

April 6, 2023 Post 266 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Pete Hunt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

POW/MIA Cover Placement: Sergeant-at-Arms Cheek placed the POW/MIA cover on the empty chair.

Chaplin Kay: Gave a prayer?

Preamble of the Constitution of The American Legion: led by Larry Arp.

Auxiliary: Did not meet.

Minutes: Motion by Steve Botos and second by James Cheek to approve the March minutes, passed.

Financial: Motion by Ken Dirksen and second by Steven Youngberg to approve the financial report, passed.

Old Business:

Money Jar – We will continue collections and need to choose a fund to support, Department building fund, JAVELAN service dogs, Outlook Enrichment, National Emergency Fund? Patriot Songs, book of poems, \$7.95; 4 copies – high & both middle school libraries and public library were ordered.

Sons of the American Legion: Squadron held Egg Hunt on April 8th, 11am – 2pm. Many SAL members supported it, good participation by community. Post provided a color guard; Steve Botos, Merlin Kay, Van Mohr, Jim Osterchill, Les Brauer. SAL awarded a BHS college scholarship, Commander presented it at April 23rd ceremony.

Buddy Check Program – Be the One focus on suicide prevention, see page 6 Legion magazine. Lyle asked about reporting, agreed to allow him to design and report updates when appropriate.

Building Committee: Back wall – quotes: \$31,040.25 / \$23,500; tree trimming, neighbor Jim agreed Post could trim as needed; Unserviceable US Flags Collection box, WW II Memorial Display repair by Don Johnson underway; motion by Lyle Sass to install in prior location and second by Steve Botos, passed. Consider future dedication and fund raising opportunity.

Consolidated Post Report – continue to track your activities to provide our adjutant input on community involvement hours for the Department summary to Congress.

Replacement Rifle Jim Cheek, DOD sent a return box; rifle with cracked receiver shipped.

Inventory Review – Needs updated – hats, coats, gloves, ties, flags, hat pins, etc., including sizes. We will hold its review for future meeting to see which items we will restock.

Custom Cards: Get well, received.

Tomb of Unknown Soldier: Half size replica for Bennington Daze, June 3, 2023. Size: 4 ft. W x 8 ft L x 5 ft H. Cost: \$500 paid by sponsor Stan Schleifer. March Legionnaire newsletter had a photo of Tomb. Set up on Friday, take down on Sunday. Larry Arp notified city about set up at Vets Memorial in city park. F.O Rick coordinating program for 1pm on Saturday June 3rd after parade.

Veterans Memorial Flags: Rick Reed, Larry Arp – order pending.

Cornhusker Boys State: 2 applications; Elijah College; Ryan Dawo approved by Department. Commander attended Orientation April 22, 2023 at Valley Post 58 for June 4 – 10, 2023 event. Elijah was present but Ryan was not. Motion by Jared Weinman and second by Larry Arp to use \$400 from General Fund for 2nd scholarship.

Junior Law Cadet Program: No applications for scholarships.

New Business:

Membership: time for 2022-23 notices to pay dues, if you do not pay online with National, Glenn will take your money. Current status: 101/114, 89% renewal rate. New member: USMC vet Zack Crosby.

Pancake Feed: Saturday April 29, 2023; set-up on Friday April 28 at 10am. 2022 event served about 200 adults plus children and raised \$2,179. Supplies Update, as revised, see below.

BHS College Scholarships: Motion by Steve Botos and second by Jared Weinman to approve 2 scholarships, Luke Woods and Conner Ziska, passed. Post Commander presented awards at April 23rd ceremony.

Fireworks: Steven Youngberg reported 2 cash registers to be rented at \$150/machine.

Next Meeting: May 4th. Sons met on April 13th will meet on May 11th. Legionnaires encouraged to attend.

Announcements:

Member Data Form: Check MyLegion.org to ensure you data is correct and update as needed.

National Crisis Line: new phone number, 988 then press 1 for Veterans' Crisis Line

National Membership Incentive: National Commander Jim Troiola will award a Be The One pin to those who sign-up 3 new 2023 members; new means they were not a 2022 member. Get certification form from commander or adjutant.

100% Legion Family Ribbon: Post award if Legion, Auxiliary and SAL each meet 100% members by May 31, 2023. See bulletin board for prior ribbons.

Washington DC Conference: Lobby Congress on Legionnaires legislative agenda, see Legion magazine page 18 for priorities and National Commander Troiola testimony on March 1.

Login.gov: One account and password. Login.gov is a secure sign-in service used by the public to sign in to participating government agencies. Participating agencies includes the VA. This streamlines your process and eliminates the need to remember multiple usernames and passwords.

Bellevue University Military Day: Saturday May 6, 10am – 2pm includes paratrooper jump-in, Army K-9 dog show, Blackhawk helicopter and other military vehicles.

No other new business.

POW/MIA chair cover: Retrieved by Sergeant-at-Arms Cheek.

Adjourn: Motion by Larry Arp and second by Steve Botos to adjourn, passed.

\$50 Gift Card – Bakers did not provide a gift card; Jerry Valasek donated \$50.

47 Dozen Eggs – Jim Zoulias HyVee not donating but offering 10% discount, Larry Arp purchased; 12 dz. left over, sold for \$2/dz. Jared Weinman donated \$60 towards purchase.

Mike Valasek, 156th St outside of Bennington, no donation, lacks chickens, had donated 16 dz. Eggs before. 100 Cartons White and 150 Cartons Chocolate Milk and 200 Cartons Orange Juice – Hiland Dary, Steven Youngberg.

5 Gallons Regular Syrup, on-hand and purchased – Dick Musel.

4 Sugar-free 16 oz. Containers on-hand and purchased – Pete Hunt

3 Gallons Canola Oil – Dick Musel.

1 Each 3 lbs (Regular and Decaf) Coffee - Dick Musel.

5 – 10 lbs. Boxes of Sausage and 1 Propane Tank – Cubbys; Merlin Kay.

Pancake Batter: 3 – 25 lb. Bags, Jimmy's Egg - Les Brauer purchased, donated; mix beforehand.

Other items – check on-hand or purchase:

9 – 8 Ounce Tubs Butter or patties not procured – Larry Arp, Merlin Kay

1 Big Jar Lemon Juice – Glenn Turner

Pam Spray – Glenn Turner

1 Big Bottle Dawn Soap – Glenn Turner

Napkins – Glenn Turner

Gallon Storage Bags – Glenn Turner

3 Rolls Paper Towels – on hand

Forks / Spoons / Knives – Jim Zoulias

7 Ounce Cups for Juice – bought although Hiland Dairy donated in 2022; plenty on hand.

Plates – 500 Paper – Jim Zoulias

Styrofoam Cups – Rick Reed

Aluminum Foil: on hand

Hot Sauce – purchased 3 bottles, only 1 partially used – Pete Hunt.

Signs – Diane Warrick, Merlin Kay, Glenn Turner