



POSTINGS

Newsletter of American Legion Young-Budd Post 171, Westerville, Ohio

May 2019

Commander's Notes:

The year continues to fly by with elections rapidly approaching at our May Meeting and, by the time you read this, our first Westerville Fourth Friday for 2019 will be history. Speaking of Fourth Fridays; the American Legion and VFW are alternating months to make it easier to man the booth.

Young-Budd Post 171 will man the booth at the northeast corner of State and College in April, June and August, with the Ellis E. Woodrow Memorial Post 7883 doing the honors in May, July and September. Come on out and be a part of the team supporting our (AL and VFW) programs.

As mentioned above, Election of Officers for the 2019-2020 American Legion Year will take place at our meeting on May 1st. The proposed slate of officers from the Nominating Committee is:

Commander	John McElhaney
1 st Vice Commander	Dave Bergman
2 nd Vice Commander	Ron Leonard
3 rd Vice Commander	Chuck Hurley
Adjutant	Dave Troutman
Finance Officer	Flo Evans
Post Historian	Vern Pack
Post Service Officer	Tim Dickerson with the assistance of George Williams
Sgt-at-Arms	Bill Laidley
Trustees	Tom Poulton, Mike Etling, Sonny Evans

Nominations from the floor are always welcome and encouraged, so if you feel the desire to be part of the leadership team of ***YOUR POST*** throw your hat in the ring.

At the May meeting we will also be discussing the plans for the upcoming Memorial Day activities that Past Commander Pete Otteson has been coordinating and my sincere thanks go to Pete for his efforts in this annual undertaking. Among the other items for discussion will be a Clippers Baseball outing and a trip to Motts Military Museum.

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!

—John R. McElhaney, Commander

News You Can Use:

What if you took SBP and receive disability compensation

By Bill Hursh, Army Survivor Benefit Plan Program Manager

If you retired medically or receive Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability payments, there are important aspects of the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) you need to understand.

There is a connection, by law, between the SBP your surviving spouse receives and the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) he or she would receive if your death is determined by the VA to be service connected. If there is an offset of your surviving spouse's SBP by DIC, your surviving spouse will receive a refund of all the SBP premiums you paid for the portion of SBP that is offset. Your surviving spouse will also receive any SBP that exceeds the DIC and the Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA).

Lets' compare four scenarios for a deceased retired sergeant first class who received an 80 percent disability rating from the VA.

Scenario 1. The Soldier did not elect SBP but the Retired Soldier's death was determined service connected by the VA. The surviving spouse will receive DIC which currently is a monthly nontaxable payment of \$1319.04 which is adjusted for cost of living adjustments (COLA) increases.

Scenario 2. The Soldier elected SBP and the death was not determined by the VA to be service connected. The surviving spouse will receive a monthly taxable SBP payment of \$1720 which is adjusted for cost of living adjustments (COLA) increases.

Scenario 3. The Soldier elected SBP and the VA determined the Retired Soldier's death was service connected. Therefore, the surviving spouse's \$1720 monthly SBP annuity is offset dollar for dollar by the spouse's \$1319.04 monthly DIC payment. The surviving spouse will receive the \$400.96 SBP that exceeds the DIC and refund of the premiums paid for the SBP coverage offset by the DIC. Because there is an offset of SBP by DIC, the surviving spouse will also receive SSIA of \$318. This scenario provides the surviving spouse the most compensation, \$2038, while ensuring the surviving spouse would have SBP coverage if the Retired Soldier's death is not determined service connected by the VA.

Scenario 4. The Soldier did not elect SBP and the VA determined the Retired Soldier's death was not service connected. The surviving spouse does not have SBP coverage and DIC is not payable by the VA. The surviving spouse will receive no compensation based on the Retired Soldier's military service.

Electing SBP - even when you will have a VA disability rating - ensures survivor benefits for your spouse. Remember, when you retired, there was no guarantee that your death will be determined by the VA to be service connected. If your death is service connected, your spouse will receive a refund of any SBP premiums you paid for the portion of SBP offset by DIC as well as any SBP that exceeds the DIC and SSIA. Your electing SBP eliminated the risk of your spouse not receiving survivor benefits for your military service while ensuring he or she receives the maximum benefits.

Please contact your nearest Retirement Services Officer (RSO), listed on page 23 with any SBP or DIC questions you have.

MINUTES: Below are the minutes from last month's meeting. Please read them and offer any corrections to the Adjutant prior to the call for approval at the 1 May 2019 meeting.

