

**WI Department, American Legion Post 234
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
November 25, 2009**

Opening:

The meeting was opened by Commander, Rick Deiss at approximately 7:30 PM, a recitation of the Pledge to Allegiance, Post 234 Mission Statement, POW/MIA Ceremony and a prayer by the Chaplain Steve Goller

Roll Call:

***Not in attendance # Excused**

Commander	Rick Deiss	1st Vice	Ken Flock
2nd Vice	Pete Hennes	3rd Vice	Ed Mason
Adjutant	Bob Wipf#	Sgt.-at-Arms	Tom Weber*
Finance Officer	Toni Viegut#	Parliamentarian	Ray Hoeft#
Chaplain	Steve Goller	Historian	Darryl Schmidt
Service Officer	Ken Ochalla	Past Cdr	John Hoeft
Members-At-Large:	John Vonderloh, Dean Larsen, Ken Jungwirth		

Sergeant-at-Arms Report: Acting Sgt-at-Arms, Darryl Schmidt, reported 31 members and eight guests.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the Post Meeting on 11/25/09 were distributed and approved as printed.

Special Presentations:

- Linda Kleinschmit Johnson presented a check for \$160.00 on behalf of her deceased brother. She requested the money to be used locally.
- Amanda Morgan presented her oratorical titled “We The People” that placed 2nd in the Winnebago County Oratorical contest.
- John Jorgensen spoke to the membership.
- Commander Deiss presented the “Legionnaire Of The Year” award to John Vonderloh.

Bowling Event:

- Commander Deiss announced that the 9-pin tap tournament will be held March 19-21, 2010 at the bowling alley in Omro.
- There will be one bowling session each day.
- The registration fee is \$20.00. The Post will receive \$6.00 for every registration.

The Freedom Hall Project:

- Commander Deiss reported on the plans to build a facility that could be used by all the VSO's in Winnebago County. The building will be named “Freedom Hall”. Currently 4 VSO's including the American Legion, DAV VFW, and AMVET's are participating in the discussion.
- The primary funding for this project will be done through writing grants.

Labor Day Event:

- Commander Deiss reported on the some of the ideas and discussions that the PEC has had on developing a two-day Labor Day event.
- A motion was made by Dean Larsen and seconded by Ken Flock to proceed with the planning for a two day event.
- John Vonderloh proposed that the Post continue to look at having a raffle mailing like the fire department does.
- At the next meeting the membership will decide if it wants a one-day event, a two-day event or no event. After extended discussion by the membership, it was decided to table this motion until the next membership meeting.

Mid-Winter Conference

- Any one planning on attending the conference should contact Commander Deiss.

6th District Americanism Banquet:

- Banquet will be conducted on February 20, 2010 at 5 PM. Contact Commander Deiss after the meeting for any details. Cost is \$15.00 per person.

Special Presentation:

- Post member Chad Flock just recently returned for duty in Iraq. He presented the Post with a flag that was flown over his unit's headquarters.

Veterans Dinner:

- Ed Goss reported that the dinner will be held on May 8, 2010. This year the banquet will be held at the Omro firehouse. Tanner's Tap & Grill will cater the dinner.
- The cost per person will be \$20.00. Tickets should be available at the February meeting.
- Table sponsorship fee will be \$25.00.
- The membership should be starting to collect raffle and auction items.

Correspondence:

- The Post received a card from post member Ralph Beck. Ralph is State Commander of the AMVETS
- The Post received a thank you card from the The Highground for the donation to the bike ride supporting the new memorial to be built at The Highground.
- The Post received a thank you from the Omro Community Food Pantry.
- The Post received a thank you for the supplies we shipped to Iraq.
- The Post received a thank you from the family of Post member Maynard Birkholz family. A \$400.00 check was donated to the Post in his memory.

1st Vice-Commander Report: No report

2nd Vice-Commander Report: No report

Financial Officer Report:

- Pete Hennes presented the Post account balances. A copy of the full reports was available on the back table. Toni is still on excused absence. A motion was made by John Vonderloh and seconded by Dean Larsen to accept the financial report. The motion carried unanimously.

Historian: No report

Chaplain Report:

- The membership is encouraged to visit post members that are in the nursing home.
- Bob Wipf has been told by his doctors that the infection is defeated and he will receive a new replacement hip at his surgery on March 3, 2010.

Service Officer: Ken Ochalla reported he will be sending the order for the poppies this year.

County Commander Report:

- Pete Hennes reported on the results of the County Oratorical.
- The County Council meeting will be held at Tanner's Tap on February 18, 2010 at 7:30 PM.

Membership:

- John Vonderloh reported the Post is at 97% membership for the year.

Honor Guard:

- Dean Larsen would like to speak to the Guard members after the meeting.
- The Honor Guard has received a request from the Timber Rattlers for Veteran appreciation day.

Badger Boy/Girl:

- John Hoeft reported that the registration fee for both boys and girls has been sent in.
- John will conduct an orientation and student selection when he returns from FL.

Closing

The meeting closed at approximately 9:11 PM with retiring of the POW chair and a prayer by the Chaplain, Steve Goller.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Wipf

Adjutant Post 234