



George F. Johnson, American Legion Post 1700

305 Maple St., Endicott, NY 13760-4022

(607) 785-1700



Commander Joseph N. Irons called the regular meeting of George F. Johnson, American Legion Post 1700 to order @ 1900hrs, Tuesday December 14, 2010. Colors being in place, all members rendered a "Hand Salute" and recited "The Pledge of Allegiance". Chaplain Robert Hunt gave the "Opening Prayer", followed by the members whom recited "The Preamble of the American Legion".

Special Presentation: Sgt-at-Arms Gary King presented to the Post and members Peter Mercincavage and active member of Post 1700 4-H Junior Shooters who is accompanied by his father Dave and a member of the family Wolfgang Wilson. County Commander at the time Ray Beebe presented the awards to Rob Jensen for 2010 Junior Shooter Program, 1st Team Sporting Air Rifle competition awarded to Broome County Shooting Sports, George F. Johnson Post 1700. Certificate of Merit in the Junior Shooting Sports Program, 2010 Sporter Air Rifle to Peter Mercincavage, George F. Johnson Post 1700, 6th District. Another presentation to Peter member of Broome County 4-H Junior Shooting Sports for the 20th National Championship Junior Air Rifle in 2010, New York's Sporting Champion.

Roll Call: Commander Joseph N. Irons: present, 1st Vice Commander: Ron Reece present, 2nd Vice Commander Robert F. Wood: present, 3rd Vice Commander Deb Roehm: absent, Chaplain Bob Hunt: present, Historian Ray Beebe: present, Treasurer Charlie Verno: present and Sgt-at-Arms Gary King: present. Past Post Commanders present: Ray Nabinger 1982-1984, Phil Dillenbeck 2004-2006, Barbara Beebe 2006-2010, and Rob Jensen 1997-2002. Past County Commanders present: Ray Nabinger 1984-1985, Barbara J. Beebe 2004-2005 and Ray Beebe 2008-2010. Past District Commanders present: Rob Jensen, 2003.

Reading of the Minutes: Motioned by Ray Nabinger to accept minutes as written, 2nd by Ron Reece, all in favor, motion carried.

Membership/Treasurers Report: Charlie Verno reported that the Post paid membership for 2011 as of December 14, 2010 was 380 for \$2,558.06. We are 58 members short of 438 for 86.7%. Charlie said that Post 1700 is the largest Post in Broome County. Motioned by Ray Beebe to accept the report, 2nd by Ron Reece, all in favor, motion carried.

Back to God: Bob Hunt reported there was no sick call.

Reports:

Americanism: Ray Beebe has nothing to report.

Baseball: Ray Beebe said that there would be about 24 scheduled games but unknown what division the Post will be in. Also there are some schools that will be under construction and the ball fields will be storing construction equipment. So fields some fields may not be available to play on. He'll have more information after the Mid-Winter meetings.

Historian: Ray Beebe was unable to attend the Christmas Party for the children on December 11th. Sandy & Gary Denmon took pictures for Ray.

Boys State: Ed Cunningham absent, nothing to report.

Honor Guard: Jim Davis was absent, nothing to report.

House: Bob Haynes was absent, nothing to report. Bob Wood said that people ate their dinner last Friday night with their jackets on. Bob Haynes was able to get someone from Evans Plumbing and was able to get the boiler working again. Charlie Verno mentioned that the heating system is old and will have to be replaced in the near future.

Kitchen: Bob Haynes was absent, nothing to report.

Junior Shooting: Rob Jensen reported that we will be participating the State Wide Postal match for Post and 4-H. Also competing in the US Army National competition, whose targets arrived today for a total of 14 shooters in the sporter class and 7 for the precision class. Which will be taking place at the Binghamton Rifle Club on January 2nd for precision and January 9th for sporter national.

Scholarships: Jim Davis was absent, nothing to report.

Oratorical: Barb Beebe reported that the Oratorical on December 4th was cancelled because not enough participation from other Posts from Broome County. Barb said that she went to 5 schools and had one participant. She also called all schools in Broome County to ask if anyone from their local legion post contacted them about the Oratorical and no legionnaire contacted them.

Law & Order: Ray Beebe had nothing to report. Ray Nabinger noted that Gary Denmon, SAL member is with the Endicott Fire Department and should be considered for nomination.

POW/MIA: Barb Beebe had nothing to report.

Old Business: Bob Wood read the nominations for election of Board members. Elections will be before the January post meeting. Gary King, Dave Williams, Deb Roehm and Ray Nabinger all accepted their nominations. Note that Dave Williams withdrew his nomination because he is going to be working out of town and will not be able to handle duties if elected. Commander Irons asked if anyone wished to be nominated. Gary King nominated Charlie Verno who accepted his nomination. Commander Irons asked three times for any nominations for election to the board. No other nominations were conveyed; nominations were closed for 2011.

