

American Legion Post# 243
Meeting Minutes 11/11/2008

Attendance: 28 Members John Grothe, Mark Provencher Sr., Dennis Halloran, Mark Degner, Gene Ramsey, John Wilde, Mel Lulow, Ruben Rabe Jr., Gene Blindauer, Ken Deicher, George Helpap Sr., Gordon Jepson, Bill Smith, Flare Fredricksen, Ken Wickland, Nathan Gunnlaugsson, Harlan Harris, George Degen, DuWayne Wieck, Earl Bergin, Bill Balke, Lloyd Sargent, Norm Halloran, Richard Wilde, Ed Schroeder, Arlan Schlundt, David Niedfeldt, and Konrad Kaczkowski

Guests: Ed Schroeder introduced Terry Evans of Sun Graphics. Terry gave the Post over 300 copies of "Flag Folding Etiquette". He also gave a presentation about blood drives with Blood Center of Wisconsin. Terry is past President of the Plymouth Lions Club and they're looking for additional sponsors. There's no money involved, just using the American Legion to help get the word out for blood drives. Currently the drives will be held at Redeemer Lutheran church in Plymouth. The Post will look into being a sponsor since a blood drive is also an American Legion program.

Membership: Ed Schroeder reported that he is following up on late membership dues, and is working on several New members.

Finance: No Report

Oratorical Contest: Ed Schroeder reported he is planning an informational meeting for contestants. Konrad did a pitch for the contest on TV-14, also there's a letter in the latest Badger Legioner from the Well's family about the Oratorical Contest. Ed said he would have the Well's address that letter in our local papers.

House Committee: No Report

Badger Boys State: No Report

Veterans Day: Ed Schroeder reported that there were 20 Post members that attended the Veterans Day program at Riverview Middle School, Parkview grade school, and Rocky Knoll.

Shooting Sports: DuWayne Wieck asked for members to donate or help in providing light bars over the targets. He does have the target stands.

Military Honors: Konrad reported that there were 36 attendees for the Military Honors Funeral training provided by the Veteran Administration of King V.A. hospital. 10 Post members attended.

Fall Conference: Konrad reported that the conference was very informative. Several ideas came out such as grade school kids making greeting cards for deployed troop, and using the American Legion logo as a reminder of the American Legion involvement in

remembering our troops. There was also discussion about the Americanism and Government test used at high schools. There were Posts that presented their numbers for blood drives. These last two items were discussed at the Post executive meeting, with more information in the future. The conference also brought up Freedom Flights, which offers Free flights to the WW II Memorial in Washington DC for WW II Vets. The first flight from our area, Port Washington, leaves November 19th and all Vets that want to welcome these heroes back on that day are at Concord "C" by 7:30 PM at the Milwaukee airport. We were also told to set aside May 21, 22 & 23, 2010 for a huge welcome party for Vietnam Vets to be held in Green Bay. Mark Provencher made a motion that the Post pay for the registration and meal for the delegates and alternates (Note: The same number of delegates and alternates sent to the State convention) attending the District Spring and Fall conferences, seconded by John Wilde, motion carried by voice vote.

New Business:

Ed Schroeder brought up a suggestion from Post member Jim Stahlman that the Post sponsor a Flag burning ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Trail in the Spring of the year. Bill made a motion the Post set up a committee for this ceremony, seconded by Bill Balke.

Adjutant Konrad announced that there is a Major problem getting the newsletter out in a reasonable manner, due to actions by the Post Office. The Post will not accept bulk mailing on Saturday's and it sits in Milwaukee for up 7 days before being distributed. So the newsletter will now have just highlights of the meeting. If a member wants the full version check on the Post's web site or attend a meeting.

DuWayne Wieck announced that his wife has secured a New permanent location for her camouflage quilt project. Glacier Transit donated space for this project. There will be an open house Nov. 22nd, and thus far over 1,000 quilts have been sent to deployed troops.

Meeting ended at 20:15 Hrs with the reading of the 15 Wisconsin service personnel that paid the ultimate sacrifice in the month of November fighting The War On Global Terrorism since 2003. Chaplain gave prayer and the POW/MIA empty chair flag was retired.

Respectfully Submitted

Konrad Kaczowski
Post Adjutant