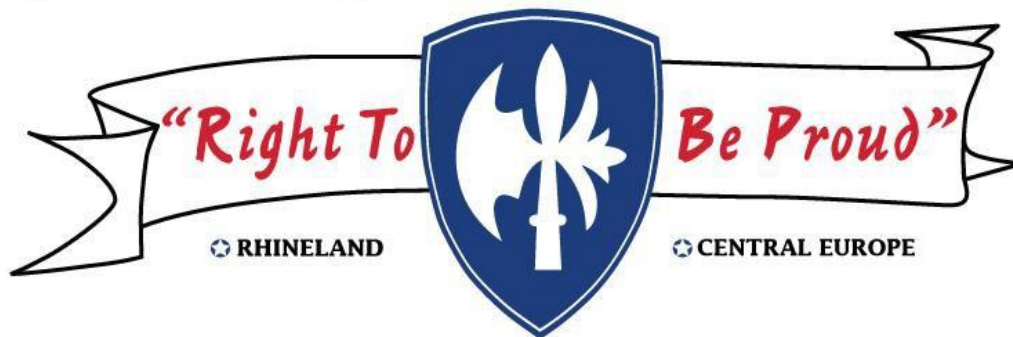


65th Infantry Division Association



Membership Meeting Minutes
Sunday, October 6, 2019
Dayton, Ohio

Call to order: Jean Pullin called the meeting to order at 9:11am

Invocation: Chaplain David Ream gave a prayer of invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Sergeant-at-Arms Eran Nadler.

Introduction of Officers: President Jean Pullin introduced the officers:

Vice President: Charlie Gemeinhardt, Secretary: Yessica Diaz, Treasurer: Sibyl Ream, Chaplain: David Ream, Site Committee Chair and Halbert co-editor: Jackie Hanson, Condolence and Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Dubois Russell, Social Media Administrators: Christine Phillips and Steve Schell, Sergeant -at-Arms: Eran Nadler, Historian: Jim Hanson, Halbert Publisher and co-editor: Debbie McNiff, Immediate Past President: Ben Diaz, Merchandise Chair: Ben Diaz. **Not in Attendance:** History Books Chair: Anne Patton

Introduction of First Timers- Richard Coyer, Eric Montgomery, Jeff Newell, and Matt Newell.

Membership Meeting Minutes from Norfolk, Virginia: Reported by Yessica Diaz, Secretary Meeting minutes from the Membership Meeting in Norfolk, Virginia, were left on the tables in the hospitality room for people to read. The minutes included financial reports, data from the previous reunion, and information on future reunions.

Lisa Brill-Nadler made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Cathy Schade seconded and all were in favor. None were opposed.

Registration Report: Sibyl Ream

Total registered was 61, 4 cancelled. There were 2 walk-ins the total to 59.

The breakdown is as follows:

There were 4 - 65th Veterans, 1 - 71st Veteran, 36 - 65th Legacy Members, 5-65th guests, 13 -71st guests, 11 first timers (combined 65th and 71st).

Treasurer Report- Sibyl Ream

From 9/23/18 to 9/23/19

Beginning Balance:	\$35,075.78
Total Income	\$19,332.07
Total Expenses	\$15,102.04
Closing Balance as of September 23, 2019	\$39,305.81

Halbert- Sibyl Ream

2018	Donations	\$1,960.00
	Expenses	\$2,633.22
2019	Donations (January to October)	\$3,120.00
	Expenses	\$2,762.86

This was the first time that an insert was put into the Halbert and this seems to have helped cover the costs of the Halbert.

Merchandise Report-Sibyl Ream

2018	Purchased	\$1,390.75
	Sold	\$1,136.00
2019	Purchased	\$516.00
	Sold	\$490.00

The 2019 totals do not include any merchandise sold at the 2019 reunion.

AffiniPay report-Sibyl Ream

Half of our registrations came through the website registration. The transactions amounted to \$4,467.00. We had 28 transactions, 28 deposits, and 2 refunds. 3 people paid membership dues, 12 paid reunion fees, and 7 Halbert donations were made. Some Halbert donations were included with the registration. There were 10 merchandise purchases.

A motion was made by Jackie Hanson to accept the Registration Report, Treasurer Report, Merchandise Report, and the AffiniPay Report as read. The motion was seconded by Steve Schell. All were in favor and none were opposed.

