

General Membership Meeting Minutes 11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. Saturday, April 15, 2023 Outback Steakhouse 2725 S. University Drive, Davie, FL 33328

Attendance:

Members (15): Chuck Adams, President & Registrar/Genealogist; Steve De Paul, Vice President; Mark Snider, Secretary; Jim Lohmeyer, Chaplain; Jim Clark; Paul DeBold; Earl Higginbotham; Martin Hollick; John Lohmeyer; Tim McLane; John Sauerwald; Tom Shepard; Kevin Shurte; Michael Spear; and Pete Stevenson. **Prospective Members / Guests (5):** Ed Sisson; Applicant; Ronna Adams; Christian De Paul; Linda DeBold; and Ellen Higginbotham.

Call to Order and Introductions: Chuck Adams called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Opening Ceremonies: The **Invocation**, prepared by Jim Lohmeyer, was given by John Lohmeyer. Chuck Adams led the participants in reciting the **Pledge of Allegiance** and the **SAR Pledge**.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Mark Snider and seconded by John Sauerwald to approve the meeting minutes of March 18, 2023. Unanimously approved.

Officer's and Committee Reports:

President & Registrar/Genealogist - Chuck Adams:

Genealogy & Membership. Chuck stated that our newest NSSAR applicants are Cliff Dickinson and Scott Moore. Applicants expected to be approved shortly are Ed Sisson and his sons, John and Mathew. Lincoln Pero is our newest prospective member. Robert Bowling & Collier Bowling were approved earlier in the year and are scheduled for induction at our May 13th meeting. Chuck stated that supplemental applications have been submitted by Martin Hollick and Kevin Shurte, and that his eighth supplemental was recently approved. He said that Michael Spear has submitted a memorial application for his brother, Gene. Chuck noted that, year to date, there have been nine new members added to the chapter, including transfer-ins and reinstatements.

Upcoming Events: Chuck stated that registration is still open for both the May BOM and July 133rd National Congress. Newsletter: Chuck stated that the April 2023 Newsletter includes the Member Profile of Paul DeBold. It also includes an article written by Mark Snider that provides a summary of the various programs and activities that we can do as a Chapter in support of Veterans.

Secretary - Mark Snider:

Executive Committee. Mark reported that the Committee, with all members present, met on April 11, 2023. The Committee unanimously approved a motion re-appointing Steve De Paul to a one-year term to serve as a Trustee to the Fort Lauderdale SAR Operating Budget Trust Fund. Other Trustees continuing to serve on unexpired terms are Chuck Adams and Pete Stevenson. Joe Motes assigned his proxy to vote at the May 2023 BOM to Kevin Shurte, which will give our Chapter three votes at the BOM. The Executive Committee also discussed the status of upcoming events and the Color Guard, Fundraising and Veterans Support Committees.

Veterans Support and US Stark Memorial Award Committee Report. Mark stated that the https://www.fortlauderdalesar.org Page 1 of 2

applications for him, as Representative, and Chuck, as Deputy Representative, to the Veterans Administration Voluntary Support (VAVS) Committee are still pending approval. He stated that the Chapter was accepted as a Commemorative Partner in the National Vietnam War Commemoration. This allows us to participate in the planning and hosting of activities recognizing Vietnam Veterans. Mark announced that the Vietnam Traveling Wall will be on exhibit at the Coral Springs Sportsplex from May 5th- 7th. Mark stated that he has had conversations with a representative of the Nininger Veterans Nursing Home. Discussions include the Chapter sponsoring a "Donut Saturday" tentatively planned for Saturday, June 24th at 10:30 a.m. with more info to come. As for other USS Stark Memorial Program Activities, Mark encouraged all members that volunteer at veteran's organizations or visit veterans at facilities to keep track of their time, mileage, and donation expenses and provide that to him for the Stark Program Annual Report.

Honor Flights. Mark asked Ellen Higginbotham to provide this update. She said that the next Honor Flight in South Florida will be May 6th. Volunteers to serve as guardians are still needed. Others may participate at the "welcome home" by greeting the returning flight at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, Terminal 4, Spirit Airlines, at about 7:00 p.m.

Vice President – Steve De Paul:

Fund Raising and Charitable Giving Report. Steve reported that we have recently received an additional contribution of \$500 from Arrow Asphalt and Engineering. Non-member contributions received to date total \$3,000. Other contributions received are \$2,000 from Danto Builders, and \$500 from T & R Painting Specialists.

Treasurer & Historian/Editor: Chuck Adams gave the Status of Fund Report in the absence of Joe Motes. As of March 30, 2023, the rounded balances are \$5,649 in the Checking account and \$1,348 in the Savings account. Funds invested in U.S. I-bonds, including accrued interest, are \$3,656 from Chapter reserves and \$16,703 from the Trust Estate. He stated that Joe Motes has arranged for representatives of the local C.A.R. to be at our next meeting to give us an update.

Induction of New Member Compatriot: Chuck Adams inducted Compatriot Paul Johnston DeBold. Mark Snider explained the purpose of and presented the Rosette label pin. A Rosette, originally owned by Paul's grandfather, was pinned on him by Linda DeBold.

Presentation of 2022 Chapter Officer's Service Certificates: Chuck Adams presented Pete Stevenson with a certificate of appreciation for serving as Chapter Secretary during 2022. Chuck also was presented a certificate for 2022 service as Chapter President and Registrar/Genealogist.

Presentation of Military Service & War Time Service Medals and Certificates: Chuck Adams presented a certificate and medal for military service to Compatriots: Paul DeBold (U.S. Coast Guard) and John Sauerwald (U,S. Navy). He then presented a certificate and medal for wartime service to Compatriots: Jim Lohmeyer (U.S. Marines - Korea), Earl Higginbotham (U.S. Marines/Army - Korea & Vietnam), Jim Clark (U.S. Marines - Vietnam), and Michael Spear (U.S. Army - Vietnam).

Old Business/ New Business/ Announcements (Next Meeting 05/13/2023): Chuck Adams provided an update on the formation of a Chapter Color Guard. He said that we need 3-4 members to form an outpost, and 5 or more to form a camp which we now have. It has been decided that the Color Guard will dress in militia attire. This does not preclude other Chapter members that do not want to be in the color guard from purchasing continental uniforms or colonial attire.

Closing Ceremonies: The **Benediction**, prepared by Jim Lohmeyer, was given by John Lohmeyer. Chuck Adams led the participants in reciting the **SAR Recessional**.

Adjournment: Chuck Adams adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.