



American Legion Post 68

In-person and online Meeting Meeting Minutes – May 20th, 2021 at 1800 hours

COMPILED BY: Daniel Dodge, Adjutant

APPROVED BY: John Hacker, Commander

Convened: 1800

Adjourned: 1920

Total Attendance: 26*

Officers and Staff: 11**

Members: 25***

Guests: 1 Zoom(online): 3

*Concurred

****Officers & Staff Absent:** Lane Adrian-Service Officer, Brian Danielson-Historian

***Includes Officers AND newly signed members

Officers in Attendance: John Hacker-Commander, Dan Fortini-1st Vice Commander, Jamie Becker-2nd Vice Commander, Dan Dodge-Adjutant, Jim Zelenski-Finance Officer, Lou Tranzillo-Chaplain, Dale Todd-At Large, Lane Adrian-Service Officer, Bill Smith-Sergeant at Arms, John Marone-Logistics Officer, Richard Fry-PAO, Eric Terashima-Web Master

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Call to Order: **Commander**

Chaplain's Opening Prayer: **Chaplain**

POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony: **Sergeant at Arms**

Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble: **All**

CURRENT Business:

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

Guest Speakers: None this evening

Introduction of New Members and Guests: Dan Fortini-1st Vice – No new guests to report

Membership Report: Dan Fortini, Dan Dodge

Membership metrics as of: April 20th 2021

POST 68 MEMBERSHIP STATUS	As of 4/30/21
Prior Month total membership:	230
New members since prior month	5
Transfer-in since prior month	0
Transfer-out since prior month	-1
Deceased Members	0
Current Total Post Membership:	234

POST 68 MEMBERSHIP STATUS	As of 4/30/21
Number of Assigned Members	234
Number with Paid Dues	194
Number with Unpaid Dues	40
Number of PUFL members	14
Number HLM members	2
Members unpaid/not renewing	6

Financial Report: Jim Zelenski, Finance Officer

Poppy Fund Balance = \$1377. Account started the year out at \$2000. All funds from Poppy Fund account are earmarked for direct support of Veterans.

TRANSACTION						
TYPE	DATE	TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	Line Item	CREDIT	BALANCE
	31-Mar-21					13,275.27
DEBIT	2-Apr-21	Check #1027 Coastal Seafood - Fish Fry	337.00	4001.01		12,938.27
DEBIT	5-Apr-21	Check #1028 to William Krzyk, 30 Veteran Masks	47.80	4004		12,890.47
DEBIT	6-Apr-21	Check #1022 to Dale Todd, NBHS Rifle Team Re-imbusement for Lumber	321.04	5005.05		12,569.43
DEBIT	15-Apr-21	Check #1029 to Jim Zelenski, Golf Cooler Bag Items, two receipts: \$9.51, \$6.97 and \$9.00 cash to purchase 9 scratch off lottery tickets.	25.48	4002.03		12,543.95
DEBIT	16-Apr-21	Check #1031 Dale Todd, Plaque JEJ Scholarship Winner	59.68	5005.04		12,484.27
CREDIT	15-Apr-21	\$83.00 Two Members (Paulson's) dues via PayPal; minus \$2.71 PayPal fees: Net \$80.29.		4000	80.29	12,564.56
CREDIT	19-Apr-21	Cash (\$80.00 & one check (\$40.00) deposit: \$120.00 - 3 members dues; \$255.00 Golf Basket; \$125.00 post shirts; \$30.00 service hats; Masks \$25.00; Donations \$20.00 and \$70.00 - 50/50 raffle.		4000, 4002.03, 4004, 4003, & 4002.01	645.00	13,209.56
DEBIT	16-Apr-21	On line order from Amazon via Post Debit Card for 6 zippered plastic pouches to hold cash and check donations from fund raising activities, Hacker approved 16 Apr 21	10.66	5000		13,198.90
DEBIT	16-Apr-21	DEBIT Card Charge, Eric Terashima FaceBook Ads Setup	5.34	5001.04		13,193.56
DEBIT	17-Apr-21	DEBIT Card Charge, Eric Terashima FaceBook Ads Setup	0.11	5001.04		13,193.45

