

MEMORIAL RIFLE SQUAD
OFFICERS AND SQUAD LEADERS MEETING
SATURDAY Sept. 9, 2017
(MRS Squad Room)

Call to order: 0955 hrs – Commander Johnson
Pledge Of Allegiance: - Ken Gibson
Invocation: Chaplin Dan Kirchoffer

Roll Call of Officers:

Commander – Allan Johnson
Vice Commander – Dan Kirchoffer
Chaplin – Dan Kirchoffer
Adjutant – Harry Braaten
Finance Officer – Terri Winter – Not Present
Ordinance Officer – Howard Tillen
QuarterMaster – Rich Ashbury
Historian - Jim Jore
Temporary Trustees – Richard Geis
Bob Nelson
Charlie Kolarth – Not Present
Web site co-ordinator – Ken Tibesar
Medical Officer – Gerry Ballot (acting M.O.)
Judge Advocate – Tom Mullen – Not Present

Squad Leaders:

Monday – Mike Rose
Tuesday – Dan Fisher
Wednesday – Jim Hogan
Thursday – Ray Frisvold
Friday – Jack Wallace – representing

Members present:

Dale Mallberg
Gary Klein

Honored Guest:

Ame Callahan – Executive Director , FSNC

Ame Callahan;

Handed out a flow chart representing an overview process for Cemetery Representatives for each interment at FSNC. (They will all be on the same page). FSNC conducted 5,258 interments in fiscal year 2016.

Included was a proposal for FSNC Memorial Rifle Squad service parking at each shelter. (A yellow lined curb with a sign designating parking only for MRS). In the coming years, all 6 shelters will be used.

Included is a Pilot Program, mandated by Congress, a FSNC Saturday Burial schedule for November 2017 to November 2018. The first Saturday of every month and services are 9:00 to 11:30am (every 30minutes). These dates are set in stone. FSNC is the 5th largest National Cemetery and 1 of 6 National Cemerties to be chosen for this Program.

Cremations only, limited staff on station, ceremonies in consecutive order, MRS Honors if available, and Military Honors if available. (The Army has already said yes to program).

From Dept. of Veterans Affairs; Long standing practices with respect to Family wishes for committal services at VA Natl. Cemeteries;

THE LAW - #2 part (a) reads: " The expressed wishes of the Veterans next of kin or other agent are respected and given appropriate deference's when evaluating whether the committal service impacts safety and security concerns".

Cemetery Representatives (Lead Cars) in 5 hour training, prior to training, a 2 day audit was preformed and found that many things were not being done at FSNC.. BIG CHANGES ARE COMING UP. Cemetery Reps were trained the wrong way, in the past. Law mandates the Cemetery Reps mandated to listen to the service and to keep an eye on the Urn or Casket.

Medical Emergencies at Shelters, Squad leaders call 911, then call Office to have a car meet Medical personnel at gate. By Law, FSNC is Federal property and responsible control of scene. ALL SQUADS MUST DO THE SAME, let Ame know what to do so she can train the Lead cars. A policy will be written for an Emergency Management Plan).

If a Lead car does not respond right away, give them a few minutes, as they will now be going over paperwork with Family. (This will happen, as the Lead cars are mandated to meet with the Families).

A new contractor is being interviewed. The boards that hold the Urns, WILL BE GONE.

Refolding of the Flag, Any red showing, the lead car should take the flag and notify the Family if they wish the flag refolded, if not, DO NOT REFOLD....

Lead cars should be checking with the Family for any Handicap assistance and move those vehicles to the front of the car line.

Alarm system contract has been awarded, but no specifics have been discussed yet.

Squad room new floor, this will be a garage type floor coating.

FSNC has a proposal for a new Memorial Rifle Squad Building, Ame was asked what she wanted and she gave them a "Dream Sheet for new building." Ame would like to see a bigger building for the MRS.

Historian Report – Jim Jore (had to leave for another appointment)

Squad leaders are asked that if any new members join their squad, let Jim know so he can come out and get a picture taken. Jim keeps a master roster data.

Also notify Jim if any members become inactive or deceased.

Names and phone numbers of members DO NOT get posted on the bulletin board.

New issue; In March or April 2018, we will have reached 75,000 interments at FSNC.

