

**David F. Lilley, Post 14,
Puerto Vallarta and Banderas Bay
The American Legion, Department of Mexico**

Membership Meeting, 19 August 2014

M-I-N-U-T-E-S

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by Commander Dennis Rike. **There not being a quorum, it was decided to make the meeting informational only.** Our host was *Cuale Paradise*.

- II. **Member Introductions:** Jim Mawdesley, Russ Mills, Dennis Rike, Don Sullivan, and Mark Walker, the latter recently returned from several months in Thailand.

- III. **Committee Reports:**
 - A. **Finance Committee:** A Finance Committee meeting will be held in September. It was noted that Dennis Janson still holds the \$5,000 pesos that were allocated by the Executive Committee to assist Mr. Watson, a veteran who was having severe medical problems. Mr. Watson died before further determination of his condition took place, and the funds were not spent.

 - B. **Community Relations:** Dennis Rike reviewed a number of things that are going on, including a meeting with Seapal regarding water for *Aurora Park* and for the *D.I.F.* Orphanage. Two hotels have volunteers who will help with painting at the Orphanage. *D.I.F.* has money for the paint. The American Legion will provide equipment, brushes, rollers, management. We are about to meet with the manager of the playgrounds about replacing swing seats. We will buy the seats, but want to be sure we have approval and cooperation. Nursery plants are going in at the playground in *Aurora*.

 - C. **Busco Un Amigo:** We are working on the pool used for therapy.

 - D. **Service Officer:** In Cheryl's absence, Dennis Rike reported that Mark Schennedeberg (not a Post member) is coming back to Puerto Vallarta after a trip to the V.A. in the U.S. He has a cracked hip and toes, and needs bed rest for a while. Jim Phoenix needs to go back to the U.S. for chemo. Charley Henshaw, a member who hangs out with the golf crew, had a stroke. Jaylene is looking into the possibility of increasing his disability rating.

Once again, stress was given to the importance of having a **DD Form 214** available, and how necessary this is to getting quick assistance from the American Legion. We maintain them for members who choose to give them to the Post, and we don't share data unless there is a clear emergency reason, in which it is shared only when and if it is in the best interest of the sick or deceased member, or the member's immediate family.

- IV. **Old Business:** Wednesday was to have been the final work day for the electrical and painting work being done at the *D.I.F.* senior home, but this has been put off for a couple of weeks. There will be a dedication of the American Legion Park in late October. Jim Mawdesley thinks he has a Canadian flag for Post display along with the U.S. and Mexican flags.
- V. **New Business:** 11 November 2014 is Veterans/Remembrance Day. We are considering seeking a permit for a parade, and fifty poppies have been ordered. We have approval for the signage on Highway 200, but we need the signed agreement from the City. The cost will be \$2,000 pesos, and we are splitting it with the Navy League. The Poker Tour is scheduled for 6 December, and the Pub Crawl will also be in early December. We are considering a January Mexican fiesta as a fund raiser, and will discuss this at the September meeting. There is a Department of Mexico resolution being circulated which, if passed by the Congress, would greatly increase the number of Veterans able to become members of the American Legion.
- VI. **Good of the Order, Member Concerns, Announcements:** The American Legion Day is 16 September. Citizenship Day is 17 September. POW-MIA Recognition Day is 19 September. We received a \$100 Home Depot gift card for our projects from member Don Sullivan.
- VII. **Next Meeting:** The next Executive Committee meeting will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, 4 September 2014, at Captain Don's, Honduras #126, Centro. The next Membership Meeting will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 16 at Steve's Bar.
- VIII. **Adjournment:** The meeting was closed at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully,

/s/ Russ Mills, Adjutant