



The Straight Skinny

Detachment #482

January 2018

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Olympia, WA

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Website: www.olympiamarines.org

COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

Marines and Associate Members of Detachment 482,

Excellent turnout and participation during the January Detachment Muster. Let's keep up the enthusiasm during the rest of 2018. Super, super job by all hands who assisted in Toys For Tots. More than 5300 children enjoyed a Christmas that might not have been possible without the extraordinary efforts of Olympia Marines, friends and supporters.

Semper Fi ... Jim

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Happy New Year

Marines!

May God quiet you with His Peace! Comfort you with His Presence! Bless you with His Love!

I discovered this quote by Michelle Moore and for me the quote speaks volumes:

“When we keep God first in our lives we will ultimately end up where we are supposed to be.”

Semper Fi!

Blessings!

Daun Lenz, Chaplain †

MUSTER MINUTES

Minutes of January 6, 2018:

We mustered at the VFW post at 2902 Martin Way East in Lacey.

Commandant Jim Sims opened the meeting at 0824. **Sergeant at Arms Eric Rathke** secured the quarters and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Chaplain Daun Lenz** offered an opening prayer.

Introductions. There were several guests and new members, so **Commandant Sims** asked everyone to introduce themselves. **Mike Duggins** was a Motor Vehicle Operator in the Corps from 1985 to '89, serving in 29 Palms and Okinawa. **Cecil Cheeka** introduced his guest **Kyle Barker**, who served in the Corps from 2002 to '06; Kyle saw action in Fallujah in 2004 and 2005. **Craig Hoffman** served in the Corps from 2002 to '06, followed by some years in the Army. Craig has joined Detachment 482, and he helped out at the Toys for Tots fundraiser at Cabela's. **Travis Matheson**, a member of the State Patrol, was at the muster to speak about Puget Sound Honor Flight. **Garrett Sager** and his father **John** were also present.

History of the Marine Corps. **Commandant Sims** opened the meeting by noting that on this day in 1859 Archibald Henderson passed away. Henderson was the longest-serving Commandant of the Marine

Corps and is referred to as the “Grand old man of the Marine Corps”, serving in the United States Marine Corps for 53 years. Sims also noted that on January 7th, 1969, Father Vincent Capodanno posthumously received the Medal of Honor in recognition of his selfless sacrifice in 1967 when serving with H&S Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division in Vietnam. (I found the following in Wikipedia: “When he heard that two platoons of M Company from his battalion was taking casualties and about to be overrun by the enemy, Father Capodanno went among the wounded and dying Marines of Second Platoon, helping them and giving last rites. He was wounded in the hand, arms, and legs. Refusing medical aid, he went to help a seriously wounded Navy Corpsman and two wounded Marines only yards from an enemy machine gun and was killed; 15 Marines and 2 corpsmen also were killed.”)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Minutes of the Previous Muster. **Chaplain Daun Lenz** moved that we accept the minutes of the December 2, 2017 muster. **Mike Partridge** seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Report of the Paymaster. **Ryan Johnston** reported that we have \$2084.86 in savings and 1921.91 in checking. **John Britcher** moved that we accept the report of the Paymaster. **Daun Lenz** seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Toys for Tots Update. **Toys for Tots Chairman John Moysiuk** reported that we had a very successful fundraiser at Cabela’s, raising \$1842.05 in two days. He thanked those who participated, noting that the money went right into toy purchases. He currently has \$26,000 in the T4T account for next year. T4T served 1793 families, 300 more families than last year. 5379 kids received toys. Besides Thurston County, T4T also served families in Grays Harbor and South Mason County. John asked all those who helped to stand; that was most of the people at the muster. **Commandant Sims** added that **Danette**, who works at Denny’s, has been a big supporter for about 8 years; this year she filled **Paul Klenk’s** truck with toys. **John Britcher** asked what we need to do to get some publicity for T4T in Semper Fi magazine. John responded that we only need some pictures and to put together an article and then submit it. Britcher has pictures he will send to John. **Joe Coorough** wondered if other groups collecting toys hurts our effort. John said no, it probably helps us. **David Ball** added that we got a lot of toys from **Les Schwab** and also from KIRO7 and FOX13 television; both of which are very big supporters of TFT. There was a standing ovation for John Moysiuk and his hard work once again directing Toys for Tots. **Alan Hoover** added that there were 11 Marines at Cabela’s for two days raising money for T4T, and he asked them to stand as well. Alan said that Cabela’s has gone through many event coordinators in the last few years; the newest lady sent Alan an email saying how pleased she was with the Marines and that we are welcome to come back. Sims added that the star of the show was **Eric Rathke’s** dog!

