

**American Legion Post 341  
Membership Meeting April 11, 2016**

**Opening Ceremonies:**

At 18:30 hours, Commander Doug Grant called the meeting to order. Opening ceremonies were conducted with the Pledge of Allegiance. The opening prayer was given by Chaplain Graves. The POW/MIA Flag Ceremony was conducted by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander David Winchell.

**Guests:**

1. Tom Ruck, with the National Cemetery in Fayetteville, spoke about the recognition of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Viet Nam War by Congress on 03/29/16. He asked that all Viet Nam veterans and all Viet Nam era veterans come forward to receive a commemorative pin authorized by Congress in recognition for their service during a difficult time.
2. Kenny Melancon came forward to speak about the Veteran's History Project. He has gotten all the information needed to record the stories of those veterans who wish to participate. These histories / stories will be collected in Washington and will be available on the internet. Anyone wishing to participate can contact David Winchell for further information.

**New Members:**

Rich Lavery, Mike Fisher, Vic Walker and Donna Walker were recognized

**Roll Call of Officers:**

Present were Commander Doug Grant

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Ed Hardesty

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander David Winchell

Adjutant Judith Winchell,

Historian Jake Greeling

Chaplain Hal Graves

Judge Advocate Don Naught

Sgt-at-Arms Gene Rogers

Executive Committeemen Gary Aaron and James Johns

Past District Commander Jake Greeling

Past Post Commanders Norvil Lantz and Jake Greeling

Absent were:

Service Officer Mike Montes

News Letter Writer Dan Franklin

Executive Committeeman and Past Commander John Chelstrom

The position of Finance Officer is vacant at this time.

A total of 47 members, including above noted officers, were present.

**Reading of the Minutes:**

The minutes of the March meeting have been posted on the website. The motion was made, seconded and passed to accept them as posted.

**Correspondence:**

An email from Paul and Cathy has been received thanking the post for the work done in the POW / MIA memorial garden at the Post.

**Committee Reports:**

- Finance report: Ed Hardesty, as Acting Finance Officer, reported that we had a slight decrease in profits again this past month. Overall, however, the Post is in good standing.
- Membership report: Judith Winchell reported that we have 795 members with 636 renewals (87%) to date. We have had several new member applications which are being held for the 2017 membership year.
- Consolidated Service report: Judith Winchell reminded members to turn in their volunteer hours.
- House Committee report: Jean Meacham said. Taco Tuesday continues to do well and Trivia Wednesday has become so popular that it has been moved to the meeting room. Fish Friday continues to improve with Cajun food being added to the menu that day.
- Fundraising/Golf Committee: The tournament is planned for 06/04/16.

**Unfinished Business:**

- Again the need for Duty Officers was stressed and the need for those volunteering to complete the checklist when closing to building.
- Donations are being accepted to sponsor a boy for Boys State. Donation jars are on the table. Which branch of service will raise the most money? So far the Marine Corps is in the lead.
- Doug discussed the renaming of our Post in honor of Willard E. "Rocky" Glidewell. The motion was made and seconded that we do so. After a short discussion, a vote was taken and passed without any dissent.

**New Business:**

- Doug said it is time to accept nominations from the floor for the upcoming elections next month. Following proper Parliamentary Procedure, the following names were submitted ( in alphabetical order):
  - Commander: John Chelstrom, Jean Meacham, Charlie Oberowski
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: David Winchell
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Kenny Butts, Fay Ryan
  - Adjutant: Pat O'Brien, Judith Winchell
  - Finance Officer: John Chelstrom
  - Chaplain: Hal Graves
  - JAG: Don Naught
  - VSO: Tim Sturgeon
  - Sgt-at-Arms: Don Naught, Gene Rogers
  - Committeemen: Andy Anderson, Terry Boyle, JJ Johns, Vic Walker

- Historian: Bob Taggart
- There will be a blood drive at the Post next Monday, 04/18/16, from 10 - 2. The goal is 12 units of blood. Last time we surpassed the goal. Let us do so again.
- Jake Greeling has resigned his position as Post Historian. He was asked to explain to the membership his reason for doing so and stated that he was asked and agreed to serve as Historian for the District of Arkansas. This will involve much traveling and he did not feel he could do both at the same time. He was applauded for his service and for his new position.
- Memorial Day is the next holiday for which we are responsible. David Winchell and John Chelstrom are coordinating this event. Forrest Strickler is available to coordinate with the Honor Guard as well as provide information concerning the handling of this event in the past by the VFW. Please contact David or John with willingness to serve.

**Good for the Legion:**

- Information for the May newsletter must be submitted by April 23.
- The Auxiliary is holding a poppy sale on 05/13 and 05/14. New, undated poppies are available for the sale. A sign-up sheet is at the bar for those wanting to participate.
- Applications are available for next year's Veteran's Honor Flight in NW Arkansas. Veterans who have participated in this flight to Washington DC to visit the memorials have stated that it is a moving experience. Primary consideration will be given WWII and terminally ill veterans, followed by Korea and then Viet Nam veterans.
- Pat O'Brien said the benefit on 03/26 was a great success. Over 100 breakfasts were served netting nearly \$1000. Our donation to the Legacy Fund was the largest in the state.
- There will be an Executive Board meeting next Monday at 12 noon. Any member who wishes to attend is free to do so.
- The winner of the 50/50 contest was JJ who donated his \$33 prize to Boys State.

**Closing:**

Closing ceremonies were conducted by Commander Grant and the meeting was adjourned at 19:30 hours.

Respectfully submitted by

Judith awinchell

Judith A Winchell  
Adjutant