



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
 June 13th, 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)	R.I.P. W/PRAYERS	*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	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: 19:02

2. ROLL CALL

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

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

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

MEMBERS: See Sign-In Sheet

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

OFFICERS: 11 **MEMBERS:** 5 **GUESTS:** **TOTAL:** 16

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 May 9th, 2023 as distributed.

Made by E-Board Lee Whitlock Seconded by: Past Cdr Oscar Sims.

(15) FOR: (1) AGAINST. Motion Carried.

Motion: To approve the Executive Board Minutes dated June 6th, 2023 as distributed.

Made by Sr.Vice Cdr Bruce Early Seconded by: E-Board Raymond Johnson.

(16) 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: 1 Leroy Brinson

Transfers:

Other Guests:

5. OFFICER REPORTS

Commander: (Grant B. Whiteley) – SEE BELOW

Adjutant: (Theresa A. Brisker – No report

Sr. Vice Cmdr.: Bruce A. Early – Our Membership is at 387 bringing the Post to 103.2%.

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

2nd Jr. Vice Cmdr. Robert Caruso – We will start checking for membership at the door starting July 1, 2023. Reminder the lottery machines are for members and their guest only. If there is someone you do not recognize notify Jr. Vice Caruso. Signs will be placed above machines.

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

Motion Made: To approve the Finance Report for the month of April 2023 subject to audit.

Made by Past Cdr Oscar Sims Seconded by Sr. Vice Cdr Bruce Early.

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

Sgt-at-Arms: (Scott Perry) – No Rpt.

Judge Advocate: (Henry Walters) – No Rpt.

Service Officer: (Cdr Whiteley) – No Rpt.

IT Officer: (TBA) – No Rpt.

6. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS:

A.L.R. Chairman: (Lee Galloway) – (P) The Legions Riders will have annual dinner will be held July 8th .

Americanism – Cdr Grant Whitley – (P) U.S. Flag protocol - The American Legion educates youths on U.S. Flag etiquette to build patriotism and create respect for the flag. The Legion provides education materials that cover a range of topics such as the proper ways to fold, display and dispose of U.S. Flags. One of our SAL members (Tristan Halstead) was at the SAL leadership camp learning to fold the U.S. Flag and it's protocol.

Shooting Sports – Cdr. Grant B. Whiteley – No compliance this year from Cross Creek High School or Hephzibah High School. District Commander will approach both schools on support of American Legion Programs.

Oratorical Contest – Cdr Whiteley – The overall national contest winner gets a \$25,000 scholarship. Second place takes home \$22,500, and third gets \$20,000. Each department (state) winner who is certified into and participates in the national contest's first round receives a \$2,000 scholarship.

2023 American Legion National Oratorical Finals - 1st Place Winner - Haley Bock of Indianapolis; 2nd Winner Place Ian Chung of Vestal, N.Y. and 3rd Place Winner Emma Johnson of Powell, Wyoming.

School Awards – Cdr Whiteley – Work in Progress – Cross Creek High School has submitted names for school awards and have been picked up for presentation. However, Hephzibah had not submitted anyone to date.

Blood Donors – Blood donors for June was E-Board Raymond Johnson and Joseph Wetherbee.

Patriotic Observance – June 2023

JUNE 2023

PTSD Awareness Month | June - June is National Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month, and is intended to raise public awareness about issues related to PTSD, reduce the stigma associated with PTSD, and help ensure that those suffering from the invisible wounds of war receive proper treatment.

Homeownership Month - NHM has been officially declared by Presidential Proclamation since 2002. On June 1, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden issued a Presidential Proclamation declaring June to be National Homeownership Month. Owning a home is part of the American dream, something the President acknowledged in the proclamation.

June 6 th	D-Day
June 12 th	Women Veterans Day
June 14 th	Army Birthday & Flag Day

June 11th – 17th National Flag Week - National Flag Day occurs every year during the week of June 14th, the date the United States Flag was created. The week of June 14 is designated as “National Flag Week” which will be June 11–17, 2023.

June 18th Father’s Day

June 19th Juneteenth | Military Importance, History, Facts, Flag

June 23rd Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday

June 27th PTSD Awareness Day

SAL Advisor – Finance Officer David Myer – Drawing for Raffle of grill will be on June 30, 2023

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

Religious Emphasis – Chaplain Bill Crain – (E) No RPT.

Children & Youth – Cdr Whiteley – No RPT.

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

National Security – Cdr. Grant B. Whiteley – How to reverse an erosion of the American spirit. Recent public-opinion surveys paint a grim picture of an America that’s losing confidence in the institutions and ideas that undergird the American experiment – that ongoing effort to build a more perfect union of free people.

Just 38% of Americans, for example, say patriotism is “very important” (down from 70% in 1998). American adults born since 1981 (the Millennial generation and Generation Z) are decidedly less proud of America than older generations, less likely to embrace the concept of American exceptionalism than older generations, and more likely than older generations to view the U.S. flag as a symbol of imperialism, greed and intolerance, rather than freedom.

Amid Ukraine war, Poland becomes critical U.S. ally - Thrust to the frontlines of Cold War II by Vladimir Putin’s invasion of Ukraine, Poland is taking its place as an essential cog in the NATO alliance, a major contributor to the common defense and a key U.S. ally.

To their credit, Poles weren’t surprised by Putin’s war of aggression. In fact, Polish leaders warned for many years that Putin was planning to reconstitute the Russian Empire.

