



7:00 PM
 THE AMERICAN LEGION
 CARTER BURDELL HAGLER POST 178, INC.
 3219 RICHMOND HILL ROAD
 AUGUSTA, GA 30906
 (706) 793-1724

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
 APRIL 11TH, 2023

POSITION	NAME	OTHER
*COMMANDER	GRANT WHITELEY	<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u>
*ADJUTANT	THERESA BISKER	
*SR. VICE CMDR.	BRUCE A. EARLY	*1. PAUL ANDERSON, Sr.
*1 st VICE CMDR. (Kitchen)	MIKE ANDERSON	*2. HENRY KING
*2 nd VICE CMDR. (Lounge)	ROBERT CARUSO	*3. RAYMOND JOHNSON
*3 rd VICE CMDR. (Hall)	JAMES BRINDLE	*4. OSCAR SIMS
*FINANCE OFFICER	DAVID MYER	*5. LEE WHITLOCK
*SGT-AT-ARMS	SCOTT PERRY	
*JUDGE ADVOCATE	HENRY WALTERS	
SERVICE OFFICER	ROBERT BEATY	
CHAPLAIN	WILLIAM CRAIN	(*) Members of Executive Committee
HISTORIAN	VACANT	(8) Members constitute E.C. quorum
I.T. OFFICER	CHRISTOPHER ROBINSON	(9) Members constitute G.M. quorum
PAST/CMDR	BRUCE A. EARLY	

Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. READING OF MINUTES
4. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS, PROSPECTIVE & NEW MEMBERS
5. OFFICER REPORTS
6. COMMITTEE REPORTS
7. BALLOTING ON APPLICATIONS & INITIATION OF CANDIDATES
8. SICK CALL, RELIEF & EMPLOYMENT
9. MEMORIAL TO A DEPARTED POST MEMBER
10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
11. NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE
12. THE GOOD OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
13. ADJOURNMENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER

TIME: 1900

2. ROLL CALL

OFFICERS: Grant B. Whiteley. Cmdr. (P); Sr. Vice Cmdr. Bruce Early (); Mike Anderson 1st Jr. Vice/Cmdr. (); Robert Caruso 2nd Jr. Vice/Cmdr.(); Jim Brendle 3rd Jr. Vice/Cmdr. (); David Myer Finance Officer(); Teresa Brisker Adjutant (); Henry Walters, Judge Advocate(); Scott Perry Sgt-At-Arms (); **Robert Beaty (E); William Crain Chaplain (E) ; Chris Robinson IT Tech (E)**

EXECUTIVE BOARD: Paul Anderson Sr. (); Raymond Johnson (); Henry King(); Lee Whitlock (); Past Cdr Oscar Sims ().

PAST COMMANDERS: Grant Whiteley (P); Pat Garrett,(E)(On-Line); Oscar Sims (); Bruce A. Early ()

MEMBERS: See Sign-In Sheet

(P) Present. (E) Excused, (A) Absent.

OFFICERS: MEMBERS: GUESTS: TOTAL:

Nine (9) members of the Post shall constitute a quorum.

YES (X) NO () COMMANDER YOU HAVE A QUORUM.

3. MINUTES

READING OF MINUTES: Cdr Whiteley suspended the Reading of Minutes to accommodate Ft. Gordon's 1st Lady, General Paul Stanton's Wife would like to address the membership.

Motion: To approve General Membership Meeting minutes for March 14th, 2023 as distributed.
Made by E-Board Henry King Seconded by: Vice Cdr James Brendle.
(13) FOR: (0) AGAINST. Motion Carried.

Motion: To approve the Executive Board Minutes dated March 7th, 2023 as distributed.
Made by Judge Advocate Henry Walters Seconded by: E-Boar Raymond Johnson
(13) FOR: (0) AGAINST. Motion Carried!

Motion: To approve the Special Executive Board Minutes dated (Not Applicable) as distributed.
Made by _____ Seconded by: _____.
() FOR: () AGAINST. Motion Carried!

4. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS, PROSPECTIVE & NEW MEMBERS & TRANSFERS

Fort Gordon, GA:

Department of GA:

11th District:

Post:

Prospective New Members: 0

New Members:

Transfers:

Other Guests:

5. OFFICER REPORTS

Commander: (Grant B. Whiteley) – SEE BELOW

Adjutant: (Interim) – N/A

Sr. Vice Cmdr.: Bruce A. Early – Membership doing well

1st Jr. Vice Cmdr. Mike Anderson – Moment of Silent Prayer for Mike Anderson, RIP.

