



NAVAL ENLISTED
RESERVE ASSOCIATION
WINDY CITY CHAPTER



July-August 2018 Edition
P.O. Box 4562 Rockford, IL 61110

From the President's desk... 7-09-18

In 1996, our government lifted an order that had prohibited thousands of U.S. Service members from revealing their participation in nuclear tests. The military had conducted approximately 200 nuclear weapon tests between 1945 and 1962. Participants were threatened with treason if they talked. By the time the order was lifted, it was too late for many veterans to apply for VA medical care and benefits.

Here we are, 22 years after the order was lifted, some VA claims have finally been allowed. However, many of our "Atomic Veterans", including those who were involved with the cleanup of the Marshall Islands, still do not qualify for VA assistance.

Congress had passed the **Radiation Exposure Compensation Act** in the early 1990's. The National Association of Atomic Veterans is attempting to persuade Congress to provide benefits to the Enewetak cleanup veterans and to extend the deadline for all atomic veterans to apply for help from the Justice Department program that expires in 2022. Why is it that every generation of our Service members have to fight for their VA benefits; atomic, agent orange and burn pit veterans and now their families due to contaminated water on military facilities for years? Unfortunately, some the things never change.

As usual, we are always searching for people who want to be involved in the workings of our chapter. We need new blood to bring in new ideas, changes to the status quo and revitalize our organization.

Please consider attending your chapter meeting(s). They are still held on the second Tuesday of February, April, June, August, October and the first Tuesday in December at the Northlake American Legion Hall on North Ave just west of Manheim Rd; we start promptly at 2000. The next meeting will be held on 08-14-18.

Remember that, more than ever, "what Congress and DOD doth giveth, the Administration, Congress and DOD can taketh away".

Butch Michaelson
Chapter President

Mark Your Calendar: Our Next Meeting is August 14, 2018

Meetings are conducted at 2000 hours on the second Tuesday of even numbered months:

At the American Legion Post in Northlake, IL

Windy City Chapter Meeting Minutes-June 12, 2018

Meeting of the Windy City Chapter convened at 20:00 President, both Co-Treasurers and Secretary present. A quorum exists. Meeting was on temperature hold at 20:04 waiting for members to arrive, restart meeting at 20:07.

List of Attendees:

Butch Michaelson	Paul Smurawski	Gene Koelker
Vicki Koehnke	Alan Koehnke	John Nickelson
Darlene Nickelson	Dennis Devitt	Gene Huie
Larry Monroe	Mike Brock	Ed Whiteside
Bob Garza	Bill Bahlau	Chris Lajiness

- April 2018 newsletter was not received by most of the members, so the reading of the April meeting minutes was read during the meeting. Motion was made accept the minutes as read. MX-John Nickelson, 2X-Mike Brock.

Correspondence:

- Nothing to report.

Vice President:

- Absent

Treasurer's Report:

- Report was read by Gene Koelker. Accept the Treasure report as stated-MX-John Nickelson, 2X-Mike Brock.

Sunshine Fund:

- Get well card was sent to Ginny Michaelson. Wishing her a speedy recovery.

Executive Council: absent

Communications:

- No activity to report.

Supply CPO:

- Sold a few more coins. Still have a good supply of coins available for purchase. The following coins are available for purchase Chapter coins, Anniversary coins, National coins and 60-year challenge coin is available to purchase. If any Windy City chapter members have not received their new coins, please come to a meeting to receive your coin.

Webmaster:

- not present but need to check out distribution list for newsletter and why the Chapter website no one can access directly only thru a backdoor.

Nominations:

- Absent

Old Business:

- USS Illinois coin-payment was sent but check has not cleared the bank. Been trying to contact the officer of the boat no response.
- The 2 donations payments to the Warrior Dog Foundation and Chicago Veterans Org, both checks have been cashed.

New Business:

- No activity to report.

Good of the Chapter-

- Bravo Zulu Congratulations to Life Member MA Richard Koehnke and Chapter member MA Kirsten Ivy both have been promoted to MA2 effective May 22, 2018. Congratulations.
- Come one and come all the Summer getting together-Picnic/Fish Fry-is schedule for
 - Saturday Aug 18, 2018
 - location-John and Darlene's House
 - start time 1400.

At the August 14, 2018 chapter meeting, a sign-up sheet will be available, (indicating the number of attendees and what dish you will be bringing to share. It can be an appetizer, side dish or dessert.

Please RSVP by August 1, 2018 for planning purposes. Long standing motion that chapter will provide, main course (fish & meat) beverages (beer, water and soda) (Feb 2015 meeting notes). Cost is unknown at the present time.

- Master Chief Naida Retiring 9-18-2018 at "Ship in a bottle".
- Gene Koelker did see Admiral @ recruit graduation
- 4th of July celebration at Great Lake with fireworks
- T-Mobile cell phone service is offering discount for Military personnel. GO to www.t-mobile.com for additional information.
- Rec'd an email 2018 Navy Ball 2018 @ Great Lakes is scheduled for Oct 12, 2018. No other communication was stated of the location, point of contact, and price.
- Girl Scouts is collection old silverware utensils. They will be collecting these items until June 2018
- 50/50 winner- Ed Whiteside

Motion to adjourn @ 20:42 MX-John Nickelson, 2X-Mike Brock