

# Jasper County Commission of Veteran Affairs

Executive Director: Christopher Chartier

County Annex Bldg., 115 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave E. Newton, IA 50208

Phone 1-641-792-7993 Fax 1-641-787-1302

Commissioners: John Billingsley, Marta Ford, Susan Springer, Jerry Nelson, Jerome Gunderson

8 February 2017

## Agenda

### Review Minutes from Last Meeting

### Unfinished Business:

1. Flag Cases (Iowa Prison Flag case)
2. High School Woodshop
3. Korean Era Veterans Outreach (30 Jan 2017) (Tours)
4. County Website (VAC agendas / minutes)

### New Business

1. January Budget
2. Grant Fund Uses
  - a. Baxter Honor Guard
  - b. Jerry Yellin Sponsorship
3. Feb 10<sup>th</sup> VAHC VSO outreach
4. Spring Training
5. HIRTA transport Vets by bus to Hospital
6. Director Position

Confirm 3:00 Meeting for March 8, 2017

## Jasper County Commission of Veteran Affairs

County Annex Bldg., 115 N 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave E. Newton, IA 50208

Kurt M. Jackson VSO

Phone 1-641-792-7993

Fax 1-641-787-1302

Commissioners: John Billingsley, Marta Ford, Susan Springer, Jerry Nelson, Jerome Gunderson

11 January 2017

### Minutes

At 3:05PM, Marta Ford called the monthly meeting of the Jasper County Commission of Veteran Affairs to order. The commissioners which were in attendance were Marta Ford, Susan Springer and Jerry Nelson. Jerome Gunderson called in on speaker phone. Commissioner John Billingsley was absent. Others in attendance were Kurt Jackson, VSO and Keith Thorpe VA Clerk.

The minutes of the 14 December 2016 meeting were reviewed. With no additions or correction Marta Ford stated that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

### Unfinished Business:

#### Flag Cases:

Samples of flag cases from OnLine Stores, Summer's Attic, Eagle Mountain, Norm's Custom Crafts and CSA Woodworking were on display for the commissioners to examine. At the time of the meeting, Iowa Prison Industries had not furnished a sample flag case. Jerome Gunderson made a motion that CSA Woodworking of Newton, Iowa would be our new vendor. Susan Springer seconds the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. Our first order of flag cases from CSA Woodworking will be in a quantity of ten. The current on hand supply of flag cases is adequate.

#### Korean Era Veterans Outreach (30 January 2017):

Kurt Jackson reported that this event is still on track. Kurt will be showing a video of the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown. He has brochures to handout and talking points of the Iowa Veterans Home to share with the Korean Era Veterans. Also, Kurt will offer some time for a Q & A.

#### County Website:

Kurt Jackson stated that the county's new web site is still work in progress. VA agendas and minutes will eventually be posted on this site. Updated information on current commissioners is needed.

**Honor Guard:**

The Kellogg American Legion Post 355 and Newton American Legion Post 111 were the only two veteran's organization in Jasper County that responded to our inquiry about their involvement in performing Honor Guard Ceremonies for deceased veterans. Jerry Nelson made a motion to give the Kellogg Legion \$750.00 and the Newton Legion \$750.00 with the stipulation that this money was to be used to help defray the cost of uniform apparel needed for Honor Guard Ceremonies. Susan Springer seconds the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. Marta Ford said that this money would be taken from our 10,000.00 Grant. Jerry Nelson will be contacting the National Guard to set up Honor Guard training for the Kellogg Legion.

**Flag Cases / Funeral Homes:**

Keith Thorpe reported that the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell would put a flag case in their display room and direct veterans families to our Newton Office to receive their flag case. Currently, funeral homes in Baxter, Colfax, Monroe, Prairie City, Newton and Sully are furnishing veterans families with our flag cases.

**New Business:**

**December Budget and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report:**

The December Budget and Second Quarter of Expenditures were presented to the commission.

**GDX Data Sheet Iowa Jasper County:**

Kurt Jackson provided the following information:

- Jasper County received \$15,761,000.00 FY15
- Jasper County Veteran Population 3,023

After a brief discussion about the accuracy of the number of Veterans that live in Jasper County ended, a motion to adjourn was made by Susan Springer and seconded by Jerry Nelson. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Confirm 3:00 PM Meeting for February 8, 2017.

**Kjackson**

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**From:** Derek Bair <baird@newton.k12.ia.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2017 11:25 AM  
**To:** Kjackson  
**Subject:** Re: Flag Cases

Kurt,

Thanks for the quick response. Sarah had only mentioned that you were trying to reach Brent, and that you did not have my email. It is easier for me to email rather than having a phone call.

