

**DELTA DIABLO DETACHMENT 1155
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

**MEETING MINUTES OF 20JAN05
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL
BRENTWOOD CALIFORNIA**

Attendance was taken by signup. There were 35 attendees.

Opening Ceremonies

Commandant Dale Cook opened the meeting at 1855 Hours. Duane Edwards (acting SAA) conducted the opening ceremonies and CHP Leslie Harrold gave the Invocation. ADJ Myers conducted a roll call of the Detachment 1155 Officers: COM Dale Cook, SVC Doug Mercado, JVC Len Bregman, ADJ Booth Myers, JA/QM Larry Stiles, PM Ian Oxford and CHP Leslie Harrold were all present. SAA Bob Nielsen previously resigned from the office prior to his relocation to the California Veteran's Home in Yountville.

New Members

Three prospective members were introduced to the Detachment.

- Merle Johnson, Brentwood - Joined the Marine Corps in 1952 and went to boot camp at MCRD San Diego. Merle was in tanks and served in Korea and Japan in the 3rd Marine Division before being discharged in 1955.
- Keith Vierra, Antioch - Joined the Navy in 1942, later transferred to the Marine Corps and went to boot camp at MCRD San Diego. Keith was part of the 2nd Marine Air wing and had the distinction of being one of the first Marines to land in Japan before the formal signing of the Japanese surrender on the battleship Missouri.
- Larry Eekhof, Brentwood - Joined the Marine Corps in 1966 and went to boot camp at MCRD San Diego. After three months in the Corps in Amtracks at Camp LeJeune, NC, Larry went to Vietnam where he was wounded, hospitalized and subsequently discharged from the Corps in 1968.

Following the introductions, the Members voted to admit candidates Keith Vierra and Larry Eekhof. Their memberships were unanimously approved and they were formally sworn in by COM Cook. There was a brief recess afterward to welcome the new members to the Detachment.

Minutes

No minutes were taken in December since the regular December Detachment meeting was cancelled due to the Christmas Holidays and the use of the Veterans Hall by another previously scheduled event.

Minutes of the November 18, 2004 Detachment meeting were not read at the meeting, since they were published in the Detachment's December Newsletter. No corrections were noted and the November minutes were accepted as published.

Commandant's Report

COM Cook reported on the Detachment's December breakfast meeting at the Matchmaker restaurant in Antioch. Sixteen members and spouses attended and COM Cook thanked owner Jess Williamson for hosting the event

COM Cook discussed the Detachment's Articles of Incorporation paper work which was returned by the state for revision. The Detachment is seeking status as a Non-Profit California Corporation.

The City of Brentwood is continuing in its effort to take over the Veteran's Hall against the wishes of the various Veterans groups using the hall. The city recently rejected a request by the Veterans Hall Committee to pay for the recent damage to the facility by a sewer backup. The \$11,000 bill for repair was subsequently sent to the County for reimbursement.

COM Cook reported on our Jan 19 day trip to the privately owned Littlefield tank museum (Military Vehicle Technology Museum) in Portola Valley. Twenty Members traveled by carpool to the site, which has more than 220 tanks and related armored vehicles. The visit was enjoyed by all who went.

Plans for the Detachment's crab feed on January 29 are well along. An projected 250 tickets have been sold to-date. There was a discussion about meal details and the need for help at the event. A number of Members volunteered to help out with the effort. There will be over thirty five door and raffle prizes worth an estimated \$3000. Ten percent of our profit will go to the Semper Fi fund for Wounded Marines.

The Les Schwab Tire Dealership in Brentwood offered the use of its facilities during its Grand Opening on Saturday, January 22 to sell our crab feed tickets and recruit new members. Several Members volunteered to man a table at the dealership.

There will be a 60th Iwo Jima Anniversary Ceremony on February 19 in Washington D.C. and a follow-on 60th Commemorative Event at the Marines' Memorial on February 22-23 to include a Memorial Service, Veteran's Panel, and evening banquet. Veterans of the Iwo Jima battle are being honored at the events. The key speaker is Lt. General Larry Snowden, the senior surviving officer of the battle.

The Detachment will host an SOS breakfast on April 2 to celebrate our Detachment's first year.

We have located a new refrigerator to replace the one that failed last year. Members Ed Sutton and Frank Grimley will be moving it to the Veterans Hall in the near future.

COM Cook presented Certificates of Appreciation to (in order of presentation) Members Booth Myers, Ian Oxford, Len Bregman, Ed Sutton, Jess Williamson, Frank Grimley, Leslie Harrold, Bill Goldsby, Kevin "Gunner" Ford, Bob Nielsen, and Duane Edwards.

Our support of the Boy Scouts' Eagle Court was discussed.

Nomination of Officers

Nominations of Detachment Officers for the upcoming year were held. Nominations were as follows:

Commandant: Dale Cook and Doug Mercado

Senior Vice Commandant: Len Bregman

Junior Vice Commandant: Larry Stiles

Judge Advocate: Jim Ogle

The Detachment's Adjutant, Paymaster, Chaplain, Sergeant at Arms and Quartermaster are appointed offices, to be filled once the election is completed at our next meeting. The By-Laws state these positions are appointments of the Commandant-elect.

We will accept additional nominations and hold the elections at our February meeting. SVC Mercado noted that we need to assure the eligibility of all members taking part in the February vote.

Officer's Reports

SVC Mercado reported that he had sold a number of tickets for our upcoming crab feed.

JVC Bregman reported on the mailing of 81 packages to our troops in Iraq by the Summerset Veterans Club. They have received over \$6000 in donations to-date from local residents and businesses. The Veterans Club will continue to send these packages as long as the troops are in Iraq

ADJ Myers reported that the only correspondence since the last meeting was a letter sent by COM Cook to the U. S. Army Tank and Automotive Command in Warren, Michigan executing the Conditional Deed of Gift Ceremonial Rifles, certifying that we continue to have nine of their M-1 rifles in our Detachment's possession.

PM Ian Oxford reported that as of the end of December our account balance was \$1076 and the balance as of this meeting was \$2831.

JA/QM Stiles discussed the availability of uniform items for the Members.

SAA Nielsen resigned from the office in December as he has moved to the California Veteran's Home in Yountville.

New Business

There was a report by several members and pictures displayed of the January 19 visit to the tank museum in Portola Valley. There will be a report on this in the upcoming newsletter.

ADJ Myers requested that members fill out and turn in the Member Profile forms that were published in last month's newsletter and distributed at this meeting.

Members were reminded that the Detachment will host an SOS breakfast on April 2 to celebrate our Detachment's first year.

Members in Distress

Member Don Learned was back with us at this meeting following extensive hospitalization and surgery. Welcome back Don!

It was reported that Member John Oliverio has been diagnosed with emphysema and is not doing well at this time

Good of the Order

The Department of California's Annual League Convention will be held on June 9-12 at the Nugget Hotel in Sparks, near Reno, Nevada

The next meeting of the Devil Dogs is scheduled for April 16 at the Veterans Hall in Pleasant Hill.

Closing Ceremony

CHP Leslie Harrold led the closing prayer. SAA (acting) Duane Edwards conducted the closing ceremonies and declared the meeting closed at 2047 hours.

Respectfully Submitted



Booth R. Myers, Adjutant