



# VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC.

[www.battleofthebulge.org](http://www.battleofthebulge.org)

## MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING Bowling Center Lounge Fort George C. Meade MD

Tuesday, 13 May 2014

### PRESENT:

John D. Bowen	Madeleine Bryant	Mike J. Levin	Vicki Rafel
Mary Ann D. Bowen	Douglas Dillard	Sally Lung (Guest) part time	

### ABSENT:

J. David Bailey	Alan R. Cunningham	John J. Dunleavy	Alfred H M Shehab
Robert Bowles, Jr.	Louis Cunningham	Hope Kirkendall	William P Tayman
Ralph W. Bozorth	Doris Davis	Barbara Mooneyhan (Teleconf)	Stanley Wojtusik
Thomas Chambers	Tracey Diehl (Guest)	Robert G. Rhodes	
George Chekan	Kevin Diehl (Guest)	Bert L. Rice	

1. President Douglas Dillard called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM in the Ft Meade Bowling Alley Lounge. John Bowen delivered the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

2. The minutes of the 18 March 2014 meeting having previously been distributed, President Dillard asked for any corrections. Hearing none he called for the approval of the Minutes of the 18 March, 2014 meeting. It was moved by Madeleine Bryant, seconded by Mike Levin and approved to accept the minutes as published. The Roll Call was taken by Mary Ann Bowen, Recording Secretary, and is shown at the header of these minutes.

3. Vicki Rafel, Treasurer presented the Financial Report for the period 1 Dec 2013 through 11 May 2014 which had been prepared by Sally Lung, our accountant.. A copy is attached. The Profit & Lost Report showed that Total Income for the period was \$25,221.27 and Total Expenses was \$25,321.27 for Net Income of -\$100. The Balance Sheet as of 11 May 2014 Shows Operating Checking account of \$26,709.03, Bank of America Certificate of Deposit of \$101,438 and Pentagon Federal Credit Union Money Market of \$40,172.68 for Total Assets of \$168,320.27. Vickie indicated that we are transferring monies paid to our Pay Pal Account to our Checking Account more frequently on a monthly basis. The Treasurer's report was filed for audit. Vickie indicated that we still need to do an annual audit. She indicated that a Budget for the coming year needs to be prepared by the July meeting so that it can be presented to the membership at the VBOB Membership Meeting the beginning of September. Anyone with requests, etc., we should hear about beforehand and should let her know as soon as possible.

4. Membership Chairperson, Barbara Mooneyhan was unable to participate because we had no tele-conferencing at this meeting but she had submitted a report via e-mail just in case. She reported that (with special thanks to Tracey Diehl, Member Services) that for the period 1 March thru 30 April 2014 we have gained 30 new memberships consisting of 4 -4 year Associate Memberships, 13 Yearly associate Memberships, 12 Regular Bulge Veteran Memberships and 1 Lifetime Bulge Veteran Membership. There 408 dues renewals consisting of 363 yearly dues and 46 4-year associate dues. We also had 218 made inactive due to deaths, did not respond to dues letters or for whom we have no current address. That leaves us with a net loss in membership of 188. With the 14 new members that we gained in the January & February 2014 period that makes for a 2014 year to date net loss of 174 members.

5. Reunion Update: Barbara Mooneyhan also reported in her e-mail that the SC Chapter is striving to keep the reunion affordable and in the black. The Columbia Marriott Hotel will be the designated place for the Reunion, which is where we stayed the previous time. It is our goal that veterans and guest pay only for accommodations, transportation and meals (with several meals included at no charge). The City of Columbia is hosting an evening of entertainment on the Sunday with the Harry James Orchestra and the Victory Belles from the National WWII Museum in New Orleans, LA (\$30 meal covers the room rental only). With the help of Ralph Bozorth, we have signed a contract for the buses and with the fees assessed, should cover all expenses. All details for the hotel and schedule are in the current issue of the Bulge Bugle.

6. There was no Chapters Report.

7. There was no Bugle Report. The Bugle is in the mail. George Chekan has had a pacemaker put in. He seems to be recovering well. Doug commented that he thinks that George is one of our veterans who started in North Africa during the war and went all the way through to V-E Day!

8. President Dillard reported on the VBOB Quartermaster materials: Tracey Diehl provided him with a print out of our Quartermaster inventory and sales for the last year. He indicated that it was more a convenience than a profit maker. He suggested not ordering or stocking any more of those items that are just not moving. For instance, only 16 windbreakers or jackets were purchased in the past year. We can no longer get the Overseas cap as the company does not make it but we do have baseball caps. There may be a surge in jackets for the December Trip to Belgium and Luxembourg. Doug said that we will reorder only if there is a demand for them. There are also over 1,000 Certificates remaining. Madeleine suggested that the certificate should be added as a line item on the Quartermaster Ordering Sheet. They used to be our best seller, since families and veterans were ordering rather frequently. John Bowen indicated that we should advertise the certificate in various military magazines and pay for the advertising. Doug suggested we draft up an ad, to go into various magazines like WWII magazine, VFW, American Legion, and Airborne Quarterly about both the certificate and membership. **Doug said that he will draft up the advertising.** Madeleine mentioned that there may be Associates that want to order one about their father or grandfather but are reluctant because they may not know what unit they served in. Doug said that is not a problem as we could find their unit in our membership files.

