

Detachment 803 began as the James Island Detachment, then in late 1994, it became the Low Country Detachment. (Please see "MCL History—Overview" for details.)

History

James Island Detachment 803

Marine Corps League

21 May 1992

- 18 members present. Membership applications of 7 new or transferred members were read & approved.
- Participated in Memorial Day Service with West Ashley Legion Post.
- Detachment voted to have a post office box, so the Detachment could always maintain communications with National Headquarters and the membership whenever the Detachment changes officers.

18 June 1992

- 20 members present. Applications of two new members &/or transfers were read & approved.
- Plans discussed to hold MC Ball with Citadel Marines & Marine Contract Cadets at Sheraton Charleston Hotel.
- Picnic at the home of Commandant Richard Plumer to be on July 11. Representatives of various groups, companies, & organizations that have been of assistance to the detachment during its start up efforts will be presented with certificates of appreciation. Commandant will provide a keg of beer. The Ladies Auxiliary to provide covered dishes.
- Marie Austin addressed detachment. She said membership in Auxiliary is growing. Members are presently enrolled "at large." Members dues are \$15.50.
- Commandant attended MCL State Convention in Shelby, NC.
- Donald Austin created recruiting package that will be placed under wiper blades whenever he sees a motor vehicle with a USMC decal.
- Three new members were introduced to detachment: Virge Crestes, Thomas Garrett, & David Harris.

20 August 1992

- 27 members & one guest were present. Applications for two new members were read & approved.

17 September 1992

- 22 members and 5 guests present. Application by one new member (B. L. Dempsey) was read & approved.
- Now have a bank account with Nations Bank with balance of \$125.60.
- Birthday Ball will be on Nov 19 at the James Island Legion Post. Tickets are \$25 per couple.
- Detachment was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for 1991 efforts with Toys for Tots.
- Paul Attaya gave presentation on funeral honor guard procedures.
- Members of the Palmetto Marines Association of Columbia were among our guests. Hopefully they will soon be forming an MCL Detachment. Among their members present was Marine H.E. "Speedy" Wilson of Lexington, recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor (Korea).

15 October 1992

- New detachment will be formed in Columbia on Nov 10, 1992.
- All supplies have been received for the Ball. Col Crecl USMC from Citadel will be the guest speaker.
- Veterans Day ceremony will be held at the VFW Post 147 at 1100 am.
- Circus people are in town and making telephone solicitations. Adult tickets are \$8 – detachment share is \$4.

19 November 1992

- 15 members present. Eleven new members were accepted: David Wolf, Joseph Sharkey, Charles Kozlowski, George Owens, James McCullough, Harvey Thomas, Murray Kabasie, Harold Albertson, James Huffman, Col John Crecl, and Capt Mark Hamilton. Detachment is nearing 100 members.
- Telephones purchased to use in circus ticket solicitation are the property of the detachment.

17 December 1992

- New members were accepted: Raymond Watkins & Henry Murray.

18 February 1993

- Bylaws were presented and approved.

18 March 1993

- Next meeting will be at the Navy Annex, Radar Station, Mess Hall. This will allow the Women's Auxiliary to hold their meeting in the proper surroundings.

15 April 1993

- 19 members present. New member application for Diana Braxton was read & approved.
- Only paid up members & invited guests may be present at meetings.
- Ed Bernstein was presented with a lifetime membership card and button.
- A certified letter was sent to the Jr Past Commandant to return all MCL property to the Detachment (gavel, telephones, charter, etc.)

20 May 1993

- Ladies Auxiliary is going to investigate getting a charter.
- Detachment to participate in Whispering Pines Memorial Day Ceremony in Goose Creek.

17 June 1993

- Edward Bernstein has received his appointment to VAVS and Bob Nebergall will be his assistant.
- Need to obtain our Charter & other Detachment property from Past Commandant Plumer. Registered letter to be sent informing him of the National Judge Advocate's decision & requesting that all property & our charter be surrendered.
- Detachment will participate in the July 4 Parade at Moncks Corner.
- Sr Vice Mizzell volunteered to be editor of the Newsletter.
- National Headquarters proposed change in Bylaws to allow Navy Corpsmen who served with the Marines to join the League.
- Discussion concerning the SC Marine Corps League license plates. Cost of the plate would be \$47 and the detachment would receive \$9 of this. We would have exclusive rights to this venture & all other Leaguers in SC would have to come through us to get them.

15 August 1993

- New members presented & accepted by vote: Joe Cambio, Tom Salina, & Rudy Faust (Life Member).

16 September 1993

- New member, Sid Adler.
- Rudy Faust reported that a bill must be passed to authorize sale of the license plates.
- Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Oreste & Connie Verge, Donald & Marie Austin. Department Service Awards presented to George & Maxine Mizzell.

21 October 1993

- Birthday Ball will be at Cooper River Recreation Center, Navy Base on 6 Nov. Tickets are \$20.
- Marine Watkins reported on the Toys for Tots Campaign. Said he could use some help with publicity & donations. He will also need help to get the toys passed out on the 20th, 21st, and 2nd of Dec.
- As the Detachment has been unable to obtain its Charter from Past Commandant Plumer, and it's been 8 months now, the members decided to solicit suggestions for a new Detachment name and once a name has been decided on, request that National Headquarters Marine Corps League re-charter us under the new name selected at the Nov meeting. We would like to re-Charter and install new officers at the same time in March.
- Commandant Verge announced that he would be feeding the homeless at his restaurant on Dorchester Road for Thanksgiving & Christmas. He has challenged other restaurants to do the same.
- Associate member, Joe Sharkey, spoke on the Yorktown Association. On 28 Oct the new Medal of Honor Society room will be dedicated. All hands are invited. On 31 October an F4F will be dedicated on the Flight Deck. Ross Perot and Admiral Stockdale will speak.

18 November 1993

- 21 Members present. Three new member applications were read and accepted: John T. Smith, Jr, Luanarro T. Taylor, and Harold D. Robinson.
- VAVS committee is visiting the VA Hospital patients every Wednesday.
- New detachment name was voted & accepted -- "Low Country Detachment" was selected.
- Donald Austin read a letter he wrote to National regarding the request for a new detachment name & charter. Various names were voted on. "Low Country Detachment" was selected.
- The Ladies Auxiliary will host a Christmas party on Dec 6.
- The Director of the Medal of Honor Society invited the membership to stop by to view the new museum at the Aircraft Carrier Yorktown.

16 December 1993

- National Southeast Division Vice Commandant, C. Stewart McLeod, will be here to meet with Detachment regarding formation of an SC Department.

20 January 1994

- 17 members present. Matthew Frederick was introduced, voted on and approved for membership.
- VAVS committee chair, Ed Bernstein asked for several leaguers to join him visiting at the VA on Valentines Day. This will also be the opening ceremony for the new 38 bed nursing unit.
- Over 10,000 toys were collected and distributed for Toys for Tots.
- Commandant Verge reported on the visit by National South East Division Vice Commandant, C. Stewart McLeod. They have been unsuccessful to recover our Charter from former Commandant Plumer. He has recommended to National Headquarters that we be issued a duplicate Charter. Don Austin reported on the

formation of a new Department of South Carolina. Division Vice Commandant McLeod held a formation meeting and conducted an election of officers at Commandant Verge's Classics Restaurant. He said that he hoped to have the Department functional in 90 to 120 days.

- Rudy Faust reported that the MCL license plate project for South Carolina plates is still on hold until the Charter mess is cleared up. He showed a sample of how the plate will look.
- Commandant Verge suggested the Detachment separate the Adjutant/Paymaster's offices. The membership agreed and the nominating committee was instructed to get nominations for separate offices.

17 February 1994

- 19 members present. Raymond Richard and Gerald Pothier were approved for membership by voice vote.
- Dept of SC Installation of Officers will be in Columbia on 26 Feb at the DAV.
- New (Duplicate) Charter is ready and will be presented at the meeting in Columbia. All members should attend the March meeting to sign it.
- Commandant Verge cut a Birthday Cake celebrating our 2nd birthday. He presented the first piece to Don Austin, a Past Department Commandant, who was our Installing officer last year.
- Donald Austin made an appeal for the Detachment newsletter. He said it is the responsibility of all members to contribute articles to the newsletter; especially the officers. The editor goes begging each month for material to fill the pages. The newsletter belongs to all of us.
- Marine Hayton reported that the Military Order of Purple Hearts has just been chartered locally.

17 March 1994

- 24 members present. Members present were invited to sign the new Charter. Frame for the new charter has been purchased and donated by Don Austin.
- Installation of new officers will be on the Yorktown in April. Reception to follow at the VFW post #10624 in Mt Pleasant. Most new SC Department officers plan to attend.
- Grand Strand Detachment will have their Charter Presentation & Installation of new officers at the Pawleys Island VFW on April 9.
- Several awards were presented to members who helped with Toys for Tots, with a special award going to Sr. Vice Commandant Mizzell.

22 April 1994

- New members Leo N. Evans, Thomas J. Dillon, William C. Gause, Don E. Weathers, and Gary S. Chandler were voted in by members present.
- Membership dues increased from \$20 to \$25 for new members only as an initiation fee.

19 May 1994

- Each member is to donate one penny for each day of the year (\$3.65) to the Detachment on their birthday.

16 June 1994

- There be a family picnic at Short Stay on August 6. Everyone is to bring a covered dish.
- Ladies Auxiliary received their Charter and was installed.
- Certificate of Appreciation given to Donald Austin for this coordination of the Installation of Officers ceremony.
- Maxine Mizzell was presented with a Marine Fraternity Pin for her past support in providing refreshments for the League.
- Commandant discussed the changing of Detachment name.

History
Detachment 803
Marine Corps League

21 July 1994

- New member, Clyde Severino, voted in.

18 August 1994

- New member, Ray Larkin, voted in.
- Detachment name change was discussed.

15 September 1994

- Detachment name change was discussed.

20 October 1994

- Charlie Rhodes gave verbal resignation as Adjutant.
- Commandant Verge gave report on name change.

**(Name officially changed to Low Country Detachment 803.
Historical information continues on next page.)**

History

Low Country Detachment 803

Marine Corps League

17 November 1994

- New charter with the new detachment name (Low Country) inscribed was received from the State. Detachment name to be changed on covers.
- Christmas party to be held 18 Dec at National Guard Armory on Cross County Road. Verge & Chandler to provide meats. Auxiliary to provide other food stuffs. Detachment to provide beverages.
- A search is being conducted for replacement of Adjutant post.
- Thank-you card received from Homeless Shelter for last year's meal on Thanksgiving. Detachment is providing a meal at the shelter again this Thanksgiving.

15 December 1994

- 15 members and one guest present. Four applications for membership read & approved: James Crull Sr, John Gleason, William Boyd, Marron Hopkins. The Detachment now has 52 paid-up members.
- Christmas party to be held Dec 18 at Classics Restaurant.
- Marines Stone and Smith spoke to school children about military history & showed a film. They reported how attentive and inquisitive the children were & that they enjoyed themselves.
- Don Austin was authorized to purchase a Bible for the Detachment.

19 January 1995

- New member Janice Hosea voted on and approved. Janice Hosea appointed as Adjutant.
- Ed Bernstein received award for 5,400 volunteer hours worked at VA hospital.
- Donald Austin donated Bible. He purchased a tape recorder & was reimbursed.
- The Detachment will be setting up recruiting tables at various malls each monthly.
- The state convention will be in Columbia 2-4 June. Each detachment to provide door prizes for future raffles.
- Rudy Faust has been nominated for Dept Commandant.

16 February 1995

- New member: Marron Hopkins.
- Rudy Faust briefed members on up-coming State meetings and election of 1995 officers. Rudy Faust is to be nominated for the Commandant post.

16 March 1995

- Nominations & Elections of officers and directors for coming year.

20 April 1995

- New member, Joe Keener.
- Need to contact Senator McConnel to have separate (vehicle license) plate for league. Need to submit design for approval.

- Mt Pleasant asking that as many as possible attend the parade on May 7.
- SC Department is considering a medal for ROTC members. Details at next meeting.

18 May 1995

- New member, Richard Keane. Introduced recent new member Paul Peacock and Joe Keener.
- Ed Bernstein was presented a 5,000-hour pin by the VA. The Detachment was given a certificate & mug. Ellis Cunningham was also given a certificate & mug.
- Marine Jerry Pothier presented a program about our national emblem, the codes and usage of the flag. Next month Rudy Faust will present a slide show about the history and "Building the Flag."
- Ed Bernstein reported that he presented a talk on his WWII experiences to a local school. Also, on the program was a woman who had been a Jewish prisoner in Europe. This was in remembrance of the 50th Anniversary of VE Day.
- The Department of South Carolina Convention will be held June 2–4. Rudy Faust is running for Commandant.
- Gerald Pothier submitted a letter concerning the By-Laws. A discussion followed on each item. The letter is to be revised and resubmitted after review of a newer set of By-Laws.
- License Plate Report -- Senate bill in House Education and Public Works committee. House bill submitted by Grand Strand Detachment also in HE&PW committee. Not expected on docket this session, but due in January 1996.
- Annual picnic is scheduled for July 22 at Charleston Air Force Base picnic pavilion.

