

**Major Lawrence DesJardines Detachment #1260**  
**Albany, Georgia**  
**Minutes of 17 January 2017**

**Meeting** – Called to order by Commandant McClelland at 1830.

Following the opening ceremony, Julie Robbins, Natural Resources Manager for MCLBA gave a presentation on the base and what is going on to preserve nature while still accomplishing assigned missions.

**Roll Call:**

√	Commandant McClelland	√	Senior Vice Paulin
√	Junior Vice Wilcox	√	Judge Advocate/Adjutant Najjar
√	Paymaster Kirstatter	√	Chaplain Breton
√	Sgt–At–Arms Chaffin (stand in: Marine Nicholson)		

Members Present: 22

Associate Members Present: 3

Guests: 2

**Introduction of Guest(s):** Marine Fred Hatcher, Vietnam veteran visited at the invitation of Commandant McClelland.

**Minutes** for November 2016 have been posted to the website. With no corrections the minutes stand as posted.

**Paymaster’s Report:** Checking Account: \$6285.29                      Savings Account: \$6290.22

**Report of Members/Members’ Family Sick or in Distress/Prayer Requests:**

- Brother of Jim Johnson who is in assisted living
- Marine Ernie Elmore who is battling inoperable prostate cancer
- Widow of Marine Larry Olson who passed on Jan 1
- Marines Jim Johnson and Kelly Fisk who suffered damages during the 2 January storm

**Report of Officers:**

Commandant: There will be a staff meeting in McDonough, Ga at 0900 on 4 Feb 2017 at the Hilton Garden Inn on Highway 81 West. There will be a training session after the meeting, and rooms are available if needed.

Sr. Vice Commandant: No report

Jr. Vice Commandant: No report

Judge Advocate/Adjutant: No report

Reports of Committees and Project Leads:

Fallen Marines: Marine LCpl Jeffrey Barnes; passed on 22 December 2016  
Marine Sgt William Hancock; passed on 29 December 2016  
Marine GySgt Larry Olson; passed on Jan 1, 2017

Let us remember our Detachment fallen brothers: Lawrence DesJardines, Joseph Smith, Sam Tucker, Nick Retza, Billy Stewart, Sherman Braden, Al Fazekas, Harry McDole, Dave Aldrich, and Larry Olson

LtCol. Dave Aldrich Patriotism Program: Marine Jerry Smith reported 429 flags have been replaced since the program began. Commandant McClelland added that 4 or 5 months ago, the decision was made to no longer install flag poles. Flags will be replaced where necessary, but the detachment won't serve as a source for individuals to purchase flags. Marine Nicholson recommends that individuals wishing to purchase flags be referred to American Legion Post 30.

Veterans Coalition/TAPS:

- There is a National Emergency Fund available for legionnaires who sustained property damage. From 1000 – 1300 and 1600 – 1900 on 18 Feb Post 512 will be offering grant application assistance that can defray the cost of food and for displacement caused by the storm damage.
- Between 200 and 300 American Legion scholarships were available, but not awarded last year because of the lack of applications. Children and grandchildren of legionnaires are eligible.
- Jr Vice Wilcox reported that there was good transition assistance class on Friday (13 Jan). The sessions are on the first Friday of the months they are scheduled.

Boy Scouts: Marine Najjar presented a certificate and coin to Eagle Scout Jonathan Morey (Troop 23) at his Court of Honor on 14 Jan 2017. He also reported that Camp Osborn Scout Reservation was severely damaged. There were scouts and adults there when the tornado came thru, but no personnel injuries.

Young Marines/JROTC: 7 new members completed their recruit training. They are preparing for battalion training and trying to schedule regimental training. Marine Lowman is in discussions with Albany School to establish a Young Marine Program on that campus to steer students in a positive direction and away from gangs.

Correspondence: None

Old Business: Marine Lowman was presented with his community service certificate for his service during 2016.

New Business: Officer nominations for 2017: Commandant Tim McClelland, Sr. Vice Joe Najjar, Jr. Vice Nick Nicholson, Judge Advocate Gerry Smith. With no objections and no additional nominations from the floor, Past Department Commandant Kirstatter conducted the installation of officers.

Good of the League: Marine Bob Adams noted that Marine Jim Valentine and his wife suffered damage from the 2 Jan storm and that perhaps a group could go over and assist with debris removal. Paymaster Kirstatter received a call from north GA offering assistance, so we have members in need the opportunity for aid is there.

Announcements:

- Three Lee County High School JROTC Cadets have been offered appointments to the US Naval Academy.

The meeting was closed at 1957.