

VFW Post 6258 Membership Meeting April 8, 2021

Halifax Town Hall, Massachusetts

Presiding Officer: Commander David Walsh

Meeting 7:00pm to 7:48pm

Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance – Chaplain Dave McPhillips gives opening prayer and moment of silence for our departed comrades and for those missing in action and held as prisoners.

GUEST SPEAKER INTRODUCED: Mr Mark Valentine keeper of the National Truck. He talked about that in the picture we have 30 flags in the collection that are all 90 footers. One is a World War 2 flag with 48 stars. Why I'm here is that **We are celebrating the Queens Birthday on April 21st at 11:00am at the Miles Standish Leg's which is in Monponsett.** (20 Dwight St, Halifax, MA). From Hwy 58/Monponsett St. turn west onto Ocean Ave. Drive one block. Turn right onto Dwight St. You'll soon see the legs on the left. We will display the largest British Flag in country that sailed on the Mayflower 2 in 1993 when it sailed from Provincetown to Plymouth following its restoration. All flags are commissioned by the Department of Defense. Our truck has traveled to 34 countries. After we returned in 1999 from Australia we received a Plaque from your Post commemorating our 34th Country. We are all Non-Profit. Your Commander has offered us a Color Guard and we have Piper Nathan Campbell do the opening ceremony. The whole ceremony is only 10 minutes and you are all invited.

REPORTS FROM THE COMMANDER: (Dave Walsh (a) Welcomes New members: Ryan Moffett (USMC), William Hocking (Army) and Tim White (USCG). You are now reunited with your Comrades you left behind on active duty. May your experience be a long and rewarding adventure.

QUARTERMASTERS FINANCIAL REPORT: (a) Dave Walmsley was in the hospital and unable to give us his report. SO THIS IS LAST MONTHS REPORT NUMBERS: General Money Fund in the bank **\$3074.58.** (b)That's not mentioning the **\$8,575.56** in Relief Fund which is used to assist worthy comrades. (c)We are now going through an Audit of our books for this quarter.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER: Bill Finn, I've been checking more books to add to our library for our reading program and getting books for the older elementary kids so we can work with grades 3 to 5. Also I brought a booklet about K2 if anyone want to take it...please do! Very interesting article with all the problems these guys are going through.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER: (Stephenie Jones) Nothing New to Report

CHAPLAIN: Dave McPhillips is the Assistant to Stephanie and is now the Pembroke Veterans Officer. He said he knows of some people who are sick but knows of no one who is dying. Some people have concerns on Medicare, VA Healthcare, getting an ambulance etc. Asked if everyone here has been vaccinated. If not you don't have to be affiliated with VA Healthcare to get your vaccine and your spouse can get the vaccine also.

ADJUTANT: (Vin Burdziuk) Nothing New to Report

SURGEON: (Buzz Smith) (a)Got a couple of emails from DC to add a couple more presumptives to the Agent Orange list. The K2 is still working its way through Congress. **House Resolution 1972** and **Senate Bill 810.** They are the **Fair Care Veterans Act of 2021.** They are trying to add Hypertension and a bone disease called MGOS an abnormality within the bone marrow.

FROM THE COMMANDER: (a) Commander Dave Walsh talked about the effects of Agent Orange on the Vietnam Veterans. Make sure you see Stephenie or David to see about the benefits you are entitled too. Stephenie asked to say something on the subject. She said if the Veteran dies from Agent Orange you can still

file for benefits as the spouse of the Veteran who died from Agent Orange Exposure. She will help fill out the necessary forms.

COMRADES IN DISTRESS: (a) Jim Ingargiola (age 96) who was hospitalized with Covid-19 had a little gathering in East Bridgewater. The news CNN affiliate WBZ did a video which went viral. They also did a half page article on Jim in the Enterprise and will be doing one in the Boston Herald. Jim got thousands of responses so far and is overwhelmed. Also, CNN is going to do a Documentary on him. (b) Dennis Olson who is not here tonight and Mr Thomas who is nice enough to fill in as Officer of the Day for him. We keep Dennis in our prayers, specifically for his wife. (c) Dave Walmsley has been hospitalized with AFib (irregular heart beat). Lets hope he gets over it quick.

OLD-NEW BUSINESS: (a) No Memorial Day Parade this year. (b) We will have our Honor Guard and Bagpiper and have our own ceremony. (c) This year we will set up our Field of Flags (2) feet apart with a field size of 30x60 feet on May 15th at 1:00pm. (d) Memorial Day Poppy Drive May 29-May 31

OFFICER NOMINATIONS: Commander **Dave Walsh**, Senior Vice Commander **Warren Buzz Smith**, Junior Vice Commander **Stephenie Jones**, Quartermaster **Dave Walmsley**, Chaplain **David McPhillips**, Judge Advocate **Bill Finn**, Surgeon **Christina Bolman**, Trustee (3) Year **Bill Finn**, Trustee (2) Year **John Dorney**, Trustee (1) Year **Bruce Thomas**, Adjutant **Vin Burdziuk**, Service Officer **Stephenie Jones**, Officer of The Day & Communications Officer **Bruce Thomas** (We will have Installation Next Month in May)

AFTER OFFICER NOMINATION: A discussion in Real Estate Tax Exemption(s) according to your disability.

NEW BUSINESS: (a) April 21st 11:00am at the Queens Birthday Ceremony at Miles Standish Leg's in Monponsett. Our Color Guard is part of the Ceremony. (b) Our Nominee for National Emergency Medical Technician Public Servant Award is Plympton Fire Captain **Sharon Davis**. We will award her at the Town Meeting the first part of May in Plympton and also give her a nice bouquet of roses. She will also receive a plaque at the State Banquet in Leominster. (c) We will provide 10 to 15 beds / pots of flowers with couple of bags of potting soil so the ladies can plant around the monument to make it beautiful. They will provide a sandblaster to clean the monument.

REQUEST FOR ADJOURNMENT: 7:48pm <> FINAL SALUTE TO THE FLAG (Salute Only) OFFICER OF DAY

Kevin, Quartermaster from Bridgewater Post 2125 <> The 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm we host a free dinner for Veterans and First Responders. There is no alcohol involved. The program was started from Florida by a mother whose LCpl son has died. It's a safe place for Vets / First Responders to go have a Free Dinner. Its a simple dinner such as Chicken Parm and Spaghetti.

VFW Post 2125, 40 Orange Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324