

Meeting Minutes February 2025

Guests: Michelle Arredondo, new Douglas County Veterans Service Officer introduced herself to the membership.

Meeting opened at 1900 with 15 Members Present.

Officer Roll Call: All officers were present except the Judge Advocate who was excused for health issues, 1 & 3 Year Trustees who were excused for family matters.

New Memberships: 5 Membership applications were read. Larry G. made the motion to accept, 2nd by Frank D. Motion passed. One new member was present and sworn in by the Commander.

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 William G.

Motion passed.

Reading of the Bills: Bill for \$62.03 from Richard Imgrund for Graceland Monument Flags. QM made motion to pay, was seconded by Frank D. and passed. QM was called by Graceland Cemetery Caretaker – the rope for the American Flag Pole has been stolen! (Removed by Rick for repairs)

QM Monthly Report: Accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – Larry Gerlt – Sent an email to all local post members on 20 Feb. If using Offutt AFB pharmacy procedure for activating prescriptions has changes as well as call in phone number. TRICARE website going away! If you have medical records there, get with your CVSO to obtain copy. If using Military Pharmacy, you may have issues with your prescriptions crossing over to new system! Forwarded the email about it this morning!

Members in Distress: Rich Klinger - recovering

Members Deceased: None

Committee Reports:

Membership - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 100.62% and only need 7 more to achieve 102% and qualify for All American. However, the Chief has added a new requirement – participation in “Day-of-Service” that must be held on May 3rd. Will discuss under new business. Next Membership drive is scheduled for March 8th. I will send an email reminder on the Wednesday prior to. If no one responds by 1800 Friday, I skip breakfast and just 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!

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Blood Drive/VA & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: He talked about our Xmas party and how good it was that the Fleet Reserve, American Legion Post & Auxiliary as well as our Auxiliary attended as we had 78 present! He also let us know about Gov. Pillen awarding a medal to WWII veteran Bennie Rinkol – there are very few of them left! VA is still working through the Presidential freeze and review and our Omaha hospital area still has a lot of construction going on. Lastly, he asked for a moment of silence for the trooper killed in the line of duty.

Surgeon – Jim Carmona: Bakers Grocery stores are now accepting Tricare and Medicare prescriptions.

POW/MIA - William Guy: DARPA has ID'ed an additional 172 MIAs. It is estimated there are still 1,000 MIA just from the WWII Battle of the Bulge, an additional 5,000 from Korea, and 500 from Viet Nam. When we were still planning on invading Japan in WWII, the government made about 1.5 million Purple Heart Medal – a strong sign of our anticipation of the cost of the invasion and what we were willing to pay to succeed. There are still about ½ million left of those. So, if you received a Purple Heart since then, that's when it was made! What we always hear about, is how many DARPA has ID'd. But the leg work entails teams going to foreign countries where we fought and being forensic scientists to recover the remains of our MIAs!

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/TOTY - Closed for this membership year.

Political Action – Matt Whitaker: NR

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: NR (Absent)

Women Veterans - Sonja Hosler: NR

We remembered our National Home.

Correspondence – None

Old Business

1. **Subj:** Donation of \$100 for Dept. VOD/PP made.
2. **Subj:** Donation of \$150 for Auxiliary Diaper drive made.
3. **Subj.:** ENVH Bingo – raised payout to \$1 per game. Retained 2 blackout games at \$4 each. Projected monthly expense ~ \$40.
4. **Subj:** Blue Star Memorials, Mary Carlson. Mary brought a picture of the plaque that has been made for Memorial Park that is mounted on a 3,000 lb. Rock! It is scheduled to be moved there in April. Matt F. stated he had the contacts to help get it moved for free. He will coordinate with Mary.

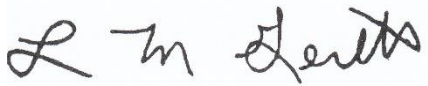
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New Business

1. **Subj:** Day Of Service – QM **Content.** The Chief has added a new requirement for All American – participation in “Day-of-Service” on May 3rd. We will perform a police-call around the DAV with a start time of 0900. Or we could also participate with Marty at the National Cemetery helping family members locate resting place of their loved ones. When I do the March & May News Letter, I will add it to the schedule! Need to know which you want to participate in. Motion to participate in Omaha National Cemetery made by QM, seconded by Jeff. **Motion passed.**
2. **Subj:** USAF National Golf Team, Marty S. **Content:** He is ranked 14th on the list of Golfers for this. He has two upcoming golf matches the can probably earn him a spot on the team. If he wins, he may end up playing at the Augusta, GA, Nationals! He will let us know when they are so that we can attend to root for him.
3. **Subj:** Recruiter Awards, Commander McMillan. Commander presented Larry Gerlt with his 5,10,15,20, & 25 member recruiting pins and C-in-C certificate.

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

- Bingo at ENVH, Feb 27th, show time 6:15 PM.
- Our next meeting will be Wed., Mar 26th, 7pm, at the DAV, 4515 F St.
- Meeting adjourned at 1955 hours.



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster