

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

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 2nd Vice Commander Mike Montes.

Guests:

- Sgt. Palmer of the Bella Vista Police Department spoke about the Explorers and the new Post 3771 here in Bella Vista. He explained the need for this group and requested that this post consider sponsoring Post 3771.
- Mary Foster with CapTel spoke about the captioned telephone that is available, free of charge, to all hearing impaired persons in Arkansas. She spoke about how hearing loss and its resultant increasing isolation are linked with increasing depression and dementia. Applications are available for those interested. She will also be available after the meeting to answer questions.
- Lew Stirek with the Bella Vista AARP Recycling Center presented the Post with a check for \$1303.56. This was earned by several members of this Post volunteering at the center. Bob Rishel was one of those who volunteered and was recognized for his efforts.

New Members:

There are no new members at this time.

Roll Call of Officers:

Present were:

Commander Jean Meacham

1st Vice Commander David Winchell

2nd Vice Commander Mike Montes

Adjutant Judith Winchell

Finance Officer John Chelstrom

Historian Bob Trager

Chaplain Norvil Lantz

Judge Advocate Don Naught

Sgt-at-Arms Gene Rogers

Executive Committeemen James Johns and Pat O'Brien

Past District Commander Jake Greeling

Past Post Commanders John Chelstrom, Jake Greeling and Norvil Lantz

Absent were:

Service Officer Tim Sturgeons

Committeeman Andy Anderson

Past Post Commander Doug Grant

A total of 48 members, including above noted officers, were present.

Reading of the Minutes:

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

Correspondence:

- A letter from the Community Blood Center of the Ozarks has been received. The June 27th blood drive missed the goal of 15 units of blood by 5 units. The next blood drive will be in August.
- A thank you letter from Mason Westphal was read. He thanked the Post for sponsoring him at Boys State and said how much the experience meant to him. He hoped that we would continue this program.

Committee Reports:

- Finance report: John Chelstrom reported that we have \$2200 in the checking account, \$4600 in cash and \$13200 in the building fund. The P&L statement is on the bulletin board upstairs for any who are interested.
- Membership report: Judith Winchell reported that we have 701 members with 192 renewals (27%) to date. We have had several new member applications which have now been processed. We have been notified of the recent deaths of Archie Shroyer and John McDevitt. They will be transferred to the Post Everlasting.
- Consolidated Service report: Judith Winchell reminded members to submit their volunteer hours.
- House Committee report: JJ Johns reported that the first round of shooting in the Interservice Daisy Air Rifle competition was a success. Thus far the Navy has the highest score although the shooter with the individual highest score was an Air Force veteran. The next round is this coming Saturday and the kitchen will be open to cook burgers on the grill after the shooting is over. He also recognized those members present who have volunteered at this Post this past month.

Unfinished Business:

- The general need for Duty Officers was reiterated. JJ said that the Executive Board and the House Committee are each supplying 4 volunteers to provide security on Saturday evenings.
- Norvil Lantz has graciously accepted the position of Volunteer Coordinator.
- The boys we sent to Boys State will be at our next meeting to accept plaques and to meet with their sponsors.

New Business:

- A motion was made, seconded and passed that Post 341 sponsor Explorer Post 3771. Requests for funds will be made to the Finance Officer and discussed and approved on an as needed basis.

- In the past we have given a \$500 scholarship to the Single Parent Scholarship program. The motion was made, seconded and passed that we continue this contribution in the coming year.

Good of the Legion:

- News articles should be in to Jean no later than 07/22 for inclusion in the August edition of the newsletter. The Explorers were invited to contribute as they are now part of our “family”.
- Norvil said that years ago, when a member died, the Post contributed \$10 to the American Legion Legacy Fund in their name. He wondered if this could be reinstated. Jake Greeling reminded him that this was discontinued when the number of deaths exceeded the Post’s bank account. This will be placed on the August agenda under new business.
- The Executive Board will meet the 1st Monday in August, 08/01, at 10:00 AM.
- The 50/50 drawing of \$40 was won by Sgt. Palmer, who also transferred into this Post this evening.

Closing:

Closing ceremonies were conducted by Commander Meacham and Chaplain Lantz. The meeting was adjourned at 19:40 hours.

Respectfully submitted by

Jawinchell

Judith A Winchell
Adjutant