MADERA UNIT 131
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General Membership Meeting
11-18-2025

President Dianne called the meeting to order at 3:05pm. We had 18 members in attendance. Opening prayer was given by, RoxeAnn Tieper. Honoring the POW/MIA chair took place. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the membership. The Preamble was recited by the membership.

The President reminded everyone to silence their cell phones. If any cell phones go off during the meeting, you need to put $5 in the angel bank. Toward the President's Special Project.
Roll call, Present: President-Dianne Grahn, Vice President-Jan Melhorn, Treasurer-Carol Stonecipher, Secretary-Ann Bracco, Chaplain-Mavis Graves, Sgt at Arms-Nancy Morrow, Membership Chair-Jeannie McGaughey, Members at Large: RoxeAnn Teiper and Diane Bissell, Immediate Past President , Betty Cox.
Excused: Historian, Debbie Heiker, Member at Large, Lynne Linn.

Guest Speakers– Post Commander, Bill Bracco updated us on the new building project.
Jennifer Turner-Jones, District 2 president, spoke about the need to encourage membership.
Christmas gift shop for veterans on December 3-5 at the VA medical center.
Dolores Chavez, Department President, spoke about her special project supporting hospice and care givers.
Dawn Davidson, President's Special Project coordinator spoke about supporting 'Angels in the Outfield', recognizing the need to support care givers. Dawn will provide information on how to become a hospice volunteer at the VA hospital.
Today's Agenda stands approved.
Treasurer's Financial Report – We have $64,479 in the bank with dues and lunch revenue coming in. Lunches are a huge revenue source for us, encourage your friends to attend and our lunches.
If donating to the poppy fund, put your donation in the mail slot in the locked drawer in the Aux office.
Guest Speakers – Dolores Chavez, AZ Department President, attended our meeting.
Dawn Davidson, President's Special Project Chairperson spoke to us about supporting caregivers who are caring for Hospice patients.
Chaplain's Report – Eight birthday, one get well, and one thinking of you cards were sent out.
Historian's Report: No report at this time.

President's Report:
Volunteer numbers: 4,612 hours, 1,240 miles and $1,840 dollars donated last month.
Please continue to send your volunteer hours to **ckissinger@cox.net**.
Nancy Morrow was recognized for receiving a certificate of appreciation for the work and support she provides for the Tucson State Veteran's home. Congratulations Nancy
Committee Reports:
1. **Kitchen –** Debbie is our new kitchen scheduler. We are still looking for volunteers to prep, plate and prepare lunch meals. Please step up to help, we need you. Let Jan know 0f your availability. Please be patient with new volunteers we want them to come back.
2. **Children & Youth & Education –** Judy Kackman reported that we continue to support Sopori school through sharing thank you cards between veterans and students.
3. **Fisher House –**Fisher House is like a Ronald McDonald house for family members of patients at the Veterans Hospital. We support them by collecting donated items, Dianne will post a list of items needed. Our donated items are taken to the Fisher House every Monday.

4. President's Special Project- This year's president's special project is Angels in the Outfield, supporting Hospice and care givers.

5. Tucson State Veteran Home – The Fall carnival was a huge success with all money raised going to the Veteran's home in Tucson. The veteran's home Christmas party will be on December 13 at 11:00.

6. Community Service – 4,612 hours, 1,240 miles and $1,840 dollars donated last month.

7. Membership Report – Jeannie McGaughey reported that we are at 62.5% of our goal. Cash membership money will now go in the mail slot in the locked drawer in the Aux office.

8. AZ Girls State – Jeannie reported we will continue to sponsor delegates from the Tucson Academy this year. Girls state needs our financial support to continue this important program.

Communications: None at this time.

Old Business: Thank you Betty Cox for chairing the poppy drive this year. Donation letters have been sent out, bring your donations to the bartender or place them in the locked mail slot in the Aux office.

New Business: Patty Davis made a beautiful poppy themed quilt to be raffled off at our chicken fried steak dinner on January 31st. Raffle tickets are 6 for $5 or a dollar a piece.
Lap blankets will be donated to the VA medical center.
We will decorate the post for the Holidays on November 30th. All are welcomed to help.
Post Holiday party will be on December 13th. Pot luck dinner from 4-5pm and white elephant gift exchange from 6-8pm.
This year we are partnering with the Salvation Army to provide gifts for children. Gift tags with the child's name and age will be posted on the wall by the Christmas tree. When you take a tag write who the gift is for and your name on the sheet posted by the names. Bring unwrapped gifts attach the tag and put them under the Christmas tree. Salvation Army will do the wrapping.
Dianne presented a check to Nancy Morrow in support of the Tucson Veterans Home

Announcements: PLEASE <u>COME OUT AND SUPPORT YOUR POST</u>
Hamburgers every Monday, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Tacos every Wednesday, 4:00-6:00 pm
Queen of Hearts – Thursdays – 4:00-6:00 pm
Slingo – First Sunday of the month at 2:00-4:00 pm
BUNCO – Second and Fourth Sunday, 1:00-4:00 pm
SWOOP- Mondays at 10:00 am.

Closing prayer was read, and President Dianne gave her closing statement.
The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Bracco
Secretary, Madera Unit 131