



NCOA[®]

Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States of America

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1 Feb 23

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

SUBJECT: NCOA/Auxiliary General Membership Meeting Minutes (1 Feb 2023)

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) George Wheeler
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: Tammy Sullivan, Chairman, Present
Ellie Witt, Vice Chairman, Present Pam Wright, Secretary, Present
Scott Rodowick, Treasurer, Present Melissa Carnahan, Trustee, Present
4. **Members Present:**
SMSgt (Ret) Dale Klug TSgt (Ret) Orin Taylor Kim Dewar, Auxiliary
Bob Byers, Auxiliary Larry Lynn, Auxiliary Jasmine Kearns, Auxiliary
Donna Master, Auxiliary
5. **Guests Present:** Lady Tina Kish also joined from the headquarters.
6. **Chairman's Comments:**
Regular: CMSgt (Ret) Jim Sullivan discussed several topics: The Grand Knight monthly newsletter, Executive Director Insights and the NCOAdvocate. He reminded the chapter leadership about a round table zoom call on 16 Feb. He shared the recent presentation of the Korean War Medallion to Tammy's uncle John McKay. MSgt (Ret) Grabow provided an update from his recent trip to participate in the KST Executive Council Mid-Year meeting in Jacksonville, Florida.
Auxiliary: Chairman Tammy Sullivan briefly discussed membership and informed the membership about the results of the Executive meeting held prior to the General Membership meeting. Two new executive members were elected. Ellie Witt is the new Vice Chairman and Melissa Carnahan is the new Trustee. Congratulations Ellie and Melissa!
7. **Membership Coordinator:** Regular: 166 Auxiliary: 123
8. **Treasurer's Reports:** CMSgt (Ret) Jim Kearns and Mr. Scott Rodowick gave their treasurers' reports.

Balance: Regular: \$3,302.91 JROTC: \$2,549.53 Auxiliary: \$790.58

9. **Legislative:** MSgt (Ret) Gary Chase discussed the following topics: During 2022, the Department of Veterans Affairs permanently housed 40,401 homeless Veterans, providing them with the safe, stable homes that they deserve. This exceeded the department's goal to house 38,000 Veterans in 2022 by 6.3%. VA Northern California Health Care System that now offer routine care "on-demand" for hearing aid services. For non-routine hearing aid services, like any hearing test, you still need an appointment. Remember that audiology is a direct access clinic, so you don't need to get a referral to make a hearing test appointment—call the call center at 1-800-382-8387. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has recently issued a report recommending two separate proposals to reduce the cost of TRICARE-For-Life (TFL) to help reduce the budget deficit. The CBO recommends that TFL beneficiaries pay the first \$850 in healthcare cost and that TFL would only pay 50 percent of the next \$7,650 in cost annually. A new California law—Assembly Bill 2949—went into effect in the Jan 2023. It grants qualifying veterans of the U.S. armed forces free tolls on all California toll roads, bridges, highways, vehicle crossings, and other toll facilities. Eligible license plates include the following designations: Disabled Veteran, Congressional Medal of Honor, Legion of Valor, Pearl Harbor Survivor, Ex-Prisoner of War, Purple Heart. Informative Websites below:
<https://www.cac.mil/coronavirus/Tricare>, AFSA – (<http://www.hqafsa.org>), <http://www.airforcemag.com/Pages/HomePage.aspx>, Veterans Administration – <https://www.va.gov>, and Military Times - <http://www.militarytimes.com>.
10. **Unfinished Business:**
- a. Website Update – The website provides up to date information. (Open)
 - b. JROTC Update – We have shipped 17 orders and email traffic has picked up. (Open)
 - c. Gotsneakers.com – Scott Rodowick provided an update on the program. The members will look for new locations to place the collection bins. (Open)
 - d. Elections – 5/8 Nov – All checks have been received. The Regular chapter raised \$ 872.76, and the Auxiliary chapter raised \$ 2,253.57. (Closed)
 - e. 2023 Calendar of Events was provided. Chief Sullivan solicited input for 2023 events. The membership agreed to have a guest speaker at least every other month. The Auxiliary will attempt to secure the VFW Canteen Manager or Post commander at the next meeting. (Open)
 - f. The Wall that Heals – 3/30-4/3. The Vietnam Traveling wall will be in Citrus Heights. Chief Sullivan is having trouble contacting the POC. He will continue to pursue. (Open)
 - g. VFW Breakfast – 26 Feb – Sign-up sheets were available at the meeting. (Open)
 - h. Raise Right – The chapters need to decide about pursuing this fund-raising opportunity. Additional research will be conducted. (Open)
11. **New Business:**
- a. VFW Golf Tournament – 16 Jun – Donna Master provided additional information concerning the golf tournament to be held at Cherry Island Golf Course. (Open)
 - b. VFW Family Freedom Festival – 11 Mar – Donna Master discussed the possibility of the Auxiliary supporting the local event. (Open)

Meeting adjourned at 2000 hours. The next meeting is scheduled for 1 Mar 2023 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, MSGT, USAF (Ret)
Chapter Secretary