

THE AMERICAN LEGION

COMPILED BY: D. George DATE: February 13, 2018
Post Adjutant

APPROVED BY: J. Lee POST: 184 DEPT. OF Oregon
Post Commander

ATTENDANCE: OFFICERS 8 MEMBERS 6 TOTAL ADDENDANCE 14

TIME CONVENED: 19:05 Hrs. TIME ADJOURNED: 19:55 Hrs.

THE AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the Commander at 19:05 hours.

- Salute to Colors
- Invocation
- POW/MIA
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Preamble

The roll call of officers:

• Commander	-	John Lee	Present
• Immediate Past Commander/ SAL Commander	-	Rick Dominguez	Present
• First Vice Commander/ Assist. Chaplin/Advocate	-	Brad Boles	Excused
• Second Vice Commander	-	Marty Cross	Excused
• Finance Officer/Advocate	-	Norman Simms	Present
• Adjutant	-	Dan George	Present
• Chaplin	-	Jim Weger	Present
• Historian	-	Kneil Stucky	Present
• Sergeant-at-Arms	-	Mike McDaniels	Present
• Assist. Sergeant-at-Arms	-	Carl Frank	Present

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

1. Commander John Lee introduced two members of the Disabled American Veterans here to speak on the DAV's behalf. The guests were Wanda and Jerry.

Wanda explained that she currently works as a Treasurer with the DAV and then distributed a handout explaining the DAV's Veterans Transportation Network program (attached). Wanda discussed the program explaining that there are 12 vans in the

Washington/Oregon area with about 60 volunteer drivers who provide transportation for veterans to VA clinics. She mentioned that our area had two drivers, but that one of them has just retired and that the DAV is in need of more volunteers. She pointed out that the two drivers had logged 895 hours, 15,861 miles and 634 trips to the Portland VA in 2017 alone. The van picks up veterans at Carl's Jr. in Albany in the morning and leaves Portland for home no later than 3pm.

If anyone is interested in volunteering, they need only to show a driver's license and proof of insurability. The DAV will provide the van (which is parked at Albany Post 10), gasoline, auto insurance and lunch to all volunteer drivers. She added that there is a drawing for a gift certificate each month in appreciation for the time volunteers put into this program. Wanda stated that, "When you're giving these vets a ride to the VA, you're actually driving history." In conclusion she asked if there were any questions.

John Lee asked if the volunteer drivers need to be veterans themselves. Wanda answered that no, anyone 18yrs or older that has a driver's license and proof of insurability would be accepted.

Jim Weger asked how a volunteer could sign-up for the program and Wanda said to see her after the meeting or call her at (503) 721-7804 or (503) 936-0494.

Fred Wellhouser asked if the trips were to the Portland VA only and Wanda said that was correct, Portland only.

Norm Simms asked what the procedure is for a vet whose doctor appointment wasn't over by 3pm. Wanda said that it would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. The VA would either find another way home for the vet or put him/her up for the night.

Carl Frank asked if the vans were wheelchair accessible and Wanda explained that they were not. Anyone not ambulatory would need a caregiver to go with them or the VA would provide other transportation for them.

BUSINESS

1. The minutes for the January meeting were distributed for review and, since there were no questions or comments, a motion was made by Kneil Stucky and seconded by Norm Simms to accept the minutes as distributed. A vote by the membership carried the motion.
2. The Finance Report was distributed and all members had a chance to review it. Finance Officer Norm Simms explained that:
 - The line item entitled, *Jacket/Valentine*, on the spreadsheet under *Income* was put there because he had run out of room. He said the first entry dated 1/11/18 was for a member's windbreaker jacket and the rest of the column was money earned selling tickets to the Valentine's Dinner and Bingo.

- He will include this year's Oratorical winner's name, Kalyn LaFayette, in the Scholarship portion of the Restricted Funds account.

After Norm asked if there were any questions and there were none, Kneil Stucky made a motion to accept the report as reviewed and Carl Frank seconded. A vote by the membership carried the motion.

