

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ship 1774 Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, 12 February 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 eight 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 will remain as published since there were no changes provided.
- Paymaster report was provided as audited 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 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 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).
  - **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](http://www.sduvc.org) for the meeting minutes and other information. Alan Rein and/or Chuck Syktich attend the meetings.
  - **Legion Riders.** No interest at this time; need eight to form a Chapter. If interested, 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.
- Sam Aleto discussed the upcoming Poker Tournament that is scheduled for later this year, 15 June.

#### NEW BUSINESS.

- It was announced by the Captain that the Ship earned a "battle streamer" for 100% membership prior to 1 Jan 2019. The streamer was placed on the Ship's flag.
- Discussed was the letter sent to the Governor and Senator Jones concerning the payment of property taxes by those veterans organizations owning a facility.
- The American Legion Certificate of Appreciation to VFW Ship 1774 for the donation toward the PTSD Programs was presented and discussed. This is another solid example of the success for the La Mesa Veterans organizations working together. The certificate along will be placed on the website.
- Nominations for the 2019-2020 officer positions begin next month with the final nominations and election at the April 2019 regularly scheduled meeting. Interested in an office? If elected or appointed, ANY OFFICE, we will help train and guide. Come to the next meeting.
- Surgeon Carl Finster made a motion, that was seconded, for the Ship to provide a donation toward the wife of recently deceased member Earl Penny. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn by Carl and replaced by the members passing a hat to assist with Earl's family issues.

#### GOOD OF THE ORDER.

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

CLOSING ceremony was held and the meeting adjourned at 1845 hours.

/s/ Signed 12 Feb 2019  
J. R. PORATH  
Captain and Recorder