June 1995

- During the Memorial Parade in Mt Pleasant, a member riding on the Iwo Jima float who was a corpsman, jumped off the float while it was in motion to provide assistance to a heart attack victim, and saved his life. A Distinguished Service Award was presented by Commandant Mizzell to HM2 Price for his medical treatment to Mr. Slinker.
- Ernest Hayden became a Life Member.
- Ray Calton from Navy League spoke on Navy League, Sea Cadet program, and rescue operation.

20 July 1995

- A thank you letter was received from the Dorchester County Veterans Memorial for the brick purchased by the Detachment.

17 August 1995

- New Member, Retired Lt Col Martin Martinson.
- Guest speaker Donald Morillo challenged the membership for a write-in to all politicians regarding the proposed cuts in Veterans' benefits.
- Thomas Salina was elected as 1st year Director.
- Alva Moore became a Life Member.
- Department meeting will be held in Moncks Corner on Sept 17, 1995.
- Department Commandant will be traveling to MCL Headquarters.

21 September 1995

- Joe Cambio and Francis McConnell became Life Members.
- Birthday Ball will be on Yorktown on Nov 18. Tickets are \$23.
- Detachment was awarded MCL National Membership Streamer and Certificate.
- Auxiliary Unit will hold yard sale on Oct 7.

19 October 1995

- New members: Dwight Stuckey, Ken Lougner.
- SC Department Commandant Faust to initiate Detachment in Aiken.

16 November 1995

- Yorktown Curator, Buddy Strugis, addressed the membership. The Yorktown needs volunteers to serve as guides for the ship. In return, the Detachment is welcome to use the meeting room aboard the ship.

18 January 1996

- New members voted in: Simeon, Albert Stone.
- Bylaws have been approved.

15 February 1996

- New member: Sgt Major Charles Sheirds.
- Need to replace the Adjutant and retrieve tape recorder and other detachment property.
- Motion made & passed to not renew membership of anyone holding Detachment property deemed to be missing.
- Now have eleven life members.

21 March 1996

- Sixteen members present. New member approved: Jack W. Bracewell. Life Membership for Joe Cambio.
- Next Department meeting will be in Columbia March 30. Devil Dog Growl to follow.
- Dept Commandant Faust reported he is working to get the 1999 SE Division Conference to be held in South Carolina.
- Rudy Faust announced he was running for re-election as Department Commandant. Detachment gave 100% support for his re-election.
- Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to the Detachment staff. Ed Bernstein was presented with a Proclamation, Citation, and Plaque, naming him the Detachment "Citizen of the Year."

18 April 1996

- Seventeen members present. Past Department Commandant Eadie and Department Chaplain Bob Lominson were guests. Monroe Bradley transferred in from a detachment in North Carolina. Renewal of members is 100% for 1995.
- Past Commandant's pin was presented to Past Commandant Verge by Commandant Mizzell. His Commandant's Medal will be ordered and presented at a later date. Dept Commandant Rudy Faust presented Commandant Mizzell with his Past Commandant's Pin and Commandant's miniature medal.
- Adjutant Austin reported that more files have been recovered and a set of Detachment files has been set up. Also, all but a few of the past minutes have been recovered and filed. He appealed to anyone who has any property or paperwork belonging to the Detachment to turn it over to him.
- Detachment picnic will be June 30 at the Charleston AF Base Picnic Pavilion.
- New Detachment in Aiken (James L. Hammond Detachment) will be chartered April 27.
- The detachment has been invited to participate in Memorial Day service on May 25 at Whispering Pines Memorial Gardens.
- The Ladies Auxiliary presented \$100 to the Detachment. These funds were made by the recent yard sale.

16 May 1996

- Eighteen members present. One application for membership from Capt William Moyer (I&I Reserve Unit) was read and approved.
- Dept Commandant reported that Detachment 803 will be hosting the SC Department Convention in 1997.
- Judge Advocate George Pothier announced he was in violation of Detachment Bylaws by holding the Judge Advocate position in the Detachment and the Department. He was elected to the Dept position at the recent convention. Since the Dept Bylaws do not show this to be a violation, a motion was made and passed to delete this section from Detachment Bylaws.
- Dept Commandant Faust reported that he had appointed the Commandant of Palmetto Marines Detachment to chair a committee that will present a recommendation to National for an MCL medal that can be presented to JRJOTC students by Detachments.

20 June 1996

- Twenty-two members were present. Membership application of Col "Mac" Radcliff was read and approved. Commandant Mizzell presented Marines Cunningham and Pothier with their Life Membership Gold Cards, pins and certificates.
- A discussion was held on the proper wearing of the Marine Corps League "Dress" & "Undress" uniforms. Uniform regulations are spelled out in our National Bylaws.

18 July 1996

- Fifteen members present. Membership application from Virgil C. Johnson was read and approved. Detachment now has 67 paid-up members, 14 of these are Life Members.

15 August 1996

- New member applications received and accepted from Freddie Ginn, Ransom Avinger Jr & James Hart.
- Dept Commandant Faust read a letter he had received from Rep Lynn Seithel. The MCL license plate bill has passed the Senate, but will be taken up by the House next session.
- There will be a Devil Dog meeting on 17 August at the Pawleys Island VFW to discuss forming a Pack of SC.

19 September 1996

- Life Member gold cards, pins and certificates were presented to Tom Salina and Tom Dillon.
- Planning for the Department Convention continues. It will be held June 13-15 at the Airport Holiday Inn. There will be a \$10 registration fee; hotel rooms will be \$57. There will be a free hospitality room, and possibly a dinner cruise for Friday night. Saturday's schedule will include Dept meeting, election of officers, Devil Dog Growl, and evening banquet with installation of Dept officers. On Sunday there will be Memorial Service aboard the Yorktown.
- Joe Cambio was elected to replace Jr. Vice Chandler since he has been absent three consecutive meetings.

17 Oct 1996

- New member applications were read and approved from James Stevenson, Monroe Bradley and Kathryn Brennan.
- The Reserve Unit has received new flags, so they donated the old set to us. We need to purchase headers and bases for them.
- A Young Marines unit will be formed by the Detachment and the Reserve Unit. The CO will be retired Col "Mac" Radcliff and the XO will be 1st Sgt Kotlowski.

21 Nov 1996

- Commandant George Mizzell has become incapacitated and unable to continue with his duties. Per the Bylaws, Sr Vice Rudy Faust will fill the position; accordingly, the Jr Vice will move to Sr Vice. Nominations and election of a new Jr Vice will be at the December meeting.
- Commandant Faust reported on the MCL license plates bill. He needs name of all who anticipate getting a plate, so he can send the info & requests quickly after the bill passes. We need 99 requests; he already has 35 from Grand Strand.
- A Budget Committee will be formed. This committee will be the three Trustees, with the 3rd year Trustee as the Chairman. The Paymaster will be an Ex Officio member of this committee.

19 Dec 1996

- Eighteen members present. Johnny E. Lucas was proposed for membership and approved.

16 Jan 1997

- Currently there are 317 members in the Department of South Carolina.
- 2nd Year Trustee Salina resigned for personal reasons. The position will not be filled until March elections.
- Detachment was awarded a flag ribbon by National for 100% membership renewal in 1996.
- Retired Col Mac Radcliff, one of our members, has just been named the new Executive Director of the Medal of Honor Society. He will be the Guest Speaker for the convention in June.

20 Feb 1997

- There were 18 members and one guest present. The Auxiliary unit also attended to welcome George Mizzell back. Two new members were proposed and approved for membership: Pinckney B. Ezekiel Jr, and Robert N. Hurkes.
- The Charter for the SC Pack has been received. The new Pack will receive the Charter after the SC Dept Quarterly on 5 April.
- The Department of SC now has an official set of Bylaws.
- It was reported was there are no JROTC units in South Carolina. This was taken under advisement, but it takes about 12 years for a JROTC unit to become a reality.
- The "Tidelands River Dogs" devil dog pound will meet in Pawleys Island.

20 March 1997

- Charles Simkins was recognized as the Detachment's 15th Life Member.
- Detachment Picnic will be 12 July at Air Force Base. The Pavilion has been reserved.

17 April 1997

- Dinner meeting at Airport Holiday Inn for purpose of installing 1997 officers. There were 44 members and guests present.

15 May 1997

- There were 15 members present.
- A letter from General George Christmas was read accepting our invitation to speak at the State Convention.
- The Detachment will participate in Memorial Day ceremonies at: Whispering Pines, Goose Creek; Mt Pleasant Memorial Gardens; Parks Cemetery, Dorchester Veterans Council; and the VA Hospital.

19 June 1997

- Application for membership of Gerald Smeltzer was read and approved.

- Commandant Faust commented that we should be holding initiations for new members. Most of our members have never been initiated. We will set this up & try to do it quarterly.
- Commandant Faust went over a list of standing committees that we need in order to be a viable/active detachment. We need a Services Officer, a Legislative Officer (currently Bob Nebergall), Historian, Newsletter Editor. We need a yearly budget, Eagle Scout committee, Convention Committee, MODD Liaison, Auxiliary Liaison, License Plate committee, Marine of the Year committee, ROTC committee, Birthday Ball, Toys for Tots, and a committee to obtain speakers.

17 July 1997

- George Palmer volunteered to be Toys for Tots chair. Tom Chandler has been appointed Eagle Scout & Recruiter liaison. Commandant Faust will be Citadel liaison. Robert Nebergall is Legislative Officer. Sr Vice Pothier is program chair, which includes picnic, Christmas party, meeting speakers, etc. Also need a Garage Sale coordinator to work with the Auxiliary.
- Detachment netted \$1,675.42 from the convention.

21 August 1997

- More committees were filled. Budget and Audit is an automatic duty of the Trustees. Marine of the Year committee chair is Ed Bernstein with future winners will automatically be on this committee.
- Paymaster Bernstein proposed we purchase two CDs. One for \$500 for 3 months, and the other \$500 for 6 months. CDs would be kept in the Paymaster's safety deposit box to make it easier for him to roll them over. This was approved by the Executive Board and approved by membership present.

18 September 1997

- SSgt Warren from the I&I staff spoke on the Toys for Tots campaign.

23 October 1997

- Dinner meeting at Ryan's Steak House. There were 31 members & guests present. Thirteen members were initiated. Life member cards, pins, and framed certificates were presented to Angelo Saverino, George Palmer, Bob Hurkes, and Bob Nebergall.
- Certificates of Appreciation were presented to: Auxiliary President Maxine Mizzell, and George Palmer for all their work and support during our recent convention.
- Three awards for membership for the Detachment were received at the last National convention. Two were citations and a 100% membership flag streamer.
- Auxiliary President, Maxine Mizzell, introduced Past Dept of Virginia President, Marie Austin, who installed the Auxiliary Officers. She also made several presentations to Maxine.
- Ernie Hayton has volunteered to be newsletter Editor.

20 November 1997

- Application for membership of James Oglesby was read and approved. Paul Peacock was presented with a life membership card, pin and framed certificate.
- Commandant Faust announced he will be presenting a Dept-level ROTC award at Burton High School.

15 January 1998

- Eddie Avinger was presented his life membership gold card, pin and framed certificate.
- Toys for Tots chair, George Palmer, reported that between 11,000 and 12,000 toys had been collected, sorted & distributed.

19 February 1998

- The Legislature has finally signed off on the license plate bill. They made some basic changes to special plates. We will need 150 requests to get the MCL plates.

19 March 1998

- Application for membership of Gregory H. Kitchens was read and approved.

15 April 1998

- Jack Gleason was presented his life membership gold card, pin and framed certificate.
- Past Commandant's Medal was presented to Rudy Faust by Sr Vice Commandant Ellis Cunningham.

21 May 1998

- Bob Mastrion suggested the Detachment consider participation in next year's Massing of the Colors ceremony sponsored by the Military Order of the World Wars.
- The detachment will investigate adopting the Grand Strand Detachment's program of presenting a leadership award to JROTC units in the Low Country. The Detachment is also investigating presenting an award to a member of the Citadel's NROTC unit.

18 June 1998

- Application for membership was received from William G. Ross Jr. It was unanimously approved by assembled members. Tom Ravenell was presented his Life Member gold card, pin, and framed certificate.

16 July 1998

- Annual picnic will be 4 October at the Charleston Air Force Base Recreation Area.
- Commandant Faust presented the Past Commandant's Medal to George Mizzell and the Life Membership gold card, pin and certificate to Tom Chandler.

20 August 1998

- A detailed letter was received from the Reserve Detachment requesting League assistance in this year's drive. The letter outlined extensive league participation in the area of handling cash and check donations to the drive.

18 September 1998

- Commandant Rudy Faust passed away. Ellis Cunningham assumed the post of Detachment Commandant upon Rudy's passing.
- Application for membership of Paul Curren was received and approved.

15 October 1998

- Guests were SC Dept Commandant Tom Perrone and Adjutant of SE Region Mary Perrone.
- The Detachment is committed to helping the Marine Reservists collect money at the Second Annual 10k race.
- Department Commandant Tom Perrone gave a brief report on Department activities to include revitalization of the Beaufort Detachment and starting detachments in Orangeburg, Hampton and Henderson.

19 November 1998

- George Palmer resigned as the Detachment's Judge Advocate in order to seek the JA post at the South Carolina Department level. This action is dictated by the Detachment Bylaws.
- Ed Bernstein nominated George to fill the vacant Senior Vice Commandant post and Ed Avinger to fill the JA post. Tom Salina cast a unanimous vote and all agreed.
- Marine Corps Birthday ball was held at the Omar Shrine Temple at Patriots Point. Ticket costs were \$30, with a \$5 Senior Citizen discount.