2nd Jr. Vice Cmdr. Robert Caruso – Lounge doing great some problems still exist with vendors and supply for example Budweiser.

Finance: (Dave Myer) – Finance Officer reported the finance reported for the month of February 2023 :

Motion Made: To approve the Finance Report for the month of February 2023 subject to audit. (*Due to Master's Week Traffic*).

Made by _____ Seconded by _____.

() For: Against (0). Motion Carried.

Sgt-at-Arms: (Scott Perry) – No Rpt.

Judge Advocate: (Henry Walters) – No Rpt.

Service Officer: (Cdr Whiteley) –

IT Officer: (Christopher Robinson) – (E)

6. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN’S REPORTS:

A.L.R. Chairman: (Lee Galloway) – (A)

Americanism – Cdr Grant Whitley – No Rpt.

Shooting Sports – Cdr. Grant B. Whiteley – No compliance this year from Cross Creek High School or Hephzibah High School.

Oratorical Contest – Cdr Whiteley – Emma Noble of Birmingham, Ala., placed first in the 2022 American Legion National Oratorical Contest Finals in Indianapolis. Sponsored by Matthew Blount American Legion Post 555 in Pelham, Ala., Noble received a \$25,000 scholarship for her speech, "The Power of the Executive Order: Because I Said So!"

School Awards – Cdr Whiteley – Work in Progress – Cross Creek High School has submitted names for school awards. Awaiting on Hephzibah High School to do the same.

Blood Donors – Blood Mobile scheduled for the Carnival time period for blood donations.

Patriotic Observance – APRIL

Month of the Military Child 2023 - April is designated as Month of the Military Child – a time to honor the sacrifices made by military families worldwide, with an emphasis on the experience of the dependent children of military members serving at home and overseas. Month of the Military Child is sponsored by the Department of Defense Military Community and Family Policy and supported by many other organizations such as the DoDEA.

American Legion is also Children & Youth Month - The American Legion’s national theme for “April Is Children & Youth Month is CHILDREN ... OUR MOST PRECIOUS NATURAL RESOURCE. The American Legion has been actively involved with children’s issues since the early 1900s. In many instances, we have been the driving force on the federal, state and local levels representing their interests and voicing their concerns.

APRIL 2023

April 14th	Air Force Reserve Birthday
April 15th	Purple Up! Day
April 23rd	Army Reserve Birthday
April 30th	National Military Brats Day

MAY 2023

May	National Military Appreciation Month
May 5	National Day of Prayer
May 8	V-E Day
May 21	Armed Forces Day
May 30	Memorial Day (May 29 observed)
May 29	Patrick Henry’s Birthday

JUNE 2023

June 6

D-Day

SAL Advisor – Finance Officer David Myer – No Rpt.

Community Service – Sr. Vice Bruce A. Early – ()

Religious Emphasis – Chaplain Bill Crain – (E) No Report

Children & Youth – Cdr Whiteley – The “Whole Child” Plan In the years after the American Legion’s founding, members realized that neglect of family and child welfare problems affected disabled veterans’ rehabilitation. Following a year of careful study, the organization adopted the American Legion Child Welfare program in 1924. Established a year later, in 1925, the American Legion National Child Welfare Division put forward the “Whole Child” plan, stating that the child of every veteran “should have a home ... health, education, character, and opportunity.” APRIL is Children & Youth Month.

Cdr Whiteley has added a Children & Youth portal onto the American Legion Post 178 website (gapost178.org) under Post Information drop down menu. In addition, the Cdr has added two to four brochure boxes in the vestibule title Children & Youth and Youth Suicide Warnings, for members of the post that have minor children.

Employment – Rebecca Shores – (E) - No Rpt.

National Security – Cdr. Grant B. Whiteley – **Border Security** - Protecting our borders from the illegal movement of weapons, drugs, contraband, and people, while promoting lawful entry and exit, is essential to homeland security, economic prosperity, and national sovereignty.

America shares 7,000 miles of land border with Canada and Mexico, as well as rivers, lakes and coastal waters around the country. These borders are important economic gateways that account for trillions of dollars in trade and travel each year. They are also home to some of our nation’s largest — and safest — cities and communities.

