



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 9th, 2024

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)	MATTHEW FUNSCH	*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	TBA	
CHAPLAIN	WILLIAM CRAIN	(*) Members of Executive Committee
HISTORIAN	VACANT	(8) Members constitute E.C. quorum
I.T. OFFICER	TBA	(9) Members constitute G.M. quorum
PAST/CMDR	GRANT B. WHITELEY	

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: 19:00

2. ROLL CALL – SIGN IN SHEET

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

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

PAST COMMANDERS: Grant Whiteley (P); Oscar Sims (P); Bruce A. Early (P)

MEMBERS: See Sign-In Sheet

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

OFFICERS: _____ **MEMBERS:** _____ **GUESTS:** 0 **TOTAL:** _____
Nine (9) members of the Post shall constitute a quorum.

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

3. MINUTES

READING OF MINUTES:

Motion: To approve General Membership Meeting minutes for March 12th, 2024 as distributed.
Made by Judge Advocate Henry Walters Seconded by: Vice Commander James Brendle
(14) FOR: (0) AGAINST. Motion Carried.

Motion: To approve Executive Board Meeting minutes for April 2nd, 2024 as distributed.

Made by EB Carol Whitlock Seconded by: EB Raymond Johnson.
(14) 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:

New Members:

Transfers:

Other Guests:

5. OFFICER REPORTS

Commander: (Grant B. Whiteley) – SEE BELOW

Adjutant: (Interim) –

Sr. Vice Cmdr.: Bruce A. Early (E) – Membership is at present we have 400 renewed and 6 awaiting to be processed. This puts the post membership at 109.0%.

1st Jr. Vice Cmdr. – Matthew Funsch (P) - ?

2nd Jr. Vice Cmdr. Robert Caruso (P) - ?

Finance: (Dave Myer) (E) – Finance Officer reported the finance report for the month of October 2023

Motion Made: To approve the Finance Report for the month of January 2024 subject to audit.

Made by Vice Commander Matthew Funsch Seconded by Judge Advocate Henry Walters.

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

Sgt-at-Arms: (Scott Perry) – No Rpt.

Judge Advocate: (Henry Walters) – Constitution & By-Laws – Mailed to Department for approval.

Service Officer: (Cdr Whiteley) – No Rpt.

IT Officer: (TBA) – No Rpt.

6. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS:

A.L.R. Chairman: (Lee Galloway) – (A)

***Americanism – Cdr Grant Whitley – No Rpt.**

American Legion Baseball – Sgt at Arms Scott Perry – No Rpt.

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

Oratorical Contest – Cdr Whiteley – No Rpt.

School Awards – Cdr Whiteley – Work in Progress – Waiting on Schools submission.

Blood Donors – Cdr Whiteley -No Rpt.

Military Suicides - Cdr Whiteley -Indiana Legionnaire Tracy Levay has attempted to die by suicide three times. The adjutant of Frank & Edward Skwiat American Legion Post 451 in Michigan City, she made those choices following the ending of a 16-year marriage and a breast cancer scare. She's also lost a close friend and fellow veteran to suicide, as well as a stepson. But on April 4, Levay was in Indianapolis for the Department of Indiana's Legion College, where she is an alumni and moderator. Included in the college's curriculum was a Be the One training session – something that now resonates deeply with Levay.

"Suicide is a permanent solution to a tiny problem that is aspirated with thoughts of you can't get through it," said Levay, a U.S. Navy veteran and Indiana's Third District commander. "So Be the One, for her, has been a guiding light. It's made me reach out to people. I'm not afraid to talk about my suicidal events. I'm not afraid to talk about how suicide has affected me. But it's not easy. It's an everyday struggle to this day."

Patriotic Observance - Month of the Military Child 2024

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.

Military Saves Month 2024 - Military Saves Week has transitioned to Military Saves Month. In April 2024, the Military Saves campaign encourages military families to save money every month. The purpose is to assist servicemen and women and their immediate family members in their efforts to build personal wealth by reducing debt and establishing savings goals.

Gold Star Spouses Day -April 5: The terms Gold Star family, Gold Star Spouses, and Gold Star Wives traditionally refer to the surviving loved ones of military members who lost their lives in the line of duty. Gold Star Spouses Day was created to honor these loved ones. Gold Star Spouses Day will be observed on Friday, April 5, 2024.