21 January 1999

- Application for membership received and approved from Charles C. McLaughlin.

18 February 1999

- Application for membership received and approved from Drew Nicholson.
- The Veterans Day Parade in the City of Charleston is being revived in 1999 after a long absence.
- The attendees voted to support a measure to permit Navy Corpsmen who served with Marines in combat to join the MCL as regular vice associate members. Commandant Cunningham directed the Adjutant to prepare a letter supporting the measure to be presented at the upcoming Division convention.

18 March 1999

- The Adjutant presented correspondence from the MCL National Headquarters outlining the duties of each Detachment officer.

15 April 1999

- SE Region Commandant Tom Perrone asked the Detachment to assist the SC Department in presenting leadership plaques to Marine Corps JROTC units. He also encouraged the Detachment to initiate a leadership medal program for ROTC units in high schools in the Detachment's area. Commandant Cunningham assigned Bob Mastrion to coordinate these programs.

20 May 1999

- Commandant Cunningham described the visit of the Montfort Point Marine Association to Parris Island on 13 April and made tentative arrangements for the Detachment's trip to Parris Island.
- The Detachment needs to develop and prescribe criteria for the awarding of the MCL Leadership medals to JROTC units of all services in our area. Drew Nicholson suggested that an example of criteria would be helpful to the members in developing our criteria.

17 June 1999

- The Detachment has been tasked with hosting the Department's 2001 Annual Convention.

15 July 1999

- The Veterans Day Parade in Charleston is on 7 November. The order of march for the Marine Corps is as follows: The MCRD Parris Island Band, the MCAS Beaufort Silent Drill Team, the Marine Corps Reserve Landing Support Company, the Toys for Tots Program float, and then the Marine Corps League Detachment Veteran Day Parade in Charleston.

19 August 1999

- The VA Hospital is sponsoring an outreach program for homeless veterans and is asking for assistance in acquiring needed supplies to conduct the program.

- A recruit send-off ceremony is conducted by the Hammons Detachment in which new recruits going to Parris Island in the near future are wished good luck. The Detachment was asked if we should start a similar program. A motion was made and passed. Drew Nicholson volunteered to head this effort.

23 September 1999

- Application for membership of James L. Hunter was submitted and approved.
- The Detachment will collect clothing and other items for the VA Stand Down at three Walmart stores in James Island, North Charleston and West Ashley.
- The Detachment picnic will be on 17 October at the Charleston Air Force Base Picnic Area. Art Matichak and Drew Nicholson will contact our older members to arrange for them to attend the picnic. Art will do the cooking and Bob Mastrion will handle the logistics.

31 October 1999

- Bill Dempsey was presented his Life Membership gold card by Commandant Cunningham.
- Dew Nicholson reported that during the collection of items for the VA Stand Down the Detachment ran out of hand outs. When Drew went into Post Net to get more handouts printed the owner refused his attempt to pay to for the service.

18 November 1999

- Drew Nicholson suggested what we convene a group to discuss various methods and programs to recruit new members. Further discussion will be during the January meeting.

20 January 2000

- There were 86,919 toys collected and distributed this year with the Toys for Tots program.
- All required letters to initiate the Detachment's Leadership Medial program are ready for the Commandants signature. They will be mailed to the participating ROTC and JROTC unit commanders as

17 February 2000

- Membership applications for 1st Sgt George Shine (I&I Staff) and Spike Roberts were submitted and approved.
- George Shine requested the detachment's participation in the formation of a partnership between the Reserve unit and the Marine Corps League. The partnership will form a Young Marines Unit whose purpose will be to develop and foster patriotic values in young men and women. The detachment approved the partnership.

16 March 2000

- Membership application for Ralph Barbaro was submitted and approved.
- Responses from school ROTC and JROTC units are coming in. Names of volunteers to present the awards were solicited and received by the Adjutant. A complete list of schools and volunteer presenters will be compiled and handed out at the April meeting.

20 April 2000

- Installation of Officers.
- New Commandant, George Palmer, stated that our goal of increasing membership should remain high on our list of priorities. Another priority equal to gaining new members is to increase participation of our present membership. He encouraged all present to focus on both priorities.

18 May 2000

- Membership application for Jerry Lee Underwood was submitted and approved.
- The Leadership Medal program has been a great success. Of the 20 ROTC and JROTC units solicited for participation, 19 responded by submitting candidates; the other said he had no cadets who met the academic criteria. Next year, the detachment intends to get the local Marine Corps recruiters involved in the presentations.
- The Detachment again will be supporting the Annual Stand Down by collecting clothing and paper products as well as purchasing these items with cash collected.
- Albert Stone proposed that the Detachment sponsor an Americanism essay contest in local high schools. Students will be asked to write an essay on what it means to be an American. The idea looked promising and Albert Stone was tasked to draft a proposal for future presentation.

15 June 2000

- Membership application for Olan P. Skipper was submitted and approved.
- The Detachment agreed to send \$50 to the Hammonds Detachment help cover costs of hosting the SC Department Convention.
- Spike Roberts reported that a Berkeley County Navy veteran was recently buried in the National Cemetery in Beaufort. His family was unable to pay the \$200 gravedigger fee. Until this debt is paid, no further Berkeley County burials will be allowed at Beaufort. A motion was made & approved to use the beverage cooler proceeds and the Detachment's half of the 50/50 raffle to this cause. Individuals also volunteered to contribute. The debt was covered.

20 July 2000

- Letter received from National Headquarters reminding all not to mix items of Marine Corps uniform and Marine Corps League uniforms.
- The reproduction of recruiting audio tapes project we took on for the Department Commandant has been completed. Tapes were given to each of the six detachments during the Department Convention.
- The Adjutant announced the MCL newsletter competition. To enter we would have to change our newsletter format. A motion was made and passed to leave the newsletter as is because it serves our purposes well.
- Drew Nicholson received his Life Membership gold card.
- Ed Bernstein was presented the VA Hospital Volunteer Award (7,500 hours). Ed is the first member of the MCL to reach this level of service.

17 August 2000

- There were 13 members and two potential members present.
- The Detachment will collect items of clothing and other materials needed for the Stand Down at three area Walmart stores in North Charleston, James Island and West Ashley.

21 September 2000

- Steve Kovachs requested to transfer from member-at-large to the Detachment. This request was approved by the membership.
- Detachment Bylaws state if an officer misses three consecutive meetings, a new officer must be elected. Therefore, the Sergeant-at-Arms billet will be filled by Tom Chandler.

19 October 2000

- Sr Vice Commandant Eddie Avinger resigned his post due to illness. Per the Bylaws, effective immediately, Drew Nicholson is the new Sr Vice Commandant. An election to fill the vacancy in the office of Jr Vice Commandant will be held at the November meeting.
- Life membership status was presented to James S. Heart.

20 November 2000

- Transfer application of Bill Hart to change his member-at-large status to that of a member of the Detachment was approved.
- VAVS Representative Ed Bernstein reported that the weekly visits to the VA Hospital and area nursing homes continue. Ed will be confined to office duties. Ellis Cunningham and George Palmer will do the walking visits.
- John Tharp was elected to the post which was vacated by Drew Nicholson when he moved up to the post of Senior Vice Commandant.
- The issue of granting FMF Navy Corpsmen regular membership was again brought up at the National Convention. It was stated that there is no legislative barrier to their regular membership; all that is needed is a National Bylaws change. The Department Commandant asked each detachment commandant poll their membership to solicit views. Detachment 803 voted to support the proposal. It was stipulated that regular membership should be restricted to those Navy personnel who served in combat with a Marine Corps Unit and earned the Combat Action Ribbon while serving with that unit. The Commandant directed the Adjutant to prepare a National Bylaws change for submission to the MCL Department of South Carolina Board of Trustees.

18 January 2001

- The Adjutant read a notice from the Korean War Veterans concerning the acquisition of a medallion issued by the South Korean Government to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War. The medallions will be presented to Korean War Veterans on 8 February at the Citadel. The representatives of the South Korean people will present the medallions. There will be a cultural performance prior to the presentation.
- George Palmer announced 35k toys were collected and distributed during the recent Toys for Tots campaign.
- Leadership Medal Program letters have been sent out ROTC and JROTC units. The Medals have been ordered; they have been paid for from a donation by a local business. The certificates are already on hand.
- An election was held to fill the billet vacated by the passing of Tommy Ravenell. Joe Cambio was elected to the post.
- Low Country Leathernecks have invited our members to participate in their monthly luncheons.

15 February 2001

- The Adjutant presented an invitation from the Military Order of the World Wars to participate in the fourth annual Massing of the Colors. The Detachment, having no colors yet, declined but asked to be retained on the invitation list for next year.

15 March 2001

- Appointments were approved: Service Officer – Spike Roberts; VAVS Representative – Ed Bernstein; Logistics Officer – Bob Mastrion.

19 April 2001

- Young Marines program will commence on 1 June 2001.

17 May 2001

- Bob Mastrion updated the Detachment on plans for hosting the Department Convention 2001. He solicited & received volunteers to man the registration table Friday and Saturday. Jim Hart volunteered to serve as chef for the Saturday afternoon cookout. Miriam Bernstein and Marjorie Palmer have volunteered to host the convention Hospitality Room. Volunteers are still needed to set up and tear down before & after the Sunday morning Memorial Service. There was no shortage of volunteers for these and many other tasks.

21 June 2001

- Jones T. Thomas and Plowden Dickson gave a rundown of their Marine Corps service and promised to submit applications at the Detachment picnic (a promise they kept).
- The Paymaster reported that the Convention netted the Detachment a profit of \$1,100.
- The Young Marines program kicked off on 1 June with 44 members and it is being well received.
- The Department Commandant assigned the Department Sergeant-at-Arms to coordinate the Leadership Medals program throughout the state.

19 July 2001

- Application for membership of Tony Margiotta Sr was received and approved.
- The first Young Marine class is scheduled to graduate boot camp on 17 August. The program has been well received. A motion was made and approved to donate \$500 to the program.

16 August 2001

- The Detachment will host the 2003 Department Convention.
- Motion made and approved to authorize \$330 for purchase of a set of flags which can be used for parades and other ceremonial events.
- A motion was made and approved to establish a flower fund to acquire and have on hand funds to purchase flowers and wreaths for Memorial Day ceremonies, illnesses and funerals. Each member will be asked to give \$1 each month or a single payment of \$10 per year.
- Navy Corpsmen who served with Marines in combat are again eligible for regular membership in the Marine Corps League. This latest attempt on behalf of Corpsmen, after years of failure, was initiated by a letter signed by Junior Past Commandant Ellis Cunningham. The letter pointed out that the notion that the US Congress had to change the League's Charter by legislation was bogus. The letter also laid out strict criteria which was finally adopted.

20 September 2001

- Application for Membership of Ken Burger and Donald Martin were read and approved.
- The Adjutant reported that a letter requesting seven M1 rifles and blank ammunition was forwarded to MCL National Headquarters.
- The Commandant asked for and receive permission to write a letter of support to the Commanding Officer of the I&I Staff offering our full support in all activities he deems appropriate for our participation, should mobilization of units take place.

18 October 2001

- Mitchell Harrington, currently a Department member-at-Large, was introduced as a new member of the Detachment.
- Joseph P. Dowd Detachment in Beaufort no longer exists. National Headquarters has been requested to suspend their charter due to inactivity.

- All were requested to bring canned goods to the next meeting so we can contribute to a Thanksgiving food basket for a needy family.

15 November 2001

- The Annual Charleston Veterans Day Parade was held on 11 November. The Detachment participated as part of the overall Marine Corps contingent that consisted of a platoon of Marines in dress blues, the Low Country Detachment Young Marines Unit and our Detachment.
- Due to the departure of Tom Chandler, a replacement was elected. Plowden Dickson is the new Sergeant-At-Arms.
- It was decided, due to cost involved, to purchase MCL covers without the embroidery, then have that done locally.

19 January 2002

- Application for Membership of Kevin Dickson was presented and approved.
- The Detachment will participate in the Massing of the Colors since we now have organizational colors.
- We have been approved to receive seven M1 ceremonial rifles subject to meeting weapons security criteria. The Marine Corps Reserve I&I Staff Commanding Officer has consented to allow the Detachment to store the rifles in the reserve armory. We will go forward with the acquisition of the ceremonial rifles.

21 February 2002

- The Young Marines Unit is going strong. Regular drills are being held for the graduates of last year's boot camp. The 2nd Boot Camp commenced on 15 February and will run through May. Sixty new recruits started boot camp.
- The Adjutant and the Commandant are working on the requirements to acquire the rifles from the U.S. Army.
- The four-man color guard for the Massing of Colors ceremony was been formed. It will consist of Plowden and Kevin Dickson, Drew Nicholson, and JT Thomas. John Tharp and Commandant Palmer will serve as supernumeraries.
- Bill Boyd was presented his Life Membership gold card and pin.

21 March 2002

- All requirements to acquire the rifles from the U.S. Army have been completed, the requirements package mailed and verification that the package is in the hands of the U.S. Army has been received.

