



101st Airborne Division Association

**Minutes of Meeting of November 4, 2023  
Bailey's Bar and Grille, Townsend, MA**

**View Our Chapter Website at [www.screamingeaglesne.org](http://www.screamingeaglesne.org)**

**Attending:** Present were: President Bob Morrissey (via Zoom connection), VP Tony Payne, SAA William Blankenburg, newest member George Durfee, member Ed O'Reilly, and WebAdmin/Zoom facilitator Cathie Clark and her guest, Ernie Henry, Adjutant of the Seabrook NH American Legion Post 70. Cathie maintains their website also: <https://post70nh.org>.

**Sick Call:** George LeBlanc is not here. Ranger Rob Botschifter fell on his stairs and suffered a back injury, so he is not with us today. His 25-year-old granddaughter is in Lebanon, and Rob is very anxious for her to come home. Her father is Lebanese and she has a Lebanese last name, so she may fare better than most American citizens caught up in the Middle East turmoil. We wish her luck and peace of mind for Rob.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, VP Tony Payne gave an opening prayer.

**New Member:** SAA Blankenburg introduced our newest member, George Durfee. Welcome was spread all around the table. Cathie gave him her SENE business card with our website address on it and the Members Only password written on the back.

President Bob thanked everyone for coming and opened his remarks with a statement about Officer election for 2023-2025. He invited anyone interested in serving to let him know. Present Officers have done their 2 years. No one spoke up.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Financial Report:** Bob reported the bank balance in Kevin's absence.

**Banking:** President Morrissey announced that Kevin Farrell, Treasurer is in the process of opening the new accounts at TD Bank. Robert Morrissey, President will be added at a later date as a signer.

**Snowbird 2024:** Bob announced that he, Blink, and Kenny Roach are going. It's Feb 14-17 in Tampa. The weather is always better than home in New England and they always have a good time. Lots of members, raffles, good food, and good friends from all over. He encourages more members to attend if they can.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Postcard from National:** Bob notified us this card, which we confirmed has been received via mail, asks that we call the automated phone line and verify important information. It doesn't sound difficult, and National really needs to know how many of us are still out here. Please do it as soon as you can.

**Member News:** Blink received a call and an email from a publishing company advising that they have received the blessing from the Association at Ft. Campbell to put together both an audio-visual and printed yearbook of all the members 101<sup>st</sup> past and present. It is expensive to be included in it: the hardcover book and the CD discs and random things like travel bag, sweatshirts and t-shirts is \$500, which is very expensive for most people. Payment can be broken down into two; however, the other thing is you have to deal with the publishing company direct. You have to write your own summary of experience and they want a photograph probably from way-back. Participation is NOT mandatory.

Bob opened the floor to any topics the members present might have.

**Future meetings:** Blink expressed concern about reserving the Waldorf Room for small groups, such as ours is today. He asks that everyone RSVP so we have an accurate count and if there is a change to your commitment to attend, call or text him as soon as you know! We do not want to wear out our welcome by abusing use of Bailey's only function room. Our next business meeting is Jan 6, 2024. Please RSVP! No meeting will be held in February due to Snowbird. After that, the next meeting will be on March 2.

**Chapter 54 Special Forces.** Blink advised us that he, George Durfee, Don Miller, and George LeBlanc are also members of Chapter 54. They recently lost a long-time member and a Commander of one of the battalions, Dick Nazarro on November 1. Funeral arrangements this coming Tuesday in Middleton MA. We sent our condolences to the family.

**Cookout.** Any suggestions for new locations are welcomed. But if not, Blink's house is always available.

**Website Report:** Bob advised that, as approved at the October meeting, Cathie's contract has been renewed at the same yearly retainer rate as for last year. Additional work out of scope of the contract will be compensated separately, subject to a member vote. Voted to renew.

**Zoom:** Today's session login went relatively smoothly, except for WiFi connection lag in the beginning which has been an ongoing problem for Cathie's anxiety. We have been on a free plan but it limits us to a 40-minute maximum which limits free-flowing discussion and enjoyment of each other's company. We can get a deal for \$149.99/year which provides unlimited meeting length, unlimited number of participants. Greg suggests we upgrade to this plan which has worked well for him in his business. Motion made to upgrade Zoom, motion seconded, and passed.

**2024 Dues:** Bob says the dues notices will be sent out via email.

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**Meeting Minutes:** A draft of the October meeting was prepared to satisfy TDBank's documentation requirement and therefore was posted on the website. A hard copy circulated to those present and all read them individually. Motion made to accept as written, motion passed.

**Logo Apparel:** Bob reports low inventory at multiple locations: Blink has a container-full and Kevin has Bob's former inventory. There are t-shirts, a few sweatshirts (size large), and some hats (with jump wings on the front). There are bumper stickers and we had magnets but nobody can find them. Those were expensive to have made (he recalled \$325 for 150) and we can do it again if we need to. Bob wants to get new shirts with the Screaming Eagle instead of the SENE logo. Updated numbers are forthcoming. We can discuss it later. Plan is to use the same supplier to avoid logo screen setup charges.

*[Zoom connection ended – Bob called on Blink's cell to thank everybody for attending, to confirm his to-do items (seeing Blink in February at Snowbird, calling Cathie about Zoom and website updates), and to officially end the meeting.]*

Motion made, seconded, and passed to adjourn at 2:10 p.m.

Airborne All The Way

Respectfully Submitted;

Robert Morrissey  
President