

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting

VFW Post 1581

October 7, 2017 meeting

Report for the month September 2017

Meeting at: The Egg and I (breakfast meeting) 3605 N. 147th Street, Omaha, NE 68116, Suite 106 (close to Lowes), Large private meeting room

OPENING CEREMONIES

Commander: "The Officers will take their respective stations. All persons not members of the VFW will kindly retire and the guard will close the door."

Commander: "By the power and authority vested in me, I am about to open Bill Montoya, post 1581 for the transaction of any business that may lawfully come before it. (*Two gavel raps*). Officer of the Day (O.O.D.), satisfy yourself that all present are entitled to remain."

(As cards are inspected, members take their seats.)

O.O.D.: Comrade Commander, I find all, except those standing, in possession of official VFW dues receipts for the current calendar year. (Commander instructs QM to determine member status and to pay dues or leave meeting.)

Commander: "Officer of the Day, you will prepare the Post room for the salute to the Colors." (*Two gavel raps*.)

O.O.D.: "Salute the colors, one - two-" (to use appropriate commands for the Colors.) (Chaplain proceeds to the Altar, taking his station between it and Sr. Vice.) Proceeds to face altar and opens the Bible.

Commander: "Attention, parade rest" After the prayer is delivered –

Commander: "Attention, Comrades: You will join me in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. One (pledge) Two.

Commander: "Officer of the Day" you will place the colors.

Commander: "Comrades, we are assembled again to transact business of mutual benefit.

Do not let petty jealousies or trivial personalities influence our deliberations.

Let us uphold the obligations of unselfish comradeship and loyalty to our organization and the government of the United States of America.

I now declare Bill Montoya Post 1581 duly opened for the transaction of business.

Meeting called to order: 7:11AM

Commander: Guard, you will admit any in waiting who may be worthy.

Commander: (Leading all members in recitation of Section 230102 of the Congressional Charter.)

"The purpose of the Veterans of Foreign Wars are fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies."

Total members in attendance: 13

Calling the roll of Officers.

Commander: Chris Leighter (present)

Sr. Vice Commander: Lloyd Coates (present)

Jr. Vice Commander: John Hilgert (present)

Quartermaster/Adjutant: Dr. Steven Youngberg (present)

Chaplain: Ann Thieman (absent/excused)

Service officer: Bob Burns (absent/excused)

Surgeon: Dr. Greg O’Leary (absent)

Judge Advocate: Dan Dawson (present)

Three-year trustee: John Liebsack (present)

Two-year trustee: Bob Burns (absent/excused)

One-year trustee: Marty Riemenschneider (present)

Introduction of guests.

- Daniel Ortiz, SVA
- Javier Saldana, SVA
- Kathleen Clyde, SVA

Reading, referring membership applications.

- Daniel Ortiz, Army, Afghanistan, installment Life
- Javier Saldana, Army, Afghanistan, Annual member
- Kathleen Clyde, Air Force, Afghanistan, installment Life

1st John Hilgert, 2nd Lloyd Coates, Approved: Yes

Report of investigating committee.

Mustering in of recruits.

Adjutant report, reading of the minutes. (Are there any corrections or omissions? If not, they will stand approved as read." If corrected, "They will stand approved as corrected.) (dispensed with reading of the minutes) Minutes are on the vfw1581.org website. (VFW Post 1581 Member Only Area (is developed)

Quartermaster's current report: Report July 2017

- Last month checking account balance: \$13,837.33
- Current checking account balance: \$14,070.51
- Receipts for the period: \$649.98
- Disbursements for the period: \$416.84
- Veridian Credit Union CD Investments \$52,093.87
- Veridian Credit Union Saving Account: 5.00
- Total Valuation of funds: \$66,169.38
 - Veridian Credit Union – 9-month CD – 1.50 %, Matures 4/14/2018
- Quartermaster's report: Receipts, Income and Expenses are in budget document.

2016-2017 financial history

Actual Income	\$4,222.74
Actual Expenses	\$6,779.58
Difference	-\$2,556.84

2016-2017 financial history

Actual Income	\$1,311.22
Actual Expenses	\$1,983.68
Difference	-\$672.46

Subject to audit

- Is there a comrade or family of a comrade in distress?
- Report of all committees and reading of related correspondence (Membership, Service officer, House committee, Hospital, Boy Scouts, Relief, Ways and means, Community service, Youth activity, Sports, Employment officer, etc.).

- **VFW Post 1581 Auxiliary**
 - Discussion to form an VFW Post 1581 Auxiliary
 - Need 10 members to start
 - Nathan Sharpnack wants to start one
 - John Liebsack spoke to the members about the Auxiliary program
 - Project Passing vote.
 - Nathan Sharpnack and John Liebsack may sign up members 16 years and up.
 - There is a \$25.00 fee per year.

