



# THE AMERICAN LEGION

**Hardin Post 113**

**1251 Ring rd.**

**P.O. Box 147**

**Elizabethtown, Kentucky, 42701**

## **General Meeting**

**Commander Robbie Robinson:** Called for the start of the January 4<sup>th</sup> 2024. General meeting at 1900 with the appropriate opening ceremonies.

**Chaplin Steven Sheets:** Offered opening Prayer.

- **Commander Robbie Robinson:** Introduced Joseph Garrett our Area B Commander, Brandon Curry our SAL NEC. Introducing our New Members. Terrell and Matzdorff.
- **Sargent Mike Kabel:** Introduced our guest. Stafnie Brown Area C Vice Director ALR, Jamie Brown Senior Vice Director ALR, Col. Mike Stewart from John Hardin high school JROTC Instructor, CW4 Edward Dicks North Hardin JROTC, Col. Mike Anders Central Hardin high school JROTC, Dawn Cash Executive Director of Warm Blessings.
- **Adjutant Drew Chitty** Copies of Last month's General meeting minutes are in the back, it has also been posted in the hall right after they are typed.
- **Brandon Curry** Makes a motion to accept last month's minute, motion was seconded.
- **Commander Robbie Robinson:** All in favor of accepting last Months minutes. 35 members said I. 0 members opposed. Motion passes. We always need volunteers.
- **Commander Robbie Robinson NEW BUSINESS:** We have some donations to give out. North Harden JROTC \$250.00, Central Harden JROTC \$250.00, John Harden JROTC \$250.00, Warm Blessings \$1,000.00, Ft Knox JROTC \$250.00, Feeding America Kentucky Hartland \$1,000.00, Harden County Special Olympics \$1,000, Race Across America \$1,000.00, Harden County K9 Rescue \$1,000.00, and Department of Kentucky American Legion Disaster Relief \$1,000.00. A total of \$7,000.00 for the month of December.

Two committees that need to be filled tonight. Paid up for life committee and nominating committee. Steve Steward, Randy Harris, John Saunders, Mark Kennedy and Joe Garrett for paid up for life committee. Joe Garrett, Mary Lou Curtis, Brandon Curry and Julia Sheets for the nominating committee.

- **Post Manager Tayna Garcia:** We hosted 22 events in the month of December. We hosted the Swope party. We have booked them again for next year. We hosted the event Mom's left behind. They did a candlelight vigil in front of our building in was covered by the News. They booked us again for next year. We hosted our first kids movie night, we are hoping to host more. Our next date for kids movie night we are looking at March 16<sup>th</sup>. January 20<sup>th</sup> the building will be closed for Blue Ovel, they will have about 400 people. We are hosting the wake of the woman who was shot last Saturday. All 16 of her Siblings served in the Military. Starting this month, the Elks will be meeting in the meeting room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. Free of Charge. We are still selling Queen of Hearts Tickets, but they are not sold as they should. I need your help!
- **Post Assistant Manager Steve Steward:** Differences between the 2019 and 2024 Constitution and Bylaws. Committee is Gary Brewer, Chairman, James Sylvester, member, Steve Steward, member, Drew Chitty Adjutant. Two meetings have been held Drew has the minutes, and they are on file. 34 slides of changes was reviewed. Language changed from him or chairman to he/she and chairperson. Also, grammar and punctuation corrections. Constitution and Bylaws are available on the website. Membership fees will go from \$40.00 to \$45.00. The Color Guard is now The Honor Guard. Dates and signatures will be adjusted to reflect changes.
- **Chaplin Stephen Sheets:** Was just informed tonight, Randy Hawkins dad. Randy Hawkins is a member his dad's name is Arthur Hawkins he was 99 years old. He was just short of 100 years old. Let's keep Randy's family in our Prayers. Also remember cold weather is around keep an eye on your neighbors. If you don't see them in a while, especially if they are old, please check on them. If there is anything I need to know, my e-mail is in the bulgur, and I could help anybody out.
- **First Vice Jeanine Morrison** Our membership is at right now 1,361, the 2024 membership paid is 1,120 at 93% of our goal for membership this year. Our next membership committee meeting will be on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 1800hrs. Also going to have an Open House on Saturday February the 10<sup>th</sup>. If anyone you know might be interested in joining, we can give them a tour of the facility.
- **Second Vice Larry Johnson** Just been fixing things around here nothing major just minor repairs. We are still looking at getting a couple of statues in front. We got a guy who we are trying to lower the price on them. Also looking into putting some evergreen Shrubbery across the front. Possibly looking at putting a living Christmas tree out front somewhere we can decorate sometime during Christmas.
- **Adjutant Drew Chitty** Jeannine already mentioned February 10<sup>th</sup> we will have an open house so if you know anyone, please invite them down. Everyone gets a renewal slip in the mail. Even if you paid for your membership, you might still get this in the mail. Theres no need to get upset about it, write a letter to us about it or call about it. Just throw it away, because if you already paid for your membership, it is already in the system, and it's done. But unfortunately, National will still send these out, until they have been updated and placed in their system as paid. So please understand I have nothing to do with this it is out of my hands, so like I said just throw it away and pay it no mind. Thank you. Secondly if you have not paid your 2024 membership you will not be getting the door access card that we will be handing out starting today. If you know anybody who has not paid you might want to remind them. We need to keep our memberships

