

## AFSA Chapter 872

8 Apr 2014

### General Membership Meeting Minutes



Meeting was called to order at 1133 by MSgt Samson

Preamble was read by SrA Natasha Thomas

**34 members were in attendance; 6 were first time attendees and 1 was a last time attendee.** A quorum was determined.

#### **Div PAC 3 Convention Recognition:**

#### **Chapter 872 won the following:**

- 2013 AFSA Chapter of the Year (over 500 members)
- 2013 AFSA Website of the Year
- 2013 Recruiting Chapter of the Year
- 2013 Recruiter of the Year Runner-up
- 2013 Retaining Chapter of the Year Runner-up
- Member of the Year: MSgt Chad Lee (3 MRS)
- Airman of the Year: SrA Jordan Wentzel (375 CS)
- NCO of the Year: SSgt Nichole Brown (375 CS)

MSgt Callahan extends a warm thank you to everyone who helped out on all the different committees and all the volunteers. At the conference CMSAF Binnicker spoke on the enlisted village and all the retirees that live there. AFSA donated \$500 to the Enlisted Village. Over \$2,000 was raised for the AFSA scholarship fund at the conference.

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

- FY 15 Presidential budget: Congress is grinding out details
- TA/Post 9/11 Bill: Initiative is to have everyone receive in state tuition, no matter what state you reside in.
- TRICARE overhaul: looking to cut coverage by 24%
- Capwiz: use it to email senators and representatives. Link on the back of the AFSA agenda.
- Elections for senators and representatives are coming up. Get out and vote for who you'd like representing you,
- 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 a part of the committee, please contact SMSgt Jacob Sanabia.

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

- Current balance is \$10,596.80

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

- In March our Chapter recruited 30 new members and 12 retentions. Total membership is 2,187 for the Chapter. For the incentive program, if you brought members to the meeting today and had 1 sign up you entered a raffle for

two Cardinal's tickets. The winner of the raffle was MSgt Gates. If you recruit 10 members by the May meeting you will receive \$100.

- 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.
- If you need to have your AFSA membership transferred, please see the MSgt Ratliff.

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

- There's a Blues game tonight.
- We'll be working with SrA Syzmore on the Sparta Clay Shooting Events.
- Thank you again for all your support with volunteering for events.

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

- **Meals on Wheels:** March we had 22 volunteers and delivered 145 meals for a total of 15 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 March, we had 83 volunteers pack 125 boxes, totaling 98 volunteer hours. Next event will be 26 April at 0815; We help pack care packages at the O' Fallon Methodist Church on Highway 50. 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 March we had 14 events, with a total of 59 volunteers who donated 321 hours of their time. In April we have 9 events. 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 March blood drive collected 30 units collected. Thank you to the 2 volunteers for a total of 6 volunteer hours. The next blood drive will be 24 April which doesn't require volunteers. We are looking for an alternate POC, if interested contact MSgt Thomas Ricketson
- **The Mission Continues:** No updates
- **Exceptional Family Members Program (EFMP):** 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 Green/ Jefferson Barracks:** "Boots on the Green" Golf Tournament 9 May at 0800 at Arlington Greens. This is a free event; all attendees will receive a commemorative poker chip and lunch is included. Looking for volunteers to golf, photograph, etc. We have 64 volunteers so far. We can use 8 more golfers to help. There will be 4 person scrambles. We need more boots as well to help with "playing forward".
- **Hospice for Vets:** No updates
- **Camp Hope:** Spring Clean-up went amazing. They cleaned the 170 acre camp. It was the largest effort ever attributing to 210 hours.
- **AFSA Relay for Life Team:** There will be an email sent out soon. If you would like to donate or participate in The Relay for Life Team, please contact MSgt Marty Pallone.

#### **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:**

- We have the pleasure to present awards to ROTC and CAP award recipients. There are two events in Missouri and 1 in Illinois. If you'd like to volunteer to present the award, please contact 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:**

- There are talks of the FALCON conference being in August. Please be on the lookout for more details.

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

- No Update

### **Retiree Affairs: SMSgt (Ret) Rebecca Gable:**

- Please see the link to the Retiree Activities Office on the back. It has lots of good information on COLA, VA Funding, transition employment, etc.

### **New Business:**

- Interservice Dining Out: Meetings takes place Monday Mornings 12PM at Pronto's Pizza. 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. 1800 Social Hour 1900 Dinner. The Guest Speaker is Coast Guard member James Cunningham. We will be holding auditions for vices; there will be an email coming out soon about that.
- The Sparta Clay Shoot event raised 1,368\$ for the Dining Out. 152 hours for the 2 day event.
- There will be a Chick Fil A fundraiser Friday 18 April at the Belleville Chick Fil A location across from Wal-Mart. Order between 1700-2000. Before ordering you MUST mention the purchase goes toward the AFSA Inter Service Dining out or it will not count. You CAN order through drive-through as well
- POW/MIA coins for sale as well as T-Shirts! 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. The T-Shirts are 8\$.
- We had representatives from the Missouri Veteran's Home attend the meeting and they had this to say: "In the 22 plus years of me working with AFSA Chapters here at Scott this is the absolute best one. This community outreach program stays ongoing and in touch. Thank you for having us come out. SrA Nikita Hudson has done a phenomenal job in coming up with creative ways to come out and spend time with veterans. Over 300 heroes are cared for at our home; 16 centuries of Active Duty service combined. There was this guy named Chester. He was in the US Army Core during 1943-194. He sat in the tail gunner of a B17. He flew 25 successful missions. If you'd ask him about his life, he'd tell you 'I'm alive, sober, and here with you'. The Chester's of this world gave their best when the world was at its worst, now we give them our best, when they are at their worst.

**Chief's Group Update:** Performer of the Month Packages was due by COB 8 April. It's now 5 bullets of work related duties. Winner will receive a certificate and coin from the Chief's Group. The new 375<sup>th</sup> Command Chief is Command Chief Master Sergeant Wesley Mathias, so if you see him in passing make him feel welcomed.

**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 executive committee for Top 3 will be changing. Elections will be held 18 April.

**NCO Council Update:** Meeting March 20<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**MSgt Samson adjourned the meeting at 1234.**

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 13 May 2014 at 1130 in the Dining Facility POW/MIA Room.**

**//SIGNED//**

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

Approved/~~Disapproved.~~

**//SIGNED//**

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