

McCORMICK AREA



VETERANS ASSOCIATION

MAVA Member Meeting Minutes May 19, 2026
at Lutheran Church by the Lake, 100 Twelve Oaks Drive

Call to Order: JAG Craig Pierre, 6:03 pm

Pledge of Allegiance, Opening Prayer, Moment of Silence: Chaplain
Howard Milhoan

Present: Vice Chairman Bryan Richardson, Chaplain Howard Milhoan, JAG
Craig Pierre, Webmaster Wayne Ehrensberger, Treasurer Jim Brady,
Chairman Emeritus Harry Klug, Jerry Wishall, John Yerdon

Bryan introduced guest speakers Barry and Kim Gambrell, directors of
Tranquility Point on Lake Greenwood. Tranquility Point is a 501(c)3
nonprofit devoted to helping veterans recover from crises such as PTSD,
anxiety, and difficulties that keep them and their families from living their
best lives. Brochure attached.

Old Business:

Bryan Richardson: Memorial Day is Saturday May 25, please attend the
memorial services at Veterans Plaza. Judi Bouchard is setting up the
missing man table. Please bring water and wear MAVA shirts and hats.
Bud Webster memorial service - thank you to everyone who attended and
represented MAVA.

Fuller House - we have a set of keys and access to the building. The
bathroom is now completed. We are waiting for Lowe's, Len and Theresa
to move forward.

Palmetto Pathfinders training is June 5 and 6 in Columbia. Craig just went
through training and highly recommends it. There is also a program called
Onward Ops that helps veterans who move to new places.

Howard Kennedy: Golf Tournament: Len has commissioned Self Regional
Healthcare to be our Commander in Chief sponsor this year. Our largest
annual sponsorship. Also, a golf meeting will be held at 2 pm at Hickory

Knob. All are welcome to attend. Sign up forms are now available. Howard has notes of last years donors, etc.

Wayne Ehrensberger: Rev 250 Roll Call program is on July 1, rain date on July 2. Starts at 10 am, open at 9:15. Will have displays, demonstrations, a 21 gun salute, cannon, and we have 59-61 McCormick County War Veterans to call. Refreshments after. Mary Lou Kennedy has Channel 6 coming with a drone to record from above and report. Set up starts at 7 am. Rehearsal will be a week before. A full rehearsal will be the day of. Bring your chairs. Committee meeting will be Wednesday 5/20 at the Rec Center pavilion at 1 pm.

Craig Pierre: We need 2 Air Force members and 1 Marine to represent at this event. John Yerdon and Judi Bouchard volunteered for Space Force, Dan Rego for Marines. Also need helpers to set up flags at the event.

Jerry Wishall: He and Harry Klug went to see Ron Hinckle, a veteran Air Force pilot. We have 89th birthday cards circulating for him tonight, please sign tonight and return them to Jerry.

New Business:

Rob Needham - will look into an outing to visit Tranquility Point.

Joy Swicki - Next Veterans Home visit is June 18. 16 veterans will be receiving Quilts of Valor. They will present 8 on 6/18 and 8 on July 6. Please attend and help as they need extra hands at these events.

Vickie Leonard and Paula Palaima: presented a check DAR/Long Cane Chapter, a donation toward the Veterans Day golf tournament.

Paula Palaima: The Food Pantry is appreciative of our continued participation/donations.

Dan Rego: John Grieger, a Navy veterans, has passed. This Thursday at 1 pm. John was a long time manager of the Food Pantry in Mc Cormick.

Carrie Phillips: Invited all MAVA members to attend the services this Sunday 5/24 at

Mc Cormick Baptist Church, to support our Vice Chairman Bryan Richardson, who is studying to become a Pastor, and will be leading both services, at 8:30 and 11:00 am.

50/50 drawing ticket 3121

Craig Pierre moved to adjourn, Al Cauther second, at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Branigan/Secretary