

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
TREASURE VALLEY DETACHMENT # 878 & TREASURE VALLEY POUND # 270**

February 19, 2018

VOLUME 23, NUMBER 2

COMING EVENTS

Next Regular Monthly Meeting: 7:00 PM, Thursday March 15, 2018 American Legion Hall, 22 West Broadway, Ave., Meridian, Idaho

Next Quarterly Devil Dog Growl/Pack Growl: NEXT **Growl** will be at Dept Convention Twin Falls, 5 May
LOCATION: Red Lion Canyon Springs Hotel, 1030 to 1400. Those Pups wanting to advance notify Dog Robber

Monthly Breakfast with Spouses: 3rd Saturday of each month, 8:30 AM at Quinn's 1005 S Vista Ave., Boise, ID

Weekly Coffee: 8:30 AM Saturdays at Quinn's, 1005 S Vista Ave., Boise, ID

PURPOSE & INTENT: To keep detachment members informed of past and future detachment actions and activities. To present a concise summary of the detachment's monthly business meeting.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DETACHMENT'S FEBRUARY 2018 MEETING:

Meeting opened at 1900

Officers present: Commandant and Adjutant/Paymaster only. Both the Senior and Junior Vice-Commandants were absent for medical reasons. The Judge Advocate was excused. The Chaplain was absent for unknown reasons.

MEETING ATTENDANCE: 14 members, 2 associate members, and 2 guests.

REPORTS:

Minutes of the January 2018 meeting and the Paymaster's Report were approved without discussion or comment.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: The notice of the Department or State Convention was received. The Adjutant will distribute detailed convention information. That said, the convention will be held in Twin Falls, Idaho, May 3 through 5, 2018. The signup deadline for the convention is April 20, 2018.

NEW MEMBER SWORN IN: Joseph Huit.

AWARDS PRESENTED BY THE COMMANDANT:

The Meritorious Individual Commendation Ribbon to Dick Keplinger for his service during 2017 as "Wagon Master." The Detachment Staff Medal (Appointed) to Rich Erickson, for his past service as Detachment *Immediate Past Commandant*. Standing for David Swickard during William Heyob's term as Commandant.

OFFICER REPORTS

COMMANDANT:

The Commandant **disestablished the Progressive Raffle**, explaining that it was instituted to encourage meeting participation, but not having accomplished its intent, the raffle is discontinued. The 50/50 Raffle will continue.

The Commandant issued another request for detachment members to forward concepts for programs that the detachment can “hang its hat on” that will both encourage member participation and place the detachment in the public eye. He pointed out that gaining public recognition will alert area Marines to the fact the detachment exists, which may/should help to recruit new members.

That request motivated a suggestion from Gordon Souza, that the detachment could consider repairing wheelchairs for distribution in the community. He has several chairs that could be used to start the program. More information to follow. **SICK AND ILL MEMBERS.** In the absence of the chaplain, the Commandant announced that Arnie Strawn, who was hospitalized last weekend following an extended illness, has made remarkable progress at the VA Hospital, and that he may be on the path to full recovery.

We also learned that Noel Janko, will undergo extensive testing at St. Luke’s Hospital beginning Monday February 19th. Heart issues are the reason for the testing.

ADJUTANT/PAYMASTER:

Establishment of the Funds for Detachment Activities Account: To ensure proper accountability of funds, a fund for detachment social activities was established by Commandant Modler. Money the detachment receives from dues, meeting raffles, and internal donations such as money won by members from meeting raffles and donated back to the detachment will be accounted for by the Paymaster in this new account. Funds raised for the support the detachment’s various veterans’ charitable activities, the Veterans Home, the Young Marines, the Scholarship Fund. etc. and received through public donations will be accounted for as they have in the past. This visible separation of funds will permit both members and any member of the general public to know through the examination of the detachment’s financial records that the detachment does not raise money from the public for member entertainment or benefit.

A recent examination of detachment financial records has determined that the detachment has long collected sufficient money from member dues to defray the costs of the summer detachment picnic, for example. This new accounting tool, however, will demonstrate at a glance the detachment handles funds with integrity. The status of this new fund will be reported routinely at the regular monthly detachment business meeting.

