



George F. Johnson, American Legion Post 1700

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Commander Joseph N. Irons called the regular meeting of George F. Johnson, American Legion Post 1700 to order @ 1900hrs, Tuesday November 2, 2010. Colors being in place, all members rendered a "Hand Salute" and recited "The Pledge of Allegiance". Barbara Beebe gave the "Opening Prayer" for Chaplain Robert Hunt, followed by the members whom recited "The Preamble of the American Legion". Commander Irons invited current County Commander Stan Olbrys whose project will be the FRG for the 204th Engineer Battalion in Binghamton and is requesting any help you can give. Commander Olbrys has been a member full time military and part time for over 33 years.

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: present, Treasurer Charlie Verno: excused absent and Sgt-at-Arms Gary King: present. Past Post Commanders present: James Davis 1990-1992, Phil Dillenbeck 2004-2006, Barbara Beebe 2006-2010, Rob Jenson 1997-2002 and current County Commander Stan Olbrys. Past County Commanders present: Barbara J. Beebe 2004-2005 and Ray Beebe 2008-2010. Past District Commanders present: Rob Jensen, 2003.

Reading of the Minutes: Commander Irons stated that we are trying something different with the reading of the minutes. They will not be read at the meeting but copies of them will be available to look at. Also there will be a sign up sheet for anyone who wishes to receive the minutes by email. Commander Irons asked if everyone had a chance to read them and to make a motion to approve them. Ray Beebe brought up to corrections to the minutes. First was under Back to God, Carol Bernette should be changed to Carol Bandera, also under New Business, expiration term to the Board should have be Barbara Beebe not Ray Beebe. Motioned by Deb Roehm to accept minutes as corrected, 2nd by Ron Reece, all in favor, motion carried.

Membership/Treasurers Report: Bob Wood reported for Charlie Verno that the Post paid membership for 2011 as of November 2, 2010 was 325 for \$2,152.59. Commander Irons said that there would be a budget meeting on November 10th at 6:00 pm so that we might be able to increase some of the budget items for the Post. Anyone interested is invited to attend. Then any requests for increases to the Post budget will be brought up at the next Board Meeting. He made note that the Post budget is for June, the Board budget is for January. Motioned by Ray Beebe to accept membership and treasure's report, 2nd by Ron Hopkins, all in favor, motion carried. Barbara Beebe asked if the Mid-Winter Conference and the NYS

Convention is in the Post or Board budget. Commander Irons pointed out that it's in the Board budget.

Back to God: Barbara Beebe requested prayers for her because of her stage four-kidney disease and might be a candidate for dialysis. Ron Reece stated that Jake Moyer is in Willow Point Nursing Home.

Reports:

Americanism: Ray Beebe has nothing to report.

Baseball: Ray Beebe said that there would be a lot of changes that will involve a lot of traveling. There will be more meetings and will report with further results of those meetings. It's unknown if the Post will have a baseball team this year. Bob Wood asked if the budget for baseball would be needed to increase? Ray said that it should remain the same budget amount.

Historian: Ray Beebe excused absent, nothing to report. Ray said that if you have any photos taken then he could put them in our scrapbook.

Boys State: Ed Cunningham absent, nothing to report. School Master dinner for Boys and Girl State is scheduled to be at Post 1645 on November 15th.

Honor Guard: Jim Davis reported that the Veteran's Day Parade on 11/11/10 will be at night, line up behind the M&T Bank on Garfield Ave at 6:30 pm, parade will be at 7:00 pm ending up at the monument. Meeting will be at the monument at 11:00 AM on that day. Post 82 will be hosting ceremony. Honor Guard bake sale will be at the breakfast this Sunday, November 7th.

'No Magic & Drugs Show' the Post sponsors will be on November 18th for Maine Memorial at 8:00 am and Ann McGuinness at 9:45 am. Deb Roehm asked what was the 'No Magic & Drug Show' about. Jim Davis said that it's a magic show program for 5th & 6th graders, saying that 'there is no magic in drugs'. Jim said that we have been sponsoring this for the last 10 to 15 years. Jim also said that there is no 'Dare' program anymore and that we are probably the only one that deals with drug and alcohol abuse that the Legion posts are involved with.

House: Bob Haynes absent, nothing to report.

