

AMERICAN LEGION NAPERVILLE POST 43

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD ON: March 1, 2018

- The meeting was called to order by CMDR Deetjen at 1900 hours.
- Colors were posted.
- Opening prayer offered by Phil Maughan.
- CMDR Deetjen after which the MIA Flag was placed on the empty chair, read Resolution 288, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by the Preamble of the Legion Constitution.
- Roll call of Officers
 - CMDR Deetjen Present __X__
 - Sr. Vic CMDR Chasteen Present __X__
 - Jr. Vic CMDR Bonus Present __X__
 - Sgt At Arms Granat Present __X__
 - Fin. Officer Light Present __EX__
 - Chaplain Komarek Present __EX__
 - Advocate Hennessy Present __X__
 - Service Officer Barbour Present __EX__
 - Adjutant Bixel Present __X__
- Minutes were read. Motion to accept the minutes as read made by Ken Garhan and seconded by Don Hennessy.
- Guests: Greg Borland, a PUFL member from post 522 in Janesville, Iowa.

Post 43 Meeting Notes

Committee Reports

House and Entertainment: Jr Vice Commander Bonus – Excellent turnout for the February social and all enjoyed the Jazz Band from Naperville Central. The March social will be on St Patrick's Day and we will be treated to Corned Beef and Cabbage prepared by our Kendall Cooks. Entertainment will be the McNulty Irish Dancers. April will be for our Citizens of the Year awards and to acknowledge our Past Commanders.

Membership: Sr Vice Commander Chasteen – Our membership has reached 90% of goal but we still have 60 none paid from last year. A final letter will be sent out requesting members to declare their intentions with this year's dues.

A question from the floor concerning the 2910 list provided and our intentions to contact those individuals. There have been some complaints heard that those paying on line are not receiving their membership cards.

Finance Report: Finance Officer Light – No report issued

Americanism: Advocate Hennessey – Four (4) contestants from our post will be traveling to Springfield this weekend for the State Oratorical Contest. Semifinals will be in the morning of March 3 with finals in the afternoon. Winners in Springfield advance to Indianapolis for the National Oratorical Contest in April.

Legion Riders: Tom Dillon – In addition to being regular visitors at Brookdale Plaza, the weather is warming, and the Riders are preparing their bikes for this year. Weather permitting the Riders will be in the St Patrick's Day parade. Further planning has the Riders preparing to play a major role in the DuPage Honor Flight Fund Raising on May 5. Information has been received that the Legacy Run this year will begin in Hutchinson, KS and continue on to the site of the National Meeting in Minneapolis, MN.

The Riders will continue supporting the setting up and taking down for the socials.

Sons of American Legion: Chris Lance was elected to head up the SAL.

Honor Guard: Jim Oftedal – There was one MFS in the month of February, but 4 Military Funeral Services are already scheduled for March.

Girls State/Boys State: Eileen Lass reported that she now has 10 girls signed up for Girls State. Terry Jelinek has seven boys so far for Boys State. There is an anticipation that more boys and girls will sign up in the coming weeks. Girls State will be the week of June 18, Boys State begins on June 9.

Service Officer: Service Officer Barbour - No Report

Boy Scouts: Brian Light – No Report

Trustees: Painting will start on the Post home as weather permits.

Historian Report: Lee Lindberg – It is of interest to see that 30 some countries have American Legion Posts in them. On a visit some 5 years ago, Lee and others presented a Post 43 license plate to a post in Killarney, Ireland.

Home Visits to Senior Living Centers: Lee Lindberg - Senior Living Center visits are 10 AM to Monarch Landing on the first Saturday, Brookdale Plaza on the second Saturday, Independence Village on the third Saturday and HarborChase on the fourth Saturday of every month.

Post Everlasting and Sick Call: Lee Lindberg, Mike Barbour, Dick Komarek, Charlie Vladika, Chuck Biegel, Mike Walczak, Doug Askren, Paul Hogan, Dick Knosher. Dave Szablewski, Chuck Winchester Fred Mokhiber and Don Faulhaber.

Parades and Ceremonies: Jim Sarns put out a request for individuals to carry the flags for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. In addition, planning has already begun for Memorial Day. There is a signup sheet for those who wish to ride in the parade. If you have not registered to ride, you will not have a ride.

The speaker for Memorial Day will once again be either one of our Oratorical Contestants or a Voice of Democracy candidate from the VFW.

Old Business: We have an electric wheel chair for a veteran in need. You should contact Don Hennessy if you know someone who could use it.

The VFW National Home for Children Director Mike McGrath – A Safety and Security Fund is being started. There is a need to enhance both the safety and security of the residents on this large complex. The first residents of the National Home for Children were from the Sgt Edward Pollett family. He was a retired vet killed when crossing the street in Detroit. His wife and 6 children became the first residents on March 9, 1925.

New Business: Rich Yndestad, a regular member of the Friday Honor Guard at Abraham Lincoln Cemetery, noted that on June 27 there will be a golf outing and dinner benefit to raise money to support the Honor Guard at Abraham Lincoln Cemetery. Please contact him for more information.

Reminder that May 5 is the Chicago Honor Flight fund raiser at the DuPage Airport. Come out and support this important endeavor.

Lee Lindberg and Bob Howland will be on the April Honor Flight to Washington DC.

Correspondence: None

For the Good of the Legion: Lee Hensel shared the work that Black Diamond Charities is doing for veterans. They are offering a free 35-hour course which will be taught on five consecutive Saturdays. The next course begins October 6. This course is a Project Management training course that teaches the fundamentals of project management and allows the veteran to connect the dots between military experience and civilian life. You can learn more at www.blackdiamondcharities.org

March 13 is the next Hines Hospital visit. Last month the Naperville Central High School group “Stars and Stripes” made the trip to Hines. A group of high school students who are making a difference for our vets.

April 11 will be the Naperville Responds for Veterans noon luncheon entitled “Strength and Honor”. Mike Barbour will be the featured speaker. Check in is at 11:30 AM. This will be held at the Embassy Suites Naperville.

The VFW fish fry continues Fridays throughout lent.

Commander Deetjen expressed interest in forming an American Legion Auxiliary. We need 10 women to form this group. Contact the Commander with ideas.

There are numerous committees that need volunteers, see the Commander.

Closing prayer offered by Phil Maughan.

Meeting adjourned by CMDR Deetjen at 1958 hours