

VFW Post 6258 Membership Meeting Feb 11, 2021

Halifax Town Hall, Massachusetts

Presiding Officer: Senior Vice Commander, William (Bill) Finn

Meeting 7:00pm to 7:45pm

Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance – Chaplain absent, opening prayer by Junior Vice, Stephanie Jones

REPORTS FROM THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER: (Bill Finn) (a) New members to our VFW Post 6258 were welcomed: Wayne Willis (Navy), Gregory Burns (Air Force), Martin Sheridan (Army-Life Member Transfer from Japan), Loretta Savoie Stockton (Army), and Joshua Stockton (Army). (b) CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST LIFE MEMBERS: Bruce Thomas and Henry Moniz. (c) Announcement was made to members who had clothing ready to pick up. See David Walmsley if your name was called after the meeting.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDERS COMMENTS: (Bill Finn) (a) Dave Walsh has still been recruiting every month for the past year we have introduced new members and we have a bunch of them today. (b) Asked if we can still buy books in bulk so we'll have them when we go back to the Elementary Schools.

QUARTERMASTERS FINANCIAL REPORT: (a) (Dave Walmsley) We did very good this quarter. The percentage we received in the Community voting from the North Easton Savings Bank we received (7) percent of Five Thousand Dollars which was **\$365.40** <> North Easton Savings Bank also gave us a percentage for our VFW members who have an account with them a quarterly payment of **\$484.20** <> We have a total of **\$849** of FREE money that we didn't have to go out and sell Poppy's etc. Our General fund we have **\$2,660.56** and we have **\$8,575.56** in our Relief Fund and out of that (b) we sent Jim Ingargiola a **\$200** check so when he gets home from the hospital he can have some food in the house. (c) Bob Dugan came out of the hospital and may need some help with oil / gas which will come out of the Relief Fund. (d) So financially we are doing very well.

ADJUTANT / JUDGE ADVOCATE: (Vin Burdziuk) (a) Every week I go through the VA etc. to find information to share with our members. I try to get a newsletter out at least 2 to 3 times a month to keep everyone informed. Today the Brockton VA is doing Covid Vaccinations for age 55 and over. If your not in the VA Healthcare System you can apply to get in it. You can apply on-line or by Phone **877-222-8387** or at the VA Hospital in person. You can fill out (**VA Form 10-10EZ**). You will need Most Recent Tax Return, Soc Sec Number, Current Health Insurance Info. (b) Army okay's Buzz Cuts and Pony Tails for Woman. (c) VA study now finds that Agent Orange causes Dementia. Now you will be able to get treatment and disability for Dementia.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER & SERVICE OFFICER: (Stephanie Jones) There was a lot information received in our newsletter concerning healthcare etc. which she can use in helping Veterans.

CHAPLAIN: (David McPhillips) Not in Attendance

SURGEON: (Buzz Smith) Vinnie covered most of what I brought to talk about. (a) I know they are doing Covid Shots over in Marshfield at the Fair Grounds. It's a drive thru and they are doing about 300 a day. You don't have to be a Marshfield resident. (b) Dorchester VFW is doing shots this Saturday 10:00am to 1:00pm. (c) We talked last time about the **Purple Heart Town Program** and I do have the Proclamation that need to go to each town for signature. Once the towns are approved than a formal Declaration will be done up. I have the declarations for our towns all set to go. MASS CORPS can make the signs and they are **\$30** for the standard size and the shipping is FREE. (d) BRIEF SUMMERY OF THE USS CASSIN YOUNG. The ship had (2) Kamikaze strikes. (USS Cassin Young a Fletcher-class destroyer is currently a museum ship in the Charlestown Navy Yard, part of Boston National Historical Park). Buzz said that you can volunteer to work on the ship with the Lexington Veterans

Association. We do everything from Chipping paint to electrical, plumbing, give tours etc. The ship is open to the public (Main Deck Only) during the Pandemic. We should be open to the public in April and working on our next video program to be shown in April.

COMRADES IN DISTRESS: (a) David Walsh and his wife are home from the hospital from Covid and are doing well. Commander Walsh will be back here for our next membership meeting in March. (b) Jim Ingargiola was in the hospital with Covid-19. Jim is a WW2 Marine who was in Iwo Jima. (c) Received a letter from our Comrade Bob Dugan who was hospitalized with Covid-19 and is home now. Letter reads “To all my comrades in VFW Post 6258. I am over-whelmed by all the support and prayers you’ve given me. Its been a tough battle of extreme proportions. I am home recovering with my family, with the help of an RN and a therapist. I feel stronger every day and I’ve kept you, my VFW family in my heart.”

SENIOR VICE COMMANDERS QUICK NOTES: (Bill Finn) (a) “**Zoey Simon**” is a Patriot Pen POST Winner. Did not win the District. The award was made at the Hobomock Elementary School in Pembroke. (b) “**Harmony Olson**” Voice of Democracy Winner from Pembroke High School did not win the District and award ceremony was held at the High School. (c) Our nominee for VFW Public Servant National Award for Emergency Services. Plympton Fire Captain **Sharon Davis** has gone forward, and the decision for the State Winner is due in April. (d) An Eagle Scout from Troop 39 in Halifax will be our nominee for “Scout of the Year” Nationwide. They will be sending us the name of one of their Scouts who would be appropriate to send forward. (e) Quarterly Audits for October, November, December need to be completed when bank statements become available. (f) VFW National Home for Children we will send them a \$200 Check. (g) Because of Covid we won’t be visiting any elementary schools or Boston Childrens Hospital until its safe to do so. (h) Several of our Thanksgiving recipients responded to the great quality of the meals we provided and it lasted several days. (i) So far no response for the Iwo Jima Statue we ordered for Jim Ingargiola’s 96th Birthday. We are working on it to see why the Bradford Exchange has not sent it yet. (j) If you are hospitalized out of the VA System they will require you to be moved to a VA Hospital in a few days. (k) The Council on Aging can help review your medical insurance and make recommendations. (L) The Farm at Raven Brook, 137 Wood St, Halifax had a good time with our comrades interacting with Members from Wounded Warriors. You may want to participate next Christmas Season.

OLD-NEW BUSINESS: (a) “Paramedic Recognition Certificate” to Captain Sharon Davis, Plympton Fire Department. Location and Award presentation to be announced. (b) **Kevin, Quartermaster from Bridgewater Post 2125** has met a few of us at the Poppy Drive at the Halifax Walmart. I heard you are doing great things and I wanted to come here tonight to observe you and hopefully steal a few ideas. One of the ideas is the Thanksgiving Dinner and I brought that up to our Post. Its amazing that you guys do that. There are two things we are trying to do and I wanted to bring it up to you guys. Are any of you familiar with the “**Food for Vets Program**” through Gillette. We are working to get our Post to be a distribution center. If that happens I will let your Adjutant know. Maybe you can come help us distribute the food boxes. <> **The 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm we host a free dinner for Veterans or 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. It’s a simple dinner such as Chicken Parm and Spaghetti.
VFW Post 2125, 40 Orange Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Post 6258 has received a Streamer for our Flag from National for 2021 for 100% Strength. We are #1 in the State with Prominence. “You have been and are one of our Special VFW Posts, you have made us proud with your Comrades, please keep it up”

REQUEST FOR ADJOURNMENT: 7:45pm <> FINAL SALUTE TO THE FLAG (PLAY TAPS) OFFICER OF DAY