

## Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. Minutes of October 26, 2017

**Officers present:** Chairman Bill Dudley; Secretary Michael Rothfeld, John Mountcastle, Treas. Vice Chairman Ray Quinn

**Chairman Dudley** called the meeting to order at 1900 hours

**Chairman Dudley** led the Pledge to the Flag, Vice Chairman Ray Quinn gave the Invocation

Last month's Minutes were approved as presented

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented

### Introduction of Guests:

Bill Filipic WWP; Cliff Heniker St Johns Cares; Dave Treffinger VVA 1059, Jennifer Price Steadfast Asset Management

### Speakers:

**Scott Grant**, spoke about the German U Boat attack on American oil tankers on the east coast in 1942. The U Boat U-123 sunk 12 ships including the Gulfamerica off the coast of Jacksonville Beach on April 10, 1942. The Commander of the U Boat Reinhard Hardegen is the last surviving German U-boat commander. He sank 22 ships, amounting to 115,656 gross register tons sunk, making him the 24th-most-successful commander in World War II.

### Committee Reports:

**Mac:** No cost Veterans photo ID cards will be free and available soon, need a DD 214 to get ID card. On Nov. 9 all veterans invited to Valley Ridge in Nocatee, 8:45 am and to Liberty Pines Academy Nov. 9, 9am to join the students in celebrating Veterans Day. The Marine Corps Toys for Tots boxes are placed around town, please contribute.

**Ray Quinn:** funds are needed for Wreaths Across America to cover ALL headstones at St Augustine National Cemetery. It is \$ 15 a wreath. Donation forms distributed and all asked to circulate.

Veterans interested in marching/riding/volunteering for the Nov. 11 Veterans Day Parade please meet SGM Ray Quinn at 8:45 am on Orange St.

**John Leslie:** VVA 1084 President, donated \$ 1000 to American Legion Post 94 for their Safe Kids Zone van and \$ 250 donated to St Johns Housing Partnership to help veterans.

Veterans Treatment Court will now meet twice a month to handle growing number of clients. VTC now has 18 in the program with 6 veteran mentors.

**Chairman Dudley:** Chairman Dudley spoke about the issues regarding the new CBOC placement, no site has been selected yet, and the Veterans Day Parade Nov. 11. If you or your organization want to march/ride contact Ray Quinn. The parade will have High School Bands, 2 helicopters, a fly over, ROTC and JROTC marching. Several military vehicles will take part. The St Augustine Beach Veterans Day event will begin at 3 pm, featured speaker BG Mike Canzoneri.

**New Business:** Fred Johnstone, President of the Vilano Beach VFW presented Ray Quinn with a check for \$ 150. For Wreaths Across America

**Good of the Order:** John McGinty attended a VVA meeting in Wash. DC and reported to us that VVA National will allocate more money locally to fight PTSD and suicides.

### Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

The next meeting of the Veterans Council will be on **Thursday, November 30**, 7 pm in the Health & Human Services Building, 200 San Sebastian View.

### Future speakers:

**November 30, Cynthia Thompson**, Veterans treatment Court Coordinator

**Eric Heineman**, Executive Director K9s United

**December 28, Lynn Brannon**, FL NG State Coordinator, Family Programs

**January 25, 2018- Mike Mitchell**, Jacksonville University Veteran Students Coordinator