



## **MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART**

**FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442**

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### **MINUTES: November 18, 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; Adjutant Moore; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Chaplain Lemon; Trustee Bertagnoli, Trustee Lohman; Sgt-at-Arms Gilbert; Jr Vice-Cdr & Suicide Prevention Officer Grand. Absent was Sr Vice-Cdr. Perkins. There was a quorum present.

**Attendance:** 8 members of the chapter were present.

**New Members:** none

#### **Guests:**

- Speakers from Southern Arizona Adaptive Sports (Mia Hansen & Sam Sugers). SAAS is a non-profit that offers cycling, basketball, golf, & target shooting to people with disabilities. For more information email [info@sozadaptivesports.org](mailto:info@sozadaptivesports.org)
- Susan-Lea Skuhr: Mrs. Skuhr thanked the chapter for supporting the Charlie Skuhr Memorial Golf Tournament again this year. The tournament raised \$15,435 for the HEM/ONC clinic at the VA Hospital and \$1,715 dollars for the chapter. Patriot Moore presented Susan-Lea with a certificate of appreciation, a challenge coin, and a Purple Heart Golf hat.

#### **Reports:**

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

**Finance Report:** The Finance Report was mailed out. Patriot Zimmerman provided the finance reports and bank statements for October. The beginning balance was \$55,993.49 & the ending balance was \$54,424.43. The report highlighted deposits and expenses. Patriot Lohman moved the Finance reports to be placed into the records. Patriot Gilbert made the 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously. See the October finance report.

**Americanism:** - The chapter won the trophy for best decorated vehicles at the Tucson Veterans Day Parade.

**Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans Report:** No report for October.

**Tucson Veteran Affairs Council:** October minutes emailed out.

**Commander's Report:** October Cdr's Call notes mailed out.

#### **Old Business:**

**Bingo:** Bingo is November 30th at the VA Hospital for this month. If you can help, meet Patriot Bertagnoli at 1:30 at bldg. 60. Susan-Lea indicated that she would help.

**Host Department Convention:** Need to give the Department an update on plans. Date should be in late April or early May. Patriots Moore, Bertagnoli, and Phipps will work on it.

**Veteran Empowerment Plan:** Patriot Phipps has published a draft plan. Items in the draft in yellow need flushed out. Patriot Moore added a resources section. The board will approve it in December.

**Veterans Day at Veterans Home:** Patriot Grand was guest speaker. It went well and he was invited back for next year.

**Christmas at the Veterans Home:** Gift bags will be ready for pickup on December 6<sup>th</sup>. The commander will provide more information. Will need a small group to help move them.

**New Business:**

**Expenditures:** \$800 was paid to Wells-Fargo for Veteran Edwards car payment. (Note: \$400 was from MOPH & \$400 from VVA106 which they gave to us.) Motion made by Patriot Gilbert to place into the record. No discussion and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patriot Asbell. Motion passed unanimously.

**Christmas at the Veterans Home:** Gift bag pass will be at 1:00PM on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.df

**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. The chapter approved \$300 dollars for the program.

**VetTix:** VetTix is a site for free/reduced tickets to events for Veterans. Tabled from October. Patriot Phipps briefed the membership on the program. He will get a write up sent out to the membership.

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

**Trustee Audit:** The semi-annual Trustee Audit was held at 4:30 PM prior to the November meeting. No issues were found with the warrant log or with the finance officer books. Patriot Gilbert made a motion to place the audit into the records. No discussion. Patriot Dyer made a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Good of Order:** Patriot Moore mentioned that Patriot Coen's article in the Marine Corps League national magazine won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Leagues writing contest and is also in the Purple Heart Magazine.

**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 December 16th.