



S. A. L. General Membership Meeting Minutes

On January 20, 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 Adjutant checked membership cards at the door for those in attendance. There were 44 members in attendance including 12 potential new members and 11 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. Historian Bill Preston was the only Executive Committee member absent. He was ill with an excused absence. Note: Commander Stroud had a sore throat, but was at the meeting. The meeting was conducted by First Vice Commander Gary Bishop.

The minutes from the General Membership Meeting held on December 16, 2015 and from the Executive Committee Meeting held on January 6, 2016 were emailed to the membership and posted at the door prior to this meeting for the membership to review. There were no corrections to the minutes. Gary Blanchard made a motion to accept the minutes as posted from the General Membership Meeting. Motion seconded by Danny Adams. Motion carried.

Jack Dirga made a motion to accept the minutes from the Executive Committee Meeting. Motion seconded by Butch Stroud. Motion carried.

Finance Officer Spriet read the finance report. Jack Dirga made a motion to accept the report as read. The motion was seconded by Deano Mosingo and the motion carried.

Old Business & Committee Reports—

Second Vice Commander Gary Blanchard announced that tickets for the Valentine's Dance are available and that Johnny McCullagh will be the entertainer; not Patrina. He also briefed the new members on this function.

First Vice Commander Bishop reminded the membership of Post Commander Briggs' request for assistance stapling flags to wood sticks at the post on January 30th at 10am. Danny Adams briefed the membership on the Arts & Crafts Fair. He announced that there was a \$665 profit and one vendor did not show up but had paid the table fee. There will possibly be another Arts & Crafts Show in the spring.

Joe Francis announced that he and Doug White have been updating the SAL 347 website.

They have received input for the Legion and SAL members. He will be at the next Executive Committee meeting on February 3rd at 5:30pm to show the progress that has been made and to ask for more input from the Executive Committee prior to unveiling the finished product.

New Members –

Al Varrone stood in as First Vice Commander. He read the names of 25 potential new members. Their membership applications have been checked and all have met the requirements to be members. Al Varrone made a motion that the members be accepted. Art Hodge seconded the motion. Motion carried. The 12 new members who were present introduced themselves (Ralph Trout, Doug Baker, George Whitehurst, John Gill, Charles Moffitt, Nick Ellis, Dennis Madlinski, Bob Errante, Joe Devoti, Tim Mee, James Holton and Mark Holton). They will meet with First Vice Commander Gary Bishop after the meeting who will brief them on membership expectations and present them with a new member's packet.

New Business –

First Vice Commander Bishop announced that volunteers are needed to participate in a parade in Fruitland Park on April 16th. We are to meet at the main hall in the post at 8am. The required uniform for the parade will be an SAL hat.

Good of the SAL –

Second Vice Commander Gary Blanchard expressed a welcome to the new members. George Worton spoke on behalf of Bill Preston who is absent with an illness. He announced that the first two modules of the 5 Star/10 Ideals Program are complete and ready for interested members to take those tests.

Correspondence –

Adjutant Standfest announced that a letter was received from the VA Facility on SR-42 thanking us for sponsoring the coffee & donuts on November 25th & December 23rd. Also, there was a Membership Statement from the Detachment showing our squadron at 439 membership cards and at 98.65% of our membership goal. Adjutant Standfest informed the membership that including the pending transmittal (which includes tonight's 25 new members), our squadron is up to 475 members (& in excess of the 100% membership goal).

The meeting was properly closed at 7:00pm 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