



POSTINGS

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

September 2019

Commander's Notes:

School is back in session and Labor Day Weekend is upon us which must mean the end of summer is here. Our first meeting of the fall season will be this coming Wednesday September 4th and will feature Representative Troy Balderson speaking on Veterans' Legislation. The Mayor of Westerville along with Police Department Officials will attend the October meeting to discuss the Bond Issue which will be on the November Ballot, and is intended to fund the new Police and Mayor's Court facility .

The August Veterans Breakfast had a record turnout with approximately 65 veterans, guests and First Responders in attendance. With that many people Bob Nocks and his crew had to scramble a bit, but they pulled it together and no one left hungry. WELL DONE! Our breakfast this month will be on Wednesday September 18th at 0900. If you know a vet who isn't a member especially one now eligible with the passage of the Legion Act, bring them along and let's fill the hall.

Normally held at First Responders Park, the annual Westerville 9/11 Ceremony will be held Wednesday September 11th at 12 Noon in the bays of Fire Station 111 located at 400 West Main Street. This year's theme is "The Year of the Children" and the American Legion Firing Squad along with the VFW Honor Guard will be participating.

As in years past, we have been invited to participate in the Veterans Day Program at Heritage Middle School. This program takes place at the start of the school day and normally last about 30 minutes. We march into the school gym after the students have arrived and we Post the Colors to begin the program and at the end we Retire the Colors. If you have never participated, it is a golden opportunity to share one of The Legion's 4 Pillars – Americanism with another of the Pillars – Youth. Historically, those who still have (and can still fit into) wear their service uniforms with the others wearing Legion shirts and caps. This year the Westerville Senior Center will be holding its Veterans Breakfast at our Post so if you sign up for the breakfast you can eat and visit the school as well.

One final reminder; WE ARE ALL RECRUITERS FOR LEGION MEMBERSHIP.

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!

–John R. McElhaney, Commander

News You Can Use:

Echoes from the past: News from 60 years ago

The more things change, the more they stay the same!

The **June 1959** issue outlined all of the benefits available to Retired Soldiers, including “Contingency Option Act Annuities.” Soldiers could opt into this benefit before their 18th year of service. They elected to receive a reduced retired paycheck in order to provide a monthly annuity to their surviving spouses and/or children. [Ed. Note: This annuity benefit under the Uniformed Services Contingency Act of 1953 is similar to the current Department of Defense Survivor Benefit Plan, which was enacted in 1972. Soldiers still elect to receive reduced retired pay to leave an annuity to their surviving spouses and/ or children.]

The **July 1959** edition noted the new name for the summer semi-dress uniform was “Army Tan” to go along with the Army Green, Army Blue, and Army White uniforms. The edition commented on the vigorous activity and steady expansion of the 1-year-old Retired Activities Unit in the “new State of Hawaii . . . Increasing participation by retired personnel have helped form a closer bond between the active Army and the Army alumni in Hawaii.” Also noted was that the Retired Activities Branch of the United States Army Support Element, Philippines was relocated off Clark Air Base to Passy City, Rizal. [Ed. Note: The Army is now reestablishing the Army Green Uniform as its semi-dress uniform. It looks like the World War II Era “Pinks and Greens.” See page 20 for photos.]

The **August 1959** edition announced the new “Space A” benefit. Retired members and their dependents were permitted to travel on aircraft operated by the Military Air Transport Service (MATs) on a space available basis only. The edition explained how veterans were eligible for government-funded education and training under the Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952 (commonly called the Korean GI Bill). Also noted was that “the Army retirement system was inaugurated on a limited scale on 3 August 1861.” [Ed. Note: Retired Soldiers still use the Space A Travel system provided by the United States Air Force, receive government-funded education and training benefits, now under the “Forever GI Bill,” and continue to benefit from the Army Retirement System nearly 158 years later.]

The **September 1959** edition celebrated the March 1959 launch of the JUNO IV, an Army-designed and developed vehicle, that was “the first free world solar satellite.” The edition also explained that when the commanding general of the nearest Army headquarters received notification of the death of a retired member, he would appoint a “survivor assistance officer to assist and advise the member’s widow or next of kin” in applying for benefits from the Veterans Administration, the Social Security Administration, and the Retired Pay Division, Finance Center, U. S. Army. The Bulletin also warned that “too many retired members are not reporting their change of address.” This results in newsletters and other important materials mailed by the Army to members being returned. [Ed. Note: The survivors of Retired Soldiers may still receive military support – now from a Casualty Assistance Officer – by requesting help from the Casualty Assistance Coordinator at the closest Army base. Too many Retired Soldiers are still not notifying the Defense Finance and Accounting Service when they change their mailing and email address. Many Gray Area Retired Soldiers are also not updating their mailing and email addresses at the Human Resources Command.]

