



The Freedom Committee of Orange County
Neighborhood Community Center
1845 Park Ave., Costa Mesa, CA. 92627
Web Site <http://www.fc-oc.org>

Minutes of the Meeting of March 10, 2010

- Pledge of Allegiance:** Major William R. Mimiago, USMC. (Ret.)
- Invocation:** Frank Orzio, Sgt. USMC (Ret.)
- Binnacle List:** Dick Baynes, Ed Decker, and “Bud” Hohl
- Special Guests:** Justice Eileen Moore, Mary and Laura Campbell, Cindy Ronquillo and Karen Ursini
- Guests Present: (20)** Francisco Barragan, Betty Bell, Kim Bjelland, Frank Callahan, Jeff Davis, Kay Felix, Carmen Holliday, Jess Lawson, Jon Pelanne, Don Reiner, Laura Rutman, Joseph Serna, Georgia Troles, John Vasquez and Linda Wallace

Members Present: (48)

Harvey Abernatha, Jim Baker, Jack Cole, Robby Conn, Bus Cornelius, Bob Cowley, Bobbie Cowley, Bob Dugan, Tom Egan, Kirk Ferguson, Eddie Felix, Jack Ferris, Francis Flacks, George Grupe, Sid Hallburn, Jack Hammett, Arnold Hanson, Dale Hanson, Dick Higgins, Ramona Hill, Dag Larsen, David Lester, Syd Lucas, Ted Marinos, Vern Martin, Robert Meyer, Charles Mitchell, Bill Mimiaga, Richard O’Brien, Don Oldis, Frank Orzio, Sherrie Orzio, Bob Perry, Lou Possemato, Tim Richards, Larry Schnitzer, Harry Selling, Martha Somers, Bob Sternfels, Bob Stoddard, Ted Tanner, Dick Tyhurst, Philip Vinci, Gene Wallace, Fred Whitaker, Paul Wilder and Scott Williams and Greg Young



Army nurse

Special Presentation

The Freedom Committee was honored by the presence of a twice qualified veteran Associate Justice Eileen C. Moore. She is a registered nurse who serviced as an Army Combat Nurse in Vietnam. Following, that she received a Juris Doctor and was appointed to the Superior Court of California and later to the Fourth District Court of Appeals. Justice Moore’s swearing-in was attended by members of Vietnam Veterans of America.



Justice Moore

Justice Moore related five experiences that she encountered in Vietnam that assists her when making decisions in Court. The first experience concerned great bodily injury. She related how she treated a soldier with an animal bite in Vietnam. The treatment consisted many injections in the abdomen for rabies. Another soldier was struck with a rifle butt in the mouth. These relative minor injuries caused great pain and suffering to the soldiers. Now when she writes an opinion on pain and suffering, she has personal experiences to draw from.

The second experience centered on crimes committed while under the influence of drugs. Soldiers under the influence would commit crimes that they never would if they were sober. Because of these experiences, she better understands these crimes. However there are no clear answers and legalizing drugs is not the answer.



The third experience centered on morals. Several times she was approached by soldiers who requested their treatment be slowed down so they didn't have to return to duty as quickly. While she was sympathetic to their reasons, she did her duty. Later in her career, she was hearing a police pursuit case and was sympathetic to the police. However when it was discovered there was no clear policy or training in pursuit, she put aside personal feelings and responded appropriately.

Vietnam Nurses Memorial

Justice Moore continued relating how her experiences in Vietnam influence her in Court. Her fourth experience related to the success of women and the Women's Liberation Movement. While flying in an Army plane, they observed a firefight on the ground. Then bullets started impacting the plane. The five crewmen took off their flak jacket and wrapped her in them. "No nurse will be killed on my watch" was voiced. She firmly believes there are two socially ingrained roles that will never change. "Men protect and Women nurture"

Her last experience concerned "experts." Experts can be fooled as easily as anyone. She related a time when a wine "expert" was teaching her the wine tasting procedures. Over his shoulder, she observed the waiter applying different labels to the same bottles just before the wine was served. So much for his "expertise."

During the question and answers, Tim Richards said that when injured soldiers returned to his Combat Engineer Company, they often turn out to be the best soldiers because they listened, followed orders, and were role models in safety procedures. He also questioned the current election rules where Judges appear on the ballot. How is the public to know who is the most qualified for the Judge position? Justice Moore said there are judicial performance reviews that are quite extensive for all sitting judges. And there are three degrees of censure: private, public, and removal. Because of this, she favors retaining the sitting Judge in most cases.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A moment of silence was observed in memory of **Jack Campbell**. He was the 21st member of FCOC to "*Carry his living history into Eternity.*" Mrs. Mary Campbell and daughter **Laura** were recognized and a personalized memorial brick will be placed by the Costa Mesa Community Foundation in the Walk of Honor at the Costa Mesa Cemetery in Jack's honor.



Jack Campbell

Frank Orzio presented a power point program on Free dom Fighters and Freedom Committee members.

Two local High Schools will be honoring Veterans. Corona del Mar High is having a luncheon for 60+ veterans on Thursday March 18th and Martin Luther King High on Friday March 19th.

Mrs. Martha Grupe presented **Chairman Jack Hammett** with two birthday cakes for his 90th birthday. (Actually on the 22nd) One large cake was enjoyed by all the people present. There was a smaller cake for just **Mary Jo** and him. Two large birthday posters, signed by all, were presented.

A motion was made by **Jack Ferris** to make a donation to **Vi Cowden** to offset her travel expenses to Washington DC. to receive her Gold Medal. The WASPs, (Women Air force Service Pilots of WWII), were honored with a Congressional Gold Medal. The medal, presented by the Congressional leadership, honors 1,102 WASP members between 1942-1944. The WASP was composed of the first women in history to fly American military aircraft. It was reported that American Airlines provided the travel tickets for them.



Congressional Gold Medal

Pilot Vi Cowden

Larry Schnitzer presented the monthly Treasurers Report. The Total liabilities and equity is \$1,923.99 as of March 9, 2010.

Tom Egan reported on enhancement of web site.

*(Minutes of the meeting prepared by **Tim Richards**)*

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman