

GIFTS TO THE YANKS COMMISSION MINUTES  
September 24, 2016, Department Headquarters  
Ron Umdenstock, Chairman

The meeting was called to order at 10:00a.m. Roll Call of Division Chairmen, present, 1<sup>st</sup> Div., Joe Hedrick, 2<sup>nd</sup> Div. Jeff Cox, , 4<sup>th</sup> Div. Ron Umdenstock and 5<sup>th</sup> Div. Francis (Dutch) Jancek, 3<sup>rd</sup> Div. John Gleckler Absent excused.

Guests were Commander Cheri Stanton, Karen Henry, Toni Herman and Chad Woodburn stopped by to say hello.

The Committee took this opportunity to thank Karen for her past support of the Gifts to the Yanks Who Gave Program and to wish her well on her retirement.

Chairman Ron Umdenstock gave a letter and finance report that can be used to report to a post that explained that 100% of money collected goes toward the gifts. All administrative costs were provided by Dept.

Each Chairman was given a new blue jacket for their display kit to take the place of the sweater.

GTTY program discussed all gifts should be received and printed by the first of Nov.

The GTTY Committee discussed the delivery of gifts, we need to remember....

This is a Christmas Gift Given Program in which we remember our comrades with a gift at Christmas. It is not intended to be a gift giving program to where gifts are ordered and stored and handed out all through the year. With donations down, we work hard to raise enough money for the Christmas gifts. If the Post/Unit wishes to give gifts all year long then it is up to their Post/Unit to pay for those gifts. Remembering when more gifts are ordered than needed it takes away from another veteran. All GTTY Chairmen were asked last year to call facilities/ nursing homes if they had a question on an order.

Copies of gifts and orders are available at [www.giftstotheyanks.org](http://www.giftstotheyanks.org)

All orders should be placed by November 1, 2016 and all those placing an order should make copies for nursing homes if needed and receive a confirmation number.

The five chairmen gave their report and all will make arrangements for where their Division gifts orders can be picked up.

**FOR gift delivery date and places; contact your Division Chairman for a time for pick up. Volunteers are needed to deliver gifts at all the VA Hospitals and Illinois Veterans Homes.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Div. Joe Hedrick, 847-212-5336**, deliver to Morton Grove Joe will take care of delivering gifts to Hines VA and Jesse Brown VA

**2<sup>nd</sup> Div. Jeff Cox, 630-553-9108**, Jeff will pick up gifts for 2<sup>nd</sup> Div take to Yorkville IL Veterans Home La Salle, Capt. James A Lovell VA, N. Chicago

**3<sup>rd</sup> Div. John Gleckler, 217-779-7515**, John will pick up 3<sup>rd</sup> Div and IL Veterans Home Quincy

**4<sup>th</sup> Div. Ron Umdenstock, 309-264-6228**, Will take care of 4<sup>th</sup> Div and VA Illiana Health Care System, Danville, IL Veterans Home Manteno and Iowa City VA

**5<sup>th</sup> Div. Francis (Dutch) Jancek, 618-654-3867**, Dutch will pick up 5<sup>th</sup> Div gifts, IL Veterans Home in Anna, Marion VA, Jefferson Barracks VA and John Cochran VA

They discussed gifts for 2016. Ron picked up playing cards from Par –A- Dice Casino (enough for this year.)

GTTY brochures were discussed. No changes to the lay out and they will be printed.  
Donations are down. To keep the program running as in the past years each chairman has been asked to contact the Posts in their Divisions asking for support.

The next meeting to be announced.  
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Ron attended the Legion Rider meeting to thank the Riders for their support. If ordering tee shirts the design will be on web site.