A top priority for DHS is to keep terrorists and their weapons from entering the U.S. while welcoming all legitimate travelers and commerce. DHS Officers and Agents enforce all applicable U.S. laws, including against illegal immigration, narcotics smuggling, and illegal importation. DHS deploys highly trained law enforcement personnel who apprehend more than 1,000 individuals each day for suspected violations of U.S. laws at and between our ports of entry.

Public Relations – Rebecca Shores – (E) No Rpt.

Alcohol & Drug Abuse – Jr. Vice Robert Caruso – April is Eisenhower’s #AlcoholAwarenessMonth. Join us April 18, from 1:30-3 p.m., at Signal Theatre for Fort Gordon's Alcohol Awareness Month program: Help for Today, Hope for Tomorrow.

POW/MIA – Lee Galloway – (A) No Rpt.

Special Olympics – Sr. Vice Bruce A. Early – () National Veterans Golden Age Games - Founded in 1985, the National Veterans Golden Age Games serves Veterans ages 55 years and older. Through its “Fitness for Life” motto, the Golden Age Games offers sports competitions and health education sessions to demonstrate the value that sports, wellness, and fitness provide to assist senior Veterans live an active and healthy lifestyle. The National Veterans Golden Age Games is a qualifying event for the National Senior Games.

VA/REHAB – Sr. Vice Bruce A. Early – (P) VA announces survivors of veterans may be eligible for benefits under PACT Act - Surviving spouses and children of veterans who died from illnesses now covered by the PACT Act can reapply for benefits if their claim was previously denied.

Boys State – Cdr. Whiteley – TBD – Awaiting input from Cross Creek and Hephzibah for names of students for Boys & Girls State participants.

Baseball – Sgt-At-Arms Scott Perry (P) – Recently 14 boys showed up for tryouts.

Inventory Chairman – Cdr Whiteley – Work in progress.

Legislative – Judge Advocate Henry Walters – March 27th,2023 - Legion testifying three times this week on Capitol Hill

The American Legion will be testifying this week on a variety of bills pending before Congress. They include:

- American Legion Legislative Director Lawrence Montreuil will testify before the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs to discuss legislation regarding disability benefits, survivor benefits and outreach. This will also include H.R. 1139, the “Governing Unaccredited Representatives Defrauding (GUARD) VA Benefits Act,” which would reinstate penalties for people charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits. The hearing begins at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday.
- American Legion Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Director Tiffany Ellett will testify before the HVAC Subcommittee on Health on a series of bills related to veterans health care. Those include H.R. 808, the Veterans Patient Advocacy Act. The availability of patient advocates is a priority of The American Legion and will continue to be a focal point when speaking with veterans about their representation as a VA patient. The hearing begins at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.
- Matthew Brennan, a policy analyst in the Legion’s Veterans Employment and Education Division, will testify on a series of bills during a House Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity Subcommittee hearing. Among the bills is one that would ensure that veterans who receive VA educational financial assistance would not be held liable if their college shuts down due to fraud. The hearing begins at 9:30 a.m. Thursday.

7. BALLOTING ON APPLICATIONS & INITIATION OF CANDIDATES:

1. **Transfer #400: Horace Thomas, Army, Vietnam.**
2. **Transfer Regular:**
3. **New Members:**

Motion: Motion made to accept all transfers and new members into Post 178.

Made by E-Board Paul Anderson Sr. Seconded by Chaplain Bill Crain
(13) FOR; (0) AGAINST) Motion Carried!

8. SICK CALL, RELIEF & EMPLOYMENT:

A. **SICK CALL** - Please keep the following people in your prayers: Chaplain Bill Crain who is continually on dialysis; Laurie Ross; and Archie R Bozeman who is in Hospice. Please keep them in your prayers as well the people on our Buddy Check Watch List.

