



Post No. 216

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

Minutes of the December 2007 General Membership Meeting

Commander John Nelson called the meeting to order at 730PM with the proper opening ceremonies being observed.

Acting Chaplain Archie Noon gave the opening prayer

Roll Call of Officers:

		Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	John Nelson	x		
Senior Vice Commander	Tony Puente	x		
Junior Vice Commander	Todd Herron		x	
Adjutant	Charles Hoobler	x		
Finance Officer	Ron Nevorski	x		
Chaplain	Bob Janoska		x	
Historian	Murray Burley	x		
Sergeant-at-Arms	Doyle (Skip) Davison	x		
Exec. Committee	Bob Godwin		x	
Exec. Committee	Jim Hunter	x		
Exec. Committee	Jack Winder	x		
Exec. Committee Aux.	Linda Maxwell	x		
Exec Committee SAL.	Mike McDonnell	x		

Minutes: Adjutant Hoobler presented the minutes of the November 2007 General Membership Meeting to the membership. Bruce Hayden made a motion that the minutes be accepted subject to correction. Hunter supported the motion. Mike McDonnell noted one correction under **Clubroom:** The cost of the additional 50 door key cards was \$193.00 not \$300.00 as stated. The correction was made and the motion passed by voice vote.

Guests: Rachael Fowler; Mark Francis; Kristen Berry; Marcia Young; and Melissa Fowler.

Visiting Speaker: Rachael Fowler spoke to the membership to thank us for our generosity in supporting the Women's Breast Cancer Fund Raiser this last year. She asked for our support once again we support a fund raiser. The event will be an all day Scrap Booking Day scheduled for February 2, 2008. The proceeds will once again go to support the Women's Breast Cancer Fund Raiser. Rachael asked if the post would consider a reduced fee or even to waive the fee for their use of the hall on that day.

Jack Weber made a motion that the full fee be charged for the hall for that day and then be donated back to the Women's Breast Cancer Fund Raiser. Support was Nevorski. The motion passed by voice vote.

Report of Officers

Senior-Vice Commander:

Scouts: The Boy Scouts had an overnight campout at Ft. Custer and visited the Air Museum. The Cub Scout Pack had their Christmas Party on 12-17-07. The Pack would like to thank Butch Maxwell for his support and for allowing them to use the facilities.

Baseball: Winter meetings are taking place. Fund raisers are in full swing or are planned for the near future with Hamburger Night, Poker Night, selling Tiger Tickets just a few of the activities that are ongoing or in the planning stages.

Heritage Elementary: Has found a family of a veteran who is injured and stationed in Ft. Bragg, NC the family lives in Commerce. The school presented the daughter of the injured veteran with a basket. In addition they are gathering money and presents for a Navy Seabee's Family from the Burton Area.

Junior-Vice Commander: No Report.

Finance Officer:

Finance Officer Ron Nevorski presented the November 2007 Finance Report. Jim Hunter made a motion that the report be accepted subject to future audit. Support was Winder. The motion passed by voice vote.

Chaplain:

Acting Chaplain Noon report the following deaths:

Dave Burns, Korea Era Veteran, from South Lyons MI. Life Member for 49 Years
John Cochrane, WWII Era Veteran from Highland MI. PUFL
Floyd Davis, WWII Era Veteran from East Tawas MI
Michael Thompson, Vietnam Era Veteran from Highland MI

The following members are reported on Sick Call:

Bob Godwin

Committee Reports:

Service Officer:

Service Officer Hayden reported that he had received a thank you letter from the Operation Quiet Comfort Organization. Post 216 donated \$350.00 to purchase 10 Go Bags for Veterans in need. Service Officer Hayden also reported that Post 216 had assisted 2 veterans and families with food and utility bills.

Commander Nelson commented that it had been the wish of Tom Gregory that all contributions from his funeral be donated to Post 216. To date approximately \$1750.00 has been donated. This money will go to veteran relief directly.

History Officer: No Report.

Ceremonial Unit:

John Moore reported that the unit had participated in 80 Honors for Internment so far this year. The unit also participated in the Wreaths across America Program. John thanked John and Paula Robinson for taking the good pictures during the Wreaths across America Ceremony.

Rich Chowaniec gave thanks and appreciation from the Honor Guard Unit to the Post for the Hats, Gloves, Coats and Boots. They are appreciated very much by all of the members especially in this cold weather.

Membership: Bruce Hayden made a motion that the following applicants be approved for membership in Post 216:

John R. Anrensen	US Navy – Captain	Active Duty	Support Skip Davison
Thomas E. Flowers	US Marine Corps	Vietnam	Support Rich Chowaniec
Alvin Knechtges	US Army	WWII	Support John Robinson
Donald L. Smith Trf Post 32	US Navy	Vietnam	Support Jack Weber
William Wruble Trf Post 225	US Army	Grenada/Panama	Support Jack Winder
Ken Butt	Trf Post 225 US Air Force	Korea	Support Thomas & Eric Baker

The motion was approved to include all applicants by voice vote.

