

THE AMERICAN LEGION – POST 133
MINUTES OF 5-15-2012 MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Anastasio, Art Sladyk, Mel Stead, Kent Carlson, Bruce Daugherty,
John Hogan, 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 May correspondence from Department and the minutes of the April meeting. Art Sladyk made a motion to accept the minutes of the April meeting. John Hogan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

New Members: NONE

Departed Members: NONE

Sick Call: Jim reported that his son David, a member of our post, developed appendicitis. When he recovers, he will join his unit in deploying to Afghanistan.

Finance Officer. Kent Carlson reported that as of May 15th we have \$2,623.19 in our account. Jim thanked Kent for the report.

Service Officer. No report.

Committee Reports:

Baseball. Jim reported that he attended an opening ceremony for the indoor batting facility about a week ago. The Little League, Legion, High School, and Girls Softball teams are using it. Mayor John Pelkey really contributed to getting it up and running. Also, the Giasanti Tournament will be held Friday, June 15th. They would like the post to supply a color guard for the ceremony. 6 to 6:45 pm is a reception with the ceremony at 7:00 pm.

Boy Scouts. Jim mentioned that there will be two eagle scout ceremonies in the very near future. Chris Guay, a scout from troop 186, has completed his eagle scout project and it is now in the board of review. Chris's dad David is a member of our post. Chris Moran, also from troop 186, just completed his eagle scout project. His two older brothers are eagle scouts.

Girl Scouts. Jim reported that he has heard from the girl scouts about their Gold Award. The ceremony for three girls will be this Sunday at Wapping Community Church from 3:00 to 4:30. Jim developed a certificate to present to them and had them printed. Jim, Bruce and Roger intend to attend.

Wreaths Across America. Art Sladyk reported that we received one check for \$280 already for what Scott Driscoll did. We will set up a table Saturday for Picnic in the Park. Also, we will set up a table on June 16th at the Strawberry Festival. Brien tried to get the state to print up the flyers, but since we are not a non-profit the state would not print them. The date of the ceremony this year is December 15th. Art is working on an announcement to put into local church bulletins. He is also working on a press release to send to the various radio and TV stations and newspapers. Art would appreciate help passing out the material. He is open to suggestions about how to get the word out to the businesses in town. Art talked about the mailing that we did last year that was not successful. It would help if members of the post would contact business members they know in town. Art also suggested contacting members to get their email addresses. Art asked Jim to talk to Craig Zimmerman about supporting the program.

Oratorical, Boys' State, and Girls' State. No report. Roger did not hear from the high school.

Old Business.

Picnic in Nevers Road Park. There was no update.

Post Dinner Meeting. Jim reported that he would check with Lena's, The Red Onion, and The Nutmeg to see about holding post dinner meetings. Art reported that the Red Onion charges \$17 per person. Roger mentioned that the September meeting would be a good time. There was additional discussion.

Correspondence: Roger reported that the post received a call to the First District convention at Post 102, Manchester, on Sunday, June 10th. Roger will represent the post. We received a flyer for a Meet & Greet breakfast on May 19 from 7 am to 11 am at Post 102 in Manchester from the American Legion Riders. We received our Consolidated Post Report form to fill out for our last year's activities. Roger handed out copies of the May monthly package from Department. On Saturday, May 19th Department will be putting on a banquet for the national commander at the Courtyard Marriott in Cromwell. The post received an invitation from the Patriotic Commission to the Armed Forces Day Evening In The Park event on May 19th. Volunteers are needed to hand out flyers and sign up new members. The First District testimonial will be held June 2nd as a picnic at Post 2 in Bristol. The Department convention will be held at the Rocky Hill Marriott July 12, 13, and 14. The National convention will be held in Indianapolis August 25th to 30th. The next First District meeting is May 23rd at Enfield Post 80. There will be a memorial service preceding the meeting at 6:30 pm. Nathan Hale Day is June 6th at noon at the state capitol. On June 9th Department will hold a membership session. Roger talked about the new free \$5,000 accidental death insurance policy. There was information about a woman from Shelton with PTSD who has a service dog and needs help paying for it. The Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center in Connecticut is having an exhibit on May 16th 6 pm to 8 pm in West Haven. Roger talked about the American Legion's Legacy Scholarship Fund for children of soldiers killed since 9/11. There were several flyers about the Department convention. There was information about State Police Youth Week. Roger talked about his experience last year at State Police Youth Week. "Home At Last" is the housing for homeless veterans in Jewett City and they are close to opening the facility, but still need funds.

New Business:

Nominations of Post Officers. Roger handed out a form for nominations. All officers agreed to run for reelection except Sgt-at-Arms John Hogan who would like to retire. Art nominated Brien Lamkins as Historian. Mel suggested Frank Samio as Sgt-at-Arms. The elections will be held at the June meeting.

Groups Offering Assistance. Art reported that he has be contacted by several groups that would like to help giving assistance to anyone needing help. Art has the contact information if we hear of anyone. Roger mentioned the Soldiers, Sailors, & Marine Fund. Kent mentioned the National Guard Foundation.

Donation To Woman For Service Dog. Roger made a motion to donate \$50.00 to the woman for the service dog. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Good of the Legion:

Commander Anastasio presented Mel Stead with a photo album of pictures taken at the ceremony honoring him for 60 years of membership. It was inscribed "To Mel Stead from your comrades in arms, Abe E. Miller, Post 133."

The next First District meeting is Wednesday, May 23rd at 6:30 pm at Post 80 in Enfield.
The next Post meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19th. Don't forget items for the food pantry.
There being no further business, Commander Anastasio adjourned the meeting with proper ceremony.