B. **BUDDY CHECK/WATCH LIST – PERFORMED - APRIL**

NO	NAME	PERFORMED YES/NO	REMARKS
1	Oscar Sims	YES	(706)840-4856) (gsims16990@att.net)
2	Chuck Hafey	YES	(Dave Myer/Oscar Sims) (706)793-2337
3	William Crain	YES	(706)592-6744) (wmcrule62@aol.com)
4	Robert Beaty	YES	(Vice Cdr Caruso) (706)836-3320) (thor753@yahoo.com)
5	Malcom Kelly	YES	(Lounge Manager Frances Bowman)
6	Russell/Lisa Collins	YES	(Aux Pres Miriam Stein) (706)650-8838) (jomt1@bellsouth.net)
7	Ron Ness	NO	Need phone number
8	Lee Whitlock	YES	(Vice Cdr Caruso)
9	William Hackley	YES	(706)863-8699) (williamhackley@bellsouth.net)
10	James Brendle	YES	(Lounge Manager Frances Bowman)
11	Ennis Dudley	?	Sassy - 3201 Kevin Dr., Augusta, GA 30906-4909 (No Phon No)

9. MEMORIAL TO A DEPARTED POST MEMBER:

A. **None**

Motion: Motion made to drape the Charter in honor of our recent and departed members.

Legionnaires': _____ effective _____ for a period of thirty days

Made by _____.
Seconded by _____.

() FOR; () AGAINST) Motion Carried

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. **Air Curtain -Vice Cdr Robert Caruso** - Under Suspension VOCO
- B. **Lounge Info Center/Bulletin Board** - Under Suspension VOCO
- C. **Office Reorganization** – Phase 2 on hold. (Work in Progress)
- D. **Turkey Shoot Area** – Renovation of Turkey Shoot Area will commence around the 1st of May.
- E. **Trailers for Storage** – Have been painted on Four Sides (Phase II). Phase III will be sealing the top of both trailers will commence sometime in April.
- F. **Renovation of the Basement** – **Basement renovation diagram has been submitted to the Commander for presentation to the Executive Board for Consideration. Need an estimate for the E-Board both for electrical (Phase 1) and Repair Cost & Labor which will be presented to E-Board at the next meeting and funded at the Budget meeting in August.**

11. NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE

- A. **Cdr Whiteley** - Request a motion from the floor to suspend normal business and proceed to the 1st Nomination of Officers for Post 178 for the year 2023 – 2024.

Motion: Motion made to adjourn Made by _____ Sr. Vice Bruce Early _____
Seconded by _____ Vice Cdr James Brendle _____.

(13) FOR; (0) AGAINST). Motion Carried!

Nominations –The Floor is Open Up for Nominations of Post 178 Officers:

Commander - Are there any nominations for Commander. _____
Do You Accept? X Yes/No Are there any further nominations for Commander?
(After a reasonable pause) If not, nominations for the office of Commander are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

Senior Vice Cdr - Are there any nominations for Senior Vice Cdr. **Bruce Early** _____
Do You Accept? X Yes/No Are there any further nominations for Senior Vice Cdr?

(After a reasonable pause) If not, nominations for the office Senior Vice Cdr are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

1st Jr Vice Cdr - Are there any nominations for 1st Jr Vice Cdr. Michael Dwyer _____
Do You Accept? X Yes/No . Are there any further nominations for 1st Jr Vice Cdr?
(Written Acceptance received by the Cdr)

1st Jr Vice Cdr - Are there any nominations for 1st Jr Vice Cdr. Mathew Funsch _____
Do You Accept? X Yes/No . Are there any further nominations for 1st Jr Vice Cdr?
(After a reasonable pause) If not, nominations for the office of 1st Jr Vice Cdr. are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

2nd Jr Vice Cdr - Are there any nominations for 2nd Jr Vice Cdr. Robert Caruso _____
Do You Accept? X Yes/No Are there any further nominations for 2nd Jr Vice Cdr?
(After a reasonable pause) If not, nominations for the office of 2nd Vice Cdr. are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

3rd Jr. Vice Cdr - Are there any nominations for 3rd Jr Vice Cdr. James Brendle _____
Do You Accept? X Yes/No . Are there any nominations for 3rd Jr Vice Cdr.?
Are there any nominations for 3rd Jr Vice Cdr? (After a reasonable pause) If not, nominations for the office of 3rd Jr Vice Cdr. are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

Adjutant - Are there any nominations for Adjutant? Theresa Brisker _____
Do You Accept? X Yes/No . Are there any further nominations for Adjutant?
(After a reasonable pause). If not, nominations for the office of Adjutant are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

Judge Advocate - Are there any nominations for Judge Advocate. Henry Walters _____
Do You Accept? X Yes/No Are there any further nominations for Judge Advocate? (After a reasonable pause) If not, nominations for the office of Judge Advocate are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

Finance Officer - Are there any nominations for Finance Officer. David Myer (E) _____
Do You Accept? _____ Yes/No Are there any further nominations for Finance Officer?
(After a reasonable pause) If not, nominations for the office of Finance Officer are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

SGT-AT-ARMS? Are there any nominations for SGT-AT-ARMS? Scott Perry _____
Do You Accept? X Yes/No Are there any nominations for SGT-AT-ARMS?
(After a reasonable pause) If not, nominations for the office of SGT-AT-ARMS are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

Executive Committee (5) – Paul Anderson Sr.
Do You Accept? X Yes/No Are there any nominations for Executive Committeemen.