18 April 2002

- Department of South Carolina Commandant Bernard Kelly and his wife attended.
- Commandant Drew Nicholson indicated that our goal of increasing membership should remain high on our list of priorities. Another priority equal to gaining new members is to increase participation of our present membership. He encouraged all present to focus on both of these priorities.
- Department Commandant Bernie Kelley presented the Distinguished Citizens Medal (Bronze) to Ed Bernstein for his long and loyal service to Country, Corps, veterans, League, and Detachment.

16 May 2002

- The Detachment presented leadership medals and certificates to one college ROTC and 26 high school JROTCs.

- The Detachment will provide the guest speaker at the Goose Creek VFW Post 10256 ceremony at Whispering Pines Memorial Gardens Memorial Day Ceremony. The Detachment provides a wreath annually to this ceremony.

18 July 2002

- Membership Applications for Bradley Weaver and Sam Stone were read and approved.
- The June 2002 meeting was the annual Joint Young Marines/Low Country Detachment Annual Picnic; thus, there were no meeting minutes.
- Drew Nicholson and Plowden Dickson were asked by Department Commandant Ed Hammons to the commissioning ceremony of the new Greenville Detachment on 16 August and the Anderson Detachment on 11 September. Plowden will be in charge of the Department Color Guard.
- Visits to veterans at the VA Hospital and in area nursing homes continue to be performed by George Palmer and Ellis Cunningham. For many of the patients we are the only visitors they receive. It is sad but none of the other veteran organizations seem to be doing these visitations.

15 August 2002

- The Detachment had a good turnout at the River Dogs Baseball Game.
- The Detachment will expand the Citadel Navy/Marine Corps ROTC awards from one to three awards; one for the top Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Program (MECP); one for the top Marine Corps option cadet, and one for the top Navy option cadet.

19 September 2002

- Department of South Carolina Commandant, Ed Hammons, attended the monthly meeting.
- New Detachment in Greenwood was commissioned on 29 September.

17 October 2002

- A survey was conducted on membership attendance at meetings. The survey indicated that most members are very interested in the League but due to medical reasons, they do not travel at night. Discussion followed that perhaps we should return to having quarterly dinner meetings or to periodically having breakfast meetings on Saturdays.
- The duties of a Boy Scout Coordinator consist of finding out from local scouting officials which scouts have earned Eagle Scout and presenting the scout a framed Marine Corps League Leadership certificate at the awards ceremony. Bob Nebergall volunteered to be the Detachment's coordinator. The Adjutant was tasked with locating the local scouting coordinator.

21 November 2002

- A letter from the Department Commandant was read encouraging all Detachments to donate funds to the Low Country Young Marines Program. A motion was made and approved to donate \$100 to the Young Marines.

16 January 2003

- The Detachment received correspondence from the US Army that our request for the ceremonial rifles has been approved and we should be receiving the rifles in the near future.
- A motion was made and approved to hold the February meeting at the Old Country Buffet on Rivers Avenue at 2:00 pm.

15 February 2003

- There is a potential for the local reserve company to be mobilized. The I&I Staff should be made aware of the Detachment's capacity to assist if the company is mobilized.
- The movement of meetings to Saturday afternoon seems to have worked as the attendance was very good. A motion was made and approved to also hold the March meeting at the Old Country Buffet.
- Plowden Dickson and George Palmer will provide color guard for commissioning of new Rock Hill Detachment on 22 February.

15 March 2003

- A letter was received from the Military Order of the World Wars thanking the Detachment for participating in the Massing of the Colors Ceremony. Our Color Guard took part in the ceremony and the letter commented that they looked sharp and professional. Our Detachment's Young Marines color guard also participated, as well as color guards from the Marine Corps Reserve Landing Support Company, Carvers Bay High School Marine Corps Junior ROTC Unit, and the Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Program and Marines from the Citadel's Navy-Marine Corps ROTC Unit. The guest speaker was Major General John Grenalds USMC (Retired), President of the Citadel. The Marine Corps was well represented at the Ceremony.
- Sr Vice Commandant John Tharp attended the South East Division Conference at Myrtle Beach. He reported that speakers stressed protecting your family by making a will. Also presented was information on Detachment participation in the Marine for Life Program, which helps newly discharged Marines to transition to civilian life; and the Marine Corps Youth Foundation, which encourages physical fitness in our nation's schools. Information on the Marine Corps Museum of the Carolinas was presented.
- The ceremonial rifles have been received and the rifles were used for the first time at the Massing of the Colors ceremony. We now need to order blank ammunition and clips and rifle slings. We seem to have the Detachment Color Guard pretty well under control. We must now concentrate on burial detail procedures.

12 April 2003

- Guests included Department Senior Vice Commandant John Kovalcik, Department Judge Advocate Bernie Kelly and Marine Chuck Tidwell of the Grand Strand Detachment.
- Associate Membership Application of Chief Petty Officer Rocco Youmans (USN Retired) was read and approved.
- Department Commandant Ed Hammons has been working very hard to grow the number of detachments in the Department. As a result of his heavy schedule, he has become ill. A motion was made and approved to send him flowers.

10 May 2003

- Riverfront Marines Detachment #1132 will be commissioned in North Augusta on 17 May 2003. Blueridge Marine Detachment #1131 will be commissioned on 31 May 2003 in Seneca. A color guard will be needed.
- A motion was made and approved to purchase a New Detachment Banner.
- Plowden Dickson volunteered to take over the task of editing the Newsletter. Judy Avinger has done a great job, but her life is too full now.

14 June 2003

- The Young Marine unit has begun its next boot camp. The new recruits are doing very well and will graduate on 1 August. The Young Marine unit held a promotion ceremony for the current members in

which Chris Albright was promoted to Gunnery Sergeant. A Young Marine was promoted to Corporal and eleven others to Lance Corporal.

- Department Commandant has targeted areas for forming more new detachments. Target areas include Orangeburg and Walterboro. Our Detachment will be asked to assist.
- The Detachment made \$529.66 and the Department made \$234.87 by hosting the 2003 Department Convention. A motion was made and approved to close out the convention account and move the \$529.66 into the general account. The Adjutant/Paymaster requested an audit be conducted in the immediate future.
- A motion was made and approved to allocate \$100 to purchase slings for the Ceremonial Rifles.
- A motion was made and approved to purchase 25 Department Level Meritorious Unit Commendation awards for issue to members.

19 July 2003

- It was reported that the Department has finally succeeded in getting the South Carolina MCL license plate approved.
- Due to the success of the Department's 2003 Convention, the Department Commandant has officially asked Detachment 803 to host the 2004 Convention. George Palmer and Bob Mastrion consented to do it again in Beaufort.

18 September 2003

- Membership Applications were presented and approved for Eric Malinowski, Michael Brewer, Joseph Kennedy, Dan Reule, and Jacob Mintz.
- The Department Commandant announced (at the Quarterly meeting) that Low Country Detachment has volunteered to again host the Department Convention at Beaufort. He encouraged all detachments to support the host detachment by taking out a \$100 ad in the Convention Journal.
- The Detachment hosted a picnic for the Young Marines immediately after the graduation ceremony which fed over 200 personnel. The Commandant collected many names of potential members to which the Adjutant sent applications.
- New Detachment formed in West Columbia.
- It was suggested that we start a program what will solicit information from Detachment members to document their Marine Corps experiences. There is a lot of history that is lost because no one asked.

18 October 2003

- Membership Application of Marj Drolshagen was received and approved.
- The Young Marines participated in a "Scared Straight" at the Charleston County Jail. They will have their own Birthday Ball at the Naval Weapons Station Community Center.
- \$5 of the purchase cost for each MCL license plate will go to the Young Marines detachments within the Department. Currently there are two detachments.
- The VA Hospital Stand Down fed 1,321 people. Medical services were provided and clothing distributed.

20 November 2003

- Sr Vice Commandant Plowden Dickson introduced Jim Hourner who will assist Plowden in the project to interview Detachment members about their experiences in the Marine Corps. They will begin with the WWII Marines and work forward. If you wish to be interviewed, contact Plowden.

- A new detachment has been chartered in Camden as the Kershaw County Leathernecks Detachment #1146. Beaufort's Yellow Footprints Detachment will be chartered before Christmas. A detachment is in the process of forming in Gafney.
- The Marine for Life Program was initiated to assist Marines returning to civilian life to make the transition. A program facilitator is now in the Charleston area to set up the program which, when up and running, will be turned over to the I&I Staff. A briefing by the facilitator for the detachment will be scheduled.
- Commandant Tharp again stated his desire that the Detachment attend a sports event similar to the RiverDogs baseball game we did last year. Eric Malinowski volunteered to look into a Charleston Low Gators basketball game.

15 January 2004

- The Detachment has again been invited to participate in the annual Memorial Day ceremony at Whispering Pines Cemetery, and also at Mount Pleasant Memorial Gardens.
- The Detachment was also invited to again participate in the Massing of the Colors on March 7.
- The Detachment's Young Marines Program will participate in the chartering ceremony of the Yellow Footprints Detachment at Parris Island on 31 January.

21 February 2004

- Membership Application of Ralph Draper was received and approved.
- Burial Detail practice was conducted. The Commandant, George Palmer and Bob Mastrion participated.

20 March 2004

- Membership Applications for Ed Barrow and Dan Ryan were received and approved.
- The Southeast Division Conference was held in Birmingham, Alabama. The Detachment again took second place in VAVS support for detachments with membership under 100 members. Commandant Tharp encouraged all to seriously read the League's quarterly magazine to stay up on programs and issues such as the Marine for Life program.
- Plans are going well for the 2004 Department Convention in Beaufort. George Palmer and Bob Mastrion are making frequent trips to Beaufort to see that all goes well. There will not be a graduation the Friday of the Convention, so instead plans are underway to schedule a dual chartering ceremony for the newest detachment from Chester and Lancaster.

15 April 2004

- Membership Application from Franklen Manning was received and approved.
- The Young Marines unit will be at Parris Island during the Convention, and hopes to set up an observance of their training events. The Young Marines staff is stretched beyond its capacities due to deployment of staff members to Iraq. Commandant Tharp agreed to fill in and when he gets some experience, he will seek additional volunteers.

15 May 2004

- Patient visits to the VA Hospital continue to be performed by Ellis Cunningham and George Palmer. Ellis, who will soon be 84, has accumulated 881 volunteer hours, and George Palmer has accumulated 540 volunteer hours.
- The Paymaster reported that we should get a substantial profit from this year's Department Convention. We will not host a convention for many, many years because we now have 18 detachments with more forming. We have to find another source of revenue. The paymaster noted that Tony Margiotta

volunteered to run a pilot program to sell Marine Corps/military related items with the profits going to the Detachment. These items would not be purchased from MCL National Headquarters. A motion was made and approved to allocate \$200 to this pilot program.

19 June 2004

- Convention was a social and financial success. When all expenses were paid, including giving the Department \$463, the Detachment had a profit of over \$2000.
- Thirty-eight Leadership awards were given.

17 July 2004

- Membership Application for John Flynn was presented and approved. Tom Garrett transferred to Low Country Detachment from Member at Large.

21 August 2004

- The RiverDogs baseball outing for the residents of the VA Nursing Home has been reschedule for 31 August. All are invited to attend.
- The Detachment will participate in the 11 September Patriots Day Parade in Florence.

18 September 2004

- The Grenade Plaque fund-raising campaign is a great success. In addition to the \$104 profit previously reported, Tony Margiotta has reported another \$159 profit for the detachment.
- We should all take advantage of every opportunity we have of spreading the word of the Marine Corps. In doing so, you could be instrumental in an individual's decision in selecting the service in which to enlist.

16 October 2004

- Membership Application for Scott M. Mongillo was presented and approved.
- Plowden Dickson reported he is restarting the Detachment's oral history program. He introduced Lori Livingston who is the Patriots Point Historian. She will be assistant Plowden in documenting the military experiences of our Marines.
- George Palmer reported that the Detachment provided fruit, cheese and cookie trays to the homecoming gathering at the Reserve Center for Company C on Sunday. About 400 people attended. The Detachment also provided beverages for the homecoming picnic.
- John Tharp's Wooden Marine sales have added \$80 to the Detachment's bank book.

13 November 2004

- The Reserve Company will be holding various events and has invited the Detachment to participate. A schedule of events was handed out to attendees. Events include a golf tournament and a motion was made and approved for the Detachment to sponsor a "hole" for \$50.
- The Department Convention is scheduled to be held at Parris Island. The Department Commandant had asked detachments to donate \$100 to the host detachment for seed money. Motion was made and approved to donate \$100 to the Yellow Footprints Detachment.

22 January 2005

- Membership Application from Shawn Angelo was presented and approved.
- The Detachment will again participate in the Massing of the Colors. John Tharp, George Palmer, Scott Angelo and JT Thomas will be the Color Guard. Bob Mastrion will be the alternate.

- The American Legion Post on Folly Road will dedicate a wall at their post to Captain Shane Childress USMC who was killed in action in Iraq. Captain Childress was presented the Detachment's Leadership Award when he was a senior at the Citadel three years ago.

19 February 2005

- The Toys for Tot program was a great success this year with over 30,000 toys acquired and distributed.
- Commandant Tharp noted that today, 19 February, was the 60th anniversary of the Marines landing on Iwo Jima. Ellis Cunningham made that landing and all attending recognized him for his service in three wars.

