



THE
AMERICAN LEGION
Earle B. Stewart Post # 16

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Regular Meeting 9 January 2016

Commander Bergadine called the meeting to order at 1200.

Chaplain Blann offered the opening prayer, First Vice Commander Sciapiti did the Pow MIA table, the pledge of allegiance and the preamble were recited.

Roll call of officers. All officers were present except Service Officer Bessey and JAG Hampton.

Doug moved that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with, Larry B. seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dirk gave the finance report which posted on the bulletin board, and is also attached to these notes. Rick moved that the finance report be accepted as read, Doug seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Committee reports were called for. Kirk gave the historian report:

1776 Thomas Paine published Common Sense population of the Colonies at the time 2.5 million sold 500,000 copies.

1861 – A Union merchant ship, the “Star of the West,” is fired upon as it tries to bring supplies to Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor. This was the first attack on Union shipping by the Confederation after their formation in December of 1860 a few days later Mississippi was the second state to pull out of the Union

1942 Japan began the assault on Bataan Peninsula.

1945 – Gen. Douglas MacArthur and the American 6th Army land on the Lingayen Gulf of Luzon.

1951 – General MacArthur indicated that he had little hope of defending Korea unless given reinforcements and authority to carry the war to the Chinese homeland.

In his 1952 State of the Union address, President Harry S. Truman warns Americans that they are “moving through a perilous time,” and calls for vigorous action to meet the communist threat.

1995 – In New York, trials began for Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman and 11 other defendants accused of conspiring to wage a holy war against the United States. Nine were convicted of seditious conspiracy, and two reached plea agreements with the government.

1998 – Ramzi Yousef was sentenced in New York to life in prison for the 1994 bombing of a Philippines airliner and 240 years for masterminding the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center.

2015 – At a court in New York City, a US District Judge sentences the radical imam Abu Hamza al-Masri to a life sentence for terrorism offenses relating to hostage taking, conspiracy to establish a militant training camp and calling for holy war in Afghanistan in the United States.

No significant history in the American Legion however in local history 1880 was a devastating snow storm that buried Oregon and Washington. It is reported Seattle accumulated 6 feet of snow over 5 days.

MOH actions taken on this date:

HANDRAN, JOHN and MADDIN, EDWARD USN (Seamen) 1876 rescued fellow sailors off the coast of Lisbon, Portugal

These next two gentlemen's gallant actions would make a excellent movies.

CAREY, CHARLES F., JR. T/Sgt. US Army Rimling, France. After his position was over run with 12 tanks he regrouped taking out two snipers in a building eventually emerging with 16 German Prisoners. He was killed later that day attempting to reach an outpost with four men he rescued.

PETERSEN, DANNY J. Specialist 4th class US Army Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam, 1970. First positioned his armored personnel carrier between a disabled vehicle then laid suppressive fire as his own APC was disabled after this "With extraordinary courage and selfless disregard for his own safety, Sp4c. Petersen carried his wounded comrade 45 meters across the bullet-swept field to a secure area. He then voluntarily returned to his disabled armored personnel carrier to provide covering fire for both the other vehicles and the dismounted personnel of his platoon as they withdrew". He was mortally wounded his selfless actions reduced and prevented the further loss of life in his platoon.

Commander Bergadine called for volunteers for the nomination committee for the April officers election. There were none, so Commander Bergadine appointed Dirk as chairman of the committee.

Commander Bergadine reported on future events.

January:

19 – DCVF meeting at the post at 1500

20 – DCVF Advisory Committee meeting at the DC Courthouse 1300.

21 – Quarterly Chapel Remembrance Service VARHS Chapel, Building 16, 1200.

21 – Death Benefits Seminar – VARHS Auditorium, building 16. 1530 to 1730.

22 – Buddy Check 22 Day – reach out to a veteran on this day – National Suicide Prevention Campaign.

February:

8 –12 National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week. Carnival at VARHS Friday 12th.

13 – Four Chaplains Service at the Post at 1130.

18 – Living History Sutherlin Middle School – 0930 to 1420. Sign up required, contact Dirk Kruysman to sign up.

March:

16 – Employers Expo – VSO's Needed

Chaplain Blann draped the Charter for deceased member Clarence Brown.

Rick talked about the Oratorical Contest that didn't happen. He said the post had given their best effort, and several kids had shown interest, but when they went on line and saw the speeches of the past winners, they were intimidated and backed out.

Mike Eakin reported on the VFW program “Voices of Democracy.” Mike then reported that he is in charge of the Memorial Day Services at the National Cemetery.

Commander Bergadine reminded everyone about the District 9 meeting next Saturday the 16th at noon with lunch to follow. Seven people indicated they are going to be at the meeting.

The 50-50 drawing, Dale won \$19.50.

Chaplain Blann offered the closing prayer.

Commander Bergadine closed the meeting at 1338.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Dale Nelson, Adjutant