



# American Legion Post 68

## Post Membership Meeting Minutes – MAY 12th, 2022 Meeting held at Blossoms Restaurant, Leland, NC / Zoom

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COMPILED BY: Daniel Dodge, Adjutant  
APPROVED BY: John Hacker, Commander  
Convened: 1800  
Adjourned: 1902

Total Attendance: 38\*  
Officers and Staff: 11\*\*  
Members: 36\*\*\*  
Guests: 2      Zoom: 3

\*Concurred

\*\***Officers & Staff Absent:** Jim Zelenski, Finance, Brian Danielson-Historian, Wilson Tart-SgtAtArms, Dale Todd-AtLarge, Richard Fry-AtLarge

\*\*\*Includes Officers AND newly signed members

**Officers in Attendance:** John Hacker-Commander, Dan Fortini-1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Jamie Becker-2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander, Dan Dodge-Adjutant, Lane Adrian-Service Officer, Lou Tranzillo-Chaplain, Alan Simmons-Judge Advocate Elliott Koppel-At Large, John Marone-Logistics, Eric Terashima-PAO, Rob Penwell-Membership

### REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Commander

**Chaplin's Opening Prayer:** Chaplin - Lou Tranzillo – Special prayer for Memorial Day

**POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony:** Sergeant at Arms – (Jamie Becker-Pro tem)

**Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble:** All Members

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### CURRENT Business:

Approval of prior meeting minutes: Motion made/seconded and passed by unanimous vote of members present to approve meeting minutes of prior month's membership meeting as previously published and distributed.

Introduction of New Members and Guests: Rob Penwell-membership

Two guests this evening:

Turner Bond – USMC  
Dempsey Eason - USA

Guest Speakers:

None – Post elections

**Membership Report:** Dan Dodge As of end of April, 2022

- 1 new members: Christensen
- 0 new transfer in:
- 0 transfer out:
- 1 Post Everlasting: Carter, John
- 7 Renewal for 2022

CATEGORY	STATS
Prior Months Membership:	241
New Members	1
Transfers IN:	4
Transfers OUT:	0
Reinstatements:	0
Resignations:	0
Post Everlasting:	1
Active Members:	245
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Membership renewed %	82.4%
Increase in % over prior month	29.0%
Membership not renewed %	17.6%
2021/22 Membership Goal	192
Progress Dept Goal %	105.2%

**Financial Report:** Jim Zelenski, Finance Officer

- Please turn in expenses as soon as possible
- Be sure to get approval from Commander, Finance Officer or Adjutant before incurring ANY expenses

Beginning Balance: \$10,793.61 April 1 2022  
 Ending Balance: \$10,410.44 April 30 2022

Highlights:

- Membership renewal deposits/payments
- Quilt, hat, fish fry, and basket ticket sales and donations
- Purchase of 32 hats
- WAA checks
- Insurance annual renewals
- JROTC award winners

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Post 68 2022 Elections status: Dodge

May is when our Post bylaws indicate that Post members must vote on incoming elected officer positions. Currently, our slate of officers for both elected and appointed positions has only 1 candidate per position. Judge Advocate Alan Simmons made a motion that since there is only a single candidate for each position, the Adjutant should cast 1 unanimous vote for the entire slate of officers. Motion was seconded by Herb Moore. A

vote taken via show of hands was unanimous in favor of the motion. Motion passed and Adjutant cast 1 vote for all officers running for election. Elections were then closed. Next action is for the installation of officers. Commander Hacker also indicated that the Election Committee had completed its duties and could stand down.

3/31/2022		<b>Post 68 Officer Elections - 2022/2023</b>		
Position	Incumbent	Candidate	Candidate	REMARKS
Commander	John Hacker	John Hacker		Elected Position
1st Vice Commander	Dan Fortini	Dan Fortini		Elected Position
2nd Vice Commander	Jamie Becker*		Rob Penwell	Elected Position
Finance Officer	Jim Zelenski	Jim Zelenski		Elected Position
Post Historian	Brian Danielson		Eric Mens	Elected Position
Post Chaplain	Lou Tranzillo	Lou Tranzillo		Elected Position
Sergeant At Arms	Wilson Tart		Jamie Becker	Elected Position
Member at Large	Richard Fry*		Jim McAvoy	Elected Position
Member at Large	Dale Todd*		Marty Keck	Elected Position
Member at Large	Elliott Koppel	Elliott Koppel		Elected Position
Position	Incumbent	Appointed		REMARKS
Adjutant	Dan Dodge	Dan Dodge		Appointed Position
Service Officer	Lane Adrian	Lane Adrian		Appointed Position
Judge Advocate	Alan Simmons	Alan Simmons		Appointed Position
Logistics Officer	John Marone	John Marone		Appointed Position
Public Relations	Eric Terashima*		Tony Schirillo	Appointed Position
Membership	Rob Penwell*		Eddie Jenkins	Appointed Position

