



American Legion Post 68

Blossoms Meeting Room, Magnolia Greens, Leland, NC

Meeting Minutes – October 17th, 2019 at 1800 hours

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

Total Attendance: 30*
Officers and Staff: 9**
Members: 27***
Guests: 3

*Concurred

****Officers & Staff Absent:** Jim Zelenski-1st Vice, Bill Smith-Sergeant at Arms; ; John Hacker-Executive Committee, Mike Conners-Executive Committee

***Includes Officers and newly signed members

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

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** (Brian Danielson, pro tem)

Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble: **All**

Current Business:

Approval of prior meeting minutes: Motion made and seconded to approve September 2019 meeting minutes as published. No comments received, motion made and seconded by membership and minutes approved by all members present via unanimous vote.

Guest Speakers: Ed Hawfield came back to Post 68 to present the second half of his talk regarding his grandfather's tour of duty during WWI in the trenches of France. The title of his presentation was: A Wilmington Boy in the Trenches, letters from WWI as Flabby goes to War where he read the contents of several of the 150 letters his grandfather wrote home to his parents and friends some of which were very moving. Commander Todd presented Mr. Hawfield with a certificate of appreciation from the Post for his fine work in preserving the memories of this grandfather and sharing them with our Post membership. Copies of Ed Hawfield's 2 presentations are available from the Adjutant.

Introduction of New Members and Guests: Dan Fortini-Membership Chair

- We had 2 additional guests this evening:

Robert Huba returned this month and has joined the Post

Robert Lutz has transferred his membership to Post 68

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Constitution and By-Laws update: Commander

- We have received our supplemental charter for name change. National already has us as John E Jacobs

- The Department JAG reviewed our bylaws changes and has returned them with comments and corrections. Todd, Dodge and Fry are making the necessary changes.

2. Membership Report: Membership Chair, **Dan Fortini**

Prior Month Membership:	122
New Members:	1
Transfers in:	7
Transfers out:	0
Resignations:	0
Dropped:	0
Active members September 1st	130

As of this evening, 68% of Post 68 members have renewed their memberships for 2020
 We are 81% towards our Department membership goal
 Several membership renewals received at tonight's meeting.
 We also received 2 transfer applications – Thanks to our membership chair Dan Fortini!

3. Financial Report: Finance Officer – **Elliott Koppel**

MONTH	SEPT		
BANK			
BEGINNING BALANCE		\$	11,323.13
INCOME		\$	383.00
DISBURSEMENTS		\$	593.99
ENDING BALANCE		\$	11,112.14
CASH BOX 1		\$	90.00
Cash Box 2		\$	50.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$	11,252.14
BANK			
BEGINNING BALANCE		\$	11,323.13
INCOME		\$	383.00
DISBURSEMENTS		\$	593.99
ENDING BALANCE		\$	11,112.14
CASH BOX 1		\$	90.00
Cash Box 2		\$	50.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$	11,252.14

BALANCES PER ACCOUNT FOR THE MONTH		
General Fund		\$ (447.89)
50/50		\$ 115.00
Poppy Fund		\$ (146.10)
Dues		\$ 268.00
Donation		\$ -
Clothing		\$ -
BALANCES PER ACCOUNT		
General Fund		\$ 3,456.50
50/50		\$ 270.00
Poppy Fund		\$ 1,353.90
Dues		\$ 800.00
Donation		\$ 3,585.17
Clothing		\$ 72.25

DATE	General Fund		50/50		POPPY FUND		DUES		DONATION		CLOTHING / LOGO ITEMS	
	INCOME	DISBURSEMENT	INCOME	DISBURSEMENT	INCOME	DISBURSEMENT	INCOME	DISBURSEMENT	INCOME	DISBURSEMENT	INCOME	DISBURSEMENT
1						\$ 146.10						
12		\$ 253.04										
12		\$ 120.00										
13							\$ 108.00					
18		\$ 74.85										
19			\$ 115.00									
							\$ 160.00					

4. Buddy call / Phone Tree: Most Post 68 members were at least called. We learned several lessons from this exercise which will be incorporated into our process and scripts. We have some work to do in order to contact members we were not able to get ahold of. Post members who live close to others may be asked to visit.

