

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ship 1774 Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 9 April 2019

The meeting was called to order by Ship's 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 five shipmates.
- There was no District representative nor a Past Commander present.
- New and transfer applications were read and approved for processing.
- The Minutes of the last meeting were corrected; add to New Business: A motion was made and seconded to spend an amount to not exceed \$150.00 to purchase a credit card reader that will be used for membership and poppies. Research will be made prior to purchase since some issues have been found in that it could be problematic.
- Paymaster report was provided subject to audit and questions were answered.
- There was no Service Officer Report of note.

Committee Reports:

- **Membership.** The Captain has continually provided that our youth is slow to recognize the benefits of joining. Also, he 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. **Life Membership is strongly encouraged as it 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 again reiterated 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 continual fight in Congress concerning benefits, and belonging to a veterans' organization such as the VFW helps when Congress checks the membership stats. High membership = strong voice!
- **Buddy Poppy** (Captain) – Our next distribution will be in the month of May 2019.
- **Youth Development** (Scouting, JROTC, PP, VOD, etc) (Alan Rein). The JROTC Awards banquet for Mira Mesa High School, the same unit that opens our Boys State breakfast, will be attended by the Captain and Alan Rein.
- **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. All of the award nomination forms are on the website.
- **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). Life Membership (\$50.00) 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.
- **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 of 2019 yet to be published. See website: www.sduvc.org for the meeting minutes and other information. Alan Rein and/or Chuck Syktich attend the meetings.
- All prayed to remember the National Home for Children.

UNFINISHED 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. Issue is still pending.
- The upcoming Poker Tournament scheduled for 15 June and again on 21 August was discussed. All Members are strongly encouraged to attend and bring your friends of business associates. For those in business, this would be a good way to build comradery and reward the employees. Posters were handed-out for the members to post in their or their friends' business.

NEW BUSINESS.

- Nominations for the 2019-2020 officer positions continued at this meeting followed by the election. The election results are: Captain Jack Porath; Executive Officer Roger Rotter, Navigator Alan Rein, Paymaster Lenny Guccione; Chaplain Richard Houghton; Trustee Sam Aleto (1 Year Trustee) is termed out and he was elected to fill the 3 Year Trustee position. For the new Year, Bob Marlow moves to 1 Year Trustee and Larry Farley moves to 2 Year Trustee. All other positions (judge Advocate Sam Aleto; Surgeon Carl Finster; Adjutant Charles Syktich; Service Officer Alan Rein; and Guard/OOD Vincent Russo were appointed by the incoming Captain. Vincent Russo has been appointed the Guard/OOD for the remainder of the 2018-2019 year also. Be it noted that Lenny Guccione and Sam Aleto could not attend the meeting but both provided a valid excuse and agreed to serve if elected.

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 by calling 858.433.0525 or (helpvets@hrtroops.org): VA Claims, Family Law, Landlord-Tenant, Wills and Trusts, Criminal Record, etc..

CLOSING ceremony was held and the meeting adjourned at 1825 hours.

/s/ Signed 10 Apr 2019
J. R. PORATH
Captain and Recorder