

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ship 1774 Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, 13 March 2018

The meeting was called to order by Captain Jack Porath to conduct any and all business to come before the Ship. Following were conducted:

- Opening Ceremonies were held beginning 1800 hours which included the reading of Special Dates of Remembrance for this month.
- Roll call of officers was held and total attendance was nine shipmates.
- New and transfer applications were read and approved for processing by the Paymaster.
- The Minutes of the last meeting will remain as published since there were no changes provided.
- Paymaster report was provided subject to audit and questions were answered.
- Service Officer Report (Alan Rein). Alan attended last month's United Veterans Council meeting and information was provided.

Committee Reports:

- **Membership.** The Captain again reiterated that membership has a lot to do with keeping what we have fought for, all wars and generations. Membership is important as it retains our voice with our Nation's leaders, helps protect our earned benefits, and propels us to the future. Membership dues is \$45.00 per year; however, **Life Membership is very cost effective and ensures continuous membership.** The first payment for the 12 month pay option is \$45.00 (with 11 additional payments with the cost depending on your age). The Captain reiterated (again) that Life Membership is a much better option than maintaining Annual Membership status. If you are currently a yearly paid member, you can change to Life status and pay a monthly installment over a 12 month period or make other arrangements. The renewal date of annual pay members is the date of the dues payment. There is a loss of benefits that are beginning to occur via Congressional actions, and your belonging to a veterans' organization such as the VFW helps to fight the cuts. We need to protect that which we have earned. We need to promote the organization to our younger veterans.
- **Buddy Poppy** (Captain) – Next distribution will be scheduled sometime in May 2018.
- **Youth Development** (Scouting, JROTC, PP, VOD, etc) (Alan Rein). The VOD and PP themes have been changed on the website.
- **Citizenship/Community Service** (Law Enforcement, Firefighter, EMT, Lifeguards, Teacher, Community Events) (Captain). For the sacrifices and extreme high-alert of our police officers, keep them in our prayers.
- **Student Veterans and Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans.** (Nathaniel Donnelly). An attempt will be made to get them more active and assist with various issues around the facility.
- **House** (Captain). The details of events presented at the meeting are separately published and posted on the bulletin-board and web site. One air conditioner has been fixed and the galley fan installed.
- **National Home for Children** (Captain). Captain emphasized Life Membership (\$40.00) that helps the children. Current members and those who are wanting or selected to join need not be members of the VFW to be awarded a membership. The Commander announced that Alan Rein will be granted a life membership to the National Home.
- **United Veterans Council** (Alan Rein). Monthly meeting of the United Veterans Council, to which anyone can attend, will be held at 0930 for the dates: 24 Mar, 28 Apr, 19 May, 23 Jun, 28 Jul, 25 Aug, 22 Sep, 27 Oct, 24 Nov. See website: [www.sduvc.org](http://www.sduvc.org) for the meeting minutes and other information. Alan Rein will be attending and providing us his report at the next meeting.
- All prayed to remember the National Home for Children.

### UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS.

- The Captain is soliciting all La Mesa Veterans Club members, all organizations, for interest in founding and establishing an American Legion Riders Chapter in our Post. Any interest? Respond again since some were possibly awaiting the decision of the Legion Riders 303 to join us – They will not.
- In the April 2017 business meeting, motion was made, seconded and all approved to allow for the purchase of a web service that would allow the finding of persons who may have moved or passed away. Such information is needed to update the membership database. A no-cost web site was offered that will be fully researched before a paid web site is obtained. Issue is still pending.

### NEW BUSINESS.

- The final nomination followed by the election of officers will be held during the next meeting, scheduled for 10 April 2018. Nomination of officers for the 2018-2019 Year; Elected: Captain J. Porath, Senior Vice Commander Roger Rotter, Junior Vice Commander Alan Rein, Quartermaster Lenny Guccione, and Chaplain Rick Houghton. Trustees for new year (1 Year Larry Farley ends his term); New 3 Year Sam Aleto. Bob Marlow (3 Year) goes to 2 Year, and Rick Houghton (2 Year) goes to 1 Year. Appointed officers are Adjutant Chuck Syktich, Judge Advocate Bob Marlow, Surgeon Carl Finster, Officer of the Day and Guard Vincent Russo, and Service Officer Alan Rein. Potential conflict with the nomination exists in that Rick Houghton has been nominated for the elected office of Chaplain and who already holds an elective office as Trustee. If he assumes the office of Chaplain, he will need to resign as Trustee and that will create a One Year Trustee position. All will be sorted out at the next meeting.

### GOOD OF THE ORDER.

- When you change your address or email account, let us know.
- Free Legal Clinics at VFW Post 3787, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month. Schedule appt 858.433.0525 or ([helpvets@hrtroops.org](mailto:helpvets@hrtroops.org)): VA Claims, Family Law, Landlord-Tenant, Wills and Trusts, Criminal Record

Legal help is available, third Saturday of each month 0900-1130 at VFW Post 3787 (Mission Valley).

CLOSING ceremony was held and the meeting adjourned at 1830 hours.

/s/ Signed 15 March 2018  
J. R. PORATH  
Captain and Recorder