



(History Snap Shot: By David H)

My deepest gratitude to all of our members, guides, trainers, and leaders who are committed to protecting each other and our communities.

Introduction

The purpose of this snap shot is to preserve an account of the origins and early growth of this group.

Beginning (prompted by violence, harassment, and looting in the summer of 2020)

- Founder David H (Cabarrus, NC): In hopes that some of my close friends would be willing to publicly stand up to violence and harassment, I created a FB group, designed Watchmen shirts, and made a video regarding my concerns.
- Founding Members who engaged in group development discussions with me prior to first public meeting (Donald, Jack, Jeff, Jeff, Josh)

Idea to Reality

- There were over 100 FB members prior to the first public meeting. I sent out an invitation to meet at a local park for those who wanted to hear more about the group and offer feedback. The following is a chronological timeline showing the first few weeks of meetings (My first 2 meetings are listed with all present):
 1. Concord: Basic overview from founder and brainstorming approaches (Alex, Darrell, Donald, Jeremy, Josey, Josh, Matt, Michael, and myself...9 total at meeting)
 2. Kannapolis: Introduction (Roy)
 3. Concord: Intro from founder/development approaches (Alex, Brent, Bucky, Danny, Donald, Justin, Scott, Dawn, Steve, David, and myself)
 4. Concord: Introduction (Alex, Donald, JD, Roy)
 5. Kannapolis: Introduction (Alex, Rodney, Roy, Tim, and myself)
 6. Kannapolis: Introduction (Alex, Donald, Ken)
 7. Salisbury: Introduction (Donald, Tim)
 8. Kannapolis: Intro and firearm education hosted by Tim (Alex, Brent, Dawn, Donald, Justin, Roy, Tim, Melody, Scott)

During this time period, several others hosted meetings in outlying areas where Alex, Donald, Roy, and Tim provided support. Our main goal was to introduce group concepts and share contact info.

Rapid Growth Requiring Formal Appointment of Leaders

By time we hit 1,000 members on the social media platform, I reached out for organization structure assistance from Jeff (TN). After structure was outlined, I reached out to Donald, Michael, Tim, Roy, and Steve to help with implementing structure in Cabarrus/Rowan/Union areas.

The next meeting was used to formally organize people into proximity squads. It was hosted by Michael, Donald, and myself in Concord (this meeting had close to 100 people present). Many of our current NC leads in various cities/counties were at that meeting. In essence, we learned and implemented organization structure together. Many simply stepped into roles at this point and began developing their areas.

First Steps Taken to Publicly Disclose our Intentions and Engage in Group Development:

- Meeting with county sheriff: Set up by Donald
- Group concealed carry class: Set up by Michael
- Group hand-to-hand defense training: Set up by Melody

Clarifying Principles, Mission, and Development Tasks

I created several videos and documents during this time to help clarify identity, focus, purpose, and guidelines for meetings (documents included core principles, mission statement, rules of engagement, and organization/operations development).

First Watch

The following founding members were at the first protest we ‘watched’ in our hometown (Alex, John, Roy, and myself)

Local and National Growth

The FB page experienced exponential growth (within 5 months, there were nearly 12,000 members on the FB page). Michael began hosting and co-hosting meetings in other counties, as well as working with me on organization implementation. Michael also hosted medical, comms, and defense training for our county. Each city also began meeting and training independently.

SC (Caroline) and NY (Charlie) contacted me early on and started developing in those states.

Current

We now have national, state, and county leaders/teams within specific divisions, which includes organization development, civic engagement, defense, medical, comms, and intel. Our core principles and mission remain the same.