



Veterans of Foreign Wars

O.K. INGRAM VFW SHIP 1774

Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2026

Approved
5-12-2026

Call to Order: 1800

Opening Ceremonies consisted of Membership verification, Salute to colors, Chaplain's prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, Reading of Congressional Charter Section 230102, Days of remembrance.

Roll Call of Ship's Officers: **CO:** Jim Taylor, **XO/Chaplain:** Shane Steinfeld, **Navigator:** Kerry Harper, **Paymaster/Adjutant:** Mike Martin, **Benefits Advisor:** Randy Myrick, **Judge Advocate/1yr Trustee:** ~~Lee Gill~~, **2yr Trustee:** ~~Tony Sodl~~, **3yr Trustee:** Brandon Santifer, **SAA:** Mike Gerber **Quorum:** Yes

Distinguished Guests – None present.

Recognition of Past Commanders was afforded.

Membership Applications: Michael Hughes application for Lifetime Membership was reviewed and APPROVED unanimously.

Previous Minutes: **MOTION:** To approve January 2026 Minutes made by Shane Steinfeld 2nd: Randy Myrick, **MINUTES APPROVED** with correction to name spelling.

Paymaster Report: Checking \$3558.71 Savings: \$84,607.30. Relief Fund: \$2962.99

Chaplain Report: None

Benefits Advisor Report: None

Committee Reports:

Membership: Current Total: 270, Life 250, 2025:256 =105.46%

Buddy Poppy: Javier Lara volunteered to be new Buddy Poppy Chairperson.

Youth Development: Need Committee Chair. Ship is now accepting Patriots Pen & VOD applications via Scholarsapp.com

Citizenship & Community: Subscribe to National Home Newsletter/become Member, VV Stand Down 7/17-18.

House Committee: Storage loft/ Stage wall: Construction begins in June.

Unfinished business

- Honor Flight for Tim Swing was delayed until September.
- VFW Day of service: Javier has solicited Caltrans to adopt a Highway from Fletcher to Fuerte. We are waiting to hear back. Memorial day Blood drive, Remembrance Ceremony, & Burger Burn planned.
- **Elections:** Captain Jim Taylor opened official elections for Ships Officers for 2026-2027. The following were elected/appointed as Ships Officers:
 - o **Captain** – Jim Taylor
 - o **Executive Officer** – Shane Steinfeld
 - o **Navigator** – Kerry Harper
 - o **Paymaster** – Micheal Martin
 - o **3 Year Trustee** – Frank Anderson
 - o **2 Year Trustee** – Brandon Santifer
 - o **1 Year Trustee** – Anthony Sodl
 - o **Benefits Advisor** – Randy Myrick – Appointed
 - o **Adjutant** – Michael Martin - Appointed



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- **Chaplain** – Shane Steinfeld – Appointed
- **Judge Advocate** – Lawrence Gill – Appointed
- **Surgeon** – Anthony Sodl - Appointed

New Business:

- **MOTION: Donate \$2000 to Young Marines for Uniforms made by Mike Martin, 2nd: Brandon Santifer; MOTION PASSED**
- Parking lot sale June 20th – need donations.
- Members only night – Need ideas, volunteers

‘Good of the Order’ Discussions –

- Food distribution every 4th Wednesday.
- Members only night, free dinner every 4th Thursday.
- Social media: Facebook & Instagram are LIVE: “VFW 1774 The Ship”
- Our website www.vfw1774.org is updated and linked to the LMVC Calendar.
- When you change address, E-mail, or phone please advise the Adjutant.
- The three pillars of the VFW and Advocacy, Assistance, and Camaraderie. In that regard, it is recommended that elected and appointed officials work together to further the goals of the organization.

Meeting adjourned: 1913.

2026 Meeting dates: May 12th, June 9th, July 14, August 11th, September 8th, October 13th, November 10th, December 8th.

SUBMITTED: Jim Taylor Date: 14 April 2026