

STAR OF THE NORTH CHAPTER

United States Army Warrant Officers Association



MINUTES MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING

19 October 2015

American Legion Post #435 in Richfield, Minnesota



1. The meeting was brought to order by Ms. Tina Podratz, President at 18:04 hours at the American Legion Post #435 in Richfield, Minnesota. Ms. Podratz led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance, a Prayer and confirmed that a quorum was available to conduct business.

2. The following members/guests were in attendance:

CW4 Tina Podratz	President
CW2 David Bendickson	Vice President
CW2 Jessica Campbell	Secretary
CW5R Lyle Fridlund	Member
CW5R Marilyn Anderson	Member
CW5R Howard Lundin	Member
CW4 Robert Gunderson	Member
CW4R Donald Nesheim	Member

17 additional members were represented by proxy.

3. Chapter Secretary's Report:

a. The minutes from the September meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Lundin and seconded by Mr. Neshiem to approve the minutes as written. No one being opposed, the minutes were approved.

4. Chapter Treasurer's Report:

- a. Balance in checking/savings accounts as of 19 October 2015 Financial Statement: \$729.68
- b. Motion was made by Mr. Lundin and seconded by Mr. Fridlund to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried and approved.

5. Announcements:

- a. Mr. Bendickson notified the group of the upcoming 2016 Warrant Officer Solarium. It will be held 13-15 January 2016 at Ft. Leavenworth, KS. 84 warrant officers (CW2/P and CW3) representing the Total Army, will identify issues impacting the Army into the foreseeable future and provide recommendations directly to the Chief of Staff of the Army and Army Staff Senior Warrant Officer. CW3 participants must have less than two years time in grade,

and all participants must be graduates of the Warrant Officer Advanced Course. If interested, contact senior warrant officers in your organization. Deadline for name submission is 02 November 2015.

- b. Ms. Podratz brought up the idea of changing meeting dates for the months of January and February. It was decided by the group to change the meeting date in January to the 25th and the meeting in February to the 22nd.

6. Reports of Officers:

- a. Ms. Campbell provided a chapter membership update: 45 members, two new members, one renewal, four losses, plus there are seven non-affiliated members.

7. Unfinished Business:

- a. Mr. Bendickson made 20 reservations with Feed My Starving Children. The volunteer event will be held November 16, 2015 from 2000-2130. The plan is to meet beforehand at the Buffalo Wild Wings no later than 1845. We will have a meet and great dinner and then depart for the warehouse no later than 1940. The Buffalo Wild Wings is located at 550 W 79th St, Chanhassen, MN 55317. Mr. Bendickson will be sending the group an email shortly on safe food handling instructions.
- b. Mr. Bendickson provided an update on the Toys for Tots volunteer event. It will most likely be the week of December 14th. We will be volunteering tentatively from 1700-1900. The plan is to meet at the Panera in Eagan no later than 1600 for a quick bite to eat. The Panera is located at 1260 Promenade Pl, Eagan, MN 55121.

8. New Business:

- a. Mr. Fridlund updated the group on the fundraising idea of purchasing custom made bean toss boards with the warrant officer emblem on the boards and selling them to WOA and area warrant officers. The group agreed that a prototype will be made to “test” with the warrant officers at the next Minnesota WOPD in August 2016 and generate interest for purchase by hosting a bean toss tournament during social events. A motion was made by Mr. Lundin and seconded by Mr. Neshiem to accept the purchase of a bean toss board prototype. Motion carried and approved.
- b. Ms. Podratz suggested we have a guest speaker from the Soldier for Life – Transition Assistance Program (formerly ACAP) at our January 2016 meeting. Ms. Anderson mentioned she will contact the representative for the 88th RSC and see if someone is available to attend and speak at our January meeting.
- c. Ms. Podratz proposed to the group that we have a member drive in the Spring of 2016. There is a possibility this will coincide with the NGAMN Officer Convention (Tentatively 23-24 April 2016). Mr. Lundin suggested that the chapter purchase a 1-year membership to CW4R Robert Dettmer, Minnesota State Representative. A motion was made by Mr. Lundin

and seconded by Mr. Neshiem to purchase a membership for Rep. Robert Dettmer. Motion carried and approved.

- d. The group discussed ideas for spring community service events which included serving meals at Ronald McDonald House (May 2016) and possibly a community clean-up at a local veterans' park or VA clinic (June 2016).
- e. Ms. Anderson was asked to speak with Mr. Begley and get the pictures that were taken at the September 2015 meeting so they can be sent to USAWOA for inclusion in the Newsliner and also to Mr. Danberry for uploading to the Star of the North Chapter website.

9. Next Chapter meetings/events will be:

- a. November 16, 2015 – Feed My Starving Children Community Service Event, Chanhassen, Minnesota – 1845-2130.
- b. December 2015 – Toys for Tots Community Service Event, Eagan, Minnesota – 1600-1900.
- c. Monday, January 25, 2015 - American Legion Post #435 – 1800-1900.
- d. Monday, February 22, 2015 – American Legion Post #435 – 1800-1900.

10. There being no additional business at 19:09, a motion was made by Mr. Bendickson, seconded by Mr. Fridlund and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

S/ Jessica Campbell
JESSICA L. CAMPBELL
Chapter Secretary

S/ Tina Podratz
TINA L. PODRATZ
Chapter President