updated. For three reasons. 1. So you have continued membership with the years you have accumulated. 2. So you can gain access here, and 3. To help us reach our goal, so please your membership is very important to this Post. We don't get rich on it we only make \$10.00 per membership after early bird special which we make nothing. But your membership is still important to us. Thank you.

- **Finance Officer Julia Sheets** We had some thank you notes from Costa for the donation that we gave them. One from Project Learn for when we gave them the donation in the first part of December. The month of December was a busy month, we made a total of \$95,292.56. We showed a deficit of \$8,935.82 now before you get upset about that there were two invoices that had not been paid yet, and that's from the Swope party and the senior compliance, which total over \$9,000.00. Also, you have to remember the month of December we didn't have two of our Bingos. So that took away some money from the income. We also had taxes that came out to \$5,000.00 which was from the ABC license renewal, our sales tax, tangible property, tax from pull tabs. Which totaled over \$5,000.00. We had charitable donations this month which totaled over \$10,500.00. We wouldn't have a deficit if they paid their invoices. So you have to look at that. Overall, it was a good month. Some charitable donations from May up until December the total charitable donations we gave out to the community was \$28,831.00 that's how much we helped the community.
- **Service Officer Tom Dube** we're still scheduling our monthly zoom meetings for service officer training throughout the state. I have not scheduled another visit to Robin Brooke, I plan on doing another one. The last one we had there were about twenty vets there. We talked about some stuff. I picked up about three more people to work with on claims and benefits. I am going to need some volunteers to help with events like that and on Wednesdays it gets very, very busy with walk-ins. I was requested to go to Lebanon this morning. Once a month they do a veteran's thing. They get veterans from all organizations all over and even one that doesn't belong to any. They meet at the library, so I went and gave them a talk. Winter conference is coming up, I'm going to that. There's a group of people from Bardstown that I work with, and we are hoping to get in touch with other people in Glasgow and Bowling Green and the surrounding areas.
- **Publicity Officer Gary Brewer** I have newsletters inside here by the Sargent at Arms, I also have them when you first come into the lounge area, and it's also on the website. Google post 113, and you come up to the website, then up in the top right corner there's 3 little bars. Click on that you'll then have a drop-down menu. You'll see minutes, and all kinds of stuff, click on the newsletter.
- **Auxiliary President Diane Kennedy** We have our breakfast coming up on the Saturday of February then afterwards we have a valentine dance.
- **SAL Commander Brandon Curry** We have a blood drive that will run with the Auxiliary that will be our national commanders goal, set for each squadron. Another thing in March we will have another Jimmy Buffett night, so please come out and support that. That's a good fundraiser for us.
- **Adjutant Drew Chitty** All those that blood drives and stuff like that please forward how many people gave blood and how much blood you received. We need this for our permanent records and for our CRS report. Thank you.

