



Chapter 28 General Membership Meeting Minutes - December 2023

Call to Order: Commander Jim Anderson called the meeting to order at 1803 on 12/11/2023.

Roll Call of Officers

Officers Present: Jim Anderson, Commander; Steve Yngsdal, Senior Vice Commander; Kati Carpenter, First Junior Vice Commander; Angelica Reincke, Second Junior Vice Commander; Tom Schimek, Chaplain; Russ Turner, Treasurer; Stephen O'Connor, Adjutant; Jennifer Shumaker, Veterans Service Officer; and Bradley Kime, Master-at-Arms; and Sandy Martin, Commander, DAVA Unit 28.

Officers with Excused Absences: Jasmine Ralston, Judge Advocate.

Opening Ceremony:

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Prayer

Notice of deceased and hospitalized members

- Pat Smith is currently in the hospital.

Introduction of Visitors or Guests

- David Dunn, Administrator, Minnesota Veterans Home, Preston, reported the home provides 24-hour nursing care. There are 54 beds, and all are private rooms. They are doing small tours if anyone is interested. The home is planning on taking the first veteran on January 3, 2024. The Department of Health needs to do a walk through, and a medical provider needs to be hired. The home is working to contract with Olmsted Medical Center to provide physician services. There is both an active and inactive waiting list. Additional veterans homes will be opening in Montevideo and Bemidji in January. You can call and talk to Gabby for a tour 507-721-8348. You can speak to Beth, who is the benefits specialist and Nicole, who is the admissions person by calling 507-808-8910.
- Mary Hanson, Castle Quilters, is a group of 25 ladies who are associated with 125 Live. They have donated quilts to veterans, and they also donate quilts to 19 other organizations. Joel Scott is the only male member of the group, and he does all the veteran quilts.

Approval of November General Membership Minutes. Motion to approve by Byron Collins, second by Steve Yngsdal. Motion passed.

Review and Approval of General Membership Meeting Agenda. Motion to approve by Dan Pulford, second by Steve Yngsdal. Motion passed.

Reports:

Financial Report:

Russ Turner, Treasurer, summarized the financial report (attached).

2023 Financial Summary

Year-to-date	2022	2023
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Account Totals	\$85,407.33	\$69,8789.02
Donations	\$48,196.46	\$66,853.63
Local Area Support	\$132,985.48	\$52,912.45

Key Donations

Gary Mattison	\$100.00
Ellsworth Fields (Deer Hunt)	\$100.00
Andrew and Alice Kub	\$250.00
Apples R Us	\$250.00
James and Audrey Sass	\$30.00
Mariette Lovold	\$25.00
Michelle Camp	\$10.00

Local Area Support

Direct Support to Veterans	\$2,944.85
Food Service Program (27)	\$270.00
Bob Briggs Goose Hunt	\$2,000.00
Salads for Deer Hunt	\$169.96

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Angelica Reinke, second Steve Yngsdal. Motion passed.

VSO Report

Jennifer Shumaker stated that appointments are available by calling or scheduling on the website. The Wreath Ceremony at the Preston Veteran's Cemetery will be on December 16 at 11:00 am. The cost for wreaths is \$17 for one, \$34 for two, and \$85 for 5. If you want to donate, see Jennifer. The Department of Veterans Affairs is hosting a PACT Act claims clinic at Graham Park, Crawford Hall, at the Rochester Fairgrounds on December 20 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Fundraising Report

- The calendar raffle ends next week. Sales are brisk.

DAVA Report

Sandy Martin acknowledged the DAVA members present at the meeting. Sandy toured the Preston Veterans Home with Jim Anderson. The DAVA prepared 128 Christmas cards for veterans.

Adjutants Report:

- Officer elections.
 - We are looking for some individuals to be part of the nominating committee. Steve Yngsdal will be chairing the committee. Contact any member of the Executive Committee if you are interested.
 - If you have an interest in being an officer, contact any member of the Executive Committee.
 - Officer nominations will be announced at the February meeting.
 - They will again be announced at the March meeting. Voting will be conducted at the March meeting.
 - The plan is to install the new officers at the end of the March meeting.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

- Request for Funds:

- Dr. Leticia Calles for \$9,367.00 for the 40+ Veteran Joy Support Program 2024. Motion to approve by Steve Yngsdal, second by Duane Jones. Motion passed.
- Veteran in distress for \$2,810.00 for back rent and HyVee gift card. Motion to approve by Bradley Kime, second by Steve Yngsdal. Motion passed.
- \$25.00 for each veteran at the Hastings Veterans Home for up to \$3,000.00. Motion to approve by Duane Jones, second by Steve Yngsdal. Motion passed.
- Castle Quilters for \$500.00 for supplies to make quilts for veterans. Motion to approve by Dan Pulford, second by Byron Collins. Motion passed.

Miscellaneous and Good of the Order

- Thank you to the Martin family who made cookies for tonight's event. They also did many of the Christmas cards that will be distributed to veterans.
- If you have the opportunity, stop in to see a veteran and spend a little time during the holiday season.
- Steve Yngsdal said it appears the calendar raffle is a big success. Thank you to Tom Harnak, Tom Leonard, Rich Daly, Dan Pulford, Jim Anderson, and Byron Collins who were instrumental in coordinating this fundraiser.
- Thank you to those who drive veterans to their appointments.
- Thank you to everyone who is involved in the clothing bin program.
- Steve Yngsdal and Kati Carpenter reported on the Bob Briggs Goose and Pheasant Hunt.
- Rochester Medical West is holding their Christmas celebration on Thursday, December 21, beginning at 10:00 am. All DAV Chapter 28 members are invited to attend and will be very much appreciated.
- DAV Events:
 - [Texas Wild Hog Hunt](#) – March 9, 2024.
 - [Long Winter Getaway](#) – April 11 – 18, 2024.
 - [Veterans Day on the Hill](#) – April 17, 2024.
 - SE MN Women Veterans Gala – April 20, 2024.
 - SE MN Veterans Appreciation and Benefit – April 21, 2024.
 - [DAV MN State Convention](#) – April 25, 2024.
 - Andy's Liquor Thank a Veteran Event – weekends in May 2024.
 - [DAV MN Golf Classic](#) – July 23, 2024.
 - [SE MN Women Veterans Retreat](#) – August 16, 2024.
 - DAVA Veterans Appreciation Benefit – September 14, 2024.
 - [DAV MN Fall Conference](#) – September 19, 2024.

Next Meeting: Monday, 1/8/2024, at Charlie's Bar and Grill. 1730 Brunch, 1800

Adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Steve Yngsdal, second by Dan Pulford. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 1901.

Submitted by Stephen O'Connor, Adjutant.