

# **WAC B&G MVT MEETING                      OCTOBER 8, 2016**

## **Fred and Sandy Lutes Home / Woodbine Md.**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Johnson at 1100 hrs.

**Members Present:** Bob Amos, Lewis Amos, Duane Ellifritt, Joe Galletti, Dean Hansen, Thomas Harrington, George Hopkins, Scott Johnson, Tim Ketchum, Kay Ketchum, Doug Lutes, Fred Lutes, Sandy Lutes, Vince Lutes, Rich McCommack, Denis Mengele, Wayne Miller, Eric Neilson, Clive Rowley, John Sadilek, Maryann Sadilek, Terry Smith, Anja Taylor, Bob Taylor, Mike Tiderman, Warren Watt, Andrew White, Bill White.

**New Members Present:** Chris Dabrewski and Paul Nash. WELCOME!

**Honored Guests:** Jack F. Baker, Bernard Duplan.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** All persons present offered respect and loyalty to our great nation by reciting the pledge facing our American flag.

**Welcome by President Johnson:** President Johnson welcomed the members present. He expressed appreciation from the club to the Lutes family for hosting this event.

**Technical Tip:** Treasurer Mengele spoke about a recent mechanical issue with his M37. He had driven to Clive's home to meet up with the other members for a trail ride. At the start of the trail ride, he experienced problems with the braking system. He decided not to make the trail ride and go back home. He drove the distance home on main roads without using his brakes once! Upon inspecting the components, he realized that the brake hoses had almost no internal diameter left. The modern brake fluid had apparently caused this phenomenon. He flushed the system and replaced the flexible lines which solved the problem. He advised the members present to consider flushing the brake systems on all vehicles regardless of their age or frequency of use. He spoke about the nature of the different brake fluids on the market today.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Mengele reviewed the latest financial report. The club has about \$46,000.00 held in two interest bearing checking accounts. The club keeps enough in reserve to cover expenses if the Rally does not occur. Rally profit for 2016 is \$6700.00. Today's meeting will cost the club around \$1500.00. Therefore, he suggested that the club donate \$5000.00 to various organizations per the donation criteria.

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary Watt reported on the membership numbers. There are 79 Regular members, 7 Life members, 2 associate members and 1 honorary member.

**Event Coordinator's Report:** Coordinator Miller spoke about taking over the duties of coordinator. Any members who are not receiving the calendar via email should contact Wayne at [www.bristowranger@msn.com](mailto:www.bristowranger@msn.com) . Also, any member who wants an event added to the calendar should contact him.

President Johnson spoke to the members about the outstanding job done by Tim Ketchum as faithful coordinator for many years! The members present showed their appreciation with a hardy round of applause.

Scott also spoke about ways to promote this hobby. Getting creative and giving particular attention to young people and how to get them interested in participating at an entry level.

**Website:** Members are encouraged to visit the site at [www.washingtonbluegray.com](http://www.washingtonbluegray.com).

**Rally 2017 Preparation:** Anja passed around a rally volunteer signup sheet. The club needs people to set up, collect for the auction and take down more than anything else. President Johnson explained that there are no early arrivals prior to Tuesday allowed. The club will ask if the club trailer can be moved onsite early despite this restriction. Bob Taylor suggested that the club assist with setting up Camp Stogie on Tuesday.

**Old Business:** President Johnson spoke about the latest by-laws language change. The new language change was read for the first time at the membership meeting held during the trail ride in July. The language change was read for the second time today. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the new language into the by-laws. Motion carried. The Secretary will draft the new language into the by-laws and distribute to the membership.

#### **New Business:**

- Doug Lutes spoke about making a flyer or handout to distribute at events that would introduce who we are to the public. He is willing to produce this but has asked the membership for feedback on information to include. He can be contacted at 202 359-0783.
- The members present had a discussion about what the benefits are to joining the club. What do new members get for their \$20.00 a year? It was suggested that membership gives people a chance to meet with like minded individuals with access to hobby related content. It was also suggested that we do not communicate well at all.
- Treasurer Mengele made a motion to produce a list of members and their contact information which would be made available only to other members. The motion was seconded and carried. Secretary Watt and member John DePasquale will coordinate this effort. It will be important to get feedback from each member that does not want their information shared with other members. The list will default to not sharing member's information until the each member agrees to it.
- Editor Taylor spoke about the need for a new newsletter editor. He is stepping down at this time. Any member willing to take on this task is welcome to do so at this time. If no one takes the task on, there will simply not be a newsletter produced. He spoke about the lack of input from the membership. Only a few individuals have given contributed articles during his time as editor. He mentioned how valuable the event list is to the membership.
- President Johnson spoke about being the editor previously. At the time, his goal was to get more involved and get better acquainted with the other members. He

was successful in reaching both goals. He encouraged the members to consider taking on this duty.

