

# MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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Westfield River Valley Detachment 141  
71 North Elm Street  
Westfield, MA 01085-1619  
Phone & FAX 413- 562-4850  
Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month  
[www.mclwrv141.com](http://www.mclwrv141.com)  
**SEMPER FIDELIS**

## Minutes of Monthly Meeting 14 March, 2022

**OPENING CEREMONY:** The acting Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1908 hours, posted the Colors, and led the detachment in the Pledge of Allegiance; the acting Chaplain then read the opening prayer after which the Sergeant-at-Arms declared the meeting open for official business. Thirteen regular members and five associate members were present.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS :**

<b>Board of Trustees</b>		
Commandant	Christopher B. Cekovsky	P
Senior Vice Commandant	Joseph R. Delaney	P
Junior Vice Commandant	Sophie F. Bartosik	P
Judge Advocate	Keith A. Buckhout	P
Junior Past Commandant	Keith A. Buckhout	P

<b>Appointed Staff Officers</b>		
Adjutant	William W. Federman	P
Paymaster	Roger Beer	P
Sergeant at Arms	Aldo Mancini	E
Chaplain	John S. Rutovich	P

Historian	John S. Rutovich	P
Auditor	Sophie F. Bartosik	P
Public Relations	Trudy Tynan	E
Scuttlebutt Editors	Roger Beer, William Federman	P
Web Sergeant	Carriann D. Bailey	P
Armorer	Christopher B. Cekovsky	P
Color Guard	Keith A. Buckhout	P
Quartermaster	William W. Federman	P
Flag Service	John S. Rutovich	P

Past commandants							
Richard Greene 1977		Joseph Mucha 1994		Donald Wielgus 1999		Joseph Willis 2004	
Fran Curnow 2005	P	Brian Dupee	P	John Rutovich 2011	P	Dan Bishop 2013	P
Keith Buckhout 2017	P						

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the February meeting were approved without revision.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The usual notices and solicitations were received, as was a request for donations to the Westfield Purple Heart Monument Project.

**SICK OR IN DISTRESS:** Stan Lactera now has a broken hip and was being treated at UMass Lowell; his condition is precarious. Past Commandant Joe Willis had a stroke but is reported to be recovering rapidly. Stan Stremпка, the detachment's oldest member, has not been heard from for a few days, despite attempts to contact him.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS** (those not listed had nothing to report or were absent or excused):

**Commandant:** A brainstorming session was held on March 2 to devise fundraising ideas. Sign-up sheets for flag pin sales at Geissler's in May have been posted and need names. The most recent fundraiser, at the Westfield bridge, was a success.

**Senior Vice Commandant:** The fundraiser, held on Feb. 21, was conducted by seven detachment members; the money will be divided among three recipient organizations.

**Junior Vice Commandant:** Members should report to Sophie any work they do for the detachment or the league, to be added to the community service list.

**Junior Past Commandant:** Volunteers are needed for a firing detail at the state convention in June.

**Paymaster:** The paymaster's report was accepted unanimously, subject to audit.

**Web Sergeant:** Update your email address with Carrieann if it has changed.

**Armorer:** Ceremonial rifles are all accounted for.

**Color Guard:** Firing details on Patriots Day, April 18, and at a ceremony at the 104th Infantry memorial on April 30 need volunteers.

**Flag Service:** Unserviceable U.S. flags will be burned by the Young Marines; the tentative date is June 14, Flag Day, but has not yet been confirmed.

**VAVS:** The recreation center has re-opened; that's the good news; the concerning news is that the Leeds facility has been added to a list of VA facilities recommended to be closed because of cost-effectiveness as well as the declining number of veterans in New England; State Sen. John Velis is fighting the proposal and U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren has expressed her concern. On March 29 a ceremony honoring Vietnam veterans will be held.

**Holyoke Soldiers Home:** Residents are clamoring for the detachment's Saturday breakfasts to begin again. The Home is accepting new residents but the paperwork is said to be monumental so applicants should not delay.

**Easthampton Veterans Council:** Eleven members were appointed by the mayor on March 1. A 100-year-old veteran, Bernice, will be the grand marshal for the Memorial Day parade.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A motion was made and seconded to buy a tent the detachment can use for fundraisers, and it passed unanimously; Dan Bishop has details and photos of a prototype and he will coordinate with the maker. A motion passed unanimously to divide the money collected on Feb. 21 equally between the Young Marines, the Leeds facility and the Soldiers Home; each should receive about \$500. A motion also passed to allocate \$600 to the Young Marines to fulfill an obligation.

**GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:** The Saturday morning coffee klatch will be discontinued due to lack of participation. J.R. has raffle tickets for a gorgeous gold-plated .45 cal.

pistol; they are \$20 each. The Boy Scouts and Young Marines recently collected and processed more than 60,000 cans and bottles for a recycling drive.

**CLOSING CEREMONY:** The acting Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 2029 hours and the acting Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The closing statement was read and the proceedings were declared closed until the next scheduled detachment meeting, on April 11, 2022.

William W. Federman  
Adjutant  
Westfield River Valley Detachment 141  
Marine Corps League