



82nd Airborne Division Association

Chicago Chapter



Meeting Minutes

Date: Sunday, 11 July 2021
Location: Rock Bottom (Warrenville, IL) and Online via Google Meet
Officers Present: Chairman Mark Mueller, Vice Chairman Glenn Granat,
Officers Absent: Secretary Carl Schuett
Members Present (RB): Dick Burnett, Tom Carter, Tim Connolly, Jose Palacios, Rich Fuller, Ralph Peterson
Members Present (Online): Larry Slavicek, Colin Gray, Harry Van Beetz, Jim Howell
Guests Present: Kelly Mueller (wife of Mark M.); Pat Burnett (wife of Dick B.); Eve Palacios (wife of Jose P.); Diane Carter (wife of Tom C.); Mario Ernesto Nunez (veteran Honduran Paratrooper)
Total Members/Guests: 12/5 (17)

- 1) Call to order by Chairman Mueller at 14:11.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Officer roll call by Chairman Mueller.
- 4) Recognized guests, including Mario Nunez, a veteran paratrooper from Honduras who live in Mt Prospect.
- 5) Meeting minutes presented. 1st Motion to accept: Carter; 2nd Motion: Peterson. Approved and filed.
- 6) Financial report prepared and presented by Chairman Mueller. 1st Motion: Carter, 2nd by Palacios – Approved and filed.
- 7) Challenge Coin Check; all present and accounted for.
- 8) Free Lunch Drawing: Jose Palacios, however he granted it to Mario Nunez.
- 9) Correspondence
 - a) Highlights from the National June 2021 bulletin.
 - i) All American Week at Ft. Bragg has been Cancelled and refunds are being given.
 - ii) 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.
- 10) Committee Reports
 - a) Service (Chairman):
 - i) We're keeping our ailing members in our thoughts and prayers.
 - ii) Stan Gryga recently hospitalized but now recovering in rehab hospital; then back to his apartment.
 - b) Membership (Chairman):
 - i) Current chapter headcount is 190, which is the same as previous month.
 - ii) Barney Janecki renewed for 2021. AATW!
 - iii) Secretary Carl Schuett has officially moved to NC – we wish him the best – AATW!
 - iv) New prospects in Sean Norton (via Natl), Brittany McNaughton (via Gray), and Michael Chong (via Gray).
 - c) Airborne History (Historian). Vice Chairman Granat shared the terrific story of CMOH Recipient 1SG Leonard Funk, 1-508th PIR.

d) Merchandise: Merchandise net sales for May were \$20.48, bringing 2021 total to \$1012.07.

11) Special Events and Projects

- a) 2021 Chapter Holiday Party – The goal is to host an in-person event in December. Targeting Rock Bottom in Warrenville. Will coordinate ASAP and communicate out to the chapter.
- b) Chicago Veterans 2021 Ruck March: Next year's event will take place on 25 May 2022 and should be better organized. Vice Chairman Granat to coordinate.
- c) Memorial Day Parade: Looking forward to the 2022 event in Naperville.
- d) LGOP -- Fishing: Vice Chairman Granat is POC. Looking forward to another event in 2022. .

12) Unfinished Business

- a) COVID-19 Pandemic: Still ongoing, we're adjusting our calendars as we go.
- b) New meeting locations: The group discussed. Palacios recommended Jameson's in Huntley. Burnett recommended Coom's Corner in Lockport. Van Beetz recommended the VFW in McHenry. Mueller to follow up.
- c) 2021 Chapter Donations: Approved disbursements are still pending.
- d) COVID vaccinations still available free of charge to all veterans and their spouses at Hines VA Hospital.
- e) Convention Delegates: Confirmed Slavicek and Gray as our Chicago Chapter delegates at the 2021 Convention in Houston. Chairman Mueller has submitted them officially to National.
- f) Chapter 37 SFA Picnic: Just a reminder that the Chapter 37 Special Forces Assn annual picnic scheduled for 15 Aug at Busse Woods in Schaumburg. All Chicago Chapter members are invited, however please RSVP with Steve and bring a dish to share.

13) New Business

- a) Mario Nunez: We were joined by a retired Honduran paratrooper who now lives in Mt Prospect, IL. Mario first connected with Chairman Mueller when he purchased 2021 Airborne Wall Calendars. Mario shared stories and asked if he could participate in our chapter activities. He is an avid static line jumper with the Round Canopy Club. Peterson motioned to make Mario a chapter Honorary Member, second by Palacios, vote passed. Chairman Mueller welcomed Mario to our chapter as an Honorary Member.
- b) 82nd Assn Bourbon: During a recent trip through Kentucky, Chairman Mueller purchased with chapter funds three bottles of Assn Bourbon and two sets of two etched tumbler glasses (\$320 outlay). These items are high-demand and the group discussed fund-raising opportunities. Palacios recommended a silent auction at our Holiday party. All concurred. Mueller to action.

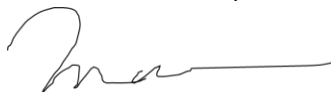
14) Birthdays and Recognitions: Duly noted and recognized. Reminded all that Stan Gryga's 99th birthday is 8/22.

We will email the chapter asking to send cards and well-wishes on Stan's milestone.

15) We toasted our departed Airborne comrades and will keep them in our thoughts.

16) Motion to adjourn at 15:04 by Carter. Hammered by Chair.

Airborne, All The Way!



Mark Mueller
Chairman