



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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MINUTES: Sep 16, 2024

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM at Bridge Church.

Opening Ceremony: Honors rendered to the Flag. Pledge recited & Invocation was given.

Roll Call: Present was Cdr Dyer; Jr Vice-Cdr Phipps, Adjutant Moore; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Chaplain Lemon; Suicide Committee Chair John Grand & Sgt-at-Arms Gilbert. Absent was Sr Vice-Cdr. Perkins, Trustee Lohman; Trustee Bertagnoli. There was a quorum present.

Attendance: 7 members of the chapter were present. 9 guests were present.

New Members: none

Guests: Jim & Ruth Corbin, Cindy Waller & son, Jim Weining & wife, Bernadette Polly, & 2 members of Quilts for Valor.

Presentations:

- Quilts or Valor were presented to Vietnam Veterans Jim Corbin & Jim Weining by the Northwest Tucson Quilts for Valor organization.
- Jim Weining was presented with a 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Pin by Dept of AZ Jr. Vice-Cdr John Moore

Reports:

Minutes: Minutes for the September meeting were available and previously emailed out. Patriot Grand moved the minutes to be placed into the record. Patriot Gilbert made the 2nd to the motion & no discussion. The minutes were approved unanimously. See September minutes.

Finance Report: The Finance Report was mailed out. Patriot Zimmerman provided the finance reports and bank statements for May, June, July, & August. The beginning balance was \$51,972.04 & the ending balance was \$56,123.79. The report highlighted deposits and expenses. Patriot Gilbert moved the Finance reports to be placed into the record. Patriot Moore made the 2nd. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously. See the finance reports.

Americanism: - Patriot Moore indicated we have had one request to speak at a school for Veterans Day. The Veterans Day Parade will be at 10:00 AM on November 11th. Staging downtown in the same location as last year. See New Business.

Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans Report: No report. They have a request for a donation for their Holiday Credit Card program for homeless/needier veterans. See New Business.

Tucson VAC: No report. TVAC was dark for the summer.

Commander's Report: July notes mailed out. August meeting cancelled due to lack of a quorum. The department has used all of the 2nd order of coins and will be asking for approval for a new order at the Sept Cdr's Call/DEC. All chapters are reminded to get their life membership verification report in by 1 Oct. There will be two LMVR rebates this year.

Old Business:

Bingo: Bingo is changed to September 21 at the VA Hospital for this month. If you can help, meet Patriot Bertagnoli at 1:30 in bldg. 60.

Jim Click Raffle: No Update. Tabled to October.

Host Department Convention: Need to give the Department an answer on if we will host. Tabled to October.

Suicide Prevention: A draft plan from Ch 691 was mailed out. Overly ambitious for our chapter and needs to be adapted. Patriot Phipps will edit to meet our needs. Tabled until October.

Purple Heart Request: Resident at VA Home needs assistance to obtain a Purple Heart. Need someone to take on assisting him.

New Business:

Expenditures: Assistance for Veteran Durst's rent was approved by email vote. Patriot Gilbert made a motion to place in the record. No discussion. Patriot Grand made a 2nd and was approved unanimously.

Assistance for Veterans with BCD or Dishonorable Discharges: A discussion was held on whether we should assist veterans with these types of discharges. The consensus of the membership was to look at them on a case-by-case basis.

Veterans Day at Schools: We have one request from Innovation Academy in Oro Valley for November 7th. Patriot Moore and Patriot Dyer will handle.

Veterans Day Marana Cemetery: Help place flags on graves for Veterans Day -. TBA but most likely November 8th or 9th at 0800. More to follow.

Veterans Day Parade: Patriot Moore has submitted our entry for 6 vehicles to participate in the parade. The staging location is NLT 10:00 downtown on Nov 11th. Staging location is on Alameda St at the State Parking Garage. The Parade theme is "Honoring Desert Storm Veterans"

Veterans Day at the Veterans Home: Don't know if they want a speaker this year. More information to follow.

Christmas at the Veterans Home: Most likely will be on 23 or 24 December at 1:00 PM. More information to follow.

Gift Cards for TVSV: TVSV has requested donations for their Holiday Gift Card programs. In the past it has been \$35 for a single veteran and \$50 for a family. We can purchase the cards or give them a donation to purchase the cards. The membership wants to know more about how they distribute them and what the values will be this year. Patriot Moore will contact. Tabled until October.

Vet Fest at PCC: Vet Fest is on Oct 30 at the main PCC Campus. Discussion was held. Need to find out if there is a fee to set up a booth. Tabled until October.

Memorial Day: Help place flags at Veterans' Cemetery Marana -. May 24 0800.

Memorial Day: South Lawn, East Lawn & Marana Veterans Cemetery - May 27. Patriots Moore and Patriot Grand will place a wreath at South Lawn at 9:00 AM. We do not have anyone to cover East Lawn.

Monthly Breakfast or Luncheon. A discussion was held about holding a monthly breakfast or lunch. No consensus was reached. Tabled until October.

Good of Order:

Closing Ceremony: Moment of silence for departed Patriots. The Benediction was given, and the chapter rendered Honors to the Flag.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM. The next meeting will be on October 21st.