Busy signal	1
Hung up	1
Left message	26
Moving out of state	2
No answer	9
No contact info	2
All OK	37
Phone disconnected, not working	5
Sick	2
Status Unknown	1
Waiting for status	22
Officers	14
TOTAL	122

5. Membership Service Awards update: Last meeting we gave out 11 of 39 service awards. Tonight, we were able to present awards to 2 more members. 15 and 20 years.
6. District 9 meeting: Post 68 successfully hosted the District 9 quarterly meeting this month at the Leland Sr. Center. Many thanks to those members who stepped up to help out.
7. Concerns and Sick Call: Brian Danielson
One of our members is having surgery. Chaplain Danielson will be checking in on them.
8. Service Officer Update: Lane Adrian
Lane talked again about an initiative by the VA who is working on a policy which will pay for ER visits for veterans and will reimburse veterans for ER costs who have been denied in the past. He also mentioned that First Alert Urgent Care on Village Road in Leland has been approved by the VA to give care to Veterans and has 24 hour support. Lane said that the director of the Leland Sr. Center is putting on a breakfast for veterans on November 8th @ 9am. Finally, Lane indicated that veterans can get signed up with the VA healthcare system using the 1010EZ form which can be found online: https://www.va.gov/vaforms/form_detail.asp?FormNo=10EZ

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Post flag and banner replacements (and other logo materials): Commander
 - We are working on logo materials with our new post name to include a flag and banner.
 - Jacket orders need at least 6 orders before submitting
2. Oratorical Contest: Commander
 - Kicking off this year for Post 68. Saturday Jan 11th will be the Post contest
 - Commander is looking for volunteers to be coaches, work with the contest and get ideas for local judges
3. Tri-Folds update: Richard Fry 250 have been printed with new Post name
4. Proper Paperwork (from Dept Bulletin, Oct 2019: Dodge
This article was in the Oct Dept Newsletter:

Please encourage all of your members to get their military records and information in order, so when the time comes, the proper honors that they have earned and deserve, will be carried out. Be sure to write down their desires and along with their discharge papers, store in a safe place and advise your relatives where they can be found. These need to be turned over to the appropriate funeral director and they will handle everything from the honor guard to the military head stone.

5. Officer resignation: 2nd Vice Commander: Commander Art Dietrich, our 2nd Vice Commander has resigned his position as he feels he cannot properly fulfill his duties. A search for a replacement will be forthcoming.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES:

Completed events:

1. SCC Expo: Lane Adrian
2. Fish Fry: John Hacker. Successful event. Will be rescheduled for the Spring timeframe. Lead is needed
3. WARM Rebuilding Ministry luncheon: Attended by Richard Fry and Lane Adrian
 - Big event. ~ 300 people attended. Lots of presentations were made
 - They do more work in Brunswick County than any of their other 2 counties
 - The group will go in and make a home "safe". IE: Replaced an HVAC system, put in ramps
 - Organization is run via donations and some federal aid
 - 156 families were services this past year
 - They have a training program for volunteers

Upcoming Events:

1. Department Fall Conference Oct 18,19: Commander
 - Being attended by Adjutant Dodge
2. Trunk or Treat Oct 26th: Dan Dodge
 - Setup at 2ish, Event runs 4pm to 6pm
 - Theme is Pirates.
 - Event will be called off if it rains
3. BELK Sale – Nov 9th: Commander:
 - We are selling tickets in the stores again. See Dale for additional tickets
4. Brunswick Forest Club Fair – Nov 8th
5. Veterans day breakfast – Leland Sr, Center – Nov 8th, 9am
6. Veterans Day Parade – Nov 9th
 - Staging at 10:15 corner of Red Cross and Front Streets in Wilmington
 - This being the 100th anniversary of the American Legion, Post 68 color guard will be leading the parade followed by marchers, the float, Riders and vehicles.
 - Info on car pools, etc. will be forthcoming from Jim Zelenski
7. Post membership appreciation picnic – Nov 10th – John Marone
 - Brunswick Forest Commons area. Please bring dish to pass.
8. Brunswick Riverwalk Veterans Memorial Dedication: Nov 11th 11am – 1pm
 - Dan Dodge will be attending
9. Mallory Creek Vendor Fair: Nov 16th
10. Pasta Dinner fundraiser November 21st: Patty Kelley
 - Ticket sales are underway. Volunteers needed for ticket and to work the event. 2 seatings
11. Post 68 Name Change reception: Dec 14th
12. Post 68 Oratorical Contest: Jan 11th: Judges and coordinators needed

Note: Signup sheets were sent around for several events. If you would like to participate, please just email the Adjutant and he will get your name to the proper person: adjutant@ncpost68.org

MISC. ITEMS:

Commanders Comments:

Member Comments:

Lou Tranzillo indicated he went to Indianapolis and drove by the American Legion national headquarters building where there are several impressive monuments.

Dan Fortini talked about a book: Normandy, 75 years later

Meeting Wrap-up:

Guest Speaker for November meeting: none – Pasta Dinner

Next Officers Meeting: 1pm on Nov 14th @ Shelmore pool area

Next Membership Meeting: Nov 21st – Pasta Dinner fund raiser

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

Adjourned at: 1945 hours

50/50: Was won by: Roger Davis with \$35 back to the Post