



Pacific Beach American Legion Auxiliary Unit #552

Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2015

- President Vicky Seamon called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. American Legion District 1st Vice and Chaplain Desiree Herrera delivered an opening prayer.
- The Pledge of Allegiance and ALA Preamble followed. Attendance was taken by Secretary Nancy Person.
 - **10 Members Present:** Vicky Seamon (Pres), Lindsey Bittman (1st Vice), Nancy Person (Treas/Sec), Nancie McLees (Chaplain), Jody ODonnell (co-Chaplain), Sue Gibbons (Sgt-at-Arms), Desiree Herrera, *new member* Nancy Kennedy, Sandy Kurosky, and Janey Wooten.
- Vicky confirmed that the February 18th Minutes were sent out electronically and asked if everyone had a chance to read them.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Sandy Kurosky to accept them as is.
 - ❖ **Second:** Desiree Herrera
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- Treasurer's / Secretary's Report (Nancy Person):
 - Bank balance at February meeting was \$3,779.62; total receipts: \$671.00; disbursements: \$879.52; current bank balance is \$3,571.10. Of that, \$501.86 is for our poppy fund and \$3,069.24 is in our general fund.
 - We sold two more cookbooks, so we still have 44 available for sale. They are now being sold for \$5, which is half off the original price. Let's try and get the remaining books sold.
 - The Pernicano's fundraiser was an amazing success. Pernicano's earned \$630 from the 105 tickets that were turned in. We sold quite a few more tickets that were never turned in, giving us gross earnings of \$1,821. With the only expense being the \$25.75 printing of the tickets, we ended with a net profit of \$1,165.25. Thank you so much again to Larisa, for spearheading this event, designing the tickets, getting them printed, etc. Also, we so appreciate all those members who sold tickets, and all our supporters who purchased them!!
 - The March 7th Bunco party made some money too. Our gross earnings were \$503. After expenses were deducted, we were left with a profit of \$431.28. Not bad for a few hours of fun! Again, we could not have done this well without the amazing contributions of food and raffle prize donations, as well as the extra monetary gifts made by some of our members. We are a fabulous team!
 - Last night's St. Patty's Day dinner was our final fundraiser for a while. Cheryl Bauman did a fantastic job cooking, and many other members were very involved with decorating, setup, food prep, clean up, etc. We sold 62 meals and ran out of food. The net profits were \$255.35.
 - Just to recap, the money earned from our three fundraisers so far this year come to \$1,851.88. We need to decide how to distribute this money.
- President's Report (Vicky Seamon):
 - We finally received a thank-you note from the VA Hospital for the Mmm... Mmm... Good Campbell's basket we donated for their November bazaar. They raised \$15,000 at this event; the most they ever raised.
 - We will begin writing our end-of-year reports on Monday, March 30th at 10:00am. The District wants all reports before April 10th. Please be sure that you send me all of your committee activities and all your outside volunteer work. Anyone who would like to come over to Nancy's to help with the narrations, please let us know.
 - There is an upcoming campaign fundraiser "Geriatrics Follies" for Susie Tozier on April 11th in El Cajon. She is running for Department President; she is currently 1st Vice. She was our past District Treasurer. I will post the flyer.

- The District is compiling recipes and would like each unit to send in a few. If it's okay with the membership I would like to take 10 or so out of our cookbook and submit them. I will need to submit your name and unit position along with the recipes. Do I have your approval? *Approval was given by members present.* Also, if anyone would like give me a new recipe to submit that would be great.
- The District is asking that each unit bring a basket for an opportunity drawing to the December district meeting. This meeting will be Suzie's mid-year meeting. It's not clear what the money raised will be used for; more information to follow. We already have a partial basket we can use as a base. Jody won it at Bunco and only wanted a few items.
- Membership Report (Vicky Seamon):
 - We failed to vote in Cheryl Bauman, who transferred from the Imperial Beach unit a few months ago.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to vote in Cheryl as a new member.
 - ❖ **Second:** Lindsey Bittman
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - We have received another renewal, which is terrific.
 - We've also received one new member application, from Nancy Kennedy, since our last meeting. Nancy is here with us tonight and we give her a warm welcome.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Jody O'Donnell to vote in Nancy as a new member.
 - ❖ **Second:** Sue Gibbons.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - Membership now should be at 46. However, one member, Susan Haefner, has dropped off our roster and I am investigating this discrepancy.
 - Next year will be the ALA's 100th birthday. They are hoping to have one million members by then. So, let's each tell a friend about our unit and try to recruit one new member each over the next year.
- Community Service (Lindsey Bittman):
 - The next Murphy Canyon food pantry will be on May 10th, which happens to be Mother's Day. I have reserved seven spots for us to volunteer since it's much closer than Camp Pendleton. Please let me know if you're interested in working that day.
- VA&R (Lindsey Bittman):
 - Lois Cornish is still working on the logistics regarding getting shade canopies made for the Chula Vista Veterans Home. Once she has some idea of the cost and how they will proceed, we will discuss how much of our fundraising monies to donate.
 - Legion Day at the VA Hospital was a lot of fun. Mr. Jeff Gering, the Director of the hospital spoke. There was music, food, and lots of volunteers. It happened to fall on Valentine's Day this year so the veterans were presented with all kinds of heart-themed goodies.
- Girls State (Vicky Seamon for Margaret Smith):
 - The Girls State Tea will be held on Saturday, May 2nd at the Oceanside ALA. Margaret will be baking desserts to bring. Nancy is planning on going with Margaret, and all are welcome.
 - Interviews have been completed at three high schools (Madison, University City, and Mission Bay) and delegates (with alternates) have been selected. The last set of interviews are scheduled for Thursday, 3/19 at Clairemont H.S. As we did last year, our unit will be funding four delegates to attend Girls State.
- Old Business (Vicky Seamon):
 - I will be in touch with the VA hospital and the Chula Vista Veterans home to ensure any monies we allocate from our fundraisers goes to the right departments.
 - We recently learned that when donating to Fisher House it is best to find out what they need and then buy it. Money sent in can be used to pay employees and therefore not go directly to Veterans and their families.
 - Amendments were approved at our last meeting, and copies were sent to the Department Chairman Michelle Soares on 2/3 for approval and signature. I am still waiting for signed copies to be sent back to our Unit.
 - The District is selling "RED" tee shirts; Remembering Everyone Deployed. They are encouraging members to buy and wear one every Friday, until all soldiers deployed are return home. They cost \$20 each and proceeds will go to the VA&R fund.

