

25th Infantry Division Association Annual Meeting

October 5, 2024

Westin Dulles Airport Hotel, Herndon, VA

In attendance: There were 43 people including: Charles Murrell, Fred Middleton, Verne Seehausen, John Marquardt, Sarah Krause, Gary Dittmer, Harry Eward, Bob Cirkus, Sam Tedrowe, Tom Fleming, Jesse Doyle, Don Casteel, Larry Bland, Ira Cochran, William Park, Gordon Elbert, Joe Finch, Tom Graves, Jim Connor, Donnie Ashley, Bob Beisner, Tom Romein, Tom Donovan, Skip Hoskeer, Philip Lindeman, John Radvansky, Dennis Riveron, Ron Ronk, Jim Queathem. There were 43 in attendance, not all of whom are members.

President Charles Murrell called the meeting to order at 10:30 am and led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the San Diego meeting had been included in everyone's packet so the reading was dispensed with.

Gary Dittmer moved to accept the San Diego minutes as presented. Jim Connor seconded the motion – passed unanimously.

Financial Reports – before presenting his report Mr. Seehausen announced that there is a baseball field in Rhode Island that is being named in honor of CPT Henry Richardson Phillips. Phillips served in Co C, 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment. American Legion Foster, RI Post 101 will dedicate the field on November 11, 2024 at 2 PM. Email messages regarding this dedication were sent to members in the New England states and parts of New York. Verne then urged everyone in attendance to be sure to send in their emails and keep them updated. He found half the emails he used were incorrect.

The financial reports were provided to members in their reunion packets. Verne reported we have a great deal of money, but most of it is restricted. We are currently operating at a loss and asked those that give to please give a little more. He opened the floor to questions from members.

Doc Ashley asked about 501c3 and 501c19 organizations. Verne explained the 25th IDA is a 501C19 and the Memorial Fund is a 501c3. Doc asked members to include the 25th IDA in their wills. Verne explained the qualified distribution opportunity for members to donate part of their IRA which helps the member with taxes and adds dollars to the association. Good deal all around.

Gary Dittmer asked about the \$10,000 audit. Verne explained it is a requirement for us to fulfill to become a PO (private organization) on Schofield Barracks.

Tom Donovan moved to accept the financial report.

Joe Finch seconded. Motion approved.

Membership Report – Sarah Krause

The membership figures were in the reunion packets. Mrs. Krause reviewed the figures and explained we have been losing a large number through bad addresses. Discussion regarding getting new members: wear your 25th gear, contact old buddies, work on recruiting the younger GWOT Vets and the Cold War Vets.

Gary Dittmer moved to accept the membership report

Joe Finch seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Historian/Archives – Again, the historian report was in the packets. Gary Dittmer made a presentation regarding the archive. During the past year we hired a qualified librarian to catalog our archive. It is now complete and people can access it. There was discussion regarding moving the archive to Texas Tech, the Army Museum, the War College in Carlisle, PA. Gary explained the problems with moving the archive, plus the expense of doing so would be too much for us and at this time it is best to leave it where it is.

Motion to accept John Radvansky

Second Jim Queathem

Motion passed without dissent

Memorial Fund – Gary Dittmer advised the construction on the patio in Hawaii is complete. At this time we are focusing on maintaining the statues. They require power washing and waxing especially due to the climate conditions in both locations. Gary has found a man in Ft. Moore to handle this – it costs \$3200 per year – it must be done twice a year.

Lynn Weiler Liverton, the sculptor of our Memorial, cleans the memorial at Schofield and does not charge for this service.

The bricks in the patio need to be cleaned. Also, a map of the bricks locations needs to be updated. The Memorial is part of a tour so it really needs to be cleaned up and mapped.

Future Reunions

2025 will be at the Oasis Hotel and Convention Center in Springfield, MO September 28 – October 5.

2026 -The executive committee voted to suspend the reunion in Hawaii in 2026 and then consider starting again in 2027. This needed to be voted on by the membership.

Gary Dittmer moved we suspend 2026 Hawaii reunion and return to reunions in 2027. Bob Cirkus seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent

NEW BUSINESS

Tony Lindeman made a brief presentation. His grandfather was the first president of the 25th Infantry Division Association. Tony brought his grandfather's scrapbooks with him to be donated to the archive.

Charles Murrell presented the slate of officers for the next term.

President: Fred Middleton

1st Vice President: Dan Wilson

2nd Vice President: Ron Conrad

Secretary: John Marquardt

Treasurer: Verne Seehausen

Directors:

To: 2026

Larry Bland

Harry Eward

T: 2027

Michael Brabner

Michael Coale

Mason Rick

To: 2028

Bob Cirkus

Ira Cochran

Sam Tedrow

Ron Ronk moved to accept the board by acclamation. Members present were in agreement.

Charles Murrell gave the oath of office to the above slate of officers.

Meeting adjourned 11:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah S. Krause

Recording Secretary