

Bennington SAL SQUADRON 266 | MINUTES

Meeting date: 9 November, 2023 | time: 6 pm | Meeting location [Bennington Legion Hall](#)

Officers Present: Commander Jared Weinman, Sargent-at-Arms Mike Valasek, Adjutant Les Brauer, Historian Alex Banks, Chaplin Brian Gernandt

Absent: Finance Officer Geoff Getzschman, Legion Liaison Glen Turner

Type of meeting: Monthly meeting

Facilitator: Commander Weinman

Note taker: Adjutant Brauer

Total number of members in attendance: 10 members, 0 nonmembers

- Meeting brought to order by Commander Jared W.
- Hand salute to the flag
- Opening prayer given by Adjutant Les B.
- Commander read Resolution 288 designating the POW/MIA empty chair
- Sgt.-At-Arms Mike V. placed the POW-MIA chair cover
- Commander read Resolution N C 2-03 Blue Star Banner
- Pledge of Allegiance to the flag recited
- Preamble lead by Commander Jared W.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- **Minutes of previous meeting:** not read, referenced emailed minutes
 - a. **Motion** to approve by Mike Valasek
 - b. **2nd** by Jim Musel; Passed
- **Finance report:**
 - a. **Motion** to table October report due to F.O. absence by Mike V.
 - b. **2nd** by Mark G.; Passed
- **Old/Unfinished business:**
 - a. **CSR Report:** SALoween Hrs: 9 hrs each: Mike V., Jim M., Glenn T., Alex B., Brian G.; 4 Hrs each: Les B., Mark G., Geoff S.; 5 Hrs. Jaydon W.; Mike V. blood donation; Mark G. coin distribution

ADMIN HOURS- Jared 16 hrs., Les 2 hrs. and Geoff 1 hr.

- b. Time to focus on recruiting new members
- c. Junior shooting sports/ Eddie Eagle/ NRA
- d. With new additions of members, we are currently at 21 members

1. Saloween: Trunk and Treat : Committee chaired by Alex Banks

- Oct. 28th from 5:30- 9pm
- Very successful with about 80 children attending
- Special thanks to wives, girlfriends and friends of SAL for their help and to Jordan of Create A Tee for flyers and Rick R. for getting city maintenance to block street
- Add Fundraiser at Raisin Canes and / or Runza in 2024
- Added hot chocolate to items; other 2024 ideas: add coffee, spooky walk around building, host a table at other events: Jaycees, Three Timbers Church, Bennington Library; purchase signs for repeat use

- **2. Renewals:** If paying the full \$30, need to verify the extra \$10 shall be a donation to SAL 266 or kept by National, online now working; dual or 16 and younger need to pay in cash
- **3. SAL 266:** Start planning to host 2 flag retirement ceremonies per year: unofficial chair – Jim M.; dates: Legion March birthday, need to choose 2nd date
- **Legion Information:** Auxiliary Veterans Dinnerheld Sunday 11/5 at 1pm, 4 Quilts of Valor presented; canned goods collected for local food bank

- **New Business**
- **Legion District 8 Notes:** SAL and Riders Liaisons must be a Legionnaire; consider \$1/member donations to Child Welfare Fund (completed), Operation Comfort Warrior, Gifts for Yanks (see motions), Vets Memorial Bridge Light and Flag Fund, NE Bellevue Vets Home Brick Fund, give blood; Department Mid-year Conference 20-21 January at Kearney, District 8 Convention 10 February at Valley Post; promote Junior Law and Boys State nominations – if more than Squadron can sponsor, turn them in anyway as Department has funds to sponsor; National Commander Seehafer visit 9 March at South Omaha Post; Ridgewood Senior Center – pursue Adopt-A-Vet (2 birthday cards for vets), Veterans Day Program 10 November, Commander Jared organizing it; Help Services in Bellevue accepts donations of used equipment – contact Chris Casey or Paula Pillen
- **Social Media:** Alex: Facebook has 38 followers; like our page; passed out promo business cards
- **SAL orders:** Hat for Rick Reed, size 7-1/2, Chaplin's Prayer Book, receipt pending for both
- **Literature Holders:** agreed to mount next to SAL bulletin board
- **Squadron Detachment Officers:** Commander Eldon Kramer (erktrucking@yahoo.com, 308-631-5233), Senior Vice Commander Tim Hecke, East Area A Vice Commander James Keyes, West Area B Vice Commander Casey Walton, National Executive Committeeman David Rippe, Alternate NEC Robert “Bud” Neel, Chaplin Sean Casey, Historian Adam Schmid, Sgt-At-Arms David Kohl, Assist. Sgt-At-Arms John Lintz, Judge Advocate Harold Thompson, Jr., Adjutant Chris Casey, Assist. Adjutant Danny Smith, Finance Officer Mark Novak, Department Liaison Mike Reimers, Department Advisor Eric Martin
- **Motions made during meeting:**
 1. **Subject:** Donate to Warhawk for Dogs, PTSD Vets, contact Kevin Caster, remains tabled
 2. **Subject:** Donate \$200 to Post 112 SAL for Veterans Breakfast at Keystone Cafe
 - Motion:** by Jim M.
 - 2nd:** Jaydon W.; Passed
 3. **Subject:** Donate \$100 to Gifts for Yanks
 - Motion:** by Alex B.
 - 2nd:** by Jim M.; passed
- Closing prayer given by Les B.
- Sgt.-At-Arms Mike V. retired the POW-MIA chair cover
- Hand salute to the flag
- Meeting adjourned