19 March 2005

- Tony Margiotta and Bob Mastrion took part in a ceremony at the Charleston Military Museum in which US Senator Lindsey Graham presented the Purple Heart to the daughter of a sailor who death was reclassified from "death by accident" to "killed in action."
- Those who have served in the armed forces between 1945 and 1991 are eligible to receive the Cold War Certificate.
- Broad River Leathernecks will be chartered on April 30 in Gaffney.

23 April 2005

- Southeast Division Commandant John Kovalcik presided over the installation of Detachment Officers.

14 May 2005

- The weekly patient visits to the VA Hospital continue to be performed by Ellis Cunningham and George Palmer. Bill Boyd has joined them as a VA volunteer.
- Memorial Day ceremonies will be held at the VA Hospital, Plantation Memorial Gardens, Mount Pleasant Memorial Gardens, and Goose Creek VFW at Whispering Pines Memorial Gardens.

18 June 2005

- Membership Application of Shaun Doherty was received and approved.
- Young Marines boot camp graduation was held on 4 June. The Detachment sponsored a cookout for this event.
- The Detachment will host the 2007 Department Convention.

1 July 2005

- The Detachment sponsored an outing of the VA Hospital Nursing Home Unit residents to a Charleston RiverDogs baseball game. Six residents and as many hospital staff members attended.
- Olin Skipper will be awarded a medal from the people of South Korea to honor the 50th anniversary of the end of the Korean War.

20 August 2005

- The Young Marines Detachment will hold a uniform inspection on 27 August and all are welcome to observe this event.
- The Detachment received a request from the Truck Platoon, H&S Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines in Iraq for health and comfort items. A motion was made and approved to provide the items. George Palmer volunteered to head up this project as he was the 1st Sergeant of this Company.

17 September 2005

- MCL license plates are still available at local DMV offices. To purchase this plate, you need an MCL membership card.

15 October 2005

- The Young Marines Birthday Ball will be held on 29 October. They will march in the Charleston Veterans Day Parade.
- The Detachment will participate in the USMCR Birthday Ball, the Charleston Veterans Day Parade, the Moncks Corner Veterans Day Parade, the Hanahan Christmas Parade, and the Charleston and Moncks Corner Christmas Parades.
- The Bennettsville Detachment will be chartered soon. With so many Detachments and Marines now in South Carolina the Department Commandant has separated the state into three districts with a Vice Commandant assisting him in each district.

12 November 2005

- It was suggested that the Detachment participate in a program to purchase tricycles for handicapped children. Discussion was tabled until we have more information.
- The Department's 24th Detachment will be chartered in Bennettsville on 17 November.

21 January 2006

- Membership Application for Bill Kroelinger was received and approved.
- Toys for Tots campaign was completed with approximately 44,000 toys and \$32,000 collected for the Charleston area.

18 February 2006

- The annual ROTC and JROTC Leadership Awards program is ongoing. We will present 24 awards this year.

18 March 2006

- Membership Application for Tom Guest was received and approved.
- The Aiken Young Marines was chartered on board the USS Yorktown on 15 April. MGen Livingston (Medal of Honor Recipient) was the guest speaker. There are now units in Aiken, Charleston, Beaufort, Greenville, and Augusta.
- A discussion at the Southeast Division resulted in a consensus that annual dues should be raised to \$30. After some discussion, the Detachment voted to keep the dues at \$25.
- The Detachment participated at the Massing of the Colors. This event includes color guards from just about every organization in the area, from Girl Scouts to Veteran Groups. It is a very impressive event.

22 April 2006

- The Department of SC Department Vice Commandant Herb Bailey presided at the Detachment Officers Installation Ceremony.
- Membership Applications from Mike Constanzo and Nathan Mizzell were received and approved.
- The VA Hospital Annual Stand Down was a success. One thousand needy people were served by the Stand Down personnel.
- The Detachment is hosting residents of the VA Nursing Home Unit at a ball game on 23 April.

20 May 2006

- Fund Raising efforts to date, the grenade plaque sales have netted \$546.85, the Wooden Marines have added \$300, and the ink recycling program has brought in \$59.59.
- The Low Country Detachment has been invited to participate in two wreath layings: Whispering Pines and Plantation Memorial Gardens.

17 June 2006

- The Detachment approved participation in the Veterans Day Parades in Moncks Corner and Charleston.
- Alva Moore was key man for the Department Commandant in establishing a new Detachment in Orangeburg. The request for a Charter has been submitted up the chain of command and we are awaiting the approval of the Charter request. A well done to Alva Moore.
- Mary & Joe Cambio's daughter desires to purchase a handicap tricycle for later donation. The cost is between \$200-\$300. George Palmer volunteered to get the information from Lane Parker. It was suggested that when we have the information the Detachment consider making a similar donation.
- Ed Hammonds resigned as State Commandant. Kim Dewey is serving as acting Commandant until the election in June.

15 July 2006

- Commandant Tharp reported that Gunnery Sergeant Kathy Brennan, a Detachment member, and head of the Detachment's Young Marines unit may be deploying to Iraq. This will require more volunteers from the Detachment to fill this void.
- Commandant Tharp raised the issue of moving the Detachment's future meetings to the Fleet Reserve Association's new facility in Goose Creek. Food and beverages are available. It could be ready in August, but will definitely be ready in September of 2006. The move was approved.

19 August 2006

- Department Senior Vice Commandant, Gene Wilbur, visited the meeting.
- Membership Application of William Arnold Scharnitzky was received and approved.
- Commandant Tharp, George Palmer and Bob Nebergall will participate in the Pee Dee Patriotic Parade on 9 September.
- Company C, 4th Landing Support Battalion will move from its current location off Remount Road to the Naval Weapons Station-South, also off Remount Road.
- Information concerning the Hot Track 5-wheel handicap tricycle was presented. Cost per bike is \$167, plus shipping. A \$20 helmet should also be presented. A Release from Liability waiver must be signed by the family.

September 2006

- VA Hospital Stand Down will be held 26-27 October at the old National Guard Armory in North Charleston. Clothing and health/comfort items will be distributed to homeless veterans and others at the Stand Down. Medical facilities will be set up and made available to the veterans.
- Meetings will now be held at the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA). The address is 999 Wisteria Rd in Goose Creek. This will really give us a chance to have a lot more room. The FRA has a kitchen and bar. They have steaks on the menu on Saturdays.

21 October 2006

- George Palmer, Ellis Cunningham, and Bill Boyd continue to make weekly patient visits to the VA Hospital.

- Joe Cambio's daughter donated \$250 to purchase a Hot Trike for a handicapped child. The Girl Scouts will also purchase one. A motion was made and approved for the Detachment to also purchase a Hot Trike.

18 November 2006

- Membership applications of Peri Lyn Johnson, Bill Nugent and Alex Barrow were presented and approved.
- George Palmer reported that over 400 veterans and 1,150 non-veterans received medical treatment, food and clothing at the VA Hospital Stand Down. There were 185 volunteers who put in a total of 1,061 hours running this event.
- The FRA also purchased a Hot Trike. This, plus the three trikes last month, will be presented to the Fragile Children's Clinic for presentation in December.
- George Thiebaud was nominated and selected to serve as 3rd Year Trustee. The position had been vacant with the passing of Joe Cambio.
- The Toys for Tots Motorcycle Rally will be held Nov 19 at the North Charleston Coliseum. We will again be helping with the registration and getting toys from the participants.
- We are still getting positive feedback about moving our meetings to the new FRA facility. The banquet room where we held our meeting was spacious and comfortable. The room is separate from the bar and the kitchen and banquet room are all on separate ventilation systems. The dinner was delicious.

20 January 2007

- Membership application for Mathew Leaird was received and approved.
- The Bylaws Committee is reviewing the National, Department and Detachment bylaws and recommending the necessary changes to realign the three.

17 February 2007

- The Annual Massing of the Colors Ceremony will take place at the Citadel's Summerall Chapel. The Detachment Color Guard for this event will be John Tharp, George Palmer, Bill Dempsey and George Thiebaud, with Ellis Cunningham as an alternate.

17 March 2007

- The Detachment will host residents of the VA Nursing Home Unit to a RiverDogs baseball game in April.
- The Young Marines program went inactive when Gunnery Sergeant Catherine Brennan retired. The Detachment expressed a desire to reactive this program. Commandant Tharp is seeking volunteers.

20 April 2007

- The Detachment wreath used for ceremonies needs replacement. Purchase of a new wreath was approved.
- The Sumter Detachment is planning a trip to the Marine Corps Heritage Museum at Quantico on 18 May. The Myrtle Beach Detachment is doing likewise on 7 June. Bus space is available for both trips.

19 May 2007

- At the meeting, the Detachment presented a Hot Trike to the Montes family who was selected by the Dorchester Board for Fragile Children. Another trike was presented to a child recommended by Medical University Fragile Child Clinic. The Detachment, in conjunction with the Fragile Children's Clinic are still in the process of selecting recipients of the remaining Hot Trike.
- Dates and times of the various Memorial Day celebrations were reported. Volunteers were assigned to cover the events at Plantation Memorial Gardens, Whispering Pines Memorial Gardens, Mount Pleasant Memorial Gardens, and the VA Hospital.

June 2007

- There was no June 2007 meeting due to the Detachment's hosting of the Department Convention.

21 July 2007

- Vince Johnson reported that a group of 16-18 British Royal Marine and Navy veterans from WWII will visit the Charleston area 5-15 November. It was agreed that this group would accompany the Detachment in the 11 November Charleston Veterans Day Parade.
- The Department Convention was held in June at the Sheraton in North Charleston. The Adjutant reported that the Convention was a success. All events ran smoothly and on schedule. Attendees' comments indicated that the facility and banquet were superb. However, financial computations reflected that the Detachment lost \$206.35 overall.
- The Detachment's Young Marines Unit will start up in October 2007. Volunteers from the Detachment are needed.

18 August 2007

- The SC Department made a donation to a Charleston area Marine veteran of the First Gulf War who is very ill and awaiting a VA settlement. The request for assistance came through the Governor's Veterans Affairs Office. A motion was made and approved to donate \$100 to help.

22 September 2007

- Membership application for John Wallace was reviewed and accepted.
- Weekly patient visits at the VA Hospital continue to be performed by Ellis Cunningham, Bill Boyd, George Thiebaud and George Palmer.
- The Young Marine Program is still in the works with the Reserve Center. Due to the Toys for Tots campaign starting the next few weeks, the Reserve Center will not have time or personnel to start the program. But this is an ideal time to advertise. After the first of the year we may be able to begin the program again.

20 October 2007

- The joint MCL/Purple Hearts picnic was a huge success. A joint picnic is more efficient and there is less leftover food.
- A motion was made and approved to donate \$250 to the British Veterans to host their going home banquet.
- The Veterans' Hospital will be conducting the annual Stand Down on Nov 1-2 at the Armory in North Charleston. The Detachment will be handling registration again this year.

17 November 2007

- As in past years, in addition to area veterans, many of the less fortunate area residents were given medical treatment food and clothing. A total in excess of 1,600 people were served during the Stand Down this year.
- Bill Boyd volunteered to chair the Leadership Medal Program.
- The Toys for Tots drive has started. One of the big events will be the Law Riders motorcycle ride on Nov 18. This event will start at the North Charleston Coliseum with the Marine Corps League assisting with the registration and toy pickup from riders.

January 2008

- Toys for Tots campaign finished with a grand total of 34,000 toys collected.
- Family members and several members from the Detachment said goodbye to 27 members of the Reserve Unit on January 7. The Marines were transported to Camp Lejeune where they will receive pre-deployment training. They will deploy in March. The Detachment approved supporting this deployment in any manner requested by the I&I Staff. As soon as they arrive in Iraq the address will be distributed so all members of the Detachment can keep in touch with them during this deployment.
- Detachment members participated in Veterans Day programs where veterans talk to 6th grade middle school children about what it means to be a veteran and what contributions veterans have made in protecting and spreading democracy in the world.
- Operation Rudolph, a program which purchases or collects donations of health and comfort items and ships them to Marines serving in combat zones, was a large success. Three semi-trailer loads of this material were loaded on ships in Charleston and sent to the Middle East.
- The Detachment approved donating the Detachment's 50/50 proceeds to Operation Cookie Drop. OCD is a program where individuals and organizations purchase Girl Scout Cookies and the Girl Scouts of America will ship the cookies to service members overseas.
- Peri Lynn Johnson is in the process of certifying as a VA Hospital Volunteer. She will replace Ellis Cunningham as a patient visitor. Ellis will be assigned a position that does not require moving among the patient rooms. After surviving three wars and spending eighty plus years on earth, he deserves to sit down. The Detachment has accumulated 312 volunteer hours at the VA Hospital.

February 2008

- The MCL has organized a Disaster Volunteer Program in which Marines who can donate time and skills required in disaster situations. Volunteers will deploy as an MCL unit to areas where disaster has struck and assist MCL members and other who have been affected by the disaster.
- The Hammons Detachment will be hosting a \$50 a plate dinner to honor Lance Corporal Matthew Dillon who was killed in Iraq in 2006. Money will be donated to area veteran support organizations.

15 March 2008

- Five members attended the Massing of the Colors at the Citadel. Thirty-nine separate color guards were in attendance at this year's event. Medal of Honor Recipient Major General Livingston was the guest speaker and gave an excellent speech.

