



**The American Legion Post 143
Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 13, 2018**

Post Commander Ted Merriss opened the meeting at 5:00PM. Those attending included SV Steve Fuller, JV Tim Bass, JV Bob Hilliard, Judge Advocate Richard Guynn, Finance Officer Chuck Feasalmen, Honor Guard Chair Dale Robinson, AUX President Jeanette Henson, SAL Cmdr George Wheelless and Recorder Frank Joswick

BY THE COMMANDER

SICK CALL: Donald Chavez; Mary Nelson; Joe Harrod; Maddison Merriss; Debra Robinson; Ron Ray

GET WELL CARDS SENT TO: Louie Hornsby; Don Chaves; Jennifer Merriss

CODOLENCE CARDS SENT TO: Barbara Freeman, wife of Murry Freeman

ROLL CALL: It was determined enough members in good standing were present to declare a Quorum. The EC Sign-In Sheet will be attached to the EC minutes as a permanent record for the Post.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:10PM

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES: The February 13, 2018 Executive Committee meeting minutes and the February 15, 2018 Combined Regular Membership Meeting minutes have been uploaded to the post website for review. (www.gapost143.org/aboutus) and group email was sent to the general membership.

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander Merriss began by saying that the post received two donations in honor of Col. Charles Rousek's wife, Bekka, by her mother, Susan Anderson, and siblings Andy, Rossie and Susan. Rosalin Anderson sent \$150 to go toward the Service Officer budget and another check from James & Susan (Anderson) Stephenson for \$50 is also to go the Service Officer's budget. Commander Merriss will send an "Acknowledgement" letter.

He went on to say that the Post was invited by the Community Foundation of West Georgia to attend a Non-Profit Networking workshop scheduled for March 27, 2018. Frank Joswick will attend.

He recommended that the committee consider donating \$150 to sponsor a walk/run event to be held at the Holy Ground Baptist Church on May 12th

He also informed the committee that he invited a guest speaker, Jwyanda Norman from "Need it Most" will present information on the types of household services they provide during the Mar 15, 2018 Combined Post Meeting

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

1. SR. VICE/MEMBERSHIP:

- SV Steve Fuller briefed the following:
- According to the Department of Georgia, our posts' current membership renewal percentage rate is 81.4%. However, according to the Post Register, the membership renewal rate is at 92%.
- Also having problems with the Department not listing some post members as not paying their 2018 dues, but post records show otherwise. Am currently working these issues with the Department.
- Personally paid for a member's 2018 membership dues. Post may want to consider doing the same for those that are having financial difficulties. Cmdr. Merriss said the post could use the \$150 earmarked for the Irish dinner but not used for this purpose. Need a List of those are having difficulty paying their membership dues
- Need to select members for the Nomination Committee at the March 15th regular membership meeting

2. FINANCE OFFICER / FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR:

- FO Chuck Feaselman handed out a copy of the 2016-17 & 2017-18 comparison Budget sheet for all EC members to review. He also provided a 2017-18 and 2018-19 Budget worksheet. All committee members with a budget are to fill in their proposed 2018-19 budget on the worksheet and present it at the next EC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 2, 2018 at 5PM. He also said that the post should try to stay within the \$13,000 plus Budget because the post isn't receiving the grants as before. Steve Fuller and Jeanette Henson said that the post didn't get on the Kiwanis Club grant list year, so the no grant money (\$600) will be received this year. All present agreed that a list of all organizations that offer grants need to be compiled.

Bob Hilliard said that the current C & Y budget of \$250 for the JROTC will cover expenses this year, but will have to be increased for the 2018-19 Budget to cover costs for additional items such as medals and certificates. Chuck stated that the committee might want consider using part of the budget earmarked for School Awards under Americanism to cover the additional expenses for C & Y next year. He also stated that cards mailed out to members are a separate category which should be paid from the Miscellaneous Budget. Jeanette Henson said that the Post check for \$150 for the entertainment provided during the Irish Dinner is no longer needed because the cost was shared between the SAL & AUX.

Commander Merriss said that the \$150 can be allocated to SV Steve Fuller to pay veterans membership renewal dues as he deems necessary.

3. JR. VICE / AMERICANISM CHAIR: by Tim Bass

Sub Committees:

- **9-11/1st Responder Ceremony at CCVMP:**

JV Tim Bass stated that the 9-11 Event is scheduled for Sept 8th at the CCVMP beginning at 10:30am

- **Junior Shooting Sport Program:**

Frank Joswick briefed members that due to a scheduling conflict, the CHS Riflery Team will not be able to attend the Mar 15, 2018 as planned, but will instead, attend the Apr 19, 2018 Combined membership meeting.

