



DAV Orange Blossom Gardens #150  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
13 April 2021

Dennis Storey  
Jan Schmeichel  
Joseph (Joe) Thompson  
Larry Steven Grzanich  
Robert (Bobby) Wallace  
Jack Johnson  
Robert (Bob) Kobac  
Andrew (Andy) Vasaturo  
\*Rhonda L. Storey

Commander  
Sr Vice Commander  
Jr Vice Commander  
Treasurer  
3 Year Trustee  
1 Year Trustee  
Judge Advocate  
Chaplain  
Adjutant

Note: \*= Nonvoting member.

Jan Schmeichel, Sr Vice Commander and Michael Summers, 2 Year Trustee were excused.

1. Meeting called to order at 1:00 by Commander Dennis Storey. Sign in sheets showed 24 attendees: 21 members, three Auxiliary members, and one guest.

2. Andy Vasaturo opened the meeting in prayer.

3. Commander Storey asked, if there were any 1<sup>st</sup> time Visitors –Linda Rossel, new member of the DAVA. Conrad Fisher, Vietnam Vet.

4. Minutes – Rhonda Storey

a. General Membership Meeting Minutes for 9 March 2021 are posted on the website.

b. The E-Board Minutes for 8 April 2021 were read.

c. Motion was made to approve the minutes as posted (General Membership) and read (E-Board) was made by Jim Meyer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bobby Wallace. All in favor. So moved. Link to Chapter 150 website: [http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/fl/150/Web\\_Pages/news.aspx](http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/fl/150/Web_Pages/news.aspx)

5. Unfinished Business:

a. **Fundraising** - Joe Thompson -- Our Community Outreach Team Lead.

1) **Pancake Breakfast – 5 June 2021** for \$10.00 at Cheers in Stonecrest. Please contact Joe if you interested in helping out with this or any other of our fundraisers or Community Activities. Contact Joe at 352-307-3966 or [majorjet27@gmail.com](mailto:majorjet27@gmail.com). We are in need to people to go out to get door prizes. Additionally, we need funds to print flyers and a poster to place at Cheers to advertise our fundraiser. Motion to approve up to \$250.00 was made by Bobby Wallace, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Thompson. All in favor. So moved.

b. **Constitution and By-Laws.** NTR

c. Jack Johnson – New member Tommy Watson, who somehow submitted an outdated application that we did not catch. He believes that he owes \$100.00 when we have him owing \$260.00. We voted to pay the \$160.00 difference at our February meeting. Steve Grzanich has made that payment. Closed.

d. **Financial Planning** – Dennis Storey -- The Financial Planning Committee will be getting together to finalize our budget. It will then come to the membership for approval.

e. **Chapter Commander's Report** – Dennis Storey and Bob Kobac – Report is complete and has been submitted to Department. Action Closed. We are eligible for \$100.00, gift card from Department if our name drawn.

e. **Flags for fallen Veterans 30 May 2021** – Joe Thompson – We will meet at the Bus Station in Sumter Landing, at 7:15, and will depart by caravan to Bushnell at 7:30. You can park in the book store parking lot or the lot adjacent to the Bus Station, while we are getting our instructions.

- 1) We are assigned Section 501/ COL1.
- 2) If someone needs a ride or if you have room in your car to take a rider, let Joe know.
- 3) Of course, with COVID everyone will need to wear a mask

## 6. New Business:

### a. **Annual Officer Nominations and Election** – Bobby Wallace.

1) The Nomination Committee makes the following nominations:

- o Dennis Storey, Commander (Elected) & Web Master (Appointed)
- o Jan Schmeichel, SR Vice Commander (Elected)
- o Joseph (Joe) Thompson, JR Vice Commander (Elected)
- o Robert (Bob) Kobac, Judge Advocate (Elected) & Past Commander (bi-laws)
- o Larry Steven (Steve) Grzanich, Treasurer (Elected)
- o Robert (Bobby) Wallace, 2 Year Trustee (per bi-laws)
- o Andrew (Andy) Vasaturo, Chaplain (Elected)
- o Tom Miller, 3 Year Trustee (Elected)
- o Michael (Mike) Summers, 1 Year Trustee (per bi-laws)
- o \*Rhonda Storey, Adjutant (appointed)
- o Michael (Mike) Watson, Assistant Web Master (Appointed)
- o Joseph (Joe) Thompson, Benefits Protection Team Leader (BPTL) & Legislative Chair (Appointed)
- o John Verville, Sgt at Arms (Appointed)
- o Jack Johnson, Membership Chairman (Appointed)
- o Daniel (Dan) Williamson, CSO (Sponsored)

2) Bobby Wallace made a motion to accept the nominations as outlined and it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Goulette.

