



Robert H. Baker American Legion Post 95 Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2008

37 Members in attendance: Foster Sires, Donald Happy, Bud McGinnis, John Kopp, John-Paul Kopp, James Riech, Donna Warren, Ray Adkins, Mack Williams, Ted Nelson, Lester Brown, Ray Nichols, Le Roy Coe, Marvin Scott, Ira Hunter, Bob Beeks, Ron Pardeck, Larry Allen, Paul Payne, Ed Backstrom, Mike Edwards, Jim Pate, Paul Ellison, Ed Eberle, Gene Welch, John Gibbs, Fred Cox, Clyde Woodson, Jerry Head, Gary Reno, Ray Merrell, Sam Leonard, Melvin Johnson, Larry Haney, Charles Kraft, Jerry Pate and Robert Emery.

Commander Ray Nichols opened the meeting in due form at 19:00 HRS.

Commander Ray Nichols thanked all for attending tonight's meeting.

Chaplin Donna Warren gave the opening prayer.

Commander Ray Nichols lead the Post in the Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Pre-Amble.

Commander Ray Nichols again thanked all for coming tonight.

Commander Ray Nichols had Mac Williams pass around a sign up sheet for the Liberty Fireworks to be held on the Fourth of July at Fountain Bluffs Park. Commander Ray Nichols said that the Post would be putting up flags and presenting the colors.

Commander Ray Nichols asked everyone to sign a Thank You card for John Gibbs grandson who spoke about West Point at the joint VFW – American Legion meeting last Thursday.

Adjutant Robert Emery read the minutes from the May meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Commander Ray Nichols thanked those who had helped over the Memorial Day weekend with the Avenue of Flags and Nursing Home visits.

Commander Ray Nichols talked about membership reaching goal and shower the one hundred percent commander pin he had received. Commander Ray Nichols thanked membership chairman Ted Nelson for all of his hard work on membership.

Finance Officer Don Happy read the finance report. A copy of the report is included with the minutes. The finance report was approved as read.

Commander Ray Nichols thanked Lester Brown for his donation to the Post.

Commander Ray Nichols talked about the Fourth of July and passed around a sign up sheet.

Girls State: Girls State Chairperson Donna Warren talked about the girl the Post was sending to Girls State which would start this weekend. Donna Warren also said that she had sent Thank You cards to each girl.

Boys State: Boys State Chairperson Robert Emery reported that Boys State was currently in session.

Robert Emery also talked about having to get the Boys State applications straightened out due to a mix up with the 3rd District Boys State Chairperson.

Honor Team: Honor Team Commander Mike Edwards reported that the team would be doing a funeral tomorrow and one next Friday. Honor Team Commander Mike Edwards said that the team would have to leave early next Friday at about 11:15.

Commander Ray Nichols talked about the Liberty Chamber of Commerce trip to China in March 2009.



3rd District: John Kopp talked about the recent 3rd District Meeting and that Ray Nichols is now the 3rd District Americanism Chairman. John Kopp also talked about that there would be a vote at the next 3rd District Meeting to raise the District per Capita Tax from fifty cents (\$.50) to sixty cents (\$.60)

Gary Reno talked about the veterans meeting with Sam Graves and explained the situation of Jason Murdock and the government trying to reclaim his re-enlistment bonus and refusing his disability claims with the VA.

Gary Reno talked about his opposition to the District Per Capita Tax increase and said that the money should stay with the Posts to help veterans.

Clay County Veterans Memorial building annual meeting: Paul Ellison talked about the annual meeting and that all members of groups associated with the building association could attend the meetings. Topics covered:

Memorial Brick cost: they are trying to find out the current cost of the bricks.

Per Capita Tax: it was found out that it had not been voted on to levy the tax

Officers were elected and that these officers would serve for three years.

Building Expansion: Jin Riech had talked about moving a back wall to increase storage space in the building.

Commander Ray Nichols introduced incoming VFW Commander Jerry Pate who would be taking over for Larry Haney.