CREDIT	20-Apr-21	Mobile deposit of check; one member dues, Jim Thompson.		4000	40.00	13,233.45
DEBIT	20-Apr-21	Post membership renewals, internet payment	137.50	4000		13,095.95
DEBIT	15-Apr-21	Check #1030 to John Hacker for AL birthday celebration cake and paper plates.	30.56	5003.04		13,065.39
DEBIT	23-Apr-21	Check #1032 Tuition is \$75.00 x 3 = \$225.00 for three to attend Girls State.	225.00	5005.01		12,840.39
DEBIT	24-Apr-21	DEBIT Card Charge, Eric Terashima FaceBook Ads	10.00	5001.04		12,830.39
DEBIT	24-Apr-21	DEBIT Card Charge, Eric Terashima FaceBook Ads	15.00	5001.04		12,815.39
DEBIT	20-Apr-21	Check #1037 to Dan Dodge, Zoom Meeting Fees, 3 months.	31.47	5001.06		12,783.92
CREDIT	27-Apr-21	Cash deposit: Hats, \$40.00, Masks, \$15.00, Golf Basket \$30.00, Donations: \$155.00		4004, 4002.03, 4003	240.50	13,024.42
DEBIT	27-Apr-21	Check #1038 P.O. Box Rental Fee, One (1) Year	118.00	5001.01		12,906.42
DEBIT	16-Apr-21	Check #1034 Parker Lundy, \$100.00 for Military Excellence Winner	100.00	5005.04		12,806.42
DEBIT	29-Apr-21	Check #1039 to Alan Simmons, Legion Riders Signs	101.11	5001.04		12,705.31
Ending Balance		As of 31 May 21				12,705.31

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Post Elections:** Dan Dodge – Dodge explained how Post elections process works. During our April meeting, the membership voted to freeze the ballot on our slate of elected officers. Now, during our May meeting, Post membership has the responsibility to cast their votes for those members running for office. Since there are no contested positions (IE: 1 candidate per elected position), a motion was made by Dale Todd that the Adjutant be requested to cast 1 unanimous vote for the entire slate of elected officers. Motion was seconded. Members present and online voted unanimously to elect into office, the entire slate of candidates for elected officer positions as published. There were no dissenting votes. Motion passed. Adjutant then cast a single vote in favor of entire slate of elected officers. John Hacker, incoming Commander then reported on assignments for appointed positions. All officers will be installed during our June meeting by District 9 Commander Dale Smith. ******(See slate of officers both appointed and elected appended to these minutes).
- 2. JROTC status:** Dale Todd. Todd talked about presentation of Military and Scholastic Excellence medal presentations to NBHS JROTC students along with the presentation of the Post's John E Jacobs Scholarship. Post Commander Hacker along with 1st Vice Fortini met with Col Baker to present the awards. Todd also indicated that the NBHS JROTC will be dedicating their new building soon. JROTC have already received an awards board and rifle racks thru donations and work from the Post, Kiwanis and the Brunswick Forest Wood Working Club. Bench seats are currently in the works.

For Boys and Girls state, Post 68 is sponsoring 1 boy and 3 for girls state.

Cadet Captain Andrew Powers: The John E. Jacobs Scholarship of \$500 and recognition plaque. This scholarship is awarded on an annual basis to the NBHS JROTC Cadet who has participated full time in official JROTC functions, classes, and drills, has maintained the highest scholastic ranking, and exhibited outstanding qualities of leadership, citizenship, patriotism, and community or religious service. He was selected for the award based on a very detailed application and his essay "What it means to be a model citizen". CPT Powers is a Senior at NBHS. He has been accepted at two colleges including East Carolina University. At this time, he is awaiting news on his entrance into the ROTC program before he makes a decision.

This scholarship is named in honor of PFC John E. Jacobs, U.S. Army, killed in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam on 1 November 1968. PFC Jacobs was the only Leland, NC resident killed in action during the Vietnam War.

Cadet First Lieutenant Solomon Smith: The John E. Jacobs American Legion Post 68 JROTC Scholastic Excellence Award of \$100 and Certificate of Excellence. The recipient of this award shall have maintained the highest ranking in Scholastic Excellence during their scholastic year and participated full-time in official functions of the JROTC including classes and drills. 1Lt Smith is a Junior at NBHS and has been accepted into the Army and Air Force Leadership Program this summer.

Cadet Command Sergeant Major Parker Lundy: The John E. Jacobs American Legion Post 68 William F. Walsh Military Excellence Award of \$100 and Certificate of Excellence. The recipient of this award shall have maintained the highest ranking in Military Excellence during their Senior year and participated full-time in official functions of the JROTC including classes and drills. CSM Lundy has enlisted in the Navy. The award for Military Excellence can continue to be worn when the cadet serves on active duty in any branch of uniformed service.

This award is named in honor of Pvt. William F. Walsh, U.S. Army, 30th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, Seventh U.S. Army, awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving as a Medical Aidman in Europe on 27 March 1945.



Left to Right: John Hacker, Post 68 Commander; Dan Fortini, Post 68 1st Vice Commander; Solomon Smith, Parker Lundy, Andrew Powers.

- 3. NC Department Convention Delegates:** Dan Dodge - Each year at the Department of NC annual convention, Posts vote on various resolutions, positions, and other business that requires attention. Posts are allocated “votes” based upon paid membership. Post 68 is allocated 5 votes based on our paid count of 197 members. Per Post bylaws, the membership must vote to allow the Commander or other authorized delegates authority to utilize those votes as the representative sees fit or based upon Post membership wishes. There are 2 resolutions to vote on this year: 1 for the size of committees and another for the creation of a finance commission. The recommendation from the Post PEC is to vote in favor of both resolutions. A motion was made by Dodge then seconded to allow the Commander to utilize all Post votes at the convention as he sees fit. Motion passed by a unanimous vote of members present and those on-line. Four Post officers will be attending the convention this year: Commander Hacker, Adjutant Dodge, 1st Vice Fortini, Service Officer Adrian.

NEW BUSINESS: None during our elections meeting.

OFFICER REPORTS:

1st Vice Commander: Dan Fortini: Flag collection had a good turnout with over 300 flags collected. Our Flag retirement ceremony will be 12 June. The Events Committee is asking for membership assistance with events. We also presented a plaque to Dean Rathburn of Deans Automotive for his support of the Post during our fish fry.



Commander John Hacker and 1st Vice Dan Fortini presented a plaque to Dean Rathburn of Dean's Performance Racing and Automotive

2nd Vice Commander: Jamie Becker: Latest meeting of the Post 68 events committee had 6 present. We are asking members to help out with events. Only an hour or so may be needed but your support always is! BSL Market had a good turn out of members to help out. Next BSL market is June 19th. Also, check page 44 of the June Legion magazine for an article describing Buddy Calls.

Service Officer Update: Lane Adrian – Lane discussed a Dental Care program called Veteran Smiles which is a program in collaboration with the ECU School of Dentistry and the Veteran Smiles Foundation which seeks eligible veterans in NC to receive needed dental care. Vet Smiles is a program for veterans with limited financial means to receive low cost dental services. There will be an event on Sep 24th. This will include all 8 ECU schools across the State. Veterans must be vetted based upon annual income (~ \$40k/yr). About 30 veterans are expected to participate. Post members are asked to forward the names and contact info for anyone who might qualify. Program flyer to be included as attachment to minutes. See Lane for additional information.

Lou: indicated that there are 2 dental insurance programs thru the VA

Hacker: Indicated that veterans with a 100% disability can get dental care thru the VA

Also, food collected at our flag collection event was donated to BFA



Chaplain Update: Lou Tranzillo

Adjutant Update: Dan Dodge:

PAO Update: Richard Fry: We are doing very well getting the word out to local media. Now have content with Spectrum News and various community newsletters. Working with Rob Penwell regarding Wreaths Across American on a letter to local commercial businesses asking for donations. We have had several TV news interviews.

Legion Riders Report: Lane Adrian – Membership is low. We have the absolute minimum number of members to have a charter (5). They are having an event July 10th selling hot dogs at the local Harley dealer

Webmaster: Eric Terashima: Lots of success running ads on our Facebook page. Views from foreign countries even. PLEASE – LIKE, SHARE, COMMENT! Follow Post 68 Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/legion.lelandpost.9>

Additional Officer Updates:

John Marone: Logistics: Let new members know he had Post shirts and hats for sale.

Dale Todd: At-Large Member: Americanism Committee – Has 4 other members and handles youth activities. Would welcome other members participation in this committee.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES:

Completed events: April 2021:

1. Battleship Color Guard walk thru: April 2nd – Alan Simmons
2. Battleship Flag Raising: April 9th – Alan Simmons
3. BSL Market: April 17th – Jamie Becker

May Events:

1. Presentation of Medals & Scholarship to NBHS JROTC Cadets – John Hacker
2. Flag Collection: May 8th – Dan Fortini
3. BSL Market: May 15th – Jamie Becker
4. Poppy Day: May 21st
 - o Poppy day setup (Jim Z) 4 locations.
5. District 9 meeting: May 22nd – John Hacker
6. Blood drive: May 28th – Dan Fortini
7. Cemetery Flag Placement: May 29th – Jim Zelenski / John Cook / John Hacker. Meet at 1st Baptist Church on Village Road in Leland @ 8:45am. Parking lot in back of building
We have a wreath to place on the grave of John E Jacobs with his family
8. Flag Raising / Folding at Battleship: May 30th 10am – 2pm. Please come for a couple of hours

Upcoming Events:

1. Department Annual Convention: June 10 – 12th
2. Flag Retirement Ceremony: June 12th - Dan Fortini We will start about 8pm. Brunswick Forest Commons
3. Girls State: June 14th – 18th
4. Boys State: June 20 – 26
5. Buddy Call. Dan Fortini June/July
This is about making contact with all Post members. More info to come from Dan Fortini
6. Legion College: July 9/10
7. VEAC - TBD
8. Veterans Day Parade: Nov 6th – John Marone: 2 years ago Post 68 lead the parade. It is possible that might happen again. Our storage trailer signage should be done next week.
9. Fish Fry fund raiser - October
10. Wreaths Across America program and sales – Rob Penwell

MISC. ITEMS:

Commanders Comments: Commander indicated he is grateful and honored to be this Post's Commander. The local Community is glad to see our Post doing things and supporting the community. Uses birthday cards as another form of reaching out to members.

Member Comments:

None

NEXT MEETING:

June 17th Live @ Blossoms. No Speaker. Membership vote on slate of officers. We will also utilize Zoom for members who are unable to attend in person. COVID precautions will be taken.

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

Chaplain gave a special Memorial Day prayer

Adjourned at: 1920 hours

50/50:

As of 5/15/21	Post 68 Officer Elections - 2021/2022			
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	Jamie Becker		Elected Position
Finance Officer	Jim Zelenski	Jim Zelenski		Elected Position
Post Historian	Brian Danielson	Brian Danielson		Elected Position
Post Chaplain	Lou Tranzillo	Lou Tranzillo		Elected Position
Sergeant At Arms	*Bill Smith	Wilson Tart		Elected Position
Member at Large	Mike Conners	Richard Fry		Elected Position
Member at Large	Dale Todd	Dale Todd		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	Richard Fry	Eric Terashima		Appointed Position
Membership	Herb More	Rob Penwell		Appointed Position
Webmaster	Dan Dodge	Eric Terashima		Addl Support

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Nomination of eligible North Carolina Veterans for Improved Oral Health

1. Approximately 8% of veterans qualify for dental services within the Veterans Administration health care system. Satisfactory oral health has a direct impact on overall status, including heart disease, a major cause of death.
2. VET SMILES, an initiative based upon collaboration between East Carolina University (ECU) School of Dental Medicine (SoDM), NC Serves, and Veteran Smiles Foundation (VSF), is seeking eligible veterans within North Carolina to participate in an effort to improve their oral health.
3. **VET SMILES is prioritizing veterans with limited financial means who do not qualify for dental care within the VA system.** The veteran must grant consent to have a “means test” completed by NC Serves. ***If the veteran is validated within the ‘low means’ cohort, that information will be shared with both the ECU SoDM and VSF.***
4. Two ECU SoDM community service learning centers (CSLC) are currently providing dental services within the VET SMILES initiative. **The CSLC Brunswick County, located in Bolivia, NC, has a designated footprint that can consider veterans in the following ten counties: Brunswick, Carteret, Columbus, Craven, Duplin, New Hanover, Jones, Onslow, Pender, and Sampson.**
5. Once the veteran has been nominated, validated within the low means cohort, and that information has been provided to the ECU CSLC, the veteran can be scheduled for an initial exam & x-rays. The costs of those initial procedures will be paid by VSF.
6. The implementation of the dental care plan that results from the exam is subject to availability of funds and agreement with the veteran on cost sharing per the VSF financial support policy. In general, VSF expects the veteran to donate 50% of the cost of the dental care plan actions to help “pay it forward” to other veteran care.
7. Nominations, including name and contact data, of eligible veterans should be sent to: davide@vetsmiles.org and jessea@vetsmiles.org

Providers can also use <https://vetsmiles.org/contact> for nominations

8. If the interested veteran does not have access to email, he or she may also contact VSF at either 984.233.3350 (for David E) or 984.233.3297 (for Jesse A). The veteran should be prepared to provide: veteran’s name, date of birth, and contact information including address, and phone number; as well as the care provider who recommended VSF.

104 South White Street, Suite 146 | Wake Forest, NC 27587 | 984.233.3350

Veteran Smiles is a 501c(3) public charity in NC.