



## AFSA Chapter 872

May 10, 2016

### General Membership Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order at 1132 by SMSgt Mary Belt

Preamble was read by TSgt Joshua Hite

**24 members were in attendance; 2 were first time attendees. We farewelled MSgt Amber Callahan, she is PCSing.**  
A quorum was determined.

#### **Innvocation: MSgt Jennifer McIntosh**

#### **Financial Report: Mr. Michael Thyne, Treasurer**

- Deposits
- \$420.75 for fundraiser, Scott Trade Center
- \$1,183.98 for fundraiser, Scott Trade Center
- Expenses:
- \$100.00 to Chapter 964 for our ad in the Divison 3 Conference pamphlet
- \$193.89 for the A1 Booster Club
- \$8215.73 is the current account balance

#### **Guest Speaker: Ms Jill Pietrusinski, First Command Financial**

- Classes regarding the new retirement plan are on-going. Please contact SMSgt Belt if you wish to sign up. Also please see the embedded item for a flyer regarding the new retirement plan system.

#### **Membership: SMSgt Mary Belt (MSgt Evan Friend, Chair - Absent)**

- We have received the Top Recruiting Award at the Division 3 Conference
- On 13 May 16 we will have an AFSA Booth at the BX, Contact TSgt Maria Bilbo or TSgt Ben Weaver for sign up times.
- Sign ups are going around and will be published to the AFSA Sharepoint as well for all AFSA members to speak at the events we are holding.
- If you need to change your AFSA membership, renew or sign up please contact MSgt Friend at DSN: 576-6280, email [eva.friend@us.af.mil](mailto:eva.friend@us.af.mil)

#### **Ways and Means: SrA Robert Niebauer III**

- Due to the Blues being in the play offs we will plan to have a Scott Trade Center fundraising event on Friday, 13 May. Please be on the lookout for the email going out for sign ups.
- Volunteers must be 21 years old and each event takes approximately 5 hours, if we have enough volunteers we can break that down into shifts. We host 2 booths and each booth needs about 10 volunteers. You also have to accomplish the computer based training (CBT) at <http://levy.restaurant.org/> password is LEVY.
- May dates for the Scott Trade Center have not been released yet.

#### **Legislative Update: TSgt Joshua Hite**

- Please keep in mind the number 16. 16% is the percentage of representatives that are veterans and are voting on our military legislative items. We have received the Top Recruiting Award at the Division 3 Conference. This video helps highlight the issues that face our military members.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bs23CjIWMgA>
- TSgt Hite also gave a Voter Voice tutorial today. To show how easy it is to use the website.  
<https://www.votervoice.net/AFSA/home>

- Earlier this year the House quietly passed H.R. 3016 which includes a provision cutting 50 percent of the basic allowance for housing (BAH) to dependent children who had the Post-9/11 GI Bill transferred to them. The money "saved" in these cuts is already being proposed to be used to enhance other Veteran and military family programs. While the bill includes a grandfathering clause for those already transferred as well as for transfers within 180 days of the bill's effective date, benefits transferred beyond the 180 days will be subject to the cut should this bill pass the Senate and eventually become law.

Allowing Congress to take this kind of action sets a very dangerous precedent. If the House and Senate feel free to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill as a piggy bank for other programs, there is nothing stopping them from continuing to whittle away at one of the most important benefits for new veterans...and to repeat the practice in other Quality of Life issues in the future.

Act now by sending a letter to your elected officials telling them how you feel. <https://www.votervoicenet.com/AFSA/Campaigns/46234/Respond>

➤ **Plans/Programs: MSgt Chad Warner**

- Looking for new programs chairs to replace others. If you have program that is an interest to you, please volunteer.
  - **Meals on Wheels:** We had 1 volunteer on 4 May that delivered 36 meals.
  - **Caring Hearts:** No Updates
  - **Missouri State Veterans Home:** 11 volunteers (38 hours) came out to our last month events.
  - 18 May we are requesting 3 Volunteers to come out and enjoy a free Cardinal game/food
  - 30 May, 10-1100 we are requesting volunteers come out and talk to our veterans
  - **Mississippi Valley Blood Drives:** 26 pints/81 lives were saved in our last blood drive. 26 May is the next blood drive hosted at AFNIC/bldg. 1700.
  - **Habitat for Humanity:** A form was sent out, please fill it out and send back to the POC if you are interested, we are trying to hold an event in June and we need to know everyone's skill sets
  - **The Mission Continues:** No Updates
  - **Exceptional Family Members Program (EFMP):** No Updates
  - **Hospice for Vets:** No Updates
  - **Camp Hope:** No Updates

