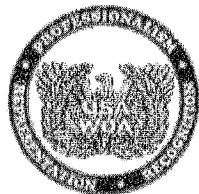


STAR OF THE NORTH CHAPTER

United States Army Warrant Officers Association



MINUTES MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING

18 November 2013

Fort Snelling Officers Club



1. The meeting was brought to order by Tina Podratz, Pro-temp President at 1818 hours at the Fort Snelling Officers Club, 395 HWY 5 & Post Road, St. Paul, MN 55111
2. The following members/guests were in attendance:

CW3 Tina Podratz	Pro-Temp President
CW5R Howard Lundin	Vice President
Exempt	Treasurer
WO1 Jacqueline Cornwell	Secretary
CW5 Peter Panos	Member
CW4R Don Nesheim	Member
CW5R Lyle Fridlund	Member-Fort McCoy Chapter

The following members were representative by proxy:

CW4 Brent Jensen	Treasurer
CW3 Erik Homme	Member
CW3 Keith Schweitzer	Member
CW2 Jeremy Myers	Member
CW2 Michael Begley	Member-Fort McCoy Chapter

3. WO1 Cornwell is Secretary for the meeting.
 - a. Mr. Lundin confirmed that a quorum was available to conduct business based on the number of members present or represented by proxy.
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and Ms. Podratz welcomed members and guests to the meeting.
 - d. Ms. Cornwell reviewed minutes from the October 2013 Chapter Meeting. Mr. Nesheim made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Panos second. Motion passed.
4. Ms. Podratz presented the treasurer's Report. No report at this time
 - a. Mr. Podratz indicated that Mr. Jensen is looking for a number of banks to set up an account.

Once he has the list compiled, he will bring to the board for a vote on which to use. Mr. Lundin recommended that Mr. Jensen choose a bank such as Hi-Way Federal Credit Union that does not charge us fees. He does have to bring to the board for a vote, as the Treasurer he can make that decision, as long as we do not get charged for banking with them.

b. Mr. Panos recommended that we have two (2) members of the board that are able to sign the checks for the account we open, specifically Mr. Jensen and Ms. Podratz. Due to Mr. Jensen not being able to be in attendance this evening, Ms. Podratz tabled this discussion until next meeting when Mr. Jensen is available.

c. Mr. Lundin made a Formal Motion to allow the President, currently Ms. Podratz, to spend not over \$50 without having to present spending request to board for approval. Mr. Nesheim second. Motion passed.

5. Ms. Podratz presented the Announcements.

a. Ms. Podratz read portions of USAWOA's Involvement in the Legislative Process By Ray Bell, CW5, USAR Retired, USAWOA Legislative Advisor. All agreed that this would be a good piece to have in the upcoming newsletter. Document was given to Ms. Cornwell for review and adding into newsletter.

b. Ms. Podratz read portions of USAWOA Member Services & Benefits. After all reviewed, they agreed this would be a good piece to have in upcoming newsletter. Document was given to Ms. Cornwell for review and adding into newsletter.

c. Ms. Podratz read notes from USAWOA 41st Annual Meeting of the Members, which was conducted on October 14-18, 2013, Sacramento, CA. Key items that were discussed was the AKO Transformation, AKO transition affects retirees and annuitants' myPay accounts. After review all agreed this would be a good piece to have in upcoming newsletter.

d. Ms. Podratz informed members that the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Members will be conducted on October 6-10, 2014, West Des Moines, IA. Was highly recommended that we get as many members as we can in attendance, will be a great opportunity due to how close to home it is this year. Mr. Nesheim indicated he plans on attending and will work to get others within the state.

e. Ms. Podratz informed members that Toys for Tots is looking for volunteers to help sort toys. Volunteering with Toys for Tots was discussed at October's meeting so we should try and get registered as a group as soon as possible. Ms. Podratz will set a date/time for us to volunteer, keeping in mind our next meeting is on 16 December 2013 and trying to register for that date if possible. Once Ms. Podratz has established a date, Ms. Cornwell will complete flyers and send emails. Mr. Panos will upload information onto Facebook. Ms. Podratz will work with MOAA/ROA/AUSA/USAR (CW2 Begley) to get the information out.

f. Ms. Cornwell and Ms. Podratz will have the Star of the North Newsletter-1st Edition emailed, and mailed out, to those members who do not have an email account, by 6 December 2013.

