

AFSA Chapter 872

11 Mar 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; 9 were first time attendees and 1 was a last time attendee. A quorum was determined.

Annual Awards were presented to the following members:

- Airman Category - SrA Jordan Wentzel
- NCO Category -SSgt Nichole Brown
- SNCO Category - MSgt Arlene Lee
- Member- MSgt Chad Lee
- Volunteer Service Person (VSP) - MSgt Samantha Young

MSgt Arlene Lee was also acknowledged for her awesome job recruiting last year and was presented with a coin.

Legislative Update: SMSgt Jacob Sanabia

- FY 15 Presidential budget: 1% pay raise proposed
- TRICARE Overhaul: proposed to merge all TRICARE programs. Result will be raise in co pay and deductible
- BAH: Proposal to reduce BAH to 90% to cover housing expenses
- Retirement: Receive partial benefits until 62 and thereafter, receive full benefits.
- There will be a legislative committee put together. So far there are 4 division POCs so 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 ~\$10,596

Membership: MSgt Lincoln Ratliff & MSgt Bernie Ratliff

- In February our Chapter recruited 42 new members and 16 retentions. Total membership is 2,196 for the Chapter. For the incentive program, last month the incentive of \$100 for the member who recruits 10 members went to MSgt Chad Lee. If you recruit 10 members by the April meeting you will receive \$100. If you need to have your AFSA membership transefered, please see the MSgt Ratliff.

Ways and Means: SrA Jordan Wentzel

- The Blues game on 17 Mar is full for volunteers. For April, there is a Billy Joel concert and more Blue's games so look out for more details. Thank you again for all your support with volunteering for events.

Plans/Programs: SMSgt Lee Ayers

- **Meals on Wheels:** 3-7 & 17-20 Feb we had 18 volunteers and delivered 138 meals. Please visit the AFSA webpage or SharePoint site to sign up. We deliver meals the first and third week each month. Please contact MSgt Hyman Hendrix for additional information on the program.
- **Caring Hearts:** For February, we had 45 volunteers pack 124 boxes, totaling 225 volunteer hours.. Next event will be 22 Mar at 0815; We help pack care packages at the O' Fallon Methodist Church on Highway 50. every 4th 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 we had 9 events, with a total of 14 volunteers who donated 63 hours of their time to help 93 veterans. In March we have 8 events, 5 already completed. Please contact SrA Nikita Hudson if you are interested in any of the upcoming events for March to plan ahead.
- **Mississippi Valley Blood Drives:** The 27 February blood drive collected 27 ,which in turn saves approx 81 lives. Thank you to the 15 volunteers for a total of 15 volunteer hours.The next blood drive will be 27 March in TRANSCOM . Volunteers are still needed; contact MSgt Thomas Ricketson
- **The Mission Continues:** No updates
- **Exceptional Family Members Program (EFMP):** The 21 Feb Valentine's Dinner and Dance was very successful. They had 95 attendees. Thank you to the 16 volunteers for a total of 95 volunteer hours. The next event will be The Easter Egg Hunt and Dinner held 16 April at the Patriots Landing Community Center from 1700-1900. We are looking for 30 volunteers for this event.
- If you are interested, please sign up at this link:
- <https://eim.amc.af.mil/org/375amw/afsa/Lists/Calendar/calendar.aspx>
- **Boots on the lane/ Jefferson Barracks:** "Boots on the Green" Golf Tournament 9 May. All attendees will receive a commemorative poker chip. Looking for volunteers to golf, photograph, etc.
- **Hospice for Vets:** No updates
- **Camp Hope:** Spring Clean up 22 Mar, Have 40 volunteers so far so if you are interested, please contact MSgt Hicks
- **AFSA Relay for Life Team:** If you would like to donate or participate in The Relay for Life Team, please contact MSgt Marty Pallone.

Communications: MSgt Andrea Cogar

- We're excited to make the website new and fresh . We hope to win website of the year for the Chapter but in order to do that we need your constructive criticism on how we can improve the website or things that can be changed. . Please send MSgt Cogar any ideas on what improvements could be made to the websites. Also, send her 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
- 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:

- 16 March will be a St Patrick's Day party. There are talks of the FALCON conference being in August. Please be on the look out for more details.

Reserve/Guard Affairs:

- No Update

Retiree Affairs: SMSgt (Ret) Rebecca Gable:

- Please see the AFSA website for all the 2013 legislative accomplishments that have benefited retirees/ veterans. It may be slow, but we've made some progress so let's keep getting our voices heard.

New Business:

- Div 3 Conference (27-30 Mar 14) – We will be hosting this year's conference at the Drury Inn off exit 16 on I64. The Key Note Speaker on Friday is CMSgt (ret) Joseph Markin and the speaker for the Honors Banquet is CMSAF Binnicker. The cost for just the banquet is \$40. We still have volunteer spots open as well to help all of the committees. POC is MSgt Callahan. Please go to the AFSA Chapter Website to sign up to attend the conference.
- Interservice Dining Out: This coming Friday, 14 March @ 1130 in Bldg 1600 at the Global Grill Stripes Conference Room (located in the Global Grill), we will be hosting a meeting to solicit for volunteers to lead each major function to put on a fabulous AFSA Joint Inter-Service Dining Out event. If you are a motivated person with the initiative to lead, come out and show us your leadership skills and join us in making this event spectacular!
As of today, the details are as follows:
The 2014 AFSA Joint Inter-Service Dining Out will be held on Saturday, 10 May 2014 at the Four Points by Sheraton in Fairview Heights.
- POW/MIA coins for sale. Please see the AFSA website for the coin design. All Executive Council members have the pre order forms for the coins if you'd like to order one. Coins will arrive 25 March.

Chief's Group Update:

- Chief Klukas spoke, as this was his last AFSA meeting. He had this to say:
“Thank you for what you bring everyday to the mission. If I had pick one group to put out front, it'd be AFSA. You're very passionate & motivated. Thank you for stepping out and taking charge. Get involved and encourage people to join this great private org. 28 March is my Change of Position and then we'll roll right into the retirement ceremony. You are all invited to attend”

First Sergeant's Update: In May there will be a First Shirt Symposium held. Please be on the lookout for more details.

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 March 20th. Elections will be taking place. Please inquire with TSgt Eads for more details.

First Four/Dorm Council Update: They are looking to host Dorm Olympics again this year. It's still in the planning stages so please be on the lookout for more details.

Other Business: No new updates.

SSgt Brown adjourned the meeting at 1235.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 8 April 2014 at 1130 in the Dining Facility POW/MIA Room.

//SIGNED//

NATASHA N. THOMAS, SrA, USAF
Secretary, Chapter 872

Approved/~~Disapproved.~~

//SIGNED//

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