

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
J.L. GOLIGHTLY CHAPTER #32
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 2013

The meeting was called to order by the Commander at 1930 on April 24, 2013.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS Present were: Commander, Brian Mitchell; Junior Vice Commander, Rafael Rodriguez; Adjutant/Treasurer, James "Jim" Daniel; Officer of the Day, Campbell Love; Sgt at Arms, Ron Butt and Executive Board members, Earl Mason, Hank Merckson and Jessie Owens.

VISITORS We had a number of visitors at the meeting and each stood and introduced themselves. They were: Buddy Rickman (Area 1 Committeeman, Chapter 1 - Jacksonville), Charles "Andy" Anderson (Past Commander of Chapter 32), Larry Kyser (Chapter 23 - Pensacola, Department Service Commissioner, Area 1 and National Membership Committee), Brian Moore (Chapter 23 - Pensacola), Al Linden (Past National Commander), Al Sorrentino (Past Commander of Chapter 32 and soon to be Commander of Chapter 129 - S. Brevard Beaches) and Herb Lewis (Commander of Chapter 13 in St. Pete).

MINUTES The minutes of the March meeting were distributed for review and accepted as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT The Treasurer reported income of \$ 2408.78 and expenditures of \$ 2429.64 during March leaving a balance of \$ 17,476.57. The single largest deposit was the result of Comrade Butt and all the volunteers for the Forget-Me-Not drive held on March 2nd and 3rd at the Melbourne Beach Publix during which \$1575.00 was collected. The single largest expense for the month was the annual insurance payment for our surety bond. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Earl Mason, seconded by Rafael Rodriguez. A motion to allow the Treasurer to pay all bills against the Chapter was made by Hank Merckson, seconded by Ray Braz. Both motions passed on voice vote.

REPORTS OF ILLNESS OR DISTRESS There were no new reports of illness made. It was good to see Comrade Bob Whitney, now in hospice care, was able to make the meeting along with his wife Mary.

NEW MEMBERS Two members – Gerald "Red" Dhaeze and Larry Morris - attending their first meeting stepped forward and received the obligation. There was 1 request for transfer – James Starnes from Chapter 91 in North Carolina. Hearing no objections from the floor, the transfer was accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

Someone has made an offer on the Coke machine. It has been on Craig's list for about 3 years. Currently the offer stands at \$200 – the Commander stated that he may be able to get a little more but asked for unanimous consent the he accept whatever the final offer ends up being. All members present voiced their approval so, **THE COKE MACHINE IS SOLD!**

Comrade Earl Mason reports that he is about 90% complete with his task of assembling a “clean” set Chapter By-Laws which will soon be available in the Adjutants office

The Adjutant reminded all that the moving wall was currently at Wickham Park and would be there until the 28th. Also, the DAV mobile service office will be at our Chapter Home on the 25th and at the wall on the 26th & 27th.

The Commander took our newly fashioned wreath out during the opening ceremony for the wall and will retrieve it on Sunday at the closing ceremony. Thanks again were expressed for Comrade Brenda Bosquet who created a smaller, less cumbersome and more manageable wreath for us to use in the future.

We still have an invitation to the Rockledge Memorial Day Parade. We agreed that a decision on our participation will be determined once we find out the date for the Melbourne parade – which should be by next business meeting.

The Commander reminded that it is his intention to attend the State Convention and that we had previously agreed to buy any remaining 50/50 tickets – as we have done in years past. We have the tickets available for sale at \$1 per ticket and they come in books of 5 so \$5.00 per ticket book.

NEW BUSINESS

Comrades Gerald “Red” Dhaeze and Larry Morris, who earlier took the obligation for membership, are also members of VFW Post 4206. They presented us a check from their VFW Post for \$500.00. Welcome aboard Red and Larry!

The minutes of the April Executive Board were not available for review at the time of this meeting.

The Commander announced that the VA is building a new Veteran's Cemetery in Scottsmore and the VA is soliciting veterans for a name for the new cemetery.

The Commander reported on an article that had been published in the local paper about relaxed screening by TSA agents for our wounded or injured returning veterans.

Country music hall of fame musician Lee Greenwood has donated 18,000 books to Dept. of Florida to be used as fund raisers by DAV chapters in Florida. The books are hard covered books, titled "God Bless the USA" and are stored in Plant City in boxes of 22. The chapters will need to pay \$1.50 per book to cover the original shipping charges and storage fees. The books will have to be picked up in Plant City. The Chapter is then free to charge whatever for the books. Chapter 150 (The Villages), who is storing the books currently, is charging \$5.00 each. The kicker is minimum order of 500 books.

The feeling from some of the visiting members, in particular the Department Adjutant is that Chapter 150 will accept smaller orders – the commander will follow up. The membership agrees that 5 boxes would be acceptable.

The Commander presented Hank "Skippy" Merckson with a past Sr. Vice Commander Pin, Earl Mason presented Brian Mitchell with a past Adjutant pin. The Commander then presented Earl Mason with a past Commander's pin as well as a plaque commemorating his 3 years as Commander of our chapter.

Comrade Bob Whitney announced that he would like to donate a flag pole to the chapter. The Commander will follow up to see if we have room for it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee Membership chairman was not present but the Commander reminded the chapter that we had exceeded our goal for the past year and continue to sign up new members.

Legislative Committee Chairman Earl Mason reported several items of interest appearing in the National Association for Uniformed Services weekly update from Friday, April 19th, 2013.

Some of the topics covered:

- Forgiveness for not showing up for appointments
- Bill currently before the House of Representatives that would grant presumptive exposure to Agent Orange for Blue Water sailors who served within 12 miles of Vietnam.
- VA & Guns
- Disabled "DV" License Plates
- Expediting of widows DIC claims

The full text of this report is available in the Adjutants office for review.

Service Earl Mason reports that we served 93 clients in the month of March and logged over 303 volunteer (LVAP) hours.

ADJOURNMENT The 50/50 was won by Larry Kyser who donated \$41.00 of his share back to the Chapter, netting the Chapter \$69.00.

Cambell Love purchased one book of tickets for the State Convention 50/50 which he then donated to the Chapter.

Rick Eastwood made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ray Braz.
No further business appearing, the meeting adjourned at 2038 hours.

Pizza and Soda was served after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

James K. Daniel
Adjutant/Treasurer