

Commander - Merlin L. (Bud) Evered
Adjutant - Harrison H. Solt III
Chaplain - James G. McKibben III
Officer of the Day - James A. Knowles
Service Officer - William E. Clarke

Minutes of 10 May 2010 for meeting at St. David's Hall, Gales Ferry, CT

The regular meeting was opened at 6:30 PM according to ritual with Commander Evered presiding. A salute to the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance were conducted. There were ten members present. There were no visitors.

Adjutant Solt submitted the minutes of the 12 April 2010 meeting and they were accepted as submitted [Graves/Knowles].

Correspondence

1. Notice received that "The Moving Wall" [1/2 size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial] will be on display in the West Hartford Town Hall Thursday June 17 through Sunday June 20, 2010.
2. Letter received, by the Department, from M. Jodi Rell, Governor regarding the creation of a Connecticut State Veterans Memorial.
3. Letter received thanking the Post for It's' most recent Campbell Soup Label donation to the VFW National Home.
4. Note received from the Brunner family thanking the Post for the consideration shown the Brunner children and family. The Brunner's will be leaving the area for a new assignment in Norfolk VA.
5. Letter received from new Department Commander, Richard DiFederico, announcing the removal of William Hornok, pursuant to section 520 of the National By-Laws, as Department Commander.
6. Notice of Seventh Annual Patriots Golf Tournament. The tournament is scheduled for Friday September 10, 2010, start at 1230 at the Crestbrook Park golf Course, Watertown, CT.

The Adjutant reminded all that the correspondence log is available if members want to review these or previous correspondence.

Financial Report

CDR Evered read the monthly financial report for April 2010 (period of 1 April 2010 through 30 April 2010). The financial report was accepted as read [Graves/Clarke].

Comrades in Distress

Andre Lefebvre is home recuperating from back surgery. Commander Evered has sent Comrade Lefebvre a get well card.

Committee Reports

VOD & PP. Commander Evered reported that the VOD & PP awardees still to be recognized have been invited to the June Post meeting where they will receive recognition and their awards. The VOD second place winner (Callie Bateman) will read her essay. A short

ceremony will be held to recognize all winners. This years (2009-2010) VOD winner (E. Brunner) placed 3rd in the District. This years [2009-2010] Patriot Pen Post winner (F. Brunner) placed first in the District and 2nd in the Department. A chair for the 2010-2011 contests is still needed. Interested members should contact Commander Evered.

BSA Eagle Scout Recognition. Commander Evered reported that the BSA Eagle Court of Honor for Christopher Magro, Troop 16 would be held on Sunday May 16 at Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church. The Commander will attend and present Mr. Magro with the VFW Eagle Scout Certificate and the VFW Citizenship medal. All Post members where invited/encouraged to attend the Court of Honor. Commander Evered displayed the certificate and medal that will be presented to Mr. Magro.

William Williams Cemetery. Cemetery Chairman Clarke reported that the cemetery that the three sections of rail fence that needed replacement have been replaced. The fence still needs to be preserved. Commander Evered suggested that Comrade Clarke, he, and whomever else would like to, go to William Williams cemetery after flag placement on the other cemeteries (May 15, 2010) to place flags, clean up [mow, rake, etc] as necessary. A future date will be set to preserve the rail fencing around the cemetery.

Comrade Richardson commented that he is involved with the Gales Ferry Cemetery grounds committee and that they frequently use Boy Scouts and people assigned "community service" to maintain their grounds. The Post might consider doing like wise for the William Williams cemetery.

Public Relations. Chairman Solt presented the Committees April report. Copy attached hereto.

Fund Raising. Commander Evered reported that fund raising efforts are going well. Four sets of letters went out to the membership (Letters to Gales Ferry members, Ledyard members, members who live outside Gales Ferry and Ledyard, but within Connecticut, and those members who live outside Connecticut. The letters main theme was contribute when and how you can. If you can not participate in events and meetings perhaps, you can support the Post with a monetary gift.

A solicitation campaign to local businesses in conjunction with the "Buddy Poppy" drive is being conducted. In addition, a Watch Bill for the "Buddy Poppy" drive scheduled for Wal-Mart in Groton on Saturday May 29, 2010 is available for the membership to sign up on. One and two hour watches will be scheduled, depending on the number of members who sign up. Crews will be needed to walk the parade route during the Ledyard Memorial Day Parade. It was emphasized that this is the Post's major fundraiser for the year. All members are asked to support this effort and to help make it a success. To be successful, monetarily, we need to reach our goal of \$1000.00. Currently the Relief Fund has been depleted so a successful "Buddy Poppy" drive this year is even more critical to the Post's efforts and ability to support planned events and to meet the VFW Mission.

Community Outreach. Commander Evered reported that monetary donations were made to the following organizations in the name of the Post.

1. A \$40.00 donation was made to "Help Hospitalized Vets".

2. A \$50.00 donation was made to the Norwich Dioceses in support of the Red, White, and Blue Mass that is held every year.
3. A \$55.00 ad, In memory of departed comrades, was made to the Lions Club Memorial Day Parade program.

New Business.

Commander Evered reported that a Bill (S2743) was again introduced, on November 5, 2009, in the Senate to create a Cold War Medal. This bill has been introduced before but never passed for any number of reasons. The period of service to be eligible for the award is September 2, 1945 through December 26, 1996.

Commander Evered reported that, in conjunction with the Annual Department Conference an awards breakfast will be held in Rocky Hill Marriott Hotel on Saturday June 12 at 0730. The Commander will be attending and the Post will be receiving their membership award. The Commander has an extra ticket that was offered to anyone interested in attending the breakfast.

Comrade Trotter updated the membership on the annual placement of flags on town cemeteries. Flags will be placed on Saturday May 15, starting at 0900. Interested parties are to meet in the Ledyard Center Elementary School parking lot. Rain date will be Saturday May 22. There are 51 cemeteries in Ledyard and Gales Ferry. 36 of these have veterans interred. Total number of veterans interred is about 600. The Ledyard Cemetery Committee will provide the new flags. Commander Evered will turn the removed flags over to the Boy Scouts for proper disposal. The May 15 effort will address the Avery Stoddard, Lambtown, Ledyard Center, and Gales Ferry cemeteries. The town committee will address the other cemeteries.

The Ledyard Memorial Day parade will take place on Sunday May 30th. Prior to the parade, a Memorial Day Ceremony will be conducted at the town memorial in Ledyard Center at 1300. The American Legion and the Fleet Reserve will organize the ceremony.

Good of the Order.

A ceremony for installation of Post Officers for the 2010-2011 year was held. Jerry Trotter, Past Post Commander, presided.

There being no further business the CDR closed the meeting. The meeting was closed at 8:15 PM.



H. H. Solt III
Adjutant