

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>



**UVC
P.O BOX 31261
AURORA, CO 80041-1261**

MINUTES

(12 OCTOBER, 2010)

**MEETINGS AT VFW POST 9644
2680 W Hampden Ave
Englewood, CO 80110-1906
303-789-9733**

West of Sante Fe on highway 285. First traffic light, turn right (Brady Court) and follow curving road to top of hill. VFW Post on left OR Turn North on Federal, and then right on Hampden and VFW Post will be on your right.

NEW WEB ADDRESS:

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>

NEW Email:

secty@unitedveteranscommittee.com

1. **CALL TO ORDER 0900 hrs**
2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE TO THE FLAG**
3. **MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR MIA-POW:**
4. **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**
 - First Time Attendees / Visitors Welcomed
 1. Barbara Thayer, Executive Director, ARCH.
 2. Andrew Ruben, Public Affairs Officer, Cheyenne VA Medical Center
 3. Jim Ziruolo, Vocational Rehab. and Emp. Officer, Dep. Of Vet Affairs
 - Guest Speaker - The Women's College and Community college of Aurora, Rene Simari
 1. The Women's College has established a military and veteran services program to better serve our current and future students.
 2. Offer scholarships for veterans, spouses, and dependent spouses, and dependent children.
 3. Please visit our website <http://www.womenscollege.edu>
5. **ROLL CALL**
6. **REPORTS**
 - Secretary – Minutes approved
 - Treasurer – Report
 - Money Market Account
 - Beginning Balance 9/1/2010 \$38,452.59
 - Ending Balance 9/30/2010 \$36,347.83
 - Share Draft Account
 - Beginning Balance 9/1/2010 \$ 84.37
 - Ending Balance 9/30/2010 \$ 244.59
 - Total Monetary Assets 9/30/2010 \$36,592.42
 - Accepted
7. **ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS** (not in precise order)
 - VFW – Steve Rylant, Past Dept Commander
 1. The next Department of Colorado Council of Administration Meeting will be at Post 4171 in Golden on October 30 and 31.
 2. We ask that all members of the UVC vote against Ref P.
 - Aurora Veterans Salute – Ken Melcher
 1. The aurora Veterans Salute will be held November 10 at Wings over the Rockies. Group reservations are available though September 24.

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

A non-profit coalition of 50 chartered service organizations representing over 465,000 veterans and family members in Colorado

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>

- Forgotten Heroes Campaign – Izzy Abbass, Vice Chairman
 1. Pushing to raise awareness of the program and have organizations contact us.
 - VFW Post 1 - Izzy Abbass, Commander
 1. Announced Veterans Day Program.
 - VWIN – Edmee Hills, National Chairman.
 1. The Planned 21% reimbursement deduction to Medicare now up to 23.5% is crucial. If Medicare reimbursements are no longer available we will also lose Tricare for Life Coverage since Medicare is our first payee.
 2. It is imperative for the UVC to pass to action immediately.
 - Colorado National Guard Education Foundation – Bernie Rogoff.
 1. Re New care Modularity at VA Hospital System.
8. **UVC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – James Bobick**
- UVC Goals and Priorities were presented for review by the members of the UVC. They will be voted on at the next meeting.
 - Motion and Second for Amendments 60, 61 and 101 be opposed by the UVC. The motion passed unanimously.
9. **UVC BANQUET COMMITTEE** - Report by Ken Melcher.
- The UVC Awards Banquet will be held on 10 April, 2011. The location is being reviewed by the UVC Board.
10. **UVC MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**
- Application for Associate Membership – Forgotten Heroes
 - Application for Associate Membership – Colorado Military History Center.
11. **COLORADO BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS** - Report by **James Bobick, member**
- Working with independent organizations to ensure Colorado based Veterans Businesses are given priority for employment on the construction of the new Denver VA Medical Center.
12. **VETERANS NURSING HOME COMMISSION** - Report by Jay Bobick
- Assisting in the resolution of the Trinidad Nursing Home with emphasis on insuring the home remains a viable nursing home for its current and future residents.
13. **VETERANS NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATION** - Jeff Jerbecker, Pinion Management, Brad Honl, Fitzsimons administrator
- Statues of Pinion RFP
 - Overview of N.H.
 - Turnaround at Riffle
 - Medical Rate certs
 - Pinion Pre Surveys
 - **Rifle:**
 - Planning continues for expansion of our SCU by six beds and remodeling of SCU Commons Areas and Dining.
 - **Homelake:**
 - Domiciliary open house Oct 26 1:30 PM
 - **Fitzsimons:**
 - Census 163
 - Continue to contribute positively to 505 fund.
 - VA Survey will happen in November
 - **Florence**
 - VA Survey results received
 - Obtained a Not Met rating for lack of Qualified Social Worker and Partially Met for environmental because bathrooms do not have their own heating system.