- **Veterans Day breakfast – Chairman -??**
 - November 11, 2017 Saturday 7 AM to 11 AM
 - Participation at 2 Hy-Vee's. Table, brochures, etc.
 - 156th and Maple (confirmed) 132nd and Dodge (HyVee). 7 AM to 11 AM.
 - 156th and Maple (John Liebsack, Marty Riemenschneider , 132nd and Dodge (HyVee) (Chris Leighter, Dan Dawson)

- **Buddy Poppy – Chairman?????????**
 - ~~May 27, 2017 Saturday 9 AM to 12 Noon~~
 - November 11, 2017 Saturday 9 AM to 12 Noon
 - Inventory 1,960 buddy poppy's. (includes new order)
 - Will need to order 5 poppies per member. 175 members x 5 = 875 (order 1k. **ordered**)
 - HyVee: 156th and Maple and 132nd and Dodge
 - Scott Qualman may be able to help – by Jack Love
 - Sent confirmation email to Jack Kigerl 9-2-17. Boy Scout Troop 408 confirmed they will be there.
 - Bell ringers do not start until after thanksgiving.

- **Award Breakfast**

- **December 2, 2017 Saturday.** Post meeting 7 AM to 8 AM, Award Breakfast 8 AM.
- **Patriots Pen and VOD winners.**
- **Invite Col. Lee-Boys town, Texas Roadhouse- Aimiee Moats. HyVee directors.**

- **Virtual Meeting for VFW Post 1581**

- We could use this technology to conduct meetings. Members would have the option to connect via a technology to hear and see the meeting. We could have a speaker (20 minutes) to connect at each meeting for the meeting.
- Chris Leighter is checking into the technology
- John Hilgert and Chris Leighter has speaker contacts
- Our post still needs to have a 5-person quorum in the physical meeting. We can have virtual meetings with audio and video. People would need to login to verify they are VFW members.
- Go to Meeting would be an option, Minimum \$25.00 per month and then billed on how many people are on the call. Chris Leighter said at work they use Adobe Connect, but is expensive.
- **Skype for SVA for deployed troops.**
- Keep on meeting agenda

- **VFW Post 1581 Website**

- Our current website will be eliminated eventually per VFW Dept. (currently our website does not cost anything for us).
- VFW National has a new website program.

- I can apply for a grant for the first year the cost (\$360.00). After the first year, the website will cost \$360.00 per year, which our post will need to pay.
- Site Sponsor program, where you can get local businesses in your community to sponsor your website.
- Website address change: from <http://vfwpost1581.org> to <http://vfw1581.org>. VFW Post 1581 owns both domains.
- Website completed. Vfw1581.org is the main domain and vfwpost1581.org will also point to the new website. Profiles to be completed by officers if needed.
- Completed VFW NE new website.
- Members only section is developed and working. (meeting minutes)

- ***Special Events – Chairman Chris Leighter***
 - We want to have a presence at local events to represent our VFW post 1581. Members will send event ideas to Chris Leighter.
 - Maybe we can skype a veteran from Afghanistan?
 - James Miller talked about a poster stand.

- **300th Military Police Brigade (reserve)**
 - Cordially invites you to attend a Change of Command Ceremony
At which MAJ Christiaan E. Whitted will relinquish command of the 530th Military Police Battalion to LTC Steven M. Padilla
 - Contact: Anthony (Tony) E. Loween
CPT, AG
530th MP BN S1
9606 N. 204th St.
Elkhorn, NE 68022
Ph: [402-779-3948](tel:402-779-3948)
Fax: [402-779-4806](tel:402-779-4806)
 - October 22, 2017, 13:30 hrs.

- RSVP October 16, 2017- completed, 10-7-17 – 7 people.
- Dan Dawson - 300th Military Police Brigade will have a dinner January 2018. Maybe we can set up a table with VFW information to solicit ne VFW Post 1581 members from the group.

- **Student Veterans of America (John Liebsack-Chairman)**
 - VFW Department of Nebraska Program
 - VFW Post 1581 can participate
 - They could do Buddy Poppy's to raise money
 - Donated from a VFW post
 - Will not use our Buddy Poppy locations – 132nd and Dodge and 156th and Maple HyVee locations.
 - They will be given a large bag of Buddy Poppies from VFW post in Peru, NE.
 - They will have a tribute to the fallen, possible fly over by the national guard – to counter drugs.

