

**Descendants Group, an Auxiliary of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor
Annual Meeting – Reno, Nevada April 9, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 4:10PM by President Jan Thompson.

Pledge of Allegiance

Announcements

Jan announced that Everett Reamer is in the hospital and asked that we keep him in our thoughts.

The Silent Auction will be held at the Quan Party.

There is a nice article in the Reno paper about the convention.

Introductions

Jan Thompson introduced the current board: attending are Jim Erickson, Caroline Burkhart, Judy Pruitt, Linda McDavitt and Nancy Kragh. Jim Wright was unable to attend.

Special thanks for their help with the convention went to Paul and Gail Ropp, Mona Woodring, Glenda Sutton, Lora Cummins, Jean Pruitt and Kris Dahlstrom.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 20, 2009 annual meeting were approved as written.

Officers Reports

President Jan Thompson outlined the accomplishments of the past year:

- Outreach: Sent a message to the Camp O'Donnell reunion, Linda McDavitt attended the White Sands Memorial Death March and Caroline Burkhart discussed activities of the Communications committee.
- 2011 convention: we are talking to the Philippine Scouts Heritage Society and the Wake Island Survivors about a possible collaboration
- Education: we are currently reviewing curriculum materials
- Website: we will have a preview later in the meeting and launch within a few weeks

Treasurer Judy Pruitt announced that our fiscal year will be the calendar year. The 2009 report is attached. In the future, only members who have paid their dues will receive the Quan. POWs and widows will continue to receive it at no charge.

John Perkowski of the disbanded Western States Chapter of the ADBC presented the Descendants Group with proceeds of their treasury in the amount of \$3,677.72 and stock valued at \$9,692.00

Plaque

Jan Thompson read a plaque to be given to Roger Mansell recognizing his extensive research and for making it available on his website.

Committee Reports

Education: While a high school curriculum is still in the early stages, we are reviewing material. One project, a documentary on the Death March has been produced by Jan Thompson and will air on local PBS station WSIU in Carbondale, Illinois today. Jan also has developed a Public Service Announcement and a series of radio spots about the Death March.

Communication: A flyer was distributed and an ad placed in the program of the White Sands event, Google Groups is open to all members and the "About Us" description of the organization has been prepared for the website. In addition, Caroline Burkhart presented a seminar on basic research techniques

using as an example her search progression on a woman who was responsible for getting food to her father at Cabanatuan. Surprisingly, information was available on her at the National Archives.

Fundraising: The Silent Auction at the conventions and the sale of tee shirts and bumper stickers have been the only fundraising projects to date. We need volunteers to mount a major fundraising effort. Ross Perot's company was approached, but we were turned down.

Website: The website is close to launch and Jim Erickson gave a brief overview. Mr. Erickson also encouraged members to sign up for and use the free Google Groups forum: it is an excellent discussion forum is used by the board to broadcast announcements, and members can post documents of their own.

Special Presentation

Anthony Zendejas presented an original art banner to the DG.

Elections

The slate of nominees was: Caroline Burkhart, Judy Pruitt, Jim Erickson and Kris Dahlstrom. There being no nominations from the floor, the slate was elected by acclamation.

Friendship and Reconciliation Trip to Japan Report

George Wallace read a report from Lester Tenney. The Japanese government has agreed to take 7 POWs and 7 companions to Japan this year. The program will be expanded in the future to include other family members.

White Sands

Linda McDavitt has attended the White Sands event for several years and encouraged everyone to go if possible, whether you do the march or not. It is a good educational experience and very inspiring. She also announced that Steve and Marcia Kwiecinski are gauging interest in a Philippines tour that included walking the complete length of the Death March.

2011 Convention

Judy Pruitt announced that it will be in Pittsburgh at the Airport Marriott. The featured activity will be tours to the ADBC Museum in Wellsburg, WV.

Member Comments

It was suggested that we fly a POW/MIA flag along with the United States flag at our conventions.

It was suggested that the word "descendant" in the organization name discourages non-descendants from joining.

It was suggested that people donating items to museums loan rather than give them as museums can sell, trade or simply store donated items. George Wallace stated that items donated to the ADBC Museum are never traded or sold.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Kragh, Secretary 2010-2011

James Erickson, Secretary 2012

Minutes Approved by voice vote without opposition on Friday May 4, 2012 at the DG-ADBC Annual Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico.