



**Military Order of the Purple Heart**  
**Chapter 572**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**30 April 2014**

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of Chapter 572 was called to order at 1805 on 30 April 2014 in the Landmark Cafe by Eddie Weathers.

**Present:**

Commander: Eddie Weathers  
Sr Vice Commander: Gary Blankenship  
Jr Vice Commander: E.C. "Whitey" Reese  
Adjutant / Finance Officer: Christopher Vedvick  
Sergeant of Arms: Brian Gleeson  
William Bossler

**Guests:**

The Department of Arizona Inspector General: Joseph Tidwell and his wife Sue. Mr. Tidwell went over the financial reports for the Chapter for the last year. The Chapter passed all inspections.

**Approval of Agenda:**

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

**Finance Officer's Report:**

The Finance Officer presented the annual financial report to the chapter. The annual reports were verified by the Commander and the Senior Vice Commander and will be mailed off prior to the 31 May 2014 deadline.

**Open Issues:**

Highway Adoption:

- Extension was granted
- We still Need Volunteers
- 305<sup>TH</sup> MI BN or NCOA have indicated that they could provide volunteers

Annual Membership Dinner was a great success. It was a wonderful night of camaraderie and patriotism. Photos from the event are being hung on the Chapter's website.

#### JROTC Awards:

All have been given out except Rio Rico, which will be awarded on 06 May 2014. All the JROTC programs have been very appreciative and professional.

#### Cherry Creek Radio Fundraiser:

Scott Gould is looking to put together a fundraiser for the chapter around the August to September timeframe. It will be a weeklong radio pledge drive for the Chapter highlighted by PSA radio spots.

PayPal Donation button for website was unanimously approved in order to increase the Chapter's fundraising capability. The Webmaster and the Finance Officer will meet later to set up the program. The Finance Officer provided supporting documentation about PayPal for use by nonprofits.

- There is a .30¢ charge per donation
- There is a 2.2% charge overall
- PayPal makes it easier for others to donate to our chapter who would normally not be able to do so

#### Purple Heart City:

The chapter will need to engage the Sierra Vista city council in order to propose the idea. If they support the idea then the Chapter will have to determine if we will pay for the signage for the city. Days that are being targeted for the event are either the 4<sup>th</sup> of July or Veterans Day. The Commander and Adjutant will engage the city official as soon as possible.

#### **New Business:**

The Commander read a note from the Arizona State Commander, which covered a range of topics. But highlighted the upcoming State Convention on 31 May 2014. The Sergeant at Arms and Finance Officer both acknowledged that they were attending the event.

On 17 May 2014 at 1500 the Chapter Commander will present Cadette Troop 1224, Junior Girl Scout Troop 104 and Brownie Troop 419 with a certificate of appreciation for their generous Girl Scout cookie donation for the Chapter's Members Appreciation Dinner.

The Chapter voted unanimously to support a local Eagle Scout project that will improve the Southern Arizona Veterans' Cemetery. The Chapter will donate \$200 in order to help replace damaged or missing flag holders in the cemetery.

Ryan Castillo, A JROTC Cadet from Nogales, is trying to put a Veterans' Memorial in Nogales. It would be the first of its kind in the city. The Chapter is interested in helping

make this happen and would like Mr. Castillo to come to a meeting and share his idea for his project. Brian Gleeson has agreed to set up a meeting.

The Chapter voted unanimously to establish a Twitter account in order to further expand the Chapter's social media footprint.

The Chapter will be bringing back the Viola fundraising program as well. The Chapter will begin selling the Violas the weeks leading up to Memorial Day weekend. Violas will also be included in the upcoming Top Gun event as well.

Trailboss has also expressed an interest in donating a percentage of their sales for a month to the Chapter. The Chapter is still in discussions with Trailboss about the details.

Top Gun 6:

The event will be held on 25 October 2014. Registration will begin at 0800 with the event beginning at 0830. Raffle tickets should be available early to mid-summer. The Chapter discussed the possible change of raffle prizes this year. Possible options include:

- An AR-15 and a handgun
- An AR-15
- A historical replica rifle

The Chapter will price weapons and bring the information to the next meeting for a vote.

Elections:

The following Officer positions were nominated this meeting and will be voted on at the next Chapter meeting on 28 May 2014.

Commander: Eddie Weathers

Senior Vice Commander: Gary Blankenship

Junior Vice Commander: E.C. "Whitey" Reese

Finance Officer: Christopher Vedvick

Sergeant at Arms: Brian Gleeson

Judge Advocate: No nominations received

Trustees: No nominations received

There are several nominated Officer positions in the Chapter that are available. These positions include: Service Officer, Welfare Officer, Americanism Officer, Historian, Chaplain, Surgeon and Department Executive Committeeman. If Members are interested in these positions then please notify the Chapter Commander.

Notification for the Election will be mailed out to all Chapter Members both electronically and through the postal service.

The Ladies Auxiliary's paperwork was recovered from Mrs. Dingwall. The Commander will begin to go through the information. Mrs. Tidwell recommended that all spouses of MOPH members simply become associate members since the Ladies Auxiliaries across the country are folding. Sue Tidwell recommended more family oriented events that include spouses.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 1941 by Eddie Weathers. The next general meeting will be at 1800 on May 28, 2014, in the Landmark Cafe.

Minutes submitted by: Christopher Vedvick, Adjutant  
Approved by: Eddie Weathers, Commander