3) Dennis Storey asked, Are there any other nominations from the floor? There being none, we proceed with the nominations as listed. As there are no positions that have more than one nomination, the vote of all members was made and approved unanously by the membership. Elections for 2020-2022 have been completed.

4) Installation will be at our 11 May 2021 Meeting. Rhonda Storey sent a letter requesting Department representation at this meeting. Dennis Storey, in discussion with Thomas Ayala, learned our Department Commander will do the Installation.

5) Rhonda Storey -- We still need a Benefits Protection Team Leader (BPTL) & Legislative Chair. This is an appointed position. Currently our JR Vice who is very busy is filling in. We need



someone to take it off of his plate. If interested please contact Commander Storey, at [djstorey@aol.com](mailto:djstorey@aol.com).

b. Donations

1) Rhonda Storey -- We still have a refurbished **Apple Computer** donated by the Villages Apple Computer Club to give to a Veteran. If you know of anyone who is in need of a computer, let us know. Dennis Storey will assist in setting it up if help is needed. If we do not get a taker we will look to the American Legion next. It must go to a Veteran.

2) Donations collected at the Membership Meeting in March – Steve Grzanich:

- o Our loose change donation yielded \$12.55
- o Our 50/50 donation yielded \$35.00
  - Total = \$47.55

d. **Vaccines** -- Dennis Storey – The Pfizer vaccine is being given at the American Legion by the Veterans Administration (VA) **for all qualified veterans & spouses**, no age restrictions any longer, no affiliation to the VA, however, you still have to **call and sign up for an appointment at the VA** (352)548-6000 X103755.

f. **Shadybrook RV Resort, Pull Pork Lunch held on 12 February 2021**– Bob Kobac is to present them with a Certificate of Appreciation for their generous donation.

g. **Mission BBQ Armed Forces Week Celebration** – Dennis Storey – Mission BBQ is having an Armed Forces Week 10-14 May 2021. We have been asked to have a table. The members unanimously agreed. On your Service date as indicated below between 11:00 – 2:00, you will receive a free sandwich. We need volunteers for each day.

Monday	May 10	Army
Tuesday	May 11	Marine Corps
Wednesday	May 12	Navy
Thursday	May 13	Air Force & Space Force
Friday	May 14	Coast Guard
Saturday	May 15	Lunch with The Heroes

h. A member asked about the **Golf Tournament**. Joe stated that we are focusing on the current activities for now. We will keep looking towards doing a Golf Tournament sometime in late September or early October.

4. Correspondence – Rhonda Storey – Received a letter of approval for the Pancake breakfast from Department.

5. Reports

a. Treasurer's Report – Larry Steven Grzanich

1) Beginning Balance as of 1 March 2021, \$119,661.03 (General Fund – \$80,661.03, Van Fund - \$30,000.00); Income \$1222.57; Expenses \$533.47; Net Increase in value \$689.10. Ending Balance as of 31 March 2021 is \$120,350.13. Motion to approve request made by Joe Farral, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andy Vasaturo. All in favor. So Moved.

2) Steve Grzanich -- Submitted our renewal for our Florida Not for Profit Corporation Annual Report. We are in good standing with the Department of Revenue in the State of FL for another year. This report must be submitted prior to May 1 each year and the cost is \$61.25. This was approved in our Budget.

b. Chaplain Report – Andy Vasaturo reported that we had three members pass on last month. Also, sent a card to Mary Molrales who was in the hospital in Leesburg.

Obituary



Thomas G. Kazyaka  
March 11, 1930 – December 5, 2020

Thomas Gerald Kazyaka, age 90, of The Villages, FL passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 5, 2020. He was born in Schenectady, NY on March 11, 1930. He is survived by his children Thomas V. Kazyaka of Gualala, CA, Mary Lynn Kazyaka of Milo, ME, Christine (Richard) Kazyaka Cleveland of Gold Hill, NC, Barbara J. Kazyaka of Spencer, NY and Stephen R. (Linda) Kazyaka of Sherman, CT; and grandchildren Ricky and Emily Cleveland, and Charlotte and George Rosvold. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 64 years, Marion C. Kazyaka. Tom is also remembered by his special friends in The Villages.

Tom served in the US Army 31st Infantry Division, 1951-53 during the Korean War. He played the Saxophone in the US Army Band Dixie Division throughout the US including at General MacArthur's parade in New York City. He proudly participated in a Virtual Honor Flight.

