



Pacific Beach American Legion Auxiliary Unit #552

Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2013

- Meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by President Vicky Seamon. Chaplain Karen Stewart shared a prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance and ALA Preamble followed.
- Attendance was taken by Secretary Nancy Person.
 - **12 Members Present:** Vicky Seamon (President), Heather Marzan (1st Vice), Jody O'Donnell (2nd Vice), Nancy Person (Treasurer/Secretary), Karen Stewart (Chaplain), Nancie McLees (Historian), Lindsey Bittman (Sgt-At-Arms), Nicole DeClercq, Jane DuVall, Sue Gibbons, Ketra Slayton, and our newest member, Cara Oyabe.
- Vicky confirmed that March'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:** Jody O'Donnell.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- Treasurer's / Secretary's Report:
 - Bank balance at last meeting (March 20, 2013) was \$2,604.75; total receipts: \$2,188.00; disbursements: \$440.69; current bank balance is \$4,352.06. Of that, \$350.25 is for our poppy fund, \$965.63 is profit from our 2012 holiday party which we are saving for the 2013 party, and \$3,036.18 is for our general fund.
 - We earned \$795.00 at our rummage sale. What an accomplishment! All remaining items were donated to VVSD and AmVets.
 - We earned \$367.00 at Saturday's Mediterranean dinner, netting \$265. Since the American Legion Auxiliary designated April as Children & Youth month, we donated \$100 of this money to the American Legion's Child Welfare Foundation.
 - Since we have not yet designated all of the money earned at the above two functions, I asked about the possibility of donating some of it to the Wave Clinic. I learned at the recent district meeting that the Auxiliary is the only major organization that contributes money to the Wave Clinic on a regular basis, and the donations are down. Ketra explained how every year at Stand Down, a group of veterans are selected to participate in a year-long program at the Wave Clinic; it's very much a next step after Stand Down for some.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to donate \$100 to the Wave Clinic.
 - ❖ **Second:** Jody O'Donnell.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.** Vicky did request that I contact a district officer to be sure where to send the donation; sometimes checks are sent to the wrong place and are in limbo for many months. I agreed to verify before sending it out.
 - We received a \$1,000 donation from one of our members; \$500 designated for diapers (for Jewish Family Services at Camp Pendleton) and \$500 for socks. I will purchase diapers at Costco. Since \$500 will buy a lot of diapers (I assume), we will donate a bunch on 4/28 and will hold some for future visits so

families who cannot attend this month may still benefit in future months. Socks will be bought closer to Stand Down.

- President Vicky and I completed and turned in our unit's 18 year-end committee reports. Thanks to those of you who submitted your information. I have copies if anyone is interested in reading any of them; and I can send them via e-mail.
- June 19th is the Naturalization/Immigration ceremony at Golden Hall downtown. If any members are interested in attending, I'm planning on driving and can accommodate three others comfortably in my car. As always, it's a Wednesday. We are asked to be down there by 8am, if I remember correctly. Can we make 50 poppy corsages before then with Karen's guidance? Karen, please send out an e-mail with one or two dates that might work for you so a bunch of us can come to your house and make the corsages together. Thank you!
- National Security National Chairman is asking for money to donate eight laptops to the military personnel in the demilitarized zone in S. Korea. There was no interest among the members present.
- Girls State Report (in Margaret's absence, I will share information learned at the district meeting):
 - Girls State Tea will be held on Sunday, May 5th at Post 149 in Escondido. They are expecting 160 attendees, between delegates, family members, and ALA members. All units are asked to contribute refreshments. Margaret has volunteered to bring juice, tea sandwiches, and pastries. Girls State takes place June 17 through June 26.
- Membership Report:
 - Our unit has 37 paid members; 27 renewals, two PUFLs, and eight new members this year. Welcome to our newest member, Cara Oyabe. She was referred to us by Ketra. She has been living in San Diego for seven years and her dad is a retired army colonel with over 30 years of service. Glad you could make it to the meeting!
- President's Report:
 - Dept. of CA's convention will be held June 26-29 in Palm Springs this year. Several of us had expressed interest in attending. There are many workshops during several days, and we are hoping to have a nice contingent so we can attend lots of different sessions and bring back some useful information. Ketra will see about getting us a reduced rate at the Residence Inn near the convention. Convention delegates must be elected. Based on our membership, we can only send two delegates, but we can have as many alternates as we like. Alternates may not vote and may need to sit in the back of the rooms, but they can attend workshops, as well. Vicky, Heather, Lindsey, Nicole and I all expressed an interest in attending.
 - ❖ **Nomination 1:** made by Lindsey Bittman to elect Vicky Seamon as one of our delegates.
 - ❖ **Second:** Ketra Slayton.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - ❖ **Nomination 2:** made by Ketra Slayton to elect Nancy Person as the second of our delegates.
 - ❖ **Second:** Nicole DeClercq.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - ❖ **Nomination 3:** made by Nancy Person to elect Heather Marzan as an alternate.
 - ❖ **Second:** Ketra Slayton.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - ❖ **Nomination 4:** made by Ketra Slayton to elect Lindsey Bittman as an alternate.
 - ❖ **Second:** Nancy Person.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - ❖ **Nomination 5:** made by Nancy Person to elect Nicole DeClercq as an alternate.
 - ❖ **Second:** Ketra Slayton.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**

Therefore, we have two delegates and three alternates planning on going to Convention! Our completed application with fees must be received by May 13th. I will be sure to get that done. Vicky had reminded us

that we budgeted \$600 for Convention this year. Karen Stewart opened a discussion about providing more than the \$600 so the attendees would not have to pay any expenses out-of-pocket.

- ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to table discussion until after Convention so we can know how much the additional expenses actually are before making a decision.
- ❖ **Second:** Nicole DeClercq.
- ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- Nominations and elections for our four officers and one Executive Committee Woman took place at tonight's meeting.
 - ❖ **Nomination 1:** made by Nancy Person to reelect Vicky Seamon as President.
 - ❖ **Second:** Sue Gibbons.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - ❖ **Nomination 2:** made by Lindsey Bittman to reelect Heather Marzan as 1st Vice.
 - ❖ **Second:** Nicole DeClercq.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - ❖ **Nomination 3:** made by Lindsey Bittman to reelect Jody O'Donnell as 2nd Vice.
 - ❖ **Second:** Heather Marzan.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - ❖ **Nomination 4:** made by Ketra Slayton to reelect Nancy Person as Treasurer/Secretary.
 - ❖ **Second:** Nicole DeClercq.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - ❖ **Nomination 5:** made by Nancy Person to elect Ketra Slayton as Executive Committee Woman.
 - ❖ **Second:** Jane DuVall.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**

Unless there are any objections from our members who did not attend tonight's meeting, our 2013-2014 officers will be the same as this year's: President Victoria Seamon; 1st Vice Heather Marzan; 2nd Vice Jody O'Donnell; and Treasurer/Secretary Nancy Person. Ketra Slayton will hold the new position of Executive Committee Woman; here to serve as an advisor to the unit and break any ties among voting officers. Please alert me immediately via e-mail or telephone if you object to any of the above.