Will Russia survive Putin’s war? - “Nations are not eternal,” French philosopher Ernest Renan observed in 1882. “They have a beginning, and they will have an end.”

That’s something to keep in mind as we assess the damage Vladimir Putin’s war against Ukraine is doing to Russia.

The situation in Russia is increasingly fraught. Putin believed he would seize Ukraine in three days, show off the capabilities of the Russian army and revive the Russian Empire. Instead, he has galvanized and unified Ukraine, broken the Russian army and set in motion forces that could fracture Russia itself.

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

Alcohol & Drug Abuse – Jr. Vice Robert Caruso –

POW/MIA – Lee Galloway – (P)

Special Olympics – Sr. Vice Bruce A. Early – (P) Golden Age Games scheduled for May 20 – 25th, 2023. Donald Preston being sponsored by the Post through VA.

VA/REHAB – Sr. Vice Bruce A. Early (P) -

Boys State – Cdr. Whiteley – Cross Creek providing two Boys for Boy State during 06/11/2023 to 06/17/2023 and two Girls for Girls State during Sunday June 11 - 16, 2023.

The Samsung American Legion Scholarship is available for high school juniors who participate in the current session of American Legion Boys State or Auxiliary Girls State and are a direct descendant (or legally adopted child) of a U.S. military veteran who served honorably on active duty during a period of war (April 6, 1917- Nov. 11, 1918; or Dec. 7, 1941, until a date as determined by Congress).

Baseball – Sgt-At-Arms Scott Perry (P) – American Legion Head Gear for members of our Post to support our team, the Augusta Stripers Post 178 are available for \$20 a cap. See the Commander if you wish one.

Inventory Chairman – Cdr Whiteley – Work in progress.

Legislative – Judge Advocate Henry Walters – No RPT.

7. BALLOTING ON APPLICATIONS & INITIATION OF CANDIDATES:

1. **Transfer #400:**
2. **Transfer Regular:**
3. **New Members:** Demetrick S. Ballard, USN, recruited by Cynthia Anderson.

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

Made by Past Cdr Oscar Sims Seconded by Sgt-At-Arms Scott Perry.

(16) 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; Ennis Dudley and Earnst Gordon who are 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 – JUNE 2023

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	Malcom Kelly	YES	(Lounge Manager Frances Bowman)
5	Russell/Lisa Collins	YES	(Aux Pres Miriam Stein) (706)650-8838) (jomt1@bellsouth.net)
6	Ron Ness	YES	EB Henry King
7	Lee Whitlock	YES	(Vice Cdr Caruso)
8	William Hackley	YES	(706)863-8699) (williamhackley@bellsouth.net)
9	James Brendle	YES	(Lounge Manager Frances Bowman)
10	Ennis Dudley	Yes	Sassy - 3201 Kevin Dr. ,Augusta, GA 30906-4909 (No Phone)

9. MEMORIAL TO A DEPARTED POST MEMBER:

NONE

A. Commander: “Before proceeding with other business of this meeting, we will undrape the Charter for our Comrade David Moon.
Sgt-At-Arms – You may remove the cover from the Charter.

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)
- D. **Turkey Shoot Area** – Commander will order the grave the week of the of June 12-15, 2023.
- E. **Renovation of the Basement** –Need an estimate for the E-Board for electrical (Phase 1) cost which will be presented to General Membership at the next meeting on July 11th, 2023.
- F. **Elections Results** – The Post Officer’s Election was held on May 13th, 2023, for only one position which was the 1st Jr. Vice Commander in Charge of the Kitchen. There were only two (2) members running for this position. The two nominees were Matthew Funsch and Mike Dwyer. The vote came to 14 to 7 in favor of Mike Dwyer. The following are the new Post 178 Officers for the incoming year 2023-2024:

Grant B. Whiteley as Commander; Senior Vice Cdr - Bruce Early; 1st Jr Vice Cdr - Michael Dwyer; 2nd Jr Vice Cdr - Robert Caruso; 3rd Jr. Vice Cdr - James Brendle; Adjutant - Theresa Brisker; Judge Advocate - Henry Walters; Finance Officer - David Myer; SGT-AT-ARMS - Scott Perry; Executive Committee (5) – Paul Anderson Sr.; Past Cdr Oscar Sims; Henry King; Raymond Johnson; and Lee Whitlock.
- G. Driveway – Mr. Watkins came out to give a bid on repair of the driveway. However, French drains is not one of his expertise. He has another contractor who will come in and form a bid for two French drains for the driveway.

11. NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE

- A. No Executive Board Meeting July 4th
- B. Georgia Department Commander is Melvin Weaver

12. THE GOOD OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

- A. **SAL- Jr Vice Caruso** - The SAL has be doing an excellent job in supporting the many activities e.g. Hillcrest.
- B. **GA War Veterans-Jr.Vice Caruso** . The Georgia War Veterans will be here on 21 June and we will will be celebrating EB Lee Whitlock’s birthday.
- C. **AL 178 Installation Ceremony- Commander Whiteley**- Installation Ceremony will be held on July 9.discussed dress code for the ceremony.

13. ADJOURNMENT

TIME: 19:35 hrs

Motion: Motion made to adjourned Made by E-Board Lee Whitlock.
Seconded by E-Board Paul Anderson Sr..
(16) FOR; (0) AGAINST). Motion Carried!

**The Nest House Committee Executive Meeting will be cancelled on July 4th, 2023.
Next General Membership meeting will be on Tuesday, July 11th, 2023.**

Theresa A Brisker

Adjutant

Grant B. Whiteley

Commander