Condolences- Barbara DuBois Russell

This year 16 parchments were sent out, along with 2 letters sent to Veterans who's spouses had passed away. The parchments needed to be replaced at a cost of \$46.23 per 100. Postage cost \$1.31 per parchment. The total expenses for the year were \$68.29 Barbara and her husband, Scott Russell, have donated the cost of that to the Association.

Jim Hanson made a motion to accept the Condolence Report. Joan Pratt makes the second and all are in favor. There was no one opposed.

History report – Ann Patton is not here and Jean Pullin read the report for her.

Book Account Balance as of 9/15/2019	\$1,308.05
Book Account Balance as of 4/30/2019	\$1,578.47
Book Account Balance as of 3/01/2018	\$1,424.28
Book Account Balance as of 8/22/2017	\$1,329.42

54 books were sold from March 2018 – September 15, 2019

25 books were sold from September 2017- February 2018

35 books were sold from September 2016- August 2017

2019 inventory reported at 31 hardback and softback books valued at \$570.

The Executive committee did not accept her report because the inventory did not change between reports, but there was knowledge that inventory was ordered.

Auditors Report- Charlie Gemeinhardt

1-1-2018	opening balance	\$34,508.09
12-31-2018	ending balance	\$30,790.19

A motion was made by Christine Schell to accept the Auditor’s report as read. Jim Hanson seconded and all are in favor.

2018 Norfolk Reunion Report-Sibyl Ream

Income	\$14,724.54
Expenses	\$15,006.42
Balance - loss of:	(\$281.88)

Future Reunions

Camp Shelby, October 22-October 25, 2020- Charlie Gemeinhardt

The details are still being worked out. The schedule will be a little shorter. It will start Thursday and the banquet will be on Saturday night. On Friday, we will tour the base. On Saturday, there will be a memorial celebration. We will have a re-enactment of the inactivation ceremony. At the 65th Monument we will have the taps ceremony with a bugler from the 41st Army Band. Sunday will be the Membership meeting.

Transportation Suggestions:

It may be best to fly into Gulf Port Airport on Thursday morning. If we have enough people flying in at the same time, we can get a shuttle to take people from the airport to the base.

Camp Shelby has a hotel that will be exclusively ours. The All Ranks Club will be where we dine. All the basic meals will have a ticket. We will eat at the mess hall. We will use a charter bus to tour the base. Jackie said that you will want to sign up for all meals on base, because that is all there is.

The new director for the museum came from the WWII museum. The banquet will be in the grand ballroom of the hotel.

The base is a State Military Facility and you will need to have a Driver’s License to get on base.

2021 Reunion-

We have narrowed the choices down to the following based on recommendations from our Vets:

1) St Louis

We can visit the archives, Gateway Park, Jefferson Barracks, 1904 World's Fair, and the Budweiser Clydesdale Stables to name a few places that we could visit.

2) Camp Shanks-New York

We could possibly visit the following places: the docks that our loved ones departed from, possible Cadet Pass and Review, New York City, the USS Intrepid, the Statue of Liberty, and Ellis Island.

Discussion: Jim Hanson said that we won't stay at West Point Campus especially if there is a game that weekend. Lisa Brill-Nadler asked about visiting Manhattan and the World Trade Center Museum.

Colorado was also suggested during the Executive meeting but will be put on a future list. Barbara DuBois Russell suggested that we ask the Vets if they have a preference. When asked, 3 out of 4 Vets wanted St. Louis. David Ream reminded us that this is just a list of preferences to see if it is practical and reasonable to go there and if one place doesn't work out, we can go to the other. A straw poll was taken to create a preference list: 30 voted for St Louis and 2 voted for Camp Shanks.

It was also suggested that Vets have one night to share their experiences. Jackie Hanson also took a straw poll about when to hold reunions. The majority want to keep the reunions in October.

European Trip- Jackie Hanson

This is a 2 week trip costing \$4200 per person, without air, from May 30- June 14. It will include breakfast, some dinners, and tours. The trip will start in Normandy and will end in Munich. If you are interested let Jackie Hanson know. She will be sending out an email with updates and more information. Vets are invited. There will be a pre and post tour. There is a group minimum of 20 people. Jackie Hanson wants deposits before the end of the year.

