

**American Legion Auxiliary Winter Park Memorial Unit 112
General Meeting Minutes**

January 8, 2013

The January 2013 general meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112 was called to order at 7:04pm by President, Marge Berrios. The meeting was opened according to ritual and Marge was granted permission to deviate from the printed agenda as needed.

Members in attendance included:

Marge Berrios

Jo Anne Russell

Nell Colbert

Debi Shannon

Aunita Padgett

Nell confirmed that we have a quorum for this meeting.

Nell Colbert reported that the minutes from the last meeting that were emailed to all members. The minutes were also posted on the Unit's YahooGroups site and placed on our unit website. Nell had hard copies of the minutes available at the meeting for review by those who had not received them via email. Debi Shannon moved (seconded by Aunita Padgett) that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert gave the Treasurer's Report showing that we began the month with \$774.64, received income of \$574.29 and had expenses of \$135.02, leaving us with a closing balance of \$1,213.91 as of the end of the month. Nell reported that we received no additional income and had no expenses since the first of the month. Nell reported that the Treasurer's Report was emailed via the Unit's YahooGroups and was posted on the YahooGroups site. Nell also made hard copies available at the meeting for review by those who had not received the Treasurer's Report via email. Debi Shannon moved (seconded by Aunita Padgett) that the Treasurer's Report be filed for audit. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert shared items of correspondence received this month including the Chamber newsletter and the most recent issue of the Department Communiqué.

Nell Colbert shared Information from the Post's Executive Committee meeting held last night, noting that the Post has mounted our plaques received over the past few years on the wall near the soda refrigerator. If anyone has additional certificates or plaques, please bring them to the February meeting so that they can also be mounted. The Post is very proud of our accomplishments. Nell also noted that our cramped meeting space was discussed at the Executive Board meeting and the Post Commander expressed concern for our safety because we are so crowded. The Commander suggested that if we continue to grow with active members, we might want to consider shifting our meeting night so that we can use the main hall. Nell noted that she looked at the calendar and found that the third Tuesday is open as are several Wednesdays. After a brief discussion, Debi Shannon moved (seconded by JoAnne Russell) that we leave our

meetings on the second Tuesday until our meeting attendance consistently has at least 7-8 participants.

Marge called upon our chairs for their committee reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **AEF:** Nell reported that our AEF check will be sent to the Department after tonight's meeting.
- **Americanism:** Marge reported that she will be dropping off the Americanism Essay contest information to the high schools on Friday this week and that Nell will deliver the information to the two elementary and one middle school on Friday as well. The topic for this year's essay is "What freedom do I enjoy the most?"
- **Cavalcade of Memories:** Nothing new
- **Children and Youth:** Nothing new
- **Community Service:** There was some discussion as to exactly what constitutes "community service" and Nell explained that anything that we do as individuals for scouts, the church, other civic organizations, etc. that is NOT for Veterans can be claimed as service hours. Our on-going food drive for the pantries at the elementary schools can be shown as community service since it benefits not just the students but their entire families. Marge noted that she brings a log book each month so that we can log our personal activity.
- **Constitution and By-Laws:** Nell reported that our documents are in compliance and no changes are needed at this time.
- **Education:** Nell reported that our school supply drive will be logged as our "Give 10 to Education" project for this year and reminded everyone to bring school supplies each month.
- **Girls State:** Debi reported that she updated the Girls State letter and Marge noted that she will be delivering the Girls State packets to the schools on Friday. We will meet at the end of February to select our delegate from all who apply.
- **Juniors:** Nothing new but it was noted that the girls are regularly supporting the post events.
- **Leadership:** Nell reminded everyone about the ABC school in Bushnell on the 19th.
- **Legislative:** Aunita reminded everyone to keep emailing their legislators.
- **Membership:** Nell reported that while we are at 100% we still need to schedule our new member orientation luncheon. It was decided that we should target March 16th or 17th for the Olive Garden in Winter Park. Nell will send personal emails to our newest members asking for their input as to the date and she will contact the restaurant to make reservations once we have the best date for our members.
- **National Security:** Marge noted that we continue to receive coupons but that most have not been clipped so she is clipping away.
- **Past President's Parley:** Aunita reminded everyone that our next tea at the VAMC is set for February 16th.

- **Poppies:** Our payment for our Veteran's Day Poppy drive will be sent to the Department this week. We will need to order 2013 poppies by February. Since the Department expects us to order poppies for each drive we do, it was agreed that we will order only 500 poppies for the Memorial Day booths. We still have more than 100 of the 2012 poppies left that can be used for the poppy poster contest.
- **Public Relations:** Nell reported that she did a well-received presentation for the Orange County east Rotary Club on 1/3 and that the club has asked us to come back in April to do a presentation about flag etiquette.
- **Veterans Affairs and Rehab:** Aunita reported that the bingo party at the VAMC that we hosted for all residents in December went very well. Aunita shared that we had received receipts from the VASH program for donations made in November and December and Nell reported that she has a receipt for about \$285 for a donation that she made to VASH in December.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Holiday Party - Nell, Debi, Marge and Aunita reported that everyone had a great time at the post's holiday party.
- Fundraising - Nell reminded the group that we really do need to look at raising additional funds to support our programs and suggested that we send donation requests to the David Maus Foundation and to the Wal-Mart Corporation. Since most companies renew their donation budgets in January, now would be a good time to submit requests before the available funds are depleted. Debi will do the research to find out specifics about making donation requests to these organizations.

Nell introduced Post 112 Commander Billy Dover to the group. Cdr. Dover apologized for interrupting our meeting last month. Billy also explained in further detail the Post's concern for our safety in our cramped meeting space.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Orange County East Rotary request – Nell explained the request to do a flag etiquette presentation, noting that they would like us to present on either 4/18 or 4/25. It was agreed that Nell should respond affirmatively to their request and set up for 4/18. Nell, Debi, Marge and Aunita should all be available.
- Goldenrod Historical Society – Aunita explained that we have been invited to help with the Society's Centennial Saturday's by hosting a Saturday between 1/19 and 4/13. After a brief discussion about possible dates, it was agreed that Aunita should request either 3/23 or 2/2. We will need to have members present from 10am until 4pm to greet guests. We can bring our own display including scrap books, the display board, membership materials, etc.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Marge reminded everyone about the ABC School on the 19th and Nell passed around the AEF piggy.

After everyone made their contributions to the AEF piggy bank, Debi Shannon offered the benediction and Marge Berrios adjourned the meeting at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted



Nell Colbert
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes approved _____

Nell Colbert, Secretary _____

Marge Berrios, President _____