



Robert H. Baker American Legion Post 95 Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2009

30 Members in attendance Jerry Head, Donna Warren, Robert Emery, Foster Sires, John Kopp, John-Paul Kopp, Ted Nelson, Charles Kraft, Ira Hunter, Ed Backstrom, Mike Edwards, Melvin Johnston, Tom Viviano, Jim Rieck, Sam Leonard, Larry Allen, Mac Williams, Paul Ellison, John Gibbs, Bill Gossett, Ray Nichols, Marvin Scott, Jerry Pate, Jake Samborski, Judi Samborski, Lester Brown, Gary Reno, Ray Adkins and Bud McGinnis.

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

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 asked the new members to introduce themselves.

Adjutant Robert Emery read the minutes from the March Meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

First Vice Commander Jerry Head gave the Post finance report for last month as provided by Post Finance Officer Don Happy. The report was approved as given.

First Vice Commander Jerry Head read a note from Finance Officer Don Happy concerning the payment of ten percent (10%) of the profits from the spaghetti dinner. Finance Officer Don Happy felt because there was so much cleanup that was needed to be done by the Post before the dinner.

The Post should not pay the ten percent (10%) payment to the VFW. Commander Ray Nichols said that the Post should make the payment because it was in our agreement with the VFW. Jim Rieck made a motion to withhold payment to the VFW due to the unclean conditions of the kitchen and hall. John Kopp seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Commander Ray Nichols talked about Ray Merrill not being present due to celebrating his sixty third (63rd) wedding anniversaries.

Commander Ray Nichols talked about Rev Donna Warren celebrating her seventy fifth (75th) birthday and presented a birthday card from the Post to her.

Sickness and Distress:

Ray Nichols reported the Paul Payne was sick. A Get Well card was passed around for everyone to sign.

District Meeting:

Gary Reno talked about the recent 3rd District meeting and the formation of a District Nominating Committee. Gary Reno asked everyone that could to please come out and support the 3rd District at the next meeting in June.

John Kopp talked about the local oratorical contestant Britney Sanders who made it to the first round of the National Oratorical Contest.

Boys State: John Kopp reported that two (2) Posts in the 3rd District had sent six (6) boys each to this years Missouri Boys State. The two (2) Posts were Post 61 and Post 95. John Kopp reported that the 3rd District had sent in sixty five (65) applications with money and five (5) alternates so far.

Honor Team: No Report

Honor Team Commander Mike Edwards reported the ammo order was being shipped. Commander Ray Nichols talked about filling out the verification documents for the rifles the honor team



possesses.

Commander Ray Nichols reported the Sam Graves would be holding a veterans meeting in Saint Joseph the day after Memorial Day. Commander Ray Nichols said that he would pass on more information as it became available.

Boys State: No Report

Membership: 2nd Vice Commander Ted Nelson reported that current paid up membership was at two hundred fifty three (253) and that puts the Post thirteen (13) short of quota for 2009.

John Kopp talked about meeting active duty service members at a recent 40et8 function and getting them signed up in the American Legion and Post 95. John Kopp talked about the service members getting stranded and the 40et8 members took up a collection to cover their rooms, food, and a little extra spending money. John Kopp also talked about helping out two (2) other active duty service members that were also in need of help. Gary Reno talked about taking one of the service members to help out his wife who was driving to pick him and was having car trouble. Gary Reno said that is what the American Legion and the Forty and Eight is all about. Gary Reno also talked about Heroes to Hometowns Program.

New Business:

Commander Ray Nichols appointed a nominating committee - Paul Ellison, Larry Allen, and Gary Reno volunteered to be the nominating committee.

Gary Reno talked about the Car Show and Fun Run that will be held in Kearney June sixth (6th) to benefit the Missouri POW/MIA Scholarship Foundation.

Junior High School Awards: Commander Ray Nichols reported that the old Junior High School would hold their award program on May 12th at 19:00 HRS and that the new Junior High School would not be holding an award program this year. Commander Ray Nichols said that he would be looking into an alternate way of awarding the medals.

Commander Ray Nichols reported that the VFW would be serving breakfast this Saturday.

BINGO:

Ray Adkins said that he would bring the snacks and John Kopp took charge of the fifty dollars (\$50) in prize money.

Paul Ellison talked about the Honors Flight Program. The program flies veterans to Washington DC so they can visit the National Monuments. Ira Hunter talked a little more about the program. Paul Ellison made a motion to donate two hundred dollars (\$200) to the Honors Flight Program. John-Paul Kopp seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Paul Ellison talked about reading an article about a local woman that made blankets for wounded veterans. Paul Ellison asked everyone to think about giving her a donation.

Paul Ellison talked about David Bryan – a Post 95 member- receiving the civilian Medal of Honor and asked the Post to send him a card congratulating him on this honor.

Paul Ellison talked about the 40et8 Voiture 1379 annual ChicNic to be held August 29th at Wallace State Park starting at 13:00 HRS.

Correspondence:

Commander Ray Nichols read a request for donations from the Freedom of the Road Riders to help defray shipping cost for items to Afghanistan.

Commander Ray Nichols passed around two (2) thank you cards from Girls State candidates.

Commander Ray Nichols read a request from Kevin Starkey – Department of Economic



Development Disabled Veterans- for information on Disabled veterans needing assistance.

Commander Ray Nichols read a request from the Missouri Cameron Veterans Home Assistance League looking for sponsors for their annual golf tournament.

Commander Ray Nichols asked if the Post wanted to hold its annual family cookout in May. The dinner would be held on the normal meeting night starting at 18:30 with the Post providing the meat, bread, and drinks. Everyone would bring a passing dish to share. Commander Ray Nichols said that we should let HY-VEE cook the meat – hamburgers, hotdogs, and bratwurst since they let the Post out of the cost for the Christmas Dinner that was canceled. Judi Samborski said that she would check on the cost with HY-VEE.

Jerry Pate Commander VFW Post 4043 thanked the American Legion for helping out at the recent funeral.

Jerry Pate Commander VFW Post 4043 asked if the American Legion could help put flags on graves for Memorial Day. It was scheduled to put flags on graves on May 18th at 10:00 HRS.

Commander Ray Nichols talked about putting out Avenue of Flags all Memorial Day Weekend and Nursing Home visits on Memorial Day. Commander Ray Nichols asked if someone would take charge of the Nursing Home Visits. Commander Ray Nichols said that he would schedule the visits and 1st Vice Commander Jerry Head said he would take charge of the visits.

Commander Ray Nichols said he would check with the city about mowing the cemetery and placing the stakes for the Avenue of Flags and then schedule the placing of flags on the graves.

Commander Ray Nichols thanked all for attending

Chaplin Donna Warren gave the closing prayer.

Vice Commander Jerry Head closed the meeting in due form at 19:45 HRS.

Submitted _____
Robert C. Emery – Adjutant

Approved _____
Ray Nichols - Commander