

Marshall S. Sayner American Legion Post 341

Membership Meeting, January 5, 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 the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States. Opening prayer was given by Chaplin, 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 LaPointe, Present, - Finance Officer - John Chelstrom, Present - Judge Advocate - Gene Rogers, Present - Service Officer – Frank Lindsey, Present – Chaplin – 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 December, 2011 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.

Introductions of Guests: New member present and introduced were Sandy Kinnear, US Navy, Tory Scopecek, US Army and Glen Tracy, US Army.

Finance Report: John Chelstrom, the Post Finance Officer reported that the post has total Cash on Hand of \$92,134. \$69,355 of which is in the Building Fund.

Membership Report: 1st Vice Commander – Shelaine Coleman reported that the Post currently has 513 members or 87% of Goal who have paid their 2012 Dues. We still need 75 more members to pay to reach our 100% Goal.

Service Officers Report: Post Service Officer, Frank Lindsey reported that there had been an article about our County Service Officer and the computers and software that he is working with to assist in helping our Veterans receive their benefits. He posted a copy of the article on the Post bulletin board for anyone to read who has not seen it. Commander Greeling reported that the Pentagon has reported that there is going to be a cut in defense spending and members needed to watch to see how it will affect our benefits.

Wreaths across America: On December 10th a number of our members and also members of the local Cub Scout Pack assisted at the ceremony at the National Cemetery in Fayetteville.

Silver Star Gift tree at Pinnacle Mall: Commander Greeling reported on the success of the program and reported that he had received a very touching e-mail from the organization thanking us for our generous contributions. In all our local people had helped sponsor 8 National Guard families.

Christmas Eve visit to the VA Hospital in Fayetteville: 2nd Vice Commander Doug Grant reported that 13 Members (including spouses and other family members) from the Post drove down and spent a few hours with Veterans at the VA Hospital and gave out 84 **Goody Bags**. He said it was a very rewarding experience and hope that it would become a regular custom for our Post on Christmas Eve.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Monthly Breakfast: Shelaine reported that this month the breakfast will be on Saturday January 14th from 8-10 AM. Anyone who can help should be here around 7 AM.

Building Committee: Finance Officer Chelstrom asked the membership for a show of support to allow for him to check into possible funding for the new building project after he has received updated quotes from the various vendors on the project. He was given instructions from the membership to proceed through a motion passed on the floor by the membership. After he negotiates the cost for the project and found financing, he will report back to the membership with his finding and have the membership decide if we should proceed with the project.

Saturday Coffee Host: Commander Greeling asked for members to volunteer to be Saturday morning coffee host. He said that he has a signup sheet for members to volunteer for each Saturday except for the ones where we have a breakfast. He said the host would be responsible for making coffee and getting donuts and cleaning up when it is over. It is not much work but takes a commitment of time. He thinks that it is a really worthwhile project but want to get more people involved with helping.

New Business:

2012 Golf Tournament: Fund Raising Chairman Doug Grant reported that the Golf Tournament this year is scheduled for May 19th and asked for any member who would like to be on the committee to be available for a planning meeting on Saturday January 7,th at Noon, after coffee at the Post.

MOMENT FOR DEPARTED MEMBER:

Chaplin Brust reported that the Post had lost 2 members in the last month. Charles "Chuck" Forbush, US Army, Korea, Past Commander of Post 341 and Lester Hanson, US Army, WWII. Chaplin Brust delivered a memorial prayer in their honor.

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Commander Greeling conducted appropriate Closing Ceremonies. The meeting was adjourned at 19:20 hours. There were 35 members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan LaPointe, Adjutant