



POST #216
Ernest F. Oldenburg, The American Legion
510 West Commerce Road, Milford, MI 48381
www.milfordlegion216.org

Adjutant Notes – Regular Membership Meeting – Milford POST 216

Commander Puente called the meeting to order at 19:00 Tuesday 17-December-2013

Opening Ceremonies observed.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Title	Name	Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	Tony Puente	X		
Senior Vice Commander	Norm Tibbs	X		
Junior Vice Commander	Bill Colegrove		X	
Adjutant	Dennis Dobransky	X		
Finance Officer	Ray Williams	X		
Chaplain	Ed Merritt	X		
Historian	Ivan Emiline		X	
Sergeant-at-Arms	Denny Lloyd	X		
Exec. Committee	Don Reddeman	X		
Exec. Committee	Jack Winder		X	
Exec. Committee	Matt Tibbs		X	
Exec. Committee Aux	Cathy Merritt	X		
Exec. Committee SAL	Butch Maxwell	X		

Guests: Cathy Merritt, Auxiliary. Butch Maxwell, SAL. Tom Philips, Soltac.

Approval of Minutes: Review of Regular Membership minutes from 19 November, 2013. Motion by Reddeman to accept, Second by Merritt. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

Motion to suspend regular meeting by Reddeman, Second by Merritt, to have guest, Tom Philips, CEO of Soletek, address Membership regarding Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), to help educate our membership regarding the negative impact this disorder has to individuals diagnosed with PTSD, their families, and their social contact, including employers or potential employers. This knowledge will then help membership spread the word to the community regarding this terrible disorder, and how our community and membership can reach out to these individuals to provide assistance and understanding. Commander Puente reminded us to try and get these individuals to join our organization, or similar organizations, so we can bring them into a place where they can be heard and understood.

Motion to resume regular meeting by Reddeman, Second by Merritt. Voice vote passes.



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Reports of Officers:

Sr. Vice Commander: N. Tibbs. No report.

Jr. Vice Commander: N. Tibbs for Colegrove. The Christmas party was a success, as was the WWII veteran's luncheon.

Finance Officer: Williams. October report: \$2,016 net income. November report: \$350 net income. Bank of American loan balance \$5,515; General Fund balance \$7,482. Bills of \$93 to be paid by the end of month. Gas bill YTD is \$1,896; Electric bill is the highest at \$10,873 YTD. Motion by Reddeman, Second by Merritt. Voice vote passes.

Chaplain: Merritt. Continued prayers for speedy recovery from sick call: Dave Horst, Legion; Pat Dowd, SAL; Denny Lloyd, Legion; Ray Lapine, Legion; Brian Hamilton, SAL; Paul Lear, Legion, Jan LaClair, Aux; Scott Hungerford, Legion; Marie Jackson, Aux, and Angi Scheideman, Aux. Also, Pearl Harbor Day, placed wreaths at Great Lakes National Cemetery on December 14, 2013.

Service Officer: Reddeman. No report.

Historian: Emiline. No report.

Adjutant: Dobransky. Read a note of thank you from the Bradbury family showing appreciation for the WWII veteran luncheon. Also, read a note from the family of Buddy Dorris, a WWII veteran, showing appreciation for the Honor Guard, and included a \$200 donation to the Post. Also, a note of thanks for the floral arrangement from the family of Richard Krolicki

Auxiliary: Cathy Merritt: Kids Christmas party was a fun-filled success. Also, last week's bingo, and upcoming Honor Guard luncheon assisted by the Auxiliary.

SAL: Maxwell. Burger night is every Thursday evening.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Kotas. Membership goal for 2014 is 386, and at this time we are at 80% and right now we are at 285 or 73%.

New Members: Steve Hernandez, Army, Gulf War, Motion Reddeman, Second N. Tibbs. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Patrick O'Conner, Marines. Motion Bear Hall, Second, Ron Nevorski. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Veterans Honors, Ceremonial:

Color Guard: Commander Puente – No report, but we do need a Commander.