Tom raised his family in Yorktown Heights, NY and worked first for GE and then for 25 years as a Senior Research Engineer at the Thomas J. Watson IBM Research Lab. Tom shared his love of the NY Mets, black and white movies, science, bird watching, travel, adventures, and music with his family and friends.

The family would like to thank Natalie, Lynn, Valorie, and Denise for the care given to their Dad that allowed him to stay in his home in his final years. A service will be held Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:00 AM at HIERS-BAXLEY Funeral & Cremation Life Event Center, 3975 Wedgewood Lane, The Villages, FL 32162. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorial donations to the Cornerstone Hospice House, 2445 Lane Park Rd. Tavares, FL 32778. Sentiments may be left online at [www.hiers-baxley.com](http://www.hiers-baxley.com).

Obituary

Michael John Piepenburg  
Aug. 26, 1953 - Dec. 8, 2020

Michael John Piepenburg, age 67, of The Villages, FL, formerly of Dassel, MN, passed away after an unexpected illness Dec. 8, 2020, in Leesburg, FL.

Michael was born Aug. 26, 1953, in Litchfield, MN, to Floyd and Myra (Knutson) Piepenburg of Dassel.

Mike, Mikey, Big Mike P, the Big Pun, Michael Michael Motorcycle, or one of the many other nicknames he went by was a beloved father, grandfather, and friend to many.

Mike graduated from Dassel High School in 1971 and joined the United States Navy, where he served honorably until his medical discharge in 1973. Mike moved back to Dassel, where he and his former wife, Nancy, raised their four children.

Mike was a member of the Dassel Volunteer Fire Department, a longtime member of the Red Rooster Committee (lucky for us, that meant he knew the secret chicken recipe), and held a permanent seat at the Red Rooster Cafe, where it was said he told many great stories, and solved the world's problems over morning coffee with his dear friends. He loved Dassel, and the people there, and did what he could to be involved around town.

In 2015, Mike decided to make the move to The Villages, FL, where he could spend more time golfing and away from the cold winters. His golf game steadily improved (with a few "bad" games here and there), and he was so proud to show off his hole-in-one card. If he wasn't on the course or at home, you could likely find him eating breakfast at Sammy Joe's or sitting at City Fire, cigar in hand, telling stories, jokes, or showing off



pictures of his children and grandchildren.

He loved the ease of living where everything was accessible by golf cart, and he could take the scenic route. He didn't leave "the bubble" of The Villages very often, but when he did, it was always to spend time with his family. Mike was immensely proud of all of his family and loved them dearly.

All he needed in life were his family, friends, a good cigar, and a comfy recliner. He lived his life fully, right to the end. All who knew Mike spoke of his endless love, infectious smile, and big bear hugs. The consensus among many is; there wasn't a person he met who didn't consider him a friend.

Mike is survived by his children: Christopher (April) Piepenburg, Heather (Chad) Behnken, all of Colorado Springs, CO, Miranda Piepenburg (Mark Harbarth) of Hutchinson, and Alexandria Danielson (Jordan) of Dassel; and grandchildren, Cole Piepenburg, Ryan and Taylor Worley, Darby and Delaney Behnken, Riley Melcher, Lily and Huxley Harbarth, and Harper Danielson.

He is further survived by brother, Ron (Barb) Piepenburg of Litchfield; sister, Suzanne Hicks of Dassel, and many other close family members.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd and Myra Piepenburg.

#### Obituary



William B. Urton

January 9, 1941 - February 17, 2021

William Henry Burton, 80, of Albemarle County, Va., departed this life on Wednesday, February 17, 2021. He was born in Albemarle County, on January 9, 1941, the son of the late William Andrew Burton and Dorothy Bruce Burton.

He was the beloved husband of Irene Allen Burton.

He was a graduate of Burley High School and the University of the District of Columbia. William devoted his career as a Senior Budget Analyst with the General Services Administration. He served in the U.S. Army from 1960 to 1968. During his military service he was an expert rifleman who earned a National Defense Service Medal and a Good Conduct Medal.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Irene Allen Burton; a son, Cedric Allen Burton; two brothers, James and Thomas Burton; two sisters-in-law, Kitty Burton and Veronica Burton; and a host of other relatives and friends.

A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, February 26, 2021, at Culpeper National Cemetery.

Walk-through viewing will be held from 2 until 6 p.m. on Thursday, February 25, 2021, at the J. F. Bell Funeral Home Chapel.

