

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS of the United States of America

Thomas F. Welch VFW Post 706

5000 Lillian Highway
Pensacola, Florida 32506



Founded September 29, 1899

16 August 2017

JOINT SESSION

Post Commander Nathaniel Bass called the Joint Session of VFW Post 706 to order at .

Auxiliary – Linda Jordon- No Announcements, Phyllis Smith share that it is Linda's Birthday and is wished a Happy Birthday by those present.

Military Order of the Cooties – Seam Squirrel Victory Looney- Announced steak night will be 2 September and the Cooties have committed to the Stand-Down Sponsored by the Salvation Army scheduled for 22 September and are in need of personal sundry items to support the event.

Canteen Manager — Michael Gergel – announced he was uncomfortable at this time to present a report, however, vowed that this will not ever happen again. Commander Bass informed all present that Mike has been appointed the new Canteen Manager and stated that Bobby Fre resigned from the position.

Americanism – Comrade Looney announced an update report on Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen, stated he has received two inquiries from JROTC Commanders. Letters have been sent out to all the JROTC Commanders addressing the current Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen and he is anticipating additional entries.

Good of the Order – Comrade Hall announced that on 18 August at 1500hrs the Naval Air Station Hospital 3rd floor in the Command Theater, a Town-Hall meeting is scheduled and will including a Question and Answer session; all Veterans and Spouse welcome. Comrade Hall continued to share that there is an automated disconnect between the Veteran Administration (because the VA is not using the DoD system) and the Naval Hospital web sites and are not sharing documented medical care information vital to the health management of Veterans utilizing both locations. This is outlined in an article in the Fleet Reserve Magazine, which addresses the need for a one system usage by both above mentioned entities. According to the article both entities are planning to work on a combined system together. Comrade Hall provided further information about the Stand-Down on 22 August- Stating the event begins at 0800hrs. Comrade Hall shared the events at the Veteran's Memorial Service, were the deceased names of past three months were read and followed by a service. The next Veteran's Memorial Service is schedule for 26 October starting at 0800hrs and located at Shelter A.

Comrade Hermance suggested starting a bowling league, which would meet once or twice a month.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Post 706 Monthly Meeting, 16 August 2017

Phyllis Smith asked if there were any activities planned for Labor Day. Commander Bass shared this issue was discussed during the House Committee Meeting, however, unfortunately there were not enough voting members for a quorum and no plans could be voted on. Commander Bass stated that there will be activities on Labor Day; however, the exact activities are still being worked out. Commander Bass announced the Labor Day will be an Open House event.

Commander Bass thanked the Auxiliary for their contributions toward the new sign, which the Post will be getting in the next few weeks. The sign is going to be beautiful and is capable of posting Amber, Weather, and Civil alerts along with the Post activities keeping the community and Post Members informed. The sign will be an electronic marquee, at the same time the Post sign is scheduled to be replaced because there is no longer a Ladies Auxiliary. The new sign will read VFW Post 706 and Auxiliary. Commander continued to thank the Auxiliary for their continuing support of the Post.

Phyllis Smith asked if there are plans for food on Labor Day, because it will take time for preparation. Commander Bass deferred the question to House Committee Chairman Comrade Looney. Comrade Looney's response was the House Committee would come up with something.

Commander Bass stated to the Auxiliary that at the conclusion of the meetings he needs to speak with the newly voted in President. Commander Bass stated that there are some required to be met, which have not been met and these issues have to be resolved as soon as possible.

Comrade Looney shared he was attempting to locate medical records for an individual JROTC student and National Guard member who served on Active Duty and discover all past records for all branches of service are now stored in the archives in St. Louis, MO. And can be obtained through the VA web site.

Comrade Sakalarios shared the Post has a new flag, the shed is finished, the building is scheduled for pressure washing, and Comrade Cline is working on getting paint for the other projects. Comrade Sakalarios stated if you see him at the Post working on projects and wish to join in he will fully accept such help.

Comrade Smith expressed concern about people still parking in front of the Flag Pole. Commander Bass stated that the issue will be taken care of as progress continues on the Post.

Commander Bass thanks Comrade Prince, Comrade Gergel, Comrade Cline and Comrade Taylor for assisting with continuing efforts to keep the Post operational.

Joint Session ended at _ 1847 __.

POST 706 MEETING

Post meeting called to order by Commander Bass at 1950 __.

Officer of the Day Comrade Smith led the members in a salute to the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. (17 members in attendance)

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Post 706 Monthly Meeting, 16 August 2017

Opening prayer by Chaplin Jerry Hunter.

