**DEL WEBB NAPLES VETERAN’S CLUB MEETING**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023**

**10 AM**

**GRAND HALL**

**delwebbnaplesveterans.com**

**delwebbvetsclub@outlook.com**

**PRESIDENT: ED DEMAIO**

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: TRACY SUNDERLAGE**

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: MARK CLAYTON**

**TREASURER: RICK BACHOFNER**

**SECRETARY: HELEN SCORSONE**

**ADVISORS: JOE TILLMAN MIKE TRAYNOR MARGE SCHEFFLER MAC MCTAMNEY**

 **JOE RIVERA**

THE Meeting was called to order by Ed DeMaio, President, at 10 AM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Father Petruska offered a prayer.

After the prayer, Ed recognized Father Petruska who was the Veteran of the Month of December in the Ave Maria Neighbors Magazine.

We now have 178 Members in the Del Webb Naples Veteran’s Club. Ed recognized our newest members, Joe Grabowski, Air Force Veteran and Jerry and Colleen Conti, both Veteran Supporters.

The Minutes from December 9, 2023, were approved.

Treasurer Report: Rick Bachofner told the Membership that at the end of October 2023 there was a balance in the check book of $2,906.97. Deposits made totaled $2,965.00. Checks written were $4,256.64. Balance, $1,615.33. Available balance $415.33. Not included in the report are the two T-Bills amounting to $10,000 each. The latest statement from the Treasury indicated $82 on one of the T-Bills.

Dues will remain $25 for 2024.

Marge reminded the guests who sign up for the Pancake Breakfast to sign up for the breakfast on the Oasis Calander and if they are not able to attend, to kindly remove their name from the list so others can sign up. The next Breakfast will be on December 15, 2023, at 9 AM in the Grand Hall. The Pancake Breakfast in January will be on 19, 2024.

Jill Mortensen had the special-order shirts available for pick up, and the new shirts are now in for purchase.

Ed thanked Nancy Holyst for her donation of 95 handmade soap sachets and 118 handmade winter hats to the “Hunger and Homeless Coalition”.

Ed told the Membership that the Officers of the Club will meet before the end of December to discuss the proposed 2024 Budget and will have the Budget ready for the Membership to review and make suggestions at the January 2024 Meeting for approval. The Club will be asked for a vote to finalize the Budget.

Ed recognized Joe Tillman and Marge Scheffler, Club Advisors, who have served on the Board as Advisors for the past two years and whose Terms will expire at the end of December 2023 and thanked them for their support during their Term.

Ed will announce the Advisors for 2024 at the January Meeting.

The Diaper Drive will begin on December 10th and end on the 16th.

The Veteran’s Club will raffle a 7 Night Princess Cruise that was donted to the Veteran’s Club by Princess Cruise Line. The winner of the cruise can choose the date and the itinerary that would include either the Caribbean or Mexico. Holidays are excluded and the cruise must be completed before the end of 2024. The cruise is non-transferable and has no cash value toward another Princess Cruise. Port charges and taxes are additional. The donation per ticket will be $25 for one ticket and $100 for 5 tickets. John Schaffer is the primary contact for the purchase of tickets. (jshaffer@live.com) A separate notice will be sent out to the Membership with other members of the Club who will have tickets.

The “Warrior Brunches” (Branch of Service Luncheons) will continue. Look for information in your e-mail for time and dates.

Jerry Conti, Chairman of the CCREC Campaign Headquarters and a Member of the Del Webb Naples Veteran’s Club sent a letter to the Club as follows:

 Dear Members of the Del Web Naples Veteran’s Club,

 My name is Jerry Conti, and I recently became a member of the Veteran's Club. When

 I heard about the Diaper Drive, I went to the chair of the Collier County Republican

 Executive Committee, of which I am a member and told him about the diaper drive

 and what a great cause it was. The CCREC was more than happy to collect and donate

 diapers to distribute to these needy families in Immokalee. On behalf of the CCREC,

 I am very happy to donate a total of 1,783 diapers.

Ed thanked Jim and the Collier County Republicans for their generous donation.

The Honor Flight that was scheduled for April 2024 will be rescheduled to September 2024. Joe Kennedy and Tracy Sunderlage will be on that flight.

Ed will bring the Honor Flight Applications and additional information about the flights to the next Meeting in January.

The “Ave Sun” newspaper on the front page has a great article about the Ave Maria Memorial and the event held on November 11, 2023.

The Grant Thornton Invitational is being held at Tiburon Golf Club December 4th to the 10th. Veterans and one dependent are admitted free to the Tournament.

Jeff Plys introduced himself. Jeff will be the Club’s new Secretary starting January 2024. Jeff has established a new email for the Club (delwebbvetsclub@outlook.com) Starting in January, all correspondence will be done through this new email.

Paradise Coast Sports Complex and Entertainment Center in Naples (paradisecoast.com) located at 3940 City Gate Blvd. North in Naples (239-252-4386) offers complementary tickets for certain events for being a veteran. You can contact the Complex for additional information.

The next Meeting will be on Saturday, January 6, 2024, at the Grand Hall at 10 AM. Coffee and Donuts, 9:30 AM.

The Meeting was Adjourned at 10:45 AM.