



The American Legion, Post 22

Membership Meeting - Minutes

November 20th, 2024, at 6 P.M.

Opening Ceremonies (Commander) (6 P.M.).

- Post and salute the Colors
- Chaplain offers prayer (remove cap)
- POW/MIA empty chair (Sergeant-at-Arms)
- Pledge of Allegiance (re-cover cap upon completion)
- Recite Preamble of Constitution of The American Legion
- Roll call to determine if quorum is present (min of 10 members): There were 26 members/guests in attendance.

Follow with officer roll call:

Present/Absent/ Excused

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| a. Commander (R. Skjoldal) | X | | |
| b. 1 st Vice Commander (D. Dosch) | X | | |
| c. 2 nd Vice Commander (R. Jendry) | | X | X |
| d. Adjutant (D. Harris) | X | | |
| e. Finance Officer (P. Rodriguez) | X | | |
| f. Chaplain (K. Donnell) | | X | X |
| g. Historian (J. Miller) | X | | |
| h. Sergeant-at-Arms (A. Anable) | X | | |

- Minutes of previous meeting – Electronically posted on website: <https://www.alpost22rcsd.com/mtg-minutes-etc> (Adjutant)
- Introduction of guests and prospective new members (Applicable host)
 - New members:
 - John Laverty (Korea Era) US Army 50-53; Pat Gatens USAF 21 years Active Duty and Reserve; Jim Bishop served in Vietnam 3 years active Army and then Army National Guard.
 - New member coins presentation.
 - Guests:
 - Lindsey Seachris with **Black Hills Center for Aging** will be our Presenter this evening. She handed out brochures, spoke and answered questions.
- Financial Report (Harris) as of: 11/20/2024
 - Business Account (Rodriguez): \$.
 - Membership Acct: \$ (Regular membership deposits and PUFL check \$409.25; Deposit from Veterans Day Dinner was \$1,068 [\$300 in donations] with expenses of: \$540).

- Benevolence Acct: \$ (Deposit from Business Acct. of \$500, and a \$100 donation, and a transfer of \$1,713 from savings to pay back for parking lot check).
- Americanism Acct: \$ (Deposit from Business Acct. of \$500).
- SAL Acct: \$ (Deposits of \$250 from World Series boards; \$150 donation to ALR Christmas party).
- Honor Guard: \$ (Deposit \$1,142.53; Debits of \$33.53 for phone bill).
- Scholarship Sav Acct: \$
- Capital Improvements Savings: \$ (\$1,000 deposited from Business Acct. and \$574 from Queen of Hearts; Debit of \$1,713 transferred to Benevolence Acct to reimburse for parking lot check).
- Loan: (\$) Pd \$2,429.47 on loan in October. Our November payment will take us below \$30K
- **Executive Committee update:**
 - Meeting held on November 16th at 0900 - Meeting Report:
 - Main topic of discussion was our finances as always. We are maintaining a healthy situation. We continue to complete Facility upgrades as fast as we can afford them.
 - Voted to provide **\$200 to our Riders** to help pay for Christmas Gifts for their Christmas Party.
 - Voted to provide the **“house chili” for the SD Mines Veterans group** Chili Cookoff.
 - They voted to replace our **business computer** with a new one and now receive support (backups etc.) from a new provider (LinkTech). **Job completed but still working minor glitches.**
 - Approved renewing our **Nonprofit Status with USPS** and subsequently utilized Western Mailers to send out the Veterans Day Event postcard to approximately 520 members.
 - Authorized the purchase of new chairs for the bar – only 12 were available at a total price of: \$1,548
 - Authorized the creation of a Capital Campaign Committee. Members selected were D. Harris and J. Miller.
- **Membership** (Harris/Dosch): 2025 Membership year starts 1 July = **Goal is 548.**
 - TAL renewals/new members to date: **427 for 78% of goal**
 - New members:
 - Doug Harris (**11**)
 - Don Dosch (**4**)
 - Ernie Sanford (1)
 - Lyle Tolsma (1)
 - Mike Ball (1)
 - Gary Stanley (1)
 - Corby Hall (HG) (1)
 - Don Fuller (**1**)
 - Transfers In: 8
 - 2025 SAL **Goal is 51**
 - SAL renewals/new members of **51 for 100% of goal**

