

The Second District American Legion Department of Ohio

Winter Conference

Sunday, 10 DEC 2017

William Paul Gallagher Post 96, Lima, OH

Meeting called to order at 9:09 AM by 2nd District Commander Kent Long. Sgt.- At- Arms, John Randolph, Post 178, introduced guests.

Shirley Maurer, Department Auxiliary President & Ruth Schutz, 2nd District Auxiliary President discussed upcoming activities and request to encourage home Auxiliary members to pay dues/recruit new members.

Jim Rowan, 2nd District SAL Commander, encouraged SAL members to pay dues. 2nd District currently in 5th place. Welcome by Lima Commander Robert Moreland, Post 96.

Minutes from 16 SEP 2017 meeting read by Adjutant, Kelly Kunkler, Post 648.

Roll Call done by Adjutant, Kelly Kunkler. 15 Posts represented with 29 members present. 8 guests in attendance.

Finance report read by Harold Krieg, Post 241. Total checking balance 10 DEC 2017 \$11,232.78; total 2nd District Fund \$19893.64. Motion to approve made by Chuck Craynon, Post 217 2nd: Robert Moreland, Lima Post 96. Motion carried.

1st Vice Commander Dan Metzgar membership report: We remain in 1st place at 81.8%. 4 quota Posts in 2nd District: Jackson Center, Post 493, Ohio City, Post 346, Waynesfield Post 395 (at 112%), West Mansfield, Post 603. We went up 50 members in past week with 7 new members. 2 new PUFL members this week.

Discussion held between John Wagner, Chuck Craynon & Kent Long on membership on-line program & Brown Jug.

2nd Vice Commander, Walter "Butch" Meharg activities report:

Upcoming activities – get to John McJunkin to get on website

11 – 17 JUN BBS

JAN Mid-winter Conference in Columbus

4 FEB 4 Chaplain Ceremony St Marys Post 323

Frog Leg Fry Wednesday 13 DEC 2017 at St Marys Post 323.

Harold Krieg, Post 241 – Chaplain report for Jim Fast. Update on events he participated in since last meeting and upcoming

No Judge Advocate report.

Committees:

Chuck Craynon, Post 217. \$5 fine to Gift for Yanks for being out of uniform. District ANG winners:

12th grade boy: Cale Brackman, New Bremen. New Bremen HS, Sponsoring Post: 241

12th grade girl: Kaylin Bledsoe, Van Wert. Van Wert HS, Sponsoring Post: 178

11th grade boy: Joe Ballas, Ft Loramie. Ft Loramie HS, Sponsoring Post: 355

11th grade girl: Alexandra Baughman, Piqua. Christian Academy (Sidney) HS, Sponsoring Post: 217

10th grade boy: Nobel Zhou, Sidney. Sidney HS, Sponsoring Post: 217

10th grade girl: Abigail Bonifas, Vanedocia. Delphos St Johns HS, Sponsoring Post: 268

BBS – Jim Koppin, Post 446. Update on new officers. Information going out to schools by mid-DEC. Please consider volunteering. Orientations to be held New Bremen Post 241 on 9 MAY, St Marys Post 323 on 16 MAY.

Children & Youth: Ken Schutz, Post 178. Reviewed previous 2 meetings. Temporary Financial Assistance Program discussed. Opiate abuse – a Veteran cannot be arrested when leaving ER if seeking treatment (protected status). Pins are being made for fundraiser. Franklin County Sheriff coming to talk at Mid-winter conference about drug problems.

Employment – Robert Mooreland, Post 96, no report.

Gifts for Yanks – Paul Maurer, Post 241. Reviewed yesterday's meeting. 2500 bags being passed out this year - cost \$24/bag. Volunteers needed to pass out bags on Christmas Day & funds are needed. Kent Long - \$260 raised at raffle at 2nd District bowling tournament.

National Security: John McJunkin, Post 323. Reviewed last meeting. More items for Resolutions needed. Opiod abuse discussed – still on radar – still trying to work with local schools and D.A.R.E. programs.

Public Relations: John McJunkin, Post 323. Plans to restart some awards. Various media paths discussed as ways to get word out on American Legion. Push given to use District website and Facebook page.

Oratorical: Virgil Arling, Post 387. 2nd District Oratorical contest to be held 25 FEB at

POW/MIA: John Randolph, Post 178 – no report

Resolutions – John Eccard, Post 191 – simplest form of a resolution is a motion. John offered his help if needed in writing one.

SAL – Mike Homan, Post 241 – updates from last meeting reviewed. 2nd District at 41.77% of quota. Mike came up with a party bus idea to go throughout the District. Open to SAL, Legion & Auxiliary members. More information to come.

Absent: Legislature: David Ring, Post 330 & Rehabilitation: Dave Myers, Post 178 & Special Olympics: Bob McCulloch, Post 173.

County Commanders Reports:

Allen County: John Eccard, Post 191: Reviewed membership. Cairo Post 133 most likely closing after this year. 3 out of 5 Posts completed in ANG test. County Oratorical contest end of January.

Auglaize County: Mike Homan, Post 241: Fundraisers for County banquet in March. 3 schools participated in ANG test. Wapak & Waynesfield Posts turning things around for the better.

Hardin County: Larry Phillips, Post 198: Absent

Logan County: Robert Lantz, Post 173: Skip has fallen a number of times. Ray Stamm Post 173 gave report. Update on items found during Courthouse renovation dealing with WW II.

Mercer County: Don Link, Post 345: 4 Posts participated in ANG test.

Shelby County: Dick Steinke, Post 217: Absent

Van Wert County: Loren Pancake. 1 District winner for ANG

Trustee Report: Mike Homan, Post 241: All bills paid.

Kent Long gave update on Red Feltz, Post 470. He is in the Gardens at Celina. Please keep him in your prayers.

Ken Schutz – task force has not met.

Unfinished Business: District Euchre tournament 24 MAR Jim Koppin, Post Anna Post, 446

New Business:

Commanders Round-Up 3-4 FEB. Looking for Post to host. Kent Long to contact Chuck Craynon to see if Sidney can host.

Cairo Post, 133, sits on property of Past Commander who is now deceased. We need to audit items to see what belongs to American Legion. There may be items for other Legions who are interested. Kent wants a committee formed: himself, Mike Homan, John Eccard, John Wagner volunteered.

Good of the Legion:

Emergency Assistance Plus program – Kent has brochures. Has to do with travel.

Thank you received from Shirley M for her gift at her Homecoming.

Jerry Wilson Charities, Inc. \$5,000 charity check – given to Ralph to get to Red to deposit.

Kent plans to set up District training on 31 March for those Posts not on line yet – St Marys Post 323 to host.

Jerry Wilson, Past Department Commander, Harrison, OH, Post 199 - \$10 donation Gifts for Yanks – out of uniform & cell phone noise. Discussed Charities Inc and introduced Jean Wilson, his wife, Candidate for Department 2nd Vice Commander 2018-2019. She spoke & asked for our vote.

Dick Staley, Xenia OH, Post 95 – candidate for Department Treasurer 2018 – 2019 – spoke & asked for our vote.

Robert Schmitt, 1st Vice Commander Department of Ohio. 2nd District will receive a \$1500 check at Mid-Winter Conference – we qualified & won Brown Jug. Please consider donating to VA & R. 9 Posts are using Mylegion. Org (25%). 683 expired members on books. Centennial Committee update – coin in the works. France is orgaNational is working on placemats for each Department. Emblem sales has lots of good 100 year merchandise. Veteran's Treatment Courts – more to come. In addition mentors are needed. Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's website has mandatory training.

Tom Simon, Department Adjutant, Post 486. 2nd District has a 25.3% capture rate (2016 data). He offered his office to help any interested Post in revitalization efforts. Membership credit audit being done currently – no money returned to Posts until completed. Mylegion.org will be what is used in the future instead of AIM for membership reports. New staff structure reviewed. Volunteerism, especially BBS, Gifts for Yanks, VA & Rehab. Discussed training & other activities to take place at Mid-Winter Conference. He advocated for Legion College.

Butch Meharg, Post , pushed again for 2nd District shirts.

Winner of 50/50: \$52 Kent Long – donated to Gifts for Yanks.

Meeting adjourned: 11:55 AM