

MINUTES OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

COMPILED BY: D. George
ADJUTANT

DATE: June 13, 2017

APPROVED BY: R. Dominguez
COMMANDER

POST: 184 DEPARTMENT OF: OREGON

ATTENDANCE: OFFICERS 6 MEMBERS 9 VISITORS 5 TOTAL 20

TIME CONVENED: 1900 Hrs.

TIME ADJOURNED: 2015 Hrs.

The meeting was called to order by the Commander at 1900 hrs.

The first order of business was to conduct a Post Everlasting Ceremony for the following departed comrades:

Robert Butson	William Gilmore	Walter Heeren
Marjorie House	Frank Karo	Fred Klinkebiel
Clyde McClain	John Mingle	Travis Moothart
Glen Patent	Thomas Red	Richard Rowe
Robert Schlosser	Bud Walker	George Winterbotham

After the ceremony, their records were transferred to Post Everlasting. These comrades will be missed.

Next order of business was to conduct our Membership meeting.

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

The roll call of officers:

- | | | | |
|---|---|----------------|---------|
| • Commander | - | Rick Dominguez | Present |
| • First Vice Commander /
Asst Chaplin / Advocate | - | Brad Boles | Present |
| • Second Vice Commander /
Sgt-at-Arms | - | John Lee | Present |
| • Finance Officer / SAL Commander /
Advocate | - | Norman Simms | Present |
| • Adjutant | - | Dan George | Present |

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• Chaplin	-	Jim Weger	Excused
• Historian	-	Kneil Stucky	Present
• Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms	-	Carl Frank	Excused
• Asst Historian	-	Richard Swearingen	Excused
• Asst Historian	-	Michael Null	Excused
• Service Officer	-	Herb Dominguez	Excused

OPENING BUSINESS

1. Rick Dominguez introduced the visitors at our meeting tonight:
 - Department First Vice Commander Gene Hellickson and his wife, Linda Hellickson
 - Department Second Vice Commander Tom Harris
 - District 3 Commander Elect Steve Adams
 - Sweet Home Post Commander Dale Jenkins
2. Rick turned the floor over to Department First Vice Commander Gene Hellickson.

Gene introduced himself and explained that, although he is running for Department Commander this year, he was not here to necessarily campaign for that office. Gene did say that if he does win the office this year, his focus will be on changing the “things really don’t matter” attitude he has witnessed in our Department as we experience difficulty getting many of our members to renew their dues. He said that he wants to convey to the organization that we cannot just set back, but that we need to get out there and visit folks or make phone calls to show people we are interested in keeping them as members. Gene pointed out that the first three years of membership are the most critical. He said that if a member does not connect or find ways to get involved in those first three years, we stand a good chance of losing him or her. He suggested that one thing that may work is to assign mentors to new members.

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Gene continued by saying that he has a list of things that need to be done but that his primary interest will be on those things that can be done easily and quickly. He said one of the big ones is training. He gave an example of a committee chairman who neglected to hold meetings because he didn't know who was on his committee. Gene said the chairman didn't call anyone to find out nor make any other effort. He said that it is not that people aren't trying; he feels that maybe it's a lack of knowing what to do. He added that, with things like this happening, it is easy to see why our Department in 54th in getting our membership to renew their dues.

Gene concluded by telling the officers that he is always available if they should ever need help.

3. Commander Rick Dominguez then turned the floor over to Department Second Vice Commander Tom Harris. Tom agreed with the First Vice Commander and reiterated that Department Officers are indeed available to assist with training and education. He said it's evident that the members present at the meeting tonight are interested in the American Legion, but pointed out that we should find out why other members are not attending and what can be done to change that.

