



Pacific Beach American Legion Auxiliary Unit #552

Meeting Minutes November 14, 2012

- Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by President Vicky Seamon. Chaplain Karen Stewart shared an opening prayer, and then Pledge of Allegiance and ALA Preamble were recited by all.
- Attendance was taken by Secretary Nancy Person.
 - **8 Members Present:** Vicky Seamon (President), Jody O'Donnell (2nd Vice), Nancy Person (Treasurer/Secretary), Lindsey Bittman (Sgt-At-Arms), Karen Stewart (Chaplain), Nancie McLees (Historian), Sue Gibbons, and Desiree Herrera.
- Vicky confirmed that last month's Minutes were sent out electronically and asked if everyone had a chance to read them.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Lindsey Bittman to accept them as is.
 - ❖ **Second:** Karen Stewart.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- Treasurer's / Secretary's Report:
 - Bank balance at last meeting (October 17) was \$4,495.80; total receipts: \$2,143.00 (which includes another \$1,000 donation to our holiday party); disbursements: \$408.73; current bank balance is \$6,230.07. Of that, \$255.75 is for our poppy fund, and \$5,974.32 is for our general fund.
 - I e-mailed a spreadsheet draft with my recollection of unit activities for this year to all members who have an e-mail address. Please add your input to the end, or simply write down a list of hours worked, miles driven, etc. for your philanthropic activities and get it to me right away. Thank you to those members who have already provided me with this information.
 - As of today, there are 65 confirmed guests attending our holiday party; 36 children and 29 adults. We are accepting no more than 80 guests. Gift lists for most have been submitted. At the end of the meeting, Nancie, Karen, and Jody/Nancy (volunteer shoppers) split up the families on the list so the buying spree can begin!
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Karen Stewart to set a \$40 gift maximum per child.
 - ❖ **Second:** Jody O'Donnell
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**

Well, we are now full with 84 guests! The last family to RSVP had four kids and I just couldn't turn them away! I will be renting 80 plastic, lightweight folding chairs (four guests are under one-year-old and can sit in high chairs or on laps). Tricia, we will not need your folding chairs from school, but will still need your Santa's throne, please!

- A request was made at the last district meeting to please collect miniature shampoos and soaps, and other feminine hygiene products to be sent overseas to the female soldiers. Once collected, items should be brought to the December district meeting.
- ❖ **Motion:** made by Karen Stewart to purchase \$50 worth of these items.
- ❖ **Second:** Jody O'Donnell.
- ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
Ketra Slayton arrived after the meeting was adjourned, and since she works for the Marriott, we asked her about obtaining these items at cost. She will investigate and get back to me.
- Be sure to check out our Facebook account. I've added lots of photos from our events this year.
- **President's Report:**
 - The Emergency Phone Tree was tested for a second time. Although the response was a little better than the first try, it still was not 100% successful. Now that members have each other's emergency contact information on one sheet, nothing else will be done. In light of Hurricane Sandy, we can be thankful to know we are ready for a real emergency.
 - Bingo at the VA Hospital was well-attended. Nine of our members volunteered their time. Several of us visited wards throughout the hospital delivering thank-you notes and candy (a huge bag of leftover Halloween candy was donated by a local Girl Scout). We all helped the patients play Bingo and also assisted with serving a complete Thanksgiving meal. The big hit with the patients was the candy! Karen suggested we might bring some baked goods at another time.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to take any leftover desserts from the holiday party and bring it to the VA Hospital for the patients.
 - ❖ **Second:** Lindsey Bittman.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
Since Vicky works there, she offered to bring them to work with her on 12/10.
 - Vicky shared what a thrill it was to be behind-the-scenes at the Veteran's Day parade. Four of us volunteered as parade participant organizers; lining up in the proper order the 20-25 entrants in our group. Heather Jones marched in the parade with her high school ROTC.
 - On Wed., Nov 14th the VA Hospital held its annual VMAC Bazaar. All money raised will go to Volunteer Services at the hospital. Our unit donated \$30 to the cause.
 - Since mid-year reports are due at the 12/9 district meeting, Vicky and Nancy will start to write up drafts early next week. Please get your log sheets (handwritten notes are fine) to Vicky or Nancy by the end of this weekend.
- **Membership Report:**
 - Our unit has 23 paid renewals and three new members, bringing our current membership to 26. There are still several members on the roster who have not yet paid their 2012-2013 dues.
- **Historian Report:**
 - Nancie is collecting recipes for the unit cookbook. PLEASE e-mail her your favorite recipes! We selected the cookbook cover title and subtitle ... it's a surprise. We also plan to take a photo for the cover.

- Old Business:
 - The holiday party is fast approaching. We still need volunteers to dry-clean Santa's suit and the elf costumes (cost will be reimbursed, of course), buy the tree, decorate the tree, etc. Please contact Vicky or Nancy if you can do any of these jobs. Decorating the hall will take place on Saturday, the 8th, beginning at 10am. The more, the merrier! Wrapped gifts should be brought to the Post on Saturday. Nancy will provide gift labels, but be sure you know which child each gift belongs to. Shoppers, please remember to obtain gift receipts for all items purchased. Finally, if we have enough money, it was decided our unit will buy several scooters for raffle prizes. They're smaller and easier to handle than bicycles!
- New Business:
 - Since December is a busy month, should we hold a December meeting?
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Desiree Herrera to cancel the 12/19 meeting.
 - ❖ **Second:** Nancy Person.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - Looking forward to 2013, what fundraisers should we hold? Maybe we take January off? Is anyone interested in having a dinner around Valentine's Day? We could call it a Sweetheart Dinner.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to hold a Sweetheart Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 9th.
 - ❖ **Second:** Jody O'Donnell.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - How about another spring rummage sale?
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Jody O'Donnell to hold rummage sale on Saturday, March 23rd.
 - ❖ **Second:** Sue Gibbons.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- Meeting was adjourned 6:53pm. Next meeting will be January 16, 2013.
- Ketra Slayton arrived after the meeting was adjourned. The members who were still in attendance came back into the hall so Vicky could recognize Ketra for being our Charter President. Without Ketra's perseverance and hard-work in getting our unit started, we would not have been able to accomplish the wonderful work we've done over the past two-and-a-half years. Ketra was presented with a Charter President's pin and a Certificate of Appreciation.
 - With a quorum of officers still present, it was agreed that our unit should donate \$50 toward the Thanksgiving dinner Ketra will be preparing at the Post. The meal will be free to diners.
- Minutes are respectfully submitted by Secretary Nancy.