

WI Department, American Legion Post 234

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting, January 23, 2008

Opening:

The meeting was opened by Commander, Rick Deiss at approximately 7:30 PM, a recitation of the Pledge to Allegiance, Preamble to the Constitution, POW/MIA Ceremony and a prayer by the Chaplain Ray Janiak

Roll Call:

***Not in attendance # Excused**

Commander	Rick Deiss	1st Vice	Ken Flock
2nd Vice	Pete Hennes #		
Adjutant	Bob Wipf	Sgt.-at-Arms	Jon Friedrich #
Finance Officer	Ed Mason	Parliamentarian	Ray Hoeft #
Chaplain	Ray Janiak	Historian	Wayne Schmick
Service Officer	Ken Ochalla*		
Members-At-Large:	John Vonderloh, Dean Larsen # , Ken Jungwirth		

Sergeant-at-Arms Report:

• Jon reported 30 members and guests including Amanda Nelson, Amy Nelson, John Nelson, Adam Nelson, Tracey Miller Cameron Chapin, Randy Chapin, Julie Quinn and Winnebago County Commander Rosemarie Pitz.. New members include Jerry Pommerening and Robert Schlutz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the Post Meeting on 11/28/07 and the PEC meeting of 1/16/08 were distributed and approved as printed.

Special Award: Commander Deiss presented a special award to Amanda Nelson for her efforts to restore the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance. Amanda was also presented a necklace and earrings.

Special Presentation:

- Camron Chapin presented his Oratorical speech for the membership. The Adjutant Wipf presented a \$75.00 award to Camron. A \$50 stipend was also presented to Tracey Miller as coach for the Oratorical Contest.
- Ed Mason presented a Certificate Of Appreciation award to Ken Jungwirth.

New Business:

- Commander Deiss reported that "Breakfast With The Veterans" will be re-scheduled for February 5, 2008 at 8:00 AM at the Omro Care Center. Please sign up on the sheet in the back of the room.
- Commander Deiss read a letter from Dean Larsen. Dean's daughter and post member Bev Britt requested that the post provide calling cards for the unit she is serving with in Iraq. The membership discussed several options and types of calling cards. Jim Romnek offered information about the VFW uplink program. A motion was made by Bill Spanbauer and seconded by John Vonderloh to spend \$100.00 of the poppy fund for calling cards to be sent to Bev Britt for distribution. The motion carried unanimously. Several post members provided additional donations to this cause.

Membership Trial Report: Commander Deiss reported that the scheduled trial for Tom Kopacz will not be needed due to Tom resigning from the Post. Tom's resignation was accepted by the PEC. Commander Deiss provided a detailed summary of the events that lead to the summons for trial. The matter is officially closed.

Post Announcements

- The MAC will meet at Tanners on February 6, 2008 @ 7:00 PM.
- The membership is requested to help get sponsors for the TV show, website, and Baseball. Rick will have a sheet that explains each sponsorship opportunity. The PEC authorized the TV show for January & February.
- 6th District Americanism Banquet will be held Feb. 23 at CJ's in Ripon.
- 6th District Oratorical will be Jan. 27th at Post 75.
- American Legion Bowling Tournament as detailed in newsletter.

Badger Boys State: Bob Wipf & John Hoeft will encourage the HS staff to select another student for Badger Boys State. An additional student is budgeted by the Post for this year.

1st Vice-Commander Report: No report

2nd Vice-Commander Report: No Report

Financial Officer Report as of 11/30/07 & 12/30/07

• Financial Officer, Ed Mason presented the November & December reports. A copy of the full reports was available on the back table. A motion was made by John Vonderloh and seconded by Ed Goss to accept the financial report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Historian: Thanks to the new Post Photographer for the excellent pictures.

Chaplin Sickness & Distress Report:

• Ray reported that Elmer Manke was no longer at the nursing home and now lives in Tennessee. We will do address change to ensure Elmer get his Legion mail.

• Ed Goss will be having surgery in Madison later this month

Service Officer: No Report

Winnebago County Report:

• Salute to the Legislature at Madison will be February 20th. Contact Rosemarie Pitz about the DAV bus.

• Next County Council meeting will be in Omro on February 21, 2008 @ 7:30 PM

• Rosemarie Pitz, County Commander, congratulated the Post for being 106% membership

6th District: No report

Mid-Winter Conference: Bob Wipf reported the conference will be Jan. 24-27 at Mead Hotel in Wisconsin Rapids. Bob Wipf and Jim Romnek will attend any members wishing to attend should contact Bob Wipf

Membership:

• John Vonderloh reported that membership is currently at 103 with 2 new members joining this evening. 18 current members are unpaid.

• Dues can be sent to PO Box 234 Omro, WI 54963

• John reported that the Veteran's license plates have changed for the worse and encouraged the membership to contact their representative to compliant about the changes.

Honor Guard: No report

Veterans Dinner Chairman: Ed Goss reported this event is scheduled for May 10th. Social will be at 5PM with Dinner at 6PM. There will also be a raffle and silent auction similar to last year, so start to get donations. This year's speaker is Kate Farrel. Tickets are \$20.00 each. Only 225 tickets will be sold. Ken Flock will serve as Chairman during Ed's surgery. Posters are available, see Ed Goss.

American Legion Baseball

• Past Commander Hoeft reported on the details of sponsoring an American Legion Baseball Program.

• Omro Youth Baseball Association voted to cover most of the actual game expenses.

• Paul Miller and Davis Schmude will assist with committee work.

• Team will be in JV league and play 11-16 teams.

• There are \$500.00 scholarships available for the players in their senior year.

• \$40.00 sponsorship opportunities are available

Raffle Report: Commander Deiss reported that over \$6500 was made on the raffle. Congratulations to the raffle committee on a excellent job.

Memorial Report: Ken Jungwirth reported the committee has verified 29 additional names for the memorial. Ken is making arrangements to visit the office St Louis to assist in verifying more names.

Golf Outing: Golf outing will be at Lake Breeze in Winneconne on May 24th. More details are coming next month.

Christmas Party Report: Ken Flock provide final report on the party. Several members did not show or pay, so in the future events will be pay in advance only.

New Business: Ed Mason has lapel pins available for purchase.

Closing:

The meeting closed at approximately 9:10 PM with retiring of the POW chair and a prayer by the Chaplin, Ray Janiak.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Wipf,

Adjutant Post 234