

Opening Ceremony

It shall be the duty of the Sgt. at Arms to arrange the quarters, to place a Bible upon the altar; at the close of all occasions he shall return all equipment to its proper place. He shall also conduct the advance and retirement of the Colors. (Commandant may call for Marine Hymn at any point in the ceremony).

COMMANDANT: Sgt. at Arms, secure the quarters and satisfy yourself that all present are qualified to be present during the deliberations of this Detachment/Department or National session.

SGT AT ARMS: Aye, aye, sir.

SGT AT ARMS: The quarters are secured and all present are qualified to remain.

(If persons present are not qualified, the Sergeant at Arms will report accordingly. If an open meeting, visitors would be assumed to be qualified to remain. If prospective members are present they should be taken outside the meeting room until the point in the Order of Business where they will be called into the meeting to be initiated).

COMMANDANT: Sgt. at Arms, advance and post the Colors and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SGT AT ARMS: Aye, aye, sir.

(All persons wearing League hats will execute hand salute as Colors are advanced; those not covered will execute civilian salute (hand over heart). Before Colors are to be advanced, the Commandant shall give two raps of the gavel to call all present to standing position. One rap of gavel shall be signal to be seated).

COMMANDANT: The Chaplain will lead us in prayer.

CHAPLAIN: (Uncover) Supreme Commandant, we ask Thy blessing upon all here assembled. We pray for guidance in our deliberations, and that we may here exemplify the principles and purposes of our beloved Marine Corps League. We ask Thy protection and blessing for Marines who have died in the service of their Country, and for all our members, both past and present. Grant that the Marine Corps League may grow and prosper in the humane purposes and principles upon which it is founded. Amen.

(Commandant, by one rap of gavel, seats the Detachment/Department)

COMMANDANT: Sgt. at Arms, declare this meeting open for the transaction of official business.

SGT AT ARMS: By authority of the Commandant of ... Detachment/Department of..., Marine Corps League, I declare this meeting open for Conduct of official business.