

## AFSA Chapter 872

11 Feb 2014

### General Membership Meeting Minutes



Meeting was called to order at 1133 by SSgt Nichole Brown

Preamble was read by SMSgt Patrick Holtzmann

**40 members were in attendance; 2 were first time attendees.** A quorum was determined.

#### **Legislative Update: SMSgt Jacob Sanabia**

- 1% reduction in COLA every year until age of 62.
- In-State Tuition for Post 9/11 GI Bill- House passed bill
- Possible decrease in Commissary funding
- Tricare- DEERS must be updated to make sure you have insurance
- Re-elections for many leaders in House, Senate and Governor seats
- There will be a legislative committee put together. If you're interested in a particular topic of legislation, and would like to be apart of the committee, please contact SMSgt Jacob Sanabia.

#### **Financial Report: MSgt (Ret) Thyne**

- Current balance is ~\$7,217.74

#### **Membership: MSgt Lincoln Ratliff & MSgt Bernie Ratliff**

- In January our Chapter recruited 12 new members and 22 retentions. For the year so far, we have 22 retained. Total membership is 2,233 for the Chapter.

#### **Ways and Means: SrA Jordan Wentzle**

- We're currently looking for stand leads for upcoming events. Stands leads are those persons primarily in charge of the money. If you'd like to be trained and interested in becoming a stand lead for future events, please contact SrA Wentzle. The next event will be 16 Feb. Showtime is 1000. Subsequently, the next event will be 17 March, which is a Blues game.

#### **Plans/Programs: SMSgt Lee Ayers**

- **Meals on Wheels:** In Jan they delivered 78 meals and had 16 volunteers. Please visit the AFSA webpage or SharePoint site to sign up. Please contact MSgt Hyman Hendrix for additional information on the program.
- **Caring Hearts:** We help pack care packages at the O' Fallon Methodist Church on Highway 50. We packed about 122 boxes for January. Next event will be 22 Feb at 0815; this event takes place every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month. The new POC is TSgt Larry Adams and the alternate POC is MSgt Amber Callahan .
- **Missouri State Veterans Home:** For Feb so far 8 volunteers for 3 events (Superbowl Party, St. Charles Hockey Game, Hibachi Grill & Dollar Store Shopping). Total of 9 events for Feb. Please contact SrA Nikita Hudson if you are interested in any of the upcoming events for March to plan ahead.
- **Mississippi Valley Blood Drives:** AFNIC Blood Drive took place on 23 January, and 35 units were collected, which in turn saves approx 105 lives  
The next blood drive will be 27 February . . . volunteers are still needed; contact MSgt Thomas Ricketson

- **The Mission Continues:** No updates
- **Exceptional Family Members Program (EFMP):** 21 Feb Valentine's Dinner and Dance; needs 10 volunteers
- **Boots on the lane:** "Boots on the Green" May 14
- **Hospice for Vets:** No updates
- **Camp Hope:** Spring Clean up 22 Mar, need volunteers contact MSgt Hicks

#### **Communications: MSgt Andrea Cogar**

- We've selected a new template for the website :Nova (red). We're excited to make the website new and fresh . We hope to win website of the year for the Chapter. Please send MSgt Cogar your pictures from AFSA events as well as any ideas on how to make the website better... and like us on Facebook to keep up with chapter happenings. Please send MSgt Cogar any ideas on what improvements could be made to the websites.
- AFSA Chapter 872 Website: <http://www.AFSA872.org>
- AFSA Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/AFSA872>
- AFSA EIM Site: <https://eim.amc.af.mil/org/375amw/afsa>
- Scott AFB Retiree Activities Office: <http://www.raolibrary.org>
- AFSA Capwiz: <http://www.capwiz.com/hqafsa/home/>

#### **Awards and Recognition: SMSgt (Ret) Signore-Hayes:**

- Please be sure you continue to keep track of all of your volunteer hours and input them onto the tracker on our website at <http://www.afsa872.org/index.php/information/volunteer-hours/>. These hours and awards are provided to the district quarterly to show what Chapter 872 members are involved in. Remember, these activities do not have to be AFSA activities- it can be anything you are volunteering in or with.

#### **Airman's Activities Coordinator:**

- March 8<sup>th</sup> Mardi Gras – Chapter will donate \$150 for party

#### **Reserve/Guard Affairs:**

- No Update

#### **Retiree Affairs: SMSgt (Ret) Steve Zaleski/SMSgt (Ret) Rebecca Gable:**

- Submit your DD214 to Veteran's Affairs to receive your housing stipend if you are going to school using your Post 9/11 GI Bill

#### **New Business:**

- Div 3 Conference (27-30 Mar 14) – We will be hosting this years conference at the Drury Inn off exit 16 on I64. We are looking for volunteers as well as a to help all of the committees. POC is MSgt Callahan.
- Please go to the AFSA Chapter Website to sign up to attend the conference.
- Now have President coins, first recipient of the coin: Chief Crowder

#### **Chief's Group Update:**

- Keep informed of the updates with the Force Reduction PSDM's.
- Submit POMs
- Use the GI Bill calculator
- Sign up or encourage Airmen to use the Top 3 MENTOR program; the Top 3 has built a new mentoring program that will link up mentors (E7 to E-9) and mentees (E-1 to E-6) to facilitate professional development and address enlisted concerns. If you are interest, please contact SMSgt Ayers.

#### **First Sergeant's Update: No new updates**

**TOP 3 Update:** The Scott AFB Tricare office will be closed as of 1 April 2014; if you have any Tricare inquiries on 1 April or later, be sure to call 1-877-TRICARE (1-877-874-2273).

**NCO Council Update:** Meeting Feb 20<sup>th</sup> at 1500 Scott Club

**First Four/Dorm Council Update:** March-April party planning

**Other Business:** No new updates.

**SSgt Brown adjourned the meeting at 1210.**

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 11 March 2014 at 1130 in the Scott Club Enlisted Lounge.**

**//SIGNED//**

NIKITA A. HUDSON, SrA, USAF  
Secretary, Chapter 872

Approved/~~Disapproved.~~

**//SIGNED//**

Nichole R. Brown, SSgt, USAF  
President, Chapter 872