

**American Legion Post 341  
Membership Meeting September 12, 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:**

- Misty Burks and Crystal Guthrie, with Humana Insurance, spoke briefly about a partnering of Humana with the VA to offer a Med Sup plan for veterans. Packets were made available after the meeting. It was also noted that Humana has made a donation to our Post.
- Gene Rogers introduced Mason Westphal, who was sponsored by Arvest Bank to go to Boys State this year. Gene presented Mason with a certificate and then asked him to speak about his experience. After Mason finished, Gene reported that Nicholas Van Hooten of Bentonville High School was awarded a \$20,000 Samsung Scholarship at Boys State
- Dale Wandrie, Chaplain for our SAL, spoke about the newly reactivated chapter, its purpose and eligibility requirements. He said they are actively seeking new members at this time.

**New Members:**

- Kathleen and William Jeffrey joined this evening. She served in the Marine Corp and he served in the Navy.

**Roll Call of Officers:**

Present were:

Commander Jean Meacham

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander David Winchell

2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Andy Anderson, James Johns and Pat O'Brien

Past Post Commanders John Chelstrom and Norvil Lantz

Absent were:

Service Officer Tim Sturgeons

Past Post Commander Doug Grant

Past Post and Department Commander Jake Greeling

A total of 44 members, including above noted officers, were present.

**Reading of the Minutes:**

Item was omitted but the prior minutes are posted on the website

**Correspondence:**

- There was no correspondence

**Committee Reports:**

- Finance report: John Chelstrom reported that the Post continues to meet its expenses and for the first time all areas are in the black. The P&L statement is on the bulletin board upstairs for any who are interested.
- Membership report: Judith Winchell reported that we have 712 members with 356 renewals (52%) to date. All transfers and new memberships have been processed; however, renewals, applications, and transfer requests have not yet been processed by state. There is a greater than 31 day turn around time.
- 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: JJ Johns wanted to thank all those who helped with Saturday breakfast. He asked Mike Montes to speak about Oktoberfest which will be held 10/7 and 10/8. JJ also thanked Mike for acting as DJ recently when the new band cancelled at the last moment.

**Unfinished Business:**

- David Winchell again mentioned the need for volunteers at the recycling center. Eric Palmer with the Explorers reported that they will be helping the next two Saturdays. David thanked all those who have been volunteering there.
- The need for duty officers was reiterated. All Saturdays are taken care of by the Post officers and House Committee members. The sign-up sheet is in the bar.

**New Business:**

- Mike Montes reported that Veteran's Day is approaching. We will be sponsoring a program at the Veteran's Wall of Honor on Saturday, 11/05/16. Volunteers are needed. He also said that the idea of a Chili Cook-off has been made. He is working on this with the SAL.

**Good of the Legion:**

- News articles should be in to Jean no later than 09/23 for inclusion in the September edition of the newsletter.
- The Executive Board will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in October, at 10:00 AM.
- The Auxiliary will be having the Poppy Sale 11/11 and 11/12. Volunteers are needed to work 2 hour shifts. Sign up sheets are in the bar.
- The 50/50 drawing of \$30 was graciously donated to the building fund by its winner.

**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