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Executive Committee - Are there any nominations for Executive Committee.
_Oscar Sims (E)_____ Do You Accept? ___ Yes/No___

Executive Committee - Are there any nominations for Executive Committee.
_Henry King_____ Do You Accept? X Yes/No___

Executive Committee - Are there any nominations for Executive Committee.
_Raymond Johnson_____ Do You Accept? X Yes/No___

Executive Committee - Are there any nominations for Executive Committee.
_Lee Whitlock (E)_____ Do You Accept? ___ Yes/No___

Are there any further nominations for Executive Committee? If not, nominations for the office of Executive Committee are closed until next General Membership Meeting.

Motion: Motion made to close the floor for nominations and return to Normal Business.

Made by E-Board Raymond Johnson Seconded by Vice Cdr James Brendle

(13) FOR; (0) AGAINST) Motion Carried!

- B. Children's Hospital of Georgia - The 154-bed Children's Hospital of Georgia is the second-largest children's hospital in the state, providing the highest level of pediatric and neonatal intensive care, a 24/7 pediatric emergency department, pediatric cancer care, heart and neurological care, and a wide range of general and complex health care for children. Children's was recently ranked as the nation's highest performing hospital in pediatric quality and safety out of 130 of the top academic health centers.

Motion: Motion made to donate \$ 1,000 Made by Judge Advocate Henry Walters and
Seconded by Sr, Vice Bruce Early

(13) FOR; (0) AGAINST). Motion Carried!

- C. **The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation** - The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation delivers needed aid for military and veteran parents who face unexpected financial hardships that threaten the stability of their homes. These one-time Temporary Financial Assistance grants are used to cover housing, utilities, food and other basic needs for families with minor children at home.

Motion: Motion made to donate \$ 500.00 Made by Judge Advocate Henry Walters
Seconded by Vice Cdr James Brendle

(13) FOR; (0) AGAINST). Motion Carried!

- D. **The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation** - For thousands of American children, each day is a challenge marked by pain, prayer and perseverance. Many of these youngsters require specialized care. Some face years of costly medical treatment and physical therapy. Others may want someone in their corner to prevent abuse or advocate for their well-being. To overcome their obstacles, they need help from you and the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

Motion: Motion made to donate \$ 1,000.00 Made by Vice Cdr Robert Caruso
Seconded by Judge Advocate Henry Walters

(13) FOR; (0) AGAINST). Motion Carried!

12. THE GOOD OF THE AMERICAN LEION

- A. 11th District American Legion Post 178 Carnival – Saturday 29th, 2023 Starts 11 AM – 3 PM
- B. 11th District Family Ball – Family Fundraiser - @ American Leigon Post 63, Doors Open 6 PM and Meal @ 7 PM. Dancing, Cash Bar and the dress is Evening Casual or ALR Uniform.
- C. Memorial Day – SAL Cdr Stewart pass the mission back to Vice Cdr Caruso. Still a SAL mission which will be assisted by the Post Vice Cdr Caruso. Flags for our Hill of Remembrance are \$5.00 renewal and \$10 for a new one. Need all volunteers to help put out flags on Saturday, 27th of May 2023 at Hill Crest Memorial Gardens, Veterans Section.
- D. Breast Cancer ?
- E. Adjutant Theresa Brisker – Patient’s Experience ?

13. ADJOURNMENT

TIME: 20:00 hrs

Motion: Motion made to adjourned Made by__ E-Board Paul Anderson Sr. _____
Seconded by Vice Cdr James Brendle
(13) FOR; (0) AGAINST). **Motion Carried!**

Nest House Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023.

Next Executive Board meeting will be on Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023.

Next General Membership meeting will be on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023.

Grant B. Whiteley

Adjutant

Commander