



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

web page: <http://442.mophaz.org/>

email: MOPHChapter442@comcast.net

MINUTES: May 19, 2025

Call to Order: Commander Phipps called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM at Bridge Church.

Opening Ceremony: Honors rendered to the Flag. The pledge recited by the membership & the Invocation was given by Chaplain Lemon.

Roll Call: Present were Commander Phipps; Vice-Commander Bertagnoli, Vice-Commander Dyer, Adjutant Moore; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Trustee Grand, Sgt-at-Arms Gilbert; & Chaplain Lemon. Trustee 2 position is vacant. There was a quorum present.

Attendance: Eight members of the chapter were present.

New Members: none

Guests: Allison Stoner & Susan Bond from EEE spoke about the programs at the homeless transitional housing. They were very appreciative of the support MOPH provides monthly for EEE. Cdr Phipps presented them with MOPH challenge coins. Cdr Phipps informed the EEE representatives that we have increased our food donation budget for EEE to \$500 per month starting in June.

Minutes: Minutes for the April meeting were available and previously emailed out. Patriot Gilbert moved to place the minutes into the record. There was no discussion. Patriot Lemon made the second to the motion. The membership unanimously approved the minutes. See April minutes.

Finance Report: Patriot Zimmerman briefed on the April finance report. The beginning balance was \$55,667.56. Patriot Zimmerman summarized the report and highlighted the outgoing expenses. The ending balance was \$56,178.95. Patriot Gilbert made a motion to approve the report. There was no discussion, and Patriot Moore made the second to the motion. The motion passed unanimously. See the March finance report.

Americanism: - Patriot Moore updated the chapter on the 13 JROTC/ROTC school award presentations. Two medals have been misplaced. The replace medals arrived in time for the ceremonies. All of the ceremonies have gone well. Globe HS was emailed to the school and arrived in time for the ceremony. Thank you to our Patriots that volunteered for the presentations.

Tucson Veteran Affairs Council: Patriot Moore mailed the minutes out. Nothing urgent or of importance in the minutes. TVAC will be dark for the summer and meet again in September.

VA Director's Report: Patriot Moore mailed the report to the membership.

Commander's Report: Patriot Phipps and Adjutant Moore attended the Department Convention. Patriot Phipps is the new Department Commander. Patriot Moore is the Jr. Vice-commander. Patriot Phipps gave a summary of the convention activities. The department approved a \$1,000 donation to the chapter to us for EEE.

Old Business:

Bingo: Bingo is June 28th at the VA Hospital. If you can help, meet Patriot Bertagnoli at 1:30 at bldg. 60. We will need to purchase canteen coupons at some point in the summer. Patriot Moore indicated that there is \$500 in the approved budget.

Monthly Purple Heart Lunch: The monthly luncheon is at 12:00 noon on May 21st in Green Valley. Patriot Grand and Patriot Zimmerman will let us know the location. It will be sent out by email and posted on Facebook

Congressional Veterans Servant Award: Patriot Gilbert, Patriot Zimmerman, and Patriot Grand were honored with this award by Congressman Ciscomani in a ceremony on April 24th. Congratulations to the recipients.

Banking issue: The consensus of the membership is to change banks unless Vantage West compromises and provides free checks with the new account. If not, we should look for a new bank. Patriot Zimmerman is looking at Old Pueblo Credit Unit. Cdr Phipps & Finance Officer Zimmerman are in email conversations with Vantage West.

Memorial Day: Flags will be placed on the Veteran's graves at the Marana Veterans Cemetery at 8:00 am on May 23rd. Patriot Gilbert, Patriot Moore, Patriot Grand, & Patriot Phipps will help place flags at Marana Veterans Cemetery. East Lawn, South Lawn and Evergreen will hold their ceremonies at 9:00 am on May 26th. The chapter will place a wreath at South Lawn. Patriot Phipps, Patriot Grand, Patriot Moore, & Patriot Zimmerman will place the wreath at South Lawn.

Dark for the Summer: A reminder that the chapter will be dark for the summer.

Golden Corral Donation: Cdr Phipps and Adjutant Moore presented a \$500 check to the manager at the Thornydale Golden Corral for use for Camp Corral.

New Business:

Expenditure: The board made no expenditure during the month.

Purple Heart Day: The chapter will hold a ceremony at 1:30pm on August 7th at the ASVH-Tucson to honor Purple Heart recipients residing in the home. More to follow.

Challenge Coins: Patriot Moore made a motion to amend the cost of the Department Challenge coins to \$502.60. We allocated \$500 and with shipping the cost was \$502.60. no discussion. Seconded by Patriot Grand and passed unanimously.

The Good of Order: None

Closing Ceremony: Chaplain Lemon gave the Benediction. Commander Phipps led the chapter in rendering Honors to the Flag.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:45 PM. The next meeting will be on Sep 15th.