- **Texas Roadhouse (Giving Back to Veterans) program**
 - Ongoing program each year by Xmas
 - VFW Post 1581 - Texas Roadhouse partnership
 - Contact: Lou Speer, louis.speer@texasroadhouse.com, © 402-215-8183. (b) 402-504-4449 managing Partner
 - Contact: Aimiee Moats, aimeetrh211@gmail.com, (b) 402-504-4449, Marketing

- **Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home catering event**
 - Date: October 18, 2017 Wednesday
 - Time: 5 PM eat (food delivered 4:00 PM)
 - Cost: \$1,856.00

- Menu: Sirloin tips, chicken breast, rice, green beans, rolls and cinnamon butter, BBQ sauce.
 - Veteran count: 116 (30 veterans in Alzheimer's included in count)
 - Staff Count: 30 (not in count, maybe enough food)
 - Home Contact: Tammy Weston. Administrator, Office: [402-591-4947](tel:402-591-4947), Cell: [402-669-2578](tel:402-669-2578)
 - Event Coordinator: Sarah Ryan. Sarah.Ryan@nebraska.gov 402-591-4862
 - Budget: \$1,856.00
 - **Address:** 12505 South 40th Street, Bellevue, NE 68123
 - **Phone:** [\(402\) 595-2180](tel:402-595-2180)
 - Meeting with Lou Speer 402-504-4449, cell 402-215-8183 Monday, 9-18-17, 2 PM.
- William Chamberlain – 4 Veterans passed 4-1-17
- **Progressive Insurance Keys to Progress - Chairman – VFW Dept. of NE- John Liebsack**
 - Date 11-9-17, 11 AM to 1 PM, Thursday (verified date 8-2-17 Linda Woodward)
 - Members wear VFW hats and red and white VFW shirts
 - 11820 Harrison Street, La Vista, NE 68128
 - Contact: Linda Woodward, 402-858-3719, linda_woodward@progressive.com
 - RSVP by 11-2-17 – completed 10-7-17, 5 people
 - SVA will give a car away, 2008 Honda, 47 k miles from a body shop.
- **POW-WOW – Chairman – Dr. Rudi Mitchell – VFW Post 1581 participation cancelled per Commander**

- **POW WOW Event: Saturday - September 30, 2017. 1:00 PM to 7:30 PM,** no cost for 1 non-profit table. Chris Leighter will arrange the tale registration.
 - **VFW Post members there at 12:00 Noon.**
 - **Bring post 1581 post flag, march in opening session – grand entry - 1:00 PM.**
 - **Bring 6 Douglas Veterans service copies. QM has 6 packets now.**
 - **Bring table, table cloth, 2 chairs, materials, post flag, American flag, 2 flag stands.**
 - **VFW post 1581, member, James Miller, has marching flag carriers (2).**
 - **John Liebsack will bring 2 marching flag carriers.**
 - **Honor guard to wear VFW white shirts, dark pants, boots. John Liebsack will arrange a color guard.**
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- **VOD:** Ann Thieman, Dr. Steven Youngberg, Marty Riemenschneider
 - **THE 2017-2018 THEME IS:** “American History: Our Hope for the Future”
 - 2017-2018 brochure and form available on VFW Post 1581 website
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- **Patriots Pen:** Ann Thieman, Dr. Steven Youngberg, Marty Riemenschneider
 - **2017-2018** Theme is: “America’s Gift to my Generation”
 - 2017-2018 brochure and form available on VFW Post 1581 website
 - Brochures sent to school
 - Steven Broszko is moving and will not be our contact
 - **Michelle Phillips will be our new contact and will participate (email 8-27-17) phillipsm@stwenceslaus.org.**

- **Teacher of the year: Ann Thieman**
 - **2017-2018 (entry due by February 15, 2018)**
 - ~~Chris Leighter has a candidate at the Montessori high school~~
 - Awards, first Saturday of December, 2017, The Egg and I (breakfast meeting) 3605 N. 147th Street, Omaha, NE 68116, Suite 106 (close to Lowes), large private meeting room.
 - **Jack Love: Andy Lewis may be a candidate for teacher of the year from Elkhorn schools.**

