



S.A.L. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY – December 6, 2017

The monthly Executive Committee meeting of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron #347 was held Wednesday, December 6, 2017, in the Post #347 Conference Room. There being a quorum of 8 present, the meeting was properly called to order by Commander George Worton at 5:25 PM. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Chaplain Jack Dirga, and the Pledge of Allegiance. 8 Officers present were: George Worton, Gary Blanchard, Danny Adams, Jack Dirga, Cory Meloni,, Doug White, Mike Shebel, and Gary Bishop. Also in attendance was: Post liaison Len Biederman. Absent were Paul Pitts, David Booth, Mel Cirullo, and David Callies.

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

Cmdr Worton noted that the potential new printer offered by Jack Dirga for \$100 must be evaluated to see if it can serve as an adequate device to replace the existing printer. Adjutant White stated he had not had a chance to use it yet, but others have tried it out so far and it functions OK. Adjutant White will make a judgment in the next week if it is suitable. So far we are trying to print as much as possible on the existing printer to run out of the ink it has left. Adjutant will print a dozen Crab Race flyers tonight to use more ink.

Cmdr Worton is determining a date for the Gainesville VA Hospital and Fisher House holiday gift-giving visit. It will probably be during the week of 12/17. Adjutant put out a message this morning asking if any members wanted to attend this event they should contact the Cmdr.

Gary Blanchard says the next Hermit Crab Race event is January 15th. His previous contact for donated ticket printing passed away, so we will need Mike Seidel to print the tickets. Gary will ask Mike to do this. Cmdr Worton says we need some activities between races to raise additional money and to increase the fun for the attendees. He suggested a money wheel (needs Post approval). Gary suggested a local magician he saw recently who could keep the crowd entertained. This will be discussed further. As for the kitchen, we are again going to sell burgers and fries but we strongly recommend we use the back kitchen to cook the burgers for the event participants. That will keep the main kitchen running more smoothly for the lounge.

Cmdr Worton says he got an update from the Lake Weir HS JROTC Sgt-Mjr about donations from the Post to the family that lost their son and their home due to a fire during hurricane Irma. A total of \$2,200 was donated by the Sons, the Auxiliary, and the Legion.

[THIS PARAGRAPH REDACTED FROM THE MEETING SUMMARY]

Cmdr Worton says Sunday Bar Bingo is planned for a January 7, 2018 start date. Food will be sold by The Sons from noon to 2 PM. Bar Bingo will run from 2:30 PM to about 4:30 PM. Adjutant will begin to advertise this via email blasts beginning next week.

The Early Bird meal is scheduled for January 14, 2018. Adjutant White will find out the time from the Post, and then publicize it to eligible Sons' members.

The issue of free drink tickets was brought up. We give two drink tickets to volunteers helping out during Sons' meals and other events. These tickets are meant to be valid ONLY for the same day/evening given out, and are non-transferable. It was discovered that some tickets are being used (or attempted) on days after the volunteer event. Even when dates were written on the ticket, some were found to have been edited. It is important that we follow the guidelines for use of these complimentary tickets or else the benefit will likely be terminated. Kitchen coordinators giving out the tickets to volunteers will stress the ticket guidelines to all volunteers receiving tickets.

Danny Adams and Doug White proposed a dues increase for 2018-2019 and going forward. The Sons' dues have not increased for at least 5 years, and probably longer than that. Nobody can even remember when the current dues amounts became effective. Our office expenses, postage, and other costs have been increasing and eating into the revenue we need to donate to our worthy Veteran and community causes. There are 4 proposals: 1) Status quo (no change from \$25/\$8/\$10 for Regular/Dual/Juvenile); 2) Increase to \$30/\$12/\$10; 3) Increase to \$30/\$15/\$12; 4) Increase to \$30/\$12/\$12. After much discussion, it was determined that a reasonable compromise is option 4, which provides a modest increase across all three categories of membership, and is simpler to remember and communicate (ie, \$1/month for Dual &



Juveniles). Danny Adams motioned to approve option 4; seconded by Jack Dirga. Motion was Approved. This proposal will need to be approved by the Sons' Membership, the Post, and the Detachment. Judge Advocate Shebel and Cmdr Worton will move this proposal forward through those channels.

Discussion ensued on whether The Sons should continue to charge The Legion for the pizzas we make for them during their monthly meeting. We have been charging \$12 per pizza and the net income for us is about \$700/year. After much discussion of the issue it was decided to table it for now and continue as-is.

Cmdr Worton says the Lake Weir HS JROTC Sgt-Mjr is requesting The Sons provide a meal entrée for their JROTC Ball on March 3, 2018. In 2017 we provided several entrees as well as rolls, drinks, and salad, so for 2018 our role will be much simpler, just an entrée. Angelo Speziale has agreed to cook the entrée and suggested we do baked spaghetti w/meatballs. This can be prepared in trays at the Legion kitchen and then warmed/cooked at the Lake Weir HS kitchen.

Finance Officer Danny Adams provided a brief draft financial report. Our checking account balance at the end of November was ~\$15,000. A true-up of the Sons' books is expected to be done with the help of Post Finance Officer in the coming weeks. Danny also reviewed the cash handling procedures and reporting forms used for meal nights and other events.

Gary Bishop says our new bulletin board is hung in now the hallway. We share it with the Riders organization and our posting will be reduced in size to allow for more items to be displayed.

The Post is running there Saturday breakfast again on December 9th, along with a blood mobile from 7 AM – 11 AM. Donate a pint of blood and get a free breakfast.

Adjutant White read one correspondence from the National Society of The Daughters of The American Revolution. They are requesting support for their program to train and provide service dogs for Veterans.

There being no further business, the Chaplain said a closing prayer, the flag was saluted, and the meeting was adjourned by the Commander at 6:25 PM.

Yours in God and Country,
Doug White
Adjutant