Membership Meeting Minutes, 3 Apr 2019

- Called to order by Commander John McElhaney at 1900 with customary ceremonies.
- Resolution 288 for 67th National Convention read aloud by Mike Boone.
- Meeting resumed: Quorum declared by Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Laidley. Motion forwarded by Ron Leonard and seconded by Jack Cashman to approve the Apr 2019 minutes. The members voted, approved and the minutes are published online.
- April L'Abbe, Volunteer Coordinator for Brookdale Hospice, presented an overview of the programs they offer for Veterans and opportunities to volunteer. John McElhaney, volunteered for over five years and said it was a great experience.
- George Williams shared a story about recognizing a Vietnam Veteran last week when he was in Arizona.
- Jack Cashman shared a story about visiting a Navy Vet that was close to passing away.
- Commander recognized past Commanders in attendance: Fred Winckelman and Mike Etling.

Committee reports:

- Finance - Flo Evans not present. Commander passed out Profit and Loss Report. Motion forwarded by Glen Golden and seconded by Bobby Nocks to accept the financial report,
- Membership – Chuck Hurley reported a few membership transactions and that we will start a new year for renewals soon.
- Building – Bill Laidley announced the 3 May 2019 Spring Clean up scheduled for 0900. No requirement to bring tools.
- Rental - Mark Eucker reported all good with rentals. Some problems with the website, but no impact on the rentals. Pretty well booked for the summer.
- Americanism - Glen Golden reported the Westerville School Board recognized the Americanism winners.
- Service Officer - Tim Dickerson no report.
- Adjutant - David Troutman posted the April 2019 minutes and newsletter.

Unfinished Business:

- Commander discussed coverage plan for Westerville 4th Fridays. We will cover every other month with the VFW covering the months in between. We will start in April and will cover 3 months.
- Commander discussed the current status of the Memorial Day March. Pete Otteson is leading the event for the Post, but was unable to attend meeting tonight.
 - Mike Etling has requested the March Permit.
 - Requesting the Westerville Acting Chief of Police as the speaker for the March.
- The Commander discussed purchasing coins for attendees to the 9 Nov 2019 Veterans Day Dinner. Motion forwarded by George Williams and seconded by Jack Cashman to spend \$1,000 on coins. The members voted and approved the motion.

New Business:

- Mike Etling presented the proposed slate of officers from the Nominating Committee as shown above in the Commander's Notes. A member asked Tim Dickerson to give an overview of his duties. George Williams announced he would be willing to serve one year under Tim to transition into the position.
- The Commander reported that the website is out of date. He contacted the webmaster last week, who updated everything other than the photos. The photos are located on a Google Photo platform that has been discontinued. The Post does not currently pay the webmaster. Jack Cashman states he knows the background. The Post will look at future options.
- The Post membership displayed interest in attending a Clippers Baseball Game and Motts Military Museum together. Dates will be selected and socialized to the membership.
- Dave Bergman reported the upcoming Honor Flight on Tuesday 9 Apr 2019. There will be 120 vets on American Airlines in lieu of Southwest. There will be 7 flights this year. The Westerville flight will be 7 Sep 2019. The committee is meeting Sunday 7 Apr 2019 to set the direction for the group.

Good of the Legion announcements:

- Bobby Nocks reminded the membership to be aware the various email and telephone scams going on.
- The VA conducts a quarterly Last Roll Call at Africentric High School that is a moving final farewell to veterans who have recently passed away.

Meeting adjourned at 1953 – *Respectfully submitted, David Troutman, Adjutant*

Meetings and Events Calendar

NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all American Legion Post 171 meetings and events are at the Post Hall at 393 E. College Ave., Westerville, Ohio 43081. Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7883 also meets at the Post Hall.

- 1 May 2019: Post Meeting
- 3 May 2019: Spring Clean up at Post at 0900
- 15 May 2019: Veterans Breakfast at the Post from 0900 until complete
- 18-21 Jul 2019: The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall at the Marion Community Credit Union
- 9 Nov 2019: Combined Veterans Day Dinner Honoring Police and Fire and Post 171 100th Anniversary at Post 171 Facility

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POST 171 TRUSTEES

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2018-19 OFFICERS

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Rental Manager – Mark Eucker, 614-891-0171, markeucker1955@gmail.com

POSTINGS is edited and produced by Adjutant David Troutman (contact info above); call or email him with any article submissions and story ideas. It is distributed by 1st Vice Commander Chuck Hurley and Marilu Hurley (contact info above); call or email them with any changes in email addresses or other updates for the roster.