- Tim Ketchum suggested that MV related articles could be submitted to the club website instead of the newsletter.
- Bob Taylor suggested that time sensitive materials could be emailed to the club member's only list.
- Fred Lutes suggested that a membership recruiting committee be formed for the purpose of engaging past members who have not renewed their membership. He is willing to serve on the committee. Clive Rowley and Doug Lutes also volunteered to serve. A motion was made, seconded and carried. The effort will begin when the new list of members is distributed.
- A short discussion about lowering the dues was held. It was agreed not to move in that direction. Treasurer Mengle mentioned that the income from dues covers about 1/5 of the club expenses. It was also pointed out that young people want to know what they will get for their \$20.00 each year. That information could be included in the flyer to be printed and handed out at events.
- John DePasquale volunteered to help maintain the club member list. There will be two lists generated. One list for members only to be used for important club related purposes and a second list of members and non-member persons for general MV related purposes.
- Dean Hansen All members need to help promote events as members for the purposes of recruiting new members.

**Donation Committee Chairman:** Clive Rowley spoke to the members present about possible organizations to make club donations to this year.

The current criteria for donations are: MV Related, in our region and must be a 501 3C Non Profit organization.

President Johnson thanked Chairman Rowley for his work on this committee. The members present decided on the following donations:

\$2000.00 to the USS John Brown and \$1000.00 to these organizations:

Hagerstown Aviation Museum, Americans in Wartime Museum and the LST 325 Museum. A motion was made and seconded to make those donations. Motion approved.

**Election of Club Officers:** Committee Chairman Clive Rowley committee member John DePasquale spoke to the members about the recent effort to gather names for nominations of officers. There were no responses to the call for nominations prior to this meeting. Two current officers agreed to continue to serve as Treasurer and Secretary. Two open positions are President and Vice President. The term of office is two years.

Nominations for VP are Dean Hansen, George Hopkins and Fred Lutes.

Nominations for President are Anja Taylor and Dean Hansen.

Voice voting results by the members present are as follows:

**Vice President:** George Hopkins.

**President:** Anja Taylor.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers!

- Anja Taylor spoke about the Rally volunteering list. She will also serve as the Rally Registrar for 2017. Letters to vendors will go out in December.
- Bob Taylor spoke about the enormous effort it takes to carry out the duties of Rally Registrar.
- Denis Mengele spoke about changing the layout of the Rally field to accommodate smaller turnout of vendors. Vendors should be grouped together as much as possible for several reasons.
- Two upcoming events were discussed. The Wings and Wheels show at the airport in Frederick MD and the Wings of Freedom show at the airport in Carroll County MD.

**Next Meeting Location and Date:** The next regular club meeting will be held in January. Location TBD. Members will be notified beforehand.

**Door Prizes:** Door prize tickets were drawn and 28 prizes were awarded. Tools, lubricants, safety gear, vintage WWII postcards and military related books were among the prizes given out.

**Adjourn** Having no further business to conduct; President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 1215 hours.

The members present enjoyed a catered lunch and good conversation. Militaria sales were active in the big garage. A good time was had by all.

**Afterword:** The members present were given the privilege of hearing an oral history from Mr. Bernard Duplan. He spoke of what it was like to live as a young boy in the 1940's during the German occupation of France. We were quite moved and quite silent when the details of actual interactions with the German soldiers were unveiled. Good interactions and some not so good. Constant hunger, the sight of death, being moved around, hiding, watching the actions of parents desperate to save their families, friends and neighbors were just some of the points made. Hearing how it was made me, your Secretary count my Blessings!

Respectfully submitted,  
Warren Watt / Club Secretary