**American Legion Post 157**

**General Membership Meeting**

**March 18, 2014**

**Special Events**

 **Guest Speaker**: Mr. Gary Nolan provided background, purpose, programs and examples of the efforts of the Hill Country Veterans Council (HCVC) and the Hill Country Veterans Alliance (HCVA) based in Kerrville. The HCVC represents 17 counties in the Hill Country that utilize the services of the VA Medical Center-Kerrville. The HCVA addresses a variety of issues common to multiple Veterans organizations, such as the lack of a Kerr County Veterans Service Officer and the resurrection of a Veterans Day parade. Mr Nolan is also active in a variety of Veterans organizations in Kerrville and works for the Texas Veterans Commission focused on veteran employment services.

**Opening:** The Commander opened the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

**Minutes**: The minutes were read without changes.

**Finance:** Patricia Downing read the financial report. Ray Baker moved to accept the minutes as read subject to audit. Alan Praytor provided a second. The report was unanimously approved. The quarterly audit will be conducted on 18 April at 1 p.m. by the 1st Quarter audit committee comprised of AJ Hodges, Susan Junker and Lance Olsen.

**Membership**: The Commander stated that there were 150 members on record.

**Veterans Service Officer**: Frank Jeys was admitted to Methodist hospital yesterday and tests were underway. Phyllis Tillotson was also admitted to Methodist Hospital: her condition is serious, but the treatment plan details were unknown. Jim McCarly had melanoma surgery twice on his face and extensive lymph node surgery. He will begin chemotherapy for the next month followed by self-injection for the next year thereafter. All were asked to keep his family in their thoughts and prayers.

 The Commander added that upon the request of Carl Scott’s daughter, Mary, members of Post 157 and 410 assembled and conducted the Post Everlasting at the funeral home in Brownwood on Tuesday evening. Carl Scott was a 93 year old veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He was not a Post member, but participated in a variety of events. His daughter, Mary, donated $300 to the American Legion after the ceremony. A member of San Antonio Post 573, who had never seen a Post Everlasting Ceremony was interested in learning more so their post could begin conducting them.

 The VSO and Commander visited with James Greenley at the Hill Top Nursing Home where he is dealing with kidney cancer. They subsequently provided assistance to the family regarding documentation and actions required.

**OLD BUSINESS**

 **Status of Indictment/Sentencing**: The Commander provided an update on the sentencing of Charles Roberts, former Commander who plead guilty to charges o/a March 14, 2014. The Commander will talk with the District Attorney directly to obtain the facts.

 **Insurance**: The policy arrived with final total for the year of o/a $1644.

 **Nomination of Officers**: Charlie read the current list of candidates and solicited additions. There will also be the opportunity for additional nominations from the floor and write-ins. Upon election, the goal is to identify personnel to assist each of the officers. The Commander emphasized the Constitution and By-Laws regarding elections and quorum requirements.

**NEW BUSINESS**

 **New Chairs**: An accident occurred during Bargain Days due to a broken chair weld. All chairs subsequently inspected and 40 Hercules black vinyl chairs with a – 500 # weight limit were placed on order at a cost of $897.00. This will cover nearly half the room. To fund the other 40 chairs, the Auxiliary will donate $300 and an individual has already donated another $300. The Legion is looking for another donation of $300 to cover the entire cost.

 **Division Convention**: The Division Convention will be held May 3-4 in Weatherford. Charlie Baker, Patricia Downing, Amador Lugo and Susan Junker volunteered to be delegates. Ray Baker moved to send all 4 as delegates. Victor Strickland provided the second. The delegates were unanimously approved. Ray Baker moved that if funds are available and the delegate requests it, that expenses be paid for the delegates. AJ provided the second and all members approved.

 **Bingo Question/Discussion**: Lance Olson inquired about training process for Bingo volunteers. Discussion of the history of training and future options was conducted. Various members provided ideas and results of past training endeavors. brought up concern. No motions were brought to the floor on this issue. Bingo Chairman will relook the issue.

 **Military Job Fair**: Amador Lugo identified that the MOAA veterans job fair will be held on Thursday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.in San Antonio.

**Adjournment**: AJ Hodges moved to adjourn. Pat Downing provided the second. Alan Praytor, Sergeant at Arms, retired the colors. Commander adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

**Attachments:**

 1 – Attendees

 2 – Finance Report

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Charlie Baker Susan Junker

Commander Interim Adjutant