NEW BUSINESS:

Puget Sound Honor Flight **Cecil Cheeka** introduced **Travis Matheson**, who spoke about Puget Sound Honor Flight. Honor Flight is a non-profit organization that takes WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans to Washington D.C. with all expenses paid. Matheson, who has been with the Washington State Patrol for 26 years, saw the new WWII Memorial in 2008 and wanted to get the honor flight program started here. In 2013 Puget Sound Honor Flight began. They take 4 trips to D.C. each year. On Saturday they Vets go to Baltimore. On Sunday they see the WWII, Vietnam, Korean, Lincoln, Marine Corps, and other memorials. They go to Arlington on Monday and then the Vets return home. Over 100,000 Vets have made this journey. Vets make the trip in April, May, September, and October each year. WWII Vets get first priority, then Korean War, the Vietnam War; Vets with terminal illnesses are moved to the front of the line. We were very impressed with this organization. **Chaplain Daun Lenz**

moved that the Detachment donate \$100 to Puget Sound Honor Flight. **John Britcher** seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Website and Privacy. The **Commandant** has asked **David Ball** to update the website. He noted that anyone who doesn't want their phone number on the website should contact David to let him know.

Future Schedule. The **Commandant** announced that our next muster will be on February 3rd. By next month's muster Sims wants to get a handle on what property and gear the Detachment owns and where it is stored; we need an accurate inventory. He reminded the members that election of officers will take place in March, so we should be thinking about who we would like to nominate at the February muster.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- **Sims** announced that **Mike Partridge** will present information about Paralyzed Veterans at next month's muster.

Following a prayer from **Chaplain Daun Lenz** and a rousing verse of the Marines Hymn, the

Commandant thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 0915. **Our next**

Breakfast/Muster will be held at 0800 at the VFW Post at 2902 Martin Way East in Lacey on February 3, 2018.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The following events are fast approaching. Please try to fit these into your schedule.

Monday, January 15, 2018. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday. Fly the Flag!

Saturday, February 3, 2018. Detachment 482 Muster at 0800!

Monday, February 12, 2018. Lincoln's Birthday. Fly the Flag!

Monday, February 19, 2018. President's Day. Fly the Flag!

Thursday, February 22, 2018. Washington's Birthday. Fly the Flag!

SHORT ROUNDS

Last week I met with Marine Dominick Bosco, a new member of our Detachment. Dominick gave me information on a program called the "**Veterans History Project**", which was created by Congress in 2000 as part of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. VHP's mission is to collect, preserve and make accessible the personal accounts of American wartime veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. What follows is a streamlined description of the program; I have more information available for anyone who is interested in leaving behind an account of his or her service experiences.

WHO – Veterans who served in the United States military in any capacity from WWI through the present and are no longer serving are eligible to participate, regardless of branch or rank. Volunteers from around the country interview veterans and collect first person narratives.

WHAT – VHP accepts veterans' personal narratives in the forms of original, unedited audio- and video-recorded interviews, photographs, letters, diaries, journals, military documents, two-dimensional artwork, maps and unpublished memoirs that meet minimum requirements.

WHEN – Any day is a good day to share, record or submit a veteran's story. Begin today.

WHERE – VHP participation is occurring all over the United States. Conduct VHP interviews in any quiet, indoor location such as a home, private office or conference room. Dominick has established

contact with a veteran who works as a Veterans Representative on the campus of South Puget Sound Community College named Cameron Dreyer. Cameron is very excited about the VHP program and has everything in place to interview people. Call Cameron at (360) 596-5665.

WHY – These oral histories, supplemented by photographs and other materials are a valuable primary source for researchers, scholars and educators. Veterans’ family members treasure the memories that are permanently preserved at the Library of Congress for future generations.

Again, please feel free to contact me for more detailed information. – PAO Ken Clark

Marines and Associate members, please feel free to contact me with any short articles or items of interest that you would like to post in the Straight Skinny. Also, if you would like me to include a story from your time on active duty, let me know and we will meet for coffee and get your story posted here.

If you’ve been reading the Skinny and have said to yourself many times, “I could do a better job with the minutes and making the newsletter interesting”, then please let me know. I’ve been doing the minutes and newsletter for 16 years and would be happy to pass it off to someone who has enthusiasm for the job.

Respectfully submitted, PAO Ken Clark

SEMPER FI!