What do we want to do????

Any ideas, Ame will support.

The Special ceremonies once a month by the Admin Bldg., a calendar will be posted on the bulletin board so each squad knows when it will their turn to do Honors.

Motion to accept Historians report made by Harry Braaten, seconded by Ray Frisvold. Motion carried.

Ame Callahan; :

Last remark "Safety issues are the main concern at FSNC, if it is not going to hurt or harm anybody, WE HAVE TO HONOR THE FAMILYS WISHES."

THANK YOU AME

Adoption of the Agenda for Sept. 9th and the Minutes from the June 17, 2017 were accepted, as they were posted for 30 days and no changes were made.

Bulletin Board issues – Only the Commander and Squad Leaders are authorized to give permission to put anything on the Bulletin Board.

Annual meeting, January 6, 2018 to be held at the Apple Valley American Legion.

Social hour starts at 9:00am and the meeting starts at 10:00am.

Any suggestions for lunch menu, let Bob Nelson or someone on the Wednesday Squad know.

Floor nominations for Officers will be accepted from the floor also.

With the date of January 6, for the Saturday Burial Program, Bob Nelson will check to see if January 13th is open for the Annual meeting.

Web-site Co-coordinator report – Ken Tibzsar

Use of the Internet is a Great communication tool.

MRS.org – Daily schedules available, meetings listed, any minutes, Dates for the Pilot Program , etc., these can all be added to site.

Discussion about the different aspects of the use of the computer.

Motion by Dan Fisher to explore looking into a monitor for display, with a printer with access port to be put into existing Squad Room. (Approx. cost \$500.00)

Seconded by Mike Rose. Motion carried. (1 no vote.)

Vice Commander – Dan Kirchoffer

Discussion about new Raincoats and Parka with liner.

Motion was made and seconded to continue discussion about Raincoat/Parka.

Motion carried.

Motion that was made by Geog W at January meeting to not discuss for 3 years, According to Roberts Rule was unreasonable, so talk continued.

Jackets cost \$89.00 each and can be here in 3 days.

18 parkas have been cleaned (for Free), and 24 left for cleaning and repair.

Cost roughly \$20.00 each.

Dale Mallberg made a motion to have rest of Parkas cleaned and repaired as needed and allocate up to \$1000.00. Seconded by Bob Nelson. Motion carried.

Motion made to accept report, seconded. Motion Carried

Finance Officer – Rich Geis reporting for Terri Winter

All balances are good and all funds are accounted for.

An Audit will be preformed before the first of the year and reported at the annual meeting in January.

Motion made to accept report, Seconded. Motion Carried.

Quartermaster – Rich Ashbury

Nothing to report, all doing ok.

From the Commander, a new storage shed was purchased and will be placed on concrete slab, next to Squad room. Grounds crew will put together.

New Flags and poles were purchased also, as ones now are getting old.

New plagues were discussed, to replace the big one on the wall in squad room.

All names would go on that are existing on plagues now. This would make for more conformity.

Motion made by Mike Rose to have new Memorial Plagues used to replace the one on the wall. Seconded by Howard Tillen. Motion Carried.

Motion made and seconded to accept Quartermaster report. Motion Carried.

Ordinance Officer – Howard Tillen

An inventory was made on the Rifles. All ok.

Check you Brass, as a .308 Winchester blank was found in brass.

All supplies are ok.

Motion to accept report made by Ray Frisvold, seconded by Rich Ashbury.

Motion Carried.

Trustees – Rich Geis

Nothing to report, Audit will be made and reported to membership at January 2018 Annual meeting.

Motion by Gerry Ballot to accept report, seconded by Bob Nelson.

Motion Carried.

Officer of the Day – Not Present

No report

Adjutant – Harry Braaten

Donations have been coming in and as soon as I get information from Terri, "Thank You" letters have been going out. Question is how long do I keep the information, before destroying it??? Discussion. Answer – Will keep information long time.. Average about \$1000. Donation a month, and expenses are roughly \$1200.00 a quarter.

It has brought to our attention that Ray Frisvold is listed as a Charter Member. Thru research, Ray had been attending meetings in the planning stage of the Memorial Rifle Squad starting in May 1979. Ray was unable to start performing duties due to his work schedule, but was still involved in the planning stages. So he should be listed as a Co-Founder of the MRS.

Harry B. made a motion that Ray Frisvold be added to the list of Co-Founders.

Discussion followed.

Amended motion to make Ray Frisvold and Glen O'Malley names be added to the list of Co-founders, with the information that we had now.

Seconded by Bob Nelson. Motion Carried.

(need to find information that supports what we are doing. (Rationale)

Motion to accept report, seconded. Motion Carried.

Medical Officer – Gerry Ballot

Squad Leaders make sure that your information is updated and correct for each of your squad members.

Squad Leaders should ID potential Health problems with your squad, and maybe go to a Buddy system.

Make sure that a couple of cell phones are along as you go out to do Honors, in case of Medical emergency.

Motion by Dan Fisher to accept report, seconded by rich Ashbury. Motion Carried.

Judge Advocate – Tom Mullen (not present)

No report.

Commander – Allan Johnson

Short sleeves shirts vs. long sleeve shirts. There is a posting on the board that states " Short Sleeve Shirts worn from May1 to September 30.

One Squad has decided to start wearing Long Sleeve shirts starting on September 1.
Discussion:

Director of FSNC wants to make everything conform. Why don't we do the same???

Motion by Dan Fisher To conform with the signage on the squad room door to go with short sleeve shirts from May 1 to Sept. 30, and Long sleeve shirts from Oct. 1 to April 30. Seconded by Howard Tillen. Motion Carried.

The Commander and other Squad members have come into the squad room and have found squad lockers unlocked. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY of the Squad Leader that his locker and all other doors are locked before he leaves for the day. There is concern that there are members that have keys that shouldn't have, because a locker was found open that was locked.

Concern that Friday squad is calling themselves the "Elite Squad"; Jack Wallace said it was a joke, but rumors are getting out to the public. ALL SQUADS ARE EQUAL...

Concern that 2 squads are sending a new recruit out of the building; the entire squad will then votes to accept or deny the new recruit. This should not happen.

Information that is private to MRS is getting put on the bulletin board. The Commander and Squad leaders are the only ones to authorize anything put on the board.

Special services, such as Memorial Day, a sign up sheet is placed on the bulletin board, at last minute a name gets crossed off.
NEW _ once you sign up for anything, you will be expected to be there unless there is a medical emergency.

Old Business:

Rifles on the Bus. Squad leaders will make sure Rifles are secured.

Motion for Temporary Trustees will stay in the position until the Annual election. Motion by Dan Fisher, seconded by Ray Frisvold. Motion Carried.

Installation dinner. Mike Rose read a statement from the Monday Squad, that we should honor the Majority of the vote and go to the Embassy suites.

Motion made by Rich Geis, seconded by Harry Braaten the we go to the Embassy Suites for 2018 Installation dinner. Discussion. Motion failed.

Rich Geis made a motion that we figure out the different venues and bring to the membership at the Annual meeting in January 2018 to make a vote for the 2020 Installation Dinner, as 2019 will be the 40th Anniversary, and will not be at Mancini's. This will also be procedure for the following years to come. seconded by Ray Frisvold. Motion Carried.

By-Law and constitution discussion:

Changes can be made in the constitution, but must be registered with the Secretary of State for a small fee.

There is nothing in the MRS Constitution that states a change can be made.

No changes will be made in the MRS Constitution.

The Medical Officer and Judge Advocate were approved in January 2014, and will be added to the rewriting of the By-Laws.

Discussion about Finances, Motion made to have \$1200 as a fund for the Commander to use at his discretion, anything over that amount, must have a membership vote. Motion by Mike rose, seconded by Rich Geis. Motion Carried (If amount get to be \$6-8,000, squad leaders will bring to their squads for a vote.

Trustee discussion

Ray Frisvold made a motion to make trustees count the Ballots at the Annual election, unless their name is on the ballot, in that case the Commander will choose another member, not on the ballot, to help with the counting.

Seconded by Mike rose. Motion Carried.

Good of the Order:

Nothing to report

Benediction;

Hand Salute

Motion to adjourn, seconded, Motion Carried

Adjourned at 1:40 pm

Respectively submitted,

Harry Braaten

Minutes will be posted for 30 day, if there is no changes made the minutes will become approved.