

DISABELD AMERICAN VETERANS
CARROLL E. PROSSER - CHAPTER 30
October 1, 2026 - MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Pre-Meeting activities:

Prior to the start of the meeting, 4 new members were introduced.

Dinner was provided by Golden Corral.

Chaplain Bob Badeau gave the invocation.

Meeting Minutes

Commander Huston called the Chapter 30 monthly meeting to order.

Adjutant Dave Bergner took Roll Call of the Chapter Line Officers:

Commander – Present
Sr. Vice - Present
1st Jr. Vice - Present
2nd Jr Vice - position eliminated
Adjutant - Present
Treasurer - Present
Chaplain - Present

The Sr. Vice led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Motion to accept minutes from last meeting (September) made by John Doherty, seconded by Jim Turner and approved by the membership. Commander Huston noted that going forward, the minutes will be posted on our website, rather than being emailed.

Old Business

1. Executive Committee Meeting was held on Sep 2:
 - a. A “Memo to Record” was written to update the By-Laws to make the Chaplain an elected position (rather than appointed), and to add a new elected position to the Executive Committee for a member at large. These new positions are now “voting” members.
 - b. JROTC Committee was formed, with Bob Badeau as chair.
 - c. Audit Committee was formed, with John Giannantoni as chair. Rather than one annual audit, they will conduct quarterly audits.
2. Veteran Support Donations: Budget established: \$6,000 (\$2,000 per finalist)
 - a. Nomination forms were provided. You can use that form or just an email, as long as you provide:

- 1) Your Name
 - 2) Your Phone number
 - 3) The name of the organization being nominated
 - 4) The dollar amount requested
 - b. Nominations should be sent to Commander Huston prior to or at the November meeting.
 - c. Motion to approve this budget line item was made by John Doherty, seconded by Jim Turner, and approved by the members.
3. DAV Rituals and Standards – Implemented!
4. Web Master: DAV web site/Facebook up and running:
<https://davwebsites.dav.org/sc/30/SystemPages/Home.aspx>

New Business

1. Joint Chapter Party Committee – John Giannantoni Chair
 - a. We will host a picnic with Chapter 21 (Mullins), and 57 (Conway)
 - b. Spouses are included
 - c. Date is October 24, from 1:00 to 5:00
 - d. Volunteers are needed for:
 - 1) Setup 10:30
 - 2) Cooking 12:30
 - 3) Cleanup 5:00
 - e. Need a committed head count for the food order.
 - f. Contact John Giannantoni to volunteer: (johngsr1@icloud.com)
2. John Burns, resigned for personal reasons. His position of 2nd Jr. Vice Commander will remain vacant until the next election cycle. Dave Botsko has volunteered to take over John's duties as Fundraising Coordinator.
3. Tom Cafagna made a donation to the chapter.
4. Christmas party update – 5 December 2026
 - a. Forms will be available at the November meeting.
 - b. Event will be at the Sea Captain's House:
 - 3002 N Ocean Blvd, Myrtle Beach
 - c. Cost is \$45 pp; Max attendees is 80
 - d. Widows can attend at no cost.
5. Treasurer's Report. Was reviewed by the Treasurer. Motion to accept the report was made by Larry Suiter, seconded by Clyde Jackson, and approved by the members.

Officer/chair Reports

1. Senior Vice *David Katai - Claims/Building Maintenance

- b. In response to some questions at last month's meeting, Senior Vice Katai provided several statistics to provide a more broad appreciation for the work we do in processing claims:
 - 1) For the period of Jan-Jul 2026: SC DAV completed 2020 claims
 - 2) Total \$ compensation to SC vets = \$338,656,680 dollars
 - 3) Total Survivors Benefits = \$4,161,125 dollars
 - 4) Total # of VA processed claims as of Sep 2026: 3,000,000 +
 - 5) Total VA \$ awarded in FY 2026: \$207 billion, (comp/pension)
 - 6) Since 2025, VA backlog of benefits is reduced by +70%
 - 7) VA disability claim processing cut in half: 141 days to +/- 75 days
 - 8) VA accuracy is currently 94%
 - 9) Veteran Board of Appeals grants +60% of claims submitted
 - 10) Approximately 3% of decisions are reviewed by Board of Appeals
 - 11) Over 270,000 new Vets enrolled in VA healthcare in 2026
 - 12) VA opened 41 new healthcare facilities since 2025
 - 13) VA completed 60,000,000+ community care appointments in FY 2025, latest report on file
- It is recommended that all veterans complete a DIC form NOW, to prepare for the possibility that they will predecease their spouse. The form should be retained with their other important papers.

Building Maintenance

- 2. The chapter is asking for a working gas powered, preferably side discharge, lawn mower if anyone wants to donate one. John Doherty offered to donate one.
- 3. We need someone with knowledge of installing laminate flooring, to oversee the project. Larry Suiter volunteered. Senior Vice David Katai will be in touch to make plans.

6. Veteran Outreach/public relations - First Junior Vice Bill McClure

- a. Myrtle Beach Monthly Mayors Veteran Meeting (pulls in all veterans support organizations)
- b. Murrells Inlet American Legion "Mini Clinic". First Junior Vice Bill McClure has started providing hours for claims processing at the American Legion. This has been well received by veterans living in the area from Murrells Inlet to Georgetown, since our main location is much farther. Bill will monitor the demand, to determine if there's a need to increase hours, days, and/or personnel
- c. Legion Chaplain to assist in home calls for veterans in the South Strand, DAV Chaplain to assist for North Strand home calls
- d. **Legends in Concert** for Vets, October 17th. I called Ron Thornton with some questions about the event and he said they already have an abundance of ticket requests and would not be able to fulfill another large number of requests in time.

Public Relations/Vet Outreach

7. Fund raising/event coordination (Member Dave Botsko has volunteered for Fund-raising role)
 - We still need a volunteer for the role of “Event Coordinator”. One of the key duties is to coordinate donors for food for our monthly meetings.
 - a. Bass Pro Shop status On Hold
 - b. Blood Drive State Unscheduled at this time
 - c. Fund raising meeting:
 - 1) Find corporate sponsors.
 - 2) Determine if other Veteran groups will participate
8. Bob Badeau – **JROTC**
 - a. Met with all 5 schools, presented checks
 - b. 7 Volunteers on board, need 3 additional members
 - c. Defining activities where we can work with each school
 - d. St James wants assistant coach for Marksmanship and Raider teams. John Deitle volunteered for this.
 - e. Working on activates for other JROTC groups
 - f. Will hold initial meeting with teams soon
 - g. Assigning volunteers to individual school
 - h. Teams to develop, with their school, activities we will support

Commander Tom Huston asked the chapter to stand for a moment of silence in honor of our departed comrades and our POWs/MIAs.

Anything for the good of the chapter?

1. For the Thanksgiving Dinner at the next meeting, we need to get volunteers to cook 4 turkeys and 2 hams. There was a lot of enthusiasm to volunteer for this, and here’s what we came up with:

Turkeys	Hams
Mike Campbell	Clyde Jackson
Jim Turner	Bill McClure
Randy Reese	
Larry Suiter	

Chaplain Bob Badeau provided the closing prayer.

Commander Huston asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Dave Botsko and seconded by Bob Badeau. Motion was carried.

Meeting is adjourned.

The next meeting is set for Nov 5, 2026...Thanksgiving Dinner

The 50-50 drawing was done and the winner, John Giannantoni, collected a prize of \$ 109.