Arrangements by J.F. Bell Funeral Home. Condolences may be sent to the family via the guestbook at [www.jfbellfuneralservices.com](http://www.jfbellfuneralservices.com).

c. Membership Report -- Jack Johnson -- We have 1406 members as of 30 March 2021. We have eight new members: Robert D. Ault (USM), Alan Flick (USM), Douglas Law (USN), David A. Maiorana (USN), Daniel J Martin (USN), Phalen A. Satterfield, (USN), Paul Schlagheck, (USN), Rodney Seymour, (USN). There were no transfer-ins this month.

d. Service Officer Report -- Dennis Storey -- We currently have 2 paid Department Service Officer's at the Villages VA Outpatient Clinic, Dennis Storey who is there Monday afternoon, Tuesday and Thursday and Joe Morales, Wednesdays and Fridays. Dennis also has walk-in hours at the

American Legion Post 347 on Mondays until noon. We are still requiring appointments at the Clinic per VA policy. That will probably be the case for the foreseeable future.

Below are the statistics for the Month of March 2021, as reported to Department of Florida.

Interviews	28
Power of Attorney	5
Intent to file	3
New Claims/Increases/Supplemental	21
Appeals	
Phone Calls with miscellaneous status of claims/General Questions/Records Request	108
Partial DAV Membership	
Full Membership	1
Aid and Attendance	3

d. Legislative Report – Joe Thompson

1) Dennis Storey – Encouraged members to sign up for the Commanders Action Network to find information about pertinent veterans legislation by joining DAV's Action Network at [davcan.org](http://davcan.org) then Select the Join DAV CAN and fill out the request. Also has a program associated with the Legislative recommendations for both House and Senate where you can easily send a pre-written letter to your Governing Representatives? Linda Grzanich said all the members of the DAVA Unit are signed up for DAV CAN.

2) HR 303 -- The Retired Pay Restoration Act. This bill would extend concurrent receipt authority to longevity retirees with service-connected disabilities rated 40 percent or less. Under current law disabled veterans with longevity retirement from active military service who are also in receipt of a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability determination of 50% or higher may retain both military retirement pay and their compensation.

3) HR 914 – The Dental Care for Veterans Act, legislation that would phase-in eligibility for all veterans enrolled in the VA for health care to receive dental care as part of the medical benefits. This bill would require the VA Secretary to furnish dental care in the same manner as any other medical service, and defines a four-year implementation plan beginning with veterans in priority groups one and two—for veterans with service-connected disabilities rated at 30% or more—in year one.

4) H.R. 333 provides a solution to the problem facing certain service members who are eligible for retired pay from the military and who have been injured during military service to our nation. Current law prohibits veterans from receiving both service-related disability compensation benefits and military retirement pay—an issue known as concurrent receipt. This bill permits retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated 40% and below to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation. The bill also makes permanent the eligibility for concurrent receipt for chapter 61 disability retirees who retired with less than 20 years of service.

c. POW/MIA Report – Ronald Cavanaugh – There has been very little to no activity from Korea or Vietnam. We have a few from the Pacific and from WWII. Dennis Storey – Please stand for a moment of silence for our missing veterans.

d. Van Report – Dennis Storey -- The VA has started the Van back at 50% capacity between the VA Clinic and Gainesville. They are running two days a week, one shift a day with four passengers. They will soon be hiring a few more drivers and they are moving to paid driver versus volunteers. Several drivers failed to return with the Covid stopping the bus runs for almost a year.



6. For the Good of the Order

a. 2021 Department of Florida Convention: June 16-18: The Convention will be held at the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary FL.

- o CSO Training: June 16-18, 2021.
- o Joint Opening Session: June 18, 2021 9:30 am-4:00 pm
- o Joint Opening Session: June 19, 2021 8:30 am-4:00 pm
- o National DAVA Auxiliary Commander's Dinner Saturday: June 19, 2021 7:00 pm
  - To date our Chapter Delegates are, Dennis Storey, Rhonda Storey, Larry Steven Grzanich and Dan Williamson will be Chapter 150 delegates
  - Bobby Wallace will be a Department delegate
  - Jack Johnson will be a National delegate.
  - Deadline for our delegate list is 21 May 2021 if anyone else would like to be a Delegate.

b. **DAV National Convention 28 July – 3 Aug 2021 – Rhonda Storey – NOTE** that the Convention dates and location have changed. It will be held at the Tampa Marriott in Tampa FL. To date these are your Chapter Delegates: Dennis Storey, Rhonda Storey & Dan Williamson

c. Next E-Board Meeting **6 May 2021**

d. Next General Membership Meeting **11 May 2021**

7. Motion to close the meeting made by Jim Goulette 2<sup>nd</sup> by Richard Payne. Meeting was closed in prayer by Andy Vasaturo at 1:45.

Respectfully Submitted



Rhonda L. Storey  
DAV Chapter 150  
Adjutant