



NCOA®

Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States of America

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3 Apr 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR: Central Valley Chapter # 1551
Spirit of Sacramento Auxiliary Chapter # 0270

SUBJECT: NCOA/Auxiliary General Membership Meeting Minutes (Apr 2024)

1. **Meeting called to order at 1900 hours in person.**

Pledge of Allegiance led by CMSgt (Ret) Jim Sullivan
NCOA Creed read by Vice Chairman Michael Grabow
Moment of silence observed.

2. **Executive Committee Members:**

CMSgt (Ret) Jim Sullivan, Chairman, Present
MSgt (Ret) Michael Grabow, Vice-Chairman, Present
CMSgt (Ret) Jim Kearns, Treasurer, Present
MSgt (Ret) Liz Lynn, Secretary, Present
MSgt (Ret) George Wheeler, Trustee, Present
MSgt (Ret) Gary Chase, Trustee, Present

3. **Auxiliary Executive Committee Members:**

Ellie Witt, Vice Chairman, Absent	Tammy Sullivan, Chairman, Present
Scott Rodowick, Treasurer, Present	Pam Wright, Secretary, Absent
	Melissa Carnahan, Trustee, Absent

4. **Members Present:**

SMSgt (Ret) Dale Krug	SKCS (Ret) Norma Von Dohren	Sylvia Hegelein, Auxiliary
Larry Lynn, Auxiliary	Bob Byers, Auxiliary	Jasmine Kearn, Auxiliary
Donna Master, Auxiliary	Patty Grabow, Auxiliary	
Tony Carvelli (Guest)		

5. **Guests Present:** Camila Grabow, Rimma Kearns, Mark Kearns, Jim Dong, Amy Gonzales-Rivas, CMSgt (Ret) Tony Carvelli

6. **Chairman's Comments:**

Grand Knight Letter: Deadline for submissions of Petitions for Knighthood and Girding due NLT 19 April 2024. Coming soon, the Annual NCOA Conference, Annual Business Meeting and Knights Assembly 16 -19 July 2024. Consider becoming a Vanguard Life Member. The official end date of the Vietnam War is 30 April 1975 (1 Nov 1955 to 30 April 1975).

Regular: A special ceremony was conducted to honor Chief Jim Kearns with the NCOA Vietnam War Medallion and the Korean War Medallion. A book called *Young Heroes Who Changed Korean History* featured Chief Kearns as one of the many heroes. Family and guests were present to witness this presentation followed by rounds of applause and cake. A guest, CMSgt (Ret) Tony Carvelli, shared his upcoming trip on the Honor Flight to Washington, DC for veterans. The 2024 Memorial Day Observance at Rancho Cordova is in the planning stages. The 2024 NCOA Membership campaign is in progress. Top 5 NCOA legislative priorities for 2024 include MAJ Richard Starr Act, Love Live On Act, Tricare Benefits and Changes, Mental Health & Suicide Prevention and BAH-more affordable housing options for military service members. NCOA Advocate in progress and April is Month of the Military Child. A motion by MSgt Grabow to purchase 30 more medallions for \$300.00 was second by MSgt Wheeler and approved unanimously by all members present.

Auxiliary: Tammy Sullivan, President of International Auxiliary NCOA. The idea of an electronic newsletter was introduced and approved by auxiliary members present. A heartfelt letter from the Sacramento Stand Down Association was read by Tammy Sullivan in remembrance and honor of Kim DeWar. A generous gift of \$750 was donated to the Spirit of Sacramento in memory of Kim's dedication, commitment, and loyalty in her work with the Stand Down Association. The use of this donation will be discussed at a future meeting.

HQ Chairman's Comments: Sir Joe Terry. The NCOA Scholarship Fund, a Texas Non-Profit Corporation, is used to advance education. Every dollar donated is committed to scholarships and grants for veterans. Similarly, Michael Grabow noted how the Victor Dew Scholarship through William Jessup University has an endowment of \$6,000 for eligible recipients. To date, the Medallion Program has presented over 3,500 medallions.

7. **Membership Coordinator:** Regular: 155 Auxiliary: 146

8. **Treasurer's Reports:** MSgt (Ret) Liz M. Lynn and Mr. Scott Rodowick gave Treasurers' reports.

Balance: \$5,912.40 JROTC: \$4,955.91 Auxiliary: \$3,472.40

9. **Legislative:** None

10. **Unfinished Business:**

- a. Website Update (Pam) Updated info on JROTC Program, Minutes, 2024 Calendar and photos has been posted on our website -Yay Pam! (Open)
- b. JROTC Update (Jim S) 142 shipments of medals sent out. Everything caught up with orders. Updated credit card processing is still in work. (Open)
- c. Gotsneakers.com (Scott Rodowick) - Working on closing the loop with Sketchers. Several bags of sneakers were collected from Del Webb Sun City locations and Scott will be contacting running clubs shortly. (Open)
- d. 2024 Calendar of Events (Tammy) To be updated next meeting, 1 May 2024 (Open)
- e. Primary Elections 2-5 Mar 2024 (Jim S) Names were read of all those who worked their shifts and much appreciated thanks to all. This is our highest fund raiser event with \$3,853.76 raised, split \$ 2438.12 Chapter 0270 and \$ 1415.64 Chapter 1551. Stay tuned for Nov 2024 elections. (Closed)
- f. VFW Dinner - 24 Mar 2024 was a success and names read and thanked for those who volunteered. The event raised \$299.22, split as follows: \$30 VFW, \$161.53 Chapter 0270, and \$ 107.69 Chapter 1551. (Closed)
- g. Korean War and Vietnam Medallion Program Update (Jim S) A momentous celebration to Chief Kearns on the presentation of the Korean War and Vietnam War Medallions! (Open)
- h. VFW Golf Tournament - 7 Jun 2024 (Donna) 12 teams have signed up so far (Open)
- i. VFW Breakfast – 21 Apr 2024 -Sign Up sheet handed out (Open)

11. **New Business:**

- a. VA Hospital Easter Visit (Tammy) With compliments of the Spirit of Sacramento, stuffed Easter bunnies were delivered to veterans at the Sacramento VA hospital at Mather by Tammy and a hesitant Chief Jim S. Contrary to popular belief, these veterans, young and old, truly appreciated receiving their own Easter bunny. A special thank you to Donna for her help as well. (Closed)
- b. Membership Drive – 4 May 2024 – Membership drive to be held at the Lincoln Village at Rancho Cordova. A great opportunity to recruit more members. (Open).

The meeting adjourned at 2000 hours. The next meeting is scheduled for 1 May 2024 at 1900 hours and will be held both in person at the VFW and online with Zoom. MSgt (Ret) Michael Grabow will send out an email with information to attend; please respond to his message so you can register.

//signed//
JAMES N. SULLIVAN, CMSgt, USAF (Ret)
Chapter Chairman

//signed//
DR. LIZ M. LYNN, Ed.D, MSgt, USAF (Ret)
Chapter Secretary