

Minutes of the May General Membership Dinner – Norfolk Chapter SAR

Gus and George's Spaghetti and Steak House Va. Beach, VA
September 15, 2015 6:00 PM

12 Compatriots and guests assembled for the May General Membership Dinner/Meeting

- Call to Order by Chapter President Maury Weeks
- Invocation and Dinner Blessings by Chaplain Robert Hitchings
- The Pledge of Allegiance by Secretary Edward Douglas
- The Pledge of the SAR by Chaplain Robert Hitchings
- Welcome and Introductions of Guests by Chapter President Maury Weeks
- Each member present stood up and introduced themselves to the group

Everyone enjoyed dinner.

The program then resumed.

President Maury Weeks introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Mrs. Lin J. Olsen, from the Great Bridge Battlefield and Waterways History Foundation who spoke on "Great Bridge Today".

Afterwards, President Weeks presented Mrs. Olsen with a Certificate of Appreciation and a CD entitled "Jefferson's Fiddle".

At this time the business portion of the meeting began beginning with the presentation of the Minutes of the May 19, 2005 Membership Dinner meeting by Secretary Edward Douglas. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Kenneth Hawkins reported that the account balance as of this date was \$3,492.89. Kenneth also reported that there have been 144 Eagle Scout Awards presented to date. Dues notices will soon be sent out and there will be a \$5.00 increase in the dues on the National level. There will however be no increase in the state dues at this time.

*Announcements

President Weeks reminded everyone that we are still going to have a booth set up at the Great Bridge Waterways Heritage Festival on October 10 and 11, 2015. Any and all members are encouraged to stop by and assist with the manning of the booth if possible.

It was put to a vote and it has been decided that the Annual Meeting in January 2016 will be held on a week night instead of a week-end to eliminate any possible scheduling conflicts. The exact date and time will be determined at a later date.

The ROTC Committee Chairman has stepped down after many years of dedicated service. This is a very pro-active program with 25-30 awards per year. The Chapter will be looking for a new chairman for this committee in the near future.

The Commemoration of the Battle of the Capes which was held on September 5, 2015 was a huge success. The weather was good and Compatriot Chris Melhuish gave an excellent presentation in the historic Saint Theresa Chapel. Afterwards, there was a wreath laying and photo op at the statue of Admiral de Grasse. Huzzah to all who made this a successful and memorable event, especially President Weeks.

A reminder to all that the Celebration of the Battle of Yorktown is the week-end of October 17, 18 and 19, 2015. President Weeks and Secretary Douglas will be on hand on the 19th for a wreath laying at Grace Episcopal Church at the grave of Governor Thomas Nelson at 9 am. Afterwards, there will be a parade at 10:30 am and Patriotic Exercises at the Yorktown Victory Monument at 11:15 am. Once again, any and all compatriots are invited to attend this most important and historic event.

The Commemoration of the Battle of Kempes Landing is on November 14, 2015 at Emmanuel Episcopal Church. Time is from 10 am to 3 pm. Please plan on attending this historic event.

There will be a wreath laying ceremony on Veterans Day, November 11, 2015 at the Virginia Beach Memorial.

Compatriot Warren Chauncey reminded everyone of another field trip departing St. Paul's Church to Montpelier, the home of James Madison, on October 3, 2015.

Past President Tom Whetstone notified the chapter of the passing of Compatriot Greg Whitlinger's wife. Lets all keep Greg in our thoughts and prayers.

President Weeks touched on our membership and questioned the attendance, participation and interest in our chapter. What can be done to generate interest and get our membership attendance and participation back up. It seems like our chapter is being held together by just a few members. We have 95 members on our roster. It would sure be nice to see a few new faces!!

Compatriot Ken Hawkins led us with the Recessional.

Chaplain Robert Hitchings ended the meeting with the Benediction.

Respectfully Submitted, Edward J. Douglas, III Secretary