9. Doug reported on the planning for the trip to BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December. John Bowen and I have been in contact with the Belgium and Luxembourg Embassies. There are 30 people from Museums, State Dept rep, CEBA, CRIBA and city centers involved in Belgium and Luxembourg with Patrick Brion who has been the task leader planning our itinerary. They have now prepared the 4<sup>th</sup> iteration of the Itinerary which appears to be the final iteration. There will be a meeting of the task force on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September, in Belgium. Olivier Baldauff, Deputy Chief of Mission, Counsel of the Luxembourg Embassy says everything is okay in regards to plans in Luxembourg. Belgium is offering a 1 way trip from Belgium to home. They are seeking a U.S. one way flight to complement their one way flight. We were really hoping for a 2 way trip, and we appealed to the King's General for a flight from US to Belgium. However, Belgium is making a commitment to provide buses for our veterans to get around comfortably in Belgium & Luxembourg. We'll keep trying until it's all put together! If we cannot get a round trip we will probably have to go commercially both ways. We will most likely use Patrick Hinchey and Doug Mitchell, of MilSpec Tours to provide our tour to Belgium and Luxembourg. Patrick Hinchey is very knowledgeable and has run our 1994 tour and runs tours for veterans on a regular basis. We will try to get Patrick to price the trip for us, so that would give people an idea of the costs! Doug thinks it would be somewhere between \$3500 and \$4,000. We will need to determine soon the costs, especially for food, breakfast, dinner, etc. It is not clear yet as to what meals will be gratis and which we are expected to pay. It is important to get this information and prices as soon as possible. Doug will draft a message describing what will be happening in terms of costs and what elements on the itinerary are FREE.

10. Bob Rhodes just got back last week from Belgium, Germany and Austria. His niece who is a school teacher on N Andover MA and bringing a class there, asked if he would come along and talk to the 16 year old students especially when they visited Henri-Chapelle Cemetery. There are 7922 veterans buried there. Bob put together an excellent set of maps and Bulge facts for the students Bobbie Bell, is the Supt of Henri-Chapelle. Bob was asked to pay respects at Henri-Chapelle by Doug for Sgt Robert Hill's, 82<sup>nd</sup> AbnD at his grave, John Schaffner asked also to pay respects to Eric Woods' at his grave, 106<sup>th</sup> InfD, and Shirley Ricker Theis' father Homer Ricker's, 35<sup>th</sup> InfD grave there. Shirley is a classmate of Bob's from his high school in Lynn MA. A copy of Bob's outstanding handout is attached.

11. The meeting adjourned at 11:08 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann D. Bowen, Recording Secretary  
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Silver Spring MD 20904-3331  
301-384-6533  
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#### **FUTURE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**Tuesday, 08 July 2014 10:00AM**

**Tuesday, 04 November 2014 10:00AM**

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS: Please note that the next meeting on 08 July 2014 will be done by teleconferencing and will not be held at Fort Meade. Alan Cunningham will provide each Executive Council Member with details on how to sign on to the teleconference from your home telephone, in a separate e-mail.**

The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Inc  
Profit & Loss

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December 1, 2013 through May 11, 2014

	<u>Dec 1, '13 - May 11, 14</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Donations	3,591.50
Interest Income	1,438.56
<b>Program Income</b>	
Lifetime Members Dues	1,275.00
Membership Dues	16,455.00
<b>Total Program Income</b>	<u>17,730.00</u>
<b>Quartermaster</b>	
Certificates	1,260.00
General Supplies	-213.81
Postage and Shipping	-1,097.34
Purchases	-233.82
Sales	2,785.85
Quartermaster - Other	199.50
<b>Total Quartermaster</b>	<u>2,700.38</u>
<b>Reunion</b>	
Postage	-239.17
<b>Total Reunion</b>	<u>-239.17</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	25,221.27
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Bugle Publication</b>	
Other Services	519.00
Postage	1,568.52
Printing	6,338.67
<b>Total Bugle Publication</b>	<u>8,426.19</u>
<b>Operations</b>	
Bank Service Chages	2.03
Licenses and Permits	146.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	2,128.70
Office Supplies	452.03

**The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Inc**  
**Profit & Loss**

December 1, 2013 through May 11, 2014

	<u>Dec 1, '13 - May 11, 14</u>
PayPal Fees	279.83
Postage, Mailing Service	696.14
Printing and Copying	1,547.36
Professional Fees	
Accounting Fees	1,675.00
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	<u>1,675.00</u>
Rental	39.00
Repair and Maintenance	47.00
Subcontractor	9,441.00
Telephone, Telecommunications	314.99
Travel and Meetings	
Seminars and Meetings	61.00
Travel	65.00
<b>Total Travel and Meetings</b>	<u>126.00</u>
<b>Total Operations</b>	<u>16,895.08</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>25,321.27</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>-100.00</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-100.00</u></u>

**The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Inc**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of May 11, 2014

	<u>May 11, 14</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
<b>Bank of America</b>	
Certificate of Deposit 5181	101,438.56
Operating Checking Account	26,709.03
<b>Total Bank of America</b>	<u>128,147.59</u>
<b>Pentagon Federal Credit Union</b>	
Pentagon Federal - Share	5.02
Pentagon Federal Money Market	40,167.66
<b>Total Pentagon Federal Credit Union</b>	<u>40,172.68</u>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>168,320.27</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>168,320.27</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>168,320.27</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
Opening Balance Equity	205,585.07
Unrestricted Net Assets	-37,164.80
Net Income	-100.00
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>168,320.27</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>168,320.27</u></u>