

**American Legion Post 341
Membership Meeting January 09, 2017**

Opening Ceremonies:

At 18:30 hours, Commander Jean Meacham called the meeting to order. Opening ceremonies were conducted with the Pledge of Allegiance. The opening prayer was given by Chaplain Norvil Lantz. The POW/MIA Flag Ceremony was conducted by 1st Vice Commander David Winchell.

Guests:

- No guests were present

New Members:

- No new members were recognized

Roll Call of Officers:

Present were:

Commander Jean Meacham
1st Vice Commander David Winchell
Adjutant Judith Winchell
Finance Office John Chelstrom
Historian Bob Trager
Chaplain Norvil Lantz
Judge Advocate Don Naught
Sgt-at-Arms Gene Rogers
Executive Committeeman Pat O'Brien
Past Post Commanders Norvil Lantz and John Chelstrom

Absent were:

Executive Committeemen Andy Anderson and James Johns
Past Post Commander Doug Grant
Past Post and Department Commander Jake Greeling
The positions of 2nd Vice Commander and Service Officer are vacant at this time

A total of 27 members, including above noted officers, were present.

Reading of the Minutes:

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the November meeting, which are posted on the Post website, be approved as written.

Correspondence:

- There was no correspondence to report.

Committee Reports:

- Finance report: John Chelstrom reviewed the year end financials and stated they were posted upstairs for review. Special thanks were given to Pat O'Brien,

Armando Martinez, and Dan Naught for all the help they have given the Financial Officer. The reports were accepted as read.

- Membership report: Judith Winchell reported that we have 527 members who have renewed for 2017 making this our official membership. Renewals for 2017 are still being accepted, but our membership will only reflect those who have renewed for the present year.
- Consolidated Service report: Judith Winchell reminded members to submit their volunteer hours. Hours volunteered to causes not related to the American Legion are accepted but should be listed separately from those given the Post.
- House Committee report: Pat O'Brien reported that the new sign should be up within a month. We have requested bids for the electrical work from three (3) vendors. The city waived all fees for the sign. The next meeting of the House Committee will be Wednesday, 01/11/17 and all are welcome to attend.
- Casey Chenoweth is here every Wednesday. Walk-ins are welcome; however, it is best to call the AR VA program in Bentonville to schedule an appointment with him to discuss any VA problems or concerns that you may have.
- Fundraising report was given by Armando Martinez. The Razorback table raffle raised \$250 at the New Year's Eve party.
- Tom Meacham said the SAL has agreed to help with the 2017 Golf Scramble. Work has already started on that project and additional volunteers are needed. The tentative date is 06/03/17.
- Don Naught congratulated Jean on last Saturday's band, Strapjacket. This is a new band and the Post did very well by them.
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Unfinished Business:

- The need for duty officers was reiterated. The sign-up sheet is in the bar. JJ Johns has been unable to schedule officers and House Committeemen to cover the Saturday dances, so until Armando can work up new assignment, we need volunteers for this coming Saturday.
- Bob Trager said we put our 75 wreaths at the local cemetery as part of Wreaths Across America (WAA). These wreaths were made available by a \$1500 donation. He is waiting to learn when we will need to pick them up, rebox them and return them to Fayetteville. As soon as he has that information, he will need volunteers to help with that. Next year he would like to see the Post raise money for double the number of wreaths ($\$20/\text{wreath} \times 150 = \3000). While this will not honor all the veterans buried in Bella Vista, it is a start.
- Pat O'Brien said he has heard that Trivia is not making enough money to cover expenses. We had discussed asking for a cover charge to play but many players said they left other locations because of that charge. The general consensus was that we continue Trivia Night, but acknowledged that we need more volunteers to wait tables and push food.
- Jean said the New Year's Eve Party was sold out. We had to turn away people at the door who did not have tickets. The net profit was around \$1300.

New Business:

- Armando said he is starting a Texas Hold 'em game. The first game will be this coming Monday, 01/16/17 at 7 PM.

Good of the Legion:

- Jean said the newsletter will be emailed shortly but a copy is posted on the new bulletin board in the front hall. This was built and installed by Gene Rogers and Ken Nelson. Thank you both.
- Gene Rogers will check with the Auxiliary concerning Valentine's Day.
- The 50/50 drawing of \$35 was graciously won by Jim Kelly.

Closing:

Closing ceremonies were conducted by Commander Meacham and Chaplain Lantz. The meeting was adjourned at 19:15 hours.

Respectfully submitted by

Jawinchell

Judith A Winchell
Adjutant