

County Minutes January 6, 2011 at William Merritt Hallock, American Legion Post 155

The meeting opened in the usual Legion manner at 8:00 p.m. by County Commander, Thomas Bergin

Roll call of posts was completed and there was a quorum present. 21 posts were represented.

Roll call of Suffolk County Officers was completed.

Roll call of County Vice Commanders as follows:

1st Division - Joseph Regina – January 20th 8:00 p.m. @ Babylon Post 94

2nd Division – Joseph Sawtelle – January 20th @ Donad C. Munro Post 8:00 P.M.

3rd Division – Eugene Ormandy: January 20th @ William Merritt Hallock Post 8:00 p.m.

4th Division – Malcolm Hendry: February @ **Mitchell Post still to be confirmed**

5th Division – John Dekas, For Dan Stebbins Jan. meeting still to be determined

M/M/S/C to accept the minutes from the December meeting.

Motion made/s/c to suspend the meeting to introduce the Blue Star Mothers for their presentation.

Nassau County Commander Andrew Booth introduced Blue Star Mom President, Cynthia Ventura, who is also a Gold Star Mom. She requested assistance for a post for her group to meet in Suffolk County. There are approximately 134 members. She introduced the two officers she had with her and asked if the county or posts would assist them financially to pay for postage to send packages to soldiers serving overseas. 7 Legions posts volunteered their posts for the Moms to hold their meetings and will make arrangements with the group.

The County meeting continued with welcoming remarks from PCC Robert Shadler

Finance Officers Report, Robin Peppard: The report was read and a M/M/S/C to accept the report.

Chaplains Report , Robert F. Smith III –Four Chaplains ceremony will be held at the Joseph Loeffler Post on February 12th. At 2 p.m. He also requested all posts to send in the names for the Post Everlasting Ceremony be sent to him for the county convention.

Historian Report, Robert Romano – excused

Sgt. at Arms, William Farley – No Report

Adjutant-, 10th Dist. Adjutant Paul R. De Vul – no report

Service Officers Report:PCC Robert Bruggemann: No report at this time

Americanism – Joseph Regina – The essay contest rules were sent to all schools. Let the chairman know what your post is doing for Americanism.

Bowling report – Ray Bohn – Absent

Boy's State – James Beecher – Report is enclosed in the minutes

Budget and Finance, PCC Robert W. Smith – no report at this time

Children and Youth, Anna Gilpin – No report except there will be no Valentines Day raffle.

Convention Chairman- Eugene Hartmann – absent.

County Color Guard – Joe Sawtelle stated that the color guard was present as an Honor Guard for the funeral for Maximo Troche. Maximo served in the Korean war and was a POW and listed as MIA in 1951. His remains were recovered in 1996 and were just identified in 2011. Paul De Vul presented the nearest next of kin with a Gold Star Banner and the Joseph Loeffler Post presented a bible. The Troche family expressed their heartfelt gratitude and were overwhelmed by everything the Legion did for their loved one. All vowed to help veterans in the future.

Credentials – Fred Loucka – absent

Department Commanders visit – PCC Robert Bruggemann – the report was given at a prior meeting

Department Convention, PDVC Art Laufer – It is too early. The info will be distributed when received.

Directory – PCC Robert Shadler - the directory is done and distributed.

Distinguished Guests – PNVC Robert Neville – absent

Employment – open: The Commander has applications to nominate employers to be recognized for hiring veterans

See the Commander if you know of an employer who should be recognized

Gold Star Parents – 10th Adjutant, Paul R. De Vul the luncheon has not been scheduled yet.

Hospital Welfare – Fred Louchka – absent

Judge Advocate – PDVC Art Laufer – nothing to report

Law and Order Joseph Regina – Contact Joe Regina to set up a Law and Order night. One was held at William Merritt Hallock Post and another is scheduled at Sgt. John Sardiello Post on April 1st.

Legionnaire of the Year, P10DC Phil Barczak – Absent.

Legislative Chair PDVC Art Laufer –Legislative Breakfast went well.

Liaison to the Auxiliary – Eugene Carbone – excused.

Membership, Robert Romano –His report was given by Joseph Regina.

Missing in America Vets. John Caldarelli – absent – report given by Robert Santo. 6 Legion Posts attended the interment for 2 veterans without families. Verizon video taped the event. After January 10th Greenlawn Post will be calling all funeral parlors to identify any cremains that have been abandoned. There is a planned interment of possibly 17 cremains on June 14th at Calverton National Cemetery. Urn bearers will be needed and you should wear you Legion caps. More information will follow.

