





Dues will be 1st Year - \$35.00 (this includes door card) for a Social Membership

VFW Auxiliary Post #1347

Fifteen members and two guest were present when the Hall County VFW Auxiliary was called to Order according to Ritual on July 1st. Chaplain Lyanne Kelly gave the Opening Prayer followed by Patriotic Instructor leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Lori Skala opened the meeting by asking for applications of new members. Four applications were presented and approved. "Welcome" to the new members, Shelby and Matthew Fitch, Michele Beady and Rita Koras.

The June meeting minutes were approved as presented. A Thank You was read from NWIHCS - Grand Island for a Husker Trivia game. The Treasurer's report was presented and there were no bills. The report was filed to audit.

Hospital Chair Billie Herron reported that a cake would be delivered to the Med Center for the 4th of July. Saturday, July 19th will be the next Bingo activity hosted for the residents at NWIHCS - Grand Island.

Membership Chair LaVonne Catron reported that there were 209 members at the end of the 2024/2025 fiscal year. Annual membership dues are \$28.00 with Life dues figured according to the applicants' age. Contact LaVonne or any VFW Auxiliary member for more information.

For the Outreach Committee Kathy Leschinsky reported that the card rack at NWIHCS has been filled. July member birthdays were recognized.

LaVonne Catron attended the joint VFW and Auxiliary State Department meeting in LaVista. A program was presented about the National Home. Awards were presented to several of our committees because of activities done over the past year. President Lori Skala was recognized as the Outstanding President for the 201 to 250 members Auxiliaries in the state.

Ten Hall County VFW Auxiliary 1347 members attended the School of Instruction that was held at the Kearney VFW post on Saturday, June 28th. Information was presented by the Department officers and Committee Chairs. The Department newsletter and all other materials will no longer be sent out. Everything will now be available by researching the State and National VFW Auxiliary sites.

The flags at Memorial Park will come down on Sunday, July 13th at 5:00 PM. This will be after the Dedication of the new Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Grand

The Dedication of the cemetery will be on July 12th beginning at 10:00 AM, There will not be parking at the cemetery but shuttle buses will transport guests from the Vet's Club. Chairs will not be available so you will need to take your own. Lunch will be available at the Vet's Club after the Dedication ceremony.

For Mentoring, President Lori Skala presented information from the Organization Handbook about "General Instructions" and "Code of Ethics".

Items for making Memory Books were discussed. Many supplies are now available. Masking of the Books will take place at a future meeting.

Chaplain Lyanne Kelly gave the Closing Prayer.

The Secretary and Treasurer books were audited with approval of the results by

The August VFW Auxiliary 1347 meeting will be held at the Vet's Club at 1:00 PM on August 5th. Social time and lunch will be at 11:30 AM for those wishing to

> Secretary Cathy McKown

American Legion Auxiliary Unit #53

July 2, 2025

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit #53 meeting was called to order by President Carmen Larson at 6:30 p.m., July 2, 2025. POW/MIA Chair placement was conducted by Sergeant-at-Arms Pam Sinsel. Co-Chaplain Liz Cline offered the opening prayer. Twelve members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble to the ALA Constitution.

The June minutes were approved with the addition of Loretta helping to deliver the Girls' State snacks.

Avis motioned that the Treasurer's Report be approved, and Billie seconded the motion. Motion carried. Liz motioned and Jolene seconded that the four delegates to state convention be reimbursed for their attendance - \$10. Motion carried.

Membership Report: 8 members haven't paid their 2025 dues. Dues for 2026 are due by December 31, 2025.

Historian/Webmaster Report: Members may continue to submit new photos and information to be shared on Facebook to Amber. Pictures of the convention will be

Members are reminded to keep filling in their time for volunteer hours and include travel time. This includes any community service.

Communications: Thank you notes from Charlie Becker for her Women of Service gift certificate and from the Cub Scouts Pack 107 for the donation to their Blue and Gold Banquet were shared. A thank you for the snacks given to Girls' State was also shared

VAVS ACTIVITIES

No activities in July. A new list of pantry needs will be given next week. WOMEN OF SERVICE/VA FOOD PANTRY

In July, the \$50 regularly given for Women of Service will be used for the VA Food Pantry instead. Charlie will deliver the donation in July, and Amber will deliver the donation in September.

OLD BUSINESS:

Members volunteered to help with Bingo in July and August.

Members attending State Convention in June reported that the attendance of the National President of the ALA enhanced the experience. They agreed that the convention was enjoyable, empowering, and inspiring.

The Nebraska Veterans Cemetery dedication will be held on July 12th at 10:00 a.m. Diane, Charlie, Loretta, Carmen, and Avis volunteered to help serve lunch after the ceremony.

Instead of a regular meeting in August, the ALA will hold a tea to recognize the Girls' State attendees and to hold a Longevity of Service Awards ceremony. Jolene, Carmen, Lisa, and Liz volunteered to furnish desserts. Members should arrive at the club at 6:00 p.m. to help set up. The tea will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Flags will be taken down on July 13th at 5:00 p.m.

Carmen and Loretta volunteered to serve the meal for the Legion Riders Poker Run on July 26th. They should be at the club at 3:00 p.m.

POW/MIA Closing was conducted by Pam Sinsel.

Being no further business, Pam motioned and Loretta seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

The tea will be held on August 6, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on September 3, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall at the United Veterans Club

> Submitted by Lisa Hunnicutt, Recording Secretary

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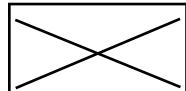


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VFW Post #1347

The meeting of VFW Post 1347 was conducted July 1st, 2025. With 11 members present. Opening ceremonies were conducted by Commander Larson, and Chaplin PeBeck. Roll Call: 6 Officers present and 1 absent.

