

26 July 2017



Eric V. Dickson Post 1980
P.O. Box 1980
Woodland Park, CO 80866-1980

Post 1980 Minutes Post Meeting – 25 July 2017

Call to order at 7 PM: Commander Williams

Welcome to members and guests:

- Welcome new members transferring from Colorado holding post 0211 Dale Nichols and Norm Michaels
- Welcome District 7 Officers Chip, Denise Cook, Mike Barger and Martin Weaver
 - District met membership goals for 2017; now time to press forward with 2018.
 - Oct 15 will be the Fall Conference, in Black Forest
 - There are many events going on in the Springs regarding veterans
- **Roll Call** 14 Members present + 1 honorary member (see Attendees at bottom).

Minutes: from June 2017 meeting approved.

Finance Officer's Report: July financial report approved

Committee Reports/ old business:

- **July 4 Independence Day Booths:** Very successful event. The new park and city's promotion (having continuous entertainment in the pavilion) paid off. People came out all day long. We ran out of food 2 x and had a record day for donations for food. Next year; see what we can do to serve people faster. Also noted our use of ice was not efficient. The local brats were well worth it.
- **Eric V Dickson memorial:** On July 6, at city council chambers, a well-attended hearing was held to bring back a memorial to Eric, our post namesake and the only local veteran killed in VieNam. A memorial had been erected by the then 700 citizens of Woodland Park, but the war was unpopular, and after 2 de-facings, the city removed the memorial and replaced it with a parking lot. The original plaque from that memorial is at Lions park today. There is a movement afoot to create a new memorial to Eric, with discussion as to what it should be and where. Post 1980 received one check for \$250 which we set aside for this effort, and will participate in the movement to a new memorial.
- **Honor Guards:** Post 1980 is receiving several new requests for Honor Guards, including at the July 4 city celebration, the June Memorial park dedication, 3 days at the Saddle Club Rodeo July 7-9, and now at National Night Out, Memorial Park, August 1. Thanks to Robby Cox for managing this effort. **Call Robby to be on the guard (white shirt and dark pants required) or just come out and witness the events.**
- **Colorado Veterans Trust Fund Grant:** Robert Lowry is managing; we have received a \$25K grant. The post voted to ask for an "advance" to be put onto a separate account rather than drain our funds on a reimbursable basis only. Bob had hoped Teller County DSS (now VSO) would screen initial intakes; they have declined. We are working on the details to enable Post 1980 to manage this.

- **Membership:** Adjutant Weber reported; July 1 marks the 2018 enrollment period. With 2 new members, our membership is now 129. 13 are paid for life, 13 renewed for 2018, 1 transferred pre-paid, so we are at 22%. Invite new members; just know if they renew online Post 1980 gets credit immediately; if they join online we get no Legion notification of their existence for ~2 years. We can still transfer them, if we can find them.

New business

- **August 12-13 Post Picnic:** Event will be at the Pike Community campground, 5.7 miles north of Woodland Park on Highway 67 (on right side). Gates will open by ~ noon on Sunday; dinner ~ 5PM. Campers can stay till Monday AM. We approved purchase of brats and fried chicken up to \$100. Bring a pot-luck dish to share. **Invite your family as well as potential new members.**
- **August 18-24:** National Convention, Reno NV.
- **August 19:** 30th Annual POW/MIA remembrance ride (motorcycle). We have an invite for any to attend the ceremony, noon, Cripple Creek City Park- 1st St & Bennett Ave. RSVP 719-487-8005 by August 1, Flyer attached.
- **September 9:** Cruise above the Clouds event; Paul James will man a poker stop booth. **Let me know if you want to help Paul.**
- **September 11:** Dan Williams will invite the city to participate; Flags up at Lions Park 7AM. Ceremony 7:30 AM, Flags down 7PM. We will promote through local press and incite 1st responders as well as middle school choir. Each year this grows; last year we had over 100 in attendance.
- **PIG Roast/ Silent Auction 2018:** The post voted to have it at the Ute Pass Cultural Center June 16. There is no firm city policy for charge of the facility, and believe some organizations use it for free. The fee for us remains \$300; Dave Buttery will reimburse us \$50 for use; we will also ask the Auxiliary to allow us to use \$50 from the silent auction proceeds to offset the cost.
- **General veteran fee charges by the City:** We note that Woodland Park is now charging what many feel as exorbitant fees to hold veterans events in the city and are pushing back on this.
- **Florissant Fossil Beds Park tour:** Dan Williams has again been asked to lead this for Welcome Home Warriors; date TBD but most likely in October
- **Welcome Home Warrior** is asking for a donation for their October event. We will vote on this next meeting. We have already donated \$800 for their April event, enough to support 2 families.
- **Wounded Warriors/ Blue Star Mothers:** we have donation money in the budget but have not seen a request yet. Will contact them about when they need it and where to send.
- **4H Shooters:** again, money in the budget, check written, to be delivered.
- **Adopt a Highway:** Keith Wilson has a request in to DOT for a new area and an explanation of how they gave away our last one.

Auxiliary update No report

Correspondence: Thank you note from Woodland Park for providing the honor guard on their Memorial Park dedication.

Sickness/ Illness: Jim Hilbert's wife is at home recovering from a hospital stay.

Good of the Legion: Larry Ingram has provided an excellent Power Point presentation on Post 1980 value we bring to our local community. It takes 6 to 8 minutes to use, if you are asked about American Legion.

Next Post Meeting: August 22

Adjourn: 8:44 PM

Attendees: Dan Williams, Dan Weber, Chuck Gardner, Bob Lowry, Paul James, Ken Dalton, Larry Ingram, Al Pickup, Paul Thies, Greg Albert, John Meyers, Keith Wilson, new members Dale Nichols and Norm Michaels, and Honorary Guest Ron Carlisle

Summary of Upcoming Events:

- August 12-13: Post Picnic
- August 18-24: National Convention, Reno NV
- August 19: Pow/ Mia Remembrance Ride Ceremony; noon, Cripple Creek
- September 9: Cruise above the Clouds
- September 11: 9/11 ceremony, ions Park, 7:30 AM; flags up7AM/ down 7PM