



## Pacific Beach American Legion Auxiliary Unit #552

### Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2014

- President Vicky Seamon called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Co-Chaplain Nancie McLees led us in a prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance and ALA Preamble followed. Attendance was taken by Secretary Nancy Person.
  - **13 Members Present:** Vicky Seamon (President), Heather Tidwell (1<sup>st</sup> Vice), Jody ODonnell (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice), Nancy Person (Treasurer/Secretary), Lindsey Bittman (Sgt-at-Arms), Nancie McLees (Co-Chaplain), Sue Gibbons, Larisa Hall, Sandy Kurosky, Ketra Slayton, Mary Sumner, Marci Williams, and Janey Wooten.
  - **2 Guests Present:** Bill Bartle (VFW Rep) and potential new member, Joanne Mason (who met Vicky at the VFW Buddy Poppy distribution table at Albertsons).
- Vicky confirmed that the April 16<sup>th</sup> Minutes were sent out electronically and asked if everyone had a chance to read them.
  - ❖ **Motion:** made by Jody ODonnell to accept them as is.
  - ❖ **Second:** Sue Gibbons.
  - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- Treasurer's / Secretary's Report (Nancy Person):
  - Bank balance at April's meeting was \$4,668.81; total receipts: \$335.00; disbursements: \$860.82; current bank balance is \$4,142.99. Of that, \$687.06 is for our poppy fund and \$3,455.93 is in our general fund.
  - We made a profit of \$89.81 at the Mother's Day Brunch, which increased our poppy fund to the reported amount of \$687.06.
  - We have not yet made the \$300 donation to Stand Down that was approved last month. We need to figure out what portion will go towards shoes, and what part should be donated to the American Legion.
    - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to donate \$100 to the American Legion and use the remaining \$200 to buy shoes for the veterans of Stand Down.
    - ❖ **Second:** Jody ODonnell.
    - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
    - ❖ **Supplemental Motion:** made by Ketra Slayton to purchase sunscreen for Stand Down with other funds raised.
    - ❖ **Second:** Marci Williams.
    - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
  - Cookbook sales stand at 153 sold, leaving us a profit of 468.80. *One more was sold after meeting.* There are still six unaccounted for.
- Guest Bill Bartle:
  - On behalf of the VFW, we want to thank the Auxiliary for assisting with the Buddy Poppy distribution; specifically Sandy, Meredith, Nancie, Vicky, Lindsey, Desiree, and Heather J.
- President's Report (Vicky Seamon):
  - I would like to thank everyone who helped with the Mother's Day Breakfast. I know we did not get the attendance that we hoped for, but all who came raved about the food and how nicely the hall was decorated. The moms really appreciated the poppy corsages.

- Father's Day Brunch is still an issue. It doesn't appear we have the manpower to prep and cook that weekend.
  - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to cancel the Father's Day brunch.
  - ❖ **Second:** Larisa Hall.
  - ❖ **Discussion on the floor by Ketra Slayton.** Since we did hold a Mother's Day brunch, Ketra feels strongly that we need to hold one on Father's Day, in order to be equitable to all members. She and Ricky are happy to combine their third Sunday omelet bar with Father's Day, since they happen to fall on the same day. She just needs volunteers to help in the kitchen and keep the tables cleaned and set between diners. She's very willing to turn over profits to our unit. Larisa (and her partner, John), Heather, Sue, Vicky, and Sandy are available to be there at various times throughout the morning to assist Ketra. *So, the June 15<sup>th</sup> Father's Day brunch is back on! Dads will eat free and others will pay the regular price of \$7.00 per person.*
  - ❖ **Motion to cancel Father's Day brunch was denied.**
- Last month I reported submitting an application for a scholarship for Jodi Walters' husband Darren. I was informed by Gigi Manno that he will receive recognition and a monetary award on June 1 at the District meeting. He was accepted into a new program at SD State for Rehabilitation Counselor, which starts this fall.
- Membership Report (Vicky Seamon):
  - Membership - 5 new members, 4 transfers, 2 PUFLs and 33 paid renewals, for a total of 44. However, we cannot count three of the transfer members until next year. We ended last year with 38 members. The Department of CA set our annual goal at 40. We received an award at the last district meeting for being one of three (out of 17) to reach >100%, before the end of the year. Great job everyone for renewing and supporting our cause.
  - In the upcoming year (2014-2015), our unit will become an on-line unit. This will enable me to update our membership files on-line.
- Community Service (Lindsey Bittman):
  - Our unit is signed up to help at two upcoming Hand Up Food Pantry events, put on by Jewish Family Services. Four volunteers are needed for Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at Camp Pendleton. Four volunteers are also needed for Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> (Lindsey's 24<sup>th</sup> birthday!) at Murphy Canyon. If you are interested in volunteering, contact me directly: email [lindseybittman@gmail.com](mailto:lindseybittman@gmail.com) or call me at 775-722-0091.
  - Stand Down will be July 18-20 this year. The volunteer phone lines are open. To sign up as a volunteer (other than serving food with the American Legion on Friday), call 619-393-2011 or go online for more information: [vvsd.net/standdown](http://vvsd.net/standdown). VVSD is also taking donations of gently used clothing. Please drop off at 4141 Pacific Highway, Monday to Friday, 8-4.
- Old/Ongoing Business (Vicky Seamon):
  - Three members participated in the PB clean-up on May 3. Check out Facebook for a photo with San Diego Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman.
  - As mentioned by Bill Bartle, seven members helped to distribute poppies on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - Tap Fever recital was on 4/19 and we received a very nice write up for our donation of \$250. See unit scrapbook for a copy of the program.
  - Relay for Life will be held at La Jolla High on Saturday, June 7. Our unit donated \$100. I need to let them know how many will be volunteering that day. Please email me with your preferred times to help out. I'd like to let our contact person there know how many of us will be there and at what time(s). [vjseamon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vjseamon@sbcglobal.net)
- New Business (Vicky Seamon) :
  - The Department Convention is in Santa Clara, CA 6/19-22. We are obligated to pay for three delegates due to the number of members. In addition, we must elect three delegates and three alternates. I will not be going this year, but at last month's meeting, Larisa Hall expressed an interest in attending. Is there anyone else that would like to go? *Nobody else volunteered.*