19 April 2008

- The Moving Vietnam Wall will be at the Charleston Coliseum October 26-30.

17 May 2008

- The annual Detachment Picnic will be held in conjunction with the local Military Order of the Purple Hearts at the Air Base Picnic Area.
- The Leadership Program presented 27 Leadership Medal Awards.
- The Detachment will participate in the following Memorial Day Ceremonies: VA Hospital, Whispering Pines Cemetery, Plantation Memorial Gardens.

17 June 2008

- A letter soliciting the Detachment's participation in the Moncks Corner Memorial Day Parade. A motion was made and approved that the Detachment would not participate in this parade.

July 2008

- Meeting held at home of George & Vilma Thiebaud as going away party for Department Junior Vice Commandant & member of Det 803, Peri Johnson.
- New members Paul Decker, William Kofron, and Jonathan Row were obligated into the League.

16 August 2008

- The Detachment was asked to participate in a scattering of ashes ceremony for former DI Edgar Toney. The ceremony, which included a Marine Bugler sounding taps, was held at Edisto Beach on 15 August. The Detachment was well represented.
- Paymaster George Thiebaud suggested that the Detachment consider holding a fundraising event in the near future.
- An alert published in the Semper Fidelis Memorandum for Retired Marines was included in the meeting handouts. The alert reports that if you lived on the Base at Camp Lejeune before 1987 you and your family could have been exposed to contaminated water. Contact information was provided.
- Information on Agent Orange exposure by Vietnam veterans was included in the meeting handouts. You are never free from the lingering effects of the exposure which has been linked to diseases ranging from Type 2 diabetes, to soft tissue cancer, to birth defects in veterans' children.

20 September 2008

- Detachment Chaplain, Jason Wallace, has been invited to record a 30-minute talk show on 100.9 FM. This is an excellent opportunity for the Marine Corps League to get publicity.
- Due to the passing of Senior Vice Commandant Ralph Draper, Jr Vice Commandant Vince Johnson moved to the vacant billet. The Detachment then elected Bill Kofron as the new Junior Vice Commandant.

October 2008 – (No meeting.)

- The moving Wall was placed at the North Charleston Coliseum Parking, Lot B. Thanks to the volunteers who acted as guides for visitors to the Wall. The Detachment manned four of the thirteen 4-hour watches.

15 November 2008

- Membership application for Kathryn Nicoli was received and approved.
- A motion was made and approved to donate \$100 to support the Annual Christmas Tree of Lights Program in Quantico.
- The Royal Navy Association will be in the Charleston area for the 2010 Charleston Veterans Day Parade. After discussion, a committee of Vince Johnson, George Palmer and Bill Boyd will coordinate the RNA's participation in the parade.
- The VA Hospital Stand Down was held at the Old North Charleston Armory. Detachment volunteers reported that medical and dental services were provided to an estimated 1,200 people. Food and clothing were also provided.

December 2008 – (No meeting.)

January 2009

- The Toys for Tots drive netted over 40,000 toys donated in the Low Country area.
- The Royal Marines will again visit in February/March. They will participate in the Massing of the Colors and they will also attend the MCL Southeast Division Conference in Gatlinburg, TN.

- Membership application for Vanderbilt Evans, Sr. was received and approved.
- The Adjutant read a letter requesting participation in the 18 January memorial service and burial of a WWII Marine Corps fighter pilot who was KIA in January 1944 and recently recovered. Commandant Tharp encouraged maximum Detachment participation to honor a fallen brother.

21 February 2009

- The Department Commandant has confirmed that the Low Country Detachment will host the 2010 Department Convention in Charleston. Planning has begun.
- The British Marines attended the full Southeast Convention. They were very impressed with the Marine Corps League and the comradery that we share with all former Marines. The National Commandant suggested that the Low Country Detachment sign them up as Associate members. A motion was made and approved to allocate \$150 to provide the six Royal Marines Associate membership.

21 March 2009

- Membership applications for Michael Hale and Kevin Suggs were reviewed and approved. Sherman Thompson transferred his membership from Florida to the Lowcountry Detachment.
- The Massing of the Colors will be cancelled due to severe weather forecast.

18 April 2009

- Jason Wallace continues to do a radio broadcast on 100.9 FM. He is soliciting useful information concerning MCL events and activities.
- There will be an Honor Run beginning in August. This event will begin in Washington DC and finish in California. This is to help raise funds to build a Fisher House on Camp Pendleton. A Fisher House is a place where families can live while the wounded warriors are recovering.

16 May 2009

- No meeting due to lack of a quorum.

20 June 2009

- Commandant Tharp presented the WWII Medallion to Alva Moore, Ellis Cunningham and Charles Payne.
- Marine/Reverend Vanderbilt Evans, Sr. announced that there is a movement to open a veteran's shelter in North Charleston. The Commandant signed a letter acknowledging the Detachment's support for the Emma Irene Davis Veterans Center.

18 July 2009

- The Medal of Honor Society will hold a reunion in Charleston in September 2010 and the Society will be seeking volunteers to assist in the planning and running of the Reunion. All living Medal of Honor Recipients will be here in Charleston for the week-long event.
- Surveys were sent out by letter and email for ideas of when/where we will be meeting in the future. Only six of these have been received. We really need to move to a larger location so we can increase our membership.
- Due to the relocation of the Marine Corps Reserve Center, the Detachment must inform the US Army Tank-Automotive Command on the location of the ceremonial rifles.

15 August 2009

- The Detachment, along with the VA Hospital, took six of the veterans from the VA Hospital to a Riverdogs game on Sunday, August 2. The veterans had a good time with dinner at the game, however, rain cancelled the game.
- The Detachment will participate in the Florence Patriotic Parade on Sept 12, and in the Charleston Veterans' Day Parade on Nov 9.
- On a trial basis, the Detachment meetings will be held on Thursday evenings at 1930 at the Fleet Reserve Facility. The first Thursday evening meeting will be on 24 Sept 2009.
- There is an opening on the Marine Corps League National Board for Uniforms. If you are interested in serving the League in this capacity, contact Commandant Tharp.

September 2009

- No meeting due to lack of a quorum.

22 October 2009

- The Charleston VA Medical Center sponsored a "Welcome Home" for all veterans on Sept 30 at the Yorktown at Patriots Point. The Detachment (George Palmer, George Thiebaud, and John Tharp) manned the check-in table on the pier. They passed out over 50 League cards and registration forms to Marines from the local area who were attending the job fair. This event was open to all veterans and their families, featured a job fair with employers on site, a health fair, and expert advice and enrollment for veteran health care and benefits. This also gave us an opportunity to conduct a membership drive at the same time.
- The Camp Lejeune Water Study has been completed and published. The report listed those diseases and conditions that can be the result of the chemically contaminated drinking water and those which cannot. For more information contact the Adjutant.
- The VA Stand Down for the Homeless will be on October 29-30 at Armory Park, North Charleston. The Marine Corps League is assigned the registration table. George Palmer, George Thiebaud, John Tharp, Vince Johnson, Bill Boyd, and Bob Mastrion represented the Detachment.
- Membership application from Tom Quintel was received and approved.
- The agenda for the Royal Navy Association visit was announced. They will be at the Fleet Reserve Association on Tuesday, Nov 3 for an informal welcome dinner. They will participate in the Charleston Veterans Day Parade. They will attend the Marine Corps Ball in Columbia, and the North Charleston Veterans' Day celebration at the old Navy Base waterfront park.
- MCL National announced a new requirement that specifies the sponsor of a new member must view the DD-214 of the applicant. This is a permanent requirement.

November/December 2009

- No meeting since Thanksgiving falls on the 3rd Thursday of the month. We will back up the meeting one week to Thursday, Dec 3, at the Fleet Reserve in Goose Creek. This will not be a "meeting." It will be a Christmas Party so please bring a small "gag" gift for the gift exchange. Also, bring your favorite Christmas desert.

28 January 2010

- Weekly patient visits to the VA Hospital continue to be performed by Bill Boyd, George Thiebaud, and George Palmer.

- Detachment meetings will be held on Thursday evening at 1900 on the first and last month of each quarter. At the middle month of each quarter, the meetings will be at 1000 on Saturdays; lunch will follow the meetings. All meetings will be held at the Fleet Reserve Facility in Goose Creek.
- The Toys for Tots program was very successful; distributing over 40,000 toys to needy children.

20 February 2010

- It was suggested that the Detachment advertise our meetings in the newsletter of various veteran organizations. After discussion a motion was made and approved to allocate \$50 toward advertising in the James Island American Legion Post Newsletter.
- The British Royal Marines will visit beginning 2 June, which coincides with the Department Convention. Will this visit be rolled into some of the Convention activities?

25 March 2010

- The Detachment participated in the Massing of the Colors.
- Membership application of Jim Leard was presented and approved.
- Members of the Detachment attended the "Valentines for Veterans Concert" at the Citadel on 12 March. This concert starred Country Singer Aaron Tippin, and was sponsored by the VA Medical Center. He assembled a bicycle on stage and presented it to Gunnery Sergeant Jackson, the Toys for Tots Coordinator. The bicycle will be given to a deserving child in the Low Country.

22 April 2010

- Department Commandant Gene Wilbur installed the newly elected and appointed Detachment officers.
- The Southeast Division Conference was held in Mobile, AL. Vince Johnson represented the Detachment. Vince brought a small group of British Royal Marines to the conference. At the conference they discovered another group of Royal Marines. It appears that Royal Marine presence at the conference has morphed into a tradition. The focus of the conference was department and detachment support of the Wounded Warrior program and community activities.

22 May 2010

- The 16th Annual State Convention will be held in Charleston on June 4-6. We are the hosting unit so we need to have a very good showing for this event. We need volunteers to help with registration.
- The 3rd Marine Division will be holding their National Convention in Charleston on 4-8 August. The Lowcountry Detachment MCL will be assisting with the registration.
- The Medal of Honor Society will hold a reunion in Charleston in September. The Department Commandant has asked the Detachment to assume responsibility for coordinating the events that will be held on board the USS Yorktown. Coordination in progress.

24 June 2010

- Commandant Tharp thanked everyone for their work on the recent Department Convention. Special thanks to Bob Mastrion & George Thiebaud for keeping track of our budget & registration; George Palmer & Jim Leard for helping wherever needed; Vince Johnson for arranging transportation to the ball game. Registration, Hospitality Suite and raffles all went smoothly. Everyone had such a good time, and asked that we should host another convention.
- The Medal of Honor Society reunion will be held in Charleston in September. The Detachment will be responsible for crowd control of those who wish to have the MOH recipients sign books, etc.

- Detachment members agreed to sell 11 cases of beer and 2 cases of soda left over from the Department Convention to the 3rd Marine Division Convention for \$131.

22 July, 2010

- Weekly VA Hospital patient visits continue to be performed by George Palmer and Bob Mastrion.

19 August 2010

- 3rd Marine Division National Convention is complete. Marines from across the US enjoyed tours of Charleston, a harbor cruise, USS Yorktown and a graduation at Parris Island. The Detachment manned the registration table and coordinated the hospitality room. Bob Mastrion, George Thiebaud, John Tharp and George Palmer were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a nice shirt from General Nash, President of the Third Marine Division.
- Fifty Marines from three New York Detachments will be going to Parris Island by train on Sept 22. They will tour Parris Island and the Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort. They will also attend a graduation. These Marines want to enjoy a dinner with an MCL detachment before they go back on the train to New York. It has been arranged to have them at the Fleet Reserve Association in Goose Creek for dinner and some southern hospitality.

16 September 2010

- Membership applications for Barry Glass, Roy Goodyear, Brian Rouland, Guy Riccio, Garry Dobson, and Alejandro Colon were received and approved.
- The Detachment participated in the annual Pee Dee Pride Parade in Florence.

28 October 2010

- The VA's annual Welcome Home job fair for returning veterans was held onboard the Yorktown. The Detachment ran the event registration.
- Interim Detachment elections were held to replace officers who can no longer serve.
- A motion was made and approved to sponsor Mr. and Mrs. Suggs to the Birthday Ball. They donated the Adirondack chairs that were raffled at the 2010 Department Convention. If they cannot attend, the offer will be extended to their son who is a Marine in the USMCR.

November 2010 – (No meeting held due to Thanksgiving.)

- The Marine Corps Ball will be held at Charleston Place on Nov 13. This will be a joint ball with "Charlie" Company, 4th Landing Support Battalion, Marine Corps League, the Citadel and the Low Country Leathernecks.
- The Toys for Tots Motorcycle Collection Ride will be at the North Charleston Coliseum on Nov 14. Between 800-1,000 motorcycles attend this Rally annually. The Marine Corps League will assist with the taking of toys from riders during registration.
- The VA Hospital will hold a Memorial Service at the Citadel Chapel for those veterans who have died between November 2009 and November 2010. Major General Jim Livingston USMC (Ret) will be the keynote speaker. The Detachment will provide the Color Guard for the event.

December 2010

- No business conducted due to Christmas party.

27 January 2011

- Membership application for Larry Ward was received and accepted.
- George Palmer reported that the Toys for Tots campaign was a success. 34,047 toys were collected and distributed to underprivileged children and \$32,000 was raised.
- Weekly patient visits at the VA Hospital continue to be performed by George Palmer and Bob Mastrion. Tom Blizard is awaiting final clearance from the VA hospital. Tom will be a van driver and also visit patients.
- To save money, the Detachment's ROTC/JROTC Leadership Medal Program will only serve high schools in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties.

