

MINUTES OF THE ST. AUGUSTINE - PALM COAST NAVY LEAGUE COUNCIL

MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 21, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: The monthly meeting of the St. Augustine-Palm Coast Navy League Council, was held at the St. John's County Library Southeast Branch. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM by President Bill Dudley.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: The following members were in attendance: Bill Dudley, Sally Watson, Dave & Jane Singleton, Charles Saarela, Ian Pollitt, Bob Price, George Costa, Patrick Shoemaker, Jerry Cameron, Lee Spancake, Ken Moffa, George & Ellie Grech, Bill & Dee Hamm, Lee Figliuolo, Garry Cohn, Claude Caviness, George Greer, Dave Sullivan, Jana Teehan.

VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE: The following visitors were in attendance: John Schulten, John Leslie, Brian and Rosa Linda Jacobsen, Commander Selena Hernandez-Haines, M.S.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Bill Dudley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION: Bill Dudley gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Bill Hamm had corrections to the minutes. Motion was made by Ian Pollitt, and seconded to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2017 meeting with the corrections from Bill Hamm. Motion carried

The following are corrections from Bill Hamm to January 17, 2017 minutes:

Bill Hamm has resigned as youth director, but will stay on till a replacement is found. In December, 5 Sea Cadets attended the Council Christmas dinner and performed the color guard for the event. The battalion was hosted by HITRON in Dec. Their unit annual inspection is scheduled for Jan 7 at Flagler College. On Jan. 14 there will be a multi unit Sea Cadet competition at Princess Place which involves a 3 day campout. Feb. 16 to 20 the Battalion, along with 2 other local units, will be touring Washington, DC in which each cadet pays their own way. Nease NJROTC hosted a regional drill competition of 14 JROTC units at Nease HS.

TREASURERS REPORT: Bob Price gave the Treasurer's Report. The Administrative Account has a balance of \$4,240.18. The Bobbitt Account has a balance of \$27,485.78. We will be paying Florida Division of Corporations \$61.25 to register as a non-profit. A postcard IRS tax return has been filed. In September, a tax to the Division of Consumer Services will be due. Letters were mailed out to the membership last week to collect our SA-PC Navy League Council dues for 2017. National dues should be paid on line. Motion was made by Lee Figliuolo and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

NEW MEMBERS: Dave and Jane Singleton were introduced by Claude Caviness.

VISITORS: George Grech introduced John Schulten, Bill Dudley introduced Brian and Rosa Linda Jacobsen, Bill Dudley introduced John Leslie. Guest Speaker, Commander Selena Hernandez-Haines, Director of Military Recruitment at Flagler College was present.

LIAISON REPORT: Ian Pollitt gave his report to the Council.

Completed Events:

SUNSEEKERS V58 - January 21, Sailor of the Quarter awards were given for the third and fourth quarters; and Sailor of the Year by Gene Finck.

HITRON CG - February 1, 2017, EPOQ and EPOY were awarded as was the Perchard Award by Paul Kimmel. Change of Command is expected in the near future and the council will receive an invitation.

USCGC VALIANT - Two Sailor of the Quarter awards were presented by Sally Watson on February 9, 2017.

Upcoming Events:

May 10 - **USMC BLOUNT ISLAND COMMAND** - Ian Pollitt attended a planning meeting at the Lassen Center for NCO of the year award to take place on May 10. The Marines are planning a motorcycle ride which will coincide with the award.

March 4, **VALIANT** has invited the council to a family and friends BBQ at Sea Otter Pavilion at Mayport. Please contact Sally Watson if you would like to attend.

March 21, **MEMBER MEETING** - VALIANT SOY 2016 presentation will be held at our monthly meeting. The Commanding officer will speak and receive the award for the recipient currently in "A" school. Valiant SOY 2015, Evan Ward, will be our guest speaker.

USS HUE CITY - They have deployed to the Arabian Gulf for 7 months. We will have to mail their awards to them.

USS THE SULLIVANS - Finalizing plans to have their SOQ and SOY awards in March.

SURFRON 14 - Ian spoke with the Master Chief's representative and they have designated their award recipients. Currently they are at Surfland competing for meritorious award and advancement to Chiefs. Once that is completed, they will be ready for their awards. Ashley Cook has indicated she will attend, and there is a small possibility Senator Rubio will attend.

USCGC VALIANT is planning a family day cruise in June. Information to follow.

HITRON CG - Small boat family event. Contact Paul Kimmel and he will set that up. They go out two days every week.

USCGC MARIA BRAY - Barbara Price has resigned and we are needing a new liaison. Sally Watson will take over in the interim. If someone is interested, please contact to Ian.

SURFRON 14 - Ian Pollitt has been serving as interim liaison until a permanent liaison can be found. If someone is interested, please contact Ian.

VALIANT GYM GEAR CHALLENGE - The crew is in need of some new gym equipment. A challenge has been set up. Sally Watson and Ian Pollitt each agreed to match donations up to \$100. Anyone wishing to donate, see Sally after the meeting.

YOUTH PROGRAMS: Bill Hamm has resigned. He has graciously offered to stay on until a replacement can be found. Bill Hamm reported that on February 16, 2017, the Sea Cadets from Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Daytona left for a 5 day tour of Washington, DC. There

were 18 adults and 52 Sea Cadets. To make the most of their trip everyone slept on the bus on the way up and back. They enjoyed visiting the Capital, all the monuments and memorials. Two Sea Cadets presented a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. There is a video on the Sea Cadet home page. They did a very professional job.

Bill Dudley received a letter from Nease NJROTC thanking us for our \$150 donation towards trophies and expenses related to the regional drill competition.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Claude Caviness said we have six new members in the last 8 months.

Bill Dudley stated that we are trying to reconcile our SA-PC Navy League membership list with the Navy League list from National. That is an ongoing project.

COMMUNICATIONS: Lee Figliuolo would like all articles for the first quarter Bosun's Locker in by the end of March.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: Dave Sullivan reported that Navy League continues to support, in an apolitical way, the Defense Budget and Maritime Defense Budgets. Dave met with Rep. Ron DeSantis. Ron doesn't see much hope of doing away with sequestration in this Congress. He is hoping there will be a separate Defense Bill increasing the budget. He hopes the new administration will support Defense overall. Florida Region is having a meeting March 18. All members are welcome to attend.

If you are interested in running for National Office or National Director, please speak to Bill. The Florida Region is allocated 15 National Directors and we don't have 15 identified at this time. Bill Dudley will be stepping down.

INDUCTION OF OFFICERS: Dave Sullivan swore in Bill Dudley as President, and Sally Watson as Secretary.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business at this time.

GUEST SPEAKER: Bill Dudley introduced our speaker of the evening, Commander Selena A. Hernandez-Haines, M.S., USN (Ret), Director of Military Recruitment at Flagler College. She spoke about the many programs that are available to financially assist active military and veterans attend Flagler College or any other college. The incoming President of Flagler College, Dr. Joe Joyner, is a Veteran and is expected to be pro-military which will be an asset in recruitment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bill Dudley announced our speaker for the March 21, 2017 meeting will be BM 1 Evan Ward, U.S.C.G. Enlisted Person of the Year 2015. Commander Tim Cronin of the VALIANT will be present to accept the SOY 2016 award on behalf of Seaman Gregory Jacquet. Commander Cronin will be also speaking briefly. He encouraged all to attend.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 PM.

Sally Watson, Secretary
St. Augustine-Palm Coast Navy League Council