

THE AMERICAN LEGION – POST 133  
MINUTES OF 11-20-2012 MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Anastasio, Art Sladyk, Mel Stead, Kent Carlson, Bob Hornish, Brien Lamkins, Frank Simao, Al Tedford, Ken Lewis, and Roger Anderson

GUEST(S) PRESENT: NONE

Commander Jim Anastasio opened the meeting with proper ceremony. All officers were present or accounted for.

Adjutant Roger Anderson passed out copies of the November correspondence from Department and the minutes of the October meeting. Bob Hornish made a motion to accept the minutes of the October meeting. Al Tedford seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

New Members: Commander Anastasio introduced Ken Lewis who recently transferred to our post from Post 200. Ken reported that he has lived in town thirty-two years. He served in the Navy from 1968 to 1972 in aviation electronics. He was stationed in Virginia Beach for a year and a half and he spent a year and a half on the Theodore Roosevelt. The members welcomed him to the post.

Departed Members: NONE

Finance Officer. Kent Carlson reported that as of November 1st we have \$2,654.54 in our account, which exactly balances to the amount the bank shows. Jim thanked Kent for the report.

Sick Call: Jim mentioned that Chaplain Bruce Daugherty is not feeling well. John Hogan is still not well.

Employment: Jim reported that our member Derek Denfeld who just got out of the army got a job at UPS here in Connecticut. Kent reported that the DAV had told him that they have money available for veterans. It turns out that the money is for disabled veterans who are residents of South Windsor. And they prefer that the veteran is a member of DAV. It was like the Soldiers, Sailors, & Marines Fund.

Service Officer. No report.

Committee Reports:

Baseball. No report.

Boy Scouts. Jim reported that he got an email from Troop 186 that Zach Billas made his eagle-scout requirement. We don't have a date or time for his ceremony yet. Mitch Tillman of Troop 880, who is doing the veterans' graves in Wapping Cemetery, also contacted him. Jim let him know that we are doing Wreaths Across America on December 15th and his project would really help.

Girl Scouts. No report.

Boys State and Girls State. Roger reported that he attended the Boys State conference in Indianapolis. Roger will be putting notices in the newspapers looking for applicants for Boys State and Girls State.  
State Police Youth Week. Roger reported that he would contact the South Windsor police department.

Wreaths Across America. Art Sladyk reported that we need some help. Art wants to get the wreaths to the cemeteries prior to the ceremony. Bob Hornish is trying to get some volunteers to help hand the wreaths out. Art would like to have four people at Wapping Cemetery and two people at the cemetery behind the First Congregational Church on Main Street. In addition we need seven to eight people for the flags and eleven people as presenters. Cabela's in East Hartford has a ceremony on December 9th at 3:00 pm. They will have the police department as a color guard. Ray Dunaway will be the MC. We will need eight people for the flags there. We will take donations anytime. Art said that he started too late this year. Art talked about the failure of the mailing last year. This year he used a couple of rainy days in October to visit businesses along Route 5 and Sullivan Avenue and the face-to-face contact made a big difference. Ken Lewis mentioned that he is the president of his condo association and he would be willing to post the event on their website. Ken suggested contacting the other condo associations. Art is working with the school system to get the flyers into the Friday folders at all schools in town. He will need to get around 1,500 copies. Art mentioned that he wants to get more young children involved. He will create a form for them to fill out and put in a helmet at the ceremony. There was discussion about the budget that was previously passed. We had a couple of groups step up this year with donations of 100 wreaths. The Reminder had an article and picture today. The JI will have an article next week. They also sent something to the Courant. Brien sent something to Channel 30. Jim has Channel 61. We will have a lot of wreaths to put out this year. Art is nervous about the possibility of snow hiding the markers. If we don't have enough wreaths for all the graves, we will start with the ones that didn't get wreaths last year. Art talked about the signs that were put up this year. He bought seven signs this year and will purchase an additional seven signs next year. There was discussion about needing permits. Ken Lewis reported that his condo association determined that 24" X 36" signs and smaller do not need permits. Roger mentioned that the printing on the lawn signs on his front year seems too small to read.

Oratorical. Roger. No report.

Old Business. NONE

Correspondence: Roger handed out copies of the November monthly package from Department. The membership report showed we had 73 members for 2013. Roger's list shows 91. Our goal is 100. The post's all time high is 147. The Adjutant wrote about a Post Leadership Conference was last Saturday. The Legion Auxiliary will be holding their Christmas Shop at Rocky Hill on November 24th, 25th, and 26th. Roger described how the Christmas Shop works. Department will be holding their Midwinter Conference in Rocky Hill January 25th, 26th, and 27th. Roger commented that the 99 restaurants give veterans 10% off at all times. Roger talked about the Department calendar. There was a flyer about the First District Christmas Party December 22nd in Bristol. There was a flyer for the Hot Stove Baseball Dinner at the Aqua Turf. There was a sign-up form for Mid-Winter Conference. There was a flyer for a Sound Tigers vs Norwalk Admirals hockey game. There was a flyer looking for new members for the Department color guard. There was a flyer for the Connecticut Trees of Honor in Middletown. The last item was an exhibit showing new benefits for unemployed veterans.

Billy Carroll received a letter from David Archibald from South Windsor High School about the Veterans in the Classroom program that was held November 12th. Mr. Archibald thanked all veterans who participated in the program. Students and teachers are still praising all the veterans for what they taught them. Kent mentioned that he sent a copy of the letter to Peter Anthony who spoke at the opening ceremony. Several post members participated.

The post received a letter from the National Guard Foundation thanking us for our donation last year.

The post received correspondence from the Warner Theater in Torrington. They will be performing "Campus – All Is Calm." on December 1st at 3 pm and 8 pm. The spellbinding work is gripping dramatization of the Christmas truce of 1914 on Christmas eve.

The post also received correspondence from the U. S. Association of Blind Athletes looking for a donation to fund their activities.

#### New Business:

National Guard Foundation. Kent made a motion to donate \$200 to the National Guard Foundation. Ken Lewis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Printing of Flyers For Wreaths Across America. Art Sladyk made a motion to authorize the printing of 1,500 flyers to be put in the Friday folders. Brien Lamkins seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Roger mentioned that Daria Plummer suggested using colored paper to make it stand out from the other items in the Friday folder. Art will see if he can get the printing donated.

#### Good of the Legion:

Roger talked about the Legionnaires Insurance Trust (LIT) flyer that he handed out. Legionnaires can purchase insurance at lower rates and the department gets funds from LIT.

Al Tedford informed the members that a friend of his made a purchase at Walmart and when she looked at her receipt, it showed \$40 in cash back that she had not asked for or received. She went back to the store and got it corrected. Al said that it was a scam going around and he advised all members to check their receipts before leaving the store.

Jim reported that his son David, a post member, is now in Afghanistan. Frank Simao reported that Ron Buonanducci, also a post member, is also in Afghanistan. Kent reported that the Air National Guard unit is returning from Afghanistan tonight.

Art talked about how the post color guard would add greatly at the ceremonies and parades.

The next First District meeting is Wednesday, November 28th at 7:30 pm at Post 2 in Bristol. The next Post meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18th. Don't forget items for the food pantry. There being no further business, Commander Anastasio adjourned the meeting with proper ceremony.