

AFSA Chapter 872

9 September 2014

General Membership Meeting Minutes



Meeting was called to order at 1134 by SSgt Brown

Preamble was read by MSgt Samson

37 members were in attendance; 2 were first time attendees and 0 last time attendees. A quorum was determined.

Legislative Update: MSgt Timothy Carter

- International Professional Airman's Conference established initiatives for the 2014-2015. Review the AFSA 2014-2015 platform to see what AFSA is advocating for on behalf of members. http://www.hqafsa.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Leg_Platform&Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=13221. This platform of legislative targets will be used as a "blueprint" for testimony and lobbying efforts, in addition to responses dictated by day-to-day events. Each area designates Association-approved initiatives but this list is not all inclusive. Understanding the Nation's fiscal situation, success in each of these areas will not be defined by what is gained, rather the level of benefit preserved. Members are encouraged to bring up any missing issues to their legislative POC
- Law Week will kick off on 17 October and MSgt Carter needs a team! If you are interested, please contact MSgt Timothy Carter ASAP to help get the ball rolling.

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Financial Report: MSgt (Ret) Thyne

- Approximately \$10,189 in the account.

Membership: TSgt Cale Hollingsworth

- In August our Chapter recruited 20 new members and 14 retentions. Total membership for our Chapter is 2,073.
- We are always recruiting so if you'd like us to come out to your Commander's Calls or squadrons to speak, please let us know. We have training tools if you are interested in some material to help you recruit.
- If you need to have your AFSA membership transferred, please see any executive council member.
- Mr. Zalesky has thrown down a challenge to everyone in the room to recruit at least one member to join AFSA by the next meeting. The goal is to eventually double the size of our chapter.

Ways and Means: SrA Jordan Wentzel

- Upcoming Scott Trade Center opportunities – Hockey season beginning EOM September
- AFSA can pass event to other private orgs/booster clubs – orgs must have trained stand leads
- Scott Trade Center stand leader training is scheduled for 11 Sep at 1730

Plans/Programs: SMSgt Lee Ayers

- **Meals on Wheels:** In August we had 19 volunteers and delivered 135 meals for a total of 11 volunteer hours. 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 August, we had 31 volunteers pack 110 boxes, totaling 33 volunteer hours and presented the program manager a \$500 check donation to offset increased food costs and plastic bags used to separate meats from fruits/vegetables. Next event will be 27 September 0815 and members are encouraged to donate plastics bags to the program. We help pack care packages at the O' Fallon Methodist Church on Highway 50. every 4th Saturday of the month. We need more volunteers to help sort the food to be put on the truck at the warehouse. Showtime is 0500. The new POC is TSgt Larry Adams and the alternate POC is MSgt Amber Callahan.
- **Missouri State Veterans Home:** For August we had 5 events, with a total of 12 volunteers who donated 60 hours of their time helping 93 veterans. In September we have 6 events scheduled. Please contact SrA Nikita Hudson if you are interested in volunteering.
- **Mississippi Valley Blood Drives:** The August blood drive collected 17 units, 51 lives saved. Thank you to the 3 volunteers for a total of 11 volunteer hours. The next blood drive will be 25 September at AFNIC bldg. 1700.
- **Boots on the Lane/ Jefferson Barracks:** The "Boots on the Lane" Bowling Tournament was held on 22 August. 48 volunteers donated 184 hours of their time to bowl with 36 veterans. This was a free event with lunch included. The next event will be the "Boots on the Green" golf tournament which occurs annually in May. Please contact MSgt Ronald Zokal to volunteer or to get more information on this event.
- **Habitat for Humanity:** In August we had a 5 volunteers donate 40 volunteer hours towards a home building project in Caseyville. If you are interested in volunteering for the next build date, please contact MSgt Brian Pettaway for more details.
- **EFMP Back to School Carnival:** In August we had 52 volunteers donate 260 hours of their time. The volunteers organized 10 activities to entertain 41 children and 121 family members. The next scheduled event is the Fall Family Festival on 4 Oct and 60 volunteers are needed to pull over the event. Please contact the event POC, TSgt Cherry to volunteer.
- **Fisher House:** The next event is scheduled for 20 Sept. Volunteers are needed every 3rd Saturday of the month for basic landscaping and yard work for the Fisher House. If you are interested in volunteering to help beautify the Fisher House, contact SrA Kevin Syzemore.

