



## **Withlacoochee Chapter of the SAR**

### **Minutes of Meeting October 14, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 by President David Hitchcock.

The invocation was given by Chaplain Eric Linthicum

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

The SAR Pledge and American Creed was said by all.

President Hitchcock said a prayer and then asked for a silent prayer for our soldiers that are in harm's way.

President Hitchcock introduced new applicant Jeffery Landis.

President Hitchcock recognized October birthdays for Robert Thomas and William Morehead.

President Hitchcock and 1<sup>st</sup> VP Stephen Hohman conducted the pinning ceremony for the GWEF for the following: Bill Teater, Chuck Wilson, Nelson Peters and Stephen Burke.

**Treasurer's Report by Richard Bailey:** Total income for last month was \$2392, Total expenses were \$3271, for a minus of \$878. He also reported that the facility that we are now meeting in is paid through August 2024. He reported that the Beefeaters Fund raiser was a success with income of \$360, expenses of \$254 with a net donation of \$106. President Hitchcock thanked Stephen and Jena Hohman for hosting the fundraiser. Several donations from the Richard Trout Family and another anonymous donor have paid for most of the new facility's use for the year. We also must pay for insurance for the use of the facility. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made and passed unanimously.



**Secretary's Report by Thomas Bowen:** Minutes posted on the website as well as two copies on each table. A correction was made from Dr. Fred Oliver to Dr. Fred Olive. A motion was made to approve the minutes with the above correction and passed unanimously.

**Color Guard Report by Bob Thomas:** Bob reported they have two events coming up which is the Massing of the colors and the Veteran's Day parade in Inverness.

President Hitchcock announced a new program wherein during every meeting a volunteer will give a five-minute speech on each founder that served as President.

President Hitchcock then introduced our guest speaker Steve Epple. Steve has been involved in Boy Scouts for 25 years and has been the Scoutmaster in Inverness for 25 years. Steve gave a very informative and entertaining speech on his scouting activities in Citrus County. He went through a thorough explanation of the Eagle Scout program and how the majority of our first 12 astronauts were Eagle Scout. It is essentially a leadership program that the boys must attain by themselves. He discussed their many scouting trips to national parks out west.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Report by Steve Hohman:** Steve discussed a variety of items he is working on including Podcasts, the GWE Fund and how we are attempting to get 30 members, a committee of volunteers for the upcoming 250 reenactment we are planning at our current venue. He has commitments from the Brooksville city leaders to assist in this endeavor. A discussion was had on some of the mechanics of volunteer help, building a bridge to emulate the Lexington/Concord bridge for the reenactment which will be a national event.

**Speaker Zack Distel from the National Museum:** Bill Stone introduced Zack Distel from the SAR National Museum who is a curator there. He gave a very entertaining and informative speech by Zoom on their climate-controlled museum. They have many artifacts, and he went over numerous items giving a history of each item. He explained the Artifact Donor Program which allows individual donors to sponsor an artifact for our museum. He displayed many Revolutionary war objects and gave detailed histories on each item. His speech and display items were well received by the membership.



President Hitchcock adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12:25 PM.

President Hitchcock reconvened the meeting at 1:05 PM.

**Veteran's report by Bill Teater:** Bill discussed the annual veteran's home visit and discussed the needs of the veterans at the Land O Lakes home. The visit is scheduled for December 14 at 2PM. Bill has obtained a TV for the home donated by Walmart which was much needed. Bill also discussed the Pumpkins for the veteran's program and made a motion that Happy Dollars today go towards purchasing Pumpkins for the veterans. The motion passed unanimously. Bill asked for members to bring donations to bring them to the next two meetings. Bill discussed the Veteran's parade in Inverness on November 11. We muster at Citrus High School somewhere around 9:15 AM. Massing of the Colors will be at 7 Rivers church on Lecanto Highway on October 29 at 2:30 PM.

**Publicity Report by Thomas Bowen:** Tom discussed his publicity efforts and how the Florida SAR magazine prints every submission of Florida chapters. The SAR National magazine prints only a few submissions by Florida Chapters. There appears to be a wide disparity between Florida and Virginia for submissions printed. Florida is one of the largest states by population and has many chapters by comparison to Virginia.

Happy Dollars was conducted by Treasurer Richard Bailey.

**Registrar report by Tom Hellum:** Tom reported that we have three applications at National and one pending application. Tom will remain after the meeting to answer questions about supplemental applications.

The SAR recessional was read by all.

Next meeting is on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 1:53 PM by President Hitchcock.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by:

Thomas Bowen - Secretary



**Meeting Attendees:** James Armitage, Kristin Armitage, Richard Bailey, Jimmie Barnes, Paul Belter, Thomas Bowen, Stephen Brown, Vicki Brown, Stephen Burke, Debbie Burke, John Carey, Bill Ferguson, Steve Epple, Norm Freyer, Russ Gibson, Tom Hellem, David Hitchcock, Millard Hodges, Stephen Hohman, Jena Hohman, Mark Johnson, Eric Linthicum, John Longacre, Daniel Marlow, William Moorehead, Nelson Peters, James Peyton, Jeffery Rambis, Bill Scheiterle, David Steitz, Bill Stone, Franny Stone, Bill Teater, Robert Thomas, Jack Townsend, Chuck Wilson