

**AUSA Kuwait Chapter**  
**Executive Board Meeting Minutes**  
**18 October**

The meeting was called to order by the President at 1830 hours at the residence of Sam and Beam Thompson. Board members present were Beam Thompson, John Homerin, Rich Vick, Johnny Strain, Salem Al-Shammari, Ivan Welch, Jim Riley, and Sam Thompson.

1. Heard request for use of the AUSA BBQ vehicle. The American School of Kuwait, is sponsoring an International Day on Sunday, 12 NOV 06. Board voted to approve this request. John Homerin volunteered to help coordinate the effort and David Hill said he could send some cooks to help prepare the food.
2. Thanks to the combined perseverance of Sam Thompson and David Hill, the chapter now has a local account at the NBK Bank. We can be proud of the fact that our AUSA chapter is the only NGO with a bank account in Kuwait.
3. COL John Strain reported on the AUSA convention that was held last week in the states. He said the conference was very well attended and had a full floor of exhibitors. Sam Thompson said our goals for next year's convention can be to send a Soldier and NCO of the Year from our chapter to attend. Also, the possibility of hosting a Kuwait Chapter hospitality room was discussed.
4. Ivan Welch was commended for his efforts resulting in a very successful AUSA Army 10 Miler on 8 OCT 06. The race began at 0500 hours and drew over 1,000 military and civilian runners. This will be an annual event for our chapter. T-shirts for the runners were provided by Alshamel Travel, Delta Airlines, and the AUSA-Kuwait Chapter. Medals were provided by KBR and were awarded in different categories based on age and gender. LTC Rich Vick was the only AUSA board member who took part in the race. The rest were there "in spirit".
5. Rich Vick continues his collection efforts for R & R clothing for active duty soldiers here in Kuwait. Arrangements will be made to get some photos for the newsletter of the collection process and boxes of clothes that are available.
6. CSM Fleming is going to follow up on the delivery of couches to the Pat Tillman Center.
7. General Membership Meeting: Set for 7 NOV 06 at the Ballroom of the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Kuwait at 1900 hours. Gen Vuono will be in attendance and Gen Sullivan is a possible guest as well. Discussion was held about doing a photo board of recent chapter activities: Kuwait Theater, 10 Mile Run, Embassy 9/11 Freedom Walk, and the Marriott Chapter Inauguration Event.
8. If an existing AUSA member transfers into our area, he or she can go to [www.ausa.org](http://www.ausa.org) and transfer membership to our chapter. It's easy to do and it helps the chapter by doing so.

9. A vote was held to add a new member to our AUSA board. Salem Al-Shammari was recommended by COL Johnny Strain and was unanimously approved by the board to be the VP of Kuwait Corporate Memberships. Salem brings over 28 years of military experience to the board. Congratulations on your acceptance and welcome aboard.

10. Next meeting set for 4 NOV 06. This will finalize events for the 7 NOV 06 general membership meeting and organize efforts for a Thanksgiving chapter event on 23 NOV 06.