

MINUTES OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ONION CREEK POST 326
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 5, 2010

Commander Ken Baucom called the meeting to order at 1530 hours. Attendees: Ken Baucom, Rocky Eubank, Clyde Walls, Rowland Greenwade, Fred McCarthy, Mike Rodriguez, Tom Harder, Don Jones, Jerry Prestridge and Roy Dalton. There were no guests.

A motion to approve the Minutes of the Executive Committee of March 3, 2010 was made, seconded and unanimously passed.

Finance Officer Rocky Eubank reported that Post 326 currently has \$1,500 in the Scholarship Fund, \$29,161 in the Golf Tournament Fund and \$5,080 in the Operating Budget. The Investment Fund remains at about \$87,975. Expenses: as approved by the Executive Committee, a \$500 check will be presented to the Homeless Veterans Program in June. Eubank has issued two checks to the Onion Creek Club (OCC), one for the Past Commanders Luncheon and one for the meals for the scholarship recipients and their guests. Eubank has just received a bill from the Onion Creek Club for \$108 to cover the guaranteed meals shortfall at the last General Meeting.

Commander Baucom reported that the OCC has changed its policy with respect to “no shows” at the General Meetings. Beginning with the June General Meeting, OCC will charge the unused guaranteed dinners to Post 326. OCC is also requiring notice of the meals requirement 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Therefore, the Post must make a policy change with respect to late cancellations or no shows in order to protect members of the Post. After general discussion, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to establish a Post 326 policy of billing a member who has confirmed attendance and who, in the absence of emergency, fails to attend (no show) the General Meeting and Post 326 is billed by OCC for that meal. Commander Baucom will announce this policy change in the June Newsletter, send a e-mail to members and will make an announcement of the policy change at the June General Meeting. Commander Baucom and Past Commander Don Jones will meet with representative of the OCC to work out the cut off time to notify OCC of the meals required.

COMMANDER’S REPORT: The deadline for submitting articles for the June Newsletter is May 15th.

Commander Baucom has the protocol of the Flag Retirement Ceremony. Flag Day is Monday, June 14th. Sergeant-at-Arms Rowland Greenwade will arrange the ceremony in conformity with the proper protocol on Flag Day. The ceremony will be conducted subject to a burn ban in Travis County. Commander Baucom will contact Clarence Vogel to see if the ceremony can be conducted at his new location at FM 1327 and FM 1625 in Creedmoor. Adjutant Prestridge stated that Creedmoor has a fire truck, Mustang Ridge has a fire truck and that there is also a volunteer fire department on FM 1327 west of Creedmoor. Publicity should also be arranged.

Commander Baucom will arrange for publicity of the ceremony presenting the \$500 donation to the Homeless Veterans Program and will also arrange to present two or three flags to homeless veterans.

Past Commander Don Jones will contact a vexillologist (a person who studies flags) to see if he can be the guest speaker at the June General Meeting. Past Commander Jones will also work on a backup speaker in the event the vexillologist is not available. Sergeant-at-Arms Greenwade stated the Camp Mabry has a very large historical museum and that the Executive Director would be a speaker that would be of interest to the Post members.

Commander Baucom has appointed Former Commander Roy Dalton as Chairman of the 2010-2011 Nominating Committee for the election of officers. In addition to Dalton, the Committee is composed of four Past or Former Commanders of Post 326 to be selected by Dalton. Commander Dalton explained the time limitations on the Committee to prepare a list of officers, get the list to the Executive Committee for approval and in the June Newsletter by May 15. Dalton will contact members of the Executive Committee by telephone and/or e-mail to get their approval. The nominees will be presented to the membership at the June General Meeting for approval and installation.

Vice Commander Tom Harder reported that 213 Post 326 members have renewed their membership and 35 have not. However, renewals are coming in about one per week. Harder thanked Member-at-Large Clyde Walls for his efforts in getting members to renew. The Post has two new members. The Hall of Fame deadline is April 1 and the Post will not make it this year because 250 members were needed to meet the goal. Harder will send a list of members who have not renewed to the Executive Committee. After the Golf Tournament Baucom, Walls and Harder will devise a strategy to get members to renew their membership.

Harder thanked all those who have contributed to the clothing drive for the Homeless Veterans Program. Harder has delivered ten bags of clothing to the VA Center and is working on another bag which he suggests can be delivered when the check is presented. Harder's report published in the last Newsletter will be repeated in the June Newsletter.

