

# NORTHWEST VALLEY VETERANS ASSOCIATION

A NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION SERVING VETERANS

## MINUTES

21 February 2009 AT 0900 Hours

### SUNLAND MEMORIAL PARK CONFERENCE ROOM

1. **Meeting call to order** – Commander Phil Hanson: Registration of attendance-Welcome and introduction of guests, Korean War Veterans Dept. Commander Les Nagy, also Wes Stapleton of the Korean War Museum.
2. **Invocation:** - Chaplain Ray Rodes
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Vice Commander Bob Burns
4. **Mission Statement:** - Sergeant-At-Arms Ray Mills
5. **Roll Call of Member Organizations and Officers:** Acting Adjutant, Ron Capek  
17 Present, 7 Excused, 12 Absent.
6. **Minutes of previous meeting:** Adjutant Paul Gardner, minutes posted on website.  
Motion made and seconded (with no corrections) approved by all members.
7. **Treasurers Report:** Commander Phil Hanson, submitted and approved for audit. A \$100.00 check was presented for membership now only 3 organizations have not paid their dues for the year 2009.
8. **Old Business:**
  - **Communications:** Commander Phil Hanson: Letter read from Governor Jan Brewer recognizing our NWVVA and what we stand for.
  - **Unified Veterans Association:** Commander Hanson: Medical update of MOH Fred Ferguson and Lloyd Kilmer. Copper Sword and Shield Awards Ceremony very well attended by various Veterans groups. There are 152 patients that are at the Arizona State Veterans home, this home also passed their health inspections. A Veterans Stand Down sponsored by The U.S.Vets of Phoenix Victory Place, they held their event at the Veterans Coliseum where over 800 homeless Veterans were given medical and dental exams, haircuts, showers and new clothing; it was a great event. On Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at our State Capitol, 3 new flagpoles were replaced on the State Capitol grounds and that ceremony was very well attended.
  - **Memorial Day program reports:** Committee Chairs have started their responsibilities for this years Memorial Day program. The guest speaker will be Col. Joey Strickland of the Arizona Veterans Affairs Office. The band has been contracted, the flyers will be printed and distributed, VIP letters will be sent in March. Please note: The band starts at 0900-----The program starts at 0930.
  - **Polo Shirts:** George Cushing. Payment must be received with future orders.
9. **New Business:**
  - **Fighter Country Partnership Membership:** Commander Hanson explained its uniqueness and its membership it to costly for the NWVVA.

- **Annual Dues:** Up-to-date report: Commander Phil Hanson, 14 units have paid and 3 have not.
  - **Price of Freedom Program:** Tom Schaefer had forwarded an email on the production of “The Price of Freedom” it will be performed at the Mesa Art Center on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Other New Business:** Motion made and seconded to donate \$500.00 to the U.S. Vets of Phoenix Victory Place for new equipment needed for their new expansion program to take in more homeless veterans that need their help. There was a great deal of discussions for and against this donation from the NWWVA. It was tabled by Comrade Bob Madden to bring it up at the next meeting.
10. **Good of the Order-**The membership shall be permitted to make suggestions or comments of any kind, character or description, save of religion or partisan politics. (No items requiring a vote) Comrade Tony Saputo will receive the Distinguished DAR Outstanding Veteran-Patient Award from the Daughters of the American Revolutions at their State Conference on May 1, 2009. Comrade Tom Shaefer spoke about an organization called The Crossroads dealing with addictions. He gave out their brochures. Our guest, Wes Stapleton, President of the Korean War National Museum, gave a short presentation of what they are doing with their Museum and he also gave out brochures. Marine Chaplain Father Ryan, is retiring from being an active priest.
- **Fund Raiser Volunteers-**All organizations need to provide manpower when called upon.
11. **Closing Prayer-** Ray Rodes, A moment of silence in honor of our departed Comrades.
12. **Adjournment-** Hand salute to the Flag. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM

## **NEXT MEETING**

**Saturday, 21 March 2009 at 0900 Hours**

**WEAR YOUR CAP**