

<http://www.uawregion1veterans.com>

Next Meeting is **Tuesday February 09, 2010** 5:00 pm
Region 1 Headquarters 27800 George Merrelli Drive
Warren, Mi. (586) 427-9200

UAW Region 1 Veterans Council Meeting Minutes of 12 January 10.

- Meeting opened at 5:05pm by Brother Al Opra.
- Agenda approved as read.
- Pledge of Allegiance.

POW/MIA Prayer by: Brother Jerry McKinney.

- Prayer given by Jerry McKinney.

Roll call of Officers: 7 present and 1 excused.

Roll call of Locals Present: 7, 22, 160, 228, 314, 400, 412, 771, 869, 889, 961, 1248, 1264, and 2280.

Locals Absent: 44, 51, 140, 155, 212, 246, 251, 369, 375, 594, 653, 812, 909, 1149, 1374, 1700, 1777, 1781, 1781, 1796, 1869, 1979, 2071, 2200, 2211, 2334, 2342, 2381, 2411, 2500, 5960, 6911, 7777, and 9699.

Host Local

- Carlton Pace from Local 889, served up pizza and salad. Thanks Carlton!

First Timers

- None

Guests at the meeting.

- Chuck Hall, UAW Region 1, Assistant Director

Reading of the Minutes: Sister Dawn Frydenlund.

- The minutes of December 12, 2009 were approved as published.

Motion made and passed to accept.

Region 1 Veterans Committee Coordinator: Brother Tony Feyers.

- Brother Tony reports out at quarterly meetings.

Financial report: Brother Jim French Jr.

Since out last meeting we paid out the following:

- \$200.00 for the Great Lakes National Cemetery 2009 and 2010 Due's.
- In our Veterans Activity Account we have \$10,746.41

This concludes my report for January 12, 2010

Motion made and passed to accept.

Trustee Report: Brother Chuck Hamilton.

- Brother Chuck reports out quarterly.

VAVS Report: Brother Larry Goike VAVS Dep. Rep.

- There was no VAVS meeting this month at the hospital, but I did talk to Bill B (VAVS Chief) on the phone.
- He thanked the UAW Veterans Council again, for putting up and taking down the Christmas trees, they looked great.
- We received a card thanking us for our devoted support of hospitalized veterans.
- We also received two cards from the Chaplains office. One for our continued support of the coffee hours last year and the other for the ten cans of coffee we donated.
- I would like to thank everyone who came to help take down Christmas trees, especially Mary Merritt who brought her young Marines; there must have been at least a dozen energetic boys and girls.
- Thank you to everyone who donated clothes to the Dom. Al, Wally and I met there just before Christmas and gave the donations to the vets on behalf of the Veterans Council.
- Thank you also to Wayne Smith. I met him, his wife and son at the hospital Dec. 19th and passed out cards, canteen books and donated afghans.
- At last month's meeting there some questions regarding signing up for benefits at the hospital. Just a reminder that all forms and registration can be done online also at www.detroit.va.gov, click on "I want to become a patient," or call to have forms mailed to you at 1-(877)-222-VETS(8387). You can also bring the forms to the Registration Office, located in room C1900, first floor, yellow section. When you go be sure to bring a copy of your DD214 and a copy of both sides of your current insurance card. To speak to someone in the Registration Office if you have questions, you can call (313)-576-1000 ext. 54731 or (800)-511-8056 ext. 65731.
- Next VAVS meeting at the hospital is Thurs, Feb 4th.

Motion made and passed to accept.

Vice Chairman's Report: Brother Carlton Pace.

- Carlton let us know that Chuck Hall is from his Local, and that Chuck is a good guy who supports Vets.
- Senate Passes VA Health Care Budget. Next step President to sign it in to law.
- VA provides compensation and pension benefits to over 3.8 million Veterans and beneficiaries. Monthly rates of compensation ranges from \$123 to \$2,673.

Motion made and passed to accept.

Chairman's Report: Brother Al Opra.

- Greetings welcome to this month's meeting I'd like to thank you all for attending. I also hope everyone's holidays went well and let's all pray for a better New Year for everyone.
- We have many things to plan for in the upcoming year and I want us to be well ahead of schedule for the planning and preparation for all of our events. Go over tentative events schedule.
- I want to thank the folks that showed up to take down the Christmas trees at the V.A. Hospital.
- I also want to thank the folks (Larry and Wally) that showed up to deliver the Christmas presents at the Dom. We bought and donated to them a bunch of WWII stuff and I was told that it's really been helping the residents to open up and become a little more outspoken.
- I took Lt. Col. Milben and Lt. Col. Jefferson to the Dom last Sunday to speak because when we were down passing out the Christmas presents we were talking about them. I told the resident's I'd see what I could do. They spoke for about 2 1/2 hours and everyone was amazed and if you've ever heard them speak you know why!
- The 16th annual Wild Game Dinner will be held on January 22, 2010 at the Mirage Banquet Hall this benefits No Child Without a Christmas and the Disabled American Veterans of America.
- MaryAnn Merritt is trying to raise money through twitter.
- We attended the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Awards Luncheon at Cpl. Menge VFW Post # 6756 and received 2 Certificates for our support.
- The Eastpointe Lions is holding its 5th Annual Steak & Shrimp Extravaganza on February 19, 2010. They are one our partners in the Chili Cook Off. Please try and attend.
- Michigan Beer Tasting to benefit the 1/24th Marines Memorial will be held on January 28, 2010.
- The NRA offers a Lifetime Membership for \$1,000.00 but if you collect any type of service connected disability of at least 10% you only have to pay \$375.00 at a rate of \$25.00 every three months.
- We need a few more Locals to volunteer to host meetings.
- The NVAC will meet the month of February 22, 2010 could all Locals please give me a Report of your activities and fundraisers for the last year this information is due by the next meeting. Otherwise I'll just report on what the

Region did and your individual Locals won't get acknowledged at the meeting when I give my report!

- I would also like any suggestions you may have for the conference this year at the next meeting. Talk with your Locals about going ASAP.
- I know times are extremely tough right now, but this is when we have to dig down, and help our less fortunate Brother and Sister Veterans. We have always set the mark out of all of the Regions, and I know that together we will continue to be the most active Veterans Council in the UAW.
- Thank you and as always God Bless you, your families, all Veterans, the UAW and all of our Troops serving in harm's way protecting our freedoms and the American way of life!

Motion made and passed to accept.

Legislative Report: Brother Wayne Conner II.

- Brother Wayne Conner II gave handouts of information of importance for veterans.
- Documentary being made. If you know of a Vietnam Veteran with a daughter in the service, please contact Big Al or Mary Ann.

Motion made and passed to accept.

Chaplain's Report: Brother Jerry McKinney.

- Brother Jerry McKinney let everyone know that the Prayer Breakfast will be on April 24, 2010 from 8-Noon, and the Chaplaincy Conference will be held on March 5 and 6. Both will be held a UAW Region 1.

Motion made and passed to accept.

Fund Raising Committee: Brother Wally Allport.

- Still selling pins.

Motion made and passed to accept.

Great Lakes National Cemetery Report: Brother Jim French.

- See Jim if you need a Burial Packet.
- They are in and using the new Administration Building.
- Construction on hold.
- Over 8,300 buried at end of December.

Motion made and passed to accept.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Johnny (Bravo) Bishop let everyone know that his Local collected over \$3,200 for Toys for Tots. It was the first time ever the HR Manager stood a post and helped out. His Local also bought a table for the Wild Game Dinner, 2nd year.
- Locals 412 and 889 also bought tables for the Wild Game Dinner.
- Tony Licari made a motion to donate \$100 to Honor Flight Michigan. Motion passed.
- Wayne Smith suggested moving date of meeting for Wreaths Around America to Dec 4th.
- Shelia Holmes shared with us, that due to construction, the PTSD Clinic is now on the 2nd floor.

Good and Welfare:

- Shelia Holmes thanked everyone for the card and the ticket to the John L. Jordan.
- All coffee hours at the VA are filled for this year. They are on Sundays; running from 9 am to 11 am. The Chaplain office will set up and have the coffee going. You need to be in the multipurpose room by 9:00-9:15am to approximately 11:00am. It can be done with only two people with a cost of approximately \$50.00 which includes 5 doz. donuts, 1 gal of milk, 1 gal of Orange Juice, and 3 lbs. of coffee. Please bring all of the before mentioned.
 - Coffee Hours Oct. 25, 2009 8:30 am VA Hospital Host Local 140
 - Coffee Hours Nov. 08, 2009 8:30 am VA Hospital Host Local 2280
 - Coffee Hours Feb. 14, 2010 8:30 am VA Hospital Host Local 228
 - Coffee Hours Mar. 07, 2010 8:30 am VA Hospital Host Local 869
 - Coffee Hours Apr. 11, 2010 8:30 am VA Hospital Host Local 412
 - Coffee Hours May 30, 2010 8:30 am VA Hospital Host Local 1248
 - Coffee Hours Jun. 13, 2010 8:30 am VA Hospital Host Local 2280
 - Coffee Hours Nov. 14, 2010 8:30 am VA Hospital Host Local 140

We are all filled up for next year. But, there are usually more available, let me know if you're interested and would still like to sponsor one. The cost is approx \$50 for 5 doz donuts, gal of milk, OJ and 3lb coffee. You can get it done with only 2 volunteers but more the merrier. The Chaplains office will set up and have the coffee going. You will need to be there NLT 9:30am, and get either the blue service desk attendant or a police guard to open the room. The multipurpose room is locked unless it is in use. The coffee hour lasts till about 11:30, the chaplain will take the remaining donuts up to the closed ward. If you have a problem with your date please contact me asap (586.983.3629), so I can get someone to fill in. The patients really look forward to getting out of their rooms and socializing a bit, before and after, their Sunday morning services.

▪ **Scheduled meetings for Region 1 Veterans Council for 2009/10:**

- Tuesday, Feb. 09, 2010 @ 5:00 pm Host Local - 160
 - Saturday, Mar. 13, 2010 @ 10:00 am Host Local - 2280
 - Tuesday, Apr. 13, 2010 @ 5:00 pm Host Local
 - Tuesday, May 11, 2010 @ 5:00 pm Host Local - 1264
 - Saturday, Jun. 05, 2010 @ 10:00 am Host Local -
 - July - No meeting, have a safe and happy vacation.
 - August - No meeting, have a safe and happy vacation.
 - Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010 @ 10:00 am Host Local - 889
- Welcome Back!!!

All meetings will be held at Region 1 Headquarters

Up Coming Events and Raffles:

- 16th Annual Wild Game Dinner on January 22, 2010.
- Michigan Beer Tasting to benefit the 1st Battalion, 24th Marines Memorial on January 28, 2010.
- Eastpointe Lions 5th Annual Steak & Shrimp Extravaganza on February 19, 2010. Cocktails at 6:00. Dinner at 7:00. Held at The L.F.A. (next to St. Peters Church) 16140 Aurora, Eastpointe, MI. \$35.00. For tickets call Ken Thiel (586)668-1977.

Motion to adjourn 6:42pm made and passed.

Yours in Solidarity,
Dawn Frydenlund
Recording Secretary, UAW Region 1 Veterans Council