

ALAMO CHAPTER #5, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
CHAPTER Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2024

The February 17, 2024, Chapter meeting was held at Rolling Oaks Baptist Church located at 6401 Wenzel Road, San Antonio, TX 78233.

Pre-meeting Guest Speakers: None

Meeting Opened: Commander, Kathy Kaberides opened the meeting at 10:00 am.

Opening Prayer: Chaplain, Clyde Bragg

Pledge: Sr Vice Commander, Joseph Harrison Jr.

Officers present:

- Commander, Kathy Kaberides
- Sr. Vice Commander, Joseph Harrison Jr
- Jr. Vice Commander, James Francisco
- Chaplain, Clyde T. Bragg, Jr
- Judge Advocate Gwen Thompson
- Treasurer, Gwen Thompson
- Officer-of-the-Day, Donald Smith
- Sgt-At-Arms -Rickey Vasquez

Officers excused: Adjutant, Donna Nious, Immediate Past Commander, Luis Baez

Officers absent: None.

Department/National Commanders or National Service Officer (NSO) Past or Present and Visitors: None

There was a total of 45 members present. There was a quorum for conducting business.

Reading of minutes:

Reading of minutes from December 16, 2023, Chapter meeting.

Motion: Request to waive the reading of the December 16, 2023, Chapter meeting minutes because members were provided with a copy.

- Motion made by: Albert Owens
- Motion 2nd by: Wayne Lund
- Any discussion? No
- Are there any omissions or corrections? No
- Motion passed.

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Treasurer's Report:

The members were provided with three handouts that goes through January 31, 2024.

- **Financial report by line-item categories:** This report showed a continual fiscal year summary of the year-to-date transactions by budgeted line item. The ending cash balance for the chapter was \$54,614.04.
- **Alamo Chapter 5 2023-2024 Approved Budget** – A summary of the money remaining per line item was discussed and how that money would be adjusted to line items needing more or less money to complete the fiscal year. (1) There was \$1253.77 surplus within August 2023 (line 12C) and January 2024 (line 12D) conventions. Of this amount, \$1225 would be moved to line 14G to pay DAV Dept of Texas. This amount was not paid during the last fiscal year 2023 as the 10% owed for Thrift Store donations. (2) There were checks written to San Antonio Coalition for Veterans and Families (SACVF- line 14L) in August and September but deducted from the Veterans Assistance Program (VAP- line 14J). In addition, four veterans were helped by the SACVF in January 2024. Therefore, \$2500 will be moved from line 14J VAP to 14L SACVF. (3) Church meeting space rent was previously paid on the calendar year rather than the fiscal year. This resulted in a missed payment July-December 2022 for \$900. However, line 21B Thanksgiving and Christmas meal funds had a surplus of \$1,013.64. Therefore, \$900 from line 21B will be transferred to line 19A to cover the missed payment.
- **Bank Reconciliation July 2023-January 2024** This report showed each individual transaction within the bank account by date, check number, person or service written out to, and amount from the beginning of the fiscal year to end of January 2024.
- **Thrift Store donations-** the treasurer reported that no Thrift Store donations have been received for the months of January or February. The owner of the Thrift Store died last year. The status of these monthly donations is unknown currently.

Chaplain's Report:

Chaplain Bragg read a list of prayer requests, including the following: Alice Villarreal, Ruben Davila, and Luis Aguilar. Thank you, cards were sent to the chapter, from Richard Neely and Kenneth Cain for the prayers and outreach by the chaplain. The chaplain offered to conduct bible study for any members interested. The chaplain requested that interested members please see him after the meeting or email him.

Sergeant-at-Arm's Report:

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Application for membership transfer: There was one request for transfer: Karla Jordan (Air Force).

Motion: Approval of the membership transfer.

- Motion made by: Vaughn Caudill
- Motion 2nd by: Jeff Berg
- Are there any discussions? No
- Motion passed.

Introduction of new members: Charles Hodson (Army) and Priscilla Mayfield (Air Force)

First time visitors: Pablo Reyna (Marines), Serafin Martinez (Air Force), John Kirkhum, Charles Hodson (Army), Priscilla Mayfield (Air Force)

Communications: Junior Vice Commander, James Francisco, read the following correspondences:

- Letter of thanks from VA Volunteer Services for the 30 blankets Alamo Chapter #5 donated to 2W. Thanks to Jim Volstadt for coordinating this effort.
- The Memorial Services Detachment (MSD) provided the chapter with a Funeral Statistic Report for 2023 and thanked the chapter for our donation to their cause.
- DAV National Headquarters letter acknowledging Alamo Chapter 5 for meeting our membership goal for 2022-2023. This acknowledgement will be commemorated with a streamer for our chapter flag. The Adjutant has the streamer.

