

**POST MEMBERSHIP MEETING POST 644  
THANK YOU FOUNDATION, WEST CHESTER, OHIO  
OCT. 21, 2009**

Members present were Post Commander Kelly Knox, First Vice Commander Amy Carter, Second Vice Commander Kim Kinner, Post Adjutant/Finance Officer Yvonne Coffman, Post Service Officer Karen Caligaris, Sgt at Arms Lee Berry, Past Post Commander Marguerite McHugh, Sharon Hook, Kym Mader, Jane Root, Betty Downs, Gladys Parker and Lisa Dunster.

Introduction of Guests;

Fourth District Commander, John Rolke, Fourth District Public Affairs Officer Glen Smith, Past Fourth District Commander and Auxiliary President Merv Wilkey and Catherine Wilkey, along with visitors Gladys Parker, Lisa Dunster.

Fourth District Commander John Rolke conducted a Post visit and inspection. Commander Rolke addressed the Post and congratulated members on doing a good job. He wished them the best of luck and stated that should we need him for anything; please do not hesitate to call upon him. He explained the 4<sup>th</sup> District upcoming Bowling Tournament and Homecoming. He requested that the Post keep current on officer's addresses. He also preferred to get information to the Post via our website.

Past District Commander and Auxiliary President both addressed the membership with congratulations and support, along with the District Public Affairs Officer.

Post Commander Knox introduced State Representative from the 28th Ohio House District Connie Pillich. Rep. Pillich greeted the members and discussed Issue 1, the proposed constitution amendment for Persian Gulf & OEF/OIF veterans. She then explained the roll of the County Service Officers in place to serve veterans and their families. She detailed the monthly stipend and took questions from Post members.

**Motion made and carried to approve the minutes of the Post Membership Meeting of September 24, 2009 with no amendments.**

**Membership Report:** First Vice Commander Carter gave the Membership Report, with a current count of 43 members. She sent 225 emails to potential members and also made follow-up phone calls. Discussion was held on mail-outs and their effectiveness.

Carter spoke of the upcoming movie *Lioness* to be shown at the Cincinnati Museum on Nov. 7, 2009. There are two showings, one at 10:30 a.m. and one at 1:30 p.m. She encouraged to members to view the movie for a true perspective of women in combat.

First Vice Cdr. Carter addressed the upcoming Veterans Day Parade and suggested that family and friends of Post members walk the parade curbside passing out flyers for our Post.

Discussion was also held on childcare for Post members. The lack of support for childcare services may prohibit female veterans from attending or joining. There will be further discussion at upcoming meetings.

Volunteers were requested to assist the First Vice Commander in membership recruitment.

Carter presented to the members a Certificate awarded to the Post from The American Legion State Headquarters for being the first Post in the 4<sup>th</sup> District and Dept. of Ohio to reach their quota for membership for 2009-2010.

It was noted that there could be a rate increase in membership dues next year, and the advantage of PUFL's.

She reminded members of the Women's Veteran's Luncheon at the VAMC Auditorium, Nov. 13, 2009. The Post will have a table set up and has encouraged donations and ideas for gift bags along with volunteering and attending.

**Post Activities Report:** Second Vice Commander Kimmer Gwinner reported on various restaurants in the area and nation wide that are offering special offers for veterans on Veterans Day. The Bendin Patriotic Guard is hosting a Veteran's Tribute on Nov. 11, 2009 at 1: p.m. Gwinner will be selling tickets to raffle off two gift baskets at the Women's Veterans Luncheon.

**Post Service Officer Report:** Post Svc Officer Karen Caligaris reported on the upcoming Women's Veterans Luncheon. They are currently working on parking related issues. She requested members to attend to have a good turnout for continuation in the future of this event. She indicated she needed assistance in filling the 150 gift bags for all attendees. Discussion was held on other items to support the gift bags. She reviewed the Breast Walk and attendees.

**Adjutant Report:** Post Adjutant Coffman identified various material and information that she had available for members.

**Financial Report:** Post Finance Officer Coffman reported the following for the Financial Report:

Current Balance: \$620.09

Receipts: 4 memberships  
Kroger Neighborhood Rewards - \$276.60

Expenditures: \$60 for adjustable flagpoles

Anticipated Expenditures:  
\$150 for Women's Appreciation Luncheon

Anticipated Income:  
\$100 from District (Quota Award)  
\$100 from Department (Quota Award)  
\$500 from GE (pledged donation)

**New Business:** Post Commander Knox and First Vice Commander Carter modeled two different Legion uniforms options available for Post members and officers.

The County Council Meeting will be held at Post 318, 7551 Forest Rd. on Nov. 4, 2009 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Fourth District Winter Conference will be held in Milford at American Legion Post 450.

The Post Commander addressed permanently changing the Post Membership Meeting from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. Members requested consideration of a change of the day of the week also. Commander Knox stated that the Post would address a change to the Post Meeting date at an upcoming meeting.

A reminder that for the months of November and December the Membership Meeting would take place the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month due to the holiday season.

Commander Knox addressed a new location for Post meetings. She identified two locations once being the Chapel at the VA Medical Center and the other at a National Guard facility in Blue Ash. Discussion was held on both locations. She stated that she would be visiting the site at the National Guard to find out further details and would brief Post members at the next meeting.

Members discussed recording the lives of our elder members to archive for the future. Further discussion on holding a Post meeting at the nursing facility where one member resides or to visit during the upcoming holiday season.

The next Post Membership Meeting will be held on Nov. 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Thank You Foundation in West Chester.

Transcribed by:  
Yvonne Coffman, Post Adjutant

Approved by:  
Kelly Knox, Post Commander