



**American Legion Post 133**  
**Minutes of November 21, 2023 Meeting**

**Commander Joe Haney** opened the meeting with the proper ceremony. All officers were present or accounted for.

**Deceased members:** None

**Introduction of Distinguished Guests**

Department Vice Commander for the First District Joe Haney

Asst. Department Treasurer Roger Anderson

**Introduction of Guests:**

**Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to accept the Minutes of the October meeting.

**Finance Report:** Finance report on file, copies are available.

**Sick Call:** Mario Zapata and Dave Papp

**Prospective new members:** Ernest L. Gravseth, Ernest M. Gravseth and David Gravseth

**Membership:** The 2024 membership year has started, our goal for 2024 is 200, Joe's goal for the year is 275 we have 147 members renewed, transferred or new so far. We have 215 members that have renewed for the 2023 year.  
Ken has New Members Kits for our new members.

**Service Officers Report.** - - Service Officers Report. Since the September meeting, we have 1 new client for SS&M Fund, we did Service Officers at the Community Center November 2nd and spoke to 3 people looking for help.

**Officer Reports.** this fall. Jr Vice – Carter Sutherland, The Post Social will be Saturday January 20, 2024 at the Nutmeg in East Windsor, 6:30pm cost is \$35 per person. We served 122 people at the Veterans appreciation Dinner.

**Committee Reports: -**

Visits With Veterans. Phil Medeiros, Skip Fisher, and Sid Rabin

We visited 7 facilities and 2 home since the September meeting.

Veterans 22 Residents 0 by 21 Post member hours and the ladies from the Sewin4Servicemen group. We have finished the local distribution of Lap Quilt and we are moving on to other areas.

- Legion Baseball. Jim Anastasio. The 2023 champions are as follows: 19U West Hartford Post 96, 17U Naugatuck Pos 17, 15U West Hartford Post 96, 13U Glastonbury Post 56. This year's scholarships went to Ben Balducci and Peyton West both from South Windsor.

These players are going on to play College ball; Ben Balducci U of ST Joe's, Petton West U Hart, Kiefer Culligan Dean College, Kiernam Caffrey AIC, and Hunter Pasqualini CCSU.

- Boy Scouts. Randy Olson. Troop 880 is looking for donations of sleeping bags to donate to Hartford Bags of Love. We attended the Eagle award for Troop 186 on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

- Girl Scouts. Tom Field. Looks like they will have 2 Gold Awards in the spring

- State Police Youth Week. Tom Field: All members that participate will need to do background check. July 9-14 cost \$125. The program ended on July 14<sup>th</sup> with 19 cadets' participation, a video has been posted on our web site. We will be going into the High School to promote this program.

- Wreaths Across America. Art Sladyk. We had 1600 wreaths this year, new charge for 2023 \$17 per wreath. The State ceremony is Monday December 11, 2023 12 noon, dress is Blue & Grays for all participating, the town ceremony is Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> 12 noon at VMP, dress is legion casual and warm. We hit our goal.

- Blue Star Families. Contact Art with any one we should honor; we will work on this after the first of the new year.

-Graduation cords. Art, The High School took care of the cords for 2022. The High School will take care of this for 2023, 3 students going in to the Military received cords this year.

-Post Home Committee- Art Sladyk. The Town met with us to inspect the Clapp property on the corner of Sullivan Ave and Route 5, the building is in very good shape. We met with the 59 Sullivan Ave 501C3 committee on Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup> Art had a meeting with the 501c3 on June 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss moving forward. The 501c3 has acquired insurance for the building. We have a meeting on Wednesday 10/11/2023. They are an official 501C3.

- Oratorical. Roger Anderson. The Assigned Topics for the 2024 Oratorical Contest have been released: 1 Amendment II, 2 Amendment XXII, 3 Amendment XXV, section 3, 4 Amendment V. The First District Contest will be February 3<sup>rd</sup> 12:30pm her, the Department Contest will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> or third week of March

- Boys State and Girls State. Pete Bortolan /Roger Anderson, Boys State will be held at the University of New Haven campus this year, June 23 – 29, cost will stay at \$350 per student. All members that participate will need to do background check. Girls State will be at the University of New Haven at the same time as Boys State.

