



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-February-2015.

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	Tom Kemper	X		
Historian	Ed Merritt	X		
Sergeant-at-Arms	Matt Tibbs		X	
Exec. Committee	Paul Kolleda		X	
Exec. Committee	Rich Cherf		X	
Exec. Committee	Chris Cook	X		
Exec. Committee Aux	Cathy Merritt	X		
Exec. Committee SAL	Mike McDonnell	X		

Guests: Cathy Merritt, Auxiliary; Mike McDonnell, SAL

**Approval of Minutes:** Review of Regular Membership minutes from 20 January 2015. Motion to accept by T. Neff, second by E. Merritt. No discussion, no corrections. (Adjutant note: At the December meeting R. Cherf asked that minutes reflect names of designated chairpersons. The Adjutant will include this in the minutes once a list of chairperson names is provided to the Adjutant). Voice vote passes.

**Reports of Officers:**

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

**Jr. Vice Commander:** Colegrove. No report.

**Finance Officer:** Puente for Williams. For the period ended January 31, 2015, total income was \$32,283; cost of goods sold \$19,343; Gross Profit \$12,939; Expenses \$8,505; Net Income = \$4,434. YTD net income \$4,434. Bank of America loan balance has been paid off using loan from the ALR. The ALR loan balance = \$2,410. General fund balance = \$12,217; Special fund balance = \$5,992. All bills paid through February. The ALR turned over \$1,250 to the General Fund from the Spaghetti Night profits, raffle and donations. Motion to accept pending future audit by Nevorski, second by Neff. No discussion. Voice vote passes.



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**Chaplain:** T. Kemper. Thoughts and prayers for Paul Kolleda who will be undergoing a surgical procedure in early March. Also, last month Kemper attended a wake for a Vietnam Veteran, Ken Edney, at the request of his family.

**Service Officer:** Reddeman, absent, no report. (Spending winter in Alabama)

**Historian:** E. Merritt. The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of February he attended the Four Chaplains' memorial service in Lapeer. The month of February is Americanism month. Also, on February 26, 1925, Post 216 signed its charter, so happy birthday to the Post.

**Adjutant:** Dobransky. Excused. Commander Puente thanked Dennis for doing a great job in keeping the minutes current via electronic means while in Florida. No further report.

**Auxiliary:** Cathy Merritt. Advised the Post now has 45 people signed up for the blood drive, and we now await word from the Red Cross as to the date of the blood drive. She will let us know when that is as soon as she has a date.

**SAL:** McDonnell. No report.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Membership:** Kotas. Reports the Post is now at 101% of Department goal for 2015 with 346 paid members. 100% is supposed to be met by May 11. No new members to report this month.

#### **Veterans Honors, Ceremonial:**

**Color Guard:** No report, but Commander Puente advises John Schimetz has agreed to be the point person for the Color Guard.

**Honor Guard:** Chowaniec. Rendered honors for (3) veterans at Great Lakes National Cemetery the past month. Nevorski thanked Chowaniec for handling Color Guard duties in the absence of a point person up to this point. Job well done.

**Poppy:** Kolleda. Excused. No report. Commander Puente advised Kolleda is transferring to Memphis, TN, for employment in the near future, and is currently in TN house-hunting.

**Honor Walk:** Kolleda. Excused. No report.

**Memorial Day Parade:** Commander Puente. Advised the first committee members met last week to set the meeting dates from now until the parade. Need volunteers to make contact with the Milford police and fire departments, as well as the Village of Milford and the Yankee Air Force. Also, other units to hire or invite. Talked about how things will be set up, contacting the high school bands, jeeps, cemetery visits, the YMCA and Pepsi who donates water. Liz Kolleda is the point person for the Auxiliary to handle food and poppies and wreaths for Central Park. There is a single point of contact for communication for people desiring to be involved in the parade. It is the [MILFORDMEMORIALPARADE@YAHOO.COM](mailto:MILFORDMEMORIALPARADE@YAHOO.COM). Please use this site for anyone interested to be involved in the parade. N. Tibbs has applied for the parade permit. The Auxiliary will be raffling off a quilt. A flier and a mailing will be issued to membership via Allegra Printing.



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**Education and Scholarship:** Davison. No report.

**Bingo:** McDonnell. January: Gross Bingo \$8,834; Gross tickets \$10,642; Gross Profit \$4,941. Beginning check book balance \$906. Ending check book balance \$1,697; Bingo turned over \$2,400 to the Post. Losing Paul Kolleda will be a big loss to the Post, and help will be needed to keep Bingo up and running. Motion to accept pending any corrections by Neff, second by Nevorski. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

**Club Room:** McDonnell. January: Income \$7,755. Cost of Goods Sold \$2,266; Gross Profit \$5,499; Expenses \$4,630. Net Income = \$870. Motion to accept pending any corrections by Colegrove, second by Neff. No Discussion. Voice Vote passes.

