



NCOA®

Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States of America

Central Valley Chapter #1551 • P. O. Box 642 • North Highlands, CA 95660 • Tel (916) 362-9746
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5 Feb 2025

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

SUBJECT: NCOA/Auxiliary General Membership Meeting Minutes (Feb 2025)

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by CMSgt (Ret) Jim Sullivan
NCOA Creed read by MSgt (Ret) 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, Absent
MSgt (Ret) Liz Lynn, Secretary, Present
MSgt (Ret) Gary Chase, Trustee, Present

3. Auxiliary Executive Committee Members:

Ellie Witt, Vice Chairman, Present
Melissa Carnahan, Trustee, Present

Tammy Sullivan, Chairman, Present
Scott Rodowick, Treasurer, Present

4. Members Present:

SMSgt (Ret) Dale Klug
Larry Lynn, Auxiliary

MSgt (Ret) Al Davis
Bob Byers, Auxiliary

Donna Master, Auxiliary

5. Guests Present: Jim U'Ren, Account Manager of CaptionCall gave a presentation on assisting millions of veterans who face the challenge of hearing loss. No-cost captioning phone service for home or on the go. The device is accurate, reliable and works on any smartphone. Complimentary delivery, installation, in-home training and ongoing customer support. Contact Jim U'ren at 916-847-8736. For more info, click www.sorenson.com

6. Chairman's Comments:

Regular: NCOAdvocate - The NCOA Scholarship was established in 1970 to help dependents of NCOA members continue their education after high school. Nearly \$1.5 million has been awarded thus far. The deadline for this year is March 31, 2025. For applications, see www.ncoausa.org/scholarship. NCOA Merch now available, see www.ncoausa.org/shop. The annual renewal of the Cordova Community Council was paid - \$75.00. GA Rep Doug Collins was confirmed by the Senate as VA Secretary. A Flag Retirement BBQ is scheduled for Saturday, 15 Feb 2025 at 10am - 2:00pm at 4730 Garden Bar Road, Lincoln, CA. Food and drink will be provided and bring a camping chair.

Auxiliary: Tammy Sullivan, President of International Auxiliary NCOA. Scott Lara is the NCOA Program Manager who is responsible for membership and sponsorship. For those registering for the NCOA Annual Conference 15-18 July 2025, the cost of registration is covered by Chapter 0270. Several airlines have posted fares; Southwest \$850, United \$532 and Ameran/Delta \$625. A shoutout to Donna for organizing and delivering 81 holiday baskets; 40 Thanksgiving and 41 Christmas baskets (Nov-Dec 2024).

HQ Chairman's Comments: Sir Joe Terry - For membership, "Aiming for 2025 new members by the end of 2025." Each One, Reach One. University of Phoenix partnering with NCOA by offering one full tuition scholarship to pursue a bachelor's or master's degree. Columbia Southern University is also offering scholarships.

7. **Membership Coordinator:** Regular: 166 Auxiliary: 173

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

Balance: \$4,588.15 JROTC: \$324.72 Auxiliary: \$2,804.46

9. **Legislative:** President Trump put a freeze on all U.S. foreign aid, directs OPM to cut agency's workforce and programs by 70% and transgender women/girls are prohibited from competing in female sports. VA ends DEI and stops millions of spending dollars. Dec 2024, U.S. Army best recruiting record in 15 years. Honorable Douglas A. Collins sworn in as 12th Secretary of Veteran Affairs. 2025 Fed Benefits Guide for Veterans, Dependents, Survivors & Caregivers, see <https://department.va.gov/>. For Myhealth VA login 2025 changes, see login.gov and I.D. me. My HealthVet option removed after 4 Mar 2025 and DS Logon after 30 Sept 2025. Learn more see <https://www.va.gov/resources/signing-in-to-vagov>

10. Unfinished Business:

- a. Website Update – Pam- Updated info to begin including NCOA monthly activities. (Open)
- b. JROTC Update – (Jim S.) 270 shipments for 884 medals in 2024. So far in 2025, 6 shipments for 15 medals. We ordered 800 medal sets. (Open)
- c. Gotsneakers.com (Scott Rodowick). Barrels are starting to fill up including the VFW barrel. Received a check for \$11.00. Melissa to research if barrel(s) can be placed at her workplace, Army Corps of Engineers, downtown Sacramento. (Open)
- d. 2024 Calendar of Events (Tammy). A new 2025 calendar was handed out. (Open)
- e. Korean War and Vietnam Medallion Program - (Jim S). On Dec 14th at Auburn Airport, Chief Sullivan, Tammy and Melissa presented 3 medallions to Col Joseph Peterburs, USAF (Ret): WWII, Korean and Vietnam Medallions. Plus, two invited friends in attendance, one to receive the Korean Medallion and the other, the Vietnam Medallion. Great ceremony! (Open).
- f. William Jessup University Update (Liz). The Give:24 is in March along with another Ruck Walk. Raising funds for Surf Therapy for veterans with PTSD. Lt. Col. Des, Chaplain, is willing to be a guest speaker at one of our meetings. Liz to coordinate. (Open)
- g. Elections 2-5 Nov 2024 (Jim S). Successful event! Still awaiting reimbursements from a few of our members. Total earned \$5,192.24 to be split with our Auxiliary. (Closed)
- h. Christmas Party (Tammy). Consensus to continue our 2025 Christmas Party and discussed different ways to increase attendance. (Closed)
- i. 2025 Lookahead (Jim S). Minutes of the 21 Jan 2025 Executive Meeting were handed out with a brief explanation of our 2025 Lookahead goals. Topics included: Membership, Website, Events, Legislation, Marketing Communications, Medallion & JROTC Programs and General Topics.

11. New Business:

- a. VFW Dinner - 28 Feb 2025. Sign-up sheet circulated.
- b. Air Show - 22/23 Mar 2025. More to follow at the 5 Mar 2025 NCO meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2030 hours. The next meeting is scheduled for 5 Mar 2025 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