Halbert Report- Debbie

Jackie Hanson and Debbie McNiff are pleased with the results of the magazine. The past issue was 72 pages long. It is usually 60 pages. They reprinted a story with permission that took several pages. They need submissions for next year's Halbert and ask that you submit as soon as possible. They are trying to make the magazine interesting for those who cannot make it to the reunion. There are over 100 vets that still enjoy the magazine. Feb 1 is deadline for articles.

Website- Christine Phillips

The mission of the website is to educate people about the 65th. The website has over 12 pages for family stories and we have a platform that will let us grow. We want to collect photos and memorabilia. There is an index that makes it easy to look up the Vet by last name and learn his story. It will make it easier to research. We added a video link page and are now researching videos to add. An electronic payment option has been added. It is not a shopping cart, but an electronic order form. It is sent to Sibyl and she will send a secure link for payment. AffiniPay handles the actual transactions.

In September 15, 2019, we had 41,000 people visit our website. 25% of our visitors come from social media. The goal for 2019/2020 is to build convoy stories, Camp Shanks and Camp Lucky Strike stories. We pay \$600 dollars for 5 years to run our website and we will be renewing again this year. Ben Diaz wanted to know if anybody had problems using anything online. Joan Pratt said it is easy to use. Christine Phillips said to let them know if there are any problems.

Social Media –Steve Schell

The Facebook page saw steady growth from October 2018- October 2019. The page followers grew from 402-481. We have a goal for 500 followers. One post highlighting the end of the war had 1,865 views. The post about Jack Hirsch's book had 1,695 views. Face Book page is a hub of content for those seeking information about the 65th and making contact with the 65th. Someone submitted an entire unit photo with every veterans' name written on it. The goal for 2020 is to generate a series of historical moments and posts of the 65th. Steve Schell has been posting the reunion on Facebook for those who could not be here. Steve Schell shared a post received from the daughter of General Reinhart, Virginia Pomeroy.

Legacy Report- Lisa Brill-Nadler

As of today, October 6, 2019, there are 121 Legacy Members, 94 Life Members, 22 Annual Members, and 5 Honorary Members. Lisa Brill-Nadler makes it a point to reach out to anyone who contacts Jackie Hanson, Sibyl Ream, or requests information from the website about joining. Some who attended this weekend brought family members and we want to change them from Guest to Legacy

Taps report: Barbara DuBois Russell

Barbara DuBois Russell thanked Art and Marcia Newall for their support in answering questions or concerns that come up. In last year's reading of the Taps List Debbie McNiff's name was left off as a family member of Maynard Hanson. Debbie McNiff is Maynard's niece.

Barbara DuBois Russell read the list of names. This was followed by a prayer given by David Ream.

Old Business

AffiniPay Update

The Executive Committee was pleased with AffiniPay after a 1 year trial and recommends to continue using it. There were a couple of questions about cost which was discussed in length in the 2018 Minutes.

A Motion was made by Jim Hanson to continue to use AffiniPay. Lisa Nadler Brill seconded and all were in favor. No one opposed.

New business: By-Law changes

Executive Committee wants to merge the titles of Corresponding Secretary and Parchment Secretary into one position called Corresponding Secretary Chair.

A Motion was made to merge the title Corresponding Secretary and Parchment Secretary into one position called Corresponding Secretary Chair by Jackie Hanson and Sibyl Ream seconded. All are in favor and none opposed.

Executive Committee wants to make Membership Chair an Executive Board Position with voting privileges. This position will reach out to family members and help build membership. Jackie Hanson said the future of the organization depends on this position.

Joan Pratt made a motion to make Membership Chair an Executive Board Position with voting privileges. Christine Phillips seconded, and all are in favor. No one opposes.

The Executive Committee wants to change the title of 1st Vice President to just Vice President since we eliminated the 2nd Vice President position 2 years ago and don't need the title of 1st Vice President anymore. We need to make it official in the By-Laws.

Sibyl Ream made a motion to accept the change of the Title 1st Vice President to just Vice President. Eran Nadler seconded and all are in favor. No one opposes.

The Executive Committee wants to change the name of the Cap and Patch Chair to Merchandise Chair to reflect what this position is currently being referred to as. The Merchandise Chair is responsible for the sale of all merchandise except books. Books are sold under the History Chair currently held by Anne Patton.