National Commanders Dinner, PCC Bob Smith. The visit be on April 13th at Antons . The cost this year is \$60 p.p. It is a great evening out with a terrific cocktail hour. We should absolutely support the visit this year as the new National Commander is Fang Wong from New York. Suffolk County has seating up front. The first post to take a table of ten will be seated in one of the front tables. **Posts need to step up and provide the number of tickets needed along with the checks AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CONTACT 10TH DIST. ADJUTANT Paul R. De Vul OR PCC ROBERT W SMITH TO RESERVE YOUR SEATING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

National Cemetery – Calverton- William Ness, Paul De Vul – No report at this time.

National Cemetery, Long Island National- Robert W. Smith:The cemetery committee made a request for assistance to replace the defunct sound system that is utilized during ceremonies.

Nominations, PCC Robert Bruggemann has one unofficial one at this time..

Oratorical Report, PCC Robert W. Smith –The Oratorical Contest will be held at the Babylon Post 94. The new date for the County Contest is January 14th at 9 a.m. Be there at 8:30 to support the program. These 7 students put a lot of work into their speeches.

John T. Digilo Jr. The 10th District contest will be held in Suffolk on January 21st 930 to 1:30. And it will be held at the West Islip Post.

P10DC Phil Barczak – The Zone Oratorical Contest will be held in the Elmont Memorial Library on Feb. 4th at 10:00 a.m.

Parlimaentarian: PDVC Art Laufer – no report

Past County Commanders dinner –Robert Shadler – a flyer was enclosed in the Dec. minutes for this event. We should have a good showing as our appreciation for the year that Robert Bruggemann gave for the county as commander. It will be hed at Babylon Post 94 on March 4th and the cost is \$25 p.p. See Bob Shadler for tickets.

Post activities- William Farley Sr. all information was distributed.

Protocol - P10thDC George Wilson – No Report

Public Relations, – Open

Resolutions, Open

SAL – Advisor, Dennis Madden gave his report. They need support from all the posts to have a successful program.

Scouting – Joseph Sawtelle – he has the applications for Eagle Scout of the year and other scouts to be recognized.

Applications are due at the end of January. March 30th for other scouts leaders, troops and packs.

VAC Northport VA – 10th Dist. Adjutant Paul R De Vul stated that there has not been a VAC meeting in several months.

According to Public Information Officer, Joseph Sledge the meetings will begin in January and all Veterans Post Commanders will be invited.

VAVs Robert Hopkins / John Dekas stated that there were herbicides sprayed at many locations throughout the U.S. and he has a list of those places. Many of these health related cases were denied by the VA. You can contact John as the report was many pages long.

Ways and Means Bottle Raffle – Robert Romano excused

WINAL, Anna Gilpin – No Report

Good of the Legion – There was a holiday gathering for returning vets and their families at the Northport VA bldg. 5 on Dec. 10th 12 to 3 – 911 Vets are donating 500 turkeys to hungry veterans. A distribution point was set up for Dec. 18th at 2100 Smithtown Ave. and assistance is required. The distribution went well

Joseph Kovarik Post is hosting a Super Bowl Raffle and all proceeds will go to help veterans at the L.I. State Veterans Home.

There is a flyer enclosed in the minutes for a golf outing sponsored by the Sons of The American Legion John Dekas informed the membership that 2 small boys walked out of the woods behind his post with live ammunition shells. He encouraged any post or person who has or finds live ammo or shells to notify the police so they can pick it up and destroy them.

New Business:

The Babylon Post 94 submitted a letter requesting to host the 2012 Suffolk County Convention at their post. M/M/S/C to have Babylon Post 94 host the Suffolk County Convention.

A motion was made by PCC Robert Smith to send a \$100 donation to the Blue Star Moms for their program. M/M/S/C

A motion was made to donate \$100 towards the repair/replacement of the L.I. National Cemetery sound system. M/M/S/C

A motion was made to donate \$100 to the VAVS support fund raiser to help veterans. M/M/S/C

Chase bank will be invited to the next County Meeting to provide information on their veterans hiring program and veteran/military banking programs.

M/M/S/C to close the meeting. The meeting was closed in the usual Legion manner.

Next meeting will be at the Joseph Loeffler Post on February 3rd. in Brentwood @ 8:00 p.m.

The Next 10th District Meeting will be held on January 31st at the William Merritt Hallock Post @ 8:00 p.m.

BOY'S STATE REPORT 1/2012

Boy's State is being held from June 24th thru June 29th. I am currently talking with the bus company, and they are asking for a little more money than last year. We will not know the amount needed for the tuition until Mid Winter, the end of this month. I have been told to expect it to cost more.

It is not too early to start getting your finances together. I am sure that Robin will gladly accept any monies ASAP.

Realizing that the economy is not great, it might be time to reach out to other civic organizations in your area for help if needed. I am sure that there are some fire departments and others that might help. Maybe two smaller posts could get together and sponsor a boy.

I was trying to have CD's to give out tonight, but I had a problem trying to make them. If you need them prior to next months meeting please call me and I will do my best to help you.

Thank you,

Jim Beecher