Honor Guard: Chowaniec. 7 services at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Issues going on with the trailer used for Honor Guard members.

Poppy: Reddeman. Had a funeral for young veteran that had PTSD.

Honor Walk: Puente. Account with Unilock has been renewed, but there is an issue with our credit due to paperwork problems. We were assessed a \$45 bank charge fee for paperwork issues.

Memorial Day Parade: Salvia. No report.

Education and Scholarship: Maxwell. No report.



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Bingo: McDonnell. October: Gross Bingo \$7,976; Gross tickets \$10,757; Ticket prizes \$8,236; Bingo prizes \$6,584; Gross Profit \$3,676; Check to Legion \$3,000. November: Gross Bingo \$11,676; Gross tickets \$12,756; Ticket prizes \$9,541; Bingo prizes \$8,495; Gross Profit \$6,030; Check to Legion \$3,500. Ending check book balance \$1,431. Motion to accept, First Reddeman, Second Nevorski. No discussion, voice vote passes. YTD Bingo has provided \$25,000 to the General Fund. Commander Puente extended a thank you to the ALR for Bingo support.

Club Room: McDonnell. Income \$9,136; Cost of Goods Sold \$3,244; Gross Profit \$5,892; Expenses \$4,396; Net Profit \$1,095. Motion to accept, First Reddeman, Second Nevorski. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

Charitable Gaming Tickets: McDonnell. Beginning balance \$1,317; Ending balance \$2,207. \$1,000 to the Legion, and \$7,500 YTD. Motion to accept, First Reddeman, Second Nevorski.

American Legion Riders: Williams for Kolleda. The Patriot Guard and ALR are doing a flag line at Flint and Detroit airports to greet military personnel coming home from the holidays. All are invited to participate.

House & Building: N. Tibbs. May need new carpet vs. cleaning, as it is in disrepair due to stains. Future expense. McDonnell suggested installing motion sensors in the men's and ladies bathrooms at minimal cost to help save on electricity costs. Agreed this is to be done.

Executive Committee: Reviewed Executive Committee minutes for November 19, 2013. Motion to accept. First, Reddeman, Second, Lloyd.

Unfinished Business: Dobransky. No report.

New Business: Merritt. Advised he is the 18th District Chaplain. He received a notification from Great Lakes National Cemetery that on December 14, they are hosting Race Across America. Start time is 10:30. Wreath laying at 11:00, and formal ceremony at 12:00. Also, making a motion to obtain Blue Star flags for \$182.75, and would like to purchase the flags to be made available to active service members. Second Emiline. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

Good of the Legion: The hall was used by donation for the Special Olympics. But a check was provided to the Post for use of lights and heat. About 175 people attended. Also, Merritt advised membership about what the wreaths signify. Lastly, Commander Puente advised that on March 1, 2014, our Post will be providing a veterans job fair. Response has been very positive.

Closing: Commander Puente: There being no further business to come before the membership the meeting was adjourned at 20:10, with the proper closing ceremonies being observed.

The next meeting is 21 January, 2014, 19:00.

Prepared and submitted by: Dennis Dobransky, Adjutant



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Adjutant Notes – Executive Committee Meeting – Milford POST 216

Commander Puente called the meeting to order at 18:08 Tuesday 17-December-2013.

Opening Ceremonies observed.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Title	Name	Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	Tony Puente	X		
Senior Vice Commander	Norm Tibbs	X		
Junior Vice Commander	Bill Colegrove		X	
Adjutant	Dennis Dobransky	X		
Finance Officer	Ray Williams	X		
Chaplain	Ed Merritt	X		
Historian	Ivan Emiline		X	
Sergeant-at-Arms	Denny Lloyd	X		
Exec. Committee	Don Reddeman	X		
Exec. Committee	Jack Winder		X	
Exec. Committee	Matt Tibbs		X	
Exec. Committee Aux	Cathy Merritt	X		
Exec. Committee SAL	Butch Maxwell	X		

Approval of Minutes: Review of Executive Committee minutes from 19 November, 2013. Motion by Reddeman to accept, Second N. Tibbs. Voice Vote passes.