- **Boys State:**

SV Steve Fuller Said that he and JV Tim Bass and AUX President Jeanette Henson will visit Carrollton High School and meet with the 7 students that will be attending Boys State May 27 thru June 2, 2018. The post budgeted \$1,500 for 6 students to attend, leaving one (1) student that will be funded by SAL. Although Mt. Zion HS said they may have 2 or 3 students that may be interested. Steve asked if there was money in the current post budget to pay for the additional students. Chuck Feaselman said that would require a vote to do so. Steve said he is waiting to hear from Mt Zion before a final recommendation is brought before the committee.

4. JR. VICE / CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIR:

- Bob Hilliard stated that this year's Special Olympics will be held at Carrollton High School on Tuesday, March 27, 2018. All Volunteers (10) are to assemble at the Flag pole at 9:00AM to pick up their T-Shirts.
- April is Children and Youth Month for the American Legion. Schools are busy testing all (much) of April, but schools would welcome anyone interested in becoming a test proctor. Fifteen minutes of training. Easy to do, mostly being present to over-see the process, sharpen pencils & being in the room if teacher needs to leave

5. HONOR GUARD:

Dale Robinson stated that the Honor Guard conducted four Military Funeral Honors during the month of February And Bryant Hightower, from the Martin-Hightower Funeral Home, presented a check for \$530 to purchase a Ceremonial Bugle to be used at Military Funerals. Dale also mentioned that when contacted, the Honor Guard will go into schools during patriotic holidays to promote Flag Education. Bob Hilliard stated that the JROTC each year asks area schools that they can also provide flag raising/lowering and folding instructions. Cmdr. Merriss asked Dale to mention the services provided by the Honor Guard in one of his articles. All agreed the post needs to get more involved in providing proper flag education at our schools, churches, sporting events and parades.

6. JUDGE ADVOCATE:

JA Richard Guynn briefed EC members to review the preliminary recommended changes to the Constitution, By-laws and Standard Operating Procedures will be discussed at the Mar 15th Regular membership meeting. SV Steve Fuller emailed the recommended changes to the general membership while Frank Joswick mailed same to members without an email address and also uploaded the documents to the post website. He also stated that the Audit committee reviewed the SAL's financial records and all were found to be in order.

7. HISTORIAN: Vacant

JV Bob Hilliard said he was in the process of compiling information for the post yearbook so it can be turned into the Department by Jun 2018. He went on to say that he will be taking pictures immediately following the Mar 15th General Membership meeting of all Post 143 family officers (Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL for annual/yearbook. He asked that a Blazer, cap and white shirt and tie be worn tie so pictures can be uniform. (A Legion clip-on tie will be provided)

ANCILLARY REPORTS

8. SAL COMMANDER'S REPORT:

Commander George Wheeless Will submit our Budget Summary and minutes from the previous SAL meeting during the Mar 15th GM meeting

The Irish Dinner was attended by 40 People who enjoyed the great food, fellowship and live entertainment. "Four Chaplain's Days" is event scheduled for Feb 2019. Volunteers are needed to serve on the planning committee

9. AUXILIARY PRESIDENT REPORT:

President Jeanette Henson said the post family held another successful Bingo event for the residents at the Trinka Davis Village. Also had a great time at the Irish Dinner with over 40 members of the post family and guests were in attendance.

• TRINKA DAVIS VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR REPORT:

President Jeanette Henson said there are still only have ten active volunteers that help out at Trinka Davis Veterans Clinic on a weekly basis. We have additional volunteers that say they are interested, but the VA is having problems scheduling the necessary training.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- A Chicken dinner from Jones BBQ will be served during the March 15th GM meeting. Frank Joswick will get ice
- EC members voted to move their meetings to the 1st Tuesday of each month to preclude having both EC & GM meetings scheduled during the same week
- The Executive Committee voted to donate \$150 to sponsor a walk/Run event at the Holy Ground Baptist Church scheduled for May 12, 2018
- Guest Speaker: Jwyanda Norman from "Need it Most" will discuss Household Management services during the Mar 15, 2018 Combined Post Meeting
- The Executive committee decided not to accept the request from area author and veteran Mike Nemeth to speak at the general membership meeting upon recommendation from Chuck Feaselman who heard Mr. Nemeth at a Marine Corps League meeting.

11. DATES TO REMEMBER:

Mar 23-25_____GA Department Spring Conference & College, Duluth, GA
Mar 27_____Special Olympics, CHS @ 9am.....Rain Date: Mar 29th
Mar 27_____Annual 2018 West Georgia Non-Profit Networking Event begins at 0830.
Apr 3_____Next EC meeting @ 5pm
Apr 19_____Next GM meeting @ 6pm and CHS Riflery Team Awards Ceremony
May 27-Jun 2____Boys State @ Riverside Mil Academy, Gainesville, GA?

WITH NO OTHER BUSINESS TO BRING BEFORE THE BODY

Salute to the Flag

And a prayer by Chaplain

The March 13, 2018 Executive Committee meeting of Carroll Post 143, Department of Georgia was adjourned at 6:50PM

DATE APPROVED:_____

Commander Ted Merriss

Reorder Frank Joswick