Commander Irons said that before the next Post meeting on January 4th, from 2:00 pm to before the meeting is to start, voting for three open positions will be determine.

Hands Across the Boarder will be May 20-22, 2011 according to Ray Nabinger. 500 \$10.00 Raffle tickets have made with 1st prize is \$1500, 2nd prize is \$1000, 3rd and 4th prize will be \$250. Also on the ticket having to reserve the right to return the money back to the purchaser if less than 300 tickets are sold. The Maloney Band is still interested in going but has not gotten back with Ray yet. Also Ray has two other bagpipe bands in Ithaca and The Ladies From Hell in Athens that are interested in going. If the Maloney Band doesn't get with him in the next couple of days, Ray will be contacting those other bagpipe bands. We do have the Continentals for sure.

Ray also requested the use of postage from the Post to send tickets to the members out of state that have been paying dues for years but haven't been at the Post is years. They might donate ten bucks for a ticket. Barb Beebe suggested that since these members get a newsletter, a ticket could be printed in the next newsletter (February/March).

New Business: Barb Beebe passed out notices from Jason Davis of the American Red Cross that will be sponsoring 'Veteran Information Nights' seminars each month at 620 Main St., Endicott. You must bring a DD-214 for proof of military service. (Notice has been posted on the Post 1700 website, <http://www.gfjpost1700.org> under 'Special Events')

Barb Beebe handed out information for Mid-Winter conference on January 20-24.

Barb will also have information for the February meeting for Good Will Day on May 20-22, 2011.

Commander Irons brought up that we are out of Legion License Plates and need to place an order. He asked for input from members on what to put on the plates such as 'Home of the Square Deal' with the Legion Family emblems. Phil Dillenbeck motioned to order the Legion Family plate with the saying of 'Home of the Square Deal' on it, 2nd by Ray Nabinger, all in favor, motion carried.

Ray Beebe said to check with Gary Denmon on the plates since he ordered the last ones, might have some left.

Gary King wants to find the old plates and put them in order so if someone comes to the Post they could look themselves up. All we need to do is find them.

Bob Wood said that we have ordered the website setup from National. Sons and Auxiliary will have a page on the site. They can tell me what they what their pages to say, and I can update the page for them. The Post will have ten email addresses to use. Bob will be creating those and notifying the members of what it will be. The website address will be www.gfjpost1700.org. Barb Beebe asked if the newsletter could be posted in a PDF form? The answer is yes. All the forms will be in the PDF format. So contact Bob Wood if you have any suggestions or links to veteran websites that you want to be on the website.

Correspondence: Commander Irons had a letter from the Phelps Mansion Museum on November 15th, invited speakers that were in various conflicts from WWII to the present. Jerry Robinson from Post 1700. He was a corpsman serving in Germany during Vietnam era. He said that six people were invited to speak. 86 people were in attendance for dinner and testimonies from the invited veterans.

Kelly Antelek-Gehr, Reverse Mortgage Specialist from M&T Bank sent a request letter to setup a seminar at the Post. Barb Beebe said that last year a seminar before a Post meeting had only three people attended.

Brian Hoffman, Broome County Department of Parks & Recreation requesting private donations, or donations of uniforms, weapons and any memorabilia to be placed in a glass enclosed case. (Notice has been posted on the Post 1700 website, <http://www.gfjpost1700.org> under 'Special Events') The State Legion Convention on July 13-16, 2011 will be charged \$4000 by Broome County to have it at the Arena according to Commander Irons.

Post received a thank you note from Department Adjutant Richard Pedro concerning a donation of \$100 to the Department Commander for the National Emergency Relief Fund and had banners put on our Post flag.

For the Good of the Legion: Barb Beebe 17 people came to Bath for the Christmas Giving Gift Day. Last Monday, 10 people from Broome County to help wrap presents for the veterans in rehab to be sent to their families. December 19-24th Post 80 will have prep work for the Christmas Dinner. They are asking for anyone to help out. Marie and Dave Williams cooked many turkeys and their church will also be cooking turkeys. Ray Beebe said last year delivered 1500 meals last year. He said that they have enough turkeys now will be concentrating on getting hams.

Rob Jensen said that on December 18th, the kid in the shooting club would be wrapping presents at Gander Mountain all day long.

Gary King asked about the signup sheet for military banners for \$5.45 each. So it looks like we will be contacting the people who signed to pay for the orders.

County meeting will be at 7:00 pm January 10th at Post 1700.

Chaplain Bob Hunt gave the "Closing Prayer" and Commander Joseph N. Irons gave his "Closing Remarks". Meeting adjourned by Commander Irons at 2005 hrs.

For God and Country.

Robert F. Wood

Robert F. Wood. Adjutant