

# NWVVA BOARD MEETING, 16 MAY 2009

## MINUTES

**Meeting Called to Order:** 10am Cmdr Phil Hanson

**Invocation:** Ray Rodes

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Bob Burns

**Mission Statement:** Ray Mills

**Role Call:** Corresponding Security Tom Schaefer

**Minutes of 18 April '09:** Approved as published on Web Site

**Treasurer Report:** Provided by Harold Stern. Balance announced and three new bills accepted.  
Report unanimously accepted. Motion by Ray Rodes and Second by Dave Willis.

### **Old Business:**

1. Cmdr Hanson read letter of "Thank You" from U.S. Vets Inc for our donation of \$365 for refrigerator.
2. Memorial Day Ceremony Update:
  - a. Bob Madden: Masters of Ceremony stated all OK.
  - b. Bob Madden: question on how to get more people to ceremony. Discussed with Cmdr. Hanson stating he has contacted newspapers and other organizations.
  - c. Virtus Roberts, Sunland: No problems. All will be prepared.
  - d. Ray Rodes: Public address system will be set up at 7:30AM.
  - e. Ray Mills: Grave flag placements will start at 6AM on Friday, 22 May '09  
Grave flags will be removed starting at 6AM on Tuesday, 26 May '09
  - f. Pappy: Chapter flag presentation rehearsal will be held at 4:30PM on Friday, 22 May.  
Flag bearers will be at ceremony at 8AM on Monday, 25 May.
  - g. Ray Rodes: Will insure Color Guard is in place at ceremony.
  - h. Honor Guard will need ten chairs for the ceremony.
  - i. Dan Riley: Question, how can we get more School children and teachers at Ceremony? In the future, Cmdr Hanson will contact School Superintendents with information on Ceremony.
3. Janet Stripe: Sun West Cemetery needs people to place flags at grave sites. Tentatively, this will take place on Friday, 22 May at 7AM .
4. After Action Report on Flag Retirement (burning) on Saturday, 25 April:
  - a. Bob Madden reported that four Luke AFB airman assisted in the program. Letter of thanks sent out by Tom Schaefer. Bob also reported that he had 26 Cub Scouts with parents help out on flag preparation on Thursday, 24 April.
  - b. Ray Mills stated that we still need an incinerator to burn the flags. Phil D'Bourget said he will work on finding an incinerator for us.
  - c. Janet Stripe reported she had heard negative comments about smoke from the flag burning. Ray Mills stated that, at his request, the fire department had sent trucks to monitor the burning, and there is not much we can do without an incinerator.

5. NWVVA Polo Shirts are available. Contact George Cushing for shirts.
6. UAV report by Cmdr. Hanson.
  - a. New officers have been elected. Cmdr Hanson elected as Vice Chairman and George Cushing as a Director.
  - b. AZ Vets Hall of Fame (AVHOF): Forty nine nominations have been received prior to the April 30 deadline. The NWVVA nominations included Nelson, Nagey, Wojtas, and Houston.
  - c. AVHOF caps and medallion can be worn as an individual desires for veteran gatherings.
7. Legislative Report: Cmdr Hanson stated that he sends the information by email to our members.
8. Funding of Tucson Veterans Home: efforts are slowly moving forward.
9. New Books: Cmdr. Hanson handed out copies of two new books, "Once a Warrior-Wired for Life" and "Down Range-to Iraq and Back".

**Good of the Order:**

1. Dan Riley: People in Washington, D.C. are attempting to change Memorial Day as the 30<sup>th</sup> of May.
2. George Cushing: American Legion Post 29 will help out in the Flag Retirement Ceremonies for one year to augment the other Post's participations.
3. Cmdr. Hanson: requests that all member organizations please send in updated officer information.
4. Dave Willis: announced the Navy Plaque Presentation held in Washington, D.C. on 24 April.
5. Dan Rodes: announced that El Mirage is working on a new Veterans Project to honor Veterans.
6. Cmdr. Hanson: gave "Thanks" to all members for their great support.
7. Ed Forrester: announced that Luke AFB will be celebrating MIA/POW day on Wednesday, 16 Sep '09.
8. NWVVA next Board Meeting will be at 9AM on Saturday, 19 Sep '09

**Closing Prayer:** Harold Stern

**Closing Hand Salute:** Bob Burns

**Meeting Adjourned:** At 10:15AM