



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 October 4, 2011. Colors being in place, all members rendered a "Hand Salute". Chaplain Barb Beebe gave the "Opening Prayer". All members recited "The Pledge of Allegiance", followed by the members whom recited "The Preamble of the American Legion".

Roll Call: Adjutant Bob Wood read roll call; Commander Joseph N. Irons: present, 1st Vice Commander Bob Wood: present, 2nd Vice Commander Ron Reece: present, 3rd Vice Commander Deb Roehm: present, Chaplain Barb Beebe: present, Historian Ray Beebe: present, Treasurer Charlie Verno: present and Sgt-at-Arms Gary King: present. Past Post Commanders present: Ray Nabinger 1982-1984, Jim Davis 1990-1992, Barb Beebe 2006-2010 and Rob Jensen 1997-2002. Past County Commanders present: Ray Nabinger 1984-1985, Barb Beebe 2004-2005, and Ray Beebe 2008-2010. Past District Commanders present: Rob Jensen, 2003.

Membership/Treasurer's Report: Charlie Verno reported on the Post paid membership for 2011 as of October 4, 2011 was 233. We are 194 members short of 427 for 54.5%. Post has a bank balance of \$1,976.93, Good of the Legion balance is \$223.90.

Motioned by Ray Beebe to accept treasurer's report, 2nd by Bob Hunt, all in favor, motion carried.

Correction of Minutes:

Back To God: George Szymaniak of Post 1645-Vice Cmdr from Broome County died 5 Sept 2011. A New York Soldier, Spec Christopher J. Scott of Tyrone NY died 3 Sept in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Americanism: Members of the Color Guard will be handing out American Flags at the Mall for the Day of Caring on Friday 9 Sept

Sick Call: Bill Gasbarra is still at Vestal Nursing Home. Prayers for our local 204th soldiers; scattered across NY with the Flooding disaster.

Oratorical: No packages as yet from 6th District

POW/MIA: 16 Sept is POW/MIA Remembrance Day - 6 PM Post 1700 will have 2 POW Medals of Valor & Certificates to be given to;

- Frank George /Post 1700 WWII POW - Given by his daughter Kris Olevano
- Posthumously given to Mrs. Mary McQuade of Post 82 by Barbara Beebe in memory of her deceased husband , Alfred McQuade a Korean War POW

Membership/Treasurer's Report: Charlie Verno reported on the Post paid membership for 2011 as of September 6, 2011 was 228. We are 199 members short of 427 for 54.5%. Post has a bank balance of \$1,878.43.

Good of the Legion: Butch Nabinger reported that 9 members of the Last Man Standing Summer Picnic all had a great time. Also Broome County has a Veterans Discount Program, but you must sign up in person at Broome County Clerk's office.

Reading of the Minutes: Motioned by Charlie Verno to accept minutes as amended, 2nd by Debbie Roehm, all in favor, motion carried.

Back to God: Barb Beebe reported the death of Joseph G. Convertino, WWII Navy veteran on September 22, 2011. County Commander Al Holmberg's mother died October 3, 2011.

Bob Wood noted that Mr. Convertino's family contacted him for a DD214 that should have been on file in the office. Bob looked for it but it was not on file. The family did locate a copy and faxed it to the Post. It's important that you have a DD214 on file with the Post. If you are not sure you have one on file ask Bob Wood to verify that you do. Cmdr Irons also pointed out that Department

Sick Call: Bill Gasbarra was transferred to Susquehanna Nursing Home because Vestal Nursing Home was flooded out.

Committee Reports:

Americanism: Ray Beebe reported Sept 9th, Day of Caring was cancelled due to the flood.

Baseball: Ray Beebe had nothing to report.

Historian: Ray Beebe had nothing to report.

Boys State: Barb Beebe reported that new Boys State Chairman, David Jenson was not present but noted that the School Masters Dinner will be at Post 1645 on November 17th; David will not be able to attend the dinner because it's a Broome County Legislature meeting. Barb won't be able to attend also so Joe Irons will fill in for her as Chaplain, Bob Wood will fill in for Joe as Commander for Post 1700. The SAL and the MOAA will have representatives at the dinner also.

Good Will Days: Barb Beebe will be having a meeting in Kingston, Ontario on October 23rd, but can't attend because of the National Commander's Dinner in Big Flats. The committee will be sending information to her at a later date.

POW/MIA: Barb Beebe had a beautiful ceremony. 16 Sept is POW/MIA Remembrance Day - 6 PM Post 1700 had 2 POW Medals of Valor & Certificates to be given to;

- Frank George /Post 1700 WWII POW - Given by his daughter Kris Olevano
- Posthumously given to Mrs. Mary McQuade of Post 82 by Barbara Beebe in memory of her deceased husband , Alfred McQuade a Korean War POW
- Past Cmdr Barbara Beebe gave Gloria Poff a POW/MIA mug for all the work Gloria did as a go between her & Assemblywoman Lupardo

Both Broome County Exec Pat Brennan & Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo spoke to those present in the Hall after the ceremony. Refreshments were provided & served by the Auxiliary.

The OVV also performed an all night long Fire Watch at the monument. Gary King noted that the Post's website has many pictures to look at of the ceremony.

