

**MRS OFFICERS AND SQUAD LEADERS MEETING  
SATURDAY FEB. 16, 2019  
MRS SQUAD ROOM**

**Call to Order**            Commander Pluta            1000 hours  
**Pledge of Allegiance** Ken Gibson  
**Invocation**            Richard Geis

**Roll Call of Officers:**

Commander	Mike Pluta	Present
Vice Commander	Richard Geis	Present
Chaplain	Alan Krueger	Excused
Adjutant	Harry Braaten	Present
Finance Officer	Bill Lee	Present
Quartermaster	Rich Ashbury	Excused
Assist. Quartermaster	Gary Klein	Present
Ordinance Officer	Howard Tillen	Not Present
Historian	Jim Jore	Present
Trustees	Bob Nelson	Present
	Jack Wallace	Excused
	Bob Seldon	Excused
Web Site Coord.	Ken Tibesar	Present
Officer of Day	Ken Gibson	Present
Medical Officer	Rich Zech	Excused

**Roll Call of Squad Leaders:**

Monday	Mike Rose	Not present
Tuesday Squad	Dan Fisher	Present
Assistant	Dale Mallberg	Present
Wednesday	Mike Hanzal	Present
Thursday	Ray Frisvold	Present
Assistant	Dave Fleming	Present
Friday	George Weiss	Excused
Assistant	Mike Pluta	
Saturday	Lee Aragon	Not Present

**Adoption of Agenda;** motion to accept, seconded, motion carried.

**Minutes Jan. 12, 2019** ( Posted for 30 days, no changes, approved).

**Officers reports:**

**Vice Commander** – Richard Geis

Nothing to report.

**Adjutant** – Harry Braaten

23 Thank you letters have been sent out as of Feb. 16, 2019.

John Knapp and Ame Callahan will receive a personal invitation to the Annual Installation Dinner, by Commander Pluta.

Others to receive an invitation:

Don Christy

Ed White

Jim Hoey -To be made an Honorary member of the Memorial

Rifle Squad, and will be given a MRS sweater on behave

of the MRS.

Ryan Egginton – Has provide the MRS with free web site service. (usually \$35.00 a month).

**Finance Officer** – Bill Lee

All books are balanced, as of Feb. 15, 2019 and looking very good.

**Ordinance Officer** – Howard Tellin (not Present)

No report.

**Quartermaster** – Gary Klein

In good shape.

White service belts have been ordered.

White belts and ties may be requested by active members from The QM.

Short on collar pins, but have been ordered.

Shell bags are located in the shed, and more have been ordered.

There are a couple of members that are interested in helping With Quartermaster.

Need of a uniform check list.. Discussion followed.

Squad Leaders should have uniform slips to hand out, instead of waiting for QM to get and waiting an extra week to process. Squad Leaders need to sign and date, and make a copy to give To QM.

new recruits still need to go thru QM, with Back ground check. Gary Klein will put slips in each locker after the meeting.

White Scarfs ; never voted on by membership, discussion about whether they are part of our uniform or not?????

Discussion;

Motion was made to make this an option to wear or not Squad Leaders are in charge of daily squads, it will be their Decision. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Cards that go into shell bags, ordering 5,000 more.

They have the Address and web site listed on card.

2.

**Historian** – Jim Jore

Copy of roster was handed out to Officers and Squad Leaders,

Any changes, or new members need to be given tp Jim Jore and Ken Tibesar. (leave info in envelope, put Jim Jore's name on envelope

And tape to Thursday Locker.

**Trustees** – Bob Nelson

Review of the books, all looking very good as of Feb. 16, 2019.

Bob will review books after meeting is over.

Trustees should review the books 1 time each quarter.

**Officer of Day** – Ken Gibson

Nothing to report.

**Medical Officer** – Rich Zech – not present

Commander wants to make sure that every squad has a medic.

Make sure that name gets to Rich Zech.

The medic needs to update RED BOOK that has go on the bus every with squad of the day.

day

**Web site Coordinator** – Ken Tibesar

All need to check the web page. Look at the Benefits page,  
Great info about Veterans interment services/procedures.  
WCCO videos out on the web page from 2004 and 2012.

Dan Fisher mention the Certificate of Appreciation of service.  
Give Dan the name as soon as possible, he will check with VAVS  
To get hours and # of years served, and will get out to Squad Leader  
As soon as possible.  
Veterans can get free Flag Boxes and Free Urns.

### **Squad Leaders Reports:**

Monday – no representation.

Tuesday – Dan Fisher

25 members – 4 on disability, 4 snowbirds.

Ave. 14 – 15 e Tuesday

Wednesday – Mike Hanzal

25 members – 2 on medical and a couple snowbirds.

Ave. 17/18 each Wednesday.

From the Commander – A Big Thank You for being a great  
Ambassador for the MRS with the WCCO regional video,  
And then with the National new segment.

Also a Thank You for all members for being present with all  
The cold weather and snow..

Thursday – Ray Frisvold

25 members – 1 snowbird

Ave. 19 each Thursday.

Friday – Mike Pluta

27 members – have snowbirds and medicals.

Ave, 19 each Friday

Saturday – Report given by Dan Fisher

22 members (11 from the Tuesday squad, 4 from  
Friday squad,

Saturday interments are scheduled and have been up to 7

Service in two hours, with possible add ons at last minutes.

Saturday Honors are still the first Saturday of the month.

### **Commanders Report – Mike Pluta**

Discussion about the Flag pole Honors,

Commander misquoted to all Squad leaders about taking a vote about the services to be  
counted. Jan. 12, 2019 Annual meeting, vote done properly.

There was a motion, seconded and motion carried that each name read off would count as 1 service and  
would be added to our total.

Discussion –

According to MRS Constitution –

Article II – Objects

Section 1. Provide ceremonial burial service free of charge for an Honorably

Discharged Veteran from the Armed Forces of the United States, if requested by the next of kin or funeral  
director.

We don't know if family members or funeral director requested our services.

We have been doing the Flag pole Honors since Tuesday May 15, 2015, this date is from John Knapp.

Discussion

Dan Fisher commented, that Veterans so named shall be Honored in one ceremony, and  
should only be counted as 1 service for our count.

MRS to continue to add 1 service to total for Flag pole Honors.

Carry two sets of numbers, 1 set for MRS and 1 set for Administration.

Dave Fleming made a motion to keep two sets of numbers until the Jan. 2020 annual meeting.

Discussion followed.

Dave Fleming made an amendment to his motion to Table this discussion until the Annual 2020 meeting. Seconded by Dan Fisher, Motion carried.

Commander mentioned that June 19, 2019 will be the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Memorial Rifle Squad. His plan is to do something special on that actual date.

An all hands muster at 2:30pm at the Central boulder with Flag.

(if all members were to show up, this would be a great tribute to all 125 members, especially the founders and co-founders of the Memorial Rifle Squad).

3 hours of volunteer service would be credited to members.

Family members and retirees are invited to attend also.

Richard Geis has the MRS on the books to be notified what the cost would be to have a fly-over by a B25, as was done on Memorial Day.

Bill Lee made a motion to put the date on our calendar.

Seconded by Dan Fisher

Motion Carried

Discussion

Richard Geis made a motion to have an all member muster @ the Central Boulder, to include inactive members also.

Seconded by Ken Tibesar

Motion carried.

Commander gave several recognitions;

Dan Fisher for returning after his surgery.

Dan Kirchoffner for doing an tremendous job under the circumstances he had with his health.

Mike Hanzal and the Wednesday Squad for the WCCO news video.

Lee Aragon – support for the Saturday Squad.

Jim Hoey – author of the book about the MRS.. To be made an Honorary member.

Officers:

Harry Braaten – accepted the position of Adjutant and is doing a wonderful job.

Bill Lee –FO. – His account books are clean, precise, and to the point and penny.

Jim Jore – Historian – Tremendous job of keeping the History of the Memorial Rifle Squad, with his technical powers.

Richard Geis also mentioned the Jim put the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Book together.

Ken Tibesar – Web Coordinator –

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Jan. 6, 2018 Annual meeting, a committee was to be formed with 1 Squad member from each Squad to come up with a resolution if we had no nominations for Commander. Nothing was done.

Commander Pluta commented that he and Richard Geis are working together to foster a culture that doesn't make the job so encompassing .

June 18, 2016 (minutes) Chain of Command;

Discussion held regarding who would be in command of MRS if both the Commander and Vice Commander were gone at the same time.

In the minutes, from June 18, 2016, it was decided that the past commander should take control in this instances.

**Old Business:**

By-Law update: By-Laws have been updated. (they were posted for 30 days On the bulletin board in the Squad room).

The Articles of Incorporation, The Constitution, The By-Laws, and The Manual Of Procedure will be reprinted in book form for all members to receive.

( they will have a copyright date and a Mission Statement of the Memorial Rifle Squad).

There may be a possibility of the Officers/Squad Leaders meeting to change meeting venues if FSNC goes with every Saturday Honors. Mentioned to change to 2:30pm instead of 10:00am.

Name Plates; Discussion

Commander thought that it would be a good idea if all members were to wear name plates.

Jim Jore mentioned the the Soliders that are with us, do not wear name tags. (point made, we are an generic veteran).

Dale Mallberg stated that "The Honors are about the Veteran and not us". Years ago, Dale also mentioned that the name tags were shot down.

No action to be taken on the name plates..

August 8, 2013 minutes stated:

**PROTOCOL WHILE ON DUTY:**

It is easy to neglect the small niceties of Protocol and remember, as we leave a committal site, EACH SQUAD SHOULD EXIT QUIETLY, with decorum and with **extra muted noise levels down. (Our words and our conservations float right back to the ears of the families and friends at the committal site.**

SQUAD LEADERS, PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO YOUR SQUADS....

Ken Tibesar brought up a point that new recruits need to be a member of a Veterans Service Organization. Discussion.

The Constitution and the By-Laws state the a new member must belong to a VSO.

**CONSTITUTION - ARTICLE IV- MEMBERSHIP - SECTION1**

MEMBERSHIP IN THE MEMORIAL RIFLE SQUAD IS OPEN TO ANY VETERAN HONORABLY DISCHARGE FROM THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATE, AND WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF A VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION.

**BY-LAWS – ARTICLE VIII – MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY – SECTION 1**

MEMBERSHIP IN THE MEMORIAL RIFLE SQUAD IS OPEN TO ANY VETERAN HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM UNITED STATES MILITARY SERVICE, AND WHO IS A MEMBER OF A VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION, AND WHO SUBMITS A FORM DD214, TO HIS/HER SQUAD LEADER.

September 15, 2019 is the MRS Picnic.

Report from Rich Geis, that the shelter has been secured,

The entertainment has been secured.

The caterer is working on the menu.

All members and families are invited, as well as, retirees and families.

June 15, 2019 is the next Officers/Squad Leaders meeting.

There will be a sign up sheet going up for the Memorial Day activities.

Benediction

Salute to Flag

Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Braaten  
Adjutant - MRS

Not Official until posted for 30 days.