

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
CHAPTER Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2024**

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

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

Opening Prayer: Clyde T. Bragg, Jr, Chaplain

Pledge: Sr. Vice Commander, Joseph Harrison, Jr

Officers present:

- Commander, Kathy Kaberides
- Sr. Vice Commander, Joseph Harrison, Jr
- Jr. Vice Commander, Karla Jordan
- Adjutant, Donna Nious
- 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:** Immediate Past Commander Luis Baez

Officers absent: None.

There was a quorum for conducting business.

Reading of minutes:

Reading of minutes from October 19, 2024, Chapter meeting.

Motion: Dispense with the reading of October 19, 2024, Chapter meeting minutes because members were provided with a hard copy of the minutes.

- Are there any omissions or corrections? Yes

Corrections: Mr. Bob Broff spelling of name corrected.

Mr. Reynaldo Rodriguez spelling of name corrected.

Motion to approve October 19, 2024, chapter meeting minutes with corrections:

- Motion made by: Vaughn Caudell
- Motion 2nd by: Clyde Bragg, Jr.
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

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

The treasurer explained the handouts to the members.

- Bank reconciliation report as of the end of October 2024.
- Monthly Financial Report by line category October

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Chaplain's Report:

Reports on sickness and distress: CJ Bergeron, Orange Steffy, Harry Ruthrauff, and John Narciso passed away. Sickness: Josie Garcia, Larry and Bella Carrera, Gene Sloat and Tony Fuentes.

Introduction of new members: Lorenzo Nastasi, US Air Force

Transfer Requests: None

First Time Visitors: Wardell Gillespie – US Navy; Julia Richardson – Family member.

Sergeant-at-Arm's Report:

There was a total of 46 members present. We also had 3 guests.

Communications: Adjutant Donna Nious read the following correspondences:

- We received an email from Project Mend requesting our support to purchase the transport chairs for the upcoming Honor Flight.
- We received an email from the Department of Texas Women Veterans requesting we support their Toiletry Drive that will be given to Homeless Women Veterans in Texas.

Reports:

- Membership Report: – The chapter membership documented Full Lifetime members at 5,781. The membership goal is 5,764. The chapter goal percentage reached is 100.29%. The chapter variance was over by 17 members. As of November 11, 2024, there were 4 deceased members and 8 new members in our Chapter.
- Benefits Protection Team Lead: Informed the members on how to sign up for the CAN program and how it affects the things we present to Congress every year. Sr. Vice Commander Joseph Harrison, Jr. informed members that he was available to assist them in signing up as are his committee members Ann Gayar.
- Women Veterans Advocate –Deferred until next month.
- Hospitality Committee: Rickey Vasquez informed membership that we would have a Christmas Dinner catered by Bill Millers and we will have a desert contest so feel free to bring your best dish and participate. Mr. Pedro Barrera donated 3 dozen donuts and Mr. Reynaldo Rodriguez brought a ham to go along with our normal sandwiches for lunch.

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- V.G. Clark Cancer Relief Fund Committee: Gwendolyn Thompson reported we had two applications for the V.G. Clark Fund in the last month.
- LVAP Coordinator Report – Jr. Vice Karla Jordan reported that 17 members reported LVAP hours for the month of October. She also reminded members to wait until the email to submit their hours and that they should only report once a month. Previous months may be reported if they weren't reported but they must be on a separate form. She also requested that anyone who received a pin or is missing a pin, to please let her know so that she may follow up with National. Chaplain Bragg received his 500-hour pin.
- Lead CSO- Larry Whatley reported that 6 CSO's participated in the Claims Day event, and they supported 9 Veterans with claims.

Unfinished Business:

- Department of Texas District 20 Conference to be held January 10-11, 2025, in Kerrville, Texas at the Inn of the Hills Hotel & Conference Center. This is the list of members who will attend:
 - Kathy Kaberides, Albert Owens, Rickey Vasquez, Karla Jordan, Keven Lomax Sr, Gwendolyn Thompson, Donna Nious, and Naomi Narcisse

New Business:

Motion: Motion to approve moving \$975.94 from line 12C for the National Convention as the attendees paid their own way, to Project Mend's line to increase the \$2000 currently approved to \$2,975.94 to allow the funds to purchase 18 transport chairs for the upcoming Honor Flight.

Motion made by: Donna Nious

- Motion 2nd by: Donald Smith
- Any discussion: No
- Motion passed.

Good-of-the-Order:

- Collection of blankets, coats, and warm accessories for the Broken Warriors Angels today. DAVA Unit 5 donated 24 sets of hats, scarves, and gloves.
- December meeting – Bring a canned good item to support the San Antonio Food Bank collection.
- Department of Texas Women Veterans Coalition will conduct a toiletry drive at the DAV District 20 Conference January 2025, so we will also be collecting toiletries at our December meeting.
- Golden Corral Military Appreciation Night on Veteran's Day went very well. Chapter 5 members verified ID cards and conducted a fundraiser. The total amount collected was \$1369.00.

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- Vaughn Caudell wanted to express his appreciation for Jeff Berg for conducting a “buddy check” and calling him every day even when he’s in the hospital. He also wanted to thank the Commander (Kathy Kaberides) for taking him to the hospital for his procedure.
- Donald Smith informed the members about the benefits of using “Life Alert” in case you live alone, and something happens to you.
- Sue Beasey informed the members that Circle K is given Veterans free drinks for the month of November.
- January 1, 2025 -Deadline to get DOD ID cards updated or they will be confiscated at the gates. Also, if you have a DOD ID card due to a 100% VA disability (not a regular retiree), you will need to bring a copy of your 100% disability rating letter with you.
- VA ID cards also have an expiration date in the middle front of your card and if you don’t have any date, your card is an older version that you need to get replaced before January 1, 2025.
- Mary Bergeron, widow of CJ Bergeron extended her sincere thanks to our Chapter for the support given to her during her loss.
- 50/50 Drawing: \$100.00 won by Bobby Johnson.
- Members with birthdays in November – Jeff Berg, Diana Barrera, Bobby Johnson, and Roman Navaria,
- Anniversaries for November – Jeff Berg, Calvin & Jean Ingram, Gary Sanders, Peter & Kathy Kaberides.

Upcoming Chapter events:

Next Meeting: **December 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 11:00 am

Donna L. Nious

Donna L. Nious
Adjutant, DAV Alamo Chapter 5

Date November 19, 2024

Kathleen Kaberides

Kathleen Kaberides
Commander, DAV Alamo Chapter 5

Date November 19, 2024