Minutes were approved as read. Financial Report was read. Motion was made by comrade Luft and seconded by comrade McAhren to accept the June financial report. Motion carried.

Membership Report

a. Membership stands at 382 with a goal at 366 for 104.37%.

Service Officer Report

a. July 12th will be the Grand Opening of the Cemetery.

b. LB 350 passed. Will take effect in 2026. Will allow a Veteran with a disability rating one personal vehicle tax free.

c. Don Shuda had knee surgery and now has infection in his knee.

d. Car Show at the UVC following the dedication ceremony. Also, a meal is being served with a free will donation to the UVC.

e. Parking at the Cemetery was discussed again.

Hospital Report - None

Youth Report - Nothing New

Board Report

a. \$325.00 was raised by the HCWM for the Military Vehicle Display.

b. UVC will be closed July 4th and 5th, reopening on the 6th.

c. July 12th is the dedication for the cemetery, Car show, and the Meal at the UVC.

d. July 13th Flags Down at 17:00.

e. Temporary repair was done on the roof.

VOD/Patriot Pen - Nothing New

We Recognized the National Home.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

a. Commander Larson and Quartermaster Bartz attended the State Officer Training

b. Legacy Life Push.

c. Nebraska Veteran Mission of Mercy i.e. Free dental clinic for Veterans. Sep 26-27 at the National Guard center in Yutan, NE.

d. July 2nd Patriot Parade at the Nebraska Veterans Home.

e. Additional officer training dates are coming up if you're interested.

f. Recap of our financial reports from the last 7 years were giving from Quartermaster Bartz.

A Motion was made by comrade Hitch and seconded by comrade Halverson to donate the 2nd place prize money to the Honor Guard. Motion Carried. Communications - None

Comrade in distress

a. Verne Hill had a Quadropal bypass surgery. He's out of surgery as of 1730 hrs and in recovery.

Good of the Order

a. Review of Reporting of Volunteer Hours.

b. All State and All American Hat pins were offered to all members present. Closing Ceremony was conducted. Next meeting. Aug 5th at 1930 hrs.

Respectably submitted. Ouartermaster, Tim Bartz

American Legion Post #53

The meeting was called to order by Commander Rapp at 1930 hours. Opening ceremonies were conducted. Roll Call: 9 members present, 4 officers present, 0 absent, 0 excused. Meeting Minutes: June Meeting Minutes stand as read.

Finance Report: Richard Catron moved to accept the June Finance Report & Bob Lathen seconded the motion; Motion carried

Committee Reports:

Children & Youth: CMDR Rapp spoke about speaking with 2 Junior Law participants and that they spoke very highly of the program.

Membership: 2025 membership Post 53 89.266% Goal is 531 current total is 474

Americanism: Flying the American Flag

POW/MIA: Jim Brettmann spoke about 81,000 Revolutionary War Soldiers unaccounted for

UVC Board Report: The flags will come down July 13, 2025, at 1700 hours Service Officer: The Cemetery Dedication is scheduled for July 12, 2025

Sick Call: Vernon Hill has been released to home after a triple bypass surgery and a repair to a hole in his heart that they believe was there at birth and a pace maker to regulate his heart rhythm he will be down for 6-8 weeks.

Comrades in Distress: None

Old Business: None

New Business: Change of Command at the Department level; New Commandeer Judy Walters, First Vice Commander Doug Frahm, Adjutant David Salek has retired and has been replaced by Eric Martin. Mike Reimers as the Department Riders Liaison has been replaced by Post ALR 53 Director Dan Willets. Ron Callihan spoke of Sun Heat Golf tournament on August 1, 2025, from 1300-1800 asking for volunteer's, funds raised at this event will benefit the Veterans Memorial Park flag fund. Ron also spoke about the Fonner Park horse races for next year that Kelly has asked that funds and the list of participants be turned in to her by November 1, 2025. CMDR Rapp motioned that the September meeting be moved to the third for a special children's program to be presented the legion family, motion carried. Ponte motioned that \$200.00 be donated to this year's "Gifts for Yanks Who Gave" seconded by Rich Catron motion carried

Good of the Post: None

There being no further business, closing ceremonies were conducted and the meeting was adjourned at 2010 hours. The next meeting will be on August 12, 2025, at 1930 hours.

Respectfully submitted David Morrison, Adjutant

Sons of the American Legion Post #53

Regular meeting of the Sons of the American Legion was held July 9, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. 18 members were present. Minutes and Treasurer's report were presented and approved.

July 1, 2025, started our new membership year.

Park Flags will remain up until July 13, 2025, 5:00 p.m.

The Dedication Ceremony for the Nebraska Veterans Cemetery at Grand Island was Saturday July 12th, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. Luncheon followed dedication at the United Veterans Club. Very good turnout.

Fonner Park would like to have the list of organizations that will participate in Veterans Day. As soon as we have cost and the date we will contact organizations.

On Friday August 1, 2025, Sun Heat is having a golf tournament at Centura Hills Cairo, NE. They will be making a donation to SONS. Asking for Son's members to volunteer to help with tournament. Let Ron Callihan know if you are

August 23, 2025, 2:00 p.m. is Son's award banquet. Hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hotdogs, coleslaw and chips.

September 3, 2025, 6:30 p.m. American Legion and Auxiliaries will meet for approximately a half hour prior to our regular meeting.

Approved \$150.00 donation to Grand Island Vets Hospital bowling. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. Next meeting August 6, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. Respectfully submitted. Paul Barker, Adjutant

