

Meeting Minutes July 2024

Guests: None

Meeting opened at 1900 with 11 Members Present.

Officer Roll Call: All officers were present except the Judge Advocate and 2 Year Trustee who were excused. The Guard who was absent and the Jr Vice Commander and Officer of the day who will be recorded as excused as they emailed valid reasons for absence during/after the meeting.

New Memberships: 1 Membership application was read. Larry G. made the motion to accept, 2nd by Frank D. Motion passed.

Reading of the Bills: None

QM Monthly Report: Accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – Larry Gerlt – ENVH Bingo Tomorrow night, 25 July. Show time 1815. It will be done by 1930.

Members in Distress: Marty Shelton who has cancer and Rich Klinger who is attending his wife's funeral in Minnesota.

Members Deceased: None

Committee Reports:

Membership - Larry Gerlt: Now at 88.91%. National VFW is still having major computer issues so this is NOT a firm percentage. Additionally, from 1 July till the Life dues payout in September, Life members who "pass on" will be subtracted from our paid memberships. Next dues drive is scheduled for July 6th. We meet at Village Inn on Fort Crook Rd at 0830, post pays for breakfast and I provide a short training while waiting for food. I also provide a 'route list' to run. We meet back at VI at 1130 so I can collect the route sheets and any monies.

Blood Drive/VA & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: VA inspection report: Specialty Care - #8 in Nation, Primary Care – top 10%, In Patient – B, Mental Health – F. User poll, trust VA medical care was very good. VA had \$595, 667, 62 in donation last year. Our VA Hospital is undergoing additional landscaping. Hospital has been having major AC issues. They are now creating welcome packages for volunteers to hand out. VA summer picnic will once again be held at the Healing Garden after COVID hiatus. Still able to get free haircuts for veterans at Midlands Hospital. Only 18% of veterans use VA cemeteries. Veterans who served prior to 1980 only require 1 day AD service to qualify for VA Cemetery. After 1980, 2 years! Latest benefits ruling is only felons and Dishonorable Discharge automatically denied all VA benefits. All others with less than an honorable discharge will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Bellevue VA clinic has not moved yet.

Surgeon - Bernie Jennings: NR

POW/MIA - William Guy: NR

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

Buddy Poppy - Josh Andrus: Our next drive is scheduled for October 26th, 2-hour shifts, 9-11, 11-1, 1-3, at Hy-Vee, 51st & Center. Sign up during the September or October meeting.

Political Action - Matt Whitaker: NR

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: Need to get all officer pictures after meeting.

Women Veterans - Sonja Hosler: Absent - Commander informed membership of 3rd Annual Women's Symposium to be held in Kearny 27-29 September. QM stated the VFW Nebraska Foundation had donated \$5000 to help defray the costs.

We remembered our National Home.

Correspondence – Thank you from the Nebraska Garden Club.

Old Business

1. **Subj:** National Convention **Content:** Louisville, Kentucky, July 27 – Aug 1. At this time, QM the only one going.
2. **Subj:** Meeting location – now here at the DAV. Item closed.

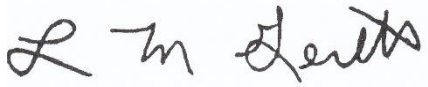
New Business

1. **Subj:** GO #1 **Content:** Motion by QM, 2nd by Frank. Motion passed.
2. **Subj:** SOP #1 **Content:** Motion by QM, 2nd by Jeff. Motion passed.
3. **Subj:** SOP #2 **Content:** QM stated we only had 3 members use for all of last year and it costs us \$160 per year. He made a motion to discontinue renewing the software license. Motion was 2nd by Frank. Commander commented that there were other options available that were freeware. Motion passed. QM will research alternatives.
4. **Subj:** Post Dress Code Guide Lines (info only) **Content:** QM will resend t all members to ensure everyone is aware and will now include in Member welcome email.
5. **Subj:** Auxiliary Annual Report **Content:** they now have \$1267.48 and 22 Members.
6. **Subj:** State Commander's Special Project **Content:** Signage at our State HQ is old with letters no longer legible and Nebraska mis-spelled. State Commander is holding a raffle to raise moneys to replace it. Tickets are \$10 each or 5 for \$40. 1st place is a \$500 certificate from the Ravenna Meat locker who will deliver anywhere in Nebraska for free. 2nd place is 76" X 90" Freedom Quilt and God Bell America sign, 3rd place is a Traeger Pellet Grill 575, 4th place is a Barn Quilt and 3 Yard Gnomes. **Drawing will be held at 2025 State Convention. QM has tickets for sale.**
7. **Subj:** Blue/Gold Star Highway Memorial. **Content:** Mary Carlson. Another Blue Star Memorial was brought to light this past month. It is located on old Route 83 at Thedford, NE as it had not been moved to the new Rte 83. There are now 15 Blue Star Memorials! The Memorial Park Blue Star plaque has been ordered. Mary is also working on getting the rock for the memorial to Gretna where the surface is to be prepared for the plaque.

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

- Bingo tomorrow night at ENVH.
- Next post meeting will be 28 August – 4th Wednesday, at 7pm in our new location at the DAV NE Chapter 2 Hall, 4515 F Street.



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster