

**MEETING MINUTES  
POST 68, DEPARTMENT OF NC  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

COMPILED BY: Eric Mens, Adjutant

DATE: October 19, 2016

APPROVED BY: Jim Zelenski, Commander

Total Attendance: 33	Convened: 19:00
Officers: 6	Adjourned: 21:00
Members: 25*	* Including Officers
Guests: 8**	** Excluding spouses

---

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**NOTE:** The meeting was conducted in PowerPoint presentation. Members who wish to receive a copy of the slide presentation may do so by e-mailing the Adjutant at [armyvet6770@gmail.com](mailto:armyvet6770@gmail.com)

**Presentation of Colors:** John Marone, Supply Officer and Acting Sergeant at Arms

**Chaplain's Prayer:** Brian Danielson, Chaplain

**MIA POW:** John Marone, Supply Officer and Acting Sergeant at Arms

**Call to Order:** Jim Zelenski, Commander

**Officers Roll Call:** A quorum is present (6 out of 9) – Excused Absence: L. Adrian, A. Simmons, and KC White

**Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble:** All

**Introduction of New Members or Guests:** Kathy McDonough recognized as new Membership Committee Chair. Recognized Tom Cerniglia, Commander, District 9. Eight guests, including 4 new members and 1 transfer-in.

**Concerns and Sick Call:** None noted.

**Speaker -** Due to Hurricane Matthew Relief efforts, our Red Cross speaker was unavailable.

**Current Business:**

- **Approval of September 21, 2016 minutes** – Minutes previously e-mailed to members. *Minutes approved.*
- **Financial Report** - Greg Miller, Financial Officer: September 30, 2016, General Fund Ending Balance - \$4,234.91 (copy of report attached). *Financial Report for September 2016 approved.*
- **Membership Report** – See “Introduction of New Members or Guests (above). Need additional volunteers to help Kathy scrub lists, follow-up contact with “Guests,” help with attendance, etc. Difference in National versus our records is 14 members. National roster shows 80 active (2016 & 2017) members. Our records show 94 active (2016 & 2017) members, including 11 additional resulting from the recent District 9 Revitalization campaign. According to our Post records to date, **54 members have paid 2017 dues, 37 members have not yet paid 2017 dues.** We have two PUFL members and one Honorary Life Member. Commander Cerniglia commented that he is aware of the problems associated with updating membership information between Post records, State, and National (some of which may be attributable to technology issues/needs). Further, he would work to try to reduce those problematic issues if he succeeded in his bid for Division Commander (he is giving up his District position to run for Division Commander - an increase from 19 to 83 Posts).

**Briefing Vet to Vet (V2V) Program – Eric Mens**

Briefing on the background of the program, its structure, goals, and how to volunteer. Our Post continues to work with Post 543 to initiate our Post participation with Post 543 in the established V2V program at Brunswick Community College. A Post 543 trained and experienced volunteer will conduct training for our interested members at *Greg Miller's*

home on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM (2089 Shelmore Way, Leland, Phone 518-894-3437). Lane Adrian is our focal point on V2V and members interested in volunteering for the program must contact Lane at laneadrian@att.net ASAP.

Commander Cerniglia interjected several points on the program's value and also, UNCW's interest in establishing a similar program in Wilmington (in collaboration with Post 10). Also addressed: Congressman Rouzer's sponsorship of a 1-day event in March 2017 to work with the VA and veterans in reducing the backlog of local VA disability claims; continuing effort to work with UNCW graduate student on a grant to obtain a mobile unit fitted with showers and limited medical/dental capability to help address the issue of Brunswick County homeless veterans; lastly, Chadburn and Fair Bluffs Posts are in trouble from Hurricane Matthew and will need our help in providing needed support to get those Posts back on their feet.

#### Old Business:

- **Winter Stand Down** (Oct 1<sup>st</sup>) - The Commander thanked our Post members who participated in this event.
- **Trunk or Treat** - Oct 29<sup>th</sup>, 4-6 PM with setup beginning at 1 PM. We will be decorating a truck and handing out candy to children. Expect between 1,500 and 2,000 children. Members are requested to donate candy.
- **Veterans Day Breakfast** - Leland Cultural Arts Center (1212 Magnolia Way), 8:30-1030 AM, November 11, 2016. We will have an information/recruitment table set up (need volunteers to man). Veterans may bring a spouse or significant other. *Call (910) 383-0553 to confirm your attendance.*
- **Spaghetti Fund Raiser Dinner** - In lieu of a Post meeting on November 16<sup>th</sup>, two seatings: 5-6:30 PM and 7-8:30 PM. Tickets are on sale now for \$12 (half goes to Macgrooders). Members need to sell at least 200 tickets
- **Canopy Purchase** - Heavy-duty canopy has been delivered (\$481 previously approved). We may want to purchase a wheeled carrying bag in the near future.
- **Post Flags and Color Guard** – Greg Miller is the Chair of the Post Color Guard. *Contact Greg (518-894-3437) to join the Color Guard.* Eric Mens did a price analysis of flag/equipment needs based upon information gleaned from the American Legion's Flag and Emblem online store and online quotes obtained and provided by Greg Miller. The American Legion store appears to be the best-priced store. ***Discussion followed, with Post members ultimately voting to approve a ceiling of \$650 for the total purchase of flags and related items.*** The price analysis and backup data was provided to the Supply Officer (John Marone) for subsequent action.
- **Update on Post 68 Shirts** – Post 68 shirts are available in short or long sleeve for purchase or order. John also displayed two varieties of Post jackets and members voted to make available one version for members to purchase. Cost of the jackets is \$40. *To order and pay, contact John Marone, Supply Officer, at 914-403-5326.*

#### New Business:

- **Standing Committees and Position Vacancies** –

Membership Committee - Kathy McDonough - Chair, K.C. White, John Marone

Fund Raising Committee - Greg Miller - Chair

JROTC Committee - Pete Erbe - Chair, Lou Tranzillo - Co Chair

Adopt a Vet - Alan Simmons - Chair

North Brunswick High School Rifle Team - Pete Erbe – Chair

Events Committee – Chair – Mary Skov

Flag Retirement Ceremony Committee – Bobby Hunt

We still need:

Second Vice Commander

Historian

Membership Committee, Members

Color Guard Committee, Members

Flag Retirement Ceremony Committee, Members

Events Committee, Members

- **Information and Decision on Boys and Girls State** – Briefed by Rick de Moya who has former experience with the Program, this is a one-week leadership program in June for rising high school seniors. Cost is \$350 for boys and \$400 for girls. The Post, based upon factors such as grades, community service, leadership, etc., would vet

applicants. More information and Departmental guidance will be available in December 2016. Posts have until May 1, 2017 to market the programs and submit applications for selected students. Rick indicated that we could send a girl to Girls State with the understanding that Posts that have an Auxiliary will get first preference at filling slots (historically, these slots have been left unfilled). Bill Kous has volunteered to help with the Program.

***Following a brief discussion, including participation in Girls State, the membership agreed that we should proceed with developing the Program at our Post.***

- Mary Skov, our Service Officer and Events Chairperson, briefly spoke about her involvement in the Concerned Veterans for America and its stated focus on meaningful veterans-related legislation.
- **Holiday Bows Fundraiser** – The Spousal Support Group will sell holiday bows as follows:  
Nov 5th, 10:00am-4:00pm - Craft Fair at the Brunswick forest Fitness & Wellness Center  
Nov 19th, 10:00am-5:00pm - Lowes Grocery Store at the Villages in Brunswick Forest  
Dec 3rd, 10:00am-5:00pm - Piggly Wiggly at 112 Village Road in Leland
- **Leland Christmas Parade scheduled for December 10, 2016** - Our decision to participate in the parade and/or Festival is dependent upon: someone stepping up to lead the effort for our participation, adequate member interest in marching in the parade, and adequate member interest in manning a booth. Let the Commander know ASAP if you are willing to step up in any capacity, OTHERWISE we default to NOT participate.

**50/50** - Pot \$71, Steve Baker donated his share (\$35) to the Post Flag Fund.

**Closing Formalities** – Next Post Meeting December 14 at Macgrooders.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 20:17      Minutes Compiled by: *Eric Mens*, Adjutant

Leland Post 68 American Legion  
Leland, N.C. 28451  
September 2016 Statement  
As of 9/30/16

Total Fund Balance brought from August

\$4207.41

DATE Posted	TRANSACTION	DEPOSIT GENERAL FUND	DEBIT GENERAL FUND	DEPOSIT POPPY FUND	DEBIT POPPY FUND	DEPOSIT FLAG FUND	BAL. FLAG FUND	BAL. GENERAL FUND	BAL. POPPY FUND
8/31/16	BALANCE						\$369.50	\$2,486.01	\$1,351.90
9/06/16	Check from State for online dues, and PUFL	\$43.50						\$2,529.51	
9/08/16	Check #1072 To State for Membership dues		\$55.00					\$2,474.51	
9/12/16	Hats	\$45.00						\$2519.51	
Founder Day	Paintings 50/50					\$130.00	\$499.50		
	Poppy Fund			\$103.45		\$122.00	\$621.50		\$1455.35
	Spousal support Group	\$258.75						\$2778.26	
	1 membership	\$40.00						\$2818.26	
9/20/16	Check #1073 Bob Hunt hat rack		\$61.11					\$2757.15	
9/22/16	50/50	\$52.00						\$2809.15	
	Flag (K.C. Donation)					\$25.00	\$646.50		
	Tee Shirts	\$371.00						\$3180.15	
	Memberships	\$360.00						\$3540.15	
9/22/16	Check #1075 Jim Z, for poppies		\$89.95					\$3450.20	
9/22/16	Check #1077 Gift card for Speaker \$25, Cookies for Mtg. \$15.99, Trunk or Treat Décor \$8.00		\$48.99					\$3401.21	
9/23/16	Check #1074 The Logo Shoppe, Shirts		\$484.65					\$2916.56	
9/27/16	Check #1078 11-Members Dues		\$302.50					\$2614.06	
9/28/16	Check #1076 Post Tent		\$481.00					\$2133.06	
	TOTAL						\$646.50	\$2133.06	\$1455.35

\$4234.91