**Communications: Absent (TSgt Maria Bilbo, TSgt Don Morrell, SSgt Joshua Zahner)**

- AFSA Chapter 872 Website: <http://www.AFSA872.org>
- AFSA Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/AFSA872>
- AFSA EIM Site: <https://eim.amc.af.mil/org/375amw/afsa>
- Scott AFB Retiree Activities Office: <http://www.raolibrary.org>
- AFSA Capwiz: <http://www.capwiz.com/hqafsa/home/>
- Please submit any photos of all AFSA events, you can upload them directly to the AFSA Facebook account listed above. So they can all be posted to the AFSA 872 Website.
- The next newsletter will be out in September, please send stories and pictures for the chapter newsletter to MSgt Jennifer McIntosh, [jennifer.mcintosh@us.af.mil](mailto:jennifer.mcintosh@us.af.mil)

**Awards and Recognition: SMSgt Mary Belt (SMSgt (Ret) Suzie Signore-Hayes, Chair, absent)**

- Please be sure you continue to keep track of all of your volunteer hours and input them onto the tracker on our website at <http://www.afsa872.org/index.php/information/volunteer-hours/>. These hours and awards are provided to the district quarterly to show what Chapter 872 members are involved in. Remember, these activities do not have to be AFSA activities- it can be anything you are volunteering in or with.
- Awards presented to our AFSA Chapter Winners, Congrats to:
  - MSgt Chris Tennyson, Chapter 872 Member of the Year
  - MSgt Eva Friend, Chapter 872 SNCO of the Year
  - TSgt Joshua Hite, Chapter 872 NCO of the Year
  - SrA Robert Niebauer III, Chapter 872 Airman of the Year

**Retiree Affairs: Absent (SMSgt (Ret.) Larry Miller & Mr. Steven Zalesky)**

- No Updates.

**Chief's Group Update: Absent**

**First Sergeant's Update: Absent**

**TOP 3 Update: Absent**

**First Four/Dorm Council Update/Airman's Activities Coordinator: SrA Cardwell**

- First Four Council meeting will be 11 May at 1500 in the Education Center

**Reserve/Guard Affairs: Absent (TSgt Chirstopher Gaines, Chair )**

**NCO Council: TSgt Eaton**

- 14 May at the BX, 10-1300 the NCO council will be doing Popcornolis
- Sharp Airman award is due on 16 May to TSgt Harris.
- Junior Achievement Program are held at different schools in the local area. If you would like to volunteer please contact the NCO council. The program trains the member briefing different ages and gives insight to the children on different items and involvement within the community. Next volunteer date is 18 May.
- All Airman may volunteer for Gate Guard on 18 May, please contact TSgt Wisdom
- Next meeting is 19 May at 1530 in Scott Club.

**CGO Council: Absent**

**New Business:**

**SMSgt Belt opened the floor for discussion:**

- MSgt Callahan introduced TSgt Erin Clark as her replacement for Family Matters Representative.
- SSgt Ransom would like to see if there are volunteers to keep score for shooters. Please contact him for event details.
- We are still planning to do the Joint Combat Dining In with Top 3 in October. Detials are still being worked out with leadership, be on the lookout for volunteer opportunities.
- AFSA might have a name change to incorporate all members in the DoD. This is because the AFSA numbers are at 100,000 total and we can do much better with Congress if we have more numbers and the entire DoD. We would be renamed to Armed Forces Services Association. The name change will be voted on in August at the PAC and if agreed to, the new name will be effect ive 1 January 2017.
- If you have never been to a Professional Airman's Conference (PAC), please considering attending it. It has good leadership seminars and the members that you rub elbows with are on the top echlons of our community. This is a PTDY so you will need approval from your Commander to attend. The link is also posted to the AFSA Facebook account. Dates are 20-24 August 2016, to register or for more information, see the site below:  
[https://members.hqafsa.org/Shared\\_Content/Events/Event\\_Display.aspx?EventKey=16FCONVN](https://members.hqafsa.org/Shared_Content/Events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=16FCONVN)
- Suggested that the chapter reserve some slots of our members.

**SMSgt Belt adjourned the meeting at 1229.**

**NEXT MEETING scheduled for June 14, 2016 at 1130 in the Dining Facility POW/MIA Room.**

JENNIFER M. McINTOSH, MSgt, USAF  
Secretary, Chapter 872

Approved/~~Disapproved.~~

MARY C. BELT, SMSgt, USAF  
President, Chapter 872