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 4 Sep 2019 meeting.

Membership Meeting Minutes, 7 Aug 2019

- Called to order by Commander John McElhaney at 1900 with customary ceremonies.
- Bev Etling gave an overview of Buckeye Boys and Girls State. Nine attendees from 2019 spoke at the meeting on their experiences.
- Meeting resumed at 1920
- Resolution 288 for 67th National Convention read aloud by Mike Boone.
- Meeting Resumed: Quorum declared by Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Laidley. Motion forwarded by Jack Cashman and seconded by Tim Dickerson to approve the Jun 2019 minutes. The members voted, approved and the minutes are published online.
- Commander recognized past Commanders in attendance: Tom Poulton, Fred Winckelman and Pete Otteson.
- Introduced Tom German, new member, who served in the Army from 1972 to 1995. He spent time in Fort Bragg, NC and three tours in Germany for nine years total. He was a contractor for 20 years and returned to Ohio in 2016.
- Paul McMillon moved to Westerville about a year and a half ago. He is working with Veteran's and visiting American Legions and VFWs.

Committee reports:

- Finance - Flo Evans passed out the Profit and Loss Statement.
- Membership – Dave Bergman stated that we are at 58.9% of goal. Renew now. Don't wait.
- Building – Tom Poulton discussed several pending projects to include:
 - Ladies meeting room
 - Picnic Shelter
 - Men's Restroom
 - New Drywall
 - New vinyl flooring in several locations
 - Refinish visible parts of the stage floor. Tom discussed approving not to exceed \$1,200 for the project. Tim Dickerson forwarded the motion and Jack Cashman seconded it. The members voted and approved to spend not more than \$1,200 to refinish the visible areas of the stage.
 - Bill Laidley will contact the landscaper contractor to take care of the beds.
- Rental - Mark Eucker stated everything is great.
- Americanism - Glen Golden stated the Americanism and Government program will start in September.
- Service Officer - Tim Dickerson stated they will use the Fourth Friday Banner from the Commander.
- Adjutant - David Troutman posted the August 2019 minutes and newsletter.

Unfinished Business:

- Commander reported our website is up and current.
 - The new member application can be accessed under members with the new eligibility dates. It is hard copy only. Print, fill out and submit.
 - Officers are listed with phone numbers and emails.
- Department meeting notes:

- New Officers: Commander: Roger Friend
- 1st Vice: Jean Wilson
- 2nd Vice: Brad Teis
- Resolution 19-13 to raise dues from \$9 to \$14 defeated
- Resolution 19-25 (sponsored by Post 171, amending eligibility for the Eagle Scout of the Year Award was referred back to committee for clarification of verbiage.
- Post Survey. There were only 7 responses. It is your post. Tell us what you want.
- 9 November Dinner will honor First Responders. Cost will be \$15. Total cost for dinner is around \$30.

New Business:

- Firing Squad needs additional members. Looking for volunteers.
- Proposed Committees asking for volunteers:
 - Buddy Check: Mike Boone will chair.
 - Contact veterans who have not been attending meetings to check on their health and welfare.
 - Americanism: Glen Golden will continue to chair.
 - Coordinate Boys and Girls State with Auxiliary.
 - Americanism and Government testing.
 - Oratorical Contest
 - Membership: Dave Bergman is chair.
 - Outreach: Need Chair
 - Aid to local veterans
 - Social: Need Chair
 - Greeting members and guests
 - Post Birthday
 - Veteran's Day Dinner
 - Special Event: Need Chair
 - Memorial Day Observance
 - July 4th Rotary Club Parade
 - 9/11 Observance
 - Publicity: Need Chair
 - Articles and photos to 12th District, Department and local media

Good of the Legion announcements:

- National Vet Museum - Good to visit
- Mike Etling requested to reimburse the Commander \$400 for his attendance at the American Legion Department Convention in Toledo from 28-30 Jun 2019. The motion was forwarded by Tom Poulton and seconded by Glen Golden. The membership voted and approved.
- Tom Poulton asked if anyone interested in going to the 13 Aug 2019 Clippers game. Bill Biles will check on availability of Huntington's box. Meet at Post at 1800 to carpool to stadium.
- Jack Cashman reminded we have 4th Friday this month. The Commander mentioned it is hard to collect money with street open. We will focus on member recruitment.

Meeting adjourned at 2015 – *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.

- 4 Sep 2019: Post Meeting at 1900
 - 11 Sep 2019: Westerville 9/11 Ceremony at 1200 at Fire Station 111 located at 400 West Main
 - 18 Sep 2019: Veterans Breakfast at the Post from 0900 until complete
 - 9 Nov 2019: Combined Veterans Day Dinner Honoring Police and Fire and Post 171 100th Anniversary at Post 171 Facility
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American Legion Young-Budd Post 171

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POST 171 TRUSTEES

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