



82nd Airborne Division Association

Chicago Chapter



Meeting Minutes

Date: Sunday, 14 February 2021
Location: Online via Google Meet
Officers Present: Chairman Mark Mueller, Secretary Carl Schuett
Officers Absent: Vice Chairman Glenn Granat
Members Present: Jersey Joe Scherer, Larry Slavicek, Colin Gray, Harry Van Beetz, Cal Roesner, David Hellrung, Rudy Acevedo
Guests Present: N/a
Total Members/Guests: 9/0 (9)

- 1) Call to order by Chairman Mueller at 15:08.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Officer roll call by Chairman Mueller.
- 4) No guests to recognize.
- 5) Meeting minutes presented. 1st Motion to accept: Slavicek; 2nd Motion: Acevedo. Approved and filed.
- 6) Financial report prepared and presented by Chairman Mueller. 1st Motion: Acevedo, 2nd by Slavicek – Approved and filed.
- 7) Challenge Coin Check; all present and accounted for.
- 8) Correspondence
 - a) Chapter January/February newsletter being produced and mailed. Moving to previous newsletter format in hopes of sharing a broader amount of information and improving engagement.
 - b) Chairman Mueller reviewed:
 - i) Highlights from the National February 2021 bulletin.
 - (1) At this point, both All American Week (24-27 May at Fort Bragg) and the National Convention (11-15 Aug in Houston) are a GO. Highly recommend registering ASAP if you plan to attend. See Assn website for all the details and to register.
 - (2) While the IRS has granted the National office 501(c)3 status, they have also denied that same status to chapters. No explanation was given. This means that all chapters that file taxes under National, which is nearly all and inclusive of the Chicago Chapter, with remain at 501(c)4 status.
 - (3) If any active member in good standing is interested in running for the role of National Director, please let Chairman Mueller know ASAP so we can draft your packet.
 - ii) The new Secretary of Defense is GEN(R) Lloyd J. Austin, a former paratrooper with strong ties to the 82nd Airborne Division. GEN Austin's military career included time with the 1/508th PIR early in his career, and later Commander, 2/505th PIR, the Division ACofS G-3, and Commander, 3rd Brigade.
 - iii) Fort Bragg's new Garrison CSM is CSM Jeffrey A. Loehr, is a Chicago-area native who grew up in Evergreen Park.
- 9) Committee Reports
 - a) Service (Chairman):
 - i) We recently learned of the passing of All American Member Ronald Lokygowski, Sr., of Oswego, IL, on 10 Feb 21. A public service is planned by the family in late summer due to the pandemic.
 - ii) We're keeping our ailing members in our thoughts and prayers.

- b) Membership (Chairman):
 - i) Current chapter headcount is 190, which is net -1 from last month with the passing of Lodygowski.
 - ii) Annual Member Christopher Israel of Seabrook, TX, renewed in January.
 - c) Airborne History (Historian): No report this month.
 - d) Merchandise: 2021 Airborne Wall Calendars continue to sell. We've sold more than 70 calendars, largely through our eBay Store. Merchandise net sales for January 2021 were \$753.19.
- 10) Special Events and Projects
- a) Chicago Veterans 2020 Ruck March: Currently looking like the event is a GO at the end of May. Once verified, we'll discuss fielding a chapter-sponsored team and possibly sponsoring the event.
 - b) 2021 Chapter Holiday Party – The goal is to host an in-person event in December.
 - c) LGOP -- Fishing: Vice Chairman Glenn Granat is planning another fishing excursion for June at a new location: Joe's Pond. There will be food, drink, and games also involved in this family-friendly event. More info to be announced shortly.
 - d) Chapter Picnic: We've started discussions and hope to host an event in Q3, likely in September, assuming continued progress regarding the pandemic.
- 11) Unfinished Business
- a) COVID-19 Pandemic: Still ongoing, we're adjusting our calendars as we go.
 - b) New meeting locations: We've recently learned that The Ram Rosemont has closed permanently. We will continue looking for alternatives when the need arises.
 - c) Chapter Website Redesign: Look for a brand new chapter website in Q1! More info, more photos, more interaction. AATW!
 - d) 2021 Chapter Donations: The chapter reviewed last year's donations and voted on the following donations for 2021.
 - i) 82nd Airborne Division Assn Education Fund: \$800 (inclusive of \$200 bump from Cal Roesner)
 - ii) 82nd Airborne Division Assn Troop Support: \$200
 - e) 82nd Airborne Division Historical Society (Museum at Fort Bragg): \$200
- 12) New Business
- a) LGOP/Beer: Chairman Mueller is aiming to host socials open to all members/families/friends as bars open back up. More to follow on this, however shooting for an outing in Q1 this year.
 - b) Jersey Joe shared info regarding a book called "A Dusty Boot Soldier Remembers", written by LTC(R) Larry Redmond, who served with the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, SF, and the Rangers. Highly recommends the book and it's first-person perspective on military life and war, which is [available on Amazon](#) and elsewhere.
 - c) A straw poll was taken and most members in the meeting have taken the COVID vaccine, and highly recommend it for everyone. Can't hurt.
- 13) Birthdays and Recognitions: Duly noted and recognized.
- a) 57 years ago (1964), Harry Van Beetz jumped out of the brand new C-141, the first 82nd unit to do so.
 - b) 53 years ago (1968) today, Colin Gray deployed with the Golden Brigade to Vietnam.
- 14) We toasted our departed Airborne comrades and will keep them in our thoughts.
- 15) Motion to adjourn at 15:19 by Roesner. Hammered by Chair.

Airborne, All The Way!



Mark Mueller
Chairman