

Minutes Regular Meeting Ottawa American Legion Post 33 Monday, July 1, 2019

- I. Called to Order by Commander Ray Gerkitz at 1900 Hours. Standard Opening Procedures. (Salute to Colors; Chaplains Prayer; POW/MIA Chair, etc.)
- II. Roll Call: All present, except: Judge Advocate Joe Navarro, on call as needed; Trustee Jeff DeLaGarza, vacation; Gaming Chair John Taylor, health. 26 Present=Quorum achieved.
- III. Typed Minutes presented. Motion/Waive reading by Ken Donnelly; 2nd, Phil Sterba. (P)(U)
- IV. Committee Reports
 - A. Ron Slafer, Finance Officer: Bingo Honor Guard: Motion to accept by Sterba; 2nd, Bob Cokley. Passed (P) Unanimously (U)
 - B. Ron Slafer, Gaming Report Motion/accept by Terry Willet; 2nd, Jerry Sexton. Passed (U)
 - C. Jeff Roche: Bar: Gaming Motion/accept Willet; 2nd, Donnelly. Passed (U)
 - D. Dave Kennedy, Service Officer: Motion to accept, Tony Roudebush. 2nd, Bob Olson. Passed Unanimously.
- V. Old Business
Adjutant: Off Table: One nomination for the open Two-Year Trustee term: Tony Roudebush. Additional nominations solicited three times: none. Nominations closed. Adjutant casts one Unanimous Ballot for Tony Roudebush to fulfill the remainder of the Two-Year Trustee term. Second: Terry Willet. Passed by the floor, Unanimously.
- VI. Correspondence and New Business
 - A. Thank You (T.Y.) from Alex Barker, Marquette, for Scholarship.
 - B. Donation Request (D.R.), Ottawa River Rescue Squad. Executive Board (E-Bd) recommends \$100. So moved, Willet; 2nd, Sexton. Passed (U)
 - C. D.R.: Voluntary Action Center, for "Meals on Wheels" Program. E-Bd recommends \$100. So moved by Sterba; 2nd, Bob Cokley. Passed (U)

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- D. D.R.: Both High Schools request support for their Booster Club Sports programs. E-Bd recommends the \$150 for Ottawa and \$155 for Marquette. So moved by Donnelly; 2nd, Jeff Roche. Passed (U)
- E. D.R.: Jerry Sexton: Annual "Ride for St. Jude's Children's Hospital" campaign is coming up for September. E-Bd recommends \$200. So moved by Cokley; 2nd, Roudebush. (P) (U)
- F. Flyer: "Vets with Pets Clinic:" Free Preventative Care for Cats and Dogs. Wednesday, July 17th, 10 AM – 3 PM. Appointments required! Sign up through "AllenForce.org" or call 779-205-3314. Location: North Riverside National Guard Armory, 8660 Cermak Road, North Riverside, IL 60546. Examples of Services Provided: Deworming; Heartworm Testing; Ear Cleaning; Nail Clipping; Anal Gland Expression; Some shots; flea and tick control; Q & A. Sponsored by AllenForce, the Banfield Pet Hospital and Foundation, and North Riverside National Guard Armory.

- G. Congressman Adam Kinzinger's Office: Congressional Veteran Commendation Nomination Form is available. Nominees can be recognized for service of a heroic nature while in the service; for service to their community after their tour of duty, and/or professional accomplishments. Submit DD 214, also. Due by Friday, July 19, 2019. See Adjutant for the form.
- H. Idalia Stricklin: Poppies Report from Ladies Auxiliary: Gross proceeds were \$5,526.07 (\$700 behind last year). Cost of 4,000 Poppies was \$540. Net proceeds: \$4,986.07. \$2,493.04 to Post 33; remainder, Unit 33. Thank you to the 27 workers who helped (32 last Year)! Top Six workers: 1. Joe Tokarz, \$640.45. 2. Jean Firlik, \$523.67. 3. Annette Maltas, \$480.43. 4. Ray Gerkitz, \$380.28. 5. Jerry Sexton, \$377.00. 6. Dave Kennedy, \$340.57. (13 Legionnaires; 1 SAL; 12 Auxiliary; 1 Friend.)
- I. Legion Dispatch: A. New program: "Buddy Checks." Twice a year (Legion Birthday in March, and Veterans Day), we are to call on our post veterans and/or former members to see how they are doing. It is now a reportable item on the annual Consolidated Post Report! B. Update needed on Legion Centennial web page, to start a post profile; passed on to our History Committee. (www.cetennial.Legion.org)
- J. Final Membership Report: Post 33 had 556 renewed, vs. 615 last year (90.41%). Department was at 94.68 % renewal. Post Size: 10th/736. District 12: 15th/24. 2nd Division, 3rd/5. General discussion, membership, Adjutant: Dept. has 74,236 registered members. Over 700,000 veterans in Illinois have taken the oath of service. Let's reach out to the others, to make them feel welcome here.
- K. Ed Stash: He participated in the American Legion Rider's Legacy Bike Run, 500+ miles, where they collected over \$11,000 in donations! Riders will also participate at the Department of Illinois Convention on Fri/Sat July 12/13.
- L. Jeff Roche: The Marine Corps Vets Motorcycle Club Benefit Fundraiser held here at Post 33 did quite well, generating over \$2,000 for the LaSalle Veteran Home. We had a good day too, but there is room for more of us to participate in a future event.
- M. Bob Cokley: Asked MC Vets MC for a copy of their event group photo; will send.

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- N. Joe Tokarz: The "TALARC" (The American Legion Amateur Radio Club) Field Day went well here at Post 33. Special Thanks to Bob Cokley for getting ten of the Boy Scouts to check in. Overall, there were 23 Visitors registered, including six operators-good start!
- O. Department of Illinois Convention in Springfield next week, July 11-14. (Six Delegates and three Alternates are going to represent Post 33.
- P. The next Memorial Service at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery for veterans without family will be on Friday, July 12th. Steve Marshall and Joe Tokarz will be there to assist.
- Q. Terry Willet: Impromptu get-together for the new Officers and Board will be on Monday, July 8th here at Post 33; 6:00 PM. Discuss goals and aims for 2019-2020.

- R. Notice: Effective July 2, 2019: Bar tokens will no longer be handed out for extra drinks. Members will be given until October 1, 2019 to redeem currently held bar tokens. A notice will be posted at Post 33, and announcement will be made in the local media.
- S. Jim Nanouski: We had a "Quilts for Valor" ceremony here at the post last Saturday. Bill Buckingham and Ms Patricia Riley received theirs, to applause. Chuck Beckett added, that the local quilting group was out of Princeton. Collectively, nationally, the group has given out over 220,000 quilts! Their "Flags of Freedom" group fly the four huge flags in Princeton. Each costs \$1,400! They could use some help; we could possibly do one here?
- T. Jim Nanouski: A salute to our out-going officers, for their efforts in our behalf over the past year. To applause.
- VII. Sgt/Arms Bob Cupples: Deceased Members/Veterans: 1. Coleen Hoar; 2. Gordon Parker. Prayer led by Chaplain Cupples.
- VIII. Standard Closing Procedures. Prayer led by Chaplain Cupples.
- IX. Adjournment at 1942 Hours.

Drawings: #454 Bob Olson
#389 Wayne Neumann Absent