

WI Department, American Legion Post 234

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting, February 27, 2008

Opening:

The meeting was opened by Commander, Rick Deiss at approximately 7:30 PM, a recitation of the Pledge to Allegiance, Preamble to the Constitution, POW/MIA Ceremony and a prayer by the Chaplain Ray Janiak

Commander Deiss recognized Department Vice-Commander Robert Stone. V-C Stone provided greetings from Department and reminded the membership of the important work of the American Legion.

Roll Call:

***Not in attendance # Excused**

Commander	Rick Deiss	1st Vice	Ken Flock
2nd Vice	Pete Hennes		
Adjutant	Bob Wipf	Sgt.-at-Arms	Jon Friedrich
Finance Officer	Ed Mason	Parliamentarian	Ray Hoeft #
Chaplain	Ray Janiak	Historian	Wayne Schmick#
Service Officer	Ken Ochalla*		
Members-At-Large:	John Vonderloh, Dean Larsen # , Ken Jungwirth		

Sergeant-at-Arms Report:

- Jon reported 34 members and guests including Winnebago County Commander Rosemarie Pitz and Dept. V-C Robert Stone. New members include Bob Gomez.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the Post Meeting on 1/23/08 and the PEC meeting of 2/20/08 were distributed and approved as printed.

Donations:

- Commander Deiss reported that the PEC donated \$100.00 to Post 70 Auxiliary for the Traveling Wall coming to Oshkosh and a \$50.00 to support the effort to bring and restore the USS Edson to Sheboygan. Both donations will come from the budgeted account for military donations.

Old Business: Ed Mason reported that 5 phone cards with 550 minutes each were purchased with the \$100 donation voted on last meeting plus additional donations. The cards cost \$139.45 plus shipping. Pete Hennes read thank you notes from two of the phone card recipients.

Special Award: Commander Deiss presented an award to John Hoeft recognizing honoring his District 6 "Legionnaire of The Year" recognition.

Special Presentation: Commander Deiss discussed the \$500.00 grant presented to Angela Hahn earlier this month at the Omro Care Center. A motion was made by several members and seconded by John Vonderloh to send flowers to Angela Hahn. The motion carried unanimously.

Chaplin Sickness & Distress Report:

- Ed Goss is experiencing some difficulties with his surgery.
- John Vonderloh reported Judd Frees has cancer of the liver.

Post Announcements

- American Legion Bowling Tournament as detailed in newsletter.
- See Rick Deiss if you have anyone interested in sponsoring the TV Show, Website or baseball.

New Business:

- Commander Deiss reported on the recommendation of the PEC to conduct a motorcycle ride as a fund raiser this year on July 26, 2008. A motion was made by Ed Mason and seconded by Pete Hennes to appoint Tim Friedman chairman of the MC event, form a committee of ten members, and give the committee \$500 to run the event. The motion carried unanimously.

County Service Officer Presentation: CVSO Robert Stone provided a presentation on several of the recent veterans benefits changes in the law.

!st Vice-Commander Report: Ken made a brief presentation about the flag.

Financial Officer Report as of 11/30/07 & 12/30/07

- Financial Officer, Ed Mason presented the January report. A copy of the full report was available on the back table.

- Ed Mason has several Legion items for sale including garrison hats.

Mid-Winter Convention:

- There was a DEC resolution to support the A&G Test Program.
- Jim Romnek graduated from the American Legion Extension Course.

Service Officer:

- Ken Ochalla reported on the Honors training scheduled in Princeton.
- If rides are needed please schedule in advance.

County Council: Rosemarie Pitz reported the next County meeting will be at the Station 17 Fire House in Oshkosh. Rosemarie also provided a brief report on the plans for County Government Day.

6th District: No report

Membership:

- John Vonderloh reported that membership is currently at 108.
- John is cleaning up the state roster and removing the non-member names.

Fundraising Report:

- John Vonderloh reported on the plans for the May 24th Golf Outing.
- Ken Flock reported on the plans for the Veterans Dinner. Raffle and auction prizes are still needed.

Honor Guard: Dave Steinert reported that the post participated in recent 2 funerals.

American Legion Baseball

- Past Commander Hoeft reported on the plans of sponsoring an American Legion Baseball Program.
- Omro has been accepted into the Legion Baseball Program and will participate.
- Sponsorship opportunities will be available. Sponsorships will probably be \$25.00 and \$40.00
- Season will start in early June.
- Paul Miller, Davis Schmude, and Dave Mrstik will assist with committee work.

Badger Boys State: John Hoeft is attempting to get a third student BBS scholarship from Omro.

Children & Youth:

- John Hoeft wants to expand the Post presence at the schools in April.
- John Hoeft will investigate opportunities for Boy Scout "Eagle Scouts" in the Omro area.

Memorial Day Committee: Committee will meet March 5, 2008 @ 7:00 PM at Tanners Tap.

Closing:

The meeting closed at approximately 8:45 PM with retiring of the POW chair and a prayer by the Chaplin, Ray Janiak.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Wipf,
Adjutant Post 234