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

A non-profit coalition of 50 chartered service organizations representing over 465,000 veterans and family members in Colorado

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>

- 2nd Place in Florence Parade on Sept 18th
 - Finished Customer Service Week Oct 4 – 8
 - **Walsenburg**
 - VA Annual Survey 9/28 – 30/10. Received no deficiencies.
 - Survey leader stated she felt the facility was one of the top three state veterans nursing homes in the nation.
 - **All homes:**
 - Adjutant General is visiting all homes Oct 26 and 27
14. **FITZSIMONS NURSING HOME ADVISORY BOARD** – Ken Melcher
- Next meeting will be 22 Oct at 10 AM at the nursing home.
15. **CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS.**
- **Congressman Perlmutter** - Bill Holen – Congressional Staff
 -
 - **Congresswoman Markey** – Jamie Grimm
 - Thank you for advice on Veterans Resource Forums.
 - **Representative Jared Polis** - Stuart Feinhor – Veterans Advocate
 - Signed letter of support for the Greatest Generation Foundation WWI*II Education Project.
 - **Representative Coffman** - Myron Spanier – Staff
 - **Senator Bennet** – Bennie Millner, Community Liaison
 - **Governor Ritter** – Adrian Miller, Senior Analyst
 -
 -
16. **VISN 19, VARO, VA CEMETERIES, VA ECHCS, VA DALC, VA HEALTH CENTER**
- VA Regional Office – Janice Jacobs, Director
 1. New Vocational Rehab Officer Jim Zirnuolo
 2. Homeless Standown 11/4/10
 3. Good year last year, made all targets but one.
 4. Homeless Claims, goal was 75 days, Denver VARO processed claims in 51 days.
 5. VA Secretary Shinseki goals:
 6. By 2015 all claims worked in under 125 days with 98% accuracy
 7. Eliminate Veterans homeless in 5 years
 8. e-Benefits – links to military and veteran benefits, provides access to applications, shows benefit status and payment history.
 9. Propose rule for Agent Orange for presumptives. Add B cell leukemia, Parkinson's Disease and Ischemic Heart Disease. Final rule expected by late summer or fall..
 - Fort Logan National Cemetery – Joe Turnbach, Director
 1. 3904 internments FY 10, increase of 296 over previous years.
 2. 1641 Caskets, 2262 cremations
 3. Largest year to year increase in 15 years
 4. Columbarium project moving along due for completion Dec 2011.
 - ECHCS – Jordan Schupbach, Public Affairs Officer
 1. Project Eagle is moving forward on schedule. Watch of a new web page soon.
 2. VA ECHCS in now on Face book and Twitter
 3. Air Force Academy Surgical center showing success and growth.
 4. Information on Glenwood Springs PCTOC opening on 10/27/10.

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

A non-profit coalition of 50 chartered service organizations representing over 465,000 veterans and family members in Colorado

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>

- Cheyenne VA Hospital – Andrew Ruben, Public Affairs Officer
 1. Provides VA Services to Veterans in 7 counties in Northern Colorado. CBOC's in Fort Collins & Greeley, Mobile Telehealth in Sterling
 2. Current news and programs updates available on new website <http://www.cheyenne.va.gov> as well as on face book and twitter
 3. Just began \$7 million construction project for ambulatory care clinic addition.
 - VISN 19 – No Report
17. **DMVA/DVA –**
18. **VA Denver Acquisitions and Logistics**
19. **VA Health Administration Center – Glenn Johnson**
- CHAMPVA summary for FY10
 - 347,000 veteran dependants enrolled
 - 10.1 million medical claims paid
 - \$950 million + paid
 - 22,100 foreign medical program vets served.
20. **OLD BUSINESS - None**
21. **NEW BUSINESS - None**
22. **UVC PRESIDENT COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
23. **ADJOURN**

Next meeting is November 9, 2010.

Submitted by Steve Rylant, UVC Secretary

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

A non-profit coalition of 50 chartered service organizations representing over 465,000 veterans and family members in Colorado