



20 JULY 2023 LUNCHEON MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was held at Sullivan's Metropolitan Grill in Anderson and called to order at 1200 by COL Mel Case. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by CDR Janelle Merritt, and the Invocation was given by LTC Howard Jones, Chaplain.

Members and guests were welcomed. Thirty-two were in attendance.

Mel Case awarded Wayne Watson the Past President pin.

Guests were introduced: Tony McAlister, Angie Stringer, and MG Frank Rice. Howard introduced Don and Ann Warmuth and Sam Hammond.

Lunch was served.

Dale introduced our guest speaker, Major General Van McCarty, the Adjutant General of South Carolina. MG McCarty is the 29th Adjutant General of SC. He spoke of his history, the horrors at our South West border, and problems with recruiting. He commented on our commitment to NATO, and that China is America's biggest economic threat. Despite our problems and because of our military, America is still a beacon of hope and opportunity.

Alan Erisman and Angie Pellegrini were awarded the Harris Communications Four-Star Award Certificates for their outstanding contributions in creating the Newsletter and the website.

The membership approved the 18 May 23 Minutes. Mel briefly mentioned the ongoing improvements at M J Dolly Cooper Veterans Cemetery and the new Greenville Chapter.

Our next dinner meeting will be on 21 September at 1730 at the Clemson Madren Conference Center. An invitation will be extended to the Professor of Military Science, Clemson ROTC to speak.

We will celebrate our Chapter's 60th birthday at our November 16th meeting at the Bleckley Hotel in Anderson. An invitation to former SC Air National Guard F-16 pilot and former SC State Senator Phil Leventis will be extended.

Howard Jones won the Door Prize.

The meeting adjourned at 1340.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Jacobs, Secretary