



S.A.L. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY – January 3, 2018

The monthly Executive Committee meeting of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron #347 was held Wednesday, January 3, 2018, in the Post #347 Conference Room. There being a quorum of 8 present, the meeting was properly called to order by Acting Commander Paul Pitts at 5:30 PM. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Chaplain Jack Dirga, and the Pledge of Allegiance. 10 Officers present were: Paul Pitts, David Booth, Gary Blanchard, Danny Adams, Jack Dirga, Cory Meloni,, Doug White, Mike Shebel, David Callies, and Gary Bishop. Also in attendance was: Post liaison Len Biederman and Valentines Dance Chairman Mike Hicks. Absent were: Cmdr George Worton and Mel Cirullo.

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

1st Vice Cmdr Paul Pitts is acting as Commander while Cmdr Worton recovers from a bad case of the flu, and his wife Rose is hospitalized with possible pneumonia.

Finance Officer Adams did not have a chance to prepare the December report due to travel. He will email it to the Exec Cmte when it is prepared.

Hermit Crab Race Chairman Gary Blanchard and Danny Adams said the tickets for the 1/15/18 event are now on sale at the lounge and the front office. So far 7 tables out of about 20 have been sold.

Paul Pitts gave a brief membership report; we are at 564 as of the 1/2/18 transmittal, which is 96% of goal (24 to go). There are about 90 members who have not renewed from 2016-2017. The Adjutant will send a non-renewer contact list out to the Exec Cmte so each member can phone call about 8 non-renewers each.

Queen of Hearts drawing pot is at about \$110,000 and the 1/9/18 drawing will be for members-only again to try and reduce the crowding in the lounge and hall.

2nd Vice Cmdr Dave Booth says the Combat Vets to Careers hosts a weekly radio cast each Tuesday. He would like to have a Sons guest every so often to discuss what our organization and what we do to help Veterans and our community. The broadcast is recorded at the CVC headquarters office in the Hacienda Hills Rec Center. Paul Pitts has volunteered to appear on the next open broadcast, which is 1/16/18. The Adjutant will add information about the recurring broadcast to our Sons' website.

Mike Hicks, the Valentines Dance Chairman was recognized. He wants to start selling tickets ASAP to give enough time for a sellout to occur. After much debate a motion was made by Danny Adams to start selling tickets at 5PM of 1/15/18, during the Crab Race event, and continue to sell at the lounge and the front office on 1/16/18; seconded by David Booth. The motion was Approved. All efforts to promote the dance will begin immediately, announcing these ticket sales dates.

Chaplain Jack Dirga says he will send a get well card to the Wortons immediately.

Gary Bishop reported that the Post House Cmte has not brought up the salad bar issue since last year. This was in response to a question from Angelo Speziale at the 12/20/18 membership meeting. Last year, soon after Angelo proposed the idea, the House Cmte rejected it due to lack of space for storage of the rolling bar. We will bring up the topic with the kitchen manager to see if anything has changed.

Jack Dirga reports that the Scholarship Cmte has updated its database and is getting ready for the 2018 cycle to begin shortly.

There was nothing to report from the VA&R Cmte Chairman Gary Blanchard.

Regarding the Sons' membership dues increase, which was voted on in both the Exec Cmte and the Membership Meeting, may be in jeopardy based on something he heard from the Detachment. This is still being confirmed. If the increase can't be approved for 2019, than it may have to slip until 2020.

Acting Cmdr Pitts asked the Judge Advocate about the status of the Constitution/By-Laws/Standing Rules review. Mike Shebel says it has been on hold, but he will revive the issue and present results at an upcoming meeting.

Sunday Bar Bingo starts 1/7/18 and is being heavily promoted through email blasts and announcements at all meetings and events in the lounge and the hall. We hope for an inaugural success. (late-breaking news since I attended the Sunday bingo, and the lounge was about 60% full and we sold about \$600 worth of meals, not a bad start).



Danny Adams proposed that we consider holding officer voting this year both during the day and in the evening on the day of the monthly membership meeting when this is occurring (May, I believe). This would allow for more members to participate. It was suggested by Len Biederman that the Post Honor Guard could be enlisted to manage the voter checklist so that nobody votes twice. The issue was tabled for further discussion next month.

There being no further business, the Chaplain said a closing prayer, the flag was saluted, and the meeting was adjourned by the Commander at 6:13 PM.

Yours in God and Country,
Doug White
Adjutant