6. Ms. Podratz presented the Reports of Officers. No report at this time

7. Ms. Podratz presented the Committee Reports. No reports at this time

8. Ms. Podratz presented Unfinished Business:

a. Discussed at October meeting-guest speakers for our meetings. MG(R) Shellito was unable to attend this evening or in December. He is unable to attend on Monday evenings but will continue to with him as a guest speaker in 2014.

b. Mr. Lundin informed members that Director Mid-Northern Region-Philip E. Tackett, will be visiting us at our April meeting and we could see if he would be willing to be a guest speaker.

c. Ms. Podratz recommended two guest speakers involved in legislation for future meetings. Col Sandra Best, Director of Government Relations at the Joint Force Headquarters & COL (R) Donald Kerr, Executive Director, Department of Military Affairs & AUSA Chapter President. Both would be able to provide insight into questions we have on legislation such as:

1. What can we do to build together?
2. What is the legislation cycle?
3. Difference between Money cycle and Budget Cycle?
4. As an association can you identify what we should focus on in the legislation?

d. Mr. Lundin recommended Amber Granner a representative of TRICARE as a future guest speaker. Ms. Granner would be able to assist us with information for our newsletter as well. Mr. Lundin is going to provide Ms. Cornwell with contact information for her. Ms. Cornwell will conduct interview and retrieve pertinent information on TRICARE for both active and retired Soldiers to present in newsletter.

e. April meeting will be up at Camp Ripley and will be our dinner/social. Additional items and details of the event have been tabled by Ms. Podratz until next meeting.

9. Ms. Podratz asked for New Business:

a. Mr. Panos recommended Dental Program and prescription glasses information be placed in newsletter.

b. Ms. Cornwell recommended we the upcoming holidays, we place information in newsletter in regards to Military Discounts at local and chain stores. Mr. Nesheim indicated Home Depot and Mr. Panos indicated Lowes as having discounts. Will compile a list and also have links in the newsletter.

c. Ms. Podratz indicated that she has seen on Facebook a newly promoted MAJ indicating that they are the Quiet Professionals. Mr. Nesheim stated "To Commission is to Place in Service, To Warrant is to Guarantee Performance". This motivated stories and tales of service. Members then discussed history of Warrant Officer Corp, Warrant Officer color Brown and coins or items to give

to the new candidates. Ms. Podratz recommended a fundraiser and passed around a sample coin from Quartermastersales.com website. Mr. Fridlund recommended that we also do a membership drive. We could come up with our own ideas for a Star of the North coin and hand them out. Discussion on Fundraiser was tabled by Ms. Podratz until next meeting.

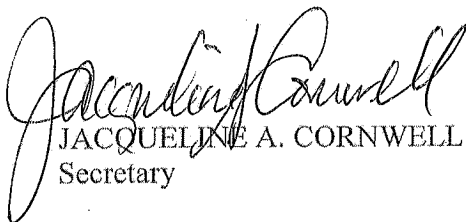
d. Ms. Cornwell recommended that we discuss the dates and locations of upcoming meetings to ensure a timely notification to all members. Dates were discussed and are listed in section below.

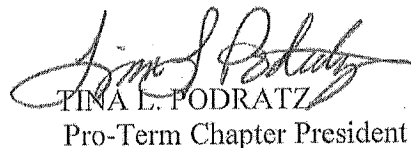
10. Next Chapter meeting will be held at the Ft Snelling Officers Club on 16 December 2013 at 1800. Future meetings were discussed at November's meeting and are listed below. Not every meeting will fall on the third (3rd) Monday of the month due to multiple holidays.

- a. Monday, January 13th, 2014-Fort Snelling Officer Club-1800
- b. Monday, February 10th, 2014-Fort Snelling Officers Club-1800
- c. Monday, March 17th, 2014-Fort Snelling Officers Club-1800
- d. Saturday, April 12th, 2014-Camp Ripley, MN (Exact Location and Time TBD)

11. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 1914 by Mr. Fridlund, seconded by Mr. Panos and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,


JACQUELINE A. CORNWELL
Secretary


TINA L. PODRATZ
Pro-Term Chapter President