



**DRAFT - GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 24, 2024**  
**Heritage Inn – Ridgecrest, California**

**Officers:**

Chairperson: Robert Whipple  
Vice Chairperson: David Blacker  
Secretary: Janette Jensen  
Treasurer: E'va Renee Beaty \*resignation accepted

**Directors:**

David Blacker  
Henry Golas  
Janette Jensen  
Cal Steibel

**THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE DEATH VALLEY 49'ERS IS CALLED TO ORDER**

Time: 1:08 pm

FLAG SALUTE: Pledge led by Robert Whipple

INVOCATION: Robert Whipple

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Paul Bear Bradford, Gary Bancroft-Billy Holcomb ECV

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September and November: Motion to approve David Blacker, second Margie Barbosa; all approved

DIRECTORS MEETING REVIEW:

Review of audit or Bylaws – approved review and Henry Golas will follow up with Danny Elshire. Bylaws with update to be posted on the website. 10 hours pro bono.

Per by laws review and nominations not completed in time for the February installation.  
Appointed Nominating Committee: Robert Whipple, David Blacker and Henry Golas.  
Meeting with Tim Young and Jerry Epple for Board positions and nomination.

Marv Jensen motion that the membership approve to move the elections to May meeting.  
David Blacker, Mentie Hazelett second; all approved

Review needs for Treasurer/Bookkeeper paid as needed.

E'va Renee Beaty resigned as treasurer we have nobody stepping up so will have to pay a bookkeeper. We are researching who we can have take over this on Quick Books.

Two signatures on checks – Robert Whipple and David Blacker

\$750 check writing threshold without Board consent. Travel expenses to be preapproved.

Discussed option of sending payments electronically. Grant online access to Quik Books to Board members for better oversight.

David Blacker motioned CPA to pay up to \$1,000 to clean up journal entries prior to tax filing, second Jan Jensen; all approved.

#### APPROVAL OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024/2025: Pending

#### TREASURERS REPORT:

US Bank Savings Account	\$68,017.01
US Bank Checking Account	\$ <u>3,857.11</u>
US Bank Online Sales	\$ <u>6,444.14</u>
Total all accounts	\$ 78,318.26

#### SCHOLARSHIPS AND ENDOWMENT:

Mutual Fund	\$653,651.27
Money Market	\$ <u>23,119.55</u>
Total	\$676,770.82

Two applicants Autumn Smith \$16,000 from Ryan scholarship winner.  
Emily Gent from Pahrump \$250.00

Woody predicting when DV workers have children reaching the age of Senior in High School.

\$16,000 per year for the four current scholarship winners.

#### **REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS**

#### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE:

Abby Wines-update on roads open and currently working on; Scotty's Castle opening December 2025

#### LONGSTREET INN AND CASINO:

Fred Manager – glad to host the DV 49ers; just came back from DV to see the Badwater Lake Manly; most of the contracted employees to repair roads have been staying at Longstreet Inn. Additional flooding took place in February. Roads are in good conditions. Spoke to Jim Marsh and continue to support the event. Colorado Room Maximum capacity is 250. Vendors will not be at Longstreet Inn.

Hotel and RV spots would be available November 3rd – 10<sup>th</sup>. Possible tent at north end for music. Add picnic tables to RV sites.

## **REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS**

### DEATH VALLEY NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:

David Blacker reported park is open, and visitation is a little odd. Some flowers are blooming. Better bloom in late March early April. Overall DVNHA \$98,000 worth of projects. Private tours at Scotty's Castle, guided tours of the park, night sky viewing. Night sky viewing location has been chosen and funds have been raised to help with the compliance, design and planning. Request membership by '49ers to DVNHA as co partnership. DVNHA check issued to DV '49ers for keepsake sales at visitor's center for 2023 \$464.09

Timbisha Shoshone Tribe would like to have reprint of their keepsake. Sign has been up for Indian Tacos. Jan Jensen mentioned that the keepsake has been published twice 1994 and 2018. Copies of the keepsake could be provided to the Tribe.

Mentie Hazelett requested a tour of Scotty's Castle during the encampment. Tour would be at cost with donation to DV '49ers. David Blacker will look further into this.

### DEATH VALLEY CONSERVANCY:

Henry Golas reported projects doubled the size of the water tank, change of generators for power outage. Working on church hall restoration. The scholarship winner is daughter of family that lives at Ryan Ranch. Hill Day in February at Washington DC. Handed out information on DV '49ers. Working Harmony Borax restoration and placing in museum type location. Spent \$50,000 on surveying the wagons condition and restoration needs. Summarized the history and current working projects of the Conservancy. Possible special tours to Ryan for DV '49ers.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS CALLED BY THE CHAIRPERSON**

### FINANCE, INSURANCE AND CONTRACTS:

Robert reported that insurance (liability and Board/Director & Officers) up to date.

AUDIT COMMITTEE: Mentie Hazelett, Wanda Elmore, Jim Graves – no report.

### MEMBERSHIP SALES:

Sales were completed mostly online. 61 single memberships and 55 family memberships

### MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATION:

Continue to purge the Life Members list. 310 current members with 56 purged due to death or incorrect address. It cost \$1,600.00 to mail packets out this year to life members who did not attend the encampment.