National Former POW Recognition Day-April 9: Former POW Recognition Day is a day that, while not as well-known as National POW/MIA Recognition Day, is just as important. The word “former” is the key to remembering the major difference between these two events honored every year on their respective days. The late Senator John McCain is a former POW. His memory and the memories of many others who came home from POW camps are on the minds of those who observe both holidays. And there are troops still unaccounted for to this day who should be remembered in the same manner as those who came home.

Air Force Reserve Birthday-April 14: The United States Air Force Reserve celebrates its birthday every year on April 14, but according to the Air Force official site, Air Force Reservists can trace their heritage all the way back to the National Defense Act of 1916.

Purple Up! Day-April 15: But there's a happier and more encouraging aspect to April 15th each year in the form of observance among military families, military family support communities, and others worldwide in the form of Purple Up! For Military Kids Day. Held on April 15th of each year, "Purple Up! For Military Kids" is a day for Department of Defense Education Activity communities to wear purple to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices.

Earth Day-April 22: Earth Day was established in 1970 by Senator Gaylord Nelson, has grown into an international movement dedicated to raising awareness of environmental conservation, protection, and good stewardship. Some are tempted to sneer at supporters of Earth Day; they believe environmental protection and conservation is some form of an extreme left ideological point of view.

Army Reserve Birthday-April 23: The United States Army Reserve celebrates its 116th birthday in 2024. The Army Reserve celebrates its birthday on April 23 each year, celebrating contributions to two World Wars, the Cold War, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf War, and many other missions.

Military Brats Day Tuesday, April 30, 2024: The phrase "military brat" is one long associated with the family members of those in uniform. It can be used in a derogatory sense, but in recent decades the phrase has been used more to self-identify as being part of a military family. The connotations of being a military brat include the expectation that military families move often, may have difficulty setting down roots in any one area because of duty requirements, and the potential for extended stays overseas for the same reason. Military brats experience frequent school changes, make friends and acquaintances all over the world, and experience regular major life changes due to the shifting nature of military life.

7. BALLOTING ON APPLICATIONS & INITIATION OF CANDIDATES:

- 1. Transfer #400: 0**
- 2. Transfer Regular: 0**
- 3. New Members (5): Harry A. Ferraro, USA, GW (Louise Hayes); Samantha B. Chestnut, USA, GW, (Louise Hayes); Myles C. Burnette, USMC, Active Duty, (Clarissa Wetherbee); Randolph C. Williams, USA, Gulf War, (Cynthia Anderson); Marta O Connor Suarez, USMC, (Gulf War (Brisker));**
- 4. Reconnect (7): Tiara Perkins, Nat Guard , Reconnect, (Thomasena); Benjamin Thurman, Nat Guard, Reconnect, (Thomasena); Patricia Bustinzarojas, Nat Guard, Reconnect, (Thomasena); Antoinette Harbuck, Nat Guard, Reconnect, (Thomasena); Dejrick Reese, Nat Guard, Reconnect, (Thomasena); Antwan Floyd, Nat Guard, Reconnect, (Thomasena); Jamontarius Johnson, Nat Guard, Reconnect, (Thomasena)**

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

Made by Vice Commander James Brendle Seconded by Vice Commander Matthew Funsch .

(14) 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 who is in Rehabilitation at Pruitt Health Care - North Augusta; Earnst (Gordy) Gordon who's in Hospice at home. Please keep them in your prayers as well the people on our Buddy Check Watch List below:

B. BUDDY CHECK/WATCH LIST – PERFORMED – April 2024

NO	NAME	PERFORMED YES/NO	REMARKS
1	Oscar Sims	YES	(706)840-4856) (gsims16990@att.net)
2	William Crain	YES	(706)592-6744) (wmcrule62@aol.com) (HOME)
3	Russell/Lisa Collins	YES	(Aux Pres Miriam Stein) (706)650-8838) (jomt1@bellsouth.net)
4	Lee Whitlock	YES	(Vice Cdr Caruso)
5	William Hackley	YES	(706)863-8699) (williamhackley@bellsouth.net)
6	James Brendle	YES	(Lounge Manager Frances Bowman)
7	Dale G Steidel	?	(706)869-2130
8	Miriam Stein	Yes	TC LeBlanc (706) 360-8941
9			

9. MEMORIAL TO A DEPARTED POST MEMBER:

A. **Commander:** “It is my sad duty to report that Comrades Connie Reynolds & Melcom Kelly has been called from our midst. They have gone to the Commander of us all in Post Everlasting.

