



S. A. L. Minutes

On August 19, 2015, 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 16 members in attendance including 6 potential new members and 7 members from the Executive Committee.

Immediately prior to the formal opening of the meeting, Immediate Past Commander Duncan presented a \$500 check to the scout leaders of Boy Scout Troop 244 Harder Cole and Dave Stowell.

The colors were posted and the American Flag was saluted. Commander Stroud had the Acting Sergeant at Arms (Richard Duncan) put the POW-MIA Flag in place, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mike Bartczak stood in for the Chaplain who is absent and gave the opening prayer. Everyone then stood in silence for our fallen comrades and Veterans followed with the reading of the Preamble and the Executive Board Roll Call. Chaplain Jack Dirga & Sgt at Arms Deano Mosingo were the only officers not present.

The adjutant read the minutes from the General Membership Meeting held on July 15, 2015. Past Commander Duncan made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Seconded by 2nd Vice Commander Blanchard. Motion carried.

The adjutant read the minutes from the August 5, 2015 Executive Board Meeting. Past Commander Duncan made a motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Gary Bishop. Motion carried.

Finance Officer Spriet presented the finance report. First Vice Commander Gerry Beauchamp made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Seconded by Al Varrone. Motion carried.

New Business-

Second Vice Commander Gary Blanchard announced the Harvest Dance which will take place on Friday September 18th. Tickets will be \$10 each, drinks available at the bar, bring your own snacks, and a 50/50 drawing. Entertainment by Jay Rubin & the Roundabouts. The band is donating their time for no charge.

Commander Stroud announced that SAL 347 will be serving coffee & donuts at the VA facility on SR-44 on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 7am to 11am. We have enough volunteers for the Wednesday in August. He is looking for volunteers for the fourth Wednesday in September. Four volunteers are needed for each month for this project. Gary Blanchard volunteered for October and Gerry Beauchamp volunteered to

help anytime help is needed.

Bill Preston made a presentation on the 5 Star/10 Ideals program. He briefed the membership on what the program is about and how he is going to be working with the Boy Scouts (the oldest program adopted by the American Legion) and he will attempt to recruit scouts as youth members of the Sons of the American Legion. He explained how our squadron did not come in first place for an award in Americanism at the convention because of a lack of participation in this program. Richard Duncan, Butch Stroud and Gary Bishop will help Bill Preston in this program.

Bill Preston spoke on the VA&R youth volunteer program and the pizza party hosted at Post 347 for the youth. He then read a thank you letter from the service coordinator of The Villages VA Clinic.

Correspondence-

Adjutant Standfest read the correspondence received which included letters of thanks for our donations from the St Theresa Catholic Church Food Pantry, the Habitat for Humanity Veterans Initiative, the Village View Community Church Food Pantry and Operation Shoebox. Our Membership Statement from the detachment dated August 10th shows we have reached 33.03% of our goal. The transmittal recently sent to the detachment will put our squadron at over 50% of our goal once it is recorded.

New Members - First Vice Commander Gerry Beauchamp read the names of eleven potential new members (see attached list) whose applications have been verified & approved. Six potential new members were present (Frank Hartz, David Ratcliff, Stephen Kajda, Anthony Rocco, Charles Snyder and Glenn Covaleski). Bill Preston made a motion to accept the new members, seconded by Richard Duncan. Motion carried. The six new members who were present were presented their membership cards. Past Commander Duncan briefed the new members on how the SAL raises money and where the money is donated. Bill Preston added comments on how much money our squadron has raised and the fact that our squadron is expanding and working hard in our eight years of existence. Gary Blanchard made a motion to accept the new members into SAL 347, seconded by Jay Rubin. Motion carried.

Good of the SAL-Bill Preston made a motion to make a \$500 donation and continue our support of the Legacy Scholarship Fund five year program (which supports the children of veterans KIA in Afghanistan & Iraq). The motion was seconded by Duncan and the motion was carried.

Meeting properly closed at 7:30pm with prayer (Mike Bartczak), retirement of the POW-MIA flag (Richard Duncan) and salute of the flag.

Yours in God and Country

Timothy Standfest, Adjutant