

**Cpl JR Spears Detachment #066 PNS
Marine Corps League Meeting Minutes
14 January 2025**

- 1 & 2) Opening Ceremony & Opening Remarks:** 14 January 2025 Commandant Tom Richey called to order our regular monthly meeting at 1900 at the University of West Florida, Army ROTC, Bldg #78. The Opening Ceremony was conducted. There were (34) members and (9) visitors in attendance.
- 2) Name that Marine:** Forrest Holt who served in Vietnam.
- 3) Welcome Visitors:** All visitors were welcomed and they told us who they were and where they served.
- 4) Approval of minutes from 12 November 2024:** A motion was made to accept the minutes and it was 2nd and passed.
- 5) Marine Corps Leadership:** A video of Bob Stevens who was CEO of Lockheed Martin and a Marine at the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation 2010. He told us that it was in the Marine Corps that he learned virtues and values.
- 6) Correspondence & Awards:** We received notes of thank you for our support of the Young Marines and Semper Fi 5K charities.
- 7) Wellness checks:** Bob Rivera and Rob Fernandez gave us updates on various members.
- 8) Paymaster's Report:** Rob Fernandez told us we started Dec 2024 with \$61,926.00 and paid out \$34,317.00 for the charities and that these monies are from the Semper 5K Run in November. The last check was \$3,200.00 for our Christmas Dinner @ the Hanger. We ended the month of December with funds of \$31,399.21.
A motion was made to accept the Paymaster's report, it was 2nd and passed.
- 9) Report of Officers:**
Don Roe: Sr Vice Commandant - Absent
Tim Chandler Jr Vice Commandant - Explained to us that 90 Works is no more. Another organization Priority Trust can only help Veterans who are facing eviction. This leaves a huge gap to help veterans.
Perry Unruh Judge Advocate - There are changes to the bylaws and they can be viewed online.
- 10) Report of Standing Committees:**
Membership: Tom Richey gave us a demonstration of our Web page and including how to pay for your Annual Membership.
Veterans Service Officer: Chris Lambert told us about Vet Court, that he needs mentors that have the same experiences. Chris will order 20 AA Big Books for \$225 and tax., 10 for each Vet Court. The MCL will purchase them. An offer for \$1,000 to help with Vet Court expenses was made.
Chaplin: Dave Trombly, there is an event at Christ's Church in Milton with dinner and Dave's testimony after dinner.
- 11) Unfinished Business / Upcoming Events:**
Heroes Among Us / Vet in Distress: Ed Rouse told us that we have helped 45 Veterans this past year. We have a balance of \$74,573.00, \$40,00.00 is in the Centurion Fund and \$32,573.11 balance of funds. has been used to help veterans. The Financial Report for HAU and Veterans in Distress was given to the Adjutant. There is an HAU meeting after the Car Show meeting on Sunday. There is a delay with the raffle. The 1st prize winner refused the 1911 gun and monies. There will be a drawing on 31 January PYC lunch for the 1st place prize.
Marine Corps Ball 2025 Brian Casey told us all is progressing. Planning continues next month for the 250 Birthday Ball. We expect it to be a big event. There are only 250 tickets.
Semper Fi 5K Run Jim Fitzgerald told us we have (5) charities that we gave \$6,000 to, each. We presented each charity With a check. HAU will also receive \$2,000.
Christmas Party Alan Sanders said a good time was had by all! Various awards were presented that night. Tim Chandler was named the MCL Marine of the Year and Dottie Robbins was named the Associate Member of the Year.
Wreaths Across America Barrancas National Cemetery 18 January 2025, Saturday @ 0800, we will pick up the wreaths, We sold 406 wreaths this year.
Young Marines We need volunteers to meet every Saturday @ the Navy Fleet Reserve Bldg. We received 2 donations of \$500.00 each from ABATE and American Legion Post 340. Certificates of Appreciations were also presented. Bob Rivera told us that they are doing well and getting more Young Marines to their unit. One of their leaders, SSgt. Juan Torres, gave us a brief. They are also getting flags and their other equipment back.
Toys For Tots Bob Rivera said we had a successful distribution of toys.
Snowball Derby went well. It was cold, we need to make the shifts 4 hours instead of 8 hours. This is our payback to Tim Bryant for allowing us to use the 5 Flags Speedway parking lot for our annual Car Show,
Annual Car Show will be 26 April 2025; Our first meeting will be Sunday, 19 January @ 1400 Goat Lips. Steve Wilmer will be our lead for the car show. Money from this event is used for MCL operating expenses throughout the year.

12) New Business:

Elections for Officers starts with nominations in February and March, with voting in April and Officer installments in May.

13) Good of the League:

We partner with Home Depot to provide material support for needy Veterans. We need insurance to cover the MCL Members for an amount of \$1,479.25. Motion was made, 2nd and the motion was carried.

Neals Andersen thanked various MCL Members for all they have done at the VetCV fundraiser.

14) Announcements:

Conex box clean out will be 8 February in Cantonment @ 0800.

Ken Morrow is the committee chairman for a shooting range social event at Santa Rosa Shooting Center on 08 March.

We are also going to have a MCL social at Dave & Megan Trombly's home, date to be announced.

15) Closing Ceremony conducted by Tom Richey. Meeting was adjourned @ 2017.