

Marshall S. Sayner American Legion Post 341
Membership Meeting February 2, 2012

OPENING CEREMONIES:

At 18:30 hours Commander Jake Greeling called the members to order. Opening ceremonies were conducted with the Salute to the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. Opening prayer was given by Chaplain Ray Brust. The POW/MIA Flag Ceremony was conducted by 2nd Vice Commander Doug Grant.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Commander Jake Greeling, Present - 1st Vice Commander Shelaine Coleman, Present - 2nd Vice Commander Doug Grant, Present - Adjutant Dan LaPoint, Absent - Finance Officer John Chelstrom, Present - Judge Advocate Gene Rogers, Present - Service Officer Frank Lindsey, Present - Chaplain Ray Brust, Present - Sgt-At-Arms Andy Anderson, Present - Historian Jim Heath, Present - Past Commander Norvil Lantz, Absent.

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING:

The minutes from our January 2012 meeting are posted on the bulletin board and have been posted on the website for some time. A motion to accept the minutes was made and the minutes were approved.

Introduction of Guests: Cub Scout Pack 3410 and Venture Scouts troop 3410, sponsored by our Post, led the Post in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mike Galbraith, cubmaster, explained the goals of the pack. Lyle Munson, troop leader of the Venture Scouts explained their program. One of the Venture Scouts presented a slide show of troop activities.

New Members: Curtis Anderson, US Army; Gene Roy, US Navy, Mike Ericson, US Army

Guest Speaker: Valerie Brewer, candidate for Benton County Assessor.

Correspondence: Commander Greeling read a thank-you note from Jean Forbush, widow of Chuck Forbush, Past Commander of Post 341. The Honor Guard at his funeral was made up of American Legion Post 341 members.

Finance Report: John Chelstrom, the Post Finance Officer reported that the Post has a total of \$93,500.00 cash on hand; \$70,539.00 in Building Fund, \$21,470.00 in Money Market, \$1,440.00 in the checking account and \$6,450.00 in building materials on hand for the new building. Financial reports are posted on the bulletin board.

Membership Report: 1st Vice Commander Shelaine Coleman reported that the Post currently has 545 members who have paid 2012 dues, or 93% of our goal. We need 43 more paid members to reach 100%.

Service Officer Report: Post Service Officer Frank Lindsey reported that VA has changed the Emergency Care Policy. A PTSD settlement will bring additional benefits to more than 2100 veterans affected with PTSD. More information at military.com.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Monthly breakfast: Shelaine reported that this month the breakfast will be held Saturday, February 11, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Building Committee: Finance Office John Chelstrom reported that estimate for new building construction is \$125,000.00 to have building "dried in". Members of Post 341 can then do painting, tile work, door hanging, hang vinyl siding, etc. Bottom line figure is approximately \$268,000.00 plus contingency of 15%, which puts cost at \$307,000.00. This works out to approximately \$65.00/square foot. John would like to have everything in order so he can speak to a lender this month, asking for approximately \$200,000.00 in funding. Optimistically, we could break ground in May 2012.

Golf Tournament: Doug Grant. Tournament is June 2, 2012. There will be a Golf Committee meeting Saturday, February 4, 2012 after coffee. We need hole sponsorships and donations for door prizes, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:

Plaque for Steve Morrow: Doug Grant reported that Steve Morrow, Manager of Allen's Foods, was presented with a plaque for appreciation of his support to veterans. This will be displayed at Allen's Grocery Store.

Mid-winter Convention in Little Rock: Jake Greeling attended. State Convention may be in Northwest Arkansas in 2014. Embassy Suites has submitted a reasonable bid for lodging. Does Post 341 want to be host Post? If new building is complete, we could host a dinner. A full-page ad in the State Convention program costs \$300.00. Post 341 will buy an ad, showing our old building and the proposed new building. Another discussion was that posts need guidelines for Emergency Funds. Post 341 will set up some guidelines.

National Commander's Visit: Jake Greeling. National Commander Wang Fong will be at the Post on May 22, 2012. We'll have lunch at the Post.

Boy's State Representative: Jake Greeling. We need a new Boy's State Representative. Please contact Jake if you are interested.

US Army Field Band and Chorus: Leonard Eisert announced that the U.S. Army Field Band and Chorus will be at Arends Art Center on March 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

VFW Chili Supper: Russ Bonacker announced that the VFW is holding a chili supper on February 11, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for a \$5.00 donation.

MOMENT FOR DEPARTED MEMBERS: Commander Greeling reported that the Post lost four members in the last month. Jim Adamek, US Navy, Clifford Kuhn, US Navy and US Air Force, Emil Kroutil, US Army and Sherman Clark, US Army and US Air Force. Chaplain Brust delivered a memorial prayer in their honor.

CLOSING CEREMONIES

Commander Greeling conducted appropriate Closing Ceremonies. The meeting was adjourned at 19:50 hours. There were 30 members and 14 guests present.

Respectfully submitted,

Kitty Casanova
Acting Adjutant