



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
February 13th, 2024

POSITION	NAME	OTHER
*COMMANDER	GRANT WHITELEY	<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u>
*ADJUTANT	THERESA BRISKER	
*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 BRENDLE	*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 (P); 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(E); 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: 14 **MEMBERS:** 3 **GUESTS:** 0 **TOTAL:** 17

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 December 12th, 2023 as distributed. Made by Past Commander Oscar Sims Seconded by: Vice Commander James Brendle.
(17) FOR: (0) AGAINST. **Motion Carried.**

Motion: To approve General Membership Meeting minutes for November 14th, 2023 as distributed. Made by Vice Commander James Brendle Seconded by: E-Board Lee Whitlock.
(17) FOR: (0) AGAINST. **Motion Carried.**

Motion: To approve Executive Board Meeting minutes for February 6th, 2024 as distributed.

Made by Bali Savoy Seconded by: E-Board Raymond Johnson.
(17) FOR: (0) AGAINST. **Motion Carried.**

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

Fort Gordon, GA:

Department of GA:

11th District:

Post: 1 – John Ellis

Prospective New Members:

New Members:

Transfers:

Other Guests:

5. OFFICER REPORTS

Commander: (Grant B. Whiteley) – SEE BELOW

Adjutant: (Theresa A. Brisker) – No Report

Sr. Vice Cmdr.: Bruce A. Early (E) – Membership is at present we have 307 renewed and 11 awaiting to be processed. This puts the post membership at 86.0%.

1st Jr. Vice Cmdr. – Matthew Funsch (P) -We had successful Super Bowl event.

2nd Jr. Vice Cmdr. Robert Caruso (P) – Good job on Super bowl party, by Jr. Vice Funsch, good participation.

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 December 2023 subject to audit.
Made by Past Commander Oscar Sims Seconded by Judge Advocate Henry Walters.
(17) For: Against (0). Motion Carried.

Sgt-at-Arms: (Scott Perry) – No Report.

Judge Advocate: (Henry Walters) – Constitution & By-Laws – No Report

Service Officer: (Cdr Whiteley) – No Report.

IT Officer: (TBA) –

6. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS:

A.L.R. Chairman: (Lee Galloway) – (P) Reminded the membership about donating food and placing it in the food box in the hall for school on Fort Eisenhower.

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

American Legion Baseball – Sgt at Arms Scott Perry – No Report. Plans to get schedule for baseball season so members will know when games are being played and can support.

Shooting Sports – Cdr. Grant B. Whiteley – No compliance from Cross Creek or Hephzibah High Schools. The District and the Post was scheduled a meeting at Post 63 on October 21st however the meeting was cancelled due to District Commander's calendar and would have to be rescheduled in January 2024. The subjects were for encouraging both high schools for Oratorical, Shooting Sports, Boys State and Girls State student involvement.

Oratorical Contest – Cdr Whiteley – Oratorical Contest Assigned Topics – Have been assigned.

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

Blood Donors – Cdr Whiteley -No Report.

Military Suicides - Cdr Whiteley – No Report.

Patriotic Observance – FEBRUARY 2024 - Black History Month

The origins of Black History Month came from Carter G. Woodson, considered the “Father of Black History.” Woodson dedicated his life as a Harvard scholar of African American studies to push Black history to the forefront of public knowledge.

In 1915, Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (renamed Association for the Study of African American Life and History.) The organization's purpose was to research and publicize the successes of many Black Americans and people with African ancestry.

A. National Salute to Veteran Patients February 11th - The purpose of the National Salute to Veteran Patients Program is to pay tribute and express appreciation to Veterans, increase community awareness of the role of the VA medical center and encourage citizens to visit hospitalized Veterans, and to become involved as volunteers.

B. Valentine's Day Feb 14th - Valentine's Day, also known as St. Valentine's Day, is celebrated each year in America on Feb. 14th, a time when couples show their love for one another with greeting cards, romantic gifts, and outings.

C. Coast Guard Reserve Birthday Feb 19th - Feb. 19 is the official birthday of the United States Coast Guard Reserve. Officially set-up in the late 1930s as a “civilian reserve” operation, it was non-military in nature. The Coast Guard Reserve Act of 1939 was the earliest incarnation. The Reserve soon evolved into something much greater than the original authors of the law had envisioned.

D. **President's Day Feb 19th** - Presidents' Day, officially Washington's Birthday at the federal governmental level, is a holiday in the United States celebrated on the third Monday of February. It is often celebrated to honor all those who served as presidents of the United States and, since 1879, has been the federal holiday honoring Founding Father George Washington, who led the Continental Army to victory in the American Revolutionary War, presided at the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and was the first U.S. president.

SAL Advisor – Finance Officer David Myer – (E)

Community Service – Sr. Vice Bruce A. Early – (P) Assisted Veteran with clearing fallen tree limb in yard.

Religious Emphasis – Chaplain Bill Crain – (E)

Children & Youth – Cdr Whiteley – No Report

Employment – TBA – (E) - No Rpt.

