

29 March, 2017



Eric V. Dickson Post 1980
P.O. Box 1980
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Post 1980 Minutes Post Meeting – 28 March, 2017

Call to order at 7 PM – Commander Williams

Welcome to members and guests; Roll Call 18 Members present (see Attendees at bottom).

Minutes from February 2017 meeting approved.

Finance Officer's Report – Presented and approved

Initiation Ceremony: Congratulations to Don Spence and Ken Dalton, who finally were formally initiated.

Committee Reports/ old business:

- **Boys State:** Chuck Gardner working with woodland Park High School on potential candidates.
- **Oratorical Contest:** Chuck Gardner reported; post candidate Michael Gilbreath did an excellent job in the March 11 State contest, where 16 competed. Michael earned a \$250 post scholarship.
- **Adopt-a Highway:** Dan Williams; A new state official has been assigned. She has no record of our past submissions, and the area has been given to the MacKenzie family. Keith Wilson will resubmit and we will serve 2 miles “down the road”. Highway 67 still is designated a POW/MIA memorial highway.
- **McCandless Veterans Home visit:** Bob Lowry; 10 post members + 2 spouses participated in the March 11 visit, providing books/ CDs and clothes (a record amount was donated from the Senior Center), Jim's toys, and donuts. We were saddened to learn of the 100 residents, 30 passed away from the flu spreading in early 2016, and the facility had to be closed for a time.
- **Membership-** We are currently at 115 members renewed for 2017, on a goal of 125, or 92%. 19 members from 2016 have not yet re-upped. 18 have had email reminders and/ or phone calls; 9 have moved, and 1 has no email or phone # to contact. 2 have declined to re-up. Our total membership, including 2016 members, is at 142. In previous years we ended the June 30 enrollment periods with 142, 141, 144 and 142 respectively. Also in the past 2 years we have added 11 each year vs 12 this year so far (from new members, transfers and DMS transfers. **Please invite prospective members. Attached is an application you can print and handout.**
- **Resolution-** Bob Lowry continues to work on the revision to declare the cold war to count as a war period, enabling veterans now excluded from joining to be eligible to join the American Legion. He has sent revision to district and department soliciting their support.

- **Hospice:** Bob Lowry has been working this. The request is for each veteran in hospice, 4 post members agree to rotate, visiting once each month. There are currently no veterans in the hospice facility Bob has contacted. To volunteer, contact Bob at robertlowry@aol.com; 623-5027
- **Fort Logan Memorial:** Two post members participated in the memorial ceremony at Fort Logan Cemetery to honor 22 vets. Fifty guests were expected; over 200 were there.

New business

- **Vietnam Veteran Vets day** – To celebrate the 50th anniversary of pulling out of this war, there will be various commemoration ceremonies in Denver. Congressman Perlmutter will be hosting several Vietnam War 50th Commemoration ceremonies over the next several months. The first three ceremonies are scheduled for Friday, March 24; Friday, April 7; and Wednesday, April 12. Each ceremony will be held from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Community Room at Red Rocks Community College. If you are unsure which ceremony you should attend, please contact our office at (303) 274-7944 and ask to speak with Hannah Mullen or Kathryn Wirkus. For more information, see: <http://perlmutter.house.gov/homepage-2016/vietnam-war-50th-commemoration.htm>
- **Vietnam Veteran Vets day:** Chuck Gardner proposed we do some event at the Senior Center to celebrate this event, perhaps on 11/11.
- **Senior Center:** The post approved providing a certificate of appreciation and a \$100 donation to the center for their assistance this year
- **AL Baseball Raffle:** Chuck Gartner has raffle tickets to support this cause; April 13 cutoff; April 22 drawing. Prize 100 Oz silver ingot; tickets \$/ 6 for \$5/ 13 for \$10. Twenty tickets have been sold. UPDATE as of March 29: Chuck will donate \$100 for purchase of 130 tickets on behalf of the post. We will vote next meeting to reimburse Chuck.
- **WEB Site:** Bob Lowry;
 - a service section has been added; a link provided
 - Link to a website with information for companies hiring vets has been added: <http://www.centerforamerica.org/bpg.html>
- **American Legion Riders Freedom Foundation:** Dan Weber; the foundation in the past has provided scholarships to children of veterans who died in service after 9/11. This has been modified to include offspring of veterans disabled in service since 9/11. The Post agreed to provide a \$100 donation; riders will come to collect and we will use this as a photo event.
- **Flags for Schools:** Updated March 29: Larry Ingram. Summit elementary's Colorado state flag was damaged by wind and they requested we provide a replacement. Since we do not have state flags in the budget and don't want to set a precedent, Larry will donate \$12 to the school and provide Ebay replacement links. We will vote to reimburse Larry next meeting
- **Confederate Memorial Day** ;Buck Duggar is sponsoring a Sons of Confederate Veterans event on Confederate Memorial Day April 22 at Riverside Cemetery; John Meyer has agreed to be the bugler. All are invited.
- **Pig Roast/ Silent auction:** Paul James; Event will be June 10
 - Packets are ready to take to Woodland Park businesses to request goods be donated for the auction. **We need more volunteers-** Paul will undergo knee surgery. Please contact Dan Weber; adjutant@post1980.org; cell (949) 235-1412

- Suggestion made we accept donations rather than charge a flat fee; suggestion also made we put donation bucket by the food line to encourage payment. Will vote on this at the next post meeting.
- **Walmart:** Dan Williams; Walmart national, citing complaints about excessive number and pressure solicitations in front of the stores, has informed stores they should restrict these activities. Dan Williams has contacted local store manager Rick Lucas, who can override this locally. Dan will provide proof of our non-profit status (Rick was unaware we were a non-profit), and approximate schedule for use of the store resources. We are going in jointly with VFW. UPDATE: March 29: Dan emailed a letter to Rick regarding our stance on this, and had a conversation today with him; we are optimistic he will grant us a local exception.

Auxiliary update: None

Correspondence: None

Sickness/ Illness: None

Good of the Legion:

- Free dental work for Veterans is available; see attached (sorry, it's upside down):
- Dan Williams; a local Teller County crematorium is under construction.

Next Post Meeting: April 25' District representatives will attend.

Adjourn: 8:20 PM

Attendees: Dan Williams, Dan Weber, Paul James, Chuck Gardner, Bob Lowry, Keith Wilson, Jim Spieth, Don Spence, Ken Dalton, Bill Fischer, John Gomez, Bob Mericle, Greg Alberts, Larry Ingram, Buck Dugger, Bruce Nottingham, Terry Willems, Al Pickup

Summary of Upcoming Events:

- April 25- Next Post meeting; District will attend
- May 7: District Convention
- June 10; Pig-roast/ Silent auction; time to visit local business for donations of goods is now