Pete, Roger, and Tom went to the High School to talk to students about Boys and Girls State and SPYW. We have 6 boys for Boys State, Pete and Roger had an orientation for them on Tuesday June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center. Department has over 100 registered now. Next year the cost will be going up to \$375 - \$400. The UNH was pleased with the combined program this year and we are in contract negotiations for a 3-year contact.

-Color and Honor Guard. Captain of the Guard Lehman Mann. Our Veterans Day Speaker has invited the Honor Guard to lunch after the ceremony. Lee did the POW/MIS table at the Veterans appreciation dinner.

-Car Show. Leigh Lovering. Next year's show will be on Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of Sunday September 15<sup>th</sup>. The 2024 Car Show flyer picture has been taken; the flyer is done thank you Bill for doing that.

-Constitution and By Laws committee, chair is Roger Anderson (Judge Advocate), exofficio members Joe Haney (Commander) and Ken Lewis (Adjutant), voting members Gene Botteron, Carter Sutherland, Tom Filed, Bruce

Botti, Skip Fisher, and Phil Medeiros. Going forward the committee will meet on the first Monday at 3:00pm ever month. We have completed the Constitution and are now working on the Bylaws; we only have 5 more articles to set up, we are done.

- Buddy Check committee. Gene Botteron is the chair; we have 7 volunteers that will be calling our Post members. We have completed the first set of calls and will start on the second set of calls

- Balloting on applications – none

- Unfinished Business. none

- Initiation of candidates; None.

- New Business. The Commander has appointed Tom Field as the Chair person of the Rocky Hill bingo Committee.

- Correspondence

- The Department Bulletin is on our Web Site and has been e-mailed to the membership.

- E-mail form Tim Koster from the Connecticut National Guard Public Affairs Specialist about there The Stand Guard Podcast.

- Thank you note from the daughter of Dwight Slocum for attending her father's graveside ceremony, she donated \$200 to the Post 133 Veteran Relief fund.

- Good of the Legion.

1. Check out the post's website. [www.swlegion133.org](http://www.swlegion133.org). All the forms and calendar of events are on the web site, the membership forms are now fill able.
2. LIT Accident Insurance register on line one time, if you keep your membership current the coverage continues, \$1000 for accidental death coverage, if you are on Legion business, it is \$5000.
3. All members remember the Post's project every year is the South Windsor Food and Fuel bank, if you can please bring a nonperishable food item to all meeting.
4. Joe Haney is not running for Commander in the 2024-2025 year.
5. The CT Legion College is back and will kick off at the Mid-Winter Conference.
6. Anyone interested in going to the National American Legion College contact the Department for an application.
7. WAA State ceremony Monday December 11<sup>th</sup> 12:00noon at the State Capitol
8. WAA South Windsor Ceremony Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup> 12:00 noon
9. Art is looking to bring the Vietnam traveling wall to South Windsor in our 2025-2026 year
10. Carter wants to thank everyone the helped with the Veterans appreciation dinner.
11. We will be at the Manchester Road race on Thanksgiving Day with the truck come out to support the veterans that run the race, we will meet at 8:30am at Veterans row.
12. Members of the Manchester VFW are packing boxes to send to members of the military, they are looking for donations for the postage to send them overseas.
13. Joe let us know he met with the Commander of the Fort Kent Maine legion post and he mentioned our Post do the honors for a member from Eagle Lake Maine.
14. Post 102 will be collecting unwrapped gifts for children if you are going to the District Holiday party, please consider bringing a gift
15. Joe went to the Newton Mass Commanders testimonial, one of the largest Posts he has ever been to.
16. Art asked the students in his classes at the Veterans Day Veterans in the classroom if any of their parents or grand parents had served, all most all said no.

**Distinguished Guests:**

Department Asst. Treasurer Roger Anderson – reminded everyone about the training at the Mid-Winter Conference

The next District meeting is Wednesday January 24, 2024, Post 40 East Windsor, coffee, and donuts at 6:30pm meeting to follow.

Our next Post meeting will be December 19th 7:00pm

The Meeting was adjourned with the proper ceremony by Commander Joe Haney

Report Submitted: Ken Lewis Adjutant