- New Members:
 - **Jackie Miller (3)**
 - Doug Harris (1)
 - Ryan Skjoldal (1)
 - Gary Stanley (1)
 - C. P. Van Delist (1)
 - Corby Hall (1)
- **AL Riders** Report (Ernie Sanford): Next meeting will be in December due to the November meeting falling on Thanksgiving.
 - 25th October held a Veteran's social at Ft. Meade.
 - 27th October hosted a Halloween party.
 - 30 October - 15 Veterans were presented with Quilts of Valor.
 - Nov 22nd and 23rd will decorate a Christmas tree at the capitol building.
 - Ernie won the chili cookoff at Post 315 on Nov 2nd.
 - Did an escort on 4 Nov from Sturgis VFW to BHNC with Riders from Post 33.
 - We were in the Veterans Day Parade on November 11th and helped with the dinner.
 - A Flag line on Nov 12th at BHNC.
 - Nov 17th did a flag line for the National ALA President at the Airport. And attended a dinner/ceremony at Post 164 in Spearfish.
 - 5th December the riders will have their Christmas Party at the Post @ 6pm.
 - 8th December is going to be the kids Christmas Party @ 2pm to 5pm. – Pictures with Santa.
- **Honor Guard** (R. Skjoldal):
 - Always recruiting new members.
 - 11 Nov – Led the Veterans Day parade.
 - 23 November approx. 1 P.M. at the Post. Fundraiser for the Honor Guard. Prizes will be frozen turkeys and many other items.
 - 18 January 2025 at 6 P.M. there will be a casino night fundraiser.
 - Sexy Bingo at Robbinsdale Bowling Alley for the Month of March. Mention that you are there for Post 22 and they will set aside some of the funds for our Honor Guard.
 - Will be working with VFW Honor Guard to split days at BHNC. Still working the issue.
 - **Next meeting will be the 25th of November at 6:30 P.M.**
- **SAL** (J. Skala):
 - Still doing pick'ems for football games.
 - Donated \$150 for the ALR Childrens Christmas Party
- **Post 22 Auxiliary** Report (T. Fuller):
 - Craft Show scheduled for the 7th of December 9am – 2pm, also at the Post.
 - All year long West Middle School would like to have Veterans speak to children. Call the Principal if you would like to speak. Dan Conrad is the principal; you can contact him at 605-394-4033.

- Donated \$150 to ALR for Christmas Party gifts.
- **Pancake breakfast on the 2nd Sunday of every month. Next breakfast will be on 8 December from 8 - 11.**
- **A member of the ALA will be going into assisted living soon and want to give away her electric wheelchair and upright freezer.** If you need either of these items, please contact Bel at 605-863-0899. You will then need to make arrangements to pick them up.
- **Americanism (D. Harris):**
 - The application for 2025 Boys State is now available at <https://southdakotaboysstate.org/>
 - We have two Stevens HS Seniors signed up for the Oratorical Contest.
 - The Post level Oratorical competition will take place on 8 December at 1130.
 - The District 2 competition will take place on 12 January at 1000...at SD Mines.
- **Athletic Officer (Lyle Tolsma):** the only thing to report is that we're having a Commissioners' meeting the 15th of December in Pierre starting at 11:00 AM at Post 8. Baseball registrations will begin in January for the upcoming season.
- **Chaplain (K. Donnell):**
 - Deaths and Sick Call:
 - Deaths: Ed Meyer and Greg Fordyce. A moment of silence was taken to honor our members who have passed.
 - Sick Call: Paul Richter is now in hospice.
 - Fuller talked about a recent Veteran Suicide.
- **Post Service Officer (H. Rossander):** See attached document.
- **Old Business:**
 - Facility update – current projects (Harris/Decker/Smith).
 - Bar Chairs (Decker): **Ongoing...waiting for a test chair.**
 - Parking Lot update (Smith): **Completed.**
 - The camera in lower room is **Fixed.**
 - Post 22 supplied the **chili for the SD Mines Veterans Club Chili Cookoff** event again this year. Cost to us of \$117.24 for supplies (Jason Skala – SAL CDR - volunteered his time to make it and get it to the group): This amount was reimbursed to the Post from the Benevolence Acct.
 - Results of the **Veterans Day Event:** The Post invested \$540 (\$120.45 for turkeys and \$420.31 for the other ingredients) into the food items for this event. That amount was paid back to the Post Business Account from the Membership Account.
 - **We served over 300 people this year.**
 - Thanks go out **to Jason (SAL)** who cooked 10 of the turkeys,
 - helped set up/tear down the rooms
 - supervised the preparation of the rest of the meal (Toby Farrand and Kyle Skjoldal);
 - **The Auxiliary** who provided a “million” pieces of pie and decorated for the event; and
 - **The Riders** who helped serve the meal; and

- **Troop 72 Scouts/Leaders** for assisting the guests and passing out letters/flags to our Veterans; and
 - **The Honor Guard**, who represented at the Parade and who set up the flags for the event; and
 - finally, **the Officers** who helped manage the event in so many ways!
 - This was truly a Legion Family event!
- **New Business:**
 - Jackie Miller has reached out to our First Responder Agencies to get nominations for the Firefighter, Law enforcement, and EMT/Paramedic of the year. They should be completed and submitted in December.
- **Good of The American Legion** (Any member):
 - DAV Information for our members (C. Speirs): Not present
 - Several bills are currently being considered in Congress that affect Veterans. If you would like to get this information, please go to: <https://www.dav.org/member-resources/legislation/>
 - Volunteer Opportunities (Harris)
 - **Gardening for the Post** (John Rankin)
 - Looking for a couple of members to create a group that can help to keep the weeds under control and possibly plant some Perennials. Hoping to get 3 or 4 members to create a “Grounds Committee”. You would take turns working to keep the weeds under control. John will be the Chairman/Scheduler. Please contact John at 517-927-3956, or email at jsrank@sbcglobal.net
 - **Event Planner:** Looking for a member who likes to help plan events like Veterans Day, Legion Birthday, and visits from Dignitaries (National Commander etc.). It would involve being the Point of Contact (POC) and working with all the Legion Family Groups (TAL/SAL/ALA/ALR) to coordinate their efforts. Harris would provide the training for this. Member **Jennifer Haleakala volunteered to pick up this position.**
- **Adjournment:** at 6:56 pm. A social hour followed.