

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

**Executive Committee Meeting, 1 August 2013**

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

I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:00 Noon by Norm Deveroux, 1st Vice Commander. Also in attendance were Ron Abbe, Ed Griffin, Dennis Janson, Cheryl Kehler, Jim Mawdesley, Don Shingler and the undersigned. A new member in attendance, Rudy García, who has been helping at *Boca de Tomatlán*, was introduced, and thanked for his efforts. Our host was *Café Roma*.

II. **Finance Committee:** Jim Mawdesley, Treasurer, reported that there is now a bank account at Scotia Bank, with four (4) signatories to the account and two (2) signatures required for withdrawal. The signatories are Cheryl Kehler, who is the owner, Ed Griffin, Finance Committee Chair, Dennis Janson, and the undersigned, who is the beneficiary of the account. The account is free as long as a minimum balance of \$4,000 pesos is maintained. We get five checks per month for free, plus one additional free check for each \$5,000 pesos over the minimum amount on deposit. Additional checks cost \$30 pesos each. The account will be wire transfer capable. *Café Roma* is the account address, and a monthly bank statement is mailed. \$31,570.16 pesos were deposited, with \$972 pesos converted from U.S. dollars. Jim Mawdesley held out \$2,700 pesos to pay for the golf shirts.

Jim reported that some changes have been made to the monthly Post 14 financial statement, and that more are anticipated. There was some discussion regarding the distribution of the monthly financial statement. It was informally agreed that it will be sent out to all members of the Executive Committee and the Finance Committee. The undersigned will provide Jim Mawdesley with the e-mail addresses for those individuals.

III. **Community Relations:** Don reported on *Boca de Tomatlán*. The commodes are done and the *tinaco* and water lines are active. For the first time in years the kids have flushing toilets and can wash their hands. We need keys and locks for the pump and reservoir so that trash can't be dumped in there. Work on the kitchen *tinaco* and water lines continues, and that part of the project needs to be funded before it is approved to move forward.

Dennis Janson reported on the San Vicente school playground, a project that had benefitted from the involvement of Kelly Trainor, the U.S. Consular Agent. Repairs have been completed.

*Busca un Amigo* is looking good. We are going to re-do the front wall, and estimate that \$8,000 pesos will be needed for labor. We have a donation and a guy to do the work. Ron Abbe initiated a short discussion about **IJAS** or the *Instituto Jalisciense de Asistencia Social* (Jalisco Institute of Social Assistance) which helps with the coordination and development of not-for-profit organizations and their interface with government offices and community groups. That office has been working with *Busca un Amigo* to help with documentation and back up on its financial reporting.

- IV. **Lakeside Medical Group.** This group, which is active in *Ajijic*, is trying to get going here in Puerto Vallarta, with a clinic and a doctor willing to do it. A flyer was handed out that listed their services: primary care, psychiatrist, physical therapist, cognitive behavioral therapist, other specialists, prescription drug benefits, walk-ins. Most U.S. Insurance is accepted: Aetna, Best Doctors, Blue Cross B.S. World, Champva, Cigna, IMG, Seven Corners, Tricare, and VA Service Connected. It was pointed out that VA **service connected disability** is a core element of this program: VA members who do not have service connected disability are not eligible unless they have one of the other insurance policies.
- V. **Veterans Education Pension Funding.** Cheryl introduced Frank, age 84, who was a guest at the meeting. She described issues with the education pension for disabled veterans with children in school. When the child turns 18, and graduates from high school, the benefit lowers and no longer goes to the parent but goes directly to the child if in school, up to age 23. Cheryl provided extensive information on this program, and Frank offered several comments based on his personal experience as a disabled veteran with children in school.
- VI. **Contacting Veterans Who Need Help.** There was a spirited and spontaneous discussion about veterans who may be isolated and in need of help, and how we find out about their needs and do outreach to them. It is one thing when the person has been involved with Post 14, or with one or more of its members, or if Kelly Trainor becomes involved and gets in touch with us. But, what do we really know about who is here, where they are, their condition, and how to reach them? Dennis Janson, Chaplain, mentioned that his role as Chaplain, makes him the obvious person to reach out, but, of course, he has to know of the situation. Most people have somebody who sees to it that they get to a doctor or hospital or that, in the case of death, have a clear sense of what needs to be done. But, there may be individuals who are isolated or who have no one, and we need to be as aware as possible about this, so that we can act as we feel the American Legion should act in such cases.
- VII. **Web Page.** Dave is working on updating with a new format and will have a review in a couple of weeks. The undersigned gave a brief report on the status of three projects: (1) Mexican Senior Citizen Card application process (currently delayed by lack of enrollment form) will be on our web page with a link, when completed; (2) the process for enrolling in IMSS medical insurance, which is almost ready for posting on our web page; and (3) the health resources survey that was sent out to members but which has received little response. Several members present had not seen it, so we will send it out again. .

**VIII. Next Meeting:** The next Executive Committee meeting will take place at 12:00 Noon, Thursday, 5 September 2013, location TBA.

**IX. Adjournment:** 1:05 p.m. Chaplain Janson offered a benediction after adjournment.

Respectfully,

(s) Russ Mills, Adjutant