



American Legion Post 68, Leland
Meeting Room, Blossoms Restaurant, Magnolia Greens, Leland
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, March 21st, 2019 at 1800 hours

COMPILED BY: Daniel Dodge, Adjutant
APPROVED BY: Dale Todd, Commander
Convened: 1800
Adjourned: 1945

Total Attendance: 31
Officers and Staff: 9**
Members: 29***
Guests: 2 + 3 new members

*Concurred

****Officers & Staff Absent:** Dan Dodge-Adjutant, Jim Zelenski-1st Vice, Art Dietrich,-2nd Vice, Jim Thompson-Exec

***Includes Officers and newly signed members

Officers & Staff in Attendance: Dale Todd-Commander; Elliott Koppel-Finance Officer; Bill Smith-Sergeant at Arms; Lou Tranzillo – Executive Committee; Richard Fry-Public Affairs; Dan Fortini-Membership; Brian Danielson-Chaplain, Lane Adrian-Service Officer, John Marone-Logistics Officer

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Call to Order: **Commander: Dale Todd, Commander**
Chaplain's Opening Prayer: **Brian Danielson, Chaplain**
POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony: **Sergeant at Arms: Bill Smith**
Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble: **All**

Old/Current Business:

Approval of prior meeting minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve February 2019 meeting minutes. Minutes approved by all via unanimous vote.

Guest Speaker: *Ken Klassen-President SENCLand Chapter of MOAA*

Ken spoke about what MOAA is doing to support local veterans. They also have several scholarships for local school JROTC units. Ken was presented with an official Post 68 coffee mug.

2nd Guest Speaker: *Dale Smith-9th District Commander*

Dale spoke to members about Post 68 giving great accolades. Our Post has good membership and we are doing great things to help local veterans. Our Vets to DC event was notable. He also spoke on good's and bad's regarding the VA and emphasized the importance of the upcoming VEAC event.

Introduction of New Members and Guests: 1 existing Post member renewed tonight. We had 2 transfers (1 AF, 1 Army) and 1 new member (AF) signed up.

Committee Reports:

Membership Report: - Dan Fortini, *membership chair*

Prior Month Membership:	112
New Members:	1
Transfers in:	2
Transfers out:	0
Resignations:	0
Dropped:	0
Active members as of March 1st	115

- We received 2 membership renewals during this meeting
- Four new transfers were on-hand tonight along with one new potential member
- After the meeting, a veteran came up to us in Blossoms with a request to transfer in
- One additional renewal was received via US Mail this week
- After processing current renewals and transfers, our roster will be updated to only reflect active members.

Financial Report: *Elliott Koppel, Finance Officer*

Balance beginning of February:	\$ 11,485.89
Income:	\$ 1,374.50
Disbursements:	\$ 1,758.39
Ending Balance, March 1st:	\$ 11,102.00
Cash on hand:	
Cash box 1	\$ 95.50
Cash box 2	\$ 50.00
Total Cash on hand:	\$ 145.50

Concerns and Sick Call: *Brian Danielson, Chaplain:* **Brian Danielson** Nothing to report.

Service Officer Update: *Lane Adrian:*

- VEAC – Lane asked that members sign-up to volunteer at the VEAC event
- Assistance to local veterans – none this past month

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Updates to Post 68 Constitution and By-Laws

- Final change made to Constitution, Article IV – Management, Section 2: Verbiage added to define “Member in Good Standing”
- We will still need permission from the Jacobs family to rename Post
- Vote on approval of all changes tonight
- Contingency vote to keep name the same should Jacobs family not give permission
- After vote, total package will be forwarded to Division & District Commanders and to the Department Adjutant.

Final change made to define “Member in Good Standing” Article IV, Section 2

Members reviewed changes for 3rd time. When vote was called, a member requested that each change be voted on individually. Commander rejected request indicating that membership was voting on all changes as a package. The Commander then again explained the reasoning behind the Post name change with PFC Jacobs.

Vote on all Bylaw changes plus name change: 25 in favor. 1 apposed

Contingency vote on Bylaw changes only without name change: All votes in favor

The Jacobs family will now be contacted for permission to use the name. Then, a bylaws change package will be sent to American Legion, Department of NC for approval.

2. Boys and Girls State candidates

- a. Post 68 will be sponsoring 2 boys and 2 girls for Boys/Girls state scholarships
- b. Interviews for Girls State have been completed. Candidates selected
- c. Interviews for Boys State TBS

3. Post Elections:

- a. Need to fill historian and 2 Executive Committee positions where there are no incumbents
- b. An elected position cannot serve for more than 2 terms. However, if there are no viable candidates for a position then the officers will grant an exception allowing the incumbent to run again.

