



# American Legion

## Post 68

MEETING – April 19, 2018



# Order of Business

- \* **Post Regular Meeting Call to Order**
- \* **Guest Speaker**
- \* **Current Business**
- \* **Old Business**
- \* **New Business**
- \* **50/50**
- \* **Adjournment**

# Call To Order

## Commander:

- \* Announce the meeting is about to open - One rap of the gavel.
- \* Three raps of the gavel and all who are present shall stand at attention.
- \* All - Face the Colors
- \* “Hand salute”
- \* “Two”

# Chaplain's Opening Prayer

- \* Remain standing and uncover**
- \* The Chaplain will offer prayer**

# POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony

**“A POW/MIA empty chair is placed at all official meetings of The American Legion as a physical symbol of the thousands of American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for from all wars and conflicts involving the United States of America. This is a reminder for all of us to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity, the repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defense of liberty, and a full accounting of those missing. Let us rededicate ourselves to this vital endeavor!”**

**Sergeant-at-Arms:**

**Place the POW/MIA flag on the empty chair**

# Pledge of Allegiance

**All:**

**"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."**

**Everyone re-cover**

# Preamble

**For God and Country,  
we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:**

- \* To uphold and defend the constitution of the United States of America:**
- \* To maintain law and order;**
- \* To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;**
- \* To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars;**

# Preamble

- \* To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;**
- \* To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;**
- \* To make right the master of might;**
- \* To promote peace and goodwill on earth;**
- \* To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy;**
- \* To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.**



# Meeting Convened

**Commander:**

**“I now declare American Legion Post No. 68, Department of North Carolina, regularly convened.”**

# Speaker Introduction

## **Intro – Eric Mens**

**Kirsten Crook, Director of Operations  
& Instructor**

**Carolyn Weinzapfel, Office Manager  
and Volunteer & Events Coordinator**

**Horseplay Farms, Bolivia, NC**

# Post 68 Current Business

## MEMBER RECOGNITION – Thanks to:

- **Members who volunteered at the March 22-25, 2018 Veterans Benefits Experience Center (VBEC): Lane Adrian, Gerald Decker, Art Dietrich, Dan Dodge, Richard Fry, Alan Greene, Richard Hollembeak, John Marone, Herb Moore, Alan Simmons, Bill Smith, Jeff Steward, Jim Thompson, Dale Todd, Lou Tranzillo, Jim Zelenski.**
- **Rick de Moya, Pete Erbe, and Bill Kous for their work on ensuring that we were able to sponsor an attendee at Boys State 2018.**

# Post 68 Current Business

## MEMBER RECOGNITION (Cont'd) – Thanks to:

- Rick de Moya, Pete Erbe, and Bill Kous for their work on ensuring that we were able to sponsor an attendee at Boys State 2018.
- Gerald Decker for volunteering to take on the role as Fundraising Chair.
- Dan Dodge for creating the Post 68 Virtual Bulletin Board at <http://www.ncpost68.org/index.php?id=104>

# Post 68 Current Business Membership

**New Members or Guests in attendance - Adjutant**

**Membership Report - Adjutant**

- \* **We currently have 109 members in good standing on our local roster**
  - **Fourteen members were dropped previously for non-payment of 2017 dues**
- \* **The Legion Membership year runs from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – Dec 31<sup>st</sup>**
- \* **Renewals for 2019 will start in July 2018**

# Post 68 Current Business Sick Call and Approval of Minutes

- \* **Sick Call - Chaplain**
- \* **Request to Approve March 15, 2018 Meeting Minutes**
  - **Minutes were e-mailed to members on March 23, 2018**

# Financial Report for March 2018

<b>General Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$4,724.17</b>
<b>Bldg/Contingency Fund</b>	<b>1,088.50</b>
<b>Poppy Fund Balance</b>	<b><u>787.72</u></b>
<b>Total Account Balance</b>	<b>\$6,600.39</b>

# Recent Financial Actions

## Recent Disbursements:

- ✓ \$400 for 2018 Boys State
- ✓ \$100 for two AL Awards
- ✓ \$70 for Annual PO Box renewal



# Other Financial News

## After Action Report - VBEC

- \* **Veterans Benefits Experience Center (VBEC)**
- \* **Post 68 Leads: Dale Todd and Lane Adrian**
- \* **Initial Feedback:**
  - **Held over three days - March 22, 23, and 24, 2018**
  - **At Elks Lodge, 5102 Oleander Drive, Wilmington**
  - **754 veterans served (down from 2017)**
  - **62 Legionnaires volunteered over the three days**
  - **16 Post 68 members volunteered**

# Veterans Issues and Updates

## Post Service Officer

### \* Update on Status of Mr. Cote

- Seabees have completed the Handicap Ramp
- Home Electrical Issues are being addressed this week



# Veterans Issues and Updates

## Post Service Officer

- \* **Local veteran and water utility issue**

- **Brought to our attention at VBEC**

- **Steps taken to date**

- \* **Issue has identified need to have access to legal counsel on an as needed basis, preferably on a “pro bono” basis.**

# Old Post Business Update on Flag Retirement

- \* **Gerald Decker - Event Lead**
- \* **Rehearsal – Saturday, April 21, 2018 at 9 AM, adjacent to Lowes Food, Brunswick Forest**
- \* **Flag Retirement Ceremony scheduled April 28, 2018 at sundown (7:54 PM) The Villages, Brunswick Forest (BF)**
- \* **Spousal Support Group – Host for Coffee and Dessert after the event at BF Commons Room**
- \* **JROTC Color Guard (Rick de Moya/Col. Baker)**
- \* **Need to identify members of the Burn Detail**
- \* **To volunteer, contact Gerald at (706) 424-0830**