Kitchen: Bob Haynes absent, nothing to report.

Junior Shooting: Rob Jensen reported that he has 26 members in the club. Still are meeting on every Sunday. The way things are looking we might be able to hold our own in the State League this year which will be starting this month along with the 4-H State Post matches. Have received information on the State Post matches and will order targets for those matches.

Scholarships: Jim Davis had nothing to report.

Oratorical: Barb Beebe has been running it for the past seven years. What is needed is an escort per child and chaperones for the contestants' also five judges. Barbara explained how the contest is conducted. Also time keepers and

Is conducted. Also timekeepers will be needed along with people to donate food such as cookies or brownies. The contest will be at Post 758, in Johnson City starting a 1:00pm on December 4th.

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

POW/MIA: Barb Beebe had nothing to report. Next year there will be a ceremony. Deb Roehm asked about what was owed on the loan for the monument. Barbara did say that a casino night would be in the works to help pay it off. Dave Williams said that it should be paid off as soon as possible and not strung out for a number of years. Dave also said that the Post donates \$100.00 each year to Boy Scout Troop 202 to help take care of cemeteries. Also suggested that the Post should get more involved and utilize the Scout Troop.

Old Business: Bob Wood read the nominations for election of Board members, which are Barb Beebe, Gary King, Charlie Verno's terms, are expiring. Elections will be before the January post meeting. Commander Irons requested nominations of officers last Post meeting. Phil Dillenbeck nominated, Gary King, Dave Williams, Deb Roehm and Ray Nabinger all accepted their nominations. Commander Irons asked if anyone wished to be nominated. Ray Beebe nominated Barbara Beebe who accepted her nomination. Commander Irons asked three times for any nominations for election to the board. No other nominations were conveyed; nominations were closed until next Post meeting.

New Business:

Deb Roehm said the New Years Party planning is still going on. Everyone is invited to attend for \$25.00 a person. More information will be forth coming.

Pitch Tournament on Sunday, November 21st here at the post. \$20.00 per team of two people will be charged. Sign up sheet is at the bar. Has had the tournament a couple of times with good turnout. Some usually will bring some type of food to snack on.

A Christmas Party for children will be take place December 11th. Sign up sheet at the front door.

The annual Turkey & Ham Raffle will be on Friday November 5th. Games of chance and 50/50 will be ongoing.

Correspondence:

Richard D. Amber has colorful banners for sale. Please let your members that they could be ordered for \$5.45. All five branches of the military are represented. Sign up sheet will be available to order the flags.

Binghamton Vets Center announced a new councilor Alice O'Brien Botts as a family therapist. A number of programs and seminars are available throughout November for all veterans. Information sheet will be posted out front.

Boscovs will be having Downtown Holiday Parade with cooperation with the City of Binghamton, SEFCU and the Press & Sun Bulletin on Saturday, November 20th beginning at 1:30 pm.

Invited to the Vet Center at 53 Chenango St. for the 235th Birthday of the US Marine Corp on November 10th.

A number of restaurant establishments will be giving meals at no cost to qualified veterans throughout the week of Veteran's Day, November 11th. A listing of these will be posted on the bulletin board.

Broome County Office of the Aging is inviting veterans to a special free luncheon on November 3rd to honor them for their service. Please call for reservations by November 2nd.

Annual Christmas Giveaway & Christmas Party will be at the Oxford Veteran Home on December 11th, be there at 8:00 am for setup. Party starting at 9:00 am, coffee and donuts will be provided. They are also asking for monetary donations from all legion posts to help out. Please send to the 6th District, care of Pat Konopka 545 Powers Rd., Binghamton. This year monies will be used to upgrade the dining rooms to make them more enjoyable to the residents.

For the Good of the Legion: Commander Irons announced there would be a Flag Retirement Ceremony on November 10th at 7:15 pm.

County meeting will be at 7:00 pm November 8th at Post 1305 on Lower Stella Ireland Rd.

Next month meeting will be rescheduled to December 14th at 7:00 pm

Barbara Beebe gave the "Closing Prayer" and Commander Joseph N. Irons gave his "Closing Remarks". Meeting adjourned by Commander Irons at 2000 hrs.

For God and Country.

Robert F. Wood

Robert F. Wood. Adjutant