Newsletter: Larry Allen said that there was still time to get items into the next issue of the newsletter.

Commander Ray Nichols thanks Larry Allen and John Kopp for their on the newsletters for the Post and the District.

New Business:

Larry Allen made a motion to donate one hundred dollars (\$100) to the Missouri POW/MIA Scholarship Fund. Charles Kraft seconded the motion. Gary Reno talked about who could apply for the scholarships and that he was fixing up a car to sell to help raise funds for the scholarship fund. The motion passed.

Elections:

Ray Adkins made a motion to accept the officer nominations for all offices except Post Commander by accolade. Foster Sires seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Post Commander Election; ballots were passed out and cast.

Commander Ray Nichols read an announcement about the formation of a Legion Riders group at Post 61.

Commander Ray Nichols read correspondence the Post had received.

Thank you from USO for the donation the Post had made

Thank you note from Betty and Kevin Shannon for the Post doing Allan Shannon's funeral honors.

Clay County Health Services: Ray Nichols talked about new food handler photo ID and cost of ten dollars (\$10) and that the Post would reimburse any Post member the ten dollars (\$10).

Commander Ray Nichols passed around letter from the Boys State applicant who had backed out at the last minute.



Bob Beeks reported on the Commander vote and that Ray Nichols was elected as commander. Commander Ray Nichols thanked Past Commander John Kopp for keeping thing in the Post going. Gary Reno talked about his terms as 3rd District Commander and having to travel around to other Post and said that it is rare to see this many members at monthly meetings and that everyone should be proud to be part of this Post and that he was Proud to be part of Post 95.

Sickness and Distress:

Larry Haney's son's cancer has returned.

Foster Sires just back from the hospital.

Commander Ray Nichols talked about presenting Larry Haney a Certificate of Appreciation for his work helping Veterans. The certificate was presented at the joint VFW – American Legion meeting. Commander Ray Nichols talked about BINGO at cedars.

Commander Ray Nichols said that Bud McGinnis had received a sixty (60) years of continuous membership pin from National and Foster Sires received one for fifty eight (58) years of continuous membership.

Commander Ray Nichols presented the following Certificates of Appreciation

Lester Brown, Foster Sires, and Fred Cox.

Commander Ray Nichols talked about a scholarship being setup honoring Foster Sires.

Foster Sires said that the scholarship at Liberty High School would go to two (2) students a year for college.

Commander Ray Nichols asked for people to give him their email addresses.

Commander Ray Nichols read a thank you card from Amy McGiffen for Girls State sponsorship.

Commander Ray Nichols talked about a Korean War Event to be held at the Truman Library on June 25th from 16:00 till 17:30 HRS.

Fred Cox talked about the Air Force Band playing at the Liberty Community Center on July 3rd and that tickets were free and available at the Community Center.

Charles Kraft said that he had heard the band several times and that they were wonderful.

Commander Ray Nichols read a Thank You from the Liberty After Prom for the donation the Post had provided.

Commander Ray Nichols read a letter from Department of Missouri about proper use of the American Legion emblem.

John-Paul Kopp said that the letter said that you needed to get written permission from National for use of the American Legion Emblem.

Commander Ray Nichols said that he had received a survey from the USPS on satisfaction with the bulk mailing service. John Kopp said that he would fill the survey out.

Paul Ellison talked about the Voiture 1379 ChickNic to be held on September 6th at Wallace State Park starting at 13:00 HRS.



John Kopp talked about Pleasant Valley Baptist Church annual Veteran Recognition Services. Larry Allen asked how the VFW hiring a cook would affect the availability of the kitchen. Ray Nichols said it was not a problem. Larry Haney said that Veterans Groups had priority over the kitchen.

Commander Ray Nichols closed the meeting in due form at 20:05 HRS.

Submitted _____
Robert C. Emery – Adjutant

Approved _____
Ray Nichols - Commander