

## **Post 1 Meeting: 11Dec2023**

Auxiliary provided desserts and beverages as a thank you to Post 1 for helping with Poppy Day

Attendees: Russ Kroshus, Janette Fetch, Wayne Maruska, Mark Landis, Bob Wefald

New Member: Larry Barnett – transferred from Minot Post 26

### **Committee Reports:**

Financial: Available cash for office use \$49,481, \$370,000 in bonds and \$107,000.00 in CD's. Gaming Foundation dollars to be used for donations \$629,658.00 and gaming Post 1 admin to be used for post expenses \$32,203.

Gaming checks for BSC and Quilts of Valor were given Russ Kroshus and Ed Stern for presentation.

### **Gaming Report:**

Quilts of Valor: \$4,000.00. 18 post 1 members have received a quilt from the quilts of valor.

BSC Scholarship Foundation: \$15,000.00 – should get our total up to \$50,000 to give out two scholarships in the future.

History behind this scholarship: Post 1 started this last year with \$20,000 and BSC matched 50% which put us up to \$30,000. Ed Stern had a conversation with the foundation and in order for them to give out scholarships, they need to be in 25,000 increments. BSC is again matching 50%. Post 1 just approved \$15,000, BSC will match \$7500. This will put the Post 1 total up to \$52,500 and we should be able to give out two \$25,000 scholarships. BSC has a good process/program for the scholarships and an agreement has been signed between Post 1 and BSC.

SW Art Gallery and Science Center: \$10,000 – Gaming Committee did not support (outside our community).

*A motion was made by Ed Stern to approve the Gaming Report, second by Bob Wefald. Motion Carried.*

Membership: Post 1 is at 77.91% (462). Goal is 593.

### **Veteran Service Officer:**

The VA is reviewing the lease for the Bismarck CBOC (Community Based Outpatient Clinic). They want to increase the size of the clinic to 25,000-30,000 square feet. The current space is slightly less than 10,000 square feet.

The Wreaths Across America event at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery will begin at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Traffic will probably be heavy, so early arrival is encouraged.

### **Slate of Officers:**

Daniel Rustvang was accepted to the 1-year Executive Committee vacancy by the Executive Committee on 4Dec2023.

*Mamie Havelka made a motion to confirm Danial Rustvang as 1-year Executive Committee member, motion second by Bob Wefald. Motion Carried.*

Boys State: June 9-14 2024 in Wahpeton. Post 1 sponsors all young men that want to attend Boys State. We have one applicant to date.

Oratorical: District 5 contest was held on December 2, 2023. One participant, a senior at Wilton High School (Brady Quinn) attended the District 5 Oratorical Contest. Brady will now compete in the western division contest in Dickinson ND on 13Jan2024 at 12:00 MT.

### **Open Your Heart:**

\$23,462.45 – from the Live Broadcast held on 2Dec2023

Assisted 169 families for the Target shopping day. We had 55 no shows.

OYH was expected to spend \$25,730.00 on clothing, only spent \$19,000.00

382 food boxes to fill

### **Winter Conference:**

ND Department Winter Conference will be held at the Bismarck Hotel, Bismarck on 26-28 January 2024. Washburn is hosting the winter conference.

- Block of room reserved until 2Jan2024
- Banquet tickets go up after 10Jan2024

You can find all of this information on the Post 1 website: [www.americanlegionbismarck.org](http://www.americanlegionbismarck.org) – CALENDAR

Registration Fee will be paid for by Post 1: Janette Fetch, Vern Fetch, Ed Stern, Russ Kroshus, Arnie Havelka, Mamie Havelka, Bob Bird, Ray Geffre, Dan Sauerwein and Joe Camisa.

Post 1 will be paying for hospitality event for Commander Elect Mamie Havelka at the Winter Conference, spending up to \$1000.00.

The Summer Convention in June will be held in Bismarck and hosted by Post 1.

SAL:

Still taking renewals. Dan will be sending out the date for the bell ringing for the Salvation Army, he will pass the date out to the Post Adjutant and Arnie & Mamie Havelka.

Squadron Flag has been received and in the American Legion Office

New charter in Page, ND

SAL – opening up the pilot for SAL University on May 2-5 2024 in Indianapolis. Limit of 12 SAL member can attend.

Website:

The minutes have incorrect URL link

Minutes and Newsletters can be found in the “about us” tab

Honor Guard:

We will not have All Veterans Honor Guard Training in December due to the Holidays. Training will resume in January 2024. All Veterans Honor Guard Training is the fourth Tuesday of each month at Army National Guard RJB Armory. Trainers are members of the NDNG Military Funeral Honors Team. We eat chicken from 6:00-6:30 p.m. Training starts at 6:30 to 7:30-8:00 p.m.

Public Relations:

Veterans visit on 6 December 2023 at Prairie Point Assisted Living

How are these scheduled? Arnie calls all of the local assisted living places. We can try working out a schedule with the activities directors.

We haven't heard minutes from the last couple meetings and they are not correct on the website. This was already address by the adjutant.

Correspondence:

We received a few thank you cards from donations

Old Business:

Insurance contract dates of coverage for Post 1 was moved to coincide with the calendar year. We have received the new contract and it has been paid.

Received the 2022 taxes from Haga Kommer. The 2022 charitable annual report has been submitted and 990 uploaded.

New Business:

Awards for the American Legion applications are due 31December2023

Arnie commented this information should be put out in the newsletter sooner than December 2023.

For the Good of the Legion:

Mamie: You can renew for three years with caveats. This was put into the system last week and anyone that has already paid their membership dues for 2024 cannot go back in and pay for 2025 and 2026. You can only do this online and your choices are one year, three years or PUFL.

Historical Information by Bob Bird:

Loyd Spetz Post 1 Commander Arthur Allen Jones was born in 1881 in Kansas, passed away in 1942 in Washington and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery in VA. He was unanimously elected first Post 1 Commander of Loyd Spetz. His occupation was Chief Train Dispatcher/Brakeman. Commissioned as a Captain in Quartermaster Corps. Overseas in WWI from 18Aug1917 to 9Jan1919. He married Jenny Lind (Gustaveson) Jones in 1903. She was born in 1881 in MN, passed away in 1952 in WA, and is also buried at the Arlington National Cemetery, VA. While in Bismarck, ND, she was active in the Episcopal Church and the Eastern Star Lodge.

Post Everlasting:

Richard Cieslak – 8Dec2023

Rubert Huber – 9Dec2023

Meeting Adjourned.