

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
CHAPTER Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2024**

The August 2024 Chapter meeting was held at Rolling Oak Baptist Church, 6401 Wenzel Road, San Antonio, TX 78233.

Pre-meeting Guest Speakers: National DAV Auxiliary Commander, Chris Easley.

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

Opening Prayer: Jr. Vice Commander, Karla Jordan

Pledge: Sr. Vice Commander, Joseph Harrison Jr.

Officers present:

- Commander, Kathy Kaberides
- Sr. Vice Commander, Joseph Harrison, Jr.
- Jr. Vice Commander, Karla Jordan
- Treasurer, Gwendolyn Thompson
- Judge Advocate, Gwendolyn Thompson
- Chaplain, Clyde T. Bragg, Jr
- Officer-of-the-Day, Donald Smith
- Sergeant-at-Arms Rickey Vasquez

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

Officers absent: None.

There was a quorum for conducting business.

Reading of minutes:

Reading of minutes from July 20, 2024, Chapter meeting.

Motion: Dispense with the reading of the July 20, 2024, Chapter meeting minutes because members were provided with a hard copy of the minutes.

- Are there any omissions or corrections? No

Motion to approve the July 20, 2024, chapter meeting minutes:

- Motion made by: Jeffrey Berg
- Motion 2nd by: Albert Owens
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The members were provided the following handouts encompassing the financial reports for the month of July 2024.

- The treasurer explained the handouts to the members.
 - Bank reconciliation report as of the end of July 2024. (encl 1)
 - Monthly Financial Report by line category July 2024 (encl 2)

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Chaplain's Report:

Reports of sickness and distress.

Names added to the prayer list: Susana Beasley, Bob Broff, Karla Jordan, LaTasha Dunn, Guido Libertiny, Donna Nious, and Edward Nious.

Introduction of new members: Greg Mickel (Army and USMC), Georgina Ortiz (Army)

Transfer Requests

Motion: Requests to Transfer memberships for Robert Maston (Army).

- Motion made by: Ann Gayer
- Motion 2nd by: Wayne Lund
- Any discussion: None
- Motion Passed

First Time Visitors: Patricia Lomax, Steve Mayfield (Air Force), Michael Tomlinson (Air Force), Allen Macleod (DAV Chapter 4, Adjutant), Pablo Reyna (Marine)

Sergeant-at-Arm's Report:

There was a total of 56 members present. We also had 7 guests present.

Communications: Judge Advocate Gwendolyn Thompson read the following correspondences:

- Letter from Homes for Our Troops. Please join them to present the keys of a new specially adapted home for Marine LCpl Alberto Flores, September 21, 2024, at 10:30 am. The ceremony will start at 1152 Provence Place, New Braunfels, TX 78132 (Vintage Oaks subdivision).
- Home for Our Troops "Volunteer Day" is Friday 6 September 2024 @ 8:30 am. The landscaping will start at 9:00 am.
- DAV Recruiter Rally started May 2024 and will end June 2025. Requesting each member recruit one new member this year.

Reports:

- **Membership Report:** – Full Lifetime members/Total members are 5549/5851. Goal is 5,873. The goal percentage reached is 99.63%. Alamo 5 is 22 members from reaching its goal. There are 302 partial payment members.
- **Benefits Protection Team Lead:** Sr. Vice Commander Harrison, Jr reminded membership to join CAN and support the legislations. He emphasized that increasing our membership would increase DAV's power to pass legislation

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through Congress. He also shared the "Vision for Veterans for the 119th Congress" that he received at the National Convention this month.

- Women Veterans Advocate – Priscilla Mayfield reported that the first "Dress for Success" drive by Alamo 5 was a tremendous success with seven (7) carloads of clothes donated. Contact information and addresses for donating clothing and furniture to PVA and Goodwill was provided. These organizations pick up donations directly from your home.
- Hospitality Committee: Rickey Vasquez discussed opportunities for members to donate meals for chapter meetings. Also, volunteers are still needed. Member, Kenneth Sweeney, donated \$200.00 in July to go toward the Hospitality Committee. An unnamed donor provided lunch today.
- V.G. Clark Cancer Relief Fund Committee- Gwendolyn Thompson reported that the committee developed a marketing plan to send a letter to veteran organizations in the San Antonio and surrounding areas consisting of six (6) DAVs, fourteen (14) VFWs, and nine (9) American Legion Halls to solicit their help in finding eligible veterans for this fund.
- LVAP Coordinator Report- Karla Jordan reported that National DAV recorded 1,912,474 volunteer hours for 2023. These hours are valued at \$33 per hour and saved the DAV \$9.7 million last year. DAV Community Impact Day was an enormous success. October 4, 2024, the National Office will host a Homeless Showdown: employment, medical, legal, education, housing & financial assistance, haircuts & manicures, food, clothing, hygiene, and free cell phones. Scholarships are available for spouses, children and grandchildren of veterans who meet eligibility criteria. She has the registration forms to get started for all volunteers.
- Lead CSO- Claims Day held on 16 August 2024 provided claim assistance for 13 veterans. Four (4) CSOs were available for this event.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Good-of-the-Order:

- Claims Day was August 16, 2024, 9 am – 12 pm.
- Retirement Military Town Hall on August 24, 2024, 10:00-11:40 am at Military Family & Readiness Center located at 3060 Stanley Road, Bldg. 2797, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.
- The National Service Officer Seminar will be September 12, 2024, at the VFW in Schertz, TX.
- There will be a membership drive at NW Vista College on September 3, 2024, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm.

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- Judge Advocate and Treasurer, Gwendolyn Thompson, received her 1,000-hour LVAP pin.
- Commander Kathleen Kaberides and Sr. Vice Commander Joseph Harrison Jr attended the DAV National Convention in Phoenix, AZ. Reports were given to membership.
- The Commander informed the membership that National wants us at the Chapter level to get involved with the community and local media and get our message out there. We need a spokesperson.
- Project Mend is now providing free medical equipment to veterans and their families. Flyer with details will go out on Facebook and Constant Contact.
- Member Gene Sloat reminded everyone about the upcoming 3rd Annual Open Car Show that SACVF will be hosting on August 24, 2024. Flyer will go out on Facebook and Constant Contact.
- Member Gene Sloat shared that the 5th Annual Magnolia Pancake Eating Competition will take place September 26th. Flyer will go out on Facebook and Constant Contact.
- SACVF representative and our member Gene Sloat informed us that he and Tony Fuentes are willing to help us with fundraising.
- 50/50 Drawing: \$100 won by Jeffrey Berg.
- Members with birthdays and anniversaries in the month of August were celebrated.

Upcoming Chapter events:

Next Meeting: **September 21, 2024, at Rolling Oaks Baptist Church, 6401 Wenzel Road, San Antonio, Tx 78233.**

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

Closing Prayer: Chaplain Clyde T. Bragg, Jr.

Meeting adjourned: at **11:21 am**

Gwendolyn Thompson

Date 19 August 2024

Gwendolyn Thompson

Judge Advocate/Treasurer, DAV Alamo Chapter 5

Kathleen Kaberides

Date 19 August 2024

Kathleen Kaberides

Commander, DAV Alamo Chapter 5