

American Legion Post 341
Membership Meeting March 12, 2018

Opening Ceremonies:

At 1830 hours, Commander Jean Meacham called the Post meeting to order. Commander Meacham led the Pledge of Allegiance, an opening prayer was led by Chaplain Norvil Lantz, and the group's recitation of the Preamble to the Legion's Constitution and Bylaws which was guided by the Commander. The roll call of officers was performed, and the minutes of the February non-meeting were reviewed briefly by the Adjutant.

Miss Elizabeth Lamey of the Jr. Auxiliary reported the initial project of Wreaths Across America had generated approximately \$550 from the Bentonville area. Additional forays into other communities in NW Arkansas will be developed during the coming year. She indicated she would have further information at the next meeting. The Fayetteville wreath laying in 2018 will be conducted on the same day as the National effort but will be undertaken approximately two hours after the National ceremonies. Miss Lamey indicated those individuals wishing to make contributions could find the necessary connection at wreathscrossamerica.com.

The Commander next introduced Jerre Barren Jr. who is currently running for a seat on the Bella Vista Property Owners Association Board. He indicated he will be campaigning on the issue of "transparency" which he believes is not provided currently about actions taken by the Board.

The Commander indicated the delayed Valentine's Party was very successful. She indicated 65 individuals attended and "Rockin' Roads" made a major contribution with their music but they also distributed party favors during their program.

The Commander went on to make several comments. These included:

1. The VA hospital in Fayetteville is the best group with which she has ever been associated.
2. Wreaths Across America's contributions will assist the membership to pay down the Post's mortgage.
3. She also commented Post officers are still working hard to pay down the Hall's mortgage.

Adjutant's Report:

Adjutant Naught reviewed the current state of membership renewals. Presently the Post has 746 members on the rolls to renew minus 48 Paid Up for Life members. We have 481 members (64.4%) who have already renewed their memberships leaving approximately 265 member renewals needed to complete the process for 2018.

Finance Officer's Report:

Finance Officer Chelstrom was unavailable so the Adjutant reprised the significant numbers for the current month. The Post's February operating balance is \$1,804.00. The report indicates the electric bill, water bill and Direct TV bills weren't paid yet but the bill's balances had already been deducted to arrive at the current operating balance. Chelstrom's report indicates the mortgage balance is down to \$255,924.00 from \$257,082.00.

Commander Meacham announced the new Veteran's Service Officer, Leigh Haverton is now available on Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. Meacham indicated Haverton prefers her visitors make appointments prior to meeting so she is fully prepared for their discussions.

Meacham next announced Saturday, March 17, will be the date for the St. Patrick's Day meal of corned beef & cabbage with soda bread.

The Golf Committee announced they will be holding Golf Committee meetings prior to the event on the same dates as the Post breakfasts.

Leroy Hoback announced the March 24th rally in Bentonville Square could be interfered with by a "dangerous" group coming into town to disrupt the proceedings. Hoback is seeking members to go to the Square as a counter force to the outside group.

The Commander announced the Boys and Girls State information and other requirements have already been forwarded for 2018.

The Commander called for Old Business. There was none. She next called for New Business. Again, none was raised. Next, the Commander asked whether anyone had any issues to for the Good of the Legion. No issues were presented. Meacham closed these announcements by stating the Auxiliary would be selling poppies on May 18 and 19. Volunteers are needed for the sales.

Closing Ceremonies:

Since no other business arose Commander Meacham conducted the closing ceremonies at approximately 1920 hours.

Respectfully submitted by Bella Vista Adjutant

Don Naught

American Legion Post 0341

Bella Vista, AR