note: this date was erroneously reported at September 12 in the July newsletter). Lt. General Conway, Commanding Officer of 1MEF will be speaking at the Marine's Memorial on October 8, and there will be a Fleet week Celebration in San Francisco on October 9 and 10.

PM Ian Oxford reported that the balance in the Detachment's bank account increased from \$1836.56 last month to \$2726.68 this month.

JA/QM Stiles reported on the purchase of sample Marine traditional blue trousers. These can be outfitted with the NCO "Blood Stripe". The cost for this optional Detachment uniform item is somewhat over \$30, not including tailoring to length. The accompanying web belt is \$6.50. The Detachment Color Guard may use the blue trousers for Color Guard ceremonies. JA/QM Stiles is Detachment's point of contact for purchase of any uniform items. The wearing of uniform items to Detachment meetings is optional.

SAA Nielsen reported the Detachments nine M-1 rifles are in good shape, but need to be cleaned and lubricated. He sought volunteers to meet on the coming Saturday at 1000 hours. Several Members volunteered to be there.

New Business

Don Tennenbaum announced that there would be a 1st Marine Division Association meeting in Rio Vista on Wednesday July 21 at 1300hrs. It will be held at the Delta Clubhouse at 990 Summerset Dr. in Trilogy at Rio Vista. Contact is Don Tennenbaum at (707) 374-2802. Topic of the meeting will be the formation of a new East Bay Chapter to include many of the communities in the Bay Area Delta region.

A "Get Well" card for Don Leaned was circulated for signatures.

A raffle for a "Yellow Footprints" doormat was announced by SVC Mercado.

There will be a November 11 ceremony by the Brentwood City Council dedicating the new Veterans' Park on Balfour Road.

Members in Distress

Member Don Learned had hip and upper leg surgery on July 13 at the Palo Alto VA Hospital. He has returned home awaiting surgery in three months, and expects to be using a walker for the next few months.

Good of the Order

Thanks were offered to Jess Williamson, who owns the "Match Maker" restaurant in Antioch and volunteered to bring the great spaghetti dinner to the meeting.

Closing Ceremony

CHP Harrold led the closing prayer and SAA Nielsen Declared the Meeting Closed at 2027.

Respectfully Submitted



Booth R. Myers, Adjutant