



NATIONAL DUSTERS, QUADS & SEARCHLIGHT'S ASSOCIATION INC.
Minutes of NDQSA Annual Business Meeting
November 13, 2021 Norfolk Virginia

At 9:04 a.m. EST Saturday, November 13, 2021, President Bob Cuce opened the 2021 Annual Business Meeting of the National Duster Quads and Searchlights Association at the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to America. The Unit Historian conducted a membership roll call. Sixty-three (63) members were present for the meeting and a total of 128 (members, spouses, and family) attended the reunion. New members Bill Miller, Steve Fullerton and Larry Humble were welcomed to the organization. Rick Liebendorfer was thanked for representing the Association during the 2021 Veterans Day Wreath Laying Ceremony in Washington DC.

Secretary's Minutes: The minutes from the 2019 Mobile Alabama Business Meeting were placed on room chairs prior to the meeting. There was no NDQSA reunion in 2020 due to the covid pandemic. President Bob Cuce called for approval of the 2019 annual business meeting minutes. Paul Hanson made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Vinny Tedesco seconded the motion, and the membership approved the minutes with no amendments.

Treasurer's report: Allan Penwell gave the treasurer's report. Because there was no reunion in 2020, there was no formal report to the membership, but the board routinely receives regular reports. He explained financial controls, audit procedures and tax accounting. Year-end cash and savings for 2019 and 2020 were approximately \$100,000 which has been consistent with the past several years. A Motion to accept as written was made by Joe Belardo, seconded by Bruce Geiger, and carried with no dissention noted.

Nominating Committee: The President explained the unfortunate circumstances of what happened this year with the election. Ballots were mailed out and returned to a central POC. UPS miss-shipped the package to Los Angeles. As a result, when he gets home, he will tally the ballots, make out the control sheets, and then send those to the Secretary. Together they will verify the count, ensure accuracy of the tally sheets and certify a fair election. At that point the President will be able to notify everybody as to the results of the election. John Korzek moved we accept this procedure; Paul Hanson seconded the motion, and it was approved by voice vote.

Historian Report.:

- NDQSA Historian, Paul Kopsick, led off with reporting that the newsletter has a section dedicated to those members who have passed away. He does three newsletters a year to share information and maintains a Facebook page with a strong following. He discussed the difference between the work done by ADA branch historian Dave Christenson, who focuses on the military history role of ADA and its equipment, and the history work he does by focusing on the men and their units in Vietnam. The ADA branch historian is bringing back our unit heritage through reactivating Vietnam unit designations such as the 4th Battalion, 60th Air Defense Artillery Regiment.
- Vinny Tedesco was instrumental in getting the Pennsylvania State Legislature to rename a portion of Route 144 to the "Duster Quad Fifty Searchlight Highway" in honor of the men who served with those units in Vietnam.
- Bob Cuce explained the role of the new Steering and Heritage Committee in setting standards, identifying capabilities, and establishing limits on how the NDQSA will keep its history intact, present our heritage to other organizations, and steer the organization forward with declining membership and capabilities.

Good Works Committee (Sam Hopkins, Bob Cuce & Bruce Geiger): Bruce Geiger explained our Good Works donation program. This year a donation was made to the Portsmouth Naval Hospital Fisher House. Because of their restrictions, on what type donations they could accept and a limit on gift total value, we were able to present their local facility manager a check for \$3000 in a nice little ceremony here in the hotel.

Product Sales: Bob Cuce informed the group that NDQSA is out of the product sales business. With the passing of Dwane Gettler there was no one within the association to take over this difficult and effort intensive task. NDQSA purchased the Gettler's trailer and donated it and all our on-hand product to the ADA Association gift shop on Fort Sill. Working with their staff, as they develop their on-line and in-store sales and marketing, we will inform members through the newsletter when and how you can order product directly from the ADA Association.

2022 Reunion (Dave McCray): Dave McCray provided updates about plans for the 2022 reunion which is scheduled for Tuesday July 5 through Sunday July 10 at the Skirvin Hilton hotel in Oklahoma City.

Member Input for Record:

- Eric Drinkhouse presented Agent Orange information. Because of his own thyroid condition, he learned that there are three new presumptive illnesses: Bladder cancer, Parkinson like symptoms, and Hypothyroidism. Full information about eligibility and VA benefits to include treatment and possible entitlement to disability payments can be found at: <https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/>
- John Huelsenbeck brought to the attention of the group that many of us may have slight tremors and shakiness in our hands when we are just sitting idle. So even if you have never been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, there may be VA help for your conditions under this new ruling related to Parkinson like symptoms.

New Business: Dave McCray presented information about the memorial brick program at the ADA Learning Center. He handed out forms to use to order a personal or dedicated memorial brick. We have 211 brothers who were KIA and lost their lives in Vietnam. He proposed that we, as an organization, somehow take on the project of obtaining a brick for each of those men with a header cap that mentions the NDQSA and all the units. On the bricks we should include the Rank, Name, Date they died, and their Hometown (town and state). These bricks should be located all together, both from a visual impact, and because of their purpose as a memorial. They should be placed in order by date of death in some meaningful arrangement and prominent location. In an appropriate but easily recognized manner there will be a special recognition of Mitchell William Stout. There was energetic debate about whether to allow member donations until we knew the scope of the project costs and whether the ADA center would execute as we desired. Debate was put to rest with a motion by Bill Tuttle to take on this project and for the Treasurer to accept donations starting right now, seconded by Joe Belardo and approved by voice vote.

Meeting Closure:

- There was a moment of silence for those who passed away.
- This was followed by the membership's special recognition of Sally Huelsenbeck, who passed away this year, and her unwavering contributions to the NDQSA Association.
- A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Paul Hanson, seconded by Bob Lauver and approved by the membership with no dissention noted. The 2021 General Membership Meeting ended at 10:38 a.m.

Minutes compiled by:



Richard Burmood
Secretary, NDQSA

Membership approved 9 July 2022



Bob Cuce
President, NDQSA