Mike Rodriguez, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, submitted a written report of the 2010 Scholarship Committee. A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes.

Commander Baucom, Chairman of the Boys/Girls State Committee, reported that the Committee interviewed nine students and selected five for the 2010 program. The Committee selected three for Boys State and two for Girls State. Counselors at the High Schools are very instrumental in getting quality students interested in the two programs.

Sergeant-at-Arms Greenwade announced that the menu for the June General Meeting will be chicken picante and the price is still \$20.40.

Chairman of the Golf Committee Tony Nuccio and Vice Commander Don Wyatt were putting the final touches on the Golf Tournament. Nuccio submitted a written report on the current status of the Tournament. A copy of the report is attached hereto.

There being no further business to come before the Executive Committee, Commander Baucom adjourned the meeting at 1641 hours.

Jerry Prestridge, Adjutant

Hi Ken,

As I indicated in my initial response I said I would not be able to attend the meeting but I would provide a short report which follows. I will of course provide a more detailed summary for the next newsletter to be followed by the final report.

Golf Tournament: Plans are in-place and no problems are expected for tournament day. The weather should be great. The attached letter to the players provides a nice summary of the event. Unfortunately we do not expect any live coverage of the event.

We will have a full field of 132 players with the possible addition of another team. Yesterday H-E-B informed me that they would fill their team position (which is paid for) so if we can come up with an additional team that would be \$500 in additional revenue.

This afternoon we are completing final preparations. We have a group stuffing "goodies" Bags starting @ 3 PM; a crew installing landscape posts for the banners beginning at 5 PM and about the same time a crew setting-up the silent auction area. If there is any Executive Committee member wishing to help I suggest stopping one of these area and offer your assistance and support.

The committee should be well aware of the fund raising efforts by virtue of my weekly reports. I expect that we will set all-time highs in both areas. At this point I am confident we reach our goal of \$20K as well as our predicated net income of \$21.4K. This is based on a conservative estimate of a net \$5K from our silent auction. Last year we netted \$9.3K. (the net revenue has increased every year). If the silent auction sales are higher and we receive the additional commitments of \$2K from Wal-Mart and \$ 1K from H-E-B then our net profit will be much higher than the predicted amount.

Fall Member Mixer: No volunteers as yet. This is a fun and easy way to get involved and to develop some additional experience for the golf tournament. If someone else would like to take the leadership for the event I would have no objections.

Best Regards,

Tony Nuccio

Chairman Golf Tournament Committee

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May 4, 2010

To: Onion Creek American Legion Post 326 Executive Board and Members

Subject: 2010 Scholarship Committee Report

Gentlemen,

Our Scholarship Committee this year consisted of Tom Harder, Kathy Pillmore and myself. Our Post received a record total of 41 applications from graduating seniors at Akins (4), Bowie (14), Hays (14) and Lehman (9) High Schools. We made an initial quality cut, then interviewed or further considered a total of 28.

After coordinating with our Commander, we ultimately awarded a record total of thirteen scholarships: (vs. 11 last year and seven the year prior). Among them are one four-year (\$4000) scholarship, two \$2000 scholarships and 10 one-year (\$1000) scholarships. Making this possible, our continued exceptional fund-raising success in recent years has facilitated our scholarship investment account growth to over \$87,000.

Recipients we selected for 2010 include:

Akins	Bowie	Hays	Lehman
Andrew Gonzales	Matthew Lopez** Gabriel Barrera* Courtney Dymowski Sarah Miller	Joshua Delgado* Michael Trahan Brad Weber Veronica Bentley Kayla Jones	Meera Day Jessica DiFucci Jared Rodriguez

(**\$4000; * \$2000---all other =\$1,000)

The applicants this year were quite impressive, and included two class valedictorians. Twelve, including seven of our selectees, had GPAs of 4.0 or above--and were, or course, in the top 10% of their graduating class. Of those we had to turn down, five had GPAs above 4.0. Six of our scholarship winners had SAT scores of 1990 or higher. Of note, also, all but three of our recipients had family members who are military veterans. For one, both parents are veterans—her father, a career Marine, and she herself received a congressional nomination to the Naval Academy, making it to the last competitive level.

We have only three previous scholarship winners who have eligibility remaining. So, with the new recipients, we will reach 17 students under scholarship (most just for one year) starting this Fall.

Sincerely,

Mike Rodriguez

Scholarship Chairman

American Legion Post 326