Tom commended Commander Rick Dominguez, telling him that he noticed that our members have uniform shirts, covers and that our attendance is good. He said knowing the four pillars of the American Legion and being able to recite them along with the other things we stand for is something we should all strive to understand. He concluded by telling us to work on getting younger veterans interested but not to neglect older veterans for they are often the ones that know how to get things done.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Rick then called the new officers up in front of the membership and presented them as the 2017-2018 officers for Post 184. He turned the floor over to District 3 Commander Elect Steve Adams who conducted the installation ceremony. After the ceremony, Rick Dominguez thanked

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the visitors for attending and told them that, although they were welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting, they were also welcome to leave if they had previous engagements.

OFFICER / COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Finance Report** – The Finance Report for April 2017 was distributed. Norm Simms explained that he will be depositing funds this month into our Oratorical account and explained that the \$300 currently in the Scholarship Fund has been set aside for Carolyn Kaiser. Carolyn won the Oratorical Contest this year and will be using the money for school when the time comes. Norm also told the group that he will be depositing the money from our piggy banks into our checking account so he can cut a check for the Children and Youth Program when he goes to the convention next week. Finally, Norm pointed out that we have received \$100 in donations from people who have borrowed wheelchairs from our post.

Norm asked if there were any questions and Dick May asked where the \$78 in the 50/50 column came from. Norm wasn't sure and told Dick he would look into it and get back with us.

John Lee moved that we accept the finance report and Marty Cross seconded. A vote from the membership carried the motion.

Amount Deposited into Checking Account	-	\$ 1,054.40
Amount Withdrawn from Checking Account	-	\$ <u>1,883.10</u>
Difference	-	\$ (828.70)

Balance in Checking Account	-	\$ 1,502.58
Balance in Building Fund Savings Account	-	\$ 4,142.10
Balance in Restricted Funds Savings Account	-	\$ <u>1,191.34</u>
Total	-	\$ 6,836.02

Loan Balance on Building	-	\$ 95,939.50
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(Note: For a complete explanation of Post finances, see Financial Report.)

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NEW BUSINESS

1. This week is a busy one. The following events are scheduled for this week, and in the next few weeks to come:
 - Tomorrow, June 14th, in the vacant lot south of the Legion, we will be conducting a flag retirement ceremony. Meet at the Legion at 4:30 pm. All are welcome.
 - Thursday, June 15th, at the Linn Co. Fairgrounds, our post will be providing Color Guard for the LBCC graduation. Rick Dominguez, Norm Simms, John Lee and Dan George will be meeting at the Legion at 5:30 pm.
 - Friday, June 16th, at Pioneer Park, our post will be erecting a pop-up awning for the picnic.
 - Saturday, June 17th, our post will be providing Color Guard for the Pioneer Picnic Parade. Rick Dominguez, Norm Simms, John Lee and Dan George will meet at Rick's house at 9:00 am.
 - Also on Saturday, June 17th, two of our veterans will be awarded quilts by the Quilts of Valor. This ceremony will take place at 3:30 pm and Norm Simms, Marty Cross and one other veteran will receive quilts.
 - Sunday, June 18th, our post will provide Color Guard for the Pioneer Picnic Church Service. Rick Dominguez, Norm Simms and Marty Cross will meet at the park at 9:30 am.
 - The Boys State event will be held at the Willamette University campus in Salem beginning this weekend (June 18-24) and will run for the entire week. The graduation ceremony will be conducted at 12n on June 24. All are welcome and encourage to attend.
 - The Department of Oregon Convention will be held in Florence on June 21 – 24. Rick Dominguez, Norm Simms and Dan George will attend.
 - Quilts of Valor will be awarding quilts to veterans at the Lebanon Veteran's Home on Tuesday, June 27th at 1:30 pm. Please attend if you are able.
 - Senior Center Pot Luck Lunch is scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, June 14 at 12N.

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CLOSING THE MEETING

1. The 50/50 pot this month is \$47. Cory Dickerson won the drawing and split the pot with the post.
2. The Assistant Chaplin gave the closing prayer.
3. Salute to Colors.
4. Meeting adjourned at 2015 Hrs.