



Pacific Beach American Legion Auxiliary Unit #552

Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2014

- President Vicky Seamon called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. In Nancie's absence, upcoming co-Chaplain Jody ODonnell led us in a prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance and ALA Preamble followed. Attendance was taken by Secretary Nancy Person.
 - **7 Members Present:** Vicky Seamon (President), Heather Tidwell (1st Vice), Jody ODonnell (2nd Vice), Nancy Person (Treasurer/Secretary), Lindsey Bittman (Sgt-at-Arms), Ketra Slayton (Executive Committee Woman), and Larisa Hall.
- 2014 Installation of Officers took place. The following were sworn in by Past President Ketra Slayton and President Vicky Seamon:
 - President Victoria Seamon
 - 1st Vice President Lindsey Bittman
 - 2nd Vice President Heather Tidwell
 - Treasurer/Secretary Nancy Person
 - Executive Committee Woman Ketra Slayton
 - Co-Chaplain Jody ODonnell
- Vicky confirmed that the May 21st 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:** Heather Tidwell.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- Treasurer's / Secretary's Report (Nancy Person):
 - Bank balance at May's meeting was \$4,142.99; total receipts: \$1,097.00; disbursements: \$1,579.87; current bank balance is \$3,660.12. Of that, \$687.06 is for our poppy fund and \$2,973.06 is in our general fund.
 - I put together a brief summary of this year's net income and where we've made donations. Based on the timeframe from July 1, 2013 through today, we have received \$4,434.00 in net income from donations. We have spent \$4,204.00 on donations. That leaves us a profit of \$230.00 through today. Additional checks will be written before the end of the year, and maybe we'll be lucky and receive more money.
 - We made a profit of \$82.00 at the Father's Day Breakfast.
 - 75 pairs of new shoes were purchased for Stand Down at a cost of \$1,074.94.
 - As was approved last month, our unit gave a \$100.00 check to the American Legion for Stand Down. In addition, we have already donated 266 pairs of new socks, 76 pairs of new shoes, eight bags of assorted clothing, four men's business suits, two suitcases, and one bag of toiletries to Stand Down. Keep those items coming in!
 - Cookbook sales stand at 158 sold, leaving us a profit of \$518.80. There are still six unaccounted for.
 - We still have three President's pins left over from the year that's about to end, 2013-2014. They display the theme of "Shooting HOOPS For Our Veterans." They are only \$5.00 each.
 - We also have four pin ribbons; two each of different designs. They are \$10.00 each. They can either be used to hold pins, or used to jazz up clothing (like I did with my American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary t-shirts).

- At last year's convention, we ordered ID badges from the ALA catalog for the officers. We are wondering if any other members would like to have one. They do not have a title on them, only your name and our unit name and number. This way, they will never have to be changed if you take on an officer position, give up a position, etc. They use magnets so they won't poke a hole in your clothing.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to buy ID badges for all active members.
 - ❖ **Second:** Ketra Slayton.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- I recently learned about an organization called Homefront San Diego, which works in partnership with the Navy League. They are a completely volunteer organization that helps active military families in need of car repairs, computers, furniture, baby items, urgent financial needs, emergency food needs and more. Homefront was founded right after 9-11 by Roger Hedgecock, who is a local radio talk show host and a past mayor of San Diego. I've talked to one of the volunteers and we're going to try and add some of their families to our holiday party guest list. *Ketra told us that Homefront is also one of the only organizations that will assist active military families as well as veterans up to three years of their discharge.*
- We received a very nice thank-you letter with a photo, and the table marker showing that our unit sponsored a table at the Military Children's Spring Dance. They are posted on our bulletin board at the post and will remain there for a few weeks before being put into our scrapbook.
- The ALA was sent a donation request from the World War II WASP (Women Airforce Service Pilots) Museum in Texas. Along with the letter was a cool picture of a McCall's cover from 1943 of a female pilot. Vicky will try to get the poster framed and it will be hung in the women's restroom at the post. Since this is not a local museum, we will not donate money.
- President's Report (Vicky Seamon):
 - I'd like to thank everyone who helped with the Father's Day Breakfast; and a special thank you to Ketra and Ricky for all their hard work in prepping and cooking all the food. I also want to thank Brenda, Sandy, Sue, Heather, Larisa and Lindsey for their help that day too. We had a wonderful attendance and served 67 meals (20 were dads who ate for free). We made a profit of \$82.00
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to spend the \$82 profit from Father's Day breakfast on sunscreen, tampons, and sanitary napkins for Stand Down (items in high demand).
 - ❖ **Second:** Heather Tidwell.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.** Heather will shop for these items on June 30th.