Post 216 has 351 paid members for 2008. We need 38 more paid members to make our goal for the year and have 83 members who have not paid their dues for 2008 yet.

Bingo: Bruce Hayden presented the October 2007 and the November 2007 Bingo Reports. Bruce made a motion that the reports be accepted subject to future audit. Support was Hunter. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Checks from Bingo to the Post in the amounts of \$3600.00 for October and \$3700.00 for November were turned into the Finance Officer.

Clubroom: Mike McDonnell presented the November 2007 Clubroom Report. Mike made a motion that the report be accepted subject to future audit. Support was Hayden. The motion was approved by voice vote. Mike turned in a check to Post 216 for \$3500.00 from the Clubroom.

Linda Maxwell announced that there will be an annual Christmas Eve Dinner in the Clubroom starting at 1:00PM on 12-24-07.

Charity Gaming Tickets: Mike McDonnell turned in a check to Post 216 on behalf of Bob Janoska from the Charitable Gaming Tickets. The combined check was for \$2870.20 (\$1000.00 for the Children's Christmas Party, and 1870.20 for Left Boots for the Honor Guard).

House: No Report.

Sons of the American Legion: Mike McDonnell reported that the next scheduled meeting for the SAL will be on January 8th, 2008.

Auxiliary: Linda Maxwell Reported:

The next scheduled meeting for the Auxiliary will take place on January 8, 2008.

The Children's Christmas Party went really well. Thank you to the Legion, SAL, and Legion Rider support and donations. Also thank you to Jim Hunter for the donation of the Soccer Balls and toy trucks.

For 2008 the Fallen Heroes Memorial display in the Village of Milford is going to be one of the major projects for fundraising for the Auxiliary. The cost will be approximately \$10,000.00 and will be funded through donations.

Legion Riders: Commander Nelson passed the gavel and reported:

Friday December 21, 2007 starting at 6:30PM will be the Christmas Party.

Saturday January 26, 2008 will be the 3rd annual Beach Party. Donations of \$25.00 will cover food, drinks, and a live band "Cheap Whisky".

Unfinished Business:

Auction: Angelo Pellegata reported that June 2008 is the planned month for the auction fundraiser. We should start in January 2008 collecting quality items for the auction, and looking for volunteers to help with advertising. Strategy sessions should start the 2-3rd week of January 2008.

Christmas Cards to Walter Reed Medical Center: Commander Nelson reported that any card sent to WWMC will be rejected for security reasons. The cards should be directed to the American Red Cross, or Pitney Bowes, and they will make distribution on them.

Honor Flight: Commander Nelson reported that it costs approximately \$20,000.00 to fund one Honor Flight and that each flight takes 40 veterans and sometimes double that many. Some of the veterans who are scheduled are dying prior to their flights this means replacements have to be found to take the seats on the flight. We as a Post will continue to support the Honor Flight Program.

Steve Meyers Support: Commander Nelson reported that he sent an email to Steve Meyers in reference to Post 216 Membership holding signs in Japanese in Walled Lake for the Japanese Businessmen. Commander Nelson explained that this would not be well received by some of the membership especially those who were on active duty during WWII. Commander Nelson feels that the request was withdrawn as there has been no further response from Mr. Meyers.

New Business:

Donations to Special Education Bowling Fund: Commander Nelson reported that the pins had been purchased and the events will take place in the spring April and May 2008, with an awards banquet taking place in May 2008.

Need for Assists in Officer Positions: Commander Nelson asked the membership to consider applying as assistants to the following Officer Positions:

Adjutant
Chaplain
Sergeant at Arms
Finance Officer

Good of the Legion:

Freedom Calls: Commander Nelson reported that there is a link on our website that instructs family members on how to contact deployed family members and talk to them. This program is being sponsored by Chrysler LLC.

Executive Board Meeting:

Adjutant Hoobler outlined the notes of the Executive Board Meeting held 12-18-07 to the membership.

Commander Nelson discussed in depth with the membership the planned budget for 2008 as well as the 10% discretionary funds after expenses that were available for spending by the committees.

Pearl Harbor: Ron Nevorski presented to Post 216 souvenir newspaper and booklet from Pearl Harbor Hawaii that outlined the attack through the surrender in the pacific of WWII. Ron recommended that we display the complete paper and booklet in the Post for members and guests to look at.

Thomas Baker: USAF Academy Cadet and Post 216 Member attended the meeting tonight while on leave for the academy. When asked how he liked the academy his comments were it is a lot harder than he thought it would be.

There being no further business to come before the membership the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM with the proper closing ceremonies being observed.

Prepared and submitted by:
Charles L. Hoobler
Adjutant