



**The American Legion Post143
Combined Regular Monthly Membership Meeting
Thursday, May 17, 2018**

Commander Merriss called the combined membership meeting to order at 6:00PM. All stood for a salute to the Colors. The meeting was declared regularly convened.

WELCOME VISITORS & GUESTS: by Commander Merriss:

- **Department/5TH district guests:** None
- **Guests:** Carrollton High School Riflery Team & Family members; Jeff Robinson
- **Prospective New Members:** None
- **Prospective Transferee's:** Rose Miller served in the Navy and is a Gulf War veteran

COMMANDERS COMMENTS:

- **Birthdays:** Sam Pyle
- **Anniversaries:** None

GENERAL BUSINESS:

a. AUXILIARY:

Jeanette asked everyone to help recruit new members into the American Legion Auxiliary

b. VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR:

- Jeanette and Warren Henson attended Atlanta's Divisional Program for Volunteers where she received her 750hr Volunteer pin,

ILLNESS/SURGERY/RECOVERY:

- Debra Robinson, Mary Nelson, Bill Johnston, Ron Ray, Don Chavez, , Dee Sammon and Linda Brock

POST FAMILY CONDOLENCES:

Gennifer Morgan, daughter of Ron and Shirel Price passed away on April 26, 2018 (Please sign Memorial Book)

TAPS: A moment of silent prayer was offered for the passing of post legionnaires:

- Robert Buren Brock----Korea and Hugh Lee Young-----WWII POW

Don Levans led us in prayer for the sick, those that passed, and the blessing of the dinner meal.

GUEST SPEAKER: CHS Riflery Team Head Coach Mike Lewis began by thanking the Post family for sponsoring his air rifle team so they could participate in the American Legion's National Air Rifle Tournament. They finished 2nd in the state and 11th in the nation. Locally, Coach Lewis went on to explain how the air rifle program began and how in just two years, CHS's Riflery Team went from 2nd in area competition and 8th in the state in 2016-17 to 1st in area competition and 4th in the State in 2017-18. He ended his remarks by explaining the type of air rifles that are used in competition and said that a typical rifle can cost anywhere from \$1500 to \$2500.

AWARDS CEREMONY: Cmdr Ted Merriss and Frank Joswick presented CHS Riflery members Morgan Frank, Thomas Harris, Taylor Berry and Collin Grubbs with a Certificate's of Recognition and an American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Patch.

BEGIN REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The regular Post meeting started at 7:14PM with three raps of the gavel for all to rise, salute the flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Then all attendees uncovered while Don Levans offered a prayer. The POW/MIA Empty Chair was honored by Sergeant at Arms, Joe Morgan. While standing, Commander Ted Merriss led the assembly in reciting the Preamble to the Legion Constitution. Commander Merriss rapped the gavel one more time and declared Post 143 Department of Georgia, regular meeting officially convened.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A roll call was taken and it was determined that enough members in good standing were present to declare a quorum.
- Membership & Guest attendance rosters are attached to the minutes of this meeting.

COMMANDERS REPORT:

Cmdr. Merriss stated the following:

- He and Sr Vice Steve Fuller, Jr Vice Bob Hilliard and Jr Vice Joe Harrod will be attending the 5th District convention will be held on May 19, 2018 at Post 160, Smyrna, GA
- The Post will be getting a Bicentennial coin No. 0143 that will be placed in a case in the main meeting hall of the post.
- The Cmdr. said that he is still looking for someone to Chair the BBQ committee. Must have a name by June.
- The Post will be participating in the downtown 4th of July Parade again this year. Let the Cmdr know who will be participating.
- The June 21st Combined Membership meeting will be shortened so the post family can participate in a cook-out with live entertainment.
- Last day for Early Voting is Friday, May 18th at either the Elections Office in Carrollton or at the Powel Parks Center in Villa Rica.

ADJUTANT REPORT:

A. Motion to Accept Meeting Minutes:

Frank Joswick asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written for the April 3, 2018 Executive Committee meeting and the April 19, 2018 Regular membership meeting. Motions were made and by voice vote, both minutes were approved as written. Copies will be filed and become a permanent record of the post.

B. New Member Balloting:

Sr. Vice, Steve Fuller asked for a motion to accept the following transfer into the Post. A motion was made and by voice vote, the following veteran was accepted into the post.

- **Transfers:** Rose Miller – US Navy, Transferred her membership from Post 400

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

- Boys State Orientation is scheduled for Tuesday May 22, 2018 at 6:00 PM. The SAL is providing a meal. This is a chance to meet the boys and their families. If you plan to attend and eat please give the number attending in your Party to Steve Fuller NLT May 18.
- A preliminary summary for the Consolidated Post Report is available for the Executive Committee to review. I will have copies at the general meeting. I leave for Boys State Friday May 25th so the report will be sent in before that.
- Sheriff Langley has offered his services to transport the boys to Boys State again this year. They will depart from the public safety building Sunday May 27 at 1100 hours. Bob Hilliard will see them off.

ELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT:

- Paper Ballots were cast by the membership and the new 2018-19 Post Officers were elected to the following Post positions:
 - Commander-----Joe Harrod received 30 votes and Ted Merriss received 2 votes
 - Sr. Vice Cmdr-----Dale Robinson received 32 votes
 - Jr. Vice Cmdr-----Tim Bass received 31 votes
 - Jr. Vice Cmdr-----Charles Stuckey received 32 votes
 - Jr. Vice Cmdr-----Sam Pyle received 31 votes
 - Judge Advocate-----Richard Guynn received 32 votes
 - Finance officer -----Chuck Feaselman received 25 votes and Ron Price, also running for F/O, received 11 votes
- The newly elected Officers will be installed during the July 19th Regular Membership meeting.
- With no other elections coming before this committee, the Election Committee was deactivated.

FINANCE OFFICER/FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Finance Officer Chuck Feaselman read the Financial Report for the Month of April, 2018. A copy of the proposed 2018-19 Budget was also provided to the general membership. A vote on said budget will take place during the June Regular Membership meeting. The commander accepted the Financial Report as read and Copies will be filed and become a permanent record of the post.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHAIR REPORT:

Bob Hilliard briefed members of the post that the Legion Dept. of Georgia has a \$1000 scholarship available. If any family member is graduating from High School this spring with high academic scores please pick up an application after the meeting.

- c. Cmdr. Merriss presented the Carrollton HS JROTC cadets with military and scholastic honors on Thu, Apr 26 (Photos by Frank Joswick)
- d. Frank Joswick presented the Central HS JROTC cadets with military and scholastic honors on Sat. May 5th (Photos by Bob Hilliard)
- e. Submitted the C & Y data to Steve Fuller for input into the Consolidated Post Report. Sent in the C & Y Narrative Report to the Dept.

HONOR GUARD:

Dale Robinson informed the membership that the Honor Guard performed 2 Full Military Funeral Honors for post members' Robert Billingsley, a Vietnam veteran, served in the U.S. Army, and Hugh Lee Young, served in the U.S. Army Air Force in WWII and was also a POW.

Dale went on to mention that six other Military Funeral Honors were conducted since the last meeting. The Color Guard team also participated in the "Spring Fling" sponsored by the Council on Aging

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION:

Cmdr Wheeless stated that the SAL already held their 2018-19 Officer elections and the results are as follows:

- Commander-----George Wheeless
- Sr. Vice Cmdr----Steve Fuller
- Jr. Vice Cmdr----Jeff Liggett
- Adjutant-----Evan Fuller
- J.A.-----Paul Scheufler
- F/O-----Warren Henson

- The new Officers will be installed on July 12th at the next scheduled Sal meeting.
- He also mentioned that the SAL will be holding a “Four Chaplain’s Sunday” event scheduled for Feb 2019. At least 3 or 4 volunteers are needed to serve on the planning committee. Contact George Wheeless for more information.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- May 19 _____ 5th District Convention at Smyrna Post 160
- May 25 _____ National Poppy Day
- May 26 _____ Memorial Day Event at CCVMP (Gen Pershing impersonator to speak)
- May 27-Jun 2 ___ Boys State at Riverside Military Academy, Gainesville, GA
- Jun 05 _____ Next EC Meeting
- Jun 9 _____ Flag Day
- Jun 21 _____ Next Combined Membership Meeting and Cook-Out

BUSINESS FOR GOOD OF THE LEGION: (MEMBERSHIP SHALL BE PERMITTED TO MAKE ANY SUGGESTIONS OF ANY KIND, CHARACTER OF DESCRIPTION, SAVE OF POLICAL OR RELIGION NOR WILL ANY MOTIONS BE MADE)

Legionnaires: Bill Hearnburg thanked the Color Guard, Honor Guard and Fire Squad who, while waiting for Hugh Lee Young’s casket to arrival at the gravesite, stood in formation in honor of a Funeral Service that was being conducted adjacent to where Hugh Lee was to be laid to rest. Accordingly, Don Levans stated that the Hugh Lee Family was very thankful for the Full Military Funeral Service rendered by Post 143. Chaplain Cecil Davis conducted the service while Don Levans gave the Eulogy.

Don Levans also mentioned that the CCVMP will be installing two new bleachers at the park, one honoring those KIA and one honoring the MIA/POW. Additionally, the CCVMP website will soon include a program where you will be able to search the names of some 2600 Carroll County WW-I veterans.

CLOSING CEREMONY

- There was no further business brought forth at this meeting.
- **THREE RAPS OF THE GAVEL**
- (Membership stood in silence and uncovered while placing their right hand over their heart)
- *Don Levans lead us in the closing prayer*

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 Commander rapped the gavel three times; all performed a Hand Salute to the flag. The May 17, 2018 Regular Membership Meeting of Post 143, Dept. of GA was adjourned at 7:58PM with one gavel rap.

Approval Date: _____

Commander Ted Merriss

Recorder Frank Joswick