

E-9ERS
MEETING MINUTES

26 January 2011

1. Meeting convened at 1130 at Mr. Panda Buffet, 2852 S. Havana Street, Aurora CO. President Bill Kelm led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Tom Smola gave the invocation.

2. Outgoing President Bob Lee installed the following officers for the upcoming year: President Bill Kelm, Secretary Sharon Melcher, Treasurer Ken Melcher and Vice President Bob Gerle.



3. Plans and Programs Director Mike Phelps introduced today's speaker, Navy MCPO (Ret) Bob Gerle,



who is one of our members. Bob brought two guests: retired Air Force nurse Myra Meverden and retired Air Force Colonel Jim Dolbier. Bob was in the Navy from 1955 to 1978 and worked in communications and



electronics on submarines. Bob said that submarines came into existence in April of 1900. He talked about the different classes of submarines and the capabilities of each class. Bob talked about the nine months of specialized training required to work on each type of submarine. He explained the procedures used to dive and resurface. After several questions from the group, Bob was given an E-9ers plaque to thank him for his very interesting presentation.



4. Copies of the minutes for November 2010 were distributed. Minutes were accepted as written.

5. Copies of the Treasurer's Report were distributed. Report was accepted as written.

6. Membership Director Jack Hunter reported that our membership stands at 218. Jack talked about merging photos that were taken separately and will send out an E-mail telling us how to do this.

7. Plans and Programs Director Mike Phelps said that in February, Pearl Harbor survivor Jim Doyle will be here. In March, we will hear from another of our E-9ers. In April, Joe Clark will speak to us. Our speaker in May will be Jasper Freese, Lt Col (Ret), Army Reserve.

8. Tom Smola said that he and Mardy Flor are working on a social event for March. He also said that Marie Callender's has already been reserved for our Christmas party in 2011.

9. President Kelm asked Marie Moll to update us on Wally's progress. Marie said that Wally is in Room 106 at St Andrews Village Nursing Home at Yale and Abilene. She said that Wally developed a large blister on his heel, but he is finally able to walk a short distance. He is taking part in many of the activities at the nursing home. The residents meet once a month to talk about their wishes and concerns, and they elected Wally as their president. Marie said that Wally would welcome visitors.

10. Larry Schlager said that Dorothy Preston has had some problems and is now in a care center in Westminster.

11. President Kelm read a letter from the University of Colorado hospital that requested some assistance from our E-9ers. They need volunteers to greet people coming into the hospital. Jim Dolbier provided more information on what the volunteers would be asked to do. These volunteers will be needed the end of February, and Jack Hunter will provide more information on our website.

12. Ken Melcher said that the UVC Annual Banquet will be held on Sunday, April 10, 2011 at the Renaissance Hotel, 38th and Quebec. The reception will begin at 3:30 PM with dinner at 5:00 PM. Cost will be \$40.00 per person. Governor Hickenlooper has been invited to be the speaker, and the UVC should hear soon about his availability. Ken also talked about the VA Hospital. This will be a 202-bed facility, and preliminary work is scheduled to begin in March. Ken also talked about the 20-bedroom Fisher House that is to be built. In charge of fund-raising for Fisher House is Col (Ret) Kirkman. Ken invited anyone interested to attend the Fitzsimons Advisory Board Meeting this Friday at 2:00 PM.

13. Jerry Gamache commended our Newsletter Editor, Hank Kordek, for the informative newsletter he provides each month. There was a discussion about the many sources of information available to members of each branch of service. David Jones reminded everyone that he is the Grand County Service Officer and would be happy to help anyone who is searching for information on any existing programs for veterans.

14. Meeting adjourned at 1255.

15. 50/50 drawing: Winners – Bob Lee (\$30.00 - Bob donated \$10.00 to the E-9ers Association); Cal Keil (\$15.00 - Cal donated \$5.00 to the E-9ers Association); Theda Victor (\$15.00 - Theda donated \$5.00 to the E-9ers Association).

Sharon

SHARON K.
MELCHER
Secretary