Oratorical: Barb Beebe packages came in late and will be going to UE & ME with the information. Still don't have a place to conduct it. But will be held on December 10th either at Posts 89 or 1254. Also Barb is in need of volunteers to be chaperones, time keepers and escorts.

Honor Guard/Scholarships: Jim Davis past on thank you cards from some of the recipients. Bob Wood will be reading them during correspondence. He said that he's always looking for members to march for the Honor Guard. There will be a Veterans Day Parade committee meeting here 7:00 PM on October 23rd. Line up for the parade will be at 6:30, parade starts at 7:00 PM down Washington Ave to the Veterans Memorial Park. Barb Beebe received a call from the Women's Democratic Conference of the Eastern Region wanting to know if the Post could provide a Color Guard for their conference. We couldn't get enough members so Barb and Ray asked for help from the County Color Guard. Bob Lloyd, Sgt-at-Arms for County along with his members with Barb, Ray and Paul Sheppard posted the colors for them. Charlie Verno asked if this was a political event. And that we're not to get involved with that. Jim Davis pointed out that we presented colors for the President.

House: Bob Haynes was absent, had nothing to report.

Kitchen: Bob Haynes was absent, had nothing to report. Cmdr Irons said that they always need volunteers to cook, or work the dinners, signup sheets are by the front door.

Junior Shooting: Rob Jensen last Sunday started the air rifle season. Unfortunately gun club they use was devastating by the flood. Broome County Sportsman Association has allowed them to use their facility. It looks like we'll have a full contingent of shooters. Rob has been asking to run the league this year; Pete Matway will be running the State Championship. Rob hasn't heard anything from the grants that were sent in. Bob Wood said that both grant applications were sent in.

Law & Order: Ray Beebe had nothing to report.

Old Business: No old business was brought up.

New Business: Gary King reported that we have had \$1,200 donated to the Post to give assistance to flood victims the original request was for a chicken bbq for them, but probably would have been difficult to do. It was discussed and agreed upon to locate Post members that were affected by the flood and help them out. 7 members were given \$100.00, 7 other members were given \$50.00. One member returned \$50.00 and said thank you but give it to someone else. Gary suggested that we should set up something such as an Emergency Relief Fund and ask for further donations. So if this does happen again we can help the victims out.

Charlie Verno said that he looks at the newsletter on the Post's website and doesn't need to have it mailed to him. So he suggested having some type procedure to notify someone that they don't want to have the newsletter mailed to them anymore. He also suggested setup an email address to have people say they don't want it. Bob Wood said he could create a signup sheet and post it on the bulliten board. Charlie said most people who get the newsletter don't come to the Post except maybe once a year so that won't work. So it looks like the next newsletter will have the information on how to not get the next newsletter.

Correspondence: Addy Butler sent a thank you card on behalf of the Bath Veterans Hospital for our annual donation to them.

Broome County Humane Society asking for donations to help defray costs from the flood. No one wanted to make a motion to donate so no action was taken on the request for funds.

Thank you cards from scholarship recipients Taylor Hackett, David B

Endicott Police Benevolent asking for donations for advertizing space. Costs would be from \$285.00 to \$650.00. No one wants to make a motion for a donation so no action was taken on the request for funds.

Bumper stickers for American Legion Racing asking \$48.00 for them. Motioned by Charlie Verno to send them back in the return envelope. All members agreed.

For the Good of the Legion: Cmdr Irons presented certificates with corresponding American Legion Officer Medals. Recipients were Adjutant Bob Wood; 3rd Vice Cmdr Debbie Roehm; Treasurer Charlie Verno; Chaplain Barb Beebe. Sgt-at Arms Gary King was presented with a Certificate of Achievement for everything he's done for membership, along with the American Legion of Merit Medal. Bob Haynes was also going to get a Certificate of Achievement but was not here to accept it.

County Meeting will be Sunday, October 9, 2011 7:00 PM at Post 1390, Maine.

National Commander Dinner Sunday, October 23, 2011 4:00 PM at Legion post in Big Flats. Tickets are available if interested in going.

Department Commander Dinner Friday, October 28, 2011 6:00 PM at Post 89, Vestal. Tickets are available if interested in going

Barb Beebe said the Legion Post 758 in Johnson City is closing and won't be able to help out with having members meet for the bus to go to Bath Veterans Home at 6:30 in the morning. Barb is asking if we (Post 1700) would be willing to take over for them this year. Post 1254 is possibly putting in a bid for that also. Usually provide coffee and Danish for members before the board the bus to Bath. It would be on December 5th. Cmdr Irons said we should put a bid for it also. Motioned by Butch Nabinger to have Post 1700 to have coffee and Danish for all who are going to Bath, 2nd by Gary King, all in favor, motion carried. Barb will be finding out within the next couple of days.

Ham and Turkey Raffle on Friday, November 4th. Bring your money!

Butch Nabinger is still looking for volunteers to make wings for Sunday Football. If someone has any suggestions, feel free to speak up.

Chaplain Barb Beebe gave the "Closing Prayer, Commander Irons gave his "Closing Remarks". Meeting adjourned by Commander Irons, at 2006 hrs.

For God and Country.

Robert F. Wood

Robert F. Wood. Adjutant