



## MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

FORT LOWELL CHAPTER 442

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### MINUTES: April 18, 2016

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM at the AZ State Veterans Home Tucson, Community Room, 555 E. Ajo Way, Tucson, AZ.

**Opening Ceremony:** Honors rendered to the Flag. Pledge recited. Invocation given.

**Roll Call:** Present were Cdr Bertagnoli; Sr-Vice Cdr Dyer; Jr-Vice Cdr Thompson; Finance Officer Zimmerman; Trustee Giroux; Trustee Ryan & Trustee Moore. Excused were Judge Advocate Slocum & Sgt-at-Arms Campos. A quorum was present.

**Attendance:** 11 chapter members were present. Ricardo Gonzalez, Blind Veterans of America, was a guest.

**Guest Speaker:** Last year the chapter helped fund Ricardo to attend the national BVA convention. He gave a report on the current research and advances in assisting blind veterans. He is requesting funding to attend this year's convention.

### Reports:

**Minutes:** A motion to approve the February minutes was made by Patriot Dyer & 2nd by Patriot Alegria . The minutes were approved unanimously. (See the Mar 2016 minutes)

**Finance Report:** The finance officer issued the finance report for March. The beginning balance was \$48,187.20. The ending balance was \$53,624.20. The chapter had \$14,321.43 in income and no expenses. A motion to approve the reports was made by Patriot Dyer and seconded by Patriot Gilbert. The finance report was approved unanimously. (See the Mar 2016 finance report.)

**Americanism:** Patriot Giroux updated on the JROTC award program. Presentations started on April 7 at the high schools and run until the end of April. Frank reviewed who the presenters are. Frank briefed on the plans for the Memorial Day Ceremony at Purple Heart Park (10:00 AM on May 30th)

**Welfare Report:** Tabled until May

**PH Golf Classic:** Patriot Asbell reported that the golf classic was an overwhelming success. We grossed about \$72,000.00 and donated \$43,500.00 to agencies that help veterans. These were presented at the banquet after the tournament: \$3000 to Purple Mt. Institute; \$3,000 to 1-Veterans Foundation; \$3,500 to the Polytrauma Center; \$5,000 to Boots for Troops; \$5,000 to Find Your Fins; \$6,000 to VeloVets; \$8,000 to TROT; & \$10,000 to the AZ Fisher House. Bob indicated that we still have about \$10,000.00 pending in donations. We are due a check from the National Service Foundation for \$5,310.00 for the Raytheon and ASARCO donations. A check for \$4,999.00 is pending from AZ State Veterans Services. The check was issued but we don't have a record of it being deposited or a warrant being written. Commander Bertagnoli will follow up. Patriot Asbell will not be able to lead the Golf Committee next year on instructions from his doctor. The chapter will need to find a replacement. Bob indicated that he still needs a certificate of appreciate for Raytheon. The adjutant will get it to Bob. Bob reported that the bill from Casino Del Sol is \$6,333.55. They are writing off \$12,903.76 as the Title Sponsor for the event.

### Old Business:

**Bingo:** Bingo at the VA is Apr 30. Patriot Slocum, Patriot Ryan & Patriot Bertagnoli will be at Bingo.

**Assistance Request (Water Bill):** Patriot Zimmerman indicated that we had not received the water bill that we helped pay last month. The Tucson Veterans Affairs Council has been contacted but has not responded. The adjutant will follow up and check on getting a copy of the bill for our records.

**Boots for Troops:** Sulpher Valley Electric donated \$5,000.00 to the PH Classic with the intent that the entire amount go to Boots for Troops. At the April meeting we only approved \$2,500.00 for Boots for

Troops. David Alegria made a motion to correct the donation amount to \$5,000.00. Bob Asbell made a 2nd & the motion was approved unanimously.

**Expenditures:** Patriot Dyer made a motion to approved automatic transaction fees from PayPal of \$11.90 & \$4.65. Patriot Alegria made a 2nd & the motion passed unanimously. The officers voted by email to authorize Patriot Moore to renew the website domain name for 5 years for \$74.75. Patriot Alegria made a motion to approve. Patriot Gilbert made a 2nd & the motion passed unanimously. Previously approved in the golf budget was to purchase golf shirts, T-Signs, & brochures. Patriot Alegria made a motion to pay Zmark Productions \$4,342.62 for these items. Patriot Gilbert made a 2nd & the motion passed unanimously.

#### **New Business:**

**Chapter Patriot of the Year:** Commander Bertagnoli selected Patriot Robert "Bob" Asbell as the Patriot of the Year. Bob was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the chapter. Bob has also been nominated as the Department Patriot of the Year for Arizona. The commander read the nomination letter and the chapter heartily thanks Bob for all his efforts for the chapter veterans.

**Tax Status:** Patriot Zimmerman reported that we will gross over \$50,000 for the year which will require filing the paper 990N instead of the electronic one. He will research and provide the officers with what he finds out.

**Golf Tournament Bill:** Patriot Asbell reported that our bill from Casino Del Sol is \$6,333.55. He will pay it on his credit card. Patriot Dyer made a motion that we reimburse Bob for the amount. The golf budget had estimated the bill would be about \$8,000.00. Patriot Alegria made a 2nd & the motion passed unanimously.

**Funding Request:** Ricardo Gonzalez of the BVA requested \$500.00 in assistance to attend the next BVA conference. Patriot Zimmerman made the motion & Patriot Dyer made the 2nd. A discuss was held on the benefits to the chapter & veterans if we help Ricardo attend. The motion failed with 6 no votes and 5 yes votes.

**Memorial Day Brochures:** Patriot Giroux requested \$110 to pay for the brochures for the Memorial Day Ceremony. Patriot Moore made the motion. Patriot Gilbert 2nd the motion & it passed unanimously.

**Thank you dinner for Golf Committee:** Patriot Alegria made a motion that we reward the golf committee which is mostly made up of non-chapter members for their hard work and efforts with a dinner at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00. Bob Asbell made a 2nd & the motion passed unanimously.

**Elections:** The commander solicited further nominations for elected officers. None were received. Patriot Giroux made a motion that the slate presented at the March meeting be accepted as proposed. Patriot Thompson made a second & the motion was approved unanimously. Patriot Bertagnoli was elected Commander. Patriot Dyer was elected Sr. Vice Commander. Patrick Herron was elected Jr. Vice Commander. Patriot Zimmerman was elected Finance Officer. Patriot Perkins was elected Sergeant-at-Arms pending approval of his membership by national. Patriot Gilbert was elected Trustee. Patriot Moore was elected Trustee. Patriot Ryan was elected Trustee. Patriot Giroux was elected Judge Advocate. The oath of office was administered by Patriot Alegria, Department of Arizona Legislative Officer. The meeting was adjourned and then reopened with the new officers.

**Appointed Officers:** The commander appointed Patriot Moore as Adjutant, Patriot Dyer as Chaplain, Patriot Thompson as Historian, Patriot Giroux as Americanism officer, Patriot Alegria as Department Executive Committeeman, & Patriot Grioux as Alternate Department Executive Committeeman. Welfare Officer is vacate and will be appointed at a later date.

**Good of Order:** Patriot Alegria brought to the chapter's attention the Joe Tidwell, Department of Arizona, is one of the drivers for the new F150 Purple Heart Truck touring the country that will be donated to a disabled veteran. It will be in Tucson around 11:30 AM on May 11th.

**Closing Ceremony:** Moment of silence for departed Patriots. Benediction. Honors to the Flag.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM. Next meeting is May 16th, 2016.