



American Legion Post 543  
Saint James, NC 28461

SUBJECT: General Membership Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday October 24, 2018, 7:00pm

LOCATION: St. James Community Center, Saint James, NC, 28461

1) Call to Order: (Fegan)

- Per Agenda previously provided, the meeting was called to order at 7pm in the Town of St. James Community Center. (See Attachment #1)
- Colors were posted
- Our Chaplain offered the opening prayer.

2) POW/MIA Empty Chair: (Fegan)

- The POW/MIA Empty Chair was formally recognized.

3) Pledge of Allegiance: (Fegan)

- Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

4) Preamble to Constitution of the American Legion (Fegan)

- The Preamble to American Legion Constitution was recited by all.

5) Roll Call of Officers: (Fegan)

- Officers Present:
  - Tom Bednarczyk, Chaplain
  - Dan Bennett, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander
  - Chuck Blackburn, Sergeant at Arms
  - Mike Fegan, Commander
  - George Freeman, Adjutant
  - Doc Liberty, Judge Advocate
  - John Muuss, Historian
  - Doug Pratt, Finance Officer
  - Rick Sessa, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander
  - Paul Witmer, Service Officer
- Officers Not Present:
  - None
- Executive Committee Members At Large:
  - Tom Balbert, Member at Large (Present)
  - Bill Morgan, Member at Large & Chair, SJMAD (Present)

- Steve Muir, Member at Large (Absent)

6) Welcoming Guests: (Fegan)

- Veterans attending for the first time were invited to stand and introduce themselves and share their Branch of Service of which there were seven.
- Sick Call: Prayers were asked for the unexpected passing of George Freeman's brother, highly decorated retired Vietnam era fighter pilot, Colonel, Bruce Freeman, USAF.

7) Approval of Minutes: (Fegan)

- Minutes of the September 26, 2018 General Membership Meeting were approved without alteration.

8) Guest Speaker:

- Ms. Sara Bush, Regional Director, Folds of Honor (FOH) Foundation provided an overview of their organizations works and introduced Ms. Jurley Torian, a FoH Beneficiary.
- The Post presented a check in the amount of \$3,000.00.

9) Membership Report: (Freeman)

- To date 136 (~72%) members have renewed their membership for 2018-2019.
- Membership goal for 2018-2019 is 190, one more member than 2017-2018.



10) Finance Report: (Pratt)

- The monthly finance report was shared showing 84% of budgeted donations/income received and 9% budgeted expenses incurred. The Post is financially sound and the budget report was approved without alteration.

11) Service Officer Report: (Witmer)

- Paul shared that 3+ families are currently receiving assistance from the Post including one who was assisted in retaining his current residence and one who is using the Post's portable wheelchair ramp.
- In direct support to veterans who were Hurricane Florence victims, the Post distributed 40 Walmart \$100.00 gift cards.

12) Old Business:

- Veterans assistance Policy that was approved at the Sep 2018 EXCOM meeting was shared.
- New Post Hats were approved by the EXCOM which included distribution at no cost to new members.

13) New Business: Allocation of additional Funds from SJMAD

- The allocation of funds was briefly addressed and coincide with what was previously addressed in the monthly Finance Report.

14) Near-Term Coming Events, Other Reports & Commanders Report & (Fegan)

- Near-term coming events were reviewed and included:



**Post 543 Coming Events (1 of 2)**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>POC</u>
Saturday Nov 3	Marine Fellowship Golf Outing	Members Club (11am Shotgun)	Rick Quashne
Saturday Nov 10	Poppy Distribution	Walmart, Southport (10am-2pm)	Paul Witmer
Saturday Nov 10	Civitan Chili Cookoff	Moose Lodge, Oak Island (12 – 3pm)	Betty Pratt
Saturday Nov 10	Southeast NC Veterans Day Parade	Wilmington (Departing Community Ctr at 8am – Parade 11am)	Doug Pratt



**Post 543 Coming Events (2 of 2)**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>POC</u>
Sunday Nov 11	Veterans Day Picnic	Waterway Park (2-5pm)	Rick Sessa
Monday Nov 12	Veterans Day Ceremony	Ceremony at Community Ctr (11am)	Bill Morgan
Monday Nov 12	Veterans Visit	Carillon Assisted Living, Southport (2pm)	Mike Fegan

- Other Reports:
  - George Freeman presented the revised 2018-1019 JROTC teaching schedule. Changes were driven by the loss of 22 school days due to Hurricane Florence. The Post is providing timely support and the augmentation efforts are freeing up the full-time JROTC instructors to aid in their catching up.