By the way, I met one of our members for the first time at the breakfast. Alice Rodriguez lives in Coronado so it's difficult for her to come to meetings, but she has been a member since our inception. She thanked me for all we do, and also related how much she enjoys reading the Minutes each month. Having a recap of each meeting helps her to feel involved.

 - On June 1st Darren Walters received a \$500 school grant at the District meeting. Please keep Heather (our Education Chairman) or me informed about anyone we may know going back to school so that we can put in for more grants next year.
- Membership Report (Vicky Seamon):
 - To end the year, we have five new members, four transfers, two PUFLs and 33 paid renewals, for a total of 44. However we cannot count three of the transfer members until next year. We received an award at the June district meeting for being one of three (out of 17) units to reach >100%, before end of year. Great job everyone for renewing and supporting our cause. I will be accepting dues, which will remain at \$26 for the year 2014-2015 starting next month.

Before we go into reports from various chairmen, I would like to advise this year's chairmen to go to the American Legion Auxiliary website sometime in July to read about goals set for their programs. <http://www.calegionaux.org>.

- 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. I will not be available to go to Camp Pendleton on Sunday, July 27th and I never received one e-mail from members who wanted to volunteer. Therefore, I'm going to cancel our involvement

at Camp Pendleton. Four volunteers are still needed for Sunday, August 10th at Murphy Canyon. If you are interested in volunteering, contact me directly: email 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. VVSD is also taking donations of gently used clothing. Please drop off at 4141 Pacific Highway, Monday to Friday, 8-4. VVSD is specifically asking for volunteers to work during the clothing drive, and also to help sort clothing during other times. They are asking for help this Friday, 6/20 from 6a-2p (clothing drive), 6/27, 7/2, and 7/17 (the last one is the day before Stand Down opens at San Diego High School.) Please call the above phone number if you are available and interested in helping on one of these days. *Ketra requested that those members who volunteer at Stand Down this year, please show some humanity to the veterans and talk to them, look them in the eyes, etc. They could really use some kindness, in addition to having food served to them.*
- VA&R Business (Lindsey Bittman):
 - Kudos to Heather Tidwell who received a Certificate of Appreciation from District 22 on her hard work with VA&R for Unit 552.
- Old/Ongoing Business (Vicky Seamon):
 - Relay for Life was held at La Jolla High on Saturday, June 7. Our unit donated \$100. Nancy and Jody attended the opening ceremonies and walked about a mile. They also purchased luminaria bags for relatives and friends who have or had cancer.
- New Business (Vicky Seamon)
 - Tonight is the start of the ALA annual convention. This year it's in Santa Clara (near San Jose) and Larisa will be flying up on Friday morning to represent our unit. Hopefully she'll come back with lots of good information to share.
 - We have been asked by the Sons of the American Legion to help promote their monthly steak fry since attendance has been very low. June 27th will be the last time it's automatically held the last Friday of each month. June will also be the last time that steak is the only meat available. The meal following will be on July 11th and you'll have a choice of steak, burger, or chicken. The price will vary depending upon what you order. Check the white board at the post for future dates. The meals will remain 5-7pm. Please invite your family and friends.
 - Saturday, July 12th at 1:00 will be the District 22 installation in Chula Vista. Anyone want to cheer on Desiree as District 22 1st Vice? Nancy has room for two more in her car. Lunch will be served after the installation. Contact Nancy or me if you'd like to go.
 - Should we begin planning our next BUNCO fundraiser? I checked the calendar and with Jerry, and Saturday, September 20th is available.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to have another Bunco fundraiser on 9/20 from 11am-2pm..
 - ❖ **Second:** Jody ODonnell.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.** Please start collecting items to group together for raffle baskets.
 - VA bingo will be in November (date not set but it's usually the second Saturday).
 - Holiday Party is set for December 13th.
 - We need to schedule our end-of-year audit. I appoint Ketra Slayton, Marci Williams, and Brenda Hamett to be on the audit committee. Ketra will check her calendar and schedule the audit on a Sunday in August.
 - Any other projects that members would like to get involved in, please let me know so that I can put it on the agenda for discussion.
- New Business (Larisa Hall):
 - I completed designing the generic ALA business cards. *Sample cards were passed around and members decided on a design. Larisa will have 500 printed.*
- New Business (Ketra Slayton):

- Veterans Community Services will be holding a fundraiser and you are all invited. It will be a day at Petco Park to watch the Padres play the Atlanta Braves. Seats are in the Toyota Terrace section on Sunday, August 3rd starting at 1:10pm. There are at least 50 seats available for purchase at \$26.00 each. All proceeds will benefit veteran clients of VCS who are transitioning from street-life to living indoors.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:10
- Minutes are respectfully submitted by Secretary Nancy Person.