

McCORMICK AREA



VETERANS ASSOCIATION

MAVA Member Meeting Minutes June 16, 2026
at Lutheran Church by the Lake, 100 Twelve Oaks Drive

Call to Order: Chairman Len Fouch, 6:10 pm

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

Present: Chairman Len Fouch, Vice Chairman Bryan Richardson, Chaplain
Howard Milhoan, Treasurer Jim Brady, Secretary Sharon Branigan,
Chairman Emeritus Harry Klug, Subcommittee Theresa Sadowski, Jerry
Wishall, John Yerdon, David Flom.

New Business:

Len Fouch:

Noted that the power is out due to a nearby car accident. Emergency
lighting in effect at the Ark. (Power was restored later during the meeting.)
Requested a moment of silence in respect for the passing of Wayne
Ehrensberger's mother.

A silent prayer for Paul Doyle who is hospitalized.

Announcement that Chester Mott has completed the Palmetto Pathfinder
Program.

Introduction of special guest Hal Birch, a WWII Navy veteran, who is
currently visiting in SLV. Hal turns 100 in July 2026!

Special Guest: Theresa Mahaffey, who is a VA caseworker and military rep
for US Rep Sheri Biggs. Theresa shared that Sheri Biggs is a combat
veteran, an Air National Guard Lt. Colonel, a PhD in Medical Science, and
a nurse practitioner. She knows well the problems that veterans face every
day. She supported the No Wrong Doors Act in the House, it has now
moved to the Senate. Theresa stated that Rep. Biggs office can try to help
if a veteran is having trouble getting VA help. Q&A followed.

Old Business:

Howard Kennedy reported on the Golf tournament progress. Self Regional will be a sponsor, as will WCTEL. Little River is being approached for sponsorship. Please ask local companies to sponsor, we are able to offer 501(c)19 letters for tax exemption. Mc Cormick County Republican Party Chairwoman Johnna Joly has donated \$200 as a prize for the putting contest. Buddy Reeves will meet with Bob Martin to see if Lowe's will have a donation this year. Prizes are also needed for contests and raffles; if you have anything to donate, please see Howard or Nicky Lewis. Next committee meeting is 7/9/26 at 2:30 pm at Hickory Knob, all volunteers are welcome.

David Flom reported on REV 250 Roll Call, which is July 1 at Veteran's Memorial Plaza in town. Volunteers are needed to represent the different branches of the military. We have identified 77 Revolutionary War veterans in our area whose names will be read and a bell rung for each. Michelle's Pizza is feeding our re-enactors at a reduced price. Bring your chairs, volunteer, attend.

Theresa Sadowski reported on the DME lending locker. The ceiling replacement has been rescheduled for a future date.

Jerry Wishall: Vets for Vets - Shared Chris Webster's sincere appreciation that about 20 members of MAVA attended Bud Webster's funeral. Thanked everyone for their attendance.

Len Fouch: SLV wants MAVA to help with the 250 celebration on July 4. Opening event is a flag raising at Tara Clubhouse. See Len to help. A formal flag retirement will be scheduled, probably 3-4 months down the road.

OAC will have a beach picnic in Plum Branch in late July. 10-15 members showed interest. Len will relay this to Rob Needham and Rick Ring who coordinate MAVA with OAC events.

Bricks for Veterans Plaza are still available for \$100.

Joy Swicki: Reports that 8 Quilts of Valor will be presented to veterans at the Campbell Veterans Home on June 18. Please consider attending. 8 more Quilts of Valor will be presented in July.

Paula Palaima: The Food Pantry reports 120.4 pounds of food donated by MAVA in May. Huge thanks from the Pantry.

Gary Zoldowski: Will deliver any orders that he has; see him to order new uniform pieces.

Jim Brady: 50/50 ticket 5202607 \$85.00

John Yerdon moved to adjourn, Harry Klug second. Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Branigan/Secretary