I was not sure what sort of timeline you had expected. I was also unsure of when the original commitment was made, I personally don't like leaving projects unfinished. If you are in no significant hurry, we should be able to address a few per year, maybe more. I have a group of advanced woodworking students and this could play into their project timeline. I have not had an advanced woods class lasting 90 minutes over 16 weeks, their timeline is a little difficult to predict. Much of this project would depend on my rapport with the students; and right now that is non-existent. If you would like to speak in person I am available between 2:17 and 3:45 almost every day. I am definitely interested.

Thanks,



**Derek Bair**  
**Industrial Technology Educator**  
**Newton High School**  
**800 East 4th Street South**  
**Newton, IA 50208**

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*"Technology is not just electronics. Technology is all human innovation."*



## Jasper County Veteran Affairs Veteran Organization Questionnaire

1 What is the Name of your Organization?

BAXTER American Legion Post 493

2 What is the contact information for your Organization?

- A. Main Contact Person:
- B. Main Contact Phone:  
    Best time to reach?
- C. Alternate Contact Person:
- D. Alternate Contact Phone:  
    Best time to reach?
- E. How often does your organization meet?
- F. On what Day / Time does your organization meet?
- G. Where does your Organization meet?

Greg CHRISTIANSON
641-227-3760
EVENING
STEVE FREDRICKSON
641-227-3126
DAY
Monthly
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed 7:00
Baxter Community Bldg

3 Does your organization have any upcoming special events planned for specific dates?

Date	Event	Public/Private
29 MAY 2017	MEMORIAL DAY Program	Public
8 JULY 2017	MARCH - BAXTER Fun days	Public
10 NOV. 2017	VETERANS DAY PROGRAM	Public

4 Does your organization provide an Honor Guard for Funeral Services?

Y/N

If NO who do you contact for Honor Guard Service?

Does the Honor Guard fold the Flag?

Y/N

IF needed

Do they offer a Gun Salute?

Y/N

Do they play Taps?

Y/N

Instrument or Recording?

Electronic Bugal

Is there a Uniform Requirement for your Honor Guard?

NO.

5 Does your organization provide any assistance to Veterans in your area?

Nothing official



## Jerry's Yellin's Blog



### **Last U.S. fighter pilot to fly WWII mission to tell cautionary tale to Japan, U.S. youth**

July 1, 2016 / in Uncategorized / by Jerry Yellin

As Hawaii prepares to mark 75 years since Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor thrust the United States into the war in December, Yellin is reaching out to children to tell his tale.

Popularly known as the fighter pilot who flew the last combat mission of the war, Yellin, at the age of 92, remains a captivating storyteller.

"I'm just an ordinary man who's had an extraordinary experience in life," he told The Japan Times in an interview in Tokyo last week.

Please click the link below to read the full feature:

[World War II veteran Jerry Yellin has a new mission: keeping the memory of the conflict alive](http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/07/01/national/his-u-s-fighter-pilot-fly-wwii-mission-tell-cautionary-tale-japan-u-s-youth/#.V309YusrLnC)  
[\[http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/07/01/national/his-u-s-fighter-pilot-fly-wwii-mission-tell-cautionary-tale-japan-u-s-youth/#.V309YusrLnC\]](http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/07/01/national/his-u-s-fighter-pilot-fly-wwii-mission-tell-cautionary-tale-japan-u-s-youth/#.V309YusrLnC)

## **kjackson**

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**From:** Catrenich, Kristi L. <Kristi.Catrenich@va.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2017 2:02 PM  
**To:** Steve Cunningham (Boone); CVSO IA Cerro Gordo County; Joella Perry (Clarke); Nick Praska (Dallas); Samantha Schaff (Decatur); Maria Deike (Floyd); Tracie Perez (Greene); Bill Peterson (Hamilton); Dean Ewoldt (Humboldt); Chris Chartier; Thaddeus Smith (Madison); Jennifer Huston (Mahaska); Diane Durian (Monroe); Orene Cressler (Pcoahontas); Rebecca Buch (Polk); Dennis Adkisson (Ringgold); Kluver (Sac); CVSO IA Story County; CVSO IA Tama County; Dan Lewandowski (Webster); Tom Reid (Worth); Christine Oliver (Wright)  
**Subject:** February 10th VACIHCS CVSO Experience - FINAL HEAD COUNT

### County Veteran Service Officers -

Thank you for joining us for the February 10<sup>th</sup> VACIHCS CVSO Experience! As you can see 22 of the 42 Counties VACIHCS serves will be with us for our first ever of this kind of event! Please make sure I have how many Officers will be in attendance to order enough lunches. As of right now, I will order the requested 24 – which will be sandwiches with a side and drink. Thank you to those that have sent me any allergy concerns – we can accommodate☺ As seen in the agenda– we will have an opportunity to sit and discuss over lunch and perhaps at the end – what you believe we are doing well and what we need to improve. This will be done at tables with VACIHCS employees – so please speak with your County Veterans and come to us with your top and bottom 3. Parking should also not be an issue so feel free to park anywhere open – but please call me if there is any issue.