Distinguished visitors introduced

Past Post Commander – Mike Sakalarios– Present
Past Post Commander – Bill Jacobson- Present
Past Post Commander – Victor Looney- Present
Past District 1 Commander and Post Commander – Richard Mullen- Not Present

Roll Call of Officers

Commander – Nathaniel Bass - Present
Sr. Vice Commander – Paul Hermance – Present
Jr. Vice Commander – Mike Sakalarios – Present
Quartermaster –Faith Wylie - Present
Adjutant – Anthony Carroll – Present
Judge Advocate – Howard Prince - Present
Chaplin –Jerry Hunter - Present
Surgeon – Robert Hall – Present
3 Year Trustee – Richard Mullen – Excused
2 Year Trustee – Scott Allison - Present
1 Year Trustee – William Jacobson - Present
Officer of the Day- Walt Smith- Present

New Membership -- Read __ 4 __ New Membership and __ 2 __ Transfers Applications. Motion by Comrade Prince, Seconded by Comrade Hall the Commander called to vote these members in, vote called motion carried. Cross of the Malta to be presented at the next scheduled meeting. New Members/ Transfers: Are attached to the back of this report.

Adjutant – Read the minutes, no correction, additions, or deletions; minutes stand as read.

Quartermaster Report – Read the Report, Report ending 31 July accepted as read, pending audit. Posted and on file. Commander Bass explained that the Quartermaster was combining both the Quartermaster Report with the Canteen Report, however, these reports and figures will be presented in two separate reports in the future; because the incoming Canteen Manager will be responsible for his portion of the report.

Comrades in Distress – Chaplin Hunter

Comrade Looney- shared that Comrade Mullen’s wife Queen is home from knee replacement surgery and that Comrade Mullen himself will undergoing procedures for his neck and back. Comrade Jermen will be undergoing knee replacement surgery in the near future. Commander Bass shared Comrade Blonde was in the hospital last week because his MS is causing increasing problems, Comrade Kolh has been in the hospital to have a pacemaker installed, but appears to be doing well. Commander Bass announced the passing of Comrade Robert Montgomery and

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Post 706 Monthly Meeting, 16 August 2017

asked Chaplin Hunter to say a pray and drape the Post Charter. Chaplin Hunter draped the Charter and read the prayer and asked for a moment of silence.

Buddy Poppy – Jr. Vice Commander Sakalarios- Announced his attempt to have Buddy Poppies located at the Dog Track and Wal-Mart were unsuccessful, but is working on the Home Depot for support. He continued to state \$18.60 in donation for the past month and \$45.00 donations from the shirts and hats. There are eight more months to go, Donation for June and July amounted to \$123.00 and we are currently at 20%. He reminded the members there is Buddy Poppy container and Donation box located by the back by door and request member to get a Buddy Puppy make a Donation. Comrade Jacobson made a suggestion to re-approach the Flora-Bama because pass Comrade Horne had great success at this location, Comrade Jacobson stated he had the contact information.

Service Officer Report – Commander Bass reported assisting _ 63 ___ veterans in house and made __0__ in assisted living, __1__ in hospital and in __0__ home visits for the month of July.

Commander Bass referred back to Surgeon Hall's comments and shared all records for the past three months now go into the VA system and is automatic, but there are still a lot of bug that are being worked out. The Commander shared that he has been recertified as a Service Officer.

House Committee Report – No report because there were not enough members for a quorum. One note: to change operating hours, Commander Bass shared this will be taken up with Chairman Looney of the House Committee.

Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen- - Same as Joint Session

Canteen Report – No report, as stated in the Joint Session.

Blood Bank – __ 0__ pints donated by Note: This report currently requires a chairman. Membership was reminded to say they are with the VFW when giving blood and then it is note if needed by a member or a member of their family.

Membership Report – The Commander reported membership as __22 ___ currently, __0 ___ Life Members, __8 ___ New or reinstated, __14 ___ continual membership: Last year's membership number: __540 _____. Currently the Post is at _ 4.03 ___%.

Commander Bass explained that the numbers are not a true reflection because they are reset annually.

Food Drive – No Report

Prayer For The Children - Chaplain Hunter led the Prayer for the Children. Collected \$ _23.00 for the National Home for the Children.

Americanism – Same as Joint Session

Unfinished Business – None

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Post 706 Monthly Meeting, 16 August 2017

New Business –

Motion made by Comrade Hall to pay all reoccurring expenses for the Post.

Second made by Comrade Smith

Discussion: Comrade Smith requested obligations be added to the motion, Quartermaster Wylie announced that this issue had already been voted on and carried as a permanent vote and did not require any further action.

Comrade Hall retracted his motion.

Good of the Order –

Comrade Looney shared he is restarting the food drive. Adjutant Carroll share that this is an ongoing Post activity and is reported monthly.

Comrade Hall shared that on 26 August there will be a Veterans Breakfast at the Ellison Field National Guard Armory starting at 0800hrs.

Commander Bass Announced the District 1 meeting will take place in Fort Walton Beach VFW Post. The Auxiliary will start at 0900hrs and the members meeting at 1100hrs.

Closing Prayer – Chaplain Hunter gave the closing prayer.

Post meeting was closed at __1929hrs __. Next meeting Scheduled at 1830, 20 September 2017.

Anthony Carroll
ADJUTANT