- **Boy Scouts: John Hilgert – Boy Scout of the year**
 - Entry due March 1, 2018 to post
 - To Department April 1, 2018
 - To VFW National by May 1, 2018
 - St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, **Address:** 15353 Pacific St, Omaha, NE 68154
 - Contact Boy Scout Troop 408 to see what their needs are for a possible VFW grant of \$1,000.00. July 2017 put \$200.00 on new business for their help at Buddy Poppy event 5-27-17. Lloyd Coates can provide a discount for camping items at Cabela's. Copy John Hilgert on emails. Email to Scout leaders asking for ideas of what they need.
 - Contact Boy Scout Troop 408 concerning their next meeting to present \$200.00 check.
 - Sent an email 7-5-17 to the troop - Jack Kigerl
 - The first meeting will be 8-21-17. They will let us know of a date for our \$200.00 check presentation. Email sent 8-2-17, Jack Kigerl. Meeting for check presentation is 8-28-17. Time 7:00 PM **Completed**
 - They would look at providing partial scholarship to two scouts totaling around \$400. They will get Cabela item numbers for the other things.
 - **Boy Scout Troop 408 VFW Grant 2017-2018 (submit for \$950.00)**

- Scholarships for two scouts-includes money for camping trips for financial hardship boy scouts - \$250 each - \$500.00
- 6 each Vollrath 67930 10" non-stick Fry Pans - approx. \$34 ea. - \$180.00 (Churchich Restaurant Equipment) Product Code: 67930-vco, 4520 S 79th St Omaha, NE 68127 , Call to Place an order 402-331-2157 or e-mail debi@churchich.net, <http://churchichrestaurantequipment.com/vollrath-67930-fry-pan.html>
- Husqvarna Safety Equipment Landowner Kit #5313009-04 - \$160.00, \$129.99.
- VFW Application sent in 9-2-17.
- Grant approved 10-3-17 per VFW. \$1,000.00 transferred 10-4-17.
- Eagle Scout project for Boy Scout Troop 408
 - Scout Name: Adam O'Donnell
 - Need project – any ideas?

Boy Scout leader contact:

- Mark Wynegar - **Jack Kigerl**
 - Troop 408
 - Committee Chair
 - jandmw@cox.net
 - St. Wenceslas School
- **Cub Scout Pack 408**
 - Jim Hushka (Committee Chair)
 - hushkajb@cox.net jhushka@wd-wpp.com
 - Nothing to report
- **Law Enforcement of the year: Chairman - Chris Leighter (due January 2, 2018 to Department)**
 - Dan Dawson

- Marty Riemenschneider has a candidate (son in law). Marty Riemenschneider and Chris Leighter will work together on the paperwork.
 - Process candidate for new year 2017-2018
 - Jack Love: has a Douglas county Sheriff as a possible candidate.
 - The Deputy from Iowa that was killed (Mark Burbridge). Need to get approval from Iowa VFW to present the award.
- ***EMT of the year: Chairman - Chris Leighter (due January 2, 2018 to Department)***
 - John Liebsack mentioned that we should be engaging Boys Town for candidates next year.
 - Not active as a project-unless we get a candidate
 - Pam Claybundy-Elkhorn fire dept., lives in Bennington, may retire soon.
 - Process candidate for new year 2017-2018
- ***Firefighter of the year: Chairman - Chris Leighter (due January 2, 2018 to Department)***
 - John Liebsack mentioned that we should be engaging Boys Town for candidates next year.
 - Chad Greeve (name from Chris Leighter).
 - 2016 candidate
 - Not active as a project-unless we get a candidate
 - Chris Leighter will contact our VFW post 1581 member- *Firefighter* at Elkhorn.
 - Process candidate for new year 2017-2018
- **SROTC-JROTC**
 - ***Boys Town: – Chairman - Chris Leighter***

- JROTC
 - [Lt. Col. Kevin Lee](#)
 - kevin.lee@boystown.org
 - 402-498-1892
 - ~~Pass and Review Friday May 5, 2017~~
 - **Pass and Review Friday May 4, 2018**
- **Creighton ROTC: Chairman - Chris Leighter**
 - ~~Creighton University SROTC Spring Awards Ceremony: April 22, 2017.~~
 - ~~CU ROTC Commissioning: May 16, 2017? Will not attend.~~
 - ~~September 15, 2017 - POW/MIA Run - Chris Leighter will attend.~~
 - ~~VFW be there 6:30 AM~~
 - ~~Cadets there at 6:45 AM~~
 - ~~Chris Leighter would like for someone else to speak at this event. Chris will be there attending. Chris Leighter working on General Reggie Nursel.~~
 - ~~Speaker: CWO George Dewitt (ret.)~~
 - **Jared Sutton**
 - commander
 - Lieutenant Colonel, Field Artillery
 - Professor of Military Science
 - Creighton University Army ROTC
 - O: (402)280-1151
 - C: (402) 616-2086
 - Jared.j.sutton.mil@mail.mil
 - **Major Fritz**
 - MAJ, AG
 - Executive Officer/APMS
 - W: 402-280-1156?
 - C: 703-517-8210?
 - Creighton Email: danielfritz@creighton.edu
 - Military Email: daniel.fritz@us.army.mil

