



WITHLACOOCHEE CHAPTER
Sons of the American Revolution
November 9th, 2019

The General Meeting of the Withlacoochee Chapter of the SAR was called to order at 10:30 by 1st Vice President Dave Hitchcock.

Invocation – Richard Trout, Jr.

The Invocation was given by Norm Freyer in the absence of Richard Trout Jr.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was administered by Russ Gibson.

SAR Pledge

The SAR Pledge was led by Dave Hitchcock

The American Creed

The American Creed was led by Russ Gibson

A moment of silent prayer was offered for Compatriot Ed Gingrich who passed away recently.

Veterans Committee Activity – Bill Teater

Mr. Teater discussed the following Veterans Committee activities:

- Veterans Without Families – there are (2) two veterans still to be taken; the request for razors has been taken off the list. Razors will be donated by Dave Hitchcock; batteries to support the razors will be donated by Bill Teater; the current plan is to meet between 13:15-13:30 on December 5th.
- Veterans Parade- the parade will be begin at 10:00; plans are to muster at Citrus High School between 9:00and 9:15; a convertible is still needed to transport veteran from the wars and conflicts; a show of hands was taken to see how many Compatriots would be attending the parade in each; there is still a need for “walkers” to hand out tokens (flags/pens/constitution booklets) along the parade route
- The subject of quarters for Veterans Home was discussed; a vote was taken to contribute the current balance to obtain a total of \$300. The vote based by acclimation.
- Service medals and certificates will be presented at the December meeting

Introduction of Guests – 2nd Vice President Ron Powell

2nd Vice Ron Powell introduced our guests.

- Paul Rundio – Prospective member and Paul's wife Pat
- Ed Penfield – Prospective member
- Cynthia Henderson – President/Founder, Female Veterans Network (Guest Speaker)
- Gerald Hardwich – Regional Vice President (FLSSSAR)

Opening Comments – Dave Hitchcock

There were no Opening Comments by 1st Vice President Hitchcock

Committee Reports

- ***Nominating Committee***

1st Vice President Dave Hitchcock announced that Doug Brock would be leading the Nominating Committee efforts; Mr. Brock asked that if anyone was interested in canvassing the membership to solicit nominations to please contact him directly.; It was also announced that Doug Brock was interested in becoming 1st Vice President and that Bob Folk was interested in becoming the 2nd Vice President.

- ***Treasurer's Report – Dale Hash***

A general overview of the status of the Treasury year to date was provided by Mr. Dale Hash and that we were on track with the budget year to date. A report with specific details would be available for Compatriots to review. Mr. Hash also announced that requests for funds (Veterans Letter) has been mailed out and the requests for submission of Annual Dues would be forthcoming.

- ***Secretary's Report – Ken Lancaster***

Mr. Lancaster stated there were no action from the previous meeting. He went on to state that the Chapter Roster was up to date and consistent with the Chapter registry in the State database. He provided an update of information supplied for the Chapter Challenge indicating that we had participated in twenty-nine events (29) and had contact with approximately seven thousand five hundred people have been involved in Chapter activities and events.

- ***Poster Contest – Larry Sturgeon***

Mr. Sturgeon was not present at the meeting. Norm Freyer stated that the theme for the contest was on the website and in Hernando County.

- ***JROTC/Sea Cadets/Color Guard – Russell Gibson***

Commander Gibson reported that he had nothing to report on the JROTC or the Sea Cadets. Mr. Gibson did highlight a number of upcoming Color Guard activities including, Massing of the Colors (11/10, Veterans Parade 11/11, and the "Wreaths across America" in December)

- ***Registrar's Report – Stephen and Vicki Brown***

Ms. Vicki Brown provided the Registrar's Report. Ms. Brown indicated that the total membership has is seventy-seven (77) Ms. Brown also stated that there were four (4) applications ready for signature, one (1) new Junior Member, three (3) applications at National, and five Supplements in progress. The details of the Registrar's Report are included as an attachment to the MoM.

Ms Brown also conducted a tribute to Compatriot Richard Trout Sr. following his passing. Ms Brown read a number of letters written by students in the H.H. Wells middle school in Brewster, NY. Compatriot Brown had established a relationship with the students when they met in Washington D.C. at the Memorials. The letters written by the students thanked him for his service and his commitment to his country. It was understood that the letters that were sent over the years from those students were very near and dear to Compatriot Trout's heart.

- ***Speakers***

Cynthia Henderson spoke regarding her organization and their commitment to female veterans. She provided a brief history of the organization of thirty (30) members and their involvement in the community. Ms Henderson highlighted the organizations most recent project that being the construction of a memorial to Female Veterans. The monument is expected to be dedicated in 2020. Ms Henderson was presented with a certificate for her contributions by 1st Vice President David Hitchcock following her presentation.

Our second speaker was FLSSAR Regional Vice President Gerald Hardwich. Mr. Hardwich addressed the membership about upcoming events including: Battle of Pensacola, Last Naval Battle, and Battle of Thomas Creek. He went on to discuss the state membership initiative directing us to the website and materials that would support the effort.

Award Presentations

Commander Russ Gibson was presented the Bronze Color Guard Medal for his commitment and service to the Color Guard.

Compatriot Robert Folk was presented with a certificate honoring his ten (10) years of commitment and service to the SAR.*

* It was also noted that the balance of service awards would be mailed to the other recipients

- ***Publicity – Norm Freyer***

Mr. Freyer reported that the Chapter has submitted greater than thirty five (35)) articles for publication.

- ***Eagle Scouts – Charlie Day***

No report.

- ***Web Page /Newsletter– Ken Dunn***

No report on the Web Page/Newsletter activities. Mr. Dunn was unable to attend.

- ***Old Business – David Hitchcock***

There was no Old Business.

- ***New Business – Dave Hitchcock***

There was additional discussion regarding the “tribute” to Compatriot Richard Trout Sr. The effort and response from the students from the H.H. Wells School was extraordinary and shows a great deal of appreciation for our veterans. In that regard, a motion was made by Jim Booth and seconded by Stephen Brown to acknowledge the students and their sense of appreciation. It was decided by vote by acclamation to inquire about the possibility to obtain a U.S. Flag that had flown over the U.S. Capitol Building, properly mount it and deliver it to the students of H.H. Wells. Contact would be made with Daniel Webster to look into the process and procedure.

Jack Townsend spoke of the Veterans Program at IPS and how extraordinary it was suggesting that those veterans should attend the annual event if they haven’t already.

- ***Happy Dollars – Dale Hash***

Happy Dollars were collected by Dale Hash.

- ***SAR Recessional***

The SAR Recessional was read and the meeting adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:28.

Upcoming Events

Chapter EBM 12/04/2019

General Meeting 12/14/2019

Dave Hitchcock, 1st Vice President

Ken Lancaster, Secretary