- The District conducted a workshop on writing End-of-Year reports on 2/28. Nancy and I attended and as always with these workshops, we learned a few new things. We will be putting that knowledge to use when we begin writing our EOY reports on the 30th.
- The Soroptimists of Mission Bay are having a Bunco fundraiser on April 18th at the Live Well Center in Clairemont, located at 4425 Bannock Ave, 92117. It costs \$15 to play and runs from 1-4. Several of us are already planning on attending. We'd love to have additional members join us.
- Be sure to sign onto this link to learn about the membership benefits available to us: <http://ala.memberdiscounts.co/perks>. Once you have established an account, you will receive regular updates.
- New Business (Vicky Seamon):
 - Do we want to have a Mother's Day and/or Father's Day brunch this year? If so, we need volunteers to set up, cook, clean-up, etc. We often vote in a fundraising meal but lack assistance.
 - Please make yourself available to help distribute poppies for the VFW in May. Volunteers are needed. Dates will be forthcoming.
 - The next District 22 meeting will be held at the new Veterans Association of North County Building at 1617 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, 92058 on Sunday, April 12th. Breakfast will be served before the meeting and our Dept. President will be in attendance.
 - Any other new business to be discussed?
- New Business (Nancy Person):
 - I want to make the unit aware of the new multi-year fundraiser being spearheaded by the Mission Beach Women's Club. They will be building a brand new, state-of-the-art playground (for all ages) at Bonita Cove in Mission Beach with new bathroom(s), all ADA equipped, etc. Since they consistently support our unit's fundraising efforts, I'm hoping we can also provide some assistance to this project over the next few years. There will be a Play by the Bay website shortly, and many events in which to participate, including "Taste of Mission Beach" on Thursday, May 14th. I'll keep you posted.
- New Business (Desiree Herrera):
 - I've been busy with lots of traveling for the American Legion; attending meetings all over CA.
 - Since the PB Town Council meets the same night as our unit's monthly meeting, I haven't been able to attend one of our meetings in a long time. In the future, I'm hoping to alternate attendance so I can get back involved with the ALA.
 - This Friday, March 20th, I will be giving an award to Assemblywoman Toni Atkins.
 - I've been collecting food at work and donating it to Christian Community Services. They are a great group and many local PB people in need are assisted by them.
 - The refurbishing of the Alpine American Legion Post is complete. There was a real team effort with USAA, Team Rubicon, and many AL Posts helping out. The facility was painted inside and out, the roof was fixed, repairs were made on the cinder-block wall, and the grounds were all relandscaped. Thanks so much to all those who volunteered their time, efforts, and materials; I was one of the volunteers.
 - Saturday, May 2nd will be the next Graffiti clean-up put on by the PB Town Council. It usually starts at 8am but volunteers are needed at all times. More details to follow...
 - Any chance of getting an article written for the next Legionnaire Newspaper? It will be a Memorial Day issue.
 - When you are out and about volunteering in the community, please emphasize the American Legion Family, instead of just referring to the ALA. The American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, and the American Legion Auxiliary are all strong organizations and we are quite a force when we work together.
- Meeting was adjourned at 6:55.
- The next unit meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2015.
- Minutes are respectfully submitted by Secretary Nancy Person.