

THE AMERICAN LEGION-POST 21
126 Atlantic Street NE — McMinnville — OR — 97128
General Membership Meeting – October 21, 2020

ROLL CALL:

Commander – Steve Farley, **present**
First Vice – Paul Schnell, **present**
Second Vice – Terry Ward, **present**
Finance Officer – Gale Sears, **present**
Adjutant – Shirley Brown, **present**
Judge Advocate – Steve Randles, **present**
Service Officer – Juan Palacios, **present**

Chaplain – Thomas Clayton, **present**
Historian – Leroy Brown, **present**
Sgt. At Arms – Jim Connelly, **present**
At Large – Jeanne Clayton, **present**
At Large – Robert DeKar
At Large – vacant

Guest: Becky Berweger on behalf of The Auxiliary wanted everyone to know that the Auxiliary has started their annual Christmas Basket Food drive, donations can be dropped at the post in the barrels. They are also making lap blankets for veterans in local care homes, McMinnville has 77 Veterans in the local care homes.

The baskets this year will only be given to Veterans. They are not receiving donations from the scouts or the local schools this year so they will be taking only non-perishable food. The Auxiliary has received a donation from the Riders in the amount of \$1,500 and a donation from the Sons would like to see one from the Legion as well.

Motion: By Paul Schnell that we match the donation from the Riders of \$1,500.00 and whatever funds are not used be returned to the Legion, seconded by Leroy Brown – **Passed**.

Review of Minutes: **Motion:** Juan Palacios that we accept all three as new members, seconded by Leroy Brown – **Passed**.

Finance Officer: Post Account \$57,531.61; Lottery Account \$45,670.66; Maintenance Fund \$5,510.00; Cash \$13,137.00 = Total Bank and cash assets of \$108,712.27. We also have \$8,500 in Key Bank from the Payroll Protection Program. This money should be released to us in November and most likely we will qualify for the entire sum. Honor Guard account is at \$2,662.59 up \$100.00.

Last month the finance committee was given the go ahead to hire an accountant and to purchase QuickBooks online. The accountant has been working and has about finished with January, she feels that in a few months we should be up to date.

Liability, Workers Compensation and Officers and Directors Insurance is now in place and we were able to purchase it for \$3,000 less than last year.

We recently had to repair the walk-in cooler the old system was from 1992! Have not received the bill yet but it will most likely take all of the monies in the maintenance fund to cover the cost.

Motion: By Leroy Brown that we approved the Finance Report as presented, seconded by Jeanne Clayton – **Passed**.

Commanders Report: Steve Farley stated that he will be gone often in the next three months and will likely miss a few meetings.

Commander Farley stated that Cody Pankey has missed four consecutive meetings and has been removed from the Executive Board being replaced by Terry Ward as Second Vice and Paul Schnell has moved into the position of First Vice. That leaves one open At Large position and he would like to appoint Dan Brown to that position as long as no one has a problem with a nepotism issue since his wife is our adjutant. Bob Berweger asked if he is head of the House Committee can he be a member of the executive Board, Commander Farley stated that was not a conflict. Steve Randles questioned is he a Legion member or SAL. He is a Legion member, a Son's and an Auxiliary member as well.

1st Vice: No report.

2nd Vice: Trying to work on Pearl Harbor Breakfast in December along with Veteran's Day but not sure if either will happen because of COVID.

Sgt. at Arms: Wanted to thank whoever set the room up for him. Promised it won't happen again.

Service Officer: A group of Riders and members of the Post helped a Veteran move and took a load to the dump. Had another request to help a Veteran move a very large shop, a motorcycle told him if he needed help to let us know, never heard back from him.

Jeanne Clayton – Women Veteran’s Liaison: No report.

Historian: Challenge Coin has been ordered and it should be here before Veterans Day. Will work up a sign in sheet so that each member receives only one coin.

Chaplain: Praying for our members and their families, if you need prayer, just let him know.

Volunteer hours – Army 40; Marines .5; Navy 67 Total 521.5 Hours. Auxiliary – 425.5; Sons 164.5; Riders 314.5 = total hours 1,034.75.

Riders: Getting colder but still riding and staying busy doing a lot of escorts. Now have 62 members. Thank everyone for the help and the great success of the Scholarship Run. Wanted to remind everyone that some of our Riders ride year round, so please watch out for motorcycles. Wanted to acknowledge Bob Berweger for going on so many of the escorts. Most Veterans Day events have been cancelled so if you hear of something happening on Veterans Day let us know.

Auxiliary: Gearing up for Christmas working on assembling blankets, need to assemble 77 blankets total. Have materials for all the branches.

Son’s: Looking at possibly holding the Oyster Feed in January

Honor Guard: The United Veterans Honor Guard performed the following services: 9/19/20 performed full military honors for George Beal a WWII Navy Veteran who served on the USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor when it sank. 9/24/20 performed a flag raising ceremony at Michelbook Country Club; the honor guard received gift certificates for golf. 9/25/20 performed full military honors at Evergreen Cemetery for Larry Thompson a Navy Veteran. 9/28/20 Assisted the with moving a Navy Veteran to a new residence across town. 10/3/20 Attended funeral for Robert Thompson’s 100-year-old mother at Finley Sunset Hills Mortuary in Portland (Robert is a member of the Honor Guard). 10/6/20 Assisted the United States Navy Honor Guard rifle detail for Vaughn Wesley Marner, a Navy Persian Gulf War Veteran at Macy’s Funeral Home 10/10/20 – Performed full military honors at the American Legion – Post 21 for Richard Carmine a WWII Air Force Veteran and member of Post 21. 10/17/20 assisted the Willamina VFW Post and Sheridan American Legion Post with full military honors for Randy Hoff a Vietnam Army Veteran Mr. Hoff and his son died in a resent house fire in Sheridan, he was a member of the VFW and The American Legion. The Honor Guard would like to give a big thank you to Jim Connelly and Brian Shirley for helping the honor guard performing their duties. Both of them are members of the Second Wind Community Band. THANK YOU very much.

NEW BUSINESS: Jim Connelly wanted everyone to know that MAC Smiles will be giving free dental care on November 12th but you must make an appointment. Leroy Brown stated that if you have VA Health Care you can get dental care from Delta Dental for \$26.00 per month you just need to apply.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

Good of the Order: We have been invited hold the DEC in January but due to COVID it is the recommendation of the Executive Board that we decline their invitation in December.

Motion: By Jim Connelly that we decline the invitation to hold DEC in January, seconded by Leroy Brown – **Passed.**

Bob Berweger said that he, Don McGinnis, Jim Smith were preparing to go on an escort to Willamette National Cemetery when a State Trooper pulled in and asked if they wanted him to take pictures for them.

Sick & Injured: Linda Ward she is having a CAT scan tomorrow, not sure what is actually going on with her but keep her in your prayers. Steve Randles mother and sister need prayers as well. Robert DeKar’s daughter is pregnant and having complications, keep her in your prayers.

Commander Farley asked the membership if we should cancel the December General Membership meeting again this year.

Motion: By Paul Schnell that we cancel the General Membership meeting in December, seconded by Leroy Brown – **Passed.**