

**DELTA DIABLO DETACHMENT 1155
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

**MEETING MINUTES OF 16SEP04
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL
BRENTWOOD CALIFORNIA**

Attendance was taken by signup. There were 42 persons signing the log.

Opening Ceremonies

Mike Cline furnished the evening's chow. The meeting was held in the lower hall due to a conflicting building rental contracted before the Detachment was signed on by the Hall. Commandant Cook opened the meeting at 1900 hours, Colors were held, and Chaplain Harrold gave the invocation. JVC Len Bregman served as Adjutant pro tem for the meeting as the Adjutant was on vacation in China.

New Members

Five prospective members introduced themselves to the Detachment:

- George Levas, Bethel Island - Joined the Marine Corps in 1959, went to boot camp at MCRD San Diego and left the Corps after seven years. Served in the 3rd Marine Division.
- Earl Paynton, Benicia, - a Navy officer who served with Marine Commands
- Arnold Murillo, Pittsburg- Joined the Marine Corps in 1966, went to boot camp at MCRD San Diego, served at Camp Carlos with the Third Division, leaving the Corps in 1969.
- Joe R. Herrera, Brentwood.
- Anthony Youngblood of Brentwood, CA - Joined the Marine Corps in 1981 at the age of eighteen and went to boot camp at MCRD San Diego. After four years in the Corps in transport, Anthony served in the Active Reserve for another four years.

The members stood and introduced themselves to the prospective members.

Minutes

Hearing no objections to the Minutes of 19 August last as they appeared in The Gung-ho, the Chair approved them as published

Commandant's Report

The Department has appointed a new Adjutant, Paymaster, Aide de Camp and Web Master. There's a new MCL Executive Director.

Com Cook reported on calendar events upcoming, noting these were published in the Newsletter. Of special interest is the upcoming appearance of the USMC Band in San Francisco on 7 November, tickets will be available through the Marines Memorial starting 7 October; US Postal Stamps honoring Corps icons will be out shortly; noted San Ramon Valley Veterans and Community Leaders ground breaking on the area's massive All-Wars Memorial and will formally dedicate the layout on Veterans Day; he had attended Steven Dake's Eagle Scout ceremony to present the MCL's Eagle Scout Citizenship Certificate, Rob Cecchini volunteered to serve as the Detachment's Eagle Scout liaison.

He reported attended the Liberty High School District Community Conference, reporting on the Detachment's presence and our interest in Community involvement: especially, that we would welcome opportunities to fulfill speaker requests for veterans and like student interaction. The conference was attended by a senior District official, the four high school principals, VFW, Legion, Lions and 4-H representatives and community representatives plus several; history, journalism and art instructors. He said he gave a plug for a Marine Jr. ROTC at the new high school under construction.

Special thanks were accorded "Gunner" Ford, Doug Mercado Bill and Mary Goldsby for the great picnic, which had a turnout of about 60 persons. It was a fine affair. SVC Mercado reported the Devil Dogs meet Saturday, the 18th in Pleasant Hill.

Officer's Reports

SVC Mercado -No report

JVC Bregman reported the Summerset Veterans Club has launched a program to send Military Care packages to Iraq.

They have forwarded 20 boxes so far and are receiving donations. A motion for the Detachment to donate \$150 was passed.

ADJ Myers - No report (Absent)

Paymaster Oxford reported we opened the July-August report period with a balance of \$2,084, with a balance 31 August of \$1,553.14. Principal receipt and expense items were for uniform supplies, purchase of our new Colors (on display) and Department and National new member dues payouts.

Chaplain Harrold reported on the 9/11 Memorial at Summerset Orchards/ a letter of appreciation and thanks was read from the event sponsors on the showing of our Color Guard.

SAA Nielsen - No report

JA/QM Stiles- No report

Members in Distress

Member Don Learned awaits the replacement of hip and leg bone. Member Ed Sims recently started a five-week chemotherapy treatment for cancer at Travis Air Force Base

New Business

The Commandant declared a short break so that a "hands on" flag folding demonstration for next of kin presentation could be held. Member Rob Cecchini conducted the demonstration using a conference table as the body box over which the flag was draped. Cecchini served for more than 18 months at the Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C as an Honor Guard and Arlington Body Bearer.

The membership approved starting a fund to purchase a Ceremonial Bugle, cost \$500 plus \$25 shipping and handling. Bob Neilsen started the donations with \$33, and other donations raised the total to \$233.

The Commandant reported that a very wealthy hobbieist across the Bay in the Portola Valley near Stanford University has created a military tank museum with several exhibit buildings housing 230 Marine, Army and foreign country tanks plus several major cannon-bearing vehicles from the World War I era until present, including those used by

Patton, and the Marines in the Pacific and Korea. Many of the tanks have been restored and are operable. It is free to selected groups such as ours. A motion to make such a field trip was approved.

A proposal to hold a Detachment Marine Corps 229th Birthday Dinner was approved. It will be held 10 November at the Liberty Hotel in Pittsburg. Time and details will be announced in the next Gung-ho newsletter

Prospective Members George Levas, Arnold Murillo, Anthony Youngblood, Earle Paynton and Herrera were inducted as members.

Good of the Order

The Commandant noted an old rule has been revived at the Marines Memorial - covers are not worn to meals. Also, in that regard, Marines do not salute during the playing of the Marines Hymn: just come to attention.

The "President's Own" Marine Band will be playing at an afternoon concert at the Nob Hill Masonic Lodge on November 7. Tickets are free, but will only be distributed after October 7 The Annual Brentwood Holiday Parade will be held on Saturday, 27 November at 1300 hours. There was a discussion about sponsoring the local contingent of Young Marines in the Parade. Commandant Cook will follow up on this.

Closing Ceremony

CHP Harrold led the closing prayer; SVC Mercado said his ceremonial role and SAA Nielsen Declared the Meeting Closed (time not recorded).

Reconstructed by COM Cook and ADJ Myers from JVC Bregman's notes.