Position	Incumbent	Candidate
Commander	Dale Todd	Dale Todd
1st Vice Commander	Jim Zelenski	Jim Zelenski
Adjutant	Dan Dodge	Dan Dodge
Finance Officer	Elliott Koppel	Elliott Koppel
Post Historian	Vacant	Vacant
Post Chaplain	*Brian Danielson	*Brian Danielson
Post Service Officer	Lane Adrian	Lane Adrian
Sergeant At Arms	Bill Smith	Bill Smith
Executive Committee	*Lou Tranzillo	*Lou Tranzillo
Executive Committee		Vacant
Executive Committee		Vacant

Position	Incumbent	Candidate
2nd Vice Commander	Art Dietrich	Art Dietrich
Logistics Officer	John Marone	John Marone
Public Relations	Richard Fry	Richard Fry
Membership	Dan Fortini	Dan Fortini

4. Check for \$500 presented to NBHS JROTC rifle team 3/18

5. Budget and Financial Review:

- a. Being scheduled

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Plaque for NBHS JROTC for receiving 100% score during JRTOC Program of Accreditation inspection. This inspection occurs every 3 to 5 years and involves inspectors from JRTOC 4th Brigade, part of US Army Cadet Command HQ Fort Bragg. NBHS is only one of only 2 100% scores in the last 26 years within the hundreds of JRTOC programs in the Southeast. A plaque recognizing these achievements will be presented at the JROTC Awards Ceremony on April 15th.
- 2. District 9 meeting March 9th. Review of info received
 - a. Dale Todd and Dan Dodge attended. There was a very good turnout of Posts there
 - b. Flyers handed out for Mission BBQ free food for Vietnam Vets on March 29th
 - c. The 40 & 8 group is looking to provide scholarships for the offspring of any former POWs
 - a. If you know of any, please be sure to let them know of this opportunity
 - d. The traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall will be at Mayfair from July 25th thru the 29th. Sponsored by American Honor Guard and VVA. Volunteers needed to guard it 24 hours/day.
 - e. District Commander Dale Smith to run for District 9 Commander. Will need a Vice Commander.
 - f. There is a bill in Congress to open up membership in the American Legion from Dec 7th, 1941 to the date of cessation of armed hostilities as determined by the US government.
- 3. Planning for Emergency Procedures for Post 68

Current Activities:

After Action Reports:

Completed events: February

1. Veteran Appreciation Day @ Fat Tony's - Lou Tranzillo
2. Boy Scout breakfast March 6th - Dale Todd
3. Feb 22nd, Woman Veteran Conference & banquet
 - a. We donated \$100 before event was rescheduled due to Hurricane

Upcoming Events:

1. UNCW Military Appreciation Day March 31st: All veterans and military are invited to watch that day's ball game for free. While tickets last. (more info TBD)
2. Navy Week: April 1 – 7 various places in Wilmington plus Battleship NC
3. VEAC April 24 – 27
4. Post Elections: May membership meeting
5. District 9 meeting May 11th, at Post 503 in Calabash
6. Poppy Drive May 18th LEAD REQUIRED
7. Cemetery Flag Placement May 27th LEAD REQUIRED

Future Events:

1. Flag collection ceremony – June 15th Dan Fortini
2. Pasta Dinner fundraiser – Rescheduled for November membership meeting
3. We have submitted application for DownTown concert series fund raiser event
 - Email sent to members with link to VOTE for Post 68!
4. Department Annual Convention June 5th thru 8th

MISC. ITEMS:

1. Post Charities of Freedom: Organization sets up permanent outdoor displays of constitution, bill of rights, etc. There is an effort to get a display in Bolivia. This organization is setting up a gala to raise donations.

Meeting Wrap-up:

1. Guest Speaker for April meeting: Ed Hawfield will give presentation on his grandfather's service during WWI

November 11, 2018 marked the 100th anniversary of the end of WW I. Edward Hawfield brings to life this "forgotten" war, as seen through the eyes of his grandfather, Edward Hardin, a local Wilmington boy. Hawfield provides vivid excerpts from over 150 letters written by Hardin to his friends and family to describe this soldier's WWI experience. These letters take us from the intense training at Camp Sevier outside Greenville, SC, during one of the harshest winters in its history to the horrific trench warfare in Belgium and France during this epic period.

2. Next Membership Meeting – Blossoms Meeting Room, Magnolia Greens, Leland
April 18th, 2019 at 6 PM
**** 100th Anniversary Celebration! – cake and coffee
3. Next Officers meeting: April 11th, Shelmore Pool area meeting room, 1pm

4. Comments from Membership:

50/50: Was won by Pete Erbe who donated his winnings back to the Post. Total was \$65

Closing Ceremony and Chaplain's Closing Prayer: Brian Danielson, Chaplain

Adjourned at: 1945 hours