# Old Post Business NBHS Updates – Rick de Moya

## \* NBHS Flag Pole Plaza and Freedom Wall

- North Brunswick Kiwanis is the Lead
- Freedom Wall dedication, May 7, 2018 at 4 PM in the NBHS Library
- Still developing partnerships for the Flag Pole Plaza due to complexity/expense
- Flag Pole Plaza – may need to identify different location onsite due to issues with trees

# Old Post Business

## \* Annual Poppy Drive

- **Saturday, May 19 from 8 AM to 2 PM**
- **Food Lion (Mt Misery Road), Port City Java (Brunswick Forest), Piggly Wiggly, and Carolina Shores Car Wash**
- **Volunteer sign up**
- **Contact Jim Zelenski at (301) 535-1120**

# Old Post Business 2018 – 2019 Elections

- \* **Elections will be held May 24th (no speaker)**
- \* **Candidates for Elected Post Positions**
  - \* **Candidate Slate and Bios e-mailed with meeting agenda on March 11, 2018**
  - \* **Any more candidates?**
  - \* **Elections process**
  - \* **Swearing in by District 9 Commander scheduled for June 21, 2018**

# Post 68 Positions Open for Election 2018 - 2019

- \* **Commander**
- \* **Vice Commander**
- \* **Adjutant**
- \* **Finance Officer**
- \* **Post Historian**
- \* **Post Chaplain**
- \* **Post Service Officer**
- \* **Sergeant At Arms**



# Positions – Incumbents – Candidates 2018 -2019 Elections

<b>Position</b>	<b>Incumbent</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
Commander	Jim Zelenski	Dale Todd	Elected Position
Vice Commander	Alan Simmons	Jim Zelenski	Elected Position
2nd Vice Commander	Art Dietrich	Art Dietrich	Appointed Position
Adjutant	Eric Mens	Dan Dodge	Elected Position
Finance Officer	Greg Miller	Judi Buongiorno	Elected Position
Post Historian	Dan Dodge	Gerald Decker	Elected Position
Post Chaplain	Brian Danielson	Brian Danielson	Elected Position
Post Service Officer	Dale Todd	Lane Adrian	Elected Position
Sergeant At Arms	KC White	Bill Smith	Elected Position
Executive Committee	Lou Tranzillo	Lou Tranzillo	Elected Position
Executive Committee	Jim Thompson	Jim Thompson	Elected Position
Executive Committee	Bill Smith	Greg Miller	Elected Position
Logistics Officer	John Marone	John Marone	Appointed Position
Public Relations	Lane Adrian	Richard Fry	Appointed Position
Membership	Kathy McDonough	Kathy McDonough	Appointed Position

As of 12 Mar 2018

# New Post Business - Fundraising

- \* **Wristband Sales at Wilmington Downtown Summer Concert Series**
  - Easy 3-4 hour fundraising opportunity
  - Post 68 was selected for the second year in a row
  - Dan Dodge is the Event Lead
  - Need volunteers to work when we know the date
- \* **Fundraising Chair**
  - Gerald Decker has volunteered
  - Stay tuned for further discussions on fundraising

# New Post Business – Post 68 Awards

- \* **Successful Candidate from NBHS for participation in the 2018 Tarheel Boys State – Santiago Lopez**
- \* **2018 JROTC Awards made to:**
  - \* **AL Military Award - Cadet Captain Bourgeios**
  - \* **AL Academic Award - Cadet Captain Iran Ruiz**
  - \* **Scholarship Award - Cadet Captain Matthew Smith**
- \* **AL Good Citizenship Award – Letter requesting selection and name of awardee was sent to Leland Middle School on April 11, 2018**

# Future Post 68 Business

- \* ***Post 68 Operating Policies and Procedures***
  - ***Officers are working on draft document***
  - ***Will provide procedural guidance***
  - ***Future briefing to membership for adoption by simple majority vote of members in attendance***
- \* ***Other future business***

# Upcoming Events

## ***Mark Your Calendars!***

- \* April 28 – Flag Retirement Ceremony at Sundown  
(Rehearsal April 21)***
- \* May 7 – Dedication of NBHS Freedom Wall (4 PM)***
- \* May 19 – Poppy Drive***
- \* May 24 – Post 68 Elections***
- \* May 26 – Cemetery Flag Placement***
- \* June 21 – Swearing in of New Officers***

# Upcoming Post Meetings

- \* *May 24, 2018 – Elections (No Speaker)*
- \* *June 21, 2018 – Julie Wilsey, Director, ILM (also, swearing in of new Officers)*
- \* *July 19, 2018*
- \* *August 16, 2018*
- \* *September 20, 2018*
- \* *October 18, 2018*
- \* *November 15, 2018*

50/50



# Closing Ceremony

**Commander:**

**“Is there any further business to come before the meeting? If not, the Chaplain will lead us in memorial service.”**

**The Commander gives three raps of the gavel, and members rise, uncover, and stand in silence.**

**Chaplain’s Prayer**



# Closing Ceremony

**Members re-cover and remain standing**

**Commander: “Sergeant-at-arms, recover the POW/MIA flag.”**

**Commander’s Charge:**

**“Until we meet again, let us remember that our obligation to our Country can be fulfilled only by the faithful performance of all duties of citizenship. Let service to the community, state and nation be ever a main objective of The American Legion and its members. Let us be ever watchful of the honor of our Country, our organization and ourselves, that nothing shall swerve us from the path of Justice, Freedom and Democracy.”**

# Closing Ceremony

**Commander:**

**“Hand salute”**

**“Two”**

**Commander:**

**“I now declare this meeting of Leland Post No. 68, The American Legion, Department of North Carolina adjourned.”**

**Commander: One rap of the gavel**