

-KELLS – GRENNIE AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 316
MINUTES OF MEETING FOR
October 20, 2014

Meeting opened at 7:30 pm by Post Commander Joseph Ocohipinti. Opening prayers were read by Chaplain Dennis Rosenwald, Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble was recited by the members.

A motion was made by Ferdi Salavatore to suspend regular business and seconded by Elias Arout to have a guest speak about various health Insurance plans. Mr. Irwin Helfman spoke to the members.

At 8:15 the Post went back to general business,

Roll call of Officers was taken; all were present except VC Charles Goffredo who was excused. and VC Allan Polazzo who was also excused.

The minutes of the September 15th meeting were read and accepted by the members present.

Commander Joe O asked for committee reports. Treasurer Carmine Vacirca gave his report. He said he had to write out two checks, one for \$140.00 to reimburse the county for a check that bounced and the county was charged \$15.00 for payment for the County Installation Dinner, the error was caused by the back clerk the account was locked. He also had to issue a check for \$27.00 to County for the Post PUFL's.

As of tonight's meeting the Post treasury has \$815.00 in the account.

Membership Chairman was away so there was no report tonight.

VC Bill Baumwoll said that he was hoping to have the candidates that represented the Post at Boy's State and Girls Nation but did not have their address's or phone numbers to contact them and was going to call Larry Lee and Diane Gerber.

Service officer Joe Toronto said that Flu Shots were available at the South Avenue VA Clinic from 1 – 3 pm. Joe also said there is a Yoga support group for PTSD that is offered at the Manhattan VA Hospital from 9 – 10 am, Joe also stated that the National VA Secretary Robert McDonald is currently touring VA facilities across the country and asking people to take a look at things as they try to fix the system. He hope to more doctors and nursing students might consider working for the VA. Joe also said that with the help of Independent Senator Bernie Sanders from Vermont was able to get a bill passed that put additional \$5 million into the VA budget. Joe mentioned that he has information available on the back table.

Post Historian Lester Modelowitz told the members that he was making a little progress on the post history and found some old photos and minutes and was going to go through it all and try and work it into the history. He also said that he entered the Post name in the American Legion National Centurial website.

Commander Joe O told members to call VC Charlie Goffredo who recovering from another surgery procedure, and please keep Bob Mahoney's son Robert in your prayers.

Under new business Commander Joe O said he received an American Legion License plate with Department Commander Frank Petera name on it and it will be hung in the building.

Joe also said that Eileen Carucci was collecting donations to purchase Christmas presents for veterans that are in local nursing homes, she and others did it last years and the veterans appreciated it very much. She will be at the next county meeting being held at the Cespino – Russo Post on Noember 21, 2014 at 7pm.

The county executive meeting is on December 6, 2014 at Kells-Grennie Post at 10am

On November 5th there is a Veterans Information Seminar and Exhibit at the Old Bermuda Inn beginning at 9am. St Adalberts is holding there veterans breakfast on November 5th at 8:15 am.

Pearl Harbor day December 7th ceremony will on the 10am SI Ferry boat leaving at 10 am.

December 14th is the Oratorical contest at Holy Rosary parish hall, snow date December 21st.

Carmine mentioned about getting a committee together for the Post Christmas Party. Joe O said that he would like to invited personal from all the local military recruiting centers on the Island to our party a motion was made to this and so carried by the members.

Richmond County American legion will hold their traditional Veterans Day ceremony at the Staten Island Mall beginning at 11am. Other Veterans day activities are free lunch or dinner at Apple Bee's and Charly Brown restaurants

Veterans Day Parade in Manhattan will be headed up this year by the American legion if you would like to attend call Past County Commander Anthony DeNatale.

Ferdi thanked Lester Modelowitz for the great job he did with the political forman but also said it was poorly attended by Legionnaires

Carmine said that Assemblyman Cusick left applications for the Staten Island Discount Program.

Carmine also read a thank you note from the Prevosti family for the Post's dnation to the Victor Prevosti Scholarship program. Elias Arout won the 50/50 and donated it to the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary that now meets at this Post.

With no further business the meeting was closed by the Commander, closing prayers were read and Tap were played at 8:50 p.

Respectfully Submitted

Lester Modelowitz

