



Robert H. Baker American Legion Post 95 Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2008

28 Members and one guest in attendance: Foster Sires, Donald Happy, Bud McGinnis, James Riech, Donna Warren, Ray Adkins, Mack Williams, Ted Nelson, Lester Brown, Ray Nichols, Le Roy Coe, Marvin Scott, Ira Hunter, Larry Allen, Paul Ellison, John Gibbs, Jerry Head, Sam Leonard, Charles Kraft, Jerry Pate, Calvin Nelson, Ron Pardeck, Ed Backstrum, John Kopp, Mike Edwards, bob Beeks, Carl Mathiasch, and Robert Emery. Guest Gary Nichols – 3rd District Commander
Commander Ray Nichols opened the meeting in due form at 19:05 HRS.

Commander Ray Nichols asked all to observe a moment of silence for our departed comrades Fred Cox and Steve Corsale.

Chaplin Donna Warren gave the opening prayer.

Commander Ray Nichols led the Post in the Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Preamble.

Commander Ray Nichols introduced 3rd District Commander Gary Nichols. Gary Nichols thanked the Post for all their support and hard work.

Commander Ray Nichols announced that the 3rd District was looking for a replacement Finance Officer and if any one was interested please contact Gary Nichols.

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

Adjutant Robert Emery read the minutes from the July meeting. The minutes were approved as read. Finance Officer Don Happy read the finance report. The finance report was approved as read and a copy is included with the minutes.

LeRoy Coe asked what the monies sent to Department were used for. It was explained that it was used to support the programs of the American Legion.

Finance Officer Don Happy talked about Post Officer Bonding and that currently only the finance officer was bonded for \$15,000 and asked if we should obtain bonding for another Post officer.

Commander Ray Nichols asked if the bonding amount was high enough. Finance Officer Don Happy reported that it was currently high enough to cover what the Post has in all its accounts.

Commander Ray Nichols said that we would not be getting a grant from Wal-Mart this year but will apply for one next year starting in December.

Charles Kraft made a motion to obtain bonding for the Post Commander and Post Finance Officer.

Foster Sires seconded the motion. Finance Officer Don Happy reported that it cost \$75 to bond an officer for the \$15,000 level so it would cost \$150 to bond two Post Officers. The motion passed.

Charles Kraft asked if the bonding covered the individual or the Post position.

Commander Ray Nichols said the bonding covered the position and not a named individual.

Sickness and Distress:

Ray Nichols reported on Larry Haney's son and his progress with his bone marrow transplant. Ray Nichols also said that there was only a 25% chance of recovery with this procedure and keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Ron Pardec reported that his grandson's brain surgery was being rescheduled for later in the year.

Committee Reports:

Honor Guard:

Honor Guard Commander Mike Edwards reported that there would be a funeral tomorrow.



Flag Etiquette:

Commander Ray Nichols said that he would be setting a meeting up with the Liberty School Superintendent to see about getting into all the Elementary Schools.

Don Happy talked about the directive not letting Missouri Funeral Honor Teams cross the Kansas border to do funerals at Leavenworth unless it is a Post member or requested by the family. The team will not be paid for the funeral honors in Kansas. It was also stated that the services will provide the detail to fold and present the flag. Don Happy said that there were a lot of people upset over this directive. Paul Ellison had talked with someone at Claire McCaskil's office but they did not know much about the subject. Paul Ellison will contact other legislator's offices. 3rd District Commander Gary Nichols had not heard about this situation and will find out more about it. Paul Ellison stated that the Post had not been paid for eleven (11) funerals and the seven (7) of them had been at Leavenworth and wondered if the Post would get paid for them. Paul Ellison also said that we had not received any official notification on this matter.

Oratorical Contest:

Commander Ray Nichols asked for a volunteer to take over as Oratorical Contest Chairperson. Commander Ray Nichols reported that Post Member Lance Staves son would be interested in the contest. Commander Ray Nichols said that he would set things up with the High School for the 1st Monday in December. John Kopp reported the 3rd District would hold their contest in January at the Smithville Post.