Steve Schell made a motion to change the name of the Cap and Patch Chair to Merchandise Chair in the By-Laws. Kathy Schade seconds and all are in favor. None oppose.

The executive Committee would like to change the Site Chair to Association Administrator. The name Site Chair does not reflect all the duties done in the position and the Executive Committee feels that the title needs to be changed. The motivation for this was to better define the role of Site Chair. We may find a more appropriate title later. David Ream suggested to just stick with Association Administrator for right now so we can clean up the By-Laws. The By-Laws committee will meet and possibly come up with a better title for the position.

Barbara DuBois Russell made a motion to change the job title from Site Chair to Association Administrator. Sibyl Ream seconded and majority are in favor. There was one vote in opposition.

The Executive Committee wants to make the membership aware that the President has appointed a new committee to review and update the By-Laws, update the duties of the Officers, ways to collect and preserve the 65th Infantry Historical items and 65th Association Historical items. Lisa Brill-Nadler asked if this will replace the Historian's job. Jackie Hanson clarified that this committee will review and recommend how are we going to get things passed on when someone takes over. For example, there should be 2 gavels, but we only have 1. We need to come up with a process. The committee consists of David Ream, Bill Phillips, and Jackie Hanson. Christine Phillips asked clarification for the committees.

Charlie Gemeinhardt told the General Membership that he and David Ream are starting to work on a mission statement for the organization. There will be 2 Standing Committees, not Ad-Hoc Committees, to the Executive Committee. The first is a Membership Committee which will be headed by the Membership Chair to promote membership. The second will be a standing committee chaired by the Historian Chair. This committee will promote and implement plans to collect and find the appropriate repository for historical 65th Infantry Division items, as well as the historical 65th Association items.

Ed Waite said that the President has the authority to appoint any committee that he/she needs or wants. When he was President, he had a By-Laws Revision Committee at the time and it doesn't matter what the President decides to call the committee because it is entirely at the President's discretion.

Presentation of Officers for 2019-2020

Ed Lewis presented the Slate of Candidates as follows:

President: Charlie Gemeinhardt, Vice President: David Ream, Secretary: Yessica Diaz, Treasurer: Sibyl Ream, Chaplain: Bill Phillips, Association Administrator: Jackie Hanson, Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Dubois Russell, Social Media Administrators: Christine Phillips and Steve Schell, Sergeant -at-Arms: Eran Nadler, Historian: Jim Hanson, Halbert Editors: Debbie McNiff and Jackie Hanson, Membership Chair: Lisa Brill-Nadler, History Books Chair: Anne Patton, and Merchandise Chair: Ben Diaz.

Immediate Past President: Jean Pullin is automatically a member of the Executive Committee for 2020

and does not need to be approved.

Charlie Gemeinhardt said that since David Ream is the incoming Vice President and married to the Treasurer someone else will be appointed to do the audit on his behalf. Part of the Vice President's job description is to do an audit and in this particular case, there would be a conflict of interest.

A motion was moved by Ed Waite to accept the Nomination Committee Report for the slate of officers and asked Secretary Yessica Diaz to cast one vote for entire slate of officers. Jackie Hanson seconded the motion and all were in favor. None were opposed.

Ed Waite wanted to thank the Legacy group and the officers who are a talented, devoted, and dedicated to carrying on this Association. He is very thankful.

Jim Hanson announced that Executive Committee bestowed an Honorary Membership to Jack Hirsch and Dave Hirsch as Honorary members on Friday, October 4, after Jack's talk. We did it because he had to leave early Saturday morning.

A motion was made to ratify Jack and Dave Hirsch as Honorary members of the 65th. Jim Hanson moved the motion and Carol Gemeinhardt seconded and all are in favor.

Joan Pratt suggested putting guidelines in the By-Laws about Honorary Members.

Jim Hanson wants to honor and welcome Honorary Members formally at the banquet.

Benediction given by David Ream.

Meeting adjourned at 11:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Yessica Diaz, Secretary

Distribution:

Jean Pullin
Charlie Gemeinhardt
Yessica Diaz
Barbara DuBois Russell
Sibyl Ream
Eran Nadler
David Ream
Jackie Hanson
Debbie McNiff
Jim Hanson
Christine Phillips
Steve Schell
Anne Patton
Ben Diaz
Bill Phillips
Lisa Brill-Nadler