

McCORMICK AREA



VETERANS ASSOCIATION

MAVA MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES May 21, 2024
at Lutheran Church by the Lake, 1000 Twelve Oaks Drive

Call to order: Chairman Craig Pierre, at 6:03 pm
Pledge of Allegiance and Opening Prayer: Howard Milhoan

Officers Present: Chairman Craig Pierre, Vice Chair Len Fouch,
Treasurer David Flom, Judge Advocate Tom Westgate; Webmaster
Wayne Ehrensberger, Chaplain Howard Milhoan. Exec Subcommittee:
Al Cauther; Theresa Sadowski

Guest Speaker: MAVA member John Yerdon related his experience of
the Honor Flight program. He encouraged members to apply. 146
slots are available for future veteran visitors.

Webmaster Wayne Ehrensberger reported that he participated in the
ESGR Bosslift on 5/17/2024 as an observer of the Palmetto Fury 24
state-wide, multi-force military exercise focused at the Clarks Hill
Training Facility in Plum Branch on behalf of the McCormick Chamber
of Commerce representing MAVA. Our military is comprised of 40
percent guard & reserve. Purpose of program is to inform civilians,
primarily civilian employers, of the purpose of ESGR in support and
appreciation of guard & reserve members. We need more volunteers
in the program.

Chairman Craig Pierre:

1. Request volunteers to sign up for the flag ceremony at the DAR
Golf Tournament at Tara on Saturday May 25.
2. Need a volunteer for the executive subcommittee position that is
open.

3. Passed out signup lists for golf tournament, and the June 14 flag retirement ceremony at Sandy Branch fire department. 200+ flags are going to be retired.
4. Chamber of Commerce 2nd annual Valor Award is May 29 at McCormick Methodist Church. Members are encouraged to attend.
5. Liability Insurance renewal is \$446, membership voted in favor.
6. Next Visit to Campbell Veterans Home in Anderson is June 17, meet at Rec Center and 8 am.
7. McCormick Veterans memorial Plaza is still a work in progress.
8. Next member meeting is 2 pm on June 11, at Modoc facility. This 20 acre site is used for training, and Augusta VA rehab for veterans including fishing and picnic area. We need to clean and do some maintenance, paint restrooms, window sills in pavilion, water seal the pier. Need someone who has a chainsaw. Will be a meeting and picnic/potluck at 5 pm. Signup list was passed among members.
9. Need authorization to spend \$900 per year for a storage facility locker to store all of MAVA equipment plus donations of goods that are given to us all year long, that will be sold as a MAVA fundraiser at the annual LCBTL April yard sale. All voted in favor except one member.

Theresa Sadowski:

Thank you to everyone for the help and donations to make the LCBTL yard sale a success.

Treasurer David Flom:

1. June 6 Green Jackets game has 36 tickets committed. \$11 each. August 29 is next game.
2. Reading of thank you note for our donation of \$2200 to the Wounded Warrior Transition program for wounded veterans to return to civilian life.

Vice Chair Len Fouch:

1. Thank you to our MAVA members for helping to grow our membership in our efforts to provide support for veterans and their spouses.

Harry Klug:

1. The MAVA table at the Rec Center open house had a good turnout.

Al Cauther:

1. Update on sending out cards of condolence and support. Craig commented thank you to all the members that attended the ceremony for Rick Post.

Vickie Leonard/DAR Regent:

1. Reported that the April 28 Wreaths Across America mobile exhibit had a mechanical breakdown and was unable to operate for both the public (4/28/24) visit and the planned school visit (4/29/24.)
2. The DAR flag ceremony at the May 25 golf tournament was a success. Thank you to everyone involved.

Next board meeting 6/11/24 at 11 am at Modoc Training Facility at Gilchrist Ferry for cleanup and maintenance of the site. Potluck and general member meeting starts at 5 pm.

Meeting closed at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Branigan/Secretary
Minutes recorded by Theresa Sadowski
(Thank you, Theresa!)

Addendum: Member Dan Rego reports the following food donations that have been received from MAVA members:

March meeting: 34 pounds of food collected

April meeting: 60 pounds of food collected

May meeting: 57 pounds of food collected