

American Legion Post 250 General Membership Meeting

Date: 20 Aprilc 2023

Chaplin gave opening prayer

POW/MIA flag was recognized

Assistant Sgt at Arms led meeting in reciting the Pledge Of Allegiance

The Preamble to the Constitution was recited in unison.

Quorum: Yes xx No –

Call to Order: 1900

Minutes from the March meeting were read by the Adjutant. Motion was made to accept the minutes as read by the commander, 2nd by Ziggy. Voted on and passed. The Adjutant then read the minutes from April's E-Board meeting. Donnie James made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Motion was 2nd by Gary Fleming. Voted on and passed.

Guest: Brad Roberson, Andy Thompson, Lena Bernheimer,

Introduction of past Commanders: Donnie James, John Ruark and Dick Rowe.

Finance Report: Beginning Balance \$ 86'786.00 Ending Balance \$ 101,315.00. Increase was mostly from Queen of Hearts Sales and 31 Guns tickets. Full review of report available in the Commanders Office. Steve Meeks asked about being reimbursed the money that he put up for the new A/C unit that we had installed. The Commander told him to submit the invoice we had been asking him for. A motion was made by John Ruark and seconded by Billy Niemiec to accept the finance report as read subject to audit. Motion was voted on and passed.

First Vice: 7 New members: Jacquelyn Good, John Moak, Andrew Phillips, Jim Ward, Terry Milam, Torre Graham and Jacob Byerly. As of this week

we have sent in 910 memberships. That puts us at 97%. We need 24 more to reach our 100% goal. Donnie James made a motion to accept the new members. It was seconded by Gary Fleming, voted on and passed.

Second Vice: Apr 22 is the Claystock event. Help is needed. The Riders are doing security for the event. Apr 25th is Bike night. Powersports from Fleming Island is hosting it. They are bringing out some equipment to display. They are looking at doing this once a month. May 6th is election day at the post. Come out and vote. Absentee ballots are available by request. Mat 14th is Mother's Day. (Don't Forget). May 20th will be the Armed Forces Picnic. It will be a family event with a band and games. May 29th will be Memorial Day. We will do a ceremony at the Wall with a picnic lunch afterward. Passing dishes are needed. July 22 will be the Celebration of Life for Ronnie Van Zant here at the Post. This is not a autograph session.

Chaplin: Claystock is being held to help veterans. The two chaplains want everyone to support Claystock.

Service Officer: Traveled 121 mi, donated 17 hours, helped 6 veterans. He discussed aid and attendance. Use Form 212680 to apply. If you are assisting a veteran or if someone in your family is assisting you fill out that form and turn it into the VA for payment. They will come to your house to inspect to see if aid and attendance is needed. If the person needing assistance has to go to a nursing home then form 280799 is needed.

E-Board: The Clay County Veterans Council is trying to raise money to find a building to operate out of. They had a booth at the Spring Festival in Middleburg put on by the Civic Association. They passed out a lot of info that most people are not aware of. They are putting on a

Poker Run on April 22nd out of the little V. On the 29th of April the Veterans Freedom Fest will be held at the Hartland County fairgrounds.

Committee: School Medals: We have heard from 13 schools. 9 schools have given dates and times. Because of early end of school year things are kind of tight. He has 4 schools scheduled for the 25th of May and 5 scheduled for the 26th. Need HELP.

Disaster Prep: June 1st is coming up. That is the beginning of the hurricane season.

Boy Scouts: Scouts will be doing a flag retirement ceremony next weekend on a camping trip. They have 7 fifty gal bags of flags to retire.

Telarc

Old Business: Estimated cost of parking lot changes is \$250.00. A motion was made by John Rosenau and seconded by Gary Fleming to spend up to \$250.00 to repaint the parking lot. Shawn Beal asked how many handicap spots would be added. The answer was two. Motion was voted on and passed. Danny Torres reminded the Commander that when someone requests to speak they should stand and announce their names. The Commander thanked Danny for the reminder.

Commander reopened the Nominations for Officer positions for 2023/2024 year: They are as follows: Commander Ken White unopposed, 1st Vice Cindy Anderson unopposed, 2nd Vice John Rosenau and Vincent St. John, Finance Russ Kimmey unopposed, Chaplin John Ruark unopposed, Historian Mark Shannon Wofford unopposed E-Board. Billy Niemiec, Linda Story, Aron Mathews, Sgt at Arms George Torrence unopposed, Asst Sgt at Arms Kenny Greenway unopposed. The commander closed the nomination for this year. Donnie James made a motion to have the Post Adjutant cast one unanimous vote for all unopposed positions to be voted in. Motion was seconded by Cindy

Anderson. Motion was voted on and passed. At that time the Post adjutant did cast one unanimous vote for all unopposed officers. The opposed positions will be the only ones posted on the voting ballot. The ballot vote will be held here at the post on May 6 10am to 3pm.

New Business: Donnie James made a motion that after the installation of officers the post meeting minutes be posted on the post 250 website. Motion was seconded by Ziggy. Motion was voted on and passed with one opposed. Vincent St John made a motion to spend \$400.00 to revitalize the pond. Motion was seconded by John Ruark. Discussion was held. Motion was voted on and passed. Tom Hall offered to donate a pump for the pond if he has the right size. John Rosenau made a motion to donate \$100.00 towards the cost of the Armed Forces Day Picnic. Motion was seconded by John Ruark. Discussion was held voted on and passed with two apposed. Chef Anthony stated he could get food donated from farms. Shawn Beal asked what the progress was on the wheelchair ramp for the house. We are waiting for a reply from the Boy Scouts about a Eagle Scout project. Billy Niemiec made a motion that the Legion donate \$125.00 towards the purchase of the new gas flat top grill. Motion was seconded by Doc Tarrant. Motion was voted on and passed. Danny Torres raised a question about the number of the day free drink at the bar. The new time frame was explained to him by the Commander. Canteen Manager explained that the number of the day took \$1.00 of your first drink.

Good of the Legion: Open House was a great event. The vender were happy. There were only 16 people signed in but we had 13 people that renewed or joined. Next week we had the Children's Easter Carnival. Despite the fact that the Clay County Fair was going on we had 150 children show up. Denise and Dennis Bowland made a visit to the carnival. Denise is the Department Children and Youth Program Coordinator and Dennis is the National Program Coordinator. Both

were extremely impressed with our Carnival. Thanks to John Rosenau and his team. Chef Anthony had some information to pass out about free medical help available outside the VA. Contact him for more information. John Rosenau Stated that 31 guns tickets were available to sell. Get some from him and help out as the plan is to be done with the project by July 31. The money raised from 31 Guns will go to the floors. Cindy Anderson brought up that she had been able to purchase some postal stamps at \$29.50 a 100 roll. She purchased some for herself and had them verified by the Post Office in Orange Park. Donnie James brought up that in order to sell or give away post property we need the permission of the membership. John Ruark offered to assist any new Sgt at Arms with their learning process. He Has lots of experience. Shannon Wofford Passed on that The JROTC Medal presentation at Fleming High School went well. The Department of Florida Present a Cadet of the Year Award to one JROTC Cadet from the State of Florida. Last year and this year the Award has gone to a Cadet from Fleming Island High School. The Adjutant stated that that all candidates for office have to produce a copy of their DD form 214. In order to buy Queen Of Hearts tickets at the bar you will have to show a membership card to the bartender. When you buy tickets at the event you will have to show your card prior to buying.

Closing ceremony was held

Chaplin gave closing prayer

Meeting adjourned at 2024 hrs

Ken White
Commander

Richard Rowe
Adjutant