



Minutes of the meeting of the Withlacoochee Chapter of the SAR
February 10, 2024

President Stephen Hohman opened the meeting at 10:32 AM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Chaplain Eric Linthicum gave the Invocation.

The SAR Pledge was recited by all.

The President gave a very nice eulogy on Fred Olive long time Librarian General for the SAR. He had spoken to this Chapter several times on Zoom.

The President inducted new member Jeffrey Rambis and presented him with a membership certificate. The President then gave a short informational tutorial on the SAR badge which has the Maltese Cross and its symbolism.

The President then called up Dr. James Armitage and awarded him the SAR 40 years of service pin and certificate. Dr. Armitage has a long and meritorious service to the SAR.

The President then gave an update on the GWE Fund with Florida leading the country and our chapter leading the state. Our Chapter now has 22 members of the GWEF. The President then pinned Burton Henry Harris Jr with the GWEF pin as well as the certificate.

Minutes which had been distributed prior to the meeting and on the website were approved by motion unanimously.

The President announced that the last three meals have been sponsored and 100% of the profits go to the Chapter. We are tracking to make \$4800 this year for our Chapter. It has been suggested to give 25% of the proceeds to our Ladies Auxiliary so they can send flowers or make-up baskets for various



events. Motion made to use up to 25% of our meal profits for the Ladies Auxiliary. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report - Richard Bailey reported income of \$1050 and expenses of \$6519.38. Expenses went towards member dues to NSSAR and FLSSAR, meal expenses, awards, postage, etc.

Veterans' Report - Bill Teater reported that his Stark report yielded of 27 pages yielded 34,665 points which is the highest amount of points this chapter has had. He thanked chapter members for their work on behalf of veterans.

Registrar Report Tom Hellem reported 3 applications approved, 1 at national and 1 at FLSSAR. He is working on a total of 28 apps. He advised we are getting to 95 members when 5 years ago we had 65 members.

President Hohman then recognized February birthdays for Mark Johnson, Thomas Bowen and Richard Bailey.

Old Business – Mark Johnson announced a committee get together at Timber Pines at 6 PM on February 15.

New Business – The President entertained a discussion on ROTC medals. The ROTC cannot wear medals on their uniforms and a suggestion was made to donate \$100 per unit for a total of \$600 for the total of six units for Hernando and Citrus Counties which would go to their year-end celebration. Discussion revolved around the fact that we may not get reimbursed for the donation while we are reimbursed for the medals. A motion was made to table further discussion till we find out the facts of reimbursement or not. Passed unanimously.

The President gave the members a briefing on Brooksville Blueberry Festival on April 27 and 28. We will be manning a blueberry muffin booth. We will be selling muffins. The President's estimates that we could net around \$10,000. We would be doing bathroom and trash checks. The President emphasized



that we must provide the labor to sell the muffins and other duties. We will also be distributing materials to the public. More details will be provided by the President.

Compatriot Bill Stone gave an excellent five-minute speech on Patriot Henry Laurens. Bill first introduced our speaker and Compatriot Lee Popham running for Treasurer General at the national Congress. Bill Stone then gave a well-researched and entertaining speech on our 4th American President Henry Laurens.

The President then introduced Lee Popham who gave an informative and entertaining speech on various subjects and inside workings of the SAR. We will become more oriented to online dues and other items. He discussed the Patriot Records System to do research on your patriot. He discussed using this system to put together an Edu-Vacation and family reunion and learn about your own family descendants. He went through the dynamics of using Ancestry.com and DNA searches. These methods can bring in more members for the SAR and DAR. His speech was concluded with applause from our interested members.

President Hohman brought up committees for discussion. The President wants the members to review the available committees for our Chapter. We have 21 committees with one third of them vacant. He discussed narrowing them to 4 parent committees. This will be more manageable. He discussed Podcasts and getting out in the community to get members for our chapter. Our national non-renewals were 13% last year.

The President reminded members that you can sponsor a meal for about \$150 and 100% of the profit goes to the Chapter.

Richard conducted Happy Dollars.

Nelson Peters was installed as 2nd Vice-President by Bill Stone.



Motion to adjourn was passed unanimously.

The Recessional was recited by all.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Secretary Thomas Bowen.

Members and Guests Attending:

President Stephen Hohman, Jena Hohman, 1st Vice President Mark Johnson, 2nd Vice President Nelson Peters, Past State President Lee Popham, Secretary Thomas Bowen, Treasurer Richard Bailey, James Armitage, Jimmie Barnes, Douglas Brock, Stephen Brown, Vicki Brown, Stephen Burke, John Carey, Wayne Carlile, James Echlin, Bill Ferguson, Norm Freyer, Burt Harres, Jr., Tom Hellem, Brian Jenkins, Eric Linthicum, John Longacre, Charlie Lukas, James Peyton, Karen Peyton, Ronald Powell, Bill Scheiterle, John Steelfox, Wife of Steelfox, David Steitz, Bill Stone, Franny Stone, David Stoughton, Bill Teater, Robert Thomas, William Vette, John Wilder, Chuck Wilson