- Boone
- Cerro Gordo
- Clarke
- Dallas (2 reps)
- Decatur
- Floyd
- Guthrie
- Hamilton (2 reps)
- Humboldt
- Jasper
- Madison
- Mahaska
- Monroe
- Pocahontas
- Polk (2 reps)
- Ringgold
- Sac
- Story
- Tama
- Webster
- Worth
- Wright



*As a reminder – here is the additional information so mark your calendars and make sure to email/call me if you have any questions!*

**Date:** February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** VACIHCS, 3600 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, IA 50310, Auditorium (Bldg 4/Floor 2) \*Signage will be posted and stay tuned for information on parking☺

**Agenda:**

9:30-10:00 a.m.: Welcome Remarks from VACIHCS Senior Leadership (QUAD)

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.: Business Matters & Care in the Community (Eligibility, Travel Pay, Billing, Emergency Care, Care in the Community)

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: “Working Lunch which WE provide☺” (While eating will be talking about outreach in your areas, Veteran travel, how are services being utilized in your areas, how can we can continue to improve our services for Veterans. **Please come with your top 3 things you believe we do well and 3 things we could improve.**)

12:00 – 12:30 p.m.: Tours

12:30 – 1:00 p.m.: Telehealth demonstration and Pharmacy Update

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.: Claim questions by VBA

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.: Open discussion (Town Hall style – Ask anything we haven’t covered. If we still have topics to discuss from our lunch, Veteran Experience Team members will be on hand to pick your brains on how we can continue to improve.)

*Kristi Catrenich*

Public Affairs Officer

VA Central Iowa Health Care System

Office: 515-699-5588

Cell: 515-423-4122





IOWA ASSOCIATION OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
AND VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS

January 26, 2017

RE: Spring School 2017

We are excited to inform you about the upcoming Spring School. The school will be held Tuesday April 11<sup>th</sup> – April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites downtown Des Moines.

The agenda invites all County Directors/Administrators/Staff to the Spring School. CEU's will be provided at the Spring School. IDVA will also be providing a 1 day Commissioner school in the fall along with offering 2½ days for Directors/Administrators/Staff.

IACCVSO will provide lunch on Tuesday. All other meals will be on your own. We will also provide refreshments on Wednesday afternoon.

Please note the following:

Rooms: run of the house \$161/night – these are 2 room suites that include refrigerator/microwave. There is a full made-to-order breakfast/buffet available every morning included with your room. There is also a manager's reception every evening. Please see their website for more information.

**Room Reservations:** You are responsible for making your room reservations for spring school. The room block is for Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> with checkout on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The room block closes when full or on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. See e-mail for a link, if you prefer to reserve your room online.

Group Name: IACCVSO  
Group Code: IAC  
Check-in: 10-APR-2017  
Check-out: 13-APR-2017  
Hotel Name: Embassy Suites by Hilton Des Moines Downtown  
Hotel Address: 101 East Locust Street  
Des Moines, Iowa  
50309  
Phone Number: 5152441700

Credit card payments and direct bill payments will be processed as normal. You will be asked for your credit card information upon check in to the hotel. Direct bill will still need to be set up with the hotel directly.

Fully paid registrations of \$60.00 per attendee must be made by no later than noon Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017. After this date registration for school is no longer available.

**Parking: \$15.00 for overnight valet parking.** There are meters available in the area, they charge between 8am and 6pm Monday – Friday. There is a free parking garage located near the capital building, approximately 7 blocks away. Guests can use hotel shuttle or it's about a 10-minute walk.

The agenda is still a work in progress. We are working with Katrina Eagle and Amy Kretkowski for school CEU's. These attorneys represent Veterans all across the United States with claims. Please remember that if you have questions during training, please generalize them for all those present. Expect training to be long, starting around 8 in the morning and lasting until 5 on Tuesday and Wednesday with breaks for lunch. We plan on being done by 12:00 on Thursday.

**Sign in sheets:** Sign in sheets will be the same as last year. **Please print them and bring them to class.** District Directors will verify attendance and will have their own sign-in sheets. **Please print them and bring them to class.** There will be areas for you to mark attendance, sign off on attendance and make comments for each session you attend. Sign-in sheets will be emailed out to everyone prior to the school, once the agenda is complete. In order to obtain CEU's – you *must* complete and turn in your sign-in sheet. At the end of the day on Thursday, there will be a place for you to leave them for completion of the school training and credit for attendance.

**ALL REGISTRATION FEES of \$60 per attendee are required to be paid when registering for the school. Please be sure to get your registration fee claim done with your Auditor's office ASAP. We are unable to offer late registrations due to the room deadline. If you are unable to get a claim through your Auditor's office in time, personal checks or money orders are accepted.**

We, along with IDVA, look forward to becoming better prepared to serve Iowa's Veterans.

Respectfully,

The Education Committee