27 February 2011

- Annual Massing of the Colors at the Citadel will take place March 6. Color Guard volunteers are Roy Goodyear, George Palmer, Jim Leard, and Tom Blizard.

24 March 2011

- Membership application for Bill Eckard was received and approved.
- Jr Vice Commandant Roy Goodyear continues to develop a recruiting program that he hopes to complete in the coming weeks.
- We had a Detachment Lunch at Madra Rua Irish Pub last month. Since this was well accepted, we will continue to have a luncheon each month. It's a great way to socialize without a formal meeting and agenda. All Marines are welcome.

April 2011 – No minutes available.

26 May 2011

- George Palmer assisted the Veteran's Hospital taking four of the Veteran's from the VA Hospital to a RiverDogs baseball game. Veterans had a great time with this event.
- The Detachment has been invited to three Memorial Services during the Memorial Day weekend: Whispering Pines, Mount Pleasant, and Fleet Reserve Association. MG Livingston will be the guest speaker at the FRA event.

23 June 2011

- The Department Convention was held in Beaufort. New Department elected officers are: Archie Sweet, Commandant; Don Jones, Senior Vice Commandant; and John Tharp as Junior Vice Commandant.
- Membership application for Paul Gilbert received and approved.
- The combined Birthday Ball is no more. It was too much of a burden to subsidize the high ticket price for the active duty and reserve Marines. Also, the Low Country Leathernecks and Reserve Company were pushed into the background; this did not go over very well with either of them. As it stands at present, on Nov 5, the Citadel ROTC Marines and the Low Country Leathernecks Ball will remain at Charleston Place hosted by the Low Country Leathernecks. The Reserve Company Ball will be held on 12 November and will be run by the I&I Staff and includes the Marine Guards at the Brig, MCECPs from the Citadel and other units in the Charleston area. Our Detachment, as a unit, traditionally attends the Reserve Company Ball. The location and cost of the Reserve Ball is being decided at present. The ticket price for the Reserve Ball should be considerably less than the big combined Ball.
- On Sept 11, there will be a ceremony at the River Front Park in Mount Pleasant, raising the POW/MIA flag for the first time at the park.

28 July 2011

- Membership application from Brian Davis received and approved. Life member, John Hill, transferred to the Detachment.
- The Detachment sponsored a fishing outing for the VA Nursing Home patients on 27 June. Jim Leard volunteered to host the VA Nursing Home residents to see his extensive fish ponds.

25 August 2011

- The Department of SC budget allocated \$400 for JROTC awards. Commandant Tharp will ask for clarification if the \$400 is for JROTC awards or MCL Department awards.

22 September 2011

- The Detachment participated in the Annual Pee Dee Pride Parade, hosted by the MCL Dusenbury Detachment in Florence.
- The Reserve Company Ball will be held on the USS Yorktown. Cost for MCL members will be \$75. After long discussion a motion was made and passed not to attend the Reserve Ball. Some years ago, we attended one there and froze. It was decided to have a Birthday dinner at the FRA facility on Friday 4 November. Price will be \$40 per person.
- Monthly lunches continue to be held at the Madra Rua Irish Pub.

27 October 2011

- Membership application from Wendy Chambers was received and approved.
- The VA Hospital Nursing Home will hold the Annual Memorial Service for residents who have passed away during the year. The Detachment will furnish the Color Guard for the Ceremony.
- A motion was made and approved to donate \$100 to the Star Motorcycle Club to help defray some of the cost for the cookout at the VA Hospital after the Veterans Day Parade.
- Christmas Party will be at Bob and Carol Mastrion's home on 10 December.

November 2011 – (no meeting due to Detachment's Marine Corps Birthday Dinner.)

December 2011 – (no meeting due to holiday.)

26 January 2012

- Membership application for Justin Morris was received and approved.
- Toys for Tots campaign was very successful. Over 38,000 toys were collected and distributed to area children who otherwise would not have a very good Christmas. Additionally, thousands of dollars in donations were collected and sent to Toys for Tots Headquarters in Quantico to be used as seed money for next year. Over 1,200 families were served. Thanks to George Palmer, Tom Blizard and Jim Leard for their time donated.
- George Palmer reported that the Annual VA Hospital Stand Down was a success. Over two days, 3,000+ homeless and under privileged people were provided medical and dental services, fed and provided clothing.

23 February 2012

- Vince Johnson suggested the next Marine Corps Birthday activities include a cruise. The feasibility of a cruise was examined and proved to be possible. Planning will continue.

- The Adjutant pointed out that, as a detachment, we are still obligated to arrange a Birthday Ball for those who are not going on the cruise.

22 March 2012

- Membership application for Danny Mazzell was received and approved.
- The Detachment will host the 2013 Department Convention.
- We now have a new website. It is <http://lowcountrymarines803.com>

26 April 2012

- We now have four members who volunteer at the VA Hospital: Bob Mastrion, George Palmer, Tom Blizard and Gary Dobson. Bob and George also visit the nursing home.
- John Tharp installed the new Detachment officers for 2012/2013.

24 May 2012

- Membership Application from Bill Mellette was presented and approved.
- FRA ballroom as been reserved for Saturday, November 3, for our Marine Corps Cake Cutting. Need to know who is interested in attending.

28 June 2012

- Department Convention was well attended by Detachment members: John (Marilyn) Tharp; George Palmer; Gary Dobson; Tom (Margaret) Blizard; Bob Mastrion. League uniform changes were presented, to include new guidelines for how covers are embroidered.

26 July 2012

- The Detachment is hosting the 2013 Department Convention at the North Charleston Sheraton.

27 September 2012

- We were honored to have with us Mrs. Lucille Cunningham, widow of the late Ellis Cunningham. Mrs. Cunningham recently was honored in Washington DC by the President on behalf of Ellis who was one of the original Montford Point Marines. She shared with us the honors that were bestowed on the Montford Point Marines, especially Ellis' awards. Her talk was very informative and inspired us all. At the end of her talk the Detachment rendered her and her late husband a hand salute.
- Paul Gilbert contacted those members who have not attended for awhile. He let us know that there were many who could no longer come due to poor health.

30 August 2012

- The Paymaster is reviewing our membership rolls in order to be in compliance with National's records. Currently we have 23 unpaid members and 60 inactive. George has a list of these members. A committee was formed to help George contact these members and check their status.
- There was discussion on how to attract new members. It was pointed out that we used to place an ad with the newspapers which was successful. John Tharp said that he would look into this and we will once again place an ad each month.

25 October 2012

- Membership Application for Michael Cortright was received and approved.

- Vince Johnson gave a report on his recent visit with the Royal Marines. He had a great visit and they extended their wishes to our detachment for a Happy Birthday. They will be attending the National Convention in Michigan. Paul Gilbert volunteered to make a plaque to present to them during their visit.
- There will be no regular meetings scheduled in November or December. November will be our Christmas Party on the 29th. There will be the usual lunches held at the Mardra Rua Pub in North Charleston on Nov 19 and Dec 18.
- Tom Blizard reminded us that now is the time to be thinking about our service men and women overseas. Both Tom and Gary Dobson have the list of items needed. Also, there is a request for packages for the K9s, they need love and treats also.

24 January 2013

- Membership applications for Marion Wayne Hall and David Guerin were received and approved.
- Charlie Company, 4th Landing Support Battalion was again in charge of the Toys for Tots program. Members of the Detachment assisted with registration and distribution of toys. Thanks to George Palmer, Jim Leard and Tom Blizard for all the help they provided. This was the best year for the Tri-County area. We ended with 45,272 toys, \$47,935.10 in cash, and 1,846 families were supported. 10,137 children received toys. 46 separate non-profit organizations helped, with 86 separate events conducted throughout the area.
- The Detachment supported two separate cake cutting ceremonies. One was held at the Fleet Reserve, complete with a DJ, good food and friends. The other was held aboard the Carnival Fantasy on a five-day cruise to the Bahamas with six Detachment members & spouses, plus 40 other couples from various detachments around the Southeast. They enjoyed a day in Freeport and one in Nassau.

28 February 2013

- Delegates for the Department Convention were picked: Vince Johnson, Jim Leard, George Palmer, George Thiebaud, John Tharp and Gary Dobson. Marilyn Tharp and Margaret Blizard are working on gift bags for the wives who come to the Ladies Tea at the Convention.

28 March 2013

- Membership applications for Thomas Junkin and John Walter were received and approved.
- The Detachment was invited to set up an information table at the Warhorse Motorcycle Club's Veteran Seminar. The seminar is to inform all Veterans in the area of what is available to them in the way of Veteran's organizations and help.

25 April 2013

- Associate Membership applications for Marilyn Tharp, Margaret Blizard, Marjorie Palmer and Mary Leard were received and approved.

23 May 2013

- A color guard was selected for the Memorial Day Services at Plantation Memorial Gardens.

27 June 2013

- The State Convention was a success, netting \$3,853 profit. Bob Mastrion proposed that \$3,000 go to our primary account and \$800 into the entertainment account. This was accepted. Gary Dobson and Bob Doshier were added to the bank account.
- John Tharp was elected as Department Junior Vice Commandant.

25 July 2013

- Upcoming events for Detachment participation: Veterans Day Parade, Nov 3; Korean War Veterans Recognition Ceremony; VAMC Annual Welcome Home Ceremony, Aug 8; Homeless Stand-Down, Oct 31 & Nov 1; Valentines for Vets, Feb 13.

22 August 2013

- Membership Application from James D. Grant was received and approved.
- The membership discussed opportunities to volunteer for service to Veterans at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center.

26 September 2013

- John Tharp presented an idea for a fund raiser that he learned about at National Convention. Lip Balm (sponsored by the Marines Helping Marines) packaged for donation/cash sale. We buy the lip balm in packages of 100, sell them to host sights such as a bank, and keep the profit. The bank then sets the box of lip balm on the counter for customers to make a donation/buy the lip balm. The bank keeps the money collected, which covers their initial expense.
- Instead of a Birthday Ball this year, we will meet at the FRA, order from the menu, and have a Cake Cutting.

17 October 2013

- There was general discussion concerning the Affordable Care Act.
- All were encouraged to attend Graduation on Nov 15 at Paris Island. Jesse Goodyear, son of a Detachment member, will be graduating.

4 December 2013

- Membership applications for Michael James and Rodney Sager were received and approved.
- Christmas party was held in conjunction with this meeting.
- Monthly luncheon will be at Madra Rua.
- The Detachment participated in the memorial ceremony of Pearl Harbor held on the USS Yorktown.

23 January 2014

- Membership application for Harvey Robinson was received and approved. Associate membership application for Brian Glynn was presented and approved.
- 2014 is the 20th anniversary of the Detachment. A planning committee was formed to plan a recognition event.
- Leadership Awards for 28 local schools will be distributed. A new leadership award was announced from the State. Notification of awardees is to be announced.
- A Leadership training session will be held next month at the regular business meeting.
- A Marine Corps Birthday cruise to the Bahamas was discussed.

27 February 2014

- Membership application for Cherri Sterling was presented and approved.
- The first Professional Development handout was distributed. A discussion and quiz will be conducted at the March meeting.

27 March 2014

- Gary Dobson reported that there is a need for Veterans to visit Hospice Veterans.

- The Department urges every Detachment to begin a Mentoring Program. All prospective regular members will be assigned a mentor prior to their induction. Once he/she is sworn in, their sponsor will immediately assume an active role in assisting the new member with the formal and informal programs of the Detachment.
- Another new program presented by the Department is the Buddy Program. Along with the Mentoring Program we need to develop a system for maintaining contact with Marines who, for a myriad of reasons are having difficulty getting to detachment meetings or other functions.
- On April 17 at Patriots Point there will be a ceremony honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War. Also, on April 19, at Patriots Point, there will be a Ground Breaking Ceremony for the New Vietnam Experience Exhibit.

24 April 2014

- Associate membership application of Bob Sterling was received and approved.
- John Tharp led discussion of the uniform section of the MCL Professional Development program.
- Next Detachment luncheon will be at Sesame in Mt Pleasant.

May 2014 – (no activity of note recorded)

27 June 2014

- Detachment will celebrate our 20th Anniversary at VFW Isle of Palms Post 3137 on July 12.
- Cherri Sterling made prints of the Iwo Jima Memorial and has them for sale. All profits will come to the Detachment.

24 July 2014

- There are fifteen cabins blocked for the November cruise.
- 2015 Department Convention planning continues. The Double Tree Inn has the best room rate of \$119 per night including breakfast
- The Detachment will be the primary Color Guard for the 4th Division reunion.
- Jim Breen was named Detachment Webmaster.

21 August 2014

- Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum will partner with the 1st Marine Division Association during their 67th Annual Reunion to host a meet and greet event with Marines who fought in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. Marines who are members of the Marine Corps League or Low Country Leathernecks will be offered free admission.

September 2014 – (no activity of note recorded)

23 October 2014

- Membership applications from Bruce Selzer and John Bastion were received and approved. Timothy Laturno and Ann Laturno requested transfer to our Detachment.
- The Detachment Birthday Cake Cutting will be on the 8th at the FRA Center. Cocktails will start at 1800, the dinner buffet will be from 1900-2000, the cake cutting will begin at 2000. Cash Bar will be available. Menu choice is Roast Beef or Cornish Game Hen. Tickets are \$30.
- Motion was made and approved to donate \$200 to the Women Marines Association.

November 2014 – (no meeting due to holiday)

December 2014 – (no meeting due to holiday)

22 January 2015

- The Birthday Cruise netted the Detachment a profit of \$1,195.

26 February 2015

- Meeting opened with 18 members and four guests present.
- Membership application for Ellen DeParte, John Byrd and Trish Gallagher were received and given to the membership committee for review.
- Detachment will participate in the Massing of the Colors. Color Guard will consist of Bill Mellette, George Palmer, Tim LaTurno and Gary Dobson.
- The Professional Development program, part 1, was reviewed by Gary Dobson.
- There seems to be some problem with National Headquarters getting membership cards back to our members in a timely manner George Thiebaud, our Paymaster is working on this and hopes to get the problem solved. Until then please be patient to circumstances beyond our control.
- Bob Doshier, our Adjutant is working very hard trying to get our Roster corrected and up to date. If you do not think Bob has all of your information please contact him and make sure what he has is correct.
- Next Detachment Luncheon will be at Jim & Nicks BBQ in the Tanger Area.

26 March 2015

- James Myers was introduced as a potential new member. New members John Byrd and Ron Sweackhamer were sworn in.

23 April 2015

- New members Bruce Seltzer, Trish Gallagher, and Jack Porter were sworn in.
- The Detachment enjoyed an Oyster Roast at the home of Jim & Mary Leard.

28 May 2015

- Letty Whitehead, Anne Marie Ostapiej, Norman Wade Smith, and Ken Burlison were sworn in as new members.
- Congratulations Low Country Detachment, you have set a new standard in State Conventions. The bar has been raised and you did it. From the smallest detail to the largest you came through and that shows what a Detachment can do when its members work together and share ideas and talents. We not only hosted the best Convention in the South Carolina State history, we took several awards, and the next State Commandant belongs to #803. Congratulations to John Tharp we are very proud to not only call him Commandant but Friend also. Congratulations also to Marilyn Tharp who is the State's Associate Member of the year.

25 June 2015

- Jonathan Williams and Ray Brown were sworn in as regular members. Ed Gallagher was sworn in as an associate member.
- The Detachment realized a profit of just under \$8,000 from hosting the Convention. A Meritorious Unit Citation was received.

23 July 2015

- Lynsey Devane was sworn in as a new member.

27 August 2015

- The meeting opened with 28 members and four guests present.
- A plaque was presented to the mother of the Marine who was killed in a helicopter crash while giving humanitarian aid to the people of Nepal.
- A new member application was received from Alphonzo Chauvin. 1st Sgt Gennaro Mazzeo was sworn in as a new member.
- A motion was made and passed to raise membership dues to \$40 per year. Life members were challenged to donate \$10 per year also. The increase will take place in January 2016.
- In lieu of flowers it was decided to contribute \$100 to a memorial for John Kovalcik's deceased wife, to be given to their church. He is the National Commandant of the Marine Corps League, and also a member of the Grand Strand Detachment.

24 September 2015

Alphonse Chauvin was sworn in as a new member.

- Cheri Sterling, Bob Mastrion, and George Thiebaud are attempting to contact all non-participating members.
- A combined party – Christmas and also celebrating the success of the convention – will be held on December 12 at the home of Gary Dobson. Helen Breen and Cheri Sterling will do the organizing.
- Motion made and passed to place 50/50 drawing money in the flower fund.
- We are looking into the proper way of establishing a Scholarship for our ROTC students.

22 October 2015

- Sarah Chauvin was sworn in as an associate member.
- It was decided to have an informal Marine Corps Birthday Party at the FRA on November 10.

10 November 2015

- A short meeting was held prior to a Cake Cutting Ceremony in honor of the Marine Corps Birthday. Normal business was suspended for the evening, with the exception of announcements and reminders.

16 December 2015

- George Thomas transferred from a detachment in California. Michael Sosa was sworn in as a new member.
- John Tharp announced the next state convention will be held in Anderson. The quarterly will be held in January at Fort Jackson. The emphasis will be on training. John also announced that the mid-winter conference will be held in Virginia; and the Southeast convention will be held in Augusta, GA.

28 January 2016

- New members John Caddell, Andrew McDermont, Lee Smoot, John Glover were sworn in.
- Tom & Margaret Blizard are coordinating the ROTC Leadership Awards.
- Discussion was held on (August 2015) vote to raise dues to \$40 per year. The Adjutant challenged all Life Members to contribute \$10/year. It is felt these dues are fair and allow for more funds to be kept with the Detachment to build for future goals (scholarships, etc.) Many members noted that dues in other organizations are much higher.
- A Detachment brochure has been created for distribution to potential new members.

25 February 2016

- 22 members and one guest present.
- Margaret Blizard announced there are three Eagle Scout awards ready to be presented this month.
- Massing of the Colors will be March 6. Those planning to attend are Trish Gallagher, Cherri Sterling, Ed Gallagher, Tom Boyd.
- Sr Vice Commandant Jim Leard thanked everyone for the time he served as Sr Vice, but due to his medical issues he is unable to serve as backup to the Commandant. He urged each new officer – if you cannot fulfill the duties, don't take the position.
- Department Commandant John Tharp stressed how very important it is to have pictures of all members on the website. If you have not already had your picture taken, please see Jim Breen. Jim & Helen Breen will explore how to get pictures of members who do not attend meetings regularly due to health issues.

24 March 2016

- New members Andrew Commodore and Don Barton were sworn in.
- George Palmer installed the new officers
- John Tharp suggested training for new officers and members on a Saturday morning.

28 April 2016

- Michael Ramsey was introduced as a former MCL member.
- Now have 21 cabins booked for the November cruise.
- Delegates to the Department Convention are: Michael Cortright, Trish Gallagher, Bob Doshier, John Tharp, and Tom Blizard. Two Associate members will also be attending: Margaret Blizard and Marilyn Tharp.

26 May 2016

- A Meet & Greet was held prior to start of the meeting for 12 ROTC Award winners, their family members and advisors.
- Captain Patrick Keaveny of the Navy League made a brief presentation about the commissioning of the USS Ralph Johnson, DDG214.

23 June 2016

- Twenty-six schools participated in the JROTC Awards.
- A motion was made and passed that the Detachment establish a budget. The Commandant appointed Jim Breen, George Thiebaud, Letty Whitehead, and Marilyn Tharp to be on the budget committee.

28 July 2016

- New member installed was Bill Oliver. New Associate member installed was June Oliver.
- Volunteers are needed for the VA Hospital. We need four, but presently only have one.
- Received an email from Art Blenk, Department Boy Scout Coordinator. Our Detachment gave out more awards than any other detachment in the state.
- A scholarship committee was formed, chaired by Marilyn Tharp. Others on the committee are Jim Breen and Bill Mellette.

25 August 2016

- New member installation of John Murray.
- Tom Blizard received a letter from the VA for 1,750 hours of volunteer service.

22 September 2016

- A proposed scholarship application was presented to the Detachment. Motion made and approved to have a \$500 scholarship.
- A Pay Pal account was set up so we can now accept credit cards.
- There will be no meeting in November. 9 December will be the Christmas meeting with a gift exchange.

27 October 2016

- SSgt Goldin, Reserve Center Toys for Tots Representative, visited.
- Motion made and approved to purchase wreath for the Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony on the Yorktown.

November 2016 – (No meeting.)

December 2016 – (No meeting.)

26 January 2017

- Motion made and approved to have a raffle for a cruise from Charleston for two. We will sell 2,000 tickets with the drawing to be held by the 1st of September.

23 February 2017

- A report was read concerning the fact that 20-22 Veterans per day are committing suicide.

23 March 2017

- New Associate member Dr. Yvonne Commodore was installed.
- Guests included Jim Smith, Southeast Division; Jim Stone, South Carolina Department Sr Vice Commandant; Deborah Dreher, SC Department Public Relations.

27 April 2017

- The Scholarship committee announced that Katherine Baucom, who is a senior at Woodland High School, is the detachment's first awardee. She will be attending Clemson in the fall.
- Trish Gallagher was given a Special Achievement Award. Michael Cortright was given an award for Volunteer Services. Tom Boyd, Tom Blizard and Bob Doshier were given Distinguished Service Awards.

25 May 2017

- Meeting opened with 23 members and 0 guests.
- New Associate member Anne Barton was installed.
- There are seven Eagle Boy Scout awards ceremonies scheduled for May.
- JROTC awards were presented to 24 schools by seven volunteers.

22 June 2017

- Detachment 803's Scholarship for 2017 was presented to Katie Baucom, who will be attending Clemson, majoring in Animal and Veterinarian Science.
- A special achievement award was presented to Vince Johnson for his work coordinating the Marine Corps Birthday cruises.
- Two more Eagle Boy Scout awards will be presented this month.

27 July 2017

- A Habitat for Humanity home for a Veteran will be built on Nov 10 and 11 on Camp Road, James Island. Any help is appreciated.

24 August 2017

- The Detachment's Americanism Scrapbook placed second at the Department Convention, and also placed second at National.
- The cruise raffle winner was drawn. Cheri Sterling's name was picked. Since she is unable to attend, she asked for others in the room to bid on it. Winner paid \$300 for the cruise tickets.

28 September 2017

- Facebook training was held before the meeting.
- New member Ron Lamon was installed.
- Since the November meeting date falls on Thanksgiving, it was decided to combine November & December meetings as a Christmas party on November 30.

January 2018 – (No minutes available)

February 2018 – (No minutes available)

March 2018 – (No minutes available)

26 April 2018

- Meeting opened with 25 members and one guest present.
- Detachment will be hosting the Southeast Conference 21-24 March 2019 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.
- Detachment will also be hosting the 25th SC Department Convention 6-9 June 2019 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. This will be the 25th Anniversary for the Low Country Detachment; we were chartered July 13, 1994.
- The Department voted to host the 2020 National Convention at the Embassy Suites in Charleston. There is a lengthy process before this bid would become fact.
- Certificates of Appreciation presented to Trish Gallagher, Tom & Margaret Blizard, Tom Boyd, Don Barton, Bill Mellette, Jim Leard, Marilyn Tharp, Bob Doshier, and John Tharp.

May 2018 – (No minutes available)

28 June 2018

- The Detachment's Americanism scrapbook received 1st place at the Department Convention.
- The Detachment Scholarship was awarded to a student who will be attending Coastal Carolina, majoring in Bio-Chemistry.
- There are two Eagle Scout awards to be presented this month.
- Detachment Commandant, John Tharp was named 2018 Marine of the Year at the Department Convention.

July 2018 – (No minutes available)

23 August 2018

- New members Victor Lugo, Dave Ladeo, and Ed Maggey were installed.
- The Detachment's Americanism scrapbook received 1st place at the National Convention.

- There were 3,871 Eagle Scout awards given out nationally this past year. Only 13 of those were given in South Carolina. Evidently, the Scout Masters are not notifying the League when they have Eagle Scouts.

27 September 2018 – (No minutes available)

25 October 2018

- Volunteers are needed to work the Law Riders Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run. It will start at the Harley Davidson dealership on Dorchester Road. We will help with registration and collection of toys.
- There will be no November or December meeting.

November 2018 – (No meeting held.)

December 2018 – (No meeting held.)

24 January 2019

- The Detachment is hosting the Southeast Division Conference 21-24 March. Please get your registration in for events, banquet, etc.
- The Detachment is hosting the SC Department Convention 6-9 June. This is a very important convention since we are celebrating our 25-year Detachment Anniversary, as well as the Department's 25th annual meeting, and it is also the 20th anniversary of the Devil Dogs. There will be a special Challenge Coin given to all attendees to commemorate the event.

February 2019 – (No minutes available)

28 March 2019

- The SE Conference was a huge success. Thanks to all Detachment members who helped. Several thank you cards were received for the outstanding job done.

25 April 2019

- New member John Ellis was installed.

23 May 2019

- New member Terry Davis was sworn in. New associate members Fran Mellette and Suzanne Conrad-Johnson were sworn in.

27 June 2019

- New members installed were: Toby Catlett, Glenn Crosby, David English. New associate member Julie Neira was also installed.
- At the Department Convention: Trish Gallagher was elected Dept Jr. Vice Commandant; Marilyn Tharp was selected as the 2019 Associate of the Year; Cheri Sterling replaced Marilyn Tharp as Department Chair for the Americanism Committee. Also, the Department Americanism Scrapbook won 1st place and will be going to the National Convention for further judging.

25 July 2019

- There will be a dinner/social at Salt Water Cowboy on Sept 14.

22 August 2019

- Detachment Scholarship was presented to Aja Shilo who is a student at Cane Bay. She will be attending USC Upstate.
- Associate Member, Lynn Cortright, described the mission & function of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary. She was inducted into the organization at the National Convention. She is hoping there is enough interest locally to form a unit in the tri-county area.
- The Detachment's Americanism book received first place honors at the National Convention.
- The Scholarship requirements were modified to allow children/grandchildren of Detachment members to apply regardless of their participation (or not) with JROTC programs.
- The Detachment accepted a goal to collect 2,000 pounds of dog food for local shelters. This effort will continue for the next few months.
- John Tharp volunteered to edit/publish a monthly Detachment newsletter.