

Disabled American Veterans

Calhoun County Chapter 7

PO Box 200

Battle Creek, MI 49016

08/21/2012

1900: Commander Holden opened the Meeting

Chaplin read the opening prayer.

Adjutant called the roll of officer's.

The minutes were pasted out and read, there was one correction, on the financial yearly report given by the Treasure's report, the minutes said it was dated for 2010 and 2011, instead it should read 2011-2012. Al Ables made a motion to accept the minutes with the corrections, seconded by Ron Paul, motion carried.

Treasures report: Frank Sheperd read the monthly treasures report, and reported there was a small mistake on our annual report that National kicked back, he is currently working on finding the mistake in the report, and will have it ready for the next meeting for signature. He also report that Independent Bank has transferred to Commercial Bank effective as of 09/14/2012 at close of business. Motion was made by Al Ables, supported by Dave Ball to accept the treasures report, subject to audit and corrections, motion carried.

Chaplin's report: Al Ables reported that John Kursman, who was a member of the DAV, died last Saturday morning, and Silva Nichols passed away.

New Members: The Adjutant, Jerry Schmidt, reported we had 8 new members according to National. A welcome letter will be sent to each new member.

Correspondence: Adjutant read all correspondence, including a special offer from Department on anyone who will pay off their life membership before 05/31/2013, Dept. will take \$10 off the fee, and they recommended that the chapters either match the \$10, or take off more. Bill Roush, made a motion to match the Department's \$10, seconded by Al Abels, motion carried. In order to get the discount, the payments have to be sent to Frank Sheperd, so he can credit them the \$10 from the post, and he will than forward them on to Department, so they can credit the other \$10. Than it will be sent to National. Frank Sheperd stated that he would give a DAV license plate to whoever brings in 2 paid up life members in the next year.

Membership Report: No Report

Service Officer's Report: Jerry Schmidt reported that he has been very busy this past month, with several phone calls, and he had visited a couple of vets a home. He also requested the chapter participate in a new relief fund program, he had established called the Battle Creek Veteran's Relief Fund. He explained in detail, how this program works. The Checking account will have Schmidt's name, and the names of each of the Commanders from each participating Chapter, on it. So at any time a Chapter can monitor how the funds are managed and being used. This fund is to be used as a last resort for the vets, **only** after they have tried to go thru all the other available community programs. I.E. MVTF, Calhoun Cty Vets Fund, and 211. No money will be paid directly to a vet; he/she must present a bill that will be paid, **only** after Schmidt investigates to make sure it is valid. 100% of this fund will be used for assistance of Active duty, Veterans and their families, and widows/widowers of veterans.

Hospital Committee: Tom Lightbody reported that they had a good bingo last week, and that there will be a carnival, Oct 11, they will need help there at the hospital for this event. He also said that he has a Zoo outing planned for Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> and could use help with that.

Cemetery Report: No report

Legislative report: No report

Americanism Report: Bill Roush stated there would be an open house at Star School Elementary school in Hastings, at 6pm 24 Aug. He will pick up the pictures for the winners of last year's essay contest, and sent them to Department. He asked how many schools the chapter wants to cover this year? A motion was made by Tom Lightbody that we would cover a maximum of 6 schools, with the prizes to remain at \$100 for 1<sup>st</sup> place and \$75 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Al Abels seconded, motion carried.

Unfinished Busn. Jerry Schmidt reported that it was all set up for us to do 3 stores in B.C. area, for our For- Get- Me- Not Drive, this coming Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> of August. All volunteers should meet at the Pancake House at 0800.

New Busn. Jerry Schmidt brought up that there is an opportunity to do a Texas Hold'em Fund raiser at a place in Kalamazoo. It costs the Non-Profit Group \$200 for the gambling license, with the Non-Profit splitting the take with the house. He stated he was already doing the event for the Am. Legion 298, but if someone here was willing to do it he would provide the information.

Dave Ball brought up that there was an organization at the Army hospital in Reinstade, Germany, that makes coats and things for vets missing limbs. He asked that we maybe consider contributing a monthly amount to help with their shipping costs. The Adjutant offered to talk to the lady in charge of the program, if Dave would get him the information. Topic was tabled till next month.

Good of the Order: Nothing to report.

Al Abels made a motion to adjoin, seconded by Jerry Schmidt, motion carried.

Commander adjoined the meeting.