2. Convention Delegates: Adjutant Dodge explained that Post 68 was allowed 5 votes at the annual Department Convention in June. The Post must provide a list of official delegates to the Department by May 30<sup>th</sup>. Also, Post 68 bylaws indicate that Post members must approve the list of delegates who are allowed to cast votes and represent the Post at the Annual Convention. Dodge read the list of proposed delegates: John Hacker, Dan Dodge, Dan Fortini, Lane Adrian and Dale Todd. All of these Post members and officers will be attending the Convention. Dodge made a motion to accept the list of 5 delegate names. The motion was seconded and approved by a unanimous show of hands vote by members present.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

none

## **OFFICER REPORTS:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: Dan Fortini: See Blood Drive and Fish Fry comments
  - Fortini mentioned that our Service Officer Lane Adrian goes above and beyond the call of duty to help local veterans. He suggested that we setup a list of members with skills so we have a goto list of names to help with carpentry, etc. Those who know what to do and who can help out.
  - Fortini also congratulated fellow Post member Eric Terashima on his primary win for a seat in the Carolina House
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Jamie Becker: BSL for May was held with the help of Jerry Wolf. Event ended early due to rain. \$163 collected. We also have collected \$430 in quilt ticket sales with 1 more month to go  
We did pull the winner of the Spring basket raffle. Winner was Angel Flores of Boiling Spring Lakes
- Service Officer Update: Lane Adrian –
  - Visited veteran from Walmart parking lot with Service Officer from Post 543. Veteran is in detox and will graduate from the program this month

- Assisted with a wheel chair ramp installation
- Looking for volunteers to help painting a deck for a 100 year old WWII veteran
- Chaplain Update: Lou Tranzillo: Discussed upcoming Poppy Day activities. 4 locations. Will send out confirmation emails to all those who have signed up
- PAO Update: – Tony Schirillo has been working to get news and events out to local media organizations
- Logistics Update: John Marone: Got hats!
- Sergeant at Arms:
- Legion Riders Report: Lane Adrian – Riders fundraiser at Harley Davidson was a success despite the rain. Thanked those Rider members who came out in support of this event
- Adjutant Update: Dan Dodge
- Webmaster: Eric Terashima: Walter Fair will be starting to support the website
- At-Large Officer Updates: Dale Todd / Elliott Koppel / Richard Fry
- Additional Officer Updates:

## **CURRENT ACTIVITIES: Check our website calendar for details and info!**

Note: Due to time constraints, we did not review all events completed and upcoming. Additional known information has been added to this list of events..... **See details at end of minutes for upcoming events**

### **APRIL EVENTS: COMPLETED**

- **Elections:** Freeze ballot April meeting – Dodge
- **Elderhaus visit on 4/4?**
- **Leland Sr center visit:** 4/6 – Simmons and Adrian
- **JROTC awards:** April 11<sup>th</sup>: Hacker/Fortini/Todd
- **Fish Fry:** 23<sup>rd</sup> April: Fortini
  - There was a total of \$4319 in overall sales
  - We had a net profit of \$3233 from this event
  - We got 1 application for membership
  - This will be Dan Fortini's last fish fry for a while. Eric Terashima will step up to lead the next one
- **BSL:** Cancelled

### **MAY EVENTS:**

- District 9 meeting: May 7<sup>th</sup> @ Blossoms Post 68 hosting
  - Meeting was attended by 24 Legion members representing 9 of 19 District posts
  - This was the last District meeting for Dale Smith who very much appreciated the lunch he sponsored
- **Riders fundraiser:** 5/14
- **Blood drive:** May 13<sup>th</sup> – Fortini
  - 58 pints were collected with 12 Post members supporting the event
  - The Red Cross has indicated that Post 68 is one of the largest area groups helping support blood drives

