

**MARSHALL S. SAYNER AMERICAN LEGION POST 341
BELLA VISTA, ARKANSAS**

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

FEBRUARY 4, 2010

OPENING CEREMONIES:

At 1833 hours Commander Jake Greeling called the members to order. Opening Ceremonies were conducted with a salute to the flag, opening prayer led by Chaplain Ron Madsen, and the Pledge of Allegiance. The POW/MIA Flag Ceremony was conducted and 2nd Vice Commander Shelaine Coleman placed the flag on the "Empty Chair."

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Commander – Jake Greeling 2nd Vice Commander – Shelaine Coleman
Adjutant – Leslie Jackson Finance Officer – John Chelstrom
Judge Advocate – Gene Rogers Chaplain – Ron Madsen
Service Officer – Nat Holmes Sgt-At-Arms – Bill Pranke

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING:

Minutes from our last meeting are posted on the bulletin board and have been on the website for over 3 weeks. Commander Greeling asked if there were any corrections or additions. There were none and a motion to accept the minutes as posted was set forth and accepted.

FINANCE REPORT:

The balance sheet and income statement are posted on the Post's bulletin board and available for all to view. Finance Officer Chelstrom informed the members present that the Post had \$43,351.72 in accounts. \$24,228 consisted of the building fund. He also informed members that the Post's combined savings and CD's will be moved to the Bank of the Ozark in order to get a higher interest rate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

On Monday, February 1st Commander Greeling, Finance Officer Chelstrom, and Doug Grant met with Bill Powell to get some insight on strategies for effective fundraising. Bill Powell has helped fundraise as much as \$200 million dollars. He said we need to ask the question: "Why do we want the new building?" We need a concise purpose. Among other things he said we need to go to the top people, the CEO's etc... for personal giving. He mentioned that typically 50% of the funds come from 5-6 people. Bill will work with the Post if asked. We need to devise a strategy to target the different types of businesses. A committed building committee is needed. 3 members volunteered at the meeting tonight. There will be a building committee meeting later this week.

Membership Report: There are currently 518 paid up members.

Nat Holmes was introduced as the Post's new Service Officer.

Fisher House Foundation, Inc. wrote a letter dated December 11, 2009 thanking the Post for all of its support in helping the organization reach its goals in providing aid to veterans, military members and their families.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Golf Tournament: May 1st at 8:00 A.M our biggest fundraiser. We need volunteers to help out. We need hole sponsors, gifts for goodie bags and door prizes. Fliers need to be printed and distributed to all the golf courses and other American Legions. If anyone knows someone in a business contact that person about contributing to the golf tournament. Also we need a vendor list from Wal-mart.

Boys State: It will tentatively be held May 30th – June 4th at the University of Central Arkansas at Conway. Volunteers are needed to help out. It was decided that a candidate must not only submit an application but he must also go through a screening and interview process before selection to Boys State occurs. It cost the Post \$150 to send someone to Boys State and a separate budget should be made for this. Volunteers needed to help

Color Guard: Ten M-1's coming soon. Five members are needed for the Color Guard. Uniforms will cost approximately \$150-\$160. We are asking the five members to pay half the costs for their uniforms.

NEW BUSINESS:

Date for Steak fry to be discussed by fundraising committee.

Breakfast to be held at the Post on February 27th at 10:00A.M. It will consist of biscuits, gravy, fruit, ham, and eggs.

MOMENT FOR DEPARTED MEMBERS:

Commander Greeling called for Chaplain Madsen to lead the members in a memorial prayer for departed members: Colonel Gene R. Wilks and Roy H. Smith

GOOD OF THE LEGION:

Doug Grant will be at the Post at 2:30 PM Saturday, Feb 6th for the fundraising committee. Will meet to talk about fundraising ideas and to get the silent auction together. The silent auction will be held on May 22nd and it will be pure profit for the Post.

Leonard Eisert proposed to the members present a fundraising idea called the “Sentimental Journey” which will consist of a 2-hour local variety talent show. Jim Owen will MC the event at no charge. Tickets will cost \$10. It will be held at the Methodist Church at Becker Hall on either April 10th or April 17th. The cost to rent the hall will be \$150.

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Commander Greeling conducted appropriate Closing Ceremonies. The meeting was adjourned at 1930 hours. There were 21 members present. 8 voting officers were at the meeting.

Respectively submitted,
Leslie Jackson, Adjutant