National Security – Cdr Whiteley – No Report

Public Relations – TBA – No Rpt.

Alcohol & Drug Abuse – Jr. Vice Robert Caruso (P) – Don't Drink & Drive!

POW/MIA – Lee Galloway (P) –

Special Olympics – Sr. Vice Bruce A. Early (P) – No Report

VA/REHAB – Sr. Vice Bruce A. Early (P) – National Veteran Salute day went well there was good participation from a variety of organizations.

Boys State – Cdr. Whiteley – No report

Inventory Chairman – Cdr Whiteley – Work in progress.

Legislative – Judge Advocate Henry Walters (P) –

7. BALLOTING ON APPLICATIONS & INITIATION OF CANDIDATES:

- 1. Transfer #400: 0**
- 2. Transfer Regular: 0**
- 3. New Members (8):** Matthew A Huffman, USA, GW_TERRORISM (Donald Huffman); Timothy R. Faxon (Dave Myer) USA, GW_TERRORISM; Adrian Estrada, USA, GW_TERRORISM (Tina Johnson);

Alona Smith, USA, GW_TERRORISM (Theresa Brisker); David Hardy, USA, Vietnam (Theresa Brisker); John Ellis, USA, Vietnam (Theresa Brisker); David M. Handy USA, Vietnam (Theresa Brisker); David I. Chido, USA, Vietnam (Theresa Brisker).

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

Made by Vice Commander Matthew Funsch Seconded by Sr. Vice Commander Bruce Early.

(17) 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. Dave Myer for health issues and sick family members. Please keep them in your prayers as well the people on our Buddy Check Watch List below:

B. BUDDY CHECK/WATCH LIST – PERFORMED – February 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	Malcom Kelly	YES	(Lounge Manager Frances Bowman) (HOSPITAL)
4	Russell/Lisa Collins	YES	(Aux Pres Miriam Stein) (706)650-8838) (jomt1@bellsouth.net)
5	Lee Whitlock	YES	(Vice Cdr Caruso)
6	William Hackley	YES	(706)863-8699) (williamhackley@bellsouth.net)
7	James Brendle	YES	(Lounge Manager Frances Bowman)
8	Dale G Steidel	YES	(Vice Cdr Caruso) (706)869-2130
9			

9. MEMORIAL TO A DEPARTED POST MEMBER:

A. **Commander:** “It is my sad duty to report that Comrades Ron Ness 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 Comrade Ron Ness.

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 Comrade Ron Ness 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 Comrade Ron Ness .

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 Ron Ness. 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

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 Business Owner’s Insurance** –Awaiting message for the Children’s Easter Egg Hunt for a limited event policy as well our Liquor Liability Insurance.

11. NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE

- A. **The Constitution and By-Laws** will be voted upon tonight, February 13th, 2024. If you have not read or have a copy, please take a copy from the back. I hope that all the officers have brought back their copy from the Executive Board last week because copies are limited at this time without having approval.

Motion to approve the Constitution & By-Laws as written and/or subject to this quorum’s suggested changes made by Judge Advocate Henry Walters .

and seconded by: Vice Commander James Brendle .

There will only be one change in wording instead of club it will be changed to lounge.

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

- B. **Post Dues Update** – National and Department dues will be going up July 2024-2025 by a total of \$10.00. The Post will have to raise their dues by the same amount to offset the increase for next year. Please keep in mind that we have already voted on our Korean Veterans to pay their dues. Our dues currently are \$35.00. We must vote on this increase at this General Membership meeting on February 13th, 2024. Need motion to increase the Post 2024-2025 dues to at least \$10.00 making dues to be at \$45.00.

Motion in increase Post 178 Membership Dues to \$45.00 for the upcoming year 2024-2025 made by Vice Commander Robert Caruso a seconded by Judge Advocate Henry Walters.

(17) FOR; (0) AGAINST). **Motion Carried!**

12. THE GOOD OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

- A. Valentine's Day Feb 14th – The Lounge has purchase roses and candy for our Post 178 Ladies
- B. American Legion Post Charter 178 Birthday February 18th - since 1952 (72 Yrs. Old).
- C. President's Day – Auxiliary Luncheon
- D. 11th District D.E.C 7PM at Post 63 on February 22nd @ 7 PM
- E. Adjutant Brisker – Black History Month Celebration- February 27nd @11:45 Meet & Greet 1200

13. ADJOURNMENT

TIME: 19:57 hrs

Being No Further Business....

NEXT MONTH HOUSE & EXEC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR: March 5th, 2024.

NEXT MONTH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP SCHEDULED FOR: March 12th, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn made by Vice Commander James Brendle, and seconded by Past Commander Oscar Sims to adjourn the Executive Board meeting at 19: 55 Hrs.

(17) For, (0), Against). **Motion Carried**

Theresa A. Brisker

Adjutant

Grant B. Whiteley

Commander