- BCC has indicated they would like assistance from Post 68 to setup and run their own blood drive to be lead by BCC Veteran Services. Post 68 plans to partner with them but they will own the process and the event
  - Thanks to Rob Penwell for procuring 2 golf carts from Magnolia Greens to help shuttle donors
  - Thanks to Dr Ludwig dental office for the use of their parking lot
- **Poppy Day:** May 27<sup>th</sup> - Tranzillo
  - **Memorial Day – Flags at Cemeteries** May 30<sup>th</sup> – Cook/Hacker. Hacker getting wreath. VFW will accompany us during this event. 9am at First Baptist Church of Leland on Village Road
- >>>> Bring Water, Bug Spray, Sun Screen and a screwdriver (in case the ground is hard)
- **Post Elections:** May meeting - Dodge
  - **BSL-** Cancelled for May 14<sup>th</sup> – ~~CANCELLED~~ Will do this May 14<sup>th</sup> (Jamie)
  - **Pancake Breakfast for members:** 29 May: Zelenski/Simmons Need RSVP's FREE!
  - **Oratorical Contest kickoff for next year: De Moya** – John to talk to Dale

### Upcoming Events: June

1. Flag Collection: June 4<sup>th</sup>, Brunswick Forest Commons – Fortini **(TO BE RESCHEDULED)**
2. BSL: June 4<sup>th</sup>: (May or may not happen)
3. Annual Dept of NC Convention: Raleigh – June 9-12 Selected members

Note: Magnolia Greens July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade has been canceled. There may be other events.....

## MISC. ITEMS:

### Commanders Comments:

- We applied for and won a \$1000 grant from ATMC/FOCUS to be used towards the Suicide Awareness program
- Our hosting of the District 9 meeting was a great success. District Commander Dale Smith sent a thank you note and appreciated what Post 68 did for his last official District meeting
- We received a donation of \$1000 from Post member Nan York to be put towards Youth programs
- Leland VFW Post 12196 will join Post 68 during cemetery flag placements
- The New Hanover Country Rental Assistance program has now come into Brunswick County. This happened in part because Post 68 and other Legion Posts have helped with homeless surveys. Yet another resource to help those in need.

### Member Comments:

- Bea and Joe Frost have been busy cutting out stars from flags. They have about 1000 of them
- Ulysses Jenkins talked about a veteran friend who will benefit from a bill just passed

## NEXT MEETING:

Next Officers Meeting: June 9th, 1pm via Zoom

Next Membership Meeting: June 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm – Primary business will be installation of Officers

**Closing Ceremony and Chaplain's Closing Prayer:**

Meeting Adjourned at: 1902 hours

**50/50:**

No 50/50 was done at this meeting

See additional documentation from this meeting and this month as addendums to these minutes.

**UPCOMING POST 68 EVENT DETAILS: Sign up for events on our Post Website: <http://NCPost68.org>**

<b>Poppy Day</b>		Fri, May 27th	9am - 2pm
LEAD:	Lou Tranzillo	910-383-9746	ltranzillo@bellsouth.net
LOCATION:	4 locations: Piggly Wiggly, Shores Car Wash, Bridgewater Wines and Ace Hardware		
WHAT?:	Public awarness of veteran sacrifices		
SETUP TIME:	8am	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:	15+
EXPECTATIONS:	Give out poppies and collect any donations		

<b>Membership Pancake Breakfast</b>		Sunday, May 29th	7am - 11am
LEAD:	Zelenski/Simmons	301-535-1120	afblueberet7494@gmail.com
LOCATION:	Commons building, Brunswick Forest Parkway		
WHAT?:	Breakfast for members and spouses		
SETUP TIME:	6am	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:	5+
EXPECTATIONS:	Members getting together, having a good time		

<b>Memorial Day Flag Placement - Graves</b>		Monday, May 30th	9am - 11am
LEAD:	TBD		
LOCATION:	Meet at First Baptist Church on Village Road in Leland then car pool to other cemeteries		
WHAT?:	Recognizing past veterans		
SETUP TIME:	9am	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:	15+
EXPECTATIONS:	Honoring of departed veterans in our community		

# PHOTOS from COMPLETED EVENTS FROM APRIL 2022:



<< Simmons/Adrian at Sr. Center lunch

Crissy from BCC >>



Josh London, March Speaker >>



<<<< Fish Fry



RAMP INSTALL

Blood Drive >>>>>

