



Suncoast Chapter USCG CWOA

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February 5, 2010

The January business meeting of the Suncoast Chapter of the U.S. Coast Guard Chief Warrant Officers Association was held on Tuesday January 12, 2010 at the Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater.

The following were present:

David Daniels	Bill Held	Bill Reetz
Ken Rickard	Jeff Timberlake	Hazel Wilbanks (guest)

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 AM by President Bill Reetz who led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for those who have passed over the bar. There being no previous minutes to approve or committee reports the current treasury balance of \$943.06 was reported. There was no old business pending. New business was a discussion of possible agenda items for the upcoming annual meeting being held in Alameda California April 21-25, 2010. The only item of interest was a discussion of the status of CWO5 for the U.S. Coast Guard. I have drafted the item and submitted it to those members having email (due to a deadline of 1 February I didn't mail the info via the post office) before forwarding it to the Association (See below for the item). I requested 3 motions for expenditure of funds, number 1 was to purchase the wreath for the Blackthorn Ceremony (Thursday January 28th 11:00 at Blackthorn Memorial Park), number 2 was to donate \$100 to the Jon Keller Scholarship fund and number 3 was to donate \$50 to the Golden Gate Chapter toward their expenses for providing a hospitality suite at the meeting (we received similar donations from 2 chapters last year). All three motions were made and seconded with unanimous approval. The next item discussed was a volunteer for the position of Treasurer (John Trombitas has held the position since 199? and has been asking for relief. Thank you to Jeff Timberlake for stepping up, and congratulations on your new title. The position of President is available to any member in good standing. I have held the position since 1994 at least and I would welcome anyone desiring to take over.

Special interest item from the President – I have received a CD containing all of the records currently being held in the Association office, correspondence, newsletters, chronological listing of officers, etc. This is the result of the record retention project currently being worked on by the Association (i.e. scanning all of our files etc.) for preserving and safely storing over 10 five drawer file cabinets of documents. As the various chapters' files are finished each chapter will be provided a copy of their documents.

Our next business meeting will be at 1000 in the dining facility at CGAS Clearwater on Wednesday April 15, 2010, we will discuss the agenda items, distinguished member nominations, etc for the annual meeting the following week. All CWO's in the area, active, retired and reserve and invited.

There will be a social meeting at 1:00PM on Monday February 15th at The Ranch House Grill, 4426 W. Gandy Blvd, Tampa, FL. Phone (813) 831-9759. It's about a mile from the East end of the Gandy Bridge between the 1st traffic light (Westshore) and the 2nd (Manhattan) on the South side of the street (right next to Hooters).

Bill Reetz
President

Text for Agenda Item:

TITLE: Status of CWO5

SUBMITTED BY: Suncoast Chapter

BACKGROUND: USCG W-5 all other Armed Forces with CWO's have W-5

DISCUSSION: This item has been around for a great many years, and has been discussed many times. Looking for the latest status of W-5 for the U.S. Coast Guard. Does the Association have an official position regarding implementing CWO5?

RECOMMENDATION: Maybe an article in the CWO News giving the background and status of this program, including a statement regarding the CWOA position.

This Months Joke:

The Cowboy Boots:
(Anyone who has ever dressed a child will love this)

Did you hear about the Texas teacher who was helping one of her kindergarten students put on his cowboy boots? He asked for help and she could see why. Even with her pulling and him

pushing, the little boots still didn't want to go on. By the time they got the second boot on, she had worked up a sweat.

She almost cried when the little boy said, "Teacher, they're on the wrong feet." She looked, and sure enough, they were. It wasn't any easier pulling the boots off than it was putting them on.. She managed to keep her cool as. Together, they worked to get the boots back on, this time on the correct feet.

He then announced, "These aren't my boots."

She bit her tongue, rather than get right in his face and scream, "Why didn't you say so?", like she wanted to.

Once again she struggled to help him pull the ill-fitting boots off his little feet. No sooner had they gotten the boots off when he said, "They're my brother's boots. My Mom made me wear 'em."

Now she didn't know if she should laugh or cry. But she mustered up what grace and courage she had left to wrestle the boots on his feet again.

Helping him into his coat, she asked, "Now, where are your Mittens?"

He said, "I stuffed 'em in the toes of my boots."

She will be eligible for parole in three years.