Commander: “Before proceeding with other business of this meeting, we will Drape the Charter in memory of Comrades Connie Reynolds & Melcom Kelly .

Sergeant-at-Arms, obtain Drape in preparation for Draping Charter.”

Commander: **(Rap gavel three (3) times)** “Members rise and face Charter attention.”

Commander: “Sergeant-at-Arms, you will now Drape our Charter in memory of our beloved Comrades Connie Reynolds & Melcom Kelly who has passed on.

Commander: (While Sergeant-at-Arms is Draping the Charter) “By this act we, as members of Carter Burdell Hagler American Legion Post 178, Augusta, GA., proclaim solemn tribute to our departed Comrades Connie Reynolds & Melcom Kelly .

Hand salute! Two!” (After “Two,” Sergeant-at-Arms returns to his/her station)

Chaplain: “Almighty God and Heavenly Father, who has dominion over life and death, grant to us the grace to remember with love and reverence our valiant and honored departed Comrade _ Connie Reynolds ____ , Grant peace and eternal rest to those who have gone before us and make us ready for that last hour. Strengthen and console those in sorrow and bestow upon us thy everlasting blessing Amen.”

Commander: **(Rap gavel once)** “We will continue with the regular meeting

B. Sgt-At-Arms – You may remove the cover from the Charter.

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) - VOCO
- D. **Post Insurance** – Children’s Easter Egg Hunt Event Policy has been issued and payment made. Awaiting Event Policy for the Post Carnival on April 27th, 2024. Liquor Liability Insurance has been issued payment as well.
- E. **The Constitution and By-Laws** – Awaiting letter of approval from the Department of Georgia.
- F. **Post Dues Update** – Annual Post Data Report submitted to both District and Department for the upcoming fiscal year.

11. NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE

- A. **Last call to enter Media & Communications Contest** - The American Legion Media & Communications Contest wants to recognize the hard work Legion Family members do to promote the good of the organization across media channels. The contest provides an opportunity for all Legion Family members – American Legion, Sons of The American Legion, Auxiliary and Legion Riders – to submit their work and be recognized. Cdr Whiteley has entered the gapost178.org site into the contest.
- B. **National Cdr’s Visit** – The Post purchase a Masters Polo, (2) 2024 Master Pins, and (2) Master Hats to be presented by the Post at the National Commander’s Dinner along with District and any other Post that has a gift for the National Commander.

12. THE GOOD OF THE AMERICAN LEION

- A. **Riders Legacy Ride April 13th** –
- B. **Air Force Reserve Birthday-April 14:** The United States Air Force Reserve celebrates its birthday
- C. **Army Reserve Birthday-April 23:** The United States Army Reserve celebrates its 116th birthday in 2024.
- D. **National Commander’s Visit to the Post April 23rd** – The Post will be hosting a private luncheon for the visit by invitation only.
- E. **Riders Legacy Ride April 13th** –
- F. **Elections** – April and May are Officer Nominations for Post 178. The sign-up clipboard is in the lounge for all nominations. Remember, you must be at the May Meeting to accept or decline nominations. That Saturday, May 18th, will be the elections. Everyone must show their 2024 membership card to be verified for the vote.

13. ADJOURNMENT

TIME: 19:55 hrs

Being No Further Business....

NEXT MONTH HOUSE & EXEC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR: May 7th, 2024.

NEXT MONTH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP SCHEDULED FOR: May 14th, 2024. (Nominations)

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn made by EB Paul Anderson Sr.,
and seconded by Adjutant Theresa Brisker to adjourn the Executive Board meeting at 19: 55 Hrs.

(14) _ For, _ (0) _ , Against). **Motion Carried**

Adjutant

Grant B. Whiteley

Commander