

**September 15, 2021**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7829**  
**The Country Club of Woodmoor**  
**18945 Pebble Beach Way**  
**Monument CO 80132**

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**Note: Due to COVID -19 restrictions this month's General Membership meeting was held at The Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce building**

**Opening ceremonies:** Bruce Beyerly, Commander at 1904hrs.

**Calling the Roll of Officers:**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent/Excused</b>
Post Commander	Bruce Beyerly	X	
Sr Vice Commander	Kendall Pickering	X	
Jr Vice Commander	Vacant		
Quartermaster	Jay Kajs	X	
Judge Advocate	Rodney Fetterman		Excused
Adjutant	Tom Dowd	X	
Chaplain	Don Spano	X	
Surgeon	Vacant		
Guard	Kendall Pickering	X	
Service Officer	Mike Dasso		Excused
Trustee	Aurora Carey		Absent
Trustee	Rodney Fetterman	X	Excused
Trustee	Don Ostrander	X	

**Members:**

Dale Bastin                      Darby Kelly  
Bolivar Coba                     Paul Willey  
Connie Connolly                 Jeff Parks (Zoom)

**Guests:** None

**Agenda Approval:** Commander Bruce Beyerly summarized the agenda, Comrade Darby Kelly moved to approve the agenda and Comrade Don Spano seconded the motion. The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

**Membership: reading and referring applications:** None

**Reading of Minutes: August 18, 2021 meeting:** A motion was made by Comrade Darby Kelly to accept the August 18, 2021, minutes as posted on the website. Comrade Don Spano seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The minutes are posted on the website and paper copies are available.

**Quartermaster Reports:** Comrade Jay Kajs.

**Monthly:** Quartermaster report for August 2021:

Beginning balance: \$ 4067.31

Receipts: \$ 9.54

Disbursements: \$ 912.84

Ending balance: \$ 3164.01

The motion was made by Comrade Kendell Pickering to approve the Quartermaster's monthly report; Comrade Don Ostrander seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

**Vouchers for disbursements:**

<b>Del Zehrung</b>	Web site (monthly fee)	\$11.95	General Fund
<b>Del Zehrung</b>	Web site (bi-annual fee)	\$27.99	General Fund
<b>Tom Dowd</b>	Post Office Fee	\$106.00	General Fund
<b>VFW, District 5</b>	District annual dues (\$.40/member)	\$59.60	General Fund

Comrade Darby Kelly moved to approve the disbursements as listed, Comrade Dale Bastin seconded the motion, and it carried by unanimous vote. The reports are posted on the web site.

**Report of the Service Officer:** Comrade Mike Dasso, is currently on leave, Comrade Don Spano reported in his place: Comrade Spano participated in Mt Carmel's Patriot Day give away on September 3rd. The event provided free food to 1<sup>st</sup> responders, active duty, and veteran families. He along with Comrade Joe Carlson participated in Mt Carmel's regular food distribution on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Sept and the next distributions are scheduled for the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September and the 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of October. Comrade Spano is also participating in the Coalition of Churches and Chaplains. Their focus is assistance to veterans and active-duty personnel effected by events in Afghanistan. If you know of someone still in Afghanistan who is trying to get out contact Comrade Spano who can put you in touch with Congressman Lamborn's office

**Comrade or Family of a Comrade in Distress.** Comrade Don Spano, Post Chaplain

All those individuals previously mentioned over the past few months are on the mend, the only new person is Gloria Otwell of the Auxiliary, she broke a leg and is currently in rehab.

**Reports of Committees and Sub-committees:**

- **Boot Barn Hall Fundraiser:** Comrade Dale Bastin reported that the contracts for the band and the facility are complete. Monument Mayor Don Wilson has agreed to be the concert Master of Ceremony. The commander's letter requesting sponsorship is also complete. Comrade Connie Connolly volunteered to head up the silent auction which will be held in conjunction with the concert. The committee has not formally met in several weeks but continue to coordinate via emails. Comrade Bastin will try to schedule a face-to-face committee meeting in the next week.

- **Membership:** The Post is still looking for a volunteer to chair the Membership Committee.

- **Social:** Comrade Don Ostrander

Comrade Ostrander is planning a picnic for October 9<sup>th</sup> from 12-1500 at Fox Run Park, pavilion 5. The picnic is open to both Post and Auxiliary members and their families. On October 16<sup>th</sup> the Post is invited to setup a booth at the Keller Williams car show for recruiting and limited Buddy Poppies distribution. Comrade Jay Kajs is the POC for the booth. We should be in place at 0930 and the event will run from 1000-1600. The show is located 1175 Kelly Johnson Blvd, Colorado Springs. Finally, the Christmas party this year will be at The Pub, located on Hwy 105 across from the Firehouse between Monument and Palmer Lake.

