



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 January 4, 2011. Colors being in place, all members rendered a "Hand Salute" and recited "The Pledge of Allegiance". Commander Joe Irons gave the "Opening Prayer", followed by the members whom recited "The Preamble of the American Legion".

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: present, Chaplain Bob Hunt: excused absent, Historian Ray Beebe: excused absent, Treasurer Charlie Verno: excused absent and Sgt-at-Arms Gary King: present. Past Post Commanders present: Ray Nabinger 1982-1984, Jim Davis 1990-1992, Phil Dillenbeck 2004-2006, and Rob Jenson 1997-2002. Past County Commanders present: Ray Nabinger 1984-1985. Past District Commanders present: Rob Jensen, 2003.

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

Membership/Treasurers Report: Bob Wood reported for Charlie Verno that the Post paid membership for 2011 as of January 4, 2011 was 387. Post has a bank balance of \$2,178.05. We are 51 members short of 438 for 88%. Commander Irons being vice commander at the county in charge of membership said that Post 1700 is the largest Post in membership in Broome County.

Motioned by Butch Nabinger to accept the report, 2nd by Debbie Roehm, all in favor, motion carried.

Back to God: Bob Hunt excused absent, Commander Irons reported the passing of former Commander Thomas Brown. Bob Wood read a thank you card from his family to the Post. The card can be seen on the Post website (www.gfjpost1700.org) under 'Giving Thanks'. Commander Irons thanked Jim Davis, the color guard and everyone who else who pitched in and helped with the luncheon at the Post.

Committee Reports:

Americanism: Ray Beebe excused absent, nothing to report.

Baseball: Ray Beebe excused absent, nothing to report, Commander Irons stated that more information would be coming from meetings at Mid-Winter Conference.

Historian: Ray Beebe excused absent, nothing to report.

Boys State: Ed Cunningham was absent, nothing to report.

Honor Guard: Jim Davis reported participating at Tom Brown's funeral. Jim also read a letter of appreciation from Principal Timothy J. Lowie from Ann G. McGuinness Intermediate School. He thanked Jim and Post 1700 for sponsoring the Karvel Assembly program. The letter can be seen on the Post website (www.gfjpost1700.org) under 'Giving Thanks'.

House: Bob Haynes was assisting with Board Election tabulations had nothing to report.

Kitchen: Bob Haynes was assisting with Board Election tabulations had nothing to report.

Junior Shooting: Rob Jensen reported that this past Sunday, the kids shot their precision air rifle for the US Army match. This coming Sunday at the Binghamton Rifle Club at noon and 6:00 to 8:00 PM, they will be shooting the US Army Sporter National Match. Also sent in the registration form for the American Legion National Junior Shooting Sports National Postal Match. Eight kids will be participating in individual and team events in the Sport category.

Scholarships: Jim Davis had nothing to report. Will setting up scholarships in May.

Oratorical: Barb Beebe excused absent, Commander Irons reported that the Oratorical was cancelled last month. Reason being is the other Legion Posts did not participated as expected. Debbie Roehm said that schools are not teaching the Constitution to the students. Also should educate the schools that winners are awarded scholarships.

Law & Order: Ray Beebe excused absent, nothing to report.

POW/MIA: Barb Beebe excused absent, nothing to report. Commander Irons said that \$2,500 was paid on the loan from the individual who gave the Post five years to pay it off. Debbie Roehm asked how much time is left on the loan? Bob Haynes said about two and a half years are left on the loan. Rob Jensen said that we should pay it off as soon as possible.

Old Business: Commander Irons announced the newly elected Board Members as Gary King, Ray Nabinger and Debbie Roehm. Next Board meeting will be on January 13th at 6:30 PM.

Hands Across the Border will be May 20-22, 2011 according to Ray Nabinger. The raffle tickets will be coming soon and will notify Debbie Roehm and Gary Denmon when they come in for distribution. Bob Wood asked if the Maloney Band responded to our invitation? As of today, not yet, but still have the Continentals. The 'Ladies from Hell' from Athens, PA would also be an option to invite. Commander Irons told Ray that he and the Post appreciates all that he has done for the Hands Across the Border. Ray stated that he's been going for forty of the sixty years that the event has been going on.

Gary King found the Legion Plates, inventoried and placed in a box alphabetically. Ron Reece said that there are more somewhere and will be looking for them.

New Business: Legion website, Bob Wood gave a synopsis of what's on the website. Also there are listings on the back table of email addresses of Post members provided by the website along with the address of the website. Also he will be contacting the Auxiliary and Sons for information to be placed for them. If there is anything needed to be posted, such as pictures, like the New Years Eve Party, let him know. Also if there are mistakes like dates, times, spelling, let Bob know. Commander Irons stated that this could get the younger legion members to participate and be informed on what is going on at the Post.

Commander Irons said that a membership meeting will be Wednesday, January 12th at 6:00 PM in the bar area. Everyone if invited to bring his or her ideas on how to increase membership and keep the membership active. Gary King has observed that new members that came to the Post were not

acknowledge by anyone or welcomed. He even had this happened to him first hand. He said that this should be a friendly Post and say hello or welcome to these members that you haven't seen them before and introduce yourself to them.

Gary King wanted to know about the Service Flags that could be ordered. Bob Wood said that the sign up list has been available for the last two months. They will be ordered soon; only five people have ordered flags.

Commander Irons had a request from the Auxiliary for the UE Girls Basketball annual sponsorship of a one-page advertisement. The Post, Auxiliary and Sons would be paying a third and asked for a motion for the Post to pay one third of the cost. Motioned by Debbie Roehm to pay one-third the cost (\$33.00) of sponsoring the one-page advertisement for the UE Girls Basketball program. 2nd by Phil Dillenbeck, all in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence: New neighborhood bottle redemption opened at 317 Harrison Ave, Endicott. In front the Salvation Army Thrift Store. Offering free pickup for commercial, bottle drives welcomed for six cent every day. Bob gave Ron Reece the flyer and he will check it out for the Post.

For the Good of the Legion: Debbie Roehm said that 36 people signed up for the New Years Eve Party. People brought hors-d'oeuvre; the dinner was very good, many compliments were received. The caterer even made a special vegetarian dinner by request. The person said her lasagna dinner was excellent! DJ Johnny Stars played all night, nobody left and even had other people join the party after the dinner.

Sons will be doing wings on Tuesdays from 6 to 8 for \$5.00 a dozen.

County meeting will be at 7:00 pm January 10th at Post 1700. If you can come, please do.

Butch Nabinger motioned to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Bob Wood.

Commander Irons gave the "Closing Prayer" and gave his "Closing Remarks". Meeting adjourned by Commander Irons at 1935 hrs.

For God and Country.

Robert F. Wood

Robert F. Wood. Adjutant