Amount Deposited into Checking Account	-	\$2,659.00
Amount Withdrawn from Checking Account	-	<u>\$ 995.49</u>
Difference	-	\$1,663.51
Balance in Checking Account	-	\$3,161.91
Balance in Building Fund Saving Account	-	\$4,735.98
Balance in Restricted Fund Saving Account	-	<u>\$1,822.55</u>
Total	-	\$9,720.44
Loan Balance on Building	-	\$92,023.41

(Note: For complete explanation on Post Finances, see Financial Report)

RECENT ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- **Valentine's Day Dinner and Bingo** – Dinner was very good and the Bingo was loads of fun. All 50 tickets were sold and forty-six people attended the event. The Post made about \$550 and everyone that attended said they enjoyed the evening.
Although many people helped to make this dinner a success, a special thanks goes out to Kneil Stucky for organizing and preparing dinner, to Rick Dominguez for calling Bingo and for wrapping the bingo gifts, for Cindy Stucky for putting together the Senior Center block-out gift basket and to Mike McDaniels for helping out with purchasing food and cleaning-up throughout the evening.
- **The National Commander Visit** when well last month. Our Post had pictures of past events steaming on our monitor which the National Commander watched and enjoyed. The next day, Post 10 in Albany hosted a luncheon for her that was well attended.
- **The National First Vice Commander** is scheduled to visit Oregon soon. The Milwaukee Post will host a dinner for her.
- **The Community Emergency Response Team** program (CERT) conducted a basic training class at our Post in January. All went well.
- **Community Activity** - Earlier this morning, a few of our members went to help out at the Brownsville gardens. It was much appreciated.

UP-COMING EVENTS

- **Oratorical Scholarship** – On Thursday, Feb. 15th at 10:55am at a Central Linn High School assembly, our Post will announce to the school that Kalyn LaFayette

has won a scholarship for her participation in the American Legion Oratorical Contest. Congratulations to Kalyn for a job well done.

- **Flags** – This Friday, Feb. 16th at 9:30am, we will be putting out flags in town. We will take them down on Tuesday, Feb. 20th at 9:30am.
- **Highway 20 Dedication** – Also on Friday the 20th, at 1:00pm all 450 miles of Highway 20 from the coast to the Idaho border will be dedicated to the men who have been awarded the Medal of Honor. The dedication ceremony will be conducted at the rest stop across from The Point Restaurant at Foster Lake.
- **Post Everlasting** – At our March American Legion meeting, we will be conducting a Post Everlasting ceremony to honor our recently diseased comrades. Please do not be late to the meeting.
- **Scratch Board Art Class** – Donna Lee will be conducting another scratch board art class at the Legion on March 17th. The class will begin at 9am and conclude at 2pm.
- **Easter Egg Hunt** – The Post will be sponsoring an Easter Egg hunt for the community at Pioneer Park on Saturday, March 31st. We will need volunteers to help stuff the plastic eggs with candy. Last year, the event cost about \$400 and was well attended. The Senior Center will provide a breakfast at the Legion that Saturday morning.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Post Commander John Lee**

- The last Oratorical Contest went well with two High School kids competing. Our entry, Kalyn LaFayette, came in second and did very well with her speech.
- The Boys State program will relocate to Western University this year. The reason for the move was to improve the neighborhood location and lower the cost.
- The Law Enforcement Camp is scheduled for August 4th this year. A High School student planning on attending must be between 15-17 years old and be willing to pay \$50 to attend. Our Post will sponsor them with an additional \$200. The camp focuses on law enforcement's duties and gives the attendees an understanding of the SWAT and K-9 Teams, EOD, Fish and Game, CSI and Fire/Arson investigation.

2. **Sergeant-At-Arms Mike McDaniel**

- Mike reminded our group that we still have maintenance that needs to be done on the front of the building

3. **Finance Officer Norm Simms**

- Norm inquired if our Post was going to be involved in the clean-up of the Pioneer Park monument and John Lee said that the Garden Club has said they would do it.

4. ROPES Program Director Sharon Banks

- Sharon explained that ROPES was awarded a grant and has obtained a computer based GED program. This program is available to anyone wishing to complete this high school degree equivalent. Just let Sharon know.

SICK CALL

1. Dick May is not feeling well and may have a case of the flu.

Please keep him in your prayers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Nothing to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

1. There was no new business to discuss.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

1. Tonight's 50/50 winner was Mike McDaniel who received \$38.
2. With business concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 19:55 hrs.