



**VFW Post 7142
MEETING MINUTES
February 13, 2013**

Post meeting was called to order by Commander Padgett at 1901 hours.

VISITORS: Tony Medina, potential new member, Army, Korean veteran (See membership application section where comrade Medina provided all the documents, along with his annual dues to become a member.)

Clarence Kaleta, Officer of the Day, led the post in a salute to the colors.

Chaplain Quinlan gave the opening invocation in accordance with the ritual.

Commander D. Padgett led the members in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and the Congressional pledge.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Officers Present: Dolores Padgett, Alex Neil, Francis Reyes, Clarence Kaleta, Jim Carson, Barry Trauger, Jim Ferguson, Donald Young and Jerald Quinlan,

Officers Absent: Charles Gullett (On a motion by Commander Padgett and seconded by comrade Neil, an excused absence was granted due Gullett's recent surgery.)

A total of 22 comrades attended the meeting, including the officers named above.

Commander Padgett conducted a ceremony for the passing of a long time Post life member, Edward Lesneski, directing the Officer of the Day to drape the Charter in honor of our deceased comrade.

Membership Applications: Guest, Tony Medina, completed his membership application and delivered his DD214 along with his annual membership dues of \$30.00

Approval of Minutes: January 2013's Minutes were emailed to all officers and hard copies were made available for review at this meeting. Upon review comrade Trauger moved acceptance of the minutes with comrade Ferguson seconding the motion and the Post membership approved.

Approval of Quartermaster Financial Reports:

January Receipts:	\$ 482.97	
Disbursements:	350.11	Net: (\$132.86)
Yr. to date (7 mos.) Receipts:	\$ 10,125.86	
Year to date disbursement:	32,272.38	Net: (\$22,146.52)

Quartermaster Neil reported that the Trustees met just prior to the Post meeting on February 13th and audited the January 2013 monthly financial reports, as presented. On a motion from comrade Trauger and seconded by comrade Ferguson, the reports were accepted. Future Trustee meetings will be held on the same day as the Post meeting and will convene at 6:15 PM in order to be completed by the time our Post meeting begins.

Reading of Bills: none

Report of Service Officer: no applications processed yet Commander Padgett reported contacting one comrade and assisting another with paperwork for a claims process.

Comrades or Families in Distress: Chaplain Quinlan reported on Comrade Gullett's recent surgery for a hernia and that he is doing fine. Comrade Neil reported on talking to Bob Higgins who is contemplating brain surgery that will take place in Alaska where a specialist surgeon is located. Service Officer Padgett stated she would contact Higgin's wife to see if she can offer any assistance.

Committee Reports:

Buddy Poppy: Comrade Reyes reported on the plans for Memorial Day's drive, indicating the letters to the food markets will go out in March for permission to sit at their store locations. The days are scheduled for May 25 and 26 (Sat and Sun) at four possible locations. Commander Padgett will work with comrade Fournier on Monday (Memorial Day) at the Community Center Ceremony. The Alpha Raiders (our adopted Marine Unit) may be available to assist in manpower needs of manning Poppy stations.

Newsletter: Comrade Neil asked for contributions for member profile articles and any other articles that members felt worthy.

Post Dinners: Comrade Neil reminded members that the Officer Installation dinner is planned for May 22nd and is currently looking for a restaurant to hold the affair.

Hospital: Surgeon Ferguson reiterated his call for hospital service volunteers, reminding them that T.B. tests would be required to qualify as a volunteer. He also spoke of a link between Agent Orange and Diabetes and reminded the Vietnam veterans to look into this.

Publicity: nothing to report.

Boy Scouts/ROTC: Commander Padgett reminded the committee chair of the urgency to secure applications for Scout of the Year no later than March 1st, the Post deadline in order for the Post to meet the March 15th District deadline.

V.O.D./P.P: New themes for each essay have been published by National. The VOD theme is "[*Why I'm Optimistic About Our Nation's Future*](#)"; and the Patriot's Pen theme is "[*What Patriotism Means To Me*](#)". Commander Padgett indicated the Post must start early, before schools let out for the summer break, to make sure we get the coverage necessary for this program. Program Brochures/Applications will be ordered in time for distribution to schools, P.T.A.'s, etc.

Membership: Comrade Neil reported the Post's results for the current year as: 9 new members, 8 renewals, 3 transfers in, 1 transfer out, 6 deceased, 4 unpaid; with a total overall count of 116. In order to qualify for "All State" the Post will need to gain 9 new members.

Web-site: Commander Padgett praised comrade Marc Gold on his work and effort in designing the Post's first Web-site.

Ways & Means: Quartermaster Neil reported transferring \$5,000 from the T.D. Ameritrade Money Market account to the Union Bank checking account for operational needs.

Executive: No report

Remember our National Home: Chaplain Quinlan led the members in prayer for our National Home in accordance with ritual.

Unfinished Business: Commander Padgett conducted the ceremony for awarding the Cross of Malta pins to the following new members: G. Findlay, Terrell DeVoe, Michael Turner, and Chris Huddleston. Members K. Keim and J. Smith were absent and will be covered at future meetings.

Commander Padgett briefed the membership on what it would take to have the Post achieve "All State" status this year. A count of 8 new members would be needed by mid-May since the Post has satisfied all other requirements.

A repeated call was put out for volunteers to attend the District 2 BBQ set for March 16. Ten Alpha Raiders (the Post's adopted Marine unit) have volunteered along with a few Post members. It was also noted that the District 2 meeting to honor the Dept. Commander will be held on March 17th at the Anaheim VFW Post. Commander Padgett will attend a banquet, representing our Post on Saturday, the 16th.

New Business: Distribution of the Post's new business cards was administered by comrade Neil. The Post had ordered 1,000 of the cards and hope they will be used at Buddy Poppy stations and by members in their efforts to recruit new members. Commander Padgett expressed the strong effort led by National and Department Headquarters to push for new member recruitment. Membership is the life blood of the VFW as our own Post has seen the benefits of recruiting younger members who have already shown their worth to the Post.

Commander Padgett reminded members of next month's nominations for Post officer positions. She had published, by email, the duties and qualifications of the officer positions and encouraged all members to participate in the nomination and election process. This is key to the Post's success of building our membership and having quality leadership guiding the Post for the future.

Good of the Order: Comrade Chris Huddleston directed attention to a Virtual Weapons Simulator for which he is an instructor and will be offering a web-site referral for members to check it out.

Commander Padgett welcomed Marc Gold back from his recent neck surgery and again lauded him for the work he has accomplished on the Post's web-site. She also

announced the Post's genuine sorrow to learn that comrade Tim Laursen will be relocating to New York due to his job transfer.

Notice was given that our adopted Marine unit, the Alpha Raiders, will be deploying to Afghanistan in August.

Jim Ferguson was recognized on his converting his annual membership to a "Life Member" status and Alex Neil was recognized for upgrading his Life Membership status to a Legacy Life Membership.

Closing Ceremony: Officer of the Day, C. Kaleta led the members in a salute to the colors.

The closing prayer was offered by Chaplain Quinlan, in accordance with the ritual.

Meeting was adjourned by Commander Padgett at 2005 hours.

Respectfully submitted:

Alex J. Neil
Adjutant