

Meeting Minutes July 2025

Guests: D10 Commander Gary Niedbalski

Meeting opened at 1900 with 20 Members Present.

Officer Roll Call: All officers were present except the Guard who was absent.

New Memberships: 11 applications were read. Motion to approve by QM, Seconded by Frank D, and passed after discussion. Two new members were sworn in, Andrew Botkin and Justin Rowe. Both were presented VFW lapel pins.

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: None

QM Monthly Report: Accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – Larry Gerlt – 3rd Annual Veterans of Mercy Dental Clinic, Sept 26 & 27, Army National Guard Titan Readiness Center, 789 County Road J, Yutan, NE. Must register online. Email with registration link has been forwarded to all instate post members.

Members in Distress: Rich Klinger - recovering

Members Deceased: Donald Estrada

Committee Reports:

Membership - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 90.04%. However, the goal this membership year is 101%! Next Membership drive is scheduled for Aug 16th. 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!

Blood Drive/VA & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: Parking at the VA Hospital is about to get worse. They have a major water drainage issue with the system that runs along near the east side of the parking lot. A section of the parking lot will be dug up so that repairs can be made. VA is still hiring MD, RNs and PAs. Senator Fisher has gotten Omaha VA put on list for a new hospital. This only the first of many steps it will take to make it happen. VA does NOT want work gloves at standdown. They need winter (warm) gloves as well as coats and hats. Due to the number of items leftover from standdowns, they may start a giveaway day each month. VA needs volunteers for hospice – people to sit with/keep company for those awaiting their final “passage.”

Surgeon – Jim Carmona: NR

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POW/MIA - William Guy: Pvt Erwin H. Schopp, WWII, was at last identified and returned to Plymouth, NE for burial on 18 July.

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/TOTY - Larry Gerlt: Took VOD to Beuno Vista HS at 60th & L, and to Catholic Middle School in Ralston in May. No further updates until have entries or 1 Nov when deadline has passed.

Political Action – Matt Freisen: President Trump has signed H.R. 1815, the VA Loan Reform Act which will help veterans remain in their homes during financial difficulty.

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: NR

Women Veterans - Sonja Hosler: NR

We remembered our National Home.

Correspondence – None

Old Business

1. **Subj:** We have been requested to participate in the Council Bluffs Veterans Day Parade on 8 November. They will provide food and fun afterwards at their local Am. Leg. Post. Any time we are “in front of the public” we have an opportunity to increase awareness of the VFW and possibly recruit new members. As it is in November, I will send out an email to see if we have enough members for a Color Guard. Unable to muster enough confirmed members for Omaha Patriotic Parade. November parade participation will be requested in Oct. On hold.
2. **Subj:** Dept. Training for Post Officers **Content:** Last training session was 26 July in O’Neill. Had 4 staff members (including Larry G.) and 4 trainees. Auxiliary had 5 staff members and 2 trainees.

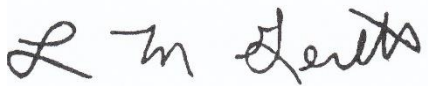
New Business

1. **Subj:** 50 Mile March - Darrell **Content:** Talked about the annual 50 Mile march and how they are funding a facility located near the ENVH on Capehart Rd for housing and assisting veterans. QM made a motion to un-table Darrell’s donation request. Motion was seconded and passed. Darrell then informed the membership about this organization’s goal to build a facility for helping veterans facing mental health challenges and homelessness and that they had already purchased land just west of ENVH on Capehart Road. Motion to donate \$250 was made by Darrell. Motion was seconded by Matt F. During discussion, motion was amended to include putting the 50 Mile March Foundation on our calendar for an annual donation and retained this year’s donation as \$250. Motion passed.
2. **Subj:** Boys Town Youth Placement – **Commander Content:** When youth arrive at Boys Town and again when they are placed in a home, they have no luggage. Their belongings are transported in paper/plastic bags. He would like for those who have old, but serviceable luggage they no longer need to donate them to Boys Town. If you get the bags to him, he will get them there!

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

- District 10 Commander Gary Niedbalski thanked the membership for our help in his achieving All American District Commander. State wide, 19 posts and 7 districts achieved All American – 5 of the posts being in District 10! He also thanked Larry G., State Membership Chairman for all his hard work that helped this happen. Note: our post finished in the top 25 of our division and our post commander will “walk the stage” and receive his AA cover from the C-I-C!
- Nat. Convention is 9-13 Aug in Columbus, Ohio. If going to Nat. Convention, please coordinate with QM as only he can register you as a delegate.
- District Meeting was July 13th. Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, Chaplain & QM attended.
- Post Membership drive will be Aug 16th. Meet at VI, Fort Crook Rd at 8:30 AM. Breakfast on post, short training, then go door knocking. Return to VI at 11:30 to turn in paperwork.
- Bingo at ENVH, July 24th. Show time 6:15 PM.
- Our next meeting will be Wed., August 27th, 7pm, at the DAV, 4515 F St.
- Meeting adjourned at 2000 hours.



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster