

Meeting Minutes August 2026

Meeting opened at 1900 with 14 members present.

Guests: None

Officer Roll Call: All officers were present except Judge Advocate, 1- & 3-year Trustees, and the Guard who were excused.

New Memberships: Four Membership applications were read; Eldon Hobbs, Craig Marshall, David Reed, and Harry Sherwood. Larry G. made the motion to accept, 2nd by Frank D. Motion passed.

Minutes: As minutes were emailed to all members and spare copies were available, motion to dispense with reading of the minutes was made by Frank D. and seconded by Randy M. Motion passed.

Reading of the Bills: QM made motion to pay Mary Carlson \$20 for the cost of having a quilt of Valor mailed to her for one of our members. Motion was seconded by Darrell M. and passed.

QM Monthly Report: QM monthly report was read and accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – Larry Gerlt:

- Veteran Resource Fair at Main BX, 12 Nov, 1100-1300.
- Nebr. VA office in Main BX has qualified VSO! Available for walk ins and scheduled appointments for filing benefits claims.
- Mission of Mercy Dental Event, Friday/Saturday, Aug. 28th & 29th 8-5, ANG Titan Readiness Center, 789 County Rd, Yutan. All vets & their spouses are eligible!

Members in Distress: Candy Woodward: (Aux.) Bad MV Accident. Now able to stand on one leg. Marty Shelton: doing well but still in speech therapy from stroke. Gary Tow's wife is in hospice with cancer. JD Glenn diagnosed with colon cancer, undergoing treatment.

Members Deceased: None.

Committee Reports:

Membership - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 90.32% and must reach 103%. Next membership drive is Sep 12th. We meet at VI on Fort Crook Rd at 8:30. I provide a short training while waiting on breakfast order paid by the Post. I furnish a pocket clip board with all that is needed. Will email previous Wednesday. If no one responds, I skip breakfast & go alone. If you have any family members, coworkers, neighbors or friends who are veterans and may qualify for the VFW, ask them if I can contact them about joining and pass me their contact info (at least name & phone number, address and email is good to have.) And please remember our Auxiliary – spouses, children 16 or older, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, and siblings are eligible!

Blood Drive/VA & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: Executive Office Staff Updates Fisher House: Jennifer Servant — Focusing on outreach efforts. Created new flyer with updated information. \$10,000 with recent SAC fundraiser. New storage shed is still in the works. Fisher House is recruiting new regular and occasional volunteers.

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• CLC: Rikki Parker — Water testing revealed issues with the water at CLC, currently providing veterans bottled water and updating water filtration system. 6th floor will possibly open in September and new nurses are currently being trained. Seeking adult volunteers to assist with activities and visit with the veterans. • Chaplain: Chaplain services are starting a Hospice Volunteer program and recruiting volunteers. Training is two days. For more information about the program reach out to Chaplain Shane Van Dorin. 3. Old Business • Youth summer program has come to an end. The youth were very helpful in multiple areas around the hospital. While the program has officially ended, some youth plan to return during school breaks/holidays. • Food pantry continues to grow; has served nearly 26,000 veterans in the community. • Partnered with Food Bank of the Heartland and Offutt Commissary. • Gift cards are needed for food pantry and as gas cards for veterans. 4. New Business • Customer service is one of our greatest strengths! Friendly reminder to limit cell phone use while volunteering, especially at Information Desks, and guide veterans to appointments rather than pointing and directing. • Please do not rearrange furniture or other items that VA staff (such as interior design) have placed at the entrances. Direct questions or comments to staff regarding the entrances and areas around the info desks. • CDCE is streamlining volunteer sign in and meal ticket methods. Volunteers are encouraged to enroll with ID.me so they can sign in electronically and receive an electronic meal ticket. For assistance, please reach out to CDCE staff.

Surgeon - James Carmona: NR

POW/MIA - William Guy: William spoke about POW/MIA Report that was in the VFW magazine about Current progress of Recovery efforts in Vietnam and covered budget cuts to Recovery programs, which reduces activities to recover service members.

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/TOTY - Have taken Patriot Pen entries, Voice of Democracy entries and Teacher of the Year entries to schools that submitted to us last year. PP & VOD submission suspense date is 31 Oct.

Political Action - Matt Friesen: NR

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: NR

We remembered our National Home.

Correspondence – Thank you letters from our VFW Nat. Home and Red Barn School house.

Old Business

1. **Subj:** ENVH membership: **Content:** Presented offer to residents on Tuesday, 12 Aug. One member signed up. **Item closed.**
2. **Subj:** Eagle Scout Project **Content:** The Eagle Scout project to interview veterans and submit to Nat. Archives waiting for next contact from Scout. Have approved list of questions. Interviews to be conducted 12 Sept. Will send email request for interviewees. **Item open.**
3. **Subj:** Korean War Veterans Coin Presentation. **Content:** We have 4 who qualify. Request for pins has been sent. **Item open.**
4. **Subj: Auxiliary 2704 10 Year Celebration.** Darrell McMillan and I attended. **Item Closed.**

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New Business

1. **Subj:** Airman's Attic, Offutt AFB - Shelton **Content:** Marty explained the need for assistance to lower ranking military members for basic needs such as groceries & diapers. He made a motion to donate \$250 that was seconded by Tim Fowler. After discussion, motion was amended to donate \$500. Motion passed.
2. **Subj:** Xmas Party **Content:** Due to the closure of the bar here at the DAV, it is impractical to hold the annual Xmas party here. Due to the additional cost of renting a hall/party room, increase costs for food and drink, I believe we should cancel it this year. Presuming we have PP and/or VOD entries, we could do a dessert & punch after the awards for our January meeting. I move we cancel this year's Xmas Party and present our youth awards at our January meeting with a dessert & punch reception after that. After discussion it was agreed to put this on hold till September meeting.
3. **Subj:** Transportation for Don Glenn to Meetings **Content:** Don can no longer driving. Rick Imgrund has offered to drive him to meetings as he lives very close to Don who lives at Fort Crook Rd S & Cornhusker. But Rick is will be on vacation on for our September Post meeting. If you would be willing to bring him to the meeting and return him home, I will give you his phone number. I will put an email out NLT tomorrow with this request.

Good of the Order *(All guests should be invited to speak)*

- QM - Nat. VFW Convention: Corey Geisler was elected Commander-in-Chief. Previous year, he ran against a sitting Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, Tim Peters and WON! Scuttlebutt is that Tim was not meeting all the obligations of his office. This year, he submitted a letter stating he would accept if nominated for Chief. He had a member of two posts from his conference nominate him as he did not show up at Nat. Convention. Because he wasn't there to concede, we had to do the entire roll call vote – 52 departments, 52 Nat. Council Members, all Past Chiefs and 16 National Officers.
- Frank Durham presented William Guy with a framed picture of his receiving his Quilt of Valor.
- Commander Shelton presented Anthony Infante a certificate of appreciation from Nat. VFW for recruiting one new member last membership year.
- ENVH Bingo tomorrow night, 14205 Harrison Stull Rd. Show time is 6:15 PM-6:30 and lasts about an hour.
- Our next meeting will be Wed., 23 September, 7 PM, here at the DAV.



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster