



**The American Legion Post143
Combined Regular Monthly Membership Meeting
Thursday, February 20, 2020**

Commander Harrod called the combined membership meeting to order at 6:03 PM. All stood for a salute to the National Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was declared regularly convened.

WELCOME VISITORS & GUESTS: by Commander Harrod

- **Guests: None**
- **5th District:**
- **Prospective New Members: Billy Joe Payne**
- **Prospective Transferee's: None**
- **Special Guest: Sarah Parrot, Mary and Steve Chastain**

RECOGNITION:

- **Birthdays: Ruth Fuller, Jeff Liggett, Don Levins and Jack Rhodes**
- **Anniversaries: None**

GENERAL BUSINESS

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jeanette Henson

- Current membership is at 78%. Unit 143 still needs more eligible family members to join.
- **REMINDER TO THE LEGION FAMILY:** The Unit 143 membership is continually accepting new members in order to maintain our Dept. goal. Please contact family members and encourage them to consider joining the women's group and to help support the organization. Eligibility includes wives, daughters, mothers, grandmothers, granddaughters, great granddaughters, sisters and also those women who are eligible for Legion membership in their own right. The Auxiliary dues are \$25 annually.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Jeanette Henson

- **REMINDER:** Please contact Jeanette if you are interested in volunteering at the Trinkka Davis Veterans Village. Consider helping our veterans in a very rewarding way.

SICK CALL: Please keep the following members and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Peggy Riley will be at a rehab facility in Bremen for another month. Her grandson, **Carson**, has made significant progress and is now home after a month's confinement in the hospital.

Wanda Maddox's mother suffered a broken ankle and is in a rehab facility, while her father is now a resident in the *Memory Unit* of another facility.

Betty Levans will be starting chemotherapy in a few days.

Dale Robinson currently has the flu, while **Debra** is recovering from it.

Ronnie and Joey Martin's daughter, **Morgan**, is battling an immune system issue.

Warren Henson is dealing with kidney function issues.

Steve Mc Ewen's father, **Floyd**, is in the hospital.

Chuck Feaselman is ill.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Quilts of Valor

Past Commander Ronnie Pate served as Master of Ceremonies and introduced the group from The Quilts of Valor. The representatives joined us once again to present a very uniquely crafted quilt to another deserving veteran in our Post 143 American Legion Family. Past Commander Pate announced **United States Air Force Vietnam veteran Sam Pyle** as our latest recipient. His military career is reflected in the numerous awards and medals he received. The USAF Commendation Medal for Meritorious Service in Vietnam, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with three (3) Campaign Stars, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, and the Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon clearly mirror his commitment to serving in the U. S. Air Force. Congratulations, Sam!

As Quilts of Valor member Mary Chastain pointed out, there have been over 221,000 Quilts of Valor awarded to veterans since its inception in November 2003 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Sarah Parrot, another member, gave a detailed explanation of the significance of each layer of the quilt and its construction. Thank you, again, ladies for all you do!

STAND and UNCOVER for prayer by Chaplain Larry Boswell

INSTRUCTIONS for MEAL

- *Thanks to everyone who helped set up the meal.
- *Those needing help with their meal and guests will be first in line
- *Members at the right tables facing podium will be next
- *Exit into hallway thru door nearest podium and back in by food line
- *Please uncover while eating
- *Please help with cleanup after meeting.

BEGIN REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

1. The regular Post meeting began at 7:03 **PM** with one rap of the gavel. Sgt at Arms (Thomas Underwood) closed doors and secured meeting room.
2. Three raps of gavel.
3. Commander asked members to **UNCOVER**
4. **Chaplain Larry Boswell offered a prayer.**
5. **POW/MIA EMPTY CHAIR (Sgt. at Arms Thomas Underwood) was remembered**
6. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Senior Vice Ron Knowles
7. **RECOVER.** The Preamble to the Legion Constitution was led by Senior Vice Ron Knowles
(One rap of the gavel to seat members)
8. **Commander Harrod declared General Membership Meeting of Carroll Post 143, Department of Georgia, officially convened.**
9. **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- The Assistant Adjutant took a roll call of officers and it was determined that enough members in good standing were present to declare a quorum.
- A vote was taken and the minutes of January, 2020 General Meeting were accepted.
- A vote was taken and the minutes of January, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting were accepted.
- Cmdr. Harrod recognized 5th District SV Al Jackson.
- Membership & Guest attendance rosters are attached to the minutes of each meeting.

POST REPORTS

10. COMMANDER

- Department Spring Conference will be in Duluth from March 20–22, 2020.
- 5th District Meeting is Sunday February 23, 2020. Past Commander Ronnie Pate has two (2) seats available to anyone interested in accompanying him to the event. Please contact PC Pate.
- Corporation Registration fees are being taken care of by Past Commander Pate and Commander Harrod.
- Grant requests have to be addressed. The various businesses, clubs, and foundations help support the SAL, Auxiliary and the post.
- Be thinking about the BBQ Fundraiser. If we're going to plan on having it a chairman needs to be appointed.

11. Finance Officer/Finance Committee Chair: Ronnie Martin

- The Financial Report for the Month of January 2020 was read to the membership by Finance Officer Ronnie Martin and a copy was presented to the Commander. A second copy will be filed and become a permanent record of the post.

12. Adjutant Report: Steve Fuller **ABSENT**

13. Sr Vice: Ron Knowles

- Membership Committee Report: Membership is at **98.95%**. Members who still have outstanding 2020-2021 dues can pay them either online, by mail or in person at the next Combined Membership Meeting.

14. JV/Americanism Chair: Tim Bass **ABSENT**

15. JV/ Legislative & Protocol Chair: Sam Pyle

- This is the **75th Anniversary of the end of WWII**. The American Legion is recognizing these special veterans by sharing their stories with students in local schools, Boy Scout troops and various youth organizations.
- **The Charles H. Coolidge National Metal of Honor Heritage Center in Chattanooga, TN** is offering a special opportunity to visit the Center from February 22, 2020 to May 12, 2020 to view the history of the Medal of Honor. JV Pyle has the website information if anyone is interested in making the trip to Chattanooga.

16. JV/Children & Youth Chair: Charles (Doc) Stuckey

- It's that time of the year again! The **Special Olympics** will be held at the Carrollton High School football stadium on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 9:30 am. A signup sheet for volunteers will be available at the March 19, 2020 Combined Membership Meeting. If you list your t-shirt size with your name, you will receive a free t-shirt for volunteering. It's a very rewarding experience!
- Commander Harrod advised JV Stuckey to contact Tom Sutton to ensure that the American Legion Post 143 is on their list of committees.

17. Judge Advocate: Richard Guynn

- JA Guynn reported that an **Annual Post Audit (2019)** was conducted on February 6, 2020. All expenditures and revenues were accounted for and properly recorded. A copy of this report will be filed and become a permanent record of the post.

18. Service Officer: Don Levans **ABSENT**

- Commander Harrod made a formal announcement that the Centennial Celebration of the American Legion is officially over.
- It was reported that twelve (12) contacts had been made by veterans for assistance from the VA.

REMINDER: *Trinka Davis* has two (2) excellent individuals, Nikia Hall and Judson Hayes, who are now available to assist veterans who need help with various needs concerning the Veterans Administration. The waiting times will probably not be any shorter, but the help is available.

19. Service Committee Chair: Bill Maddox **NO REPORT**

20. Honor Guard Chair: Dale Robinson **ABSENT**

- It was reported that the Honor Guard had performed five (5) military honors funerals in the past month. Included was the memorial service for American Legion Post 143 member Linda Harris at the Women's Army Corps Chapel at Ft. Mc Clellan, Anniston, AL. The Unit 143 Auxiliary was also in attendance.
- The Brooks Family made a \$100 donation in appreciation for the funeral memorial service provided by Post 143 Honor Guard.

REMINDER: Any member of Post 143 is entitled to full military honors at their funeral. Please inform your families that this benefit is available, and to convey those wishes to the funeral director at the time the arrangements are being made.

21. Cyber Chair: Randy Purser **NO REPORT**

22. Public Relations Committee Chair: Bill Hearnburg **NO REPORT**

23. Jr. Shooting Sports Chair: Frank Joswick

- After the **CHS Rifle Team** was scored on their January 15th, 2020 round of target sets, the results placed them in 3rd place and Morgan Frank in 1st place at the state level.
- Morgan is ineligible to compete this year at the National level according to the JSSP rules.
- By placing 3rd in the State, the CHS Team does not qualify for any American Legion awards from the Department of Georgia.
- A date will be determined after consulting with Coach Lewis for the Team to be recognized by Post 143.
- The CHS now has a permanent indoor shooting range.

POST COLOR GUARD: The Council on Aging's VALENTINE FESTIVAL was held on February 13th, 2020 at the East Carrollton Recreation Building. The American Legion Post 143 Color Guard, consisting of Tim Bass, Randy Purser, Richard Guynn, Jimmy Sanders, and (substitute) Wayne Driver, performed the Posting of the Colors and the Retirement of the Colors for the event.

- Post 143, as well as Wayne Driver, donated a Flag & Pole Set (each) as door prizes.
- Approximately 15-20 post family members attended the annual program.
- The next Council on Aging event is scheduled for May 7th, 2020.

24. SAL Commander: George Wheelless

- The annual **St. Patrick's Day Pot Luck Dinner** will be included with the March 19th Combined Membership Meeting at Post 143. Please plan to attend with your favorite **lass** or **laddie** and take in as much of the Irish food, Irish music and Irish blarney as you can pack into a fun evening! Don't forget to wear your **brightest Irish green duds** and practice your **favorite Irish tunes**.

25. Historian: **VACANT**

PLEASE NOTE: If any member of the Post is able to fill the position of **Historian** please step forward and contact one of the Executive Committee members by email, phone or in person at any meeting (Executive Committee or Combined Membership).

26. Chaplain: Larry Boswell **NO REPORT**

27. Were any reports missed? **NONE**

28. Unfinished Business: **NONE**

29. Any New Business: **NONE**

- 5th District Senior Vice Al Jackson introduced himself, and thanked the post for the great job it's done so far on membership renewals and enrollments. You're in great shape!
- SV Jackson updated the information for the 5th District meeting on February 23rd, 2020 in Mableton at Post 264. The breakfast will be served at 8:00 am. (instead of 9:00 am.) and will be \$8.00.
- Fishing for Freedom is May 2nd and SV Jackson will be assisting the chairman this year.
- Commander Harrod asked the membership to consider an office or chair for the 2020-2021 term. Nominations and a nominating committee will be activated in April. He also suggested that existing officers and chairpersons consider committing another year of service.
- Preparations are already being made for Boys State 2020. Adjutant Steve Fuller will be joining the faculty again, this year.

28. Dates to remember:

Mar 3rd _____ Executive Committee Members Meeting @ 5:00 pm.
Mar 19th _____ Combined Membership Meeting @ 6:00 pm.
Mar 20-22 _____ Dept. Spring Conference, Duluth GA
May 2nd _____ Fishing for Freedom, Plant Wansley

30. BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION:

- **American Legion Post 143 member Jimmy Sanders has donated numerous nonfiction military books to the post for anyone in the membership to use. Please return the book(s) after you've finished reading it to the bookcase in the hall for the next veteran to use. Thanks to Jimmy for sharing such a selfless and generous treasure.**
 - **Past Commander Ronnie Pate notified the membership that anyone interested in serving in a Department of Georgia leadership position to submit their name and contact information. Details are available from PC Pate.**
 - **Dept. of GA JV Jesse Campbell sent a letter to Commander Harrod requesting support from Post 143 for his 2020-2021 candidacy for Dept. of GA Senior Vice Commander.**
 - **Linda Cruse, from *SECOND CHANCE*, contacted Comdr. Harrod concerning a BINGO NIGHT fundraiser at Post 143. He referred her to the American Legion in Heard County.**
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- There was no further business to come before this meeting.
 - **STAND AND UNCOVER**
 - Chaplain Larry Boswell led us in a closing prayer.
 - **RECOVER**
 - **COMMANDERS CHARGE:** "Till we meet again let us remember that our obligation to our Country can be fulfilled only by the faithful performance of all duties of citizenship. Let service to the community, state, and nation be ever a main objective of The American Legion and its members. Let us be ever watchful of the honor of our Country, our organization and ourselves, that nothing shall swerve us from the path of Justice, Freedom and Democracy."
 - **The Flag of Our Country is in place for retirement. "HAND SALUTE": "TWO"**
 - **THREE RAPS OF THE GAVEL**
 - The Commander declared the February 20th, 2020 Regular Membership Meeting of Post 143, The American Legion, Department of GA adjourned at 7:33 PM with one gavel rap.

Approval Date:

Commander Joe Harrod

Recorder Kathy Katen