Henry Golas asked about the continuation of life members if it is profitable. David Blacker expanded on how DVNHA handles their life members. Discussion of continuing life membership and/or raising the fee. Members questioned phasing out the life membership as is. To be considered at the May meeting.

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS, SPONSORS & PUBLICITY:

Judy Bedell suggested reaching out to Cal Poly, an event planning intern to help with sponsorship. Promoted more on Facebook 463 followers at the beginning and now 1121 followers. Demographics included. Instagram has 96 followers.

DVNHA and DV Conservancy sites are shared on our website. Robert Whipple was working with CSAA for sponsorships. Target membership throughout the year with a special donation request to our life members.

Leslie Ide special 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary sponsorship and membership. Membership that includes a special tour. David Blacker discussed how to manage the tour costs. Renewal rate to include certain activities. Review further in May.

Marla Young suggested buttons or t-shirts to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Jan Jensen reported that a newspaper ad was placed during the 2023 Encampment in Pahrump Valley Times. This was paid for by a donation from Judy Bedell.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Per By laws review and nominations not completed in time for the February installation  
Nominating Committee: Robert Whipple, David Blacker and Henry for an election to be held at the May meeting.

#### ARCHIVES, LIBRARY & HISTORY

Marv Jensen reported on the programs from the encampment. David Woodruff, Ted Faye and Deb Fox; Ash Meadows and Amargosa Basin spoke on their programs. Reviewed expenses covered for speakers. Use of church was okay but auditorium at DVNPS is preferred. Discussed the need for more time for the history programs.

Marv reported on the donation of Richard Crowe book collection. September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting the books were received and 148 books were cataloged and researched for their value. Library in Cow Creek was transferred to Inyo County Free Library and the Crowe collection was added in January. Two agreements were signed between the DV '49ers and Inyo County Free Library.

Marv will make a motion in May to transfer ownership of the DV '49ers collection to be donated to the Inyo County Free Library.

#### PARK LIASON & DEATH VALLEY REGIONAL SUPPORT:

Robert reviewed DVNPS updates.

#### MEETING ARRANGEMENTS:

May 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> at Ridgecrest

TIMBISHA SHOSHONE TRIBE LIASON:

Robert will contact the tribe and review what they want to do to proceed as partnership.

COMMUNICATONS & HOSPITALITY:

Mentie Hazelett still sending cards to members as needed or requested.

49ERS ORIENTATION:

No Report

PUBLICATIONS, KEEPSAKES & NEWSLETTER:

No report

PARLIMAMENTARIAN:

No report

RISK MANAGEMENT:

No report

**2023 ENCAMPMENT REVIEW**

PROFIT AND LOSS/REVIEW OF EXPENSES AND INCOME:

Robert to send out to those who request it.

COMPARISON OF PREVIOUS YEARS PROFIT/LOSS:

Review and discussion as all expenses have gone up and membership is down so this does not cover the general cost for the event.

**2024 ENCAMPMENT PLANNING \*cont. from morning session**

DATES: November 6 – 10th

LONGSTREET INN AND CASINO: This would be our home base.

DV NATIONAL PARK SERVICE: We would hold as many events as we can at the park.

COMMUNITY AND NON-PROFITS CO-HOST: Jan Jensen will reach out to those that attended 2023

DRAFT BUDGET: Treasurer to be decided, David Blacker to create budget for review.

KEEPSAKE: 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Marvin Jensen has started compiling pictures and stories

VOLUNTEERS: Website volunteers list and contact information on website, in newsletter and Facebook

SET UP:

TEARDOWN:

ANNUAL MEETING DATE AND TIME:

**2024 ENCAMPMENT EVENTS – HYBRID BETWEEN LOCATIONS**

VOLUNTEER PIZZA PARTY – Thursday, Longstreet Inn

Death Valley '49ers Meeting  
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DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DINNER – Friday or Saturday at Longstreet Inn

WAGON TRAIN: They will be leaving Furnace Creek to Desolation Canyon; November 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am

DESOLATION CANYON MONUMENT UNVEILING: Pending

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE: Jerry or Hoyt

HIKES: No

DOCTOR'S LIARS CONTEST & COWBOY POETRY:

TITUS CANYON: No – road closed

WHEELBARROW RACE: No

CORN HOLE: No

GOLD PANNING: - set up in vendor booth area

KIDS CORRAL: - set up in vendor booth area

ARMED FORCES TRIBUTE TO VETERANS

COSTUME CONTEST: merged with Centennial Celebration program

PAMPERED PET PARADE: No

\*Judy recommended having a kid's day for schools

ART SHOW:

Shirley Hyytinen discussed artists that are interested 3 signed up and another one pending.

Lloyd Martin set up for interaction of attendees to paint. Location pending possibly on patio DVNP.

Paintings received as a donation and could be auctioned.

VENDOR SHOW:

Wanda Elmore discussed with vendors to be back on Highway 190.

Renting an outside tent for vendors at Longstreet is cost prohibitive.

**NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION:**

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> in Ridgecrest

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**MEETING IS ADJOURNED**

Time: 3:30 pm

Motion to adjourn David Blacker, Mentie Hazelett second

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Jensen

Director/Secretary