

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 8 February 2010 for meeting at St. David's Hall, Gales Ferry, CT

The regular meeting was opened at 1:00 PM according to ritual with Commander Evered presiding. A salute to the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance were conducted. There were ten members and one guest, new member candidate Mr. Patrick Burke, present.

As a point of introduction, Mr. Burke shared his background with the membership. He served with the Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine Force for six years as a Nuclear Machinist Mate. Mr. Burke made six deterrent patrols. Post military employment included positions in Radiological Controls services and Radiological Controls Instruction at Electric Boat and with others in the industry. Post retirement employment includes limousine driving, which he enjoys very much because he works when he wants and meets interesting people and sees interesting places. Mr. Burke and his family make their home on Town Farm Road, Ledyard. The membership welcomed Mr. Burke and look forward to him becoming a member of the Post and his participation in Post activities.

It was reported that since the last meeting the mother of Chaplain McKibben has passed away. CDR Evered, on behalf of the Post, reported that he sent a sympathy card and offered Post condolences to Comrade McKibben and his family. No other reports of Comrades or the families of Comrades in distress were received.

Adjutant Solt read the minutes of the 11 January 2010 meeting and they were accepted as read.

Adjutant Solt read and referred the following pieces of correspondence:

1. Email from James Semczuk, the Veteran Liaison for Pleural Mesothelioma dot com. Requested listing his website link on the Post's webpage. Request denied, not enough information regarding intent or status of organization (for profit/non-profit).
2. Email from Vet John L. Tillman seeking persons who served in A Troop, 4/12th Cavalry, 1st Brigade, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized) in Vietnam. Seeking members for his informal organization.
3. Email from Lou Eden, a retired computer artist and a Navy veteran. He put together an exciting "Salute to Our Veterans" show that he can adapt to suit our post. No apparent interest at this time.
4. Email from Department Adjutant Ron Rusko publicizing that the VFW Store is now offering a hardback edition of the award-winning book, "Battles of the Korean War: Americans Engaged in Deadly Combat, 1950-53".
5. Email from Department Adjutant Ron Rusko publicizing the Patriot Guard & Homes for the Brave Spring Breakout Ride scheduled for Saturday May 8, 2010 at the Prospect VFW Hall. Registration is 8:00 AM.

See the Adjutant for more details or a copy.

CDR Evered read the monthly financial report for January 2010. The report was accepted as read.

CDR Evered reported that membership for 2010 is at 73 members (123.00%).

CDR Evered reported that he would make presentations at the February 20, 2010 BSA Troop 16 Eagle Court of Honor for Eagle Scout Ben Plarose. CDR Evered displayed the certificate and VFW Citizenship Award that will be presented.

The VOD and PP first place winner Post awards will be made at 2:00 PM Monday March 8 immediately after a short Post business meeting. The winners and their families have been notified. The other essay contest winners will be recognized at the annual Ledyard school awards ceremony held in the Spring.

To date the Post has not been notified of the particulars of the District Awards Banquet. Comrade Gallagher volunteered to contact the District immediately after the Post meeting to obtain the information. He will report promptly to the Commander so the information can be disseminated to the membership.

Commander Evered apprised the Post that Preston VFW Post 9452 will host a Benefit Pasta Dinner for the New London County Veteran Transition Home. The dinner will be held Friday February 12, 2010 at 6:00 PM, at the Post Hall. A \$20.00 donation is suggested but all are welcomed regardless of the donation made. Tickets are available at the Hall or by calling 860-437-1777

After a short discussion, a motion was made and seconded proposing that a VFW clock be presented to the 1st place 2009-2010 VOD winner (Ms. Brunner) as part of the award and recognition process. Motion carried unanimously. [motion 20100208-1]

Comrade Dillon, also representing NAUS (National Association of Uniformed Services) reported that VA Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs L. Tammy Duckworth would be at Preston VFW Hall at 10:00 AM Tuesday March 16 to brief and take questions and hear issues from veterans. Ms. Duckworth is a disabled American veteran having been wounded in action in Iraq in 2004 when the Blackhawk helicopter she was co-piloting was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade. All interested veterans are encouraged to attend this event.

A motion was made and seconded proposing a donation of \$100.00 be made to the Ledyard Bill Library for the use of their meeting room during the renovations at St. David's. It was noted, during discussion, that the Library was very accommodating and that \$100.00 is the amount we would have donated to St. David's had we been able to meet there. The motion carried unanimously. [Motion 20100208-2]

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

There being no further business the CDR preceded with closing ceremonies. The meeting was closed at 2:37 PM.



H. H. Solt III
Adjutant

