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Dixie County Chamber offers opportunity to honor veterans



Terry Dembo shows how the American flag, measuring two and one-half feet by four feet will fit into the top of the cross and the 12-inch foot of the memorial goes into the ground (left photo). The Chamber agreed to buy an auger and drill to provide an easier method for putting these into the ground, since there may be hundreds of them bought to honor veterans. The memorials cost \$40 each for two years, and they show the veterans' names and branches of service.

Story and Photos By Jeff M. Hardison © July 14, 2016 @ 9:27 p.m.

DIXIE COUNTY – The Dixie County Chamber of Commerce on Thursday (July 14) continued working on its program to place American flags and crosses along a parade route twice a year to honor living and deceased American veterans. This program lets any American veteran, living or dead, to be honored for seven days before and after as well as the days of the annual parades in Dixie County for Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Terry Dembo, one of the members of the Board of Directors, showed members and guests at the regular monthly meeting on Thursday (July 14) his final model of the memorials that will be placed all along the parade route.

Dembo said the memorials are for any American veteran, including from the Confederate Army, who fought in a war for America. The flag, though, will be the one that has 50 stars and 13 stripes.

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Dembo said he recognizes that people of faiths other than Christian fought in those wars, too, but the cross will be the single symbol available from the Chamber on this project.

People can buy one or as many of these memorial crosses and flags as they want. They cost \$40 each for a two-year term. They are made of sturdy wood and metal conduit.

They will be planted one foot in the ground. Branford, in Suwannee County, has a similar project and they are scores and scores of flags and crosses there for that town's parades.

These memorials are for any American veteran, not just those from Dixie County. The name of the person and the branch of service will be on the cross.

A form must be completed, in addition to the \$40 payment per memorial, per each two years. The name of the veteran and their branch of service will be noted on the form, as well as if they are alive or deceased.

To get a form or more information, contact the Dixie County Chamber of Commerce at P.O. Box 547, Cross City, FL 32628, or by email at info@dixiechamber.org.