

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ship 1774 Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 8 May 2018

The meeting was called to order by Captain Jack Porath to conduct any and all business to come before the Ship. Following were conducted:

- Opening Ceremonies were held beginning 1800 hours which included the reading of Special Dates of Remembrance for this month.
- Roll call of officers was held and total attendance was 11 shipmates.
- New and transfer applications were read and approved for processing.
- The Minutes of the last meeting will remain as published since there were no changes provided.
- Paymaster report was provided subject to audit and questions were answered.
- Service Officer Report (Alan Rein). No report.

Committee Reports:

- **Membership.** We are at 93% and holding. We could do better. The Captain provided that our youth is slow to recognize the benefits of joining. Also, he again reiterated that membership has a lot to do with keeping what we have fought for, all wars and generations. Membership is important as it retains our voice with our Nation's leaders, helps protect our earned benefits, and propels us to the future. Membership dues is \$45.00 per year; however, **Life Membership is very cost effective and ensures continuous membership.** The first payment for the 12 month pay option is \$45.00 (with 11 additional payments with the cost depending on your age). The Captain reiterated (again) that Life Membership is a much better option than maintaining Annual Membership status. If you are currently a yearly paid member, you can change to Life status and pay a monthly installment over a 12 month period or make other arrangements. The renewal date of annual pay members is the initial date of the dues payment. There is a loss of benefits that are beginning to occur via Congressional actions, and your belonging to a veterans' organization such as the VFW helps to fight the cuts. We need to protect that which we have earned.
- **Buddy Poppy** (Captain) – Next distribution will be scheduled around or on the 4th of July holiday.
- **Youth Development** (Scouting, JROTC, PP, VOD, etc) (Alan Rein). The VOD and PP 2019 themes have been changed on the website.
- **Citizenship/Community Service** (Law Enforcement, Firefighter, EMT, Lifeguards, Teacher, Community Events) (Captain). For the sacrifices and extreme high-alert of our police officers, keep them in your prayers.
- **Student Veterans and Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans.** (Alan Rein). No report.
- **House** (Captain). The details of events presented at the meeting are separately published and posted on the bulletin-board and web site.
- **National Home for Children** (Captain). Captain emphasized Life Membership (\$40.00) that helps the children. Current members and those who are wanting or selected to join need not be members of the VFW to be awarded a membership. The Commander announced that Alan Rein will be granted a life membership to the National Home which has not yet been processed.
- **United Veterans Council** (Alan Rein). Monthly meeting of the United Veterans Council, to which anyone can attend, will be held at 0930 for the dates: 19 May, 23 Jun, 28 Jul, 25 Aug, 22 Sep, 27 Oct, 24 Nov. See website: www.sduvc.org for the meeting minutes and other information. Alan Rein will be attending and providing us his report at the next meeting.
- **Legion Riders.** Want to join the Legion Riders Chapter we are forming? You must be a member of the American Legion, dues \$45.00 per year to which all VFW members are eligible to join. You could be a Charter member if so interested. Sign-up at the bar via bartender who has the sign-up sheet or call Jack Porath at 858.366.8630.

- All prayed to remember the National Home for Children.

UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS.

- In the April 2017 business meeting, motion was made, seconded and all approved to allow for the purchase of a web service that would allow the finding of persons who may have moved or passed away. Such information is needed to update the membership database. A no-cost web site was offered that will be fully researched before a paid web site is obtained. Issue is still pending.

NEW BUSINESS.

- La Mesa Flag Day Parade is 2 June and we are soliciting people who have cars, preferably convertibles. To date, we have three cars. Legion Riders Chapter 303 will be joining us. We will be serving hamburgers and hot dogs, with assistance from SAL members and others. We will also do recruiting.
- Flag placement at the El Cajon cemetery is at 0930 on 26 May 2018. Meet at the Club at 0900 to caravan to the cemetery. VFW and Legion Auxiliary and La Mesa Scout Troop 51 will join us. As we did last year, a few days after the flags are collected by cemetery staff and returned to us, we will have a "party" to clean, repair, and place our order for next year. Ordering early saves money.
- Email was sent to all regarding the Stand Down. Clothes are needed, especially tall and large sizes.

GOOD OF THE ORDER.

- When you change your address or email account, let us know.
- Free Legal Clinics at VFW Post 3787, 3rd Saturday each month 0900-1300. Schedule appt 858.433.0525 or (helpvets@hrtroops.org): VA Claims, Family Law, Landlord-Tenant, Wills and Trusts, Criminal Record

CLOSING ceremony was held and the meeting adjourned at 1837 hours.

/s/ Signed 9 May 2018
J. R. PORATH
Captain and Recorder