Committee Reports:

- **Membership Report** – Sr. Vice Commander Joseph Harrison, Jr. provided membership with the monthly report. **2023-2024 Membership Goal:**
- Full-Lifetime Members – 5,551, Total Members – 5,851, Membership Goal – 5,798, Goal % 100.91% and Variance – Over by 53!
- **Benefits Protection Team Leader:** Joseph Harrison, Jr explained to the members what the Commanders Action Network was, how it worked to help to move resolutions from the chapters to legislation presented to Congress. National DAV makes the process effortless. The member only must click the Take

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Action button and personalized letters will be submitted to your Senators and Congressmen.

- **VA Volunteer Services (VAVS):** Jim Volstadt stated that on April 5, 2024, a new Fisher House will be dedicated at Audie Murphy Veteran Administration Medical Center (VAMC). This will be the second Fisher House for a total of 32 suites available to house families.
- **Hospitality Committee:** Rickey Vasquez asked membership to consider joining this committee. The main duty of the volunteer is to plan, prepare and serve meals at the chapter committee meetings.

Unfinished Business:

- The chapter will be conducting a Forget-Me-Not Fundraiser at Sam's Club, February 27, 2024, 8:00 am to 12 noon. Volunteers are requested to see the Judge Advocate after the meeting or submit their names via email. Volunteers are welcome to attend for any number of hours they are available.
- The Commander has contacted the National Local Veterans Assistance Program (LVAP) to inquire about volunteer pins that members have not yet received. Even though there is still work to be done on this effort, many members have received some pins. Membership requested the Commander to send a Constant Contact with the various categories for volunteer hours and how to submit.

New Business:

- The Commander stated that at the March 2024 chapter meeting, a Nominating Committee would be selected to allow members to nominate themselves or another member for any Fiscal Year 2025 Line Officer position. Job descriptions will be made available for interested members next month.
- The Commander stated that the chapter needed a Women Veterans Advocate. Any member wishing to apply for this position, please see the Judge Advocate for details of the requirements. Priscilla Mayfield announced her interest in the position.
- The Commander stated that on May 8, 2024, there will be another Chapter Service Officer (CSO) training by the National Service Officers at the Northwest VA Medical Clinic, 9939 Texas 151 Access Road, SATX 78251. Any member wishing to be trained as a CSO, please see her after the meeting or email her. Nominations for CSO would be approved by membership at the March 2024 chapter meeting. Job description would be provided for interested members. Members Karla Jordan and Priscilla Mayfield requested to be added to the CSO training list.
- An email from National for a special documentary film, HERE IS BETTER will be available for DAV members from February 27 through March 27. Individuals or groups may view it. Bob Broff suggested the Commander reach out to Patriot

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Heights to see if we could make it available for a group viewing. The Commander will contact Patriot Heights.

Good-of-the-Order:

- Members Kathy Kaberides, Donna Nious, Larry Whatley, Gwen Thompson, and Rickey Vasquez attended the DAV Dept of Texas Conference in January.
- Volunteers were requested to handle a Forget-Me-Not and membership drive table at the SACVF Harley-Davidson Fundraiser on March 16, 2024, at I-35 & Wiedner. Larry Whatley and Wayne Lund volunteered. Others will support this table after the monthly meeting is finished as it is the same day.
- SACVF announced they will be having their Memorial Golf Tournament on May 20, 2024.
- Celebrated January and February birthdays and anniversaries: Ramon Betto (Jan 22nd), Mel Allick (Jan 12th), Wayne Lund (Jan 13th), Bob Broff (Feb 6th), Al Owens (Feb 9th), Edward Galvez (Feb 29th), Manny Ibara (Feb 8); anniversaries Alberto Talamantes- 62 years, Peter & Kathy Kaberides- 39 years, Reynoldo Rodriquez- 36 years.
- The following members received volunteer pins: Gwen Thompson (250 hours), James Francisco (500 hours), Joseph Harrison, Jr. (750 hours and 1,000 hours), Mitchell Lopez (50 hours), Susan Allick (50 hours), Rickey Vasquez (50 hours), Wayne Lund (150 hours), and Kathy Kaberides (2,000 hours).
- 50/50 Winner- Gene Sloat- \$78

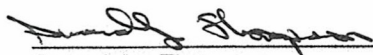
Upcoming Chapter events:

Next Meeting: March 16, 2024

Memorial Service: A moment of silence for our departed comrades.

Closing Prayer: Chaplain Clyde T. Bragg, Jr.

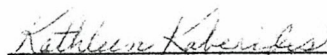
Meeting adjourned: at 11:26 pm



Gwendolyn Thompson

Judge Advocate/Treasurer, DAV Alamo Chapter 5

Date 2-20-2024



Kathleen Kaberides

Commander, DAV Alamo Chapter 5

Date 2-19-2024