Communications: MSgt Andrea Cogar

- 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: No new update.

Reserve/Guard Affairs: No new updates.

Retiree Affairs: SMSgt (Ret) Rebecca Gabel: No new update.

New Business:

- Retiree Appreciated Day is scheduled for 27 Sep at the Scott Club. The new AFSA CEO CMSgt (ret.) Robert Franks is the keynote speaker at this event. CMSgt (ret) Frank will address the chapter at a special chapter meeting is scheduled on 26 Sep at 1100 at the EPEC. Lunch will be provided courtesy of the EC and Domino's Pizza.
- The International Professional Airman's Conference was held on 16-21 Aug in Jacksonville, FL. MSgt Chad Lee was selected as AFSA's Member of the Year, 2013 and Mr. Steve Zalesky was awarded the AFSA 4 Pillars Membership Award. The International President, Dan Yoemans, pushed the AFSA 4 pillars—Legislation, Communications, membership and fraternity. Several panels of interest were held such as the MAJCOM CC panel. ACC/Gen Hostage advised that force management/RIFs will continue into 2015 as well as initiatives to integrate the AD and ARC forces. AETC/General Rand brought up changes to BMT will include a new transition phase during the last week to prepare trainees for tech training environment. MAJCOM/CCCs panel provide up-

to-date on AF level programs such as the Force Management, new EPRs, EPME, etc. Former CMSAF panel provided valuable feedback to the group. Business meetings included elections for International Executive Council positions. New by-laws were introduced. Of note, was the “auxiliary” member was replacing with “family member” status. Family members may also be elected in to chapter Executive council positions.

- We have a few POW/MIA coins left for sale. They are \$10 each. See SSgt Brown.
- New AFSA Shirts are now available for \$8 each. Golf Shirts will be coming soon; ladies and men sizes will be available. Approximate cost will be at least \$20.
- The Vigil run will be held 7-8 November at the base track near the James Gym. The Vigil run is a 24 hour running event where teams volunteer for a time slot to run around the track with the POW/MIA Flag. It's a Joint event so all branches of service are welcome to participate. The event POCs are MSgt Dedousis and MSgt Samson planning meetings are held weekly on Wednesdays at 1530 in the Global Reach Grill.

Chief's Group Update: No new update.

First Sergeant's Update:

- There will be a September 11th retreat ceremony at building P-3. Request members be in place by NLT 1625.\
- The AF Gala is scheduled for 20 Sept at the Scott Club. See your Shirt for tickets.

TOP 3 Update:

- The Top3 has a one-on-one mentoring program similar to the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program. The program is 95 members strong, but majority are SNCO mentors. The group is seeking mentees to join the program. Please contact SMSgt Ayers for more information.

NCO Council Update:

- The NCO Council is holding a volunteer event at the Texas Roadhouse fundraising event on 29 Sept. Please come out and mention Scott NCO Council when your order dinner.

First Four/Dorm Council Update: No new update.

Other Business:

- AFSA member Larry Miller is a District Commander for the American Legion and VFW. Mr. Miller reminded the chapter that the American Legion and VFW are two more voices to advocate for veteran's benefits. He passed on that members retiring/separating should make sure their DD214 is accurate prior to leaving the service. He also recommend filing the DD214 in every county a member moves to in order to maintain certified copies in multiple locations to prevent sole copy from being lost. The DD214 is required to file a VA claim.

SSgt Brown adjourned the meeting at 1225.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 14 October 2014.

//SIGNED//

JENNIFER D. SAMSON, MSgt, USAF
Vice President, Chapter 872

Approved/~~Disapproved~~

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NICHOLE R BROWN, SSgt, USAF
President, Chapter 872