- ❖ **Nomination:** Nancy Person nominates Larisa Hall to be our first delegate.
- ❖ **Second:** Jody O'Donnell
- ❖ **Will she attend?** Yes
- ❖ **Nomination:** Lindsey nominates Nancy Person to be our second delegate.
- ❖ **Second:** Heather
- ❖ **Will she attend?** No
- ❖ **Nomination:** Heather nominates Vicky Seamon to be our third delegate.
- ❖ **Second:** Sue Gibbons.
- ❖ **Will she attend?** No
- ❖ **Nomination:** Lindsey nominates Sue Gibbons to be our first alternate.
- ❖ **Second:** Heather Tidwell.
- ❖ **Will she attend?** No
- ❖ **Nomination:** Heather nominates Sandy Kurosky to be our second alternate.
- ❖ **Second:** Lindsey.
- ❖ **Will she attend?** No
- ❖ **Nomination:** Heather nominates Marci Williams to be our third alternate.
- ❖ **Second:** Lindsey
- ❖ **Will she attend?** No
- I would now like to call for a vote to confirm the following nominations for our unit officers;
  - ❖ President, Vicky Seamon: Unanimous vote.
  - ❖ 1st Vice, Lindsey Bittman: Unanimous vote.
  - ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, Heather Tidwell: Unanimous vote. Ketra Slayton volunteered to be a back-up.
  - ❖ Treasurer/Secretary, Nancy Person: Unanimous vote.
  - ❖ Executive Committee Women, Ketra Slayton: Unanimous vote.
- I would like to appoint the following members to these other positions;
  - ❖ Historian-Nancie McLees
  - ❖ Co-Chaplains-Nancie McLees and Jody O'Donnell
  - ❖ Sgt at Arms-Sue Gibbons
- Committee Chairman
- ✓ **Americanism** - Tricia Smith  
*Educate children, adults and community on all matters pertaining to the flag and patriotism.*
- ✓ **Auxiliary Emergency Fund** - (still open)  
*Designed to assist Auxiliary members who have suffered a financial setback.*
- ✓ **Children & Youth** - Margaret Smith  
*Care and protection of children of veterans, helping families in need. To improve conditions for all children.*
- ✓ **Community Service** - Lindsey Bittman  
*The ALA is expected to participate in at least one project for community improvement annually.*
- ✓ **Education** - Heather Tidwell  
*Goal is to promote quality education for children and adults through classroom activities, literacy programs, scholarship promotion and support education beyond high school.*
- ✓ **Girls State** - Margaret Smith  
*Provides citizenship training for selected girls who have completed their junior year of high school.*
- ✓ **Leadership** - Vicky Seamon
- ✓ **Legislative** - Vicky Seamon  
*Open communication with local, state and national elected officials and keep members informed on issues relating to veterans.*
- ✓ **Membership** - Vicky Seamon  
*Implement a campaign to retain, increase and reach memberships goals.*
- ✓ **National Security** - Desiree Herrera

Promote a strong national defense and prepare our citizenry for response to natural and man-made disasters.

✓ **Past President's Parley** - Ketra Slayton

Mission is to recognize and honor female veterans and promote nurses' scholarships.

✓ **Poppy** - Karen Stewart

Mission is to educate membership and public concerning poppy day and the financial benefit realized by our nation's veterans as a result of poppy distribution. Disabled men and women in hospitals and their families are assisted by the poppy fund.

✓ **Public Relations** - Nancy Person

Mission is to implement a proactive communication network that advances the objectives and programs of the ALA and projects our image and programs to the general public.

✓ **Veterans Administration and Rehabilitation (VA&R)** - Lindsey Bittman

The mission of the VA&R is to initiate, sponsor and participate in programs and services that assist and enhances the lives of veterans and their families.

• New Business (Larisa Hall):

- I've begun to design a generic business card that all members can use to pass out at garage sales. Members would just need to write their names and phone numbers on the back as the contact person. I should have a prototype at the June meeting.

• New Business (Ketra Slayton):

- I now work for Veterans Community Services, a non-profit organization that takes veterans off the street and helps to rehabilitate them. We provide a short-term case management program and focus on rapid rehousing. The veterans we work with having nothing when they come off the street. Although they get housing and a bed from us, they need bedding, kitchen utensils, towels, and all other forms of household items. We screened 146 veterans last month alone; 41 were approved for the program. Please save anything you have to donate and contact me. You can bring the items to our location on El Cajon Blvd. in the College area, or I'll be happy to pick it up at the post. Contact me directly if you have questions or items to donate. 619-876-7176

- Meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm.
- Minutes are respectfully submitted by Secretary Nancy Person.