- **UNO SROTC – Chairman - Chris Leighter**
 - UNO AFROTC Detachment at UNO has been Capt Jacque Torson. She's preparing to depart in the near future as well.
 - Chris Leighter wants to continue.
 - Discussed pizza event 11 AM to 1:30 PM for membership drive. Williams idea – follow up with him. Chris Leighter said we will have a spring event.
 - William Chamberlain was to arrange event.
 - We can tell the student veterans that the VFW Department has \$16k in scholarships every year for VFW members.
 - Claim rep. – Jeff Baker will have Doug Whitaker – new VFW state commander, go to meeting at UNO. Invite potential VFW members to our post 1581 breakfast meeting.

- **Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home: (Ann Theiman-VFW State Rep.)**
 - Ann Theiman will be the contact person from post 1581.
 - Ann Thieman will support the xmas party donation as chairman
 - New administrator: Tammy Weston
 - **Phone:** 402-595-2180
 - **Address:** 12505 40th St, Bellevue, NE 68123
 - **Events coordinator - Patty.Howell@nebraska.gov**
 - 12-2-17, 1:30 PM
 - They need Veterans to play cards, games, etc. with. Need volunteers.
 - They do not have an email signup. They have an activity calendar and newsletter online website.
 - Donate \$250.00 passed 9-2-17.

- **Veterans Legislative Action Committee – Chairman - John Hilgert, John Liebsack**
 - NDAA - Budget
 - Ne. Vets. Day at Lincoln.

- NE going to one state license plate.
- **Department of NE calendar project (John Liebsack)**
 - Calendar raffle 2017 winners are on the vfwne.com website
 - VFW Post 1581 needs to sell 25 calendars.
- **Membership / Fellowship: Chairman John Liebsack**
 - **We are at:** 76.50 %
 - **Current Member Number:** 180
 - **Annual unpaid:** 48
 - **Life:** 112
 - Tom Bizzarri wanted a member list placed on the members only area of the website. **Completed**
- Remember our National Home. (As close to 9 p.m. as possible.)
- Unfinished business. (A list should be ready, prepared by Adjutant.)
 - Offutt Air Force Base retirement party – Nathan Sharpnack and John Hilgert project
- New business. NOTE: Reading of communications should be read in the order of business it is associated with (Unfinished, New, Good of the Order).
 - VFW Post 1581 pay Student Veterans of America- SVA – will pay for their convention cost of registration for 2 VFW Post 1581 SVA members and possibly a third person. \$100.00 each.

1st Dr. Steven Youngberg, 2nd James Miller Approved: Yes
 - Attend and work with the 300 military police brigade – change of command event

1st Dr. Steven Youngberg, 2nd Nathan Sharpnack Approved: Yes

- Add Boy Scout Troop 408 a donation of \$671.34 for scouts that cannot afford to go to camp and other activities.

1st Dr. Steven Youngberg 2nd Marty Riemenschneider Approved:yes

- Order 25 pins for All American – Post 1581 for post use. \$3.95 each plus tax and shipping. Donations towards pins- Tom Bizzarri-\$20.00, James Miller \$20.00, Marty Riemenschneider \$20.00.

1st Chris Leighter 2nd John Hilgert, Approved: yes

Service officers report: Bob Burns

- No report

Reading communications:

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Good of the order. (All guests should be invited to speak.)

- Email all members the link for “all American” items to order. I will put this in the September 2017 newsletter. **Completed**
- Print the “all American” items available on the list. Cannot print from VFW National. **Will not print correctly**
- We will vote on if there are items for the post to purchase (pins, tec.)
- **The fall District 10 meeting will be held on Sunday, 8 Oct 2017, at 2 pm, at Post 8334, 5083 S 136th St. Millard.**
- There being no further business, we will have our closing ceremony. (Two raps, all rise.)

CLOSING CEREMONY

Commander: Prepare to retire the colors. (O.O.D. issues the orders) "Comrade Chaplain, you will deliver the closing prayer. Parade rest! Prayer (be sure Chaplain closes Bible). **Closing: prayer by Ann Thieman**

Commander: Attention! Right hand salute. Two!

Comrades, I now declare this business session of Bill Montoya Post 1581 is closed.

- Next normal monthly meeting will be **November 4, 2017** at The Egg and I (breakfast meeting), 3605 N. 147th Street, Omaha, NE 68116, Suite 106 (close to Lowes), Large private meeting room, 7 AM (doors open at 7 AM), Bring guests, family or Veterans. **The company name will change to First Watch from The Egg and I.**

RAP THE GAVEL

Meeting adjourned at: 8:35 AM