- **Riders Director Tom Folsom** I want to thank everyone who came to the “Be The One” dinner. On the fifth we had 80 people show up it was a total success. Since that dinner we had four people that I know of from our organization reach out to 988-betheone. Brandon and I plan on keeping on going with this. We have a conference this 20<sup>th</sup> at Bowling Green we both plan on being there. The riders and the Legion plan on having a Texas Hold'em, believe the first day is the 27<sup>th</sup>.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Larry Johnson** speaking of Be the One. Monday night Be the One will be doing the porch cookout. We will be having Chili so come out and support that.
- **Commander Robbie Robinson** The next general membership meeting is on February 1<sup>st</sup>, the next Executive Board meeting will be held on January 23<sup>rd</sup>
- **Riders Director Tom Folsom** During the Christmas Holiday the Commander had Christmas cards that were sent to him from out of State, two big envelopes of cards. I made trips to four of the nursing homes in the area. Passed out over 100 cards to the Veterans there.
- **Area B Commander Joe Garrett** We know for a fact that National has raised their fee's. on the 20<sup>th</sup> I will be going down to Bowling Green and I'll let you know if they will be raising their fee.
- **Riders Director Tom Folsom** This last month in December I spent a lot of time in the kitchen. Spent a lot of time with the management and the cooks and kitchen staff. Those guys do a fantastic job keeping this place running smoothly. They ran 22 parties that's like one every single day. We didn't have an issue, with that, I just want to thank them publicly for all the work they do.
- **Publicity Officer Gary Brewer** is going to the conference in Bowling Green, any person can go to the meeting even members. You don't have to be on the E-Board or an officer. You just need to go down there the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup>, and you can get a room there at the Holiday Inn in Bowling Green. You may want to make your reservations soon.
- **Past Commander John Saunders** I've been a member of this Post a couple of years now and Tom is the best Service Officer I've ever seen. Tom is there anything you need from the Post?
- **Service Officer Tom Dube** Right now I got really good support on automation and technology. There is a need for possibly postage to mail stuff out. We have a bigger footprint than just Hardin County. And there is a lack of Service Officers out there.
- **Past Commander John Saunders** I just want to make sure you have what you need. Anything we need to vote on something because you're one of the best. Commander, for my own knowledge we gave out a lot of money tonight I think that's a great thing. I'm gonna throw out a question or two but I'm not sure who's gonna answer it, Steve or Gary. What is the spending process for giving donations away with Legion money? Because I'm not sure it's in the By-Laws and I'm not sure we follow a process that I think we verbally know on giving money away.
- **Assistant Manager Steve Stewart** If this body today says that they want Tom as an example give him money in order for this to happen it has to be referred from this body to the Finance Committee who has to approve it and then refers it to the Executive Committee. So, we can't technically spend money here just because we vote on it. Say we want it to happen. It still must

be considered. It can be considered almost immediately. But as far as the Constitution and By-Laws it does not state what procedure is on how we do the money, and it can probably fall better within our operating procedures. Unfortunately, the only document you all understand that we have is house rules. But house rules are probably the wrong title we need to be able to do to operate. So as far as the agreement to do spending John, is based on your budget, then if there are other things that we identify that procedure is the finance committee should be able to say yes go ahead and do it. The executive has to Say yes, then this body here has to say yay or nay. In early February so that the March membership meeting can go ahead and approve the checks we're going to do next quarter for donations that's where our expenditures are. We have to give 40% of our Gaming to Charity. We can be part of that charity. So, let's say today we gave \$10,000.00 away and that money should be identified to the general membership before we give it away. So basically, the second month of each quarter, you all had the opportunity to say yay or nay and that's when we typically gave our donations away.

- **Past Commander John Saunders** So the takeaway is we still don't have a budget.
- **Finance officer Julia Sheets** The Budget will be presented to you at the next meeting.
- **Past Commander John Saunders** So once we have a budget those things could've been in the budget. So we wouldn't have to ask for approval. Because we already done it in a budget.
- **Adjutant Drew Chitty** Finance originally came up with donations and we did have an emergency E-Board meeting for that. We all voted on that. I have the minutes if you would like to see them.
- **Publicity Officer Gary Brewer** Finance committee is Julia Sheets, Kay Hensley and Joe Garrett
- **Commander Robbie Robinson** Closed the meeting at 1951 hrs. closed meeting using the proper closing procedures.

**Attest:**                    **Drew Chitty Post Adjutant**                    **Clarence Robinson Post Commander**