**Charitable Gaming Tickets:** McDonnell. January: Beginning checkbook balance \$315; Ending balance \$1,473. Gaming tickets turned over to the Post \$1,000 for January. Motion to accept pending any corrections by Neff, second by Colegrove. Discussion: Neff asked if January is typically a slow month. Answer – yes. No further discussion. Voice vote passes.

**American Legion Riders:** Kolleda. Excused. N. Tibbs advised the spaghetti dinner was a big success, held on January 31. \$1,250 was provided to the Post from this event.

**House & Building:** N. Tibbs. Advised that R. Cherf has been working on a grant from Home Depot for Post improvements, more info forthcoming. Also, members of the ALR removed and replaced the tile floor behind the hall bar area, a big thank you to Cherf, Kolleda and Schmitz for their hard work. C. Cook read a list of items from R. Cherf that will be addressed to improve the Post from use of the Home Depot grant.

**Scouts:** Chris Cook. The Pinewood Derby held on 1/25/15 was a big success. An overnight winter camp will be held on 2/28 at Michigan Science Center. Also, the Blue & Gold banquet to be held on 3/14 at Milford High School between 5pm and 7pm. Members from the Post are encouraged to attend to show support. Commander Puente mentioned the June campout to assist with flags. Chris advised the campout is scheduled for May 29-31, at Kensington Group Camp, and Chris has requested attendance from Post membership in a show of support.

**Executive Committee:** Commander Puente advised there was no meeting held in January, so no minutes to review or approve.

**Old Business:** Puente for Dobransky. Commander Puente passed out two packets to membership; one containing a letter from Department with suggested/proposed language and punctuation changes to the Constitution and By-Laws the Post had submitted to Department for approval earlier in the year, following an affirmative vote by membership related to the submitted changes; and the other packet containing the suggested changes in the Constitution and By-Laws as noted in the letter from Department. If the incorporated changes receive approval from membership, by vote at this meeting, then the document will then be submitted to Department for final approval. A motion to accept the proposed changes to the Post Constitution and By-Laws made by T. Neff, second by Colegrove. No discussion. Voice vote passes. (Adjutant to submit voted-upon document to Department for final approval).



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**New Business:** Commander Puente read from the January minutes info regarding prior discussion pertaining to suggested further changes to the Post's By-Laws regarding not paying membership dues for 30+ year members, as the Post is losing money from membership dues related to this practice. It was decided to hold off on proposing any new changes to the By-Laws pending approval from Department to the document just voted upon under Old Business.

E. Merritt advised both he and C. Merritt attended the Winter Conference held between 2/13 and 2/15 at the Holiday Inn in Flint. They received good information that will assist him in updating the Post's history, and has entered significant data into the Post's timeline on the Post's website. Nevorski suggested a review of documents contained in the Post's lockbox that will help with documenting the Post's history; E. Merritt will take on this task as Post Historian

At prior meeting, R. Cherf proposed to have the Post do a mailing to all Post members, including Auxiliary and SAL, pertaining to a raffle to help raise money for the Post. This would require up to \$500 to help cover initial start-up costs, such as permit and printing of tickets (this was voted upon and approved at the January meeting). The application for raffle permit has been submitted to Michigan at a cost of \$15; once received a mass mailing will be sent out to membership via use of Alegra Printing. Drawing to be held during July 4, 2015. Voice vote passes.

At prior meeting, R. Cherf spoke to T&M for a proposal to resurface and repair the parking lot. Will present the proposal to membership after it is received. Commander Puente has assigned this to N. Tibbs for follow-up.

The Post will be doing a membership drive to try and increase membership by calling area Legion members that are not currently part of our Post. This will be done by holding a call-up day event to be held in either April or May, and Commander Puente asked M. Kotas, membership chairperson, to take the lead on this.

**Good of the Legion:** E. Merritt advised that while he was at the Winter Conference, he was elected to Third Zone Boys State to take care of all of the Third Zone. He advised that at the end of 2015 the Boys State staff will have four positions vacated, and are looking for members with governmental experience and want to be part of the educational staff for Boys State, contact Jerry Kelly. See E. Merritt for contact info. These people will work at Boys State and helping mentor and teach participants at Boys State. Commander Puente asked E. Merritt to write an email with this info for submittal to the Post's website.

N. Tibbs advised that M. Kotas' honor guard coat is being shipped to his house. A motion made by Chowaniec, second by E. Merritt, to reimburse N. Tibbs' brother \$13.97 for the cost of shipping the coat to M. Kotas. No discussion. Voice vote passes.



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N. Tibbs to look into the cost to refinish the hall floor.

**Closing:** Commander Puente: There being no further business to come before the membership the meeting was adjourned at 20:02, with the proper closing ceremonies being observed.

**The next meeting is 17 March, 2015, 19:00.**

Prepared and submitted by: Dennis Dobransky, Adjutant



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**Adjutant Notes – Executive Committee Meeting – Milford POST 216**

There was no meeting held on February 17, 2015, due to lack of officer quorum, so no minutes prepared.

**The next meeting is 17 March, 2015 at 18:00.**

Prepared and submitted by: Dennis Dobransky, Adjutant