

# Bennington SAL SQUADRON 266 | MINUTES

Meeting date: 14 December, 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 Chaplin Brian G.
- 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. **2<sup>nd</sup>** by Jim Musel; Passed
- **Finance report:**
  - a. **Motion** to pick-up tabled October report due to F.O. Absence; Commander Jared W. added November report, motion to approve both by Alex B.
  - b. **2<sup>nd</sup>** by Mark G.; Passed
- **Old/Unfinished business:**
  - a. **CSR Report:** Mike V., Jim M.-6 hrs., Alex B.-4 hrs., Brian G.; Mike V.-4 hrs plus blood donation  
ADMIN HOURS- Jared W.-6 hrs., Les B. 4 hrs. and Geoff G. 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, 15 paid, 71.4%
- **2. Renewals:** If paying the full \$30 online, \$15 kept by National and Detachment, \$15 returned with \$5 for Squadron and the extra \$10 is a donation to SAL 266; dual or 16 and younger members need to pay in cash to avoid extra charge online
- **3. SAL 266:** Start planning to host 2 flag retirement ceremonies per year: unofficial chair – Jim M.; dates: 1<sup>st</sup> after Legion Auxiliary March 10 birthday lunch, need to choose 2<sup>nd</sup> date. Need burn permit for fire pit at Hall or contact fire department to use their station's burn area. Set time at 1 hour after ALA sponsored Legion birthday lunch on March 10<sup>th</sup>

- **Legion Information:** Auxiliary Veterans Dinner held Sunday 11/5 at 1pm, 4 Quilts of Valor presented; canned goods collected for local food bank. ALA Legion Birthday Lunch Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 1pm; Legion Pancake Feed Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 8 am to 11.30am; Set-up Friday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 9 am
- **New Business**
- **Donations:** \$200 to Post 112 SAL for Veterans Breakfast at Keystone Cafe; \$100 to Gifts for Yanks
- **Social Media:** Alex: Facebook like our page; pass out promo business cards; add flag retirement and ALA lunch notices
- **SAL orders:** Hat for Rick Reed, size 7-1/2, Chaplin's Prayer Book, received both and distributed
- **Literature Holders:** mounted next to SAL bulletin board
- **National Commander's 4 Pillars Challenge:** \$1/member minimum: \$300 to **CWF** August 2023 (Children and Youth); **VA&R** (Veterans Affairs & rehabilitation) Operation Comfort Warrior; **Americanism**, will sponsor at least 1 to Boys State at \$400; **National Security**, consider hosting a blood drive or donate \$1/member to hosting organization (St. Johns Church)
- **Easter Egg Event:** Need response from Heath Mlnarik on use of baseball field, tentative date is Palm Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>, Wayne Ruff is chairman of committee to get items to raffle; need volunteers for his committee
- **BHS Awards:** Need to contact Bennington High School for scholarships: college, Boys State, Junior Law, military enlistees
- **Motions made during meeting:**
  1. **Subject:** Donate to Warhawk for Dogs, PTSD Vets, contact Kevin Caster, picked-up from table and modified to remove from agenda by Les B.; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim M., passed
  2. **Subject:** Donate a minimum of \$50 per "Hot Spot" such as 4 Pillars or other causes
    - Motion:** by Jim M.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Alex B.; Passed
- Closing prayer given by Chaplin Brian G.
- Sgt.-At-Arms Mike V. retired the POW-MIA chair cover
- Hand salute to the flag
- Meeting adjourned