

- Call to Order by Commander Ray Gerkitz at 1900 Hours. Standard Opening Procedures.
- Roll Call: All present, except: Excused: SrVice Schueler; JrVice Kennedy; Chaplain Ruggeri. Judge Advocate Navarro. 21 Present = quorum achieved. 1921 Hrs: Guests, 12<sup>th</sup> District Commander David Johnson arrives, with grandson Xander, a junior member.
- Typed Minutes presented for review; no corrections. Motion to waive reading, by Ed Stash; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bob Cokley. Passed (P), Unanimously (U)
- Committee Reports
  - John Taylor: Bar: December: After receipts minus expenses and bills (including security system upgrade),. Motion to accept reports by Jim Nanouski; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Phil Sterba. Pass (U)
  - Ron Slafer, F.O.: Bingo had a profit for the month. Motion to accept by Ken Donnelly; 2<sup>nd</sup>, John Taylor. Pass (U) Discussion, Ron Slafer: We should consider replacing the CD we cashed for the recent porch repairs; FYI.
  - Service Officer Report (Ron Slafer): None to report. .
  - John Taylor, Gaming: Pull Tabs: We had a good month, but with quarterly taxes paid out..Motion to accept by Bob Olson; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Cokley. P/(U) Discussion: To consider the introduction of the Queen of Hearts-type game.
- Correspondence
  - Thank You (T.Y.) from Tom Quinn family, for Honor Guard services.
  - T.Y. from Lee Hall family for Honor Guard services, with a \$100 donation.
  - T.Y. from John Rose family for Honor Guard services.
  - T.Y. from Donald C. Anderson family for Honor Guard services, with a \$200 donation, and also a \$200 donation from his son Scott (Cimco).
  - T.Y. from Jack Armstrong family for Honor Guard services.
  - T.Y. from B.P.O. Elks Lodge #588, Jim Rice, Exalted Ruler, for our donation of a POW/MIA chair, in recognition of their services to veterans. (Placed at their Remembrance Table.)
  - Girl Scouts requested to sell cookies at a Bingo night. Executive Board (E-Board) authorized Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM only.
  - Member Al Rowe emailed the E-board that we call attention to the American Legion Institute Extension Course (view online at "myLegion.org") and recommended that we promote it. It's a 90 minutes long presentation on Legion facts, with test, which can be interrupted, and returned to it as our schedule allows. (\$4.95 for a certificate of completion, each member to pay own.) Yes, we'll promote it.
  - Request from veteran's widow Carol Cappitani that we support IL Senate Bill 0087, which would allow spouses to receive their earned benefits, should he/she die before

completion of paperwork. Senator Sue Rezin is a co-sponsor of this bi-partisan authored bill. Yes, we encourage all to call in support for this veteran-related benefit. Ed Stash noted, that if one requests the property tax relief, it must be renewed in writing each yr.

- New Business

- John Taylor soon will be on medical leave. The Trustees and E-Board have approved member Jeff Roach and bartender Beth Gregory, to be the temporary, part-time replacements until John is well enough to return. Commander complimented John Taylor for his dedicated work to the Post, to heart-felt applause.
- Membership Report, Adjutant Duback: 588 of 641 members have renewed, for a rate of 91.73%. We have had a significant amount of our members who have gone to Post Everlasting this year, so we'll need a big membership drive this spring in order to reach at least our 100%. Al Rowe was commended for helping the Adjutant for crossing out all the Social Security numbers on the DD 214's on file. New members proposed, pending completed paper work: 1. Transfer in from Post 2910 (Department of Illinois HQ): Dean Reynolds, Army, Vietnam; 2. Michael Murphy, Army, Gulf; recruiter: Commander Gerkitz. 3. Krista Casey, Air Force, Gulf, and 4, David Menth, Air Force, Vietnam, via our online application. Motion to accept by Bob Cokley; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bob Cupples. Passed (U)
- 12th District Commander David Johnson's report
  - At the District meeting yesterday, we approved \$300 for a catered meal for the veterans at the LaSalle Veterans Home, which brightens their day considerably; \$300 toward the "Gifts to the Yanks Who Gave" program, which seriously needs our support, and \$300 toward the Special Olympics Program, toward which the Legion also sponsors the tent and food for the day. Please consider a donation from the post for this worthy program! We also thank Commander Gerkitz for arranging for peanut butter to be donated by his employer last year-it was well received!
  - Note: It's a new policy, that if your dues for the new year are not paid and recorded at the Department of Illinois by December 31<sup>st</sup>, you are a delinquent member (= more than lapsed). You lose all insurance benefits, including eligibility for the National Emergency Fund (NEF), until you renew, and you must call yourself to have the insurance re-instated.
  - Note: Words hurt. Recently, some older veterans were overheard insulting our younger veterans, demeaning that their service to our country was a lesser service than that of their older generation. This is unacceptable behavior, from any Legionnaire, to any veteran.
  - Note: Fundamental to all Legion scholarship programs or contests, all paperwork must be completely and properly filled in, or it is immediately disqualified from being accepted. Guide the applicants, to be professionally thorough in the process.
  - Poppies for the nation are prepared at the Department of Illinois and packaged at the LaSalle Veterans Home; now, North Chicago to help.

- Good District fundraiser at the DeKalb County (Sandwich Fair) last year. We were also able to

support the development of a new S.A.L. Squadron locally.

- Departed Members and Veterans: Bob Cupples, Sergeant at Arms:
  - John “Jack” Armstrong
  - Lee Hall
  - Eldon “Skip” Niles
  - Robert Richey
  - Robert Anderson
  - Robert Cunningham
  - Tom Quinn
  - Robert Angostinelli
  - John Rose
  - Donald C. Anderson
  - Floyd Collins
  - Ray Catton

Prayers led by Assistant Chaplain Bob Cupples

- Standard Closing procedures. Prayers led by A/Chaplain Bob Cupples
- Adjournment at 1952 hours.

Drawings: # 741 Mac McKenna

# 048 James Brady, absent