- **VA&R Report:**

- Heather shared her excitement that the latest veteran we are helping with VASH housing is a female - our first! We are providing her with two tables, a bookcase, two lamps, a set of dishes, and a TV. She has been without a home for five years; three years on the street and two years at VVSD. She is very grateful for our help!
- Vicky told us about an article in the UT a week after our rummage sale highlighting AmVets. Apparently, AmVets also helps to provide household items to vets in new, independent living situations. So, all those items we donated from the rummage sale may still be going to veterans; nice to hear!
- Stand Down will be July 12-14. We need to make and distribute sock bins by the middle of May, at the latest. Union Bank has graciously offered to keep one of the bins. Therefore, we will have four locations: Jane Swan Hair Styling (5151 La Jolla Blvd.); Tap Fever (683 Turquoise St.); Turquoise Coffee (5026 Cass St.) and Union Bank (1706 Garnet Avenue, at Jewell). We need new bins this year and someone needs to make them. We do not have any volunteers yet.
- Speaking of Stand Down, the volunteer telephone line opens May 15th. Be sure to call soon after that to secure the volunteer position you want. Lindsey didn't know the number by heart, but you can call VVSD and they will connect you.

- **Community Service Report:**

- Just a reminder that our first Camp Pendleton visit will take place Sunday, 4/28 from 1-4pm (this is always the time). Our unit has four slots available and only two are taken, at this point. Let Lindsey know at least 24 hours ahead if you'd like to go and help out. We have seven slots reserved for the 5/19 visit. I don't believe anyone is reserved yet. Think about helping...

- Historian Report:
 - Nancie made a small photo album for Heather of her bridal shower.
 - Our unit scrapbook is up-to-date. Nancie brought it to the meeting and we all had a chance to browse through it. This scrapbook is phenomenal!! It already has pix from Saturday night's dinner too! Great job, Nancie!!
 - Nancie has 60 recipes so far for our "fundraising" cookbook she is putting together. Please get her more, if possible. She can be reached at 858-581-0136 or mimisd51@gmail.com. She must submit her completed data by July if we are to have our books by Thanksgiving.
- Poppy Report:
 - Karen received a letter from the district poppy chair, explaining that May is poppy month. The district person wanted to share the meaning/symbolism of the poppy. Here it is: Red petals stand for the vast outpouring of blood; yellow and black center stands for the mud and desolation of all battlefields; the green of the stem is symbolic for the forests, meadows and fields where generations of Americans perished to make this land free; the stem represents the courage and determination of our fallen warriors. The assembled product, a flower, is a symbol of resurrection which is sure to follow. Nicole DeClercq announced that she and her husband will be helping the VFW distribute poppies in May.
- Old Business from the President:
 - Mother's Day brunch is coming up quickly on May 12th. Vicky will be out of town and unable to assist. As usual, it will take place from 9am until 12 noon. Like last year, several members will make stratas (egg casseroles) at home and bring to the post on Sunday morning just needing to be warmed. Nancy, Jody, Nancie and Sue volunteered to make two each. Nancie will send us the recipe again. Ketra offered to make a nice fruit plate/basket since the SALS big luau is the day before, and she's sure there will be fruit left over. *Be sure to support this fundraiser since it's the biggest one of the year for the SALS. It takes place from 1-7pm and tickets (\$10, she thinks) will go on sale shortly.*
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to put money made at the brunch into our Poppy account since May is poppy month.
 - ❖ **Second:** Lindsey Bittman.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - If anyone else can make something (a sweet pastry, perhaps; potatoes) that goes well with stratas and fruit, please let us know. We can also use help that morning at the post.
- New Business from the President:
 - Several people have asked about the possibility of changing our meeting day. Many different options were discussed.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to **change our meetings to the 3rd Monday of every month.**
 - ❖ **Second:** Lindsey Bittman.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - PLEASE MAKE A NOTE THAT OUR MEETING DATES HAVE BEEN CHANGED!!**
 - We are also planning a Father's Day brunch on Sunday, June 16th. Since chorizo and eggs was such a hit last year, that will probably be the main item on the menu. More discussion to follow.
 - Vicky handed out lovely American flag heart-shaped pins as her way of saying thank-you for such a productive and successful year! She is excited about continuing her reign as President, especially since she'll be retired and have more time to give the unit.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm. **Next meeting will be Monday, May 20th at 6:00pm.**
- Minutes are respectfully submitted by Secretary Nancy Person.