Boys/Girls State:

Commander Ray Nichols said the meeting would be the Boys/Girls State reports meeting. Commander Ray Nichols said the Post would provide the refreshments and asked for volunteers to get the refreshments. Ira Hunter said that he would get the cookies and Bobby Beeks will get the punch.

John Kopp talked about the current issue of the 3rd District Newsletter and that he had emailed a copy to all the email addresses he has and mailed a hard copy to all Post Commanders and Adjutants.

Post Newsletter:

Commander Ray Nichols talked about the audit of Post Newsletter by the Post Office and their determination the Post was not a non-profit. This was because of the insurance company sponsorship and listing their address and phone number which is against the rules.

Membership:

2nd Vice Commander Ted Nelson reported that we currently have 168 paid up members for 2009.

Larry Allen asked if we could take our newsletters to a different Post Office to mail them.

Commander Ray Nichols said that the permit was through the Liberty Post Office and we had just renewed the mailing permit.

Commander Ray Nichols asked if the Post wanted to hold a Chili Supper fundraiser and the current available day's are November 1st, 8th, or 22nd. John Kopp made a motion to set the date for the Chili Supper for the 8th of November. Jim Riech seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Charles Kraft asked about the Post Christmas Dinner and Ray Nichols said that it would be held on the normal meeting night in December.

Larry Allen asked for volunteers for the Chili Supper.

Ray Nichols and Bobby Beeks volunteered to get door prizes.



Commander Ray Nichols asked how much should we charge for the dinner. Foster Sires made a motion to charge \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under and the hours for the dinner should be 16:30 to 19:00 HRS. the motion was seconded and passed.

Commander Ray Nichols asked how much should the Post spend for raffle prizes. Charles Kraft made a motion to set a limit of \$250 for raffle prizes. Ira Hunter seconded the motion and the motion passed. Don Happy, John Kopp and Jerry Head volunteered to purchase the raffle prizes.

Larry Allen asked about the menu for the Chili Supper. The menu was fixed Chili, Hot Dogs, salad, desert, and bread/buns. Donna Warren said that she and her friend would decorate the hall for the dinner.

BINGO at Cedars:

Ray Adkins said that he would get the snacks

Commander Ray Nichols talked about getting the newspaper to run a story and picture of the installation of Post Officers.

Correspondence:

Commander Ray Nichols read a letter about asbestos cancer class action information.

Commander Ray Nichols read Thank You cards from Cameron Veterans Home and Voiture 1379 for the donations the Post had made to them.

Commander Ray Nichols read a request for donation from the Franklin Elementary PTA for their read-a-thon. LeRoy Coe made a motion to donate \$25 to the Franklin Elementary PTA Read-A-Thon. John Kopp seconded the motion. Sam Leonard asked if the Post was making donations to all the other schools. Commander Ray Nichols replied that we had not received request for donations from any other schools. The motion passed.

Commander Ray Nichols read a ballot for Board Members for the Liberty Chamber of Commerce and asked LeRoy Coe and Paul Ellison to fill out the ballot and send it in.

John Kopp made a motion to donate \$100 to McMuury Church in honor of Fred Cox. Foster Sires seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Calendar Fundraiser:

Don Happy talked about the specifics of the American Legion Calendar as a fundraiser.

Ted Nelson and others said that they already get a lot of free calendars already. John Kopp stated that they were not American Legion Calendars. Ray Adkins made a motion to purchase 250 calendars. John Kopp seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Commander Ray Nichols thanked 3rd District Commander Gary Nichols for attending our Post meeting and invited him to attend the Post Boys/Girls State Report meeting next month.

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

Submitted _____
Robert C. Emery – Adjutant

Approved _____
Ray Nichols - Commander