



101st Airborne Division Association

Minutes of Meeting of March 7, 2026
Bailey's Bar and Grille, Townsend, MA
View Our Chapter Website at www.screamingeaglesne.org

Attending: Present: President Bob Morrissey (via Zoom), SAA William “Blink” Blankenburg, Treasurer Kevin Farrell, George LeBlanc, Brenda Fitzgerald, Ed O’Reilly, Don Miller, Greg d’Arbonne and John Mastro (separately via Zoom), Bill Frowein (82nd), Bill Farrell, Robert Botschafter and his guests (spouse) Marla and (daughter) Michelle Fayad, David Josselyn, H.P. Marshall, and recording clerk/Zoom Administrator Cathie Clark.

The Meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM. The 17 members present were thanked for their attendance. This was a great turnout!

A prayer had been offered by Brenda prior to lunch. At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Minutes: The January Meeting Minutes had been circulated and read prior to the meeting, so a motion was made to accept them, it was seconded, and passed.

Treasurer’s Report: Kevin was present, and made his report. A motion to accept was made, seconded, and passed.

Old Business:

SENE Laptop: This was our second meeting with the new laptop. It had been serviced on-site at Cathie’s home and the webcam and microphone declared defective and replaced at no charge. Cathie and Bob did much testing after that, but this session began with more problems in speaker volume. Nobody who offered to bring used speakers came through at this meeting, so we struggled with cell phone sound and were able to proceed after a frustrating delay. It was suggested that we complain to Dell and ask for a replacement. Cathie said she would do that. She also let us know that our President is becoming more fearless when it comes to these techie issues and they both had spent hours and thought just two-person testing with good results was enough. Wrong! There’s nothing like real-time use with a group this large to prove it needs

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more work. She is personally unhappy with the situation and determined to push for better performance out of this unit, one way or the other.

Kevin mentioned that he had read the email renewal notice for our Zoom service. This year's experience was not fabulous, so he and Bob will get together offline to discuss renewal.

Snowbird: We had a good time at Snowbird. We presented Randy Underhill, the 101st ExecSec, with his plaque. He was tickled to death. He wasn't expecting anything. We're going to have the pictures up on the website by the next meeting.



The oldest gentleman that showed up at Snowbird was a 93-year-old Rakkasan* from the Korean War who came down here from Buffalo, New York — where they had seven or eight feet of snow on the ground! He's in stage four cancer on oxygen. His daughter brings him every year. And this time she brought her daughter with her to help get him around. People made arrangements to take care of this guy all the way up and down the line. He's a real hoot. He was even drinking with his medication mixed in with it. Good for him, we say. Everybody talked to him — He sat there and had a great time.

National Chapter Reunion: Bob says if anybody wants to go to the reunion, they're completely booked at the main hotel. But...there's all sorts of hotels up and down 41 there. You can go online and you can pick up the form from the national staff and send in your money.

New Business:

Tunnel to Towers Donation: Bob has been watching the advertising on TV for T2T with all the big-name celebrities donating millions. Discussion ensued wherein many members admitted to personally donating to the organization which does more for first-responders and Veterans than any other in the country. A motion was made to donate \$101 to Tunnel to Towers. It was seconded and passed.

Fun Fundraising: It is acknowledged that we don't do much to generate money except for the Cookout and annual dues. A call for ideas was voiced. Unknown to our President, the on-site attendees today had decided to do a small raffle, cost \$1 each, for a Bailey's Gift Certificate. It netted us a whole \$15 and our Treasurer won. A 50/50 Raffle was suggested. A motion was made, seconded, and passed.

Cookout 2026: Our member Matt Callahan is Gary Soldato's right-hand man at the Clear Path Veterans' facility where we had our Cookout last year. We were hoping to use it again and so

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far we have received no word to the contrary. Matt has promised to advise Blink availability dates of the facility.

Upcoming Events: All-America Week at Fort Bragg for the 82nd Airborne Division. Plus, the Pathfinder Association is having their reunion during All-America Week. At the same time, the 101st is having Week of the Eagles and the Hamburger Hill Reunion at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Bob and Blink are planning on going out to Fort Campbell for Week of the Eagles May 18th through 22. National has announced that these dates are solid, and sent an email with the forms, but we are accustomed to keeping in mind current military efforts in the Middle East and are ready to be flexible if the dates change. On a lighter note, celebratory events for the Nation's 250th Anniversary in July will be taken into consideration also.

Next Meeting: Because of the timing of the Easter holiday this year, our next meeting is Saturday, April 11, 2026 at Bailey's, at noon. President Bob is scheduled to be in the area for family events so he will be attending in person. The Meeting Notice is posted on Members Only, please note a change in start-time to 11:45, so we can all be fed and finishing up by 1250.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:52 PM.

Airborne All The Way!"

Respectfully submitted,
SAA William Blankenburg

***Humorous note:** We use an AI transcription of the Zoom recordings to provide content for the Minutes. To say it ain't perfect is an understatement. In this month's transcript the word Rakkasan was interpreted as "rocket scientist"! LOL! Hey, Tom McGall!!! Take note!!