



United States Army Warrant Officers Association

FORT LOWELL - APACHE CHAPTER

- MEETING MINUTES -

MARCH 11, 2013



Meeting called to order at 1800 hours at Cody's Beef 'N Beans by President Lindamood. The members rendered the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was given by CW4R Ozier.

Quorum: 25 active members; 8 proxies recorded - excluding officers; 7 members attending; quorum present.

Secretary's Report: CW2R John Curtis

The minutes of the February 2013 meeting were presented previously to all members electronically. No additions, changes or corrections were suggested. Minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: CW2R Lance Dickinson

Operating fund balance as of March 7th, 2013 is \$1,785.09. The operating fund includes \$370.00 of receipts for the Golf Tournament. Treasurer account signatures are being updated. Motion to accept made by CW4R Ozier, seconded by CW2R Dowdney, accepted unanimously.

President's Report: CW4R Harold Lindamood

Acknowledged our Guest Speaker, Mr. Jerry Lujan, former Navy and Foreign Service Officer.

Vice-President's Report: CW2 Craig Dowdney

25 active members, including 10 lifetime; 46 affiliated members, including 18 lifetime.

Committee Reports:

CW3R Ed Blankschen confirmed the suspension of the April 6th tour of the 162nd Fighter Squadron. Sergeant Polanco informed Ed that their monthly training budget has been restrained. Additional information will be disseminated if this activity can be rescheduled for later in 2013.

CW3R Ed Blankschen has been helping CW3R Ron James with communication between USAWOA headquarters and JROTC high school contacts. Just recently, 15 high schools, having made their initial contact through Ed, were directed to our website. They have responded with positive feedback concerning the ease of ordering and production of the accompanying Certificate. Whenever requested, Ed also provided WOA chapter contacts for their respective regional chapter locations for possible chapter sponsorship.

CW2R Lance Dickinson suggested establishing a policy which will allow CW3R James to draw a certain amount of dollars pre-expense (postage, packaging, etc.) in order to minimize the small incremental receipt processing. Subject tabled for future discussion.

Unfinished Business:

Addressed within the Committee Reports.

Addendum after Speaker: CW3R Schmid made a motion to donate \$100 to Honor Flight. Seconded by CW4R Ozier, motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

July Picnic: The president will contact CW3R Ron James to confirm their invitation for a summer picnic at their home.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Jerry Lujan

Mr. Lujan described aspects of his Foreign Service Officer career (bio attached). He also brought information to the group of his experiences and ongoing interest in Honor Flight. Tucson is the hub for Southern Arizona. Their next flight is scheduled to depart 5:55am March 26th, returning at 8:05pm March 28th. The TAA has cleared the "Welcome back" reception for the upstairs area next to the American Airlines ticketing area. After this, the next flight is scheduled for May 7th - 9th. These American Airlines flight times may change.

President CW4R "Lindy" Lindamood thanked Mr. Lujan for his time and for willingness to share his experiences with our chapter by presenting him with a US Army Warrant Officer challenge coin.

Good of the Order:

CW4R Bob Ozier brought attention to the MOWW meeting at 11:30am April 6th. Their guest speaker is from TriCare. RSVP is requested to accommodate all attendees. Please contact Bob or the undersigned immediately, if you would like to attend.

Adjournment:

The Benediction was given by CW3R Art Schmid. CW3R Blankschen made a motion for adjournment, seconded by CW2R Dowdney, and passed at 2020 hours.

Our next meeting will be held 1800 hours, April 8th at the Metropolitan Grill.

Members Present:

CW3R Ed Blankschen
CW2R John Curtis
CW2R Lance Dickinson
CW2R Craig Dowdney
CW4R Harold Lindamood
CW4R Bob Ozier
CW3R Art Schmid

Guests Present:

Jerry Lujan, former Foreign Service Officer
Jean Curtis
Bette Dickinson
Donna Dowdney
Betty Lindamood
Joy Ozier

Respectfully Submitted,
CW2R John Curtis
Secretary
jtcurtissr@gmail.com

After graduating from high school, I was discharged from the NM National Guard to go into the Navy. During my four year Navy tour I got to visit several foreign places including Japan, The Philippines, Formosa, Hong Kong and several islands in the South Pacific. This whetted my appetite to visit foreign lands so after the Navy I went to work for the U.S. Department of State. As a Foreign Service Officer I was assigned to the following places: Dacca, **East Pakistan** (now **Bangladesh**); Lagos, **Nigeria** (I served here twice); Kaduna, **Nigeria**; Port au Prince, **Haiti**; Santiago, **Chile**; Caracas, **Venezuela**; and finally Santo Domingo, **Dominican Republic**. After serving overseas for 20 years I returned to the U.S. and was assigned to several different offices. While assigned to the Office of Legal Affairs I was charged with setting up the Office of Ethics. My next assignment was to the Secretariat where I was detailed to Madrid for several months. There I set up the administrative support office for the Security and Cooperation in Europe conference. I was then assigned to the office of Security Enhancement which was responsible for adding additional physical security to certain high threat embassies. (None of mine were ever attacked.) When in that office, and later in the Office of Foreign Buildings, I traveled about 50% of my time in short two or three week trips to: Santiago, and Vina del Mar, **Chile**; Panama City, **Panama**; Tegucigalpa, **Honduras**, Managua, **Nicaragua**; Guatemala City, **Guatemala**; Bogotá, **Columbia**; La Paz, **Bolivia**; Lima, **Peru**; Caracas, and Maracaibo, **Venezuela**; Kingston, **Jamaica**; Nassau, **Bahamas**; Havana, **Cuba**; Port of Spain, **Trinidad and Tobago**; Nassau, **Bahamas**; Port au Prince, **Haiti**; Bridgetown, **Barbados**; Fort de France, **Martinique**; Curacao, **Netherlands Antilles**; St George, **Grenada**; St. John's, **Antigua and Barbuda**; Paramaribo, **Surinam**; Khartoum, **Sudan**; Muscat, **Oman**; Mogadishu, **Somalia**; Cairo, and Alexandria, **Egypt**; Tunis, **Tunisia** as well as **Rome, London, and Madrid**. I was in on the planning and development of three embassies – Grenada (completed ahead of schedule and \$2M under budget), Muscat (the only embassy in the world surrounded by a dry moat) and Bogota (completed in two years from start to finish versus the usual four or more). While in Bogota I was accompanied by a machine gun toting bodyguard. In the last of my 34 years with the State Department, three were spent as an Examiner for the Board of Examiners. In this capacity I traveled to Boston, Chicago, Dallas, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle and Atlanta giving the Foreign Service examination. In addition to my duties as an examiner I was also responsible to acquire and set up the offices that were to be used for the examinations.

My daughter, Lisa, was born in Port au Prince, Haiti. She now lives in Nampa, ID. My two sons were born in Santiago, Chile. The eldest, Michael, lives in Venice Beach, CA and Chris lives in Fairfax, VA with his wife, two sons and a daughter. I live in SaddleBrooke, AZ with my wife Gladys, who was also a Foreign Service Officer for 33 years.