



S. A. L. General Membership Meeting Minutes

On March 16, 2016, the monthly meeting of the Sons of the American Legion Veterans Memorial Squadron 347 was held at 6:30 pm in Post 347 Hall.

The Member at Large checked membership cards at the door for those in attendance. There were 24 members in attendance including 16 potential new members and 10 members from the Executive Committee.

The colors were posted and the American Flag was saluted. Sergeant at Arms Deano Mosingo put the POW-MIA Flag in place, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Jack Dirga gave the opening prayer. Everyone then stood in silence for our fallen comrades and Veterans followed with the reading of the Preamble. Gary Bishop and Art Hodge were excused absent. Commander Stroud conducted the meeting.

The minutes from the General Membership Meeting held on February 17, 2016 and from the Executive Committee Meeting held on March 2, 2016 were emailed to the membership prior to this meeting for the membership to review. There were no corrections to the minutes. Deano Mosingo made a motion to accept the minutes from the General Membership meeting and Danny Adams seconded it. The motion carried. Richard Duncan made a motion to accept the minutes from the Executive Committee Meeting, it was seconded by Charlie McGlone and the motion carried.

Finance Officer Spriet read the Financial Report. Cory Meloni made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Jack Dirga. The motion carried.

Old Business—

Second Vice Commander Gary Blanchard reminded members that Post Commander Briggs has posted a sign up sheet in the hallway between the lounge and the lobby for putting up flags for Memorial Day Services on Sunday May 29th and removing flags on Thursday June 2nd at the Bushnell National Cemetery.

New Business—

There was discussion regarding the squadron's endorsement of Bill Preston for First Vice Commander of District 6. Bill is going to run for Squadron Commander and District 6 First Vice Commander for 2016-2017. The conclusion of the discussion was that an office can be held at the squadron level and simultaneously held at the district level as long as the two offices are not the same title (i.e. Cannot be Squadron Commander and District Commander at the same time, but can be Squadron Commander and District First Vice

Commander simultaneously). Bill is endorsed by the squadron for District 6 First Vice Commander.

There was discussion on donating money to the Special Olympics prior to May 1st. Richard Duncan made a motion to donate \$2005 to the Special Olympics prior to May 1st. The motion was seconded by Jack Dirga. The motion carried. Steve Peterson announced that he is the chair of the nominating committee and that if anyone is interested in running for any office for 2016-2017, to contact him.

Richard Duncan announce that a retirement dinner for Detachment Adjutant Ed Sheubrooks will be held on Saturday April 16th at Post 347. Approximately 200 people are expected to attend. Help is needed for set up (at 2pm) and tear down for this dinner. The dinner starts at 5pm. Gary Blanchard will coordinate volunteers this event.

Bill Gray announced that our squadron is supporting scholarships at the Lake Weir High School and the Belleview High School. The scholarship applications are at the high schools.

Commander Stroud announced that help is needed in the kitchen on Thursdays in April and May. Our regular cook (Dave Reinhardt) is not available. Richard Duncan volunteered for this detail. Jack Dirga volunteered on behalf of his wife Marti for this event. Commander Stroud also informed us that a new member (Mark Adams) also volunteered to help during April and May.

Commander Stroud requested three volunteers to help tear down the hall on March 24th after the Legion National Commander visits our post. The dinner starts at 7pm and is sold out. Jack Dirga volunteered for this detail.

Second Vice Commander Gary Blanchard announced that next year's Valentine's Dance is scheduled for February 10th 2017.

New Members- There were 16 potential new members. Member at Large George Worton (standing in as First Vice Commander at the meeting) read the names of the potential new members. Their membership applications have been checked and all have met the requirements to be members. Bill Preston made a motion to accept the new members and Cory Meloni seconded the motion. The motion was carried. The new members who were present introduced themselves. The names of the new members are Michael Ross, Martin Jarrard, Tony Hill, Brandon Haynes, Terrance Skarda, Marshall Ramme, William Shaffstall, Dayton Cannan, Duane Sturgess, Ben Kisilica, Paul Holzinger, Mark Baumeister, Thomas Laicha, Michael Pauly, Edward Keller, and Dennis Degen. Butch welcomed the new members to the Squadron. They will meet with Second Vice Commander Blanchard who will brief them on membership expectations and present them with a new member's packet.

Adjutant Standfest gave the membership report that shows our goal of 445 members has been exceeded as of the last filed report on February 4th that shows we have 473 members (106.29%). Our next transmittal (filed on March 16th) contains 36 more members which will take the squadron to a total of 509 members (114%).

Good of the SAL—

Bill Preston led a discussion on how we recently tabled making a donation to the Clermont Post until it is clear how much money is needed after their insurance claim is settled. He mentioned that our post has donated \$1000 and Clermont is having a golf outing on March 26th. He made a motion to sponsor a hole with a \$100 donation. Richard Duncan seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

The meeting was properly closed at 7:30pm with prayer given by Chaplain Jack Dirga, retirement of the POW-MIA flag by Sgt at Arms Deano Mosingo and salute of the flag.

Yours in God and Country

Timothy Standfest, Adjutant