

- I. Called to Attention by Commander Ray Gerkitz at 1900 hours. Executive Board Member-at-Large Bob Cokley introduced as Guests, the American Legion Auxiliary contest winners, who are about to attend the Auxiliary meeting. They were: Megan Smelko; Lydia Oker; Cole Smelko, and Connie Francis. Cole Smelko's first-place essay will advance to the district level. Congratulated, with enthusiastic applause.
- II. Call to Order by Commander Gerkitz at 1902 hours. Standard Opening Procedures.
- III. Roll Call: All present, except: Judge Advocate Joe Navarro, on-call as needed; Bob Olson, Trustee. 22 present; Quorum achieved.
- IV. Typed minutes presented. Motion/waive reading by Terry Willet; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Phil Sterba. Passed (U)
- V. Introduction of Guest, new member SGT Elliot Hogge. He is currently Active Duty, stationed as the National Guard Recruiter at the Marseilles Training Center. Remarks, with applause.
- VI. Committee Reports
  - A. Finance Officer Ron Slafer: Bingo Motion/accept Tom Przybyla; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Willet. (P) Unanimously (U)
  - B. Gaming Chair John Taylor utilities and insurance. Motion/Accept Ken Donnelly; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bob Cokley. Passed (P) Unanimously (U)
  - C. Bar Manager Balance: Motion to accept, Sterba; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Taylor. Passed (U)
  - D. Service Officer Dave Kennedy: Helped two veterans, passing through. Denied one. Motion to accept by Sterba; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Cokley. Passed (U)
- VII. Sick Call: Benny Schomas and James Hayson, at LaSalle Veterans Home; CMDR.
- VIII. Correspondence
  - A. Thank You (T.Y.) received from Ottawa Memorial Association (OMA) for our donation.
  - B. T.Y. from George Hupp Sr. Family, for Honor Guard Team services.
  - C. Announce: Armed Forces Day Air Show, Peru, IL. Navy Torpedo Bombers, Parade. 11:30+
  - D. Armed Forces Day Gold Star Mother (Barb Ritter, for son SGT Leevon Ritter) Motorcycle Escort Motorcade, from U.A.W. Pat Greathouse Center, Ottawa, to Middle East Conflicts Memorial Wall, Marseilles. Leave Ottawa at 3:30 PM. After: To Fat Daddy's, Seneca.
  - E. Riders going to Kirkland, IL Northern Illinois Veterans Memorial. Leave post at 10:00 AM Saturday, May 11. Genoa Veterans Home = lunch; Sycamore/Waterman, on the return.
  - F. Donation Request (D.R.) The marathon group wants to use our building (porch, bathrooms, etc.) for their race set-up on Sat. May 11<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-9:00 AM, Sat. May 11<sup>th</sup>. So moved by Willet; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jeff Roche. Passed Unanimously.

- G. New Administrator at LaSalle Veterans Home is Angela Mehlbrech. Adjutant Michael Sheldon is on Military Leave. Jackie Cook will cover his absence; Maria Malic will cover the Director of Nursing position. IDVA Director is Linda Chapa Lavia. Next Advisory Council will be on Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 AM. Via Courtney Mills, Executive Secretary

- H. Auxiliary: Post Poppy Days will be Thurs/Fri May 23/24. Volunteers needed to help surpass last year's good effort. Jim Nanouski: Post gets half the donations, which funds the Service Officer's account. Sign-up sheets in bar area.
  - I. D.R.: National Army Museum. Executive Board (E-Bd) approved \$100. So moved by Willet; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Donnelly. Passed (U)
  - J. Next OMA meeting is Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM here at the post. Finalizing plans for Memorial Day. Help needed for parade, park, etc.
  - K. D.R. for Student to Study Abroad program, from Andie San Gabriel. E-Bd approved \$100. So moved by Ron Leiteritz; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Phil Sterba. Passed Unanimously.
  - L. Adjutant: two new members: 1. SGT Elliot Hogge, Active Duty Recruiter at Marseilles Army National Guard. 2. Tyler S. Debernardi, Marine Corps, Gulf. Motion to accept by Terry Willet; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jerry Sexton. Passed Unanimously. Membership at 86 % (529/615).  
CMDR: Members Johnathon Fuller & Jonathan Kleckner: deployed to GITMO, this June.
  - M. TALARC Field Day will be June 21-23, 2019.
  - N. June 14<sup>th</sup> is the LaSalle County Cruisers Car Show, out front. Plan to cook on porch, and show off building improvements.
  - O. Flag Day is June 14<sup>th</sup>. Probably do the ceremony again with the B.P.O. Elks Lodge #588.
- IX. Nominations: Opened, and called for three times each:
- A. For Commander: Tom Przybyla and Ron Staple. Ken Donnelly motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Phil Sterba, for Commander Ray Gerkitz to be added, with kudos for his efforts for our post. After deliberation, Commander declined, to focus his energies on his health needs, and District and Division responsibilities.
  - B. Sr. Vice Commander: Terry Willet. Motion/Acclamation-Adjutant, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sterba. Passed (U)
  - C. Jr. Vice Commander: Bob Cupples. Motion/Acclamation-Adjutant, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Willet, Passes (U)
  - D. Finance Officer: Ron Slafer. Motion/Acclamation-Adjutant, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sterba. Passed (U)
  - E. Three-Year Trustee: Mark Kolotka and Tony Roudebush. Ken Donnelly declined.  
Adjutant: Note, Past considerations: Should a vacancy occur within the Trustee Office, the non-winning candidate will be a prime candidate to fill the vacancy.
  - F. Executive Board Member-at-Large: Robert Hinkelman and Robert Cokley.  
Nominations closed. Adjutant and committee will prepare elections for June 1<sup>st</sup>, 8 AM-8 PM. Schueler: Have committee consider just posting the winners, not the tallies.
- X. General Business
- A. History Committee has been meeting. We can assist by placing an advertisement to solicit public for old pictures for our 100<sup>th</sup> in Sept. So moved, Sterba; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Willet. (P) (U)
  - B. Commander bought a Centennial Coin for \$100 for the post. Also suggested stamped beer koozies as a promotional item. So moved by Donnelly; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Cokley. Passed (U)

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- C. Terry Willet complimented this year's officer team on their accomplishments.
- D. Commander reminded us to be nice to the new guys; make them feel welcome!

- E. Dave Kennedy complimented Roger Schueler on his 5 years as Sr. Vice Commander. Roger thanked several members for especially helping him: Bob Cupples; Ron Slafer; John Taylor; Jim Nanouski, and Bill Elzer (who has passed.) To applause.
- F. Commander: We will be fixing the main floor Men's Room next. To rip out the old floor first, to save those fees.
- G. Convention is in July. See Adjutant for Reservations ASAP.
- XI. SGT Cupples: Departed Members/Veterans: 1. George C. Hupp Sr. 2. Edward L. Grobe. 3. John R. Grieve. Prayers lead by Chaplain Cupples.
- XII. Standard Closing Procedures: Prayer by Chaplain Cupples. Retirement of the Colors Salute by Commander Gerkitz.
- XIII. Adjournment at 2000 Hours

Drawings: #408 Chuck Beckett  
#628 Joseph Patrick, absent