The establishment of this new fund also means that when in the course of fundraising events we are asked the question, “Where do donations to the TVD go?” members can reply with confidence that all donated funds go to veterans’ services, other charitable activities, the Young Marines and the scholarship fund. In other words, all the activities that we advertise during fundraising events.

Idaho Veterans Assistant League (IVAL) provides financial and other assistance to residents of the Veterans Homes though the State. Anyone interested in making monetary donations to an Idaho Veterans Home need to make their donations to IVAL. Donations made to the Veterans Home are sent to the State’s general fund with no guarantee such funds will be distributed to a State Veterans Home.

WWI MEMORIAL DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION PROJECT.

The Daughters of the American Revolution are working to construct a memorial to WW I Veterans, to be placed in the Veterans Memorial Park in Boise. Detailed project information is forthcoming.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Scholarship Committee: One Young Marine has expressed interest in obtaining a detachment scholarship, which means members may submit request for family member scholarships in accordance with the Section 1401 C of the detachment bylaws. Submission form may be found at the Detachment’s website. This is a \$1,000.00 scholarship that may be awarded up to four times to eligible persons; i.e. children and grandchildren of Treasure Valley Detachment members.

The committee chair, Maggie Modler, is seeking members who are interested in helping her with this project.

THE CLOSING OF MARIE CALENDAR'S. Maggie Modler announced the closing of Marie Calendar's, the restaurant the detachment has used as the venue for its Christmas and Awards Dinner is closed. Maggie asked members to let her know of possible venues that may be suitable for the detachment's use. She advanced one possible site, Brick 29 In Nampa. Gordon Souza mentioned an Elks Lodge in Boise. Send you proposals to Maggie. A decision is needed by May, to ensure the date the detachment chooses may be secured.

EAGLE SCOUT COMMITTEE: Committee chair, Chris Christopher, reported that two new presentations are imminent.

WAGON MASTER: Wagon Master Dick Keplinger, is taking member names for the Operation Blacks Creek Rest Stop 2018. You may view the schedule calendar on the detachment's website (<http://tvdmccl.org/calendar/coffee-wagon-2018-schedule/>). This year, volunteers will have to sign a sort of Idaho hold-harmless agreement. This is a new requirement where we must agree not to use or sell either alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs while manning the coffee wagon. And to not sue the state if you should fall and injure yourself for example. (It you want to, you may ponder with me why the State deems it necessary to affirm that you won't use illegal drugs while working at the coffee wagon. That requirement almost begs the question: "Is it okay to use illegal drugs under other circumstances?" Such are the times which we live.)

DETACHMENT NAME CHANGE ISSUE: The previous motion to change the detachment name to Art Jackson MOH Detachment, having been laid on the table for an excessive length of time had to be proposed anew. The motion was voted down primarily due to the high financial cost to the detachment the name change would have required. Members present, however, still wanted to do something to perpetuate Captain Jackson's memory. If you have an idea how to do that, then send your idea to Skip Nakashima the committee chair.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Commandant announced that the detachment will produce a poster that expands in some detail a detachment mission statement; i.e. what the detachment does to support the purposes of the Marine Corps League. The poster will be displayed during detachment meetings and on other occasions such as fundraising events as a tool to remind members what we do and a way to inform the public about why we raise funds. A copy is attached for your information.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

Dave Swickard advised that calling the VA Hospital's call center connects one to a call center located in Wall Walla, Washington, and that said call center's operation, if it can be called that, is totally incompetent. Better to call the Bose Hospital directly.

Dave also presented general information about a cleanup activity for Dry Creek Cemetery sponsored by Mr. Preston Sharp, who was a guest of the President's at the recent State of the Union address. The date of the event is 17 Feb, 2018, but if you are interested you can gather information by calling 530-515-3825.

Bricks are available for purchase to help support the Veterans Memorial Park for \$100.00.

MEETING RAFFLE RESULTS: The 50/50 Raffle prize of \$24.00 was won by Enoch Hansen. Way to go Enoch!

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Gary Randel, Editor

Available for viewing at the detachment website page: <http://tvdmccl.org/newsletters/>

TREASURE VALLEY DETACHMENT, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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Jay Gunter, Junior Vice Commandant	208-659-5269	Ronald Blakeley, Chaplain	208-343-4447	Officer	208-938-5171