# INSTRUCTOR SCHEDULE

SBHS JROTC 2017-2018 Guest Instructors Schedule (REV: 9 Aug 18)  
(American Legion Post 543)



Lesson Name	Audience	Date(s)	Instructor
Becoming A Better Writer (Why my vote matters) (U3-C6-L1 & U3-C6-L3 combined) (Confirmed)	All Grades	24 & 25 Oct 18	Pomeroy
Management Skills (U2-C6-L3) (Confirmed)	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	22 Oct 18	Fegan
Time Management (U3-C10-L3) (Confirmed)	10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	30 Oct 18	Davis'
Styles of Leadership (U2-C6-L2) (Confirmed)	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 Feb 19	Freeman
Decision Making & Problem Solving (U2-C4-L4) (Confirmed)	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	12 Feb 19	Freeman
Goals and Goal Setting (U3-C10-L2) (Confirmed)	11 <sup>th</sup>	13 Feb 19	Freeman
Financial Mgt (consisting of NEFE classes:) (Confirmed) - Good debt, Bad Debt: Using Credit Wisely (U3-C11-L5) - Your Financial Plan: Where It All Begins (U3-C11-L2) - Budgeting: Making the Most of Your Money (U3-C11-L3) - Insurance: Protecting What You Have (U3-C11-L6)	All Grades	20 Feb 19	Pomeroy
US Constitution & Bill of Rights (U6-C4-L2) (Confirmed)	9 <sup>th</sup>	12 Mar 19	Fegan
Department of Defense (U1-C2-L1) (Confirmed)	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	14 Mar 19	Morgan
US Uniformed Services Overview (Confirmed)	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	14 Mar 19	Liberty
The Active Army (U1-C2-L2) (Confirmed)	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	20 Mar 18	Morgan
The US Marine Corps (U1-C2-L6) (Confirmed)	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	26 Mar 19	Holland
The US Air Force (U1-C2-L5) (Confirmed)	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	25 Mar 19	Freeman
The US Navy (U1-C2-L4) (Confirmed)	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	27 Mar 19	Pratt
The US Coast Guard (U1-C2-L7) (Confirmed)	11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup>	28 Mar 19	Stanley
US: The Reluctant Participant (Every Odd Year) (Confirmed) - Cold War thru Gulf War I (U6-C8-L4) - Global War On Terror thru Present Day (U6-C8-L4)	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	1 Apr 19 2 Apr 19	McKinley McKinley

- Gary Crowden addressed the JROTC Rifle Team he is coaching and extended an open offer to all members to come to the school and observe/volunteer.
- The Warrior Bike Ride Through St. James, scheduled for Oct 17, 2018 was cancelled due to the after effects of Hurricane Florence.
- Commanders Report (Fegan)
  - Mike shared that the EXCOM approved cancellation of the December General Meeting, citing the various reasons. This was put to a vote and the general membership unanimously approved cancellation of the Dec 2018 General Meeting.
  - Mike shared that the EXCOM approved the following:
    - Budget re-distribution discussed during Sep 2018 meetings
    - Participation by the Post in the 2018 Veterans Day Parade in Wilmington, NC
    - Approval for the Commander & Adjutant to attend the October American Legion Conference in Raleigh, NC

#### 14) Closing Remarks & Ceremony & Adjournment (Fegan)

- Closing ceremony was conducted, including prayer and retirement of the Colors
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

  
 GEORGE R. FREEMAN  
 Adjutant

  
 MICHAEL FEGAN  
 Commander



American Legion Post 543  
Saint James, NC 28461

SUBJECT: General Membership Meeting Agenda

DATE: Wednesday September 26, 2018, 7:00pm

LOCATION: St. James Town Council Chambers, Saint James, NC, 28461

1. Call to Order and Advance the Colors (Opening ceremony)
2. POW/MIA Recognition
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Preamble to Constitution of American Legion
5. Roll Call of Officers
6. Welcome to Guests & Sick Call
7. Approval of Minutes of September 26, 2018
8. Guest Speakers: Ms. Sara Bush, Regional Director, Folds of Honor (FOH) Fdn. & Ms. Jurley Torian, FoH Beneficiary
9. Membership Report: George Freeman, Adjutant
10. Finance Report: Doug Pratt, Finance Officer
11. Service Officer Reports: Paul Witmer, Service Officer
12. Old Business:
  - Veterans assistance Policy
  - New Post Hats
13. New Business: Allocation of additional Funds from SJMAD
14. Reports:
  - Coming Events
  - Officers' and Chairs' Reports
15. Commander's and Executive Committee Report
16. Closing Ceremony and Adjournment

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 28, 2018

ATCH #1