AMVET RIDERS-DPT. OF FLORIDA

E-BOARD MEETING

10/26/2018

The meeting was opened at 4:02pm by Interim President, Don Cox.

Don started out by explaining that the Dept. of Florida Riders are in a trusteeship through the National AMVET Riders. He explained that he has been given full authority to run the department and to assure that the officers are performing their duties.

Department of Florida has 600 members, while the department of Ohio has 300 but our treasury has only $5,000 and theirs has $40,000.

One of our goals is to build our finances and get our department straightened out.

Department of Florida will no longer make donations to charities. That is the job of the Chapters. We can no longer continue to do that and still support our officers who need to attend Conventions and mid year rallies. We need to build our coffers. Don gave Tom S. a copy of the budget that Ohio uses. He also noted that our budget does not note specific dues notations. Tom and Don will work on that.

Fundraisers need to happen. There are lots of opportunities to make money off raffles. He also recommends 1 major raffle per year that can really make a difference.

Kurt is now the new 1st Vice. Kurt stated that he is happy to have National step in to help us out. Kurt agrees that Don can help get us where we need to be. The fishing trip will still happen but it is going to take everyone’s involvement to get us where we need to be.

Don stated that all Chapter presidents need to step up. They will be required to be on a conference call every other month. It will be required. Missing 2 calls is the same as 2 unexcused absences.

The fishing trip netted us $1,500. Kurt purchased a logoed cutting board for the captain in appreciation for his donation of the trip, which will be reimbursed ($100) as part of the expenses for the fundraiser.

Conference calls will take place for the Board every other month and on the opposite month the Chapter Presidents will be on a call. Calls will be on Sunday nights at 8pm.

Mr. Hoban (chapter 60) needs to be contacted by phone as he has no computer. We will work to assist with that.

Don also stated that if we are getting resistance from our Post Commander we need to contact him to get some assistance.

Updated information needs to be timely as new members/old members come and go. New e-mails, addresses and phone numbers should be more timely and accurate. Officer changes and any chapters in need of assistance should act quickly and ask for help.

Wendy Lane has updated all e-mails and officers, information which should be very accurate at this point.

Tom McNamara will be here tomorrow with a list of all deadlines that will be used to assist the Chapters.

In order to get your Revalidations to the Department in a timely manner, Don suggested that you bring a copy of the revalidation paperwork with you to get it signed when new officers are elected, then you will NEVER be out of compliance.

**Kurt** will be working with Karen Cox to train on his new positions.

**Erik Schmitz** wants to reassure everyone that we are working hard to fix our issues.

**Melvin Lane** states that there are 23 chapters but only 7 have sent in their SOP’s, which are mandatory. It is very basic. Needs to have basic stuff like the day/time of your monthly meeting, cost for annual dues, finances and any other basic information. 7467, 2, 44, 292, 312, 2298 and 113 all have SOP’s. SOP’s can be changed at any time. Tom S. said his chapter included things in their SOP like anyone who attends 8 meetings in a year gets their dues paid by the chapter.

Mr. Hoban asked that he get sent paper copies of the Constitution and Bi-laws along with the Officers Manuals. It was suggested that he ask one of the officers at this Chapter to assist him with getting that, again, because he has no computer or access to one.

Finance needs to budget for all officers to attend the Conventions and SEC’s. Mid Year Rally should include at least 2 officers as well as the National convention.

All committee members need to be active participants. Budget for Approximately $750 per person times 2 for a total of $1,500.

**Wendy**, communications officer asked that you contact her for anything you need. She can either assist or direct your request to the correct officer. The website is updated with the forms, manuals and information to help you.

**Don** stated that Bob Wills wanted to create a Riders card. He stated that the Department is welcome to do that since it is only valid at the Department of Florida level and not recognized at the National level anyway. Stickers should have been sent to the Chapters but instead were issued at the National convention which is not our standard.

**Cowboy (Ed Flack)** said that the National website lists all the officers and their duties which will help everyone understand what their duties are. He suggested that we print the Bi-Laws and meet with our officers at the Chapter level to share information with them. Some officer duties overlap but normally they all work together so that is not an issue.

**Kurt** introduced the information for the cruise raffle. You can book your cabin as well as selling tickets. If you are booked and win you can either give the ticket away or get a credit for an interior cabin. Be sure that all tickets include a legible name, phone number, state and most important your chapter number. The winner will be drawn at the Feb. SEC, and hopefully a phone call made to the winner during the meeting.

Tomorrow we will have a table set up to sell tickets and a raffle basket.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:08pm.

Attendees: Don Cox, Kurt Knechtle, Melvin Lane, Wendy Lane, Ed Flack,

Erik Schmitz, Tom Serianni, Mary McCarthy