- **Scholarship Programs:** Comrade Paul Willey

Comrade Willey has contacted all the local schools in Districts 20 and 38, but he is still hoping to attract other participants, if you know of a middle school student (Patriot's Pen), or high schooler (Voice of Democracy) interested participating more information can be found at [www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships](http://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships) Judging for Patriot's Pen, and Voice of Democracy will take place on Nov 4, 2021, at 1830 at Paul Willey's home. If you are interested in judging, please let Paul know.

- **Veterans Assistance:** Nothing to report

- **Buddy Poppies:** Comrade Kendall Pickering

Buddy Poppies will be disturbed on 11, 13 and 14 November at the King Scoopers located on Baptist Rd in Monument. There will be several Cub Scout from Pack 117 there to help, but we need more volunteers to help hand out poppies and collect donations.

- **Youth Activities:** Comrade Jeff Parks

The scouting year will kick off on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The pack has doubled its size since last year and Comrade Parks is expecting a great year. Activities include a family campout, model rocket/space day, sledding, and the Pinewood Derby. The Post needs a volunteer to represent the Post as the Chartering organization liaison, the time commitment is minimal. If interested contact Commander Beyerly.

**-Veterans Stand Down:** Comrade Ed Herlik

The Stand-down is scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup> at 0730. Volunteers are still needed if you are available contact Comrade Herlik

**- Post Website Update:** Comrade Kendall Pickering

Comrade Pickering will take over this committee for the short term and attempt to the website updated

**- Bingo Feasibility Committee**

The newly formed committee will consist of the following Post members, Aurora Carey, Kendall Pickering, Rich Crawford, and Darby Kelly. This committee has been charged by the Commander to review all aspects of establishing a bingo fundraising event, including:

1. Is this the correct direction for the Post to go? Why or why not?
2. What are all the details of the State of Colorado's regulations on BINGO gaming? What training would be involved? What are the start-up costs?
3. Is a joint effort with the American Legion Post in the best interest of the VFW Post 7829? What are all the positives and negatives associated with a joint effort with the American Legion?
4. To what extent should our Auxiliary be invited to be involved in a BINGO fundraising? What benefits(S) would they derive from being part of it?
5. How often would we hold BINGO? Where would we hold it? Would we need to have our own gaming equipment? How many Post members (and/or Auxiliary members) would be needed to start, and sustain a BINGO program?
6. The committee was asked to have a committee report ready to present to the Post at the November general membership meeting.

**Commendations and Recognitions:** None

- Are any of our members active EMTs, police, or firefighters? We are looking to nominate these members for awards outside the VFW.

**Unfinished Business:**

- General liability insurance: We are still seeking information and bids

**New Business:**

- Comrade Mitch LaKind has submitted written notification stating that he must step down from the position of Jr Vice Commander for personal reasons. For this reason, there will be a special election during our October General Membership meeting for an interim Jr Vice Commander. Nominations are now open and remain open until the election is held at next month General Membership meeting.

### **Good of the Order:**

- A social meeting of the Post and Auxiliary leadership will be held no later than mid-October. Date and time to be determined
- Alternate Post funding sources: Comrade Don Spano will meet with Elizabeth from the Pike's Peak United Way to discuss the application process for a United Way grant to be awarded next Fall. Comrade Spano plans to start the application process in in early 2022.
- 3rd Annual Pikes Peak Mission to Zero Poker Motorcycle Run for Suicide Prevention will be on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 1200-1600, at Mt Carmel Veterans Service Center. Contact Melodie Owens at 719-231-5473 for more information.
- Monument Farmers Market: We are teaming up with the Auxiliary to "Get the word out" about our organizations, hand out Buddy Poppies and raise some money. All funds will be split with the Auxiliary
- Don Spano announced that Mt Carmel will sponsor a Retiree Appreciation Day on the 23rd of October. More information to follow next month
- Comrade Darby Kelly wanted to thank all those who called to see how he was doing during his recent bout with Covid. He is happy to say he has recovered and getting along well.

- **Next Leadership Team meeting:** 13 October, 1900hrs, location to be determined. All members are welcome.

- **Next General Membership Meeting:** 20 October, 1900hrs, at the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce Community Meeting Room.

- **Uniforms:** Baseball caps and polo shirts. See Bruce Beyerly

- **Closing Ceremonies:** 2024hrs.

Thomas Dowd  
Adjutant, VFW Post 7829