

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ship 1774 Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 14 January 2020

The meeting was called to order by Ship's Executive Officer Roger Rotter 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 seven shipmates.
- There was not a District 1 representative nor a Past Captain present.
- Any new and transfer applications were read and approved for processing.
- There were no changes to the minutes of the last meeting; thus, they are approved as written.
- Paymaster report was provided as audited and questions were answered.
- There was no Service Officer Report.

Committee Reports:

- **Membership.** The Captain has continually provided that our youth are slow to recognize the benefits of joining and that they are busy managing or starting their family and career. He reiterated also 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. **Life Membership is strongly encouraged as it is very cost effective and ensures continuous membership.** The first payment for the 12 month pay option is \$45.00 (with 11 additional payments; the cost is age based). The Captain again reiterated 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 initial date of the dues' payment. There is a continual fight in Congress concerning benefits, and belonging to a veterans' organization such as the VFW helps when Congress checks the membership stats. High membership = strong voice!
 - **Buddy Poppy** (Captain) – Our next distribution date will be in the month of May.
 - **Youth Development** (Scouting, JROTC, PP, VOD, etc) (Alan Rein). No report.
 - **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 your prayers. All of the award nomination forms are on the website.
 - **Student and Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans.** (Alan Rein). No report.
 - **House** (Captain). The details of events presented at the meeting are separately published and posted on the bulletin-board and web site.
 - **National Home for Children** (Captain). Life Membership (\$50.00) 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. Know anyone who is worthy?
 - **United Veterans Council** (Alan Rein). Monthly meeting of the United Veterans Council, to which anyone can attend, are held at 0930 for the dates as announced. See website: www.sduvc.org for the meeting minutes and other information. Alan Rein and/or Chuck Syktich attend the meetings.
- All prayed to remember the National Home for Children.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Poker Tournament scheduled for 22 Feb 2020 was discussed. All were again asked to find sponsors to donate gifts. Tickets are available at the Canteen. All are encouraged to sell tickets.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- When you change your address or email account, let us know.
- Free Legal Clinics at VFW Post 3787, 3rd Saturday each month 0900-1300. Schedule appt by calling 858.433.0525 or via email (helpvets@hrtroops.org): VA Claims, Family Law, Landlord-Tenant, Wills and Trusts, Criminal Record, etc..

CLOSING ceremony was held and the meeting adjourned at 1826 hours.

/s/ Signed 16 Jan 2020
J. R. PORATH
Captain and Recorder