Old Business: Matt Tibbs working on By-Law updates – completed by December meeting. Make copies of the changes of the By-Laws done by Tom Neff, to be reviewed and discussed at the January meeting.

Commander Puente to have a meaningful discussion with Club Room manager regarding Club Room hours, as discussed at the November meeting. **(From November minutes:** Norm Tibbs brought up a concern that the Club Room was closing at times before the posted closing time. Says that the Club Room should remain open until the posted closing time. Commander Puente stated the Club Room closes early if there are not enough people present making purchases to maintain the expense of keeping the Club Room open. It is currently at the discretion of the Club Room manager to decide to close early. Motion made to keep the Club Room open until the posted closing time, regardless of the number of people present. Voice Vote is (4) yes, and (4) no. Commander Puente cast the deciding vote to close the Club Room before posted hours if there are not enough people to justify keeping the Club Room open. Motion fails.)



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New Business: The Post purchased a new computer for \$550 – up and running great.

Norm Tibbs provided summary of the December 7, 2013, luncheon for area WWII veterans. \$200 was allocated, but actual cost was \$187.78, so balance of \$12.22. Luncheon was well received. Commander Puente gave accolades to N. Tibbs and Bill Colegrove for a job well done, and proper accounting of expenditures.

Commander Puente advised the Fire Department wants to start doing fish fries after the 1st of the year through Easter, to ask for start-up funds, and was supposed to be at this month's executive meeting. Last year the Post provided \$300 to \$400 for initial costs, then afterward they paid back the Post for the initial costs, then they used the earned cash flow to cover on-going costs. When all was done, they contributed \$2,464 to the Post. Waiting on the Fire Department to initiate the fish fries this year.

Commander Puente advised that a guest, Tom Philips, CEO of Soltac, will be at the Membership meeting to talk about PTSD to help educate our membership, to then help membership spread the word to the community regarding this terrible disorder.

Dobransky mentioned the kids Christmas party cost to purchase gift cards, and Commander Puente advised this is an annual expenditure, and no further discussion or approval is required.

N. Tibbs advised of IRS reviews of DD214's, proof not required unless the IRS is of the belief we are doing something illegal. Must be produced upon request of the IRS.

Williams advised we receive individual and corporate donations. Is of the opinion letters of appreciation should be issued at least to individual donator's of perhaps \$500 or more. Dobransky agreed to take on the task of sending out letters of appreciation. According to Denny Lloyd, in the past, the Adjutant prepares a letter, and the Commander signs the letter. Commander Puente advises he purchased a Legion CD that contains a certificate of appreciation. Will forward same to Dobransky.

Denny Lloyd advises at the January meeting he will be checking for membership renewals, and will not allow those that have not renewed at the next meeting.

Paul Kolleda, ALR Director, advises he has pictures from the WWII dinner if anyone wants individual copies. Also, the ALR is doing a brat night on January 17, 2014. Will post flyers. Motion by Reddeman, Second by Merritt. Discussion. If the Fire Department wants to start the fish fry, they can start January 24. Voice vote passes. Also, military personnel flying home for the holidays will be greeted by ALR and Patriot Guard members, and this is open for all to attend and show support for our returning military personnel.



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Cathy Merritt advises an article was sent to the Milford Times, Spinal column, with pictures from the Halloween party and Christmas party will be included. Also, photos from the WWII luncheon. Commander Puente suggested photos be sent to John Moore for our Post website as well. Cathy also advised that the Blue Star banners have arrived, and are very well done, and are ready for distribution if the Post is contacted for a banner by a local community qualified military family.

Commander Puente advised we all need to reach out to our young veterans, to help provide them with our support.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Reddeman, Second Merritt. Voice vote passes. The meeting ended at 18:50.

The next meeting is 21 January, 2014, 18:00.

Prepared and submitted by: Dennis Dobransky, Adjutant