

MADERA UNIT 131
auxmadera131@gmail.com
 General Membership Meeting
 February 18, 2025

	Present	Excused
Betty Cox, President	x	
Jan Melhorn, Vice President	x	
Carol Stonecipher, Treasurer	X	
Mary Beth Stensgard, Secretary	X	
Mavis Graves, Chaplain		X
Roxe Ann Teiper, Historian	X	
Penee Lopez, Sgt. At Arms		X
Sue Anderson, Member At Large		X
JoAnn Johnson, Member At Large		X
Lynne Linn, Member at Large	X	
Sally Cady, Immediate Past President	X	

President Betty called the meeting to order at 3:06pm. We had 26 members in attendance. Opening prayer by: RoxeAnne Teiper for Mavis Graves, Chaplain. Honoring POW/MIA chair took place. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the membership. ***This is My Country*** was sung by the members. The Preamble was recited by the membership.

The President reminded everyone to silence their cell phones.

Today's Agenda stands approved. Minutes from January 21, 2025 stand approved.

Treasurer's Financial Report – Carol reported the Unit has assets worth \$81,264 and \$22,250 is in a CD. Since there were no further questions regarding the report, it will be filed for audit.

President's Report: Betty asked for any first-time attendees. There were none, Betty advised we had the following totals for Volunteering for the month of January: 10,690 hours; 3,815 miles; \$3,451 in donations. Please continue to send your volunteer hours to ckissinger@cox.net.

Committee Reports

- A. **Chaplain's Report** – RoxeAnn reported for Mavis that 10 Cards were sent- 8 birthdays, 1 Get Well, 1 Thinking of You were sent in January.

- B. **Kitchen** – Jan Melhorn stated that we have had good days and bad days. We will not be adding a surcharge because of egg prices. She asked that more people come out and volunteer. We really thank them for all areas and activities.
- C. **Children & Youth & Education** – Sally Cady explained the card making for veterans that we do with the students at Sopori School in Amado. See Sally if you are interested in helping with this fun program.
- D. **Fisher House** – Pat Dent reported that she will be taking items up on the second Thursday of the month. Please drop off all items on the Wednesday before. Pat explained what Fisher House was and what we do for them. **Please put your donations in the crate next to the white refrigerator in the kitchen – NOT IN THE AUXILIARY OFFICE.**
- E. **VA&R** – No report
- F. **Poppies** – Judy Kackman reported that expenditures were \$661. Donations received were \$6,261. 10% will be sent to AZ Department of the Auxiliary = \$626. This leaves us with a profit of \$5,635. Individual donations are posted in the bar. National Poppy Day is May 23. Being that Judy will be gone, she will need someone to oversee our plans for May.
- G. **Americanism** – No Report
- H. **President's Special Project**- No report
- I. **Tucson State Veteran Home** – Nancy Morrow- A thank you was given for our donations and volunteering at the Home this year. Nancy put together 118 bags of goodies for Valentine's Day. A Fall Carnival is being planned on October 17. Cakes and other baked goodies will be needed for the anticipated Cake Walk. More information will come in the fall. Our unit will provide birthday treats for the month of August.
- J. **Community Service** – No report
- K. **Membership Report** – Jeannie McGaughey – Jeannie reported that we are at 96% of our goal. 561 renewals/new members. Initiation took place on Monday, February 17. 15 were in attendance. Gift bags were given.
- L. **AZ Girls State – Jeannie McGaughey**- Jeannie explained and reported that we sponsor the girls from The Academy of Tucson. Unit 7 is having difficulty paying for the girls that they were sponsoring. Department is asking for our help to sponsor one student at \$400. Jeannie moved, and it was seconded, that we sponsor the student at the cost of \$400 in addition to the 2 we will be sponsoring. The motion was approved by the membership.
- M. **Communications** - Mary Beth reported that we received 2 items. Mary Beth read 2 thank you notes from the VA regarding items we had sent on March 8, 2023 for the Homeless Program for Veterans, and items that were sent December 13, 2024 for the Gift Shop/Holiday Event for Veterans.

Unfinished Business:

- A. **5th Saturday of the Month** – March 29 – The money from this event will go to our AZ State Department President’s special project: PAWSS- Dianne Grahn will co-chair with Betty for this dinner. It will be a meatloaf dinner. Tunesmith Band will be playing.
- B. **Advertising/Distribution of menus** – We were unable to get an accurate tally of people who came in because they saw our ad. Pat Dent took menus to The GV Chamber of Commerce, and will be monitoring that. Menus were also taken to The Best Western motel, The Comfort Inn and Rancho Resort. Business cards advertising our lunches have been made and will be given out at the Farmers’ Market on Wednesdays by one of our members. Other suggestions were offered.
- C. **Initiation Update – See under Membership Report above**
- D. **2025-2026 Officers** – All positions are open. If interested, submit your name to Jan or Sally by February 28. We will be voting in March.
- E. **Spring Tea – April 5** – New this year will be homemade scones and other goodies, made by one of our members.
- F. **New Business:**
 - A. **VA Bingo Machine** - Their machine is broken. Cost: \$10,000. Betty explained our desire to send a donation from the auxiliary. A motion by Carol Stonecipher was made that we donate \$500 toward the replacement of the machine. Motion was seconded. Motion was passed by the membership. Dan Cady reported that the Legion will also send \$500.
 - B. **Girls’ State Request – See above under Girls’ State**
 - C. **Lunches – newcomers from the ads?** Uncertain at this time.
 - D. **Blood Mobile** – Because of issues with the Blood Mobile, we will no longer be using this. Betty encouraged everyone to seek out other places in town to give blood.
 - E. **Glass to cover the Original Charter Members’ Signatures** – Betty mentioned this omission of the glass cover to Mick Johnson and Chuck Linn who graciously took it upon themselves to get the job done. Cost - \$14.
 - F. **Poppy Fundraiser – Judy Kackman** – Judy showed us an example of a water bottle with a cover made by a crafter in Amado. Judy suggested we have some made with several poppy designs that we could sell as a part of our Poppy Drive. Suggested price: \$23. We would make a \$3.00 profit on each.
 - G. **Volunteering** – Betty read a flyer titled: “How to Kill Your Post” She encouraged everyone to think about how they can volunteer to help our veterans. Robin will put this flyer on our website. Mary Beth will also send the list: “Ways to Volunteer”.

Announcements: PLEASE COME OUT AND SUPPORT YOUR POST

- A. **Hamburger’s every Monday, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**
- B. **Fish Fry – Fridays, 4:00p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**
- C. **Queen of Hearts every Thursday, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.**
- D. **Slingo – First Sunday of the month at 2:00-4:00 p.m.**
- E. **BUNCO – Second and Fourth Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

- F. **Taco Wednesday – 4:00-6:00 p.m.**
- G. **SWOOP- Mondays at 11:30a.m.**
- H. **Café Legion – Open to the public, Tuesday-Friday, 11:30-1:30**

Closing prayer was read, and President Betty gave her closing statement.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Stensgard
Secretary Madera Unit 131