

American Legion 5th District Convention Meeting Minutes
Sunday, 20 April 2008

1. **Call To Order:** Commander Dan Arnold called the meeting to order at 9:17 AM.
2. **Invocation:** Chaplain Don Cecil offered the invocation.
3. **Posting of Colors:** Asst. District Sgt At Arms Bob Hemstreet posted the Colors.
4. **Convention Call (???)** – Convention call read by District Adjutant Matt Graska.
5. **Roll Call of Officers and Posts:** All Officers were present with the exception of the Service Officer and Sgt at Arms who were excused. The following posts were present 81, 111, 368, 424, 453, 504, 507, 511, 597, and 802.
6. **Introduction of Guests:** Past Department Commander Butch Sparks was introduced.
7. **Minutes of Previous 5th District Meeting:** Motion by Bernard Aderholt, second by Pat Marrs to dispense with the reading of the previous meeting minutes, motion passed. Motion by Gary Poplin, second by S.A. Lejuene to fine the 5th District Commander \$20.00 for the oversight of his adjutant to bring a copy of the previous meeting minutes to the meeting. Motion passed.
8. **Committee Reports:**
 - a) The Finance Report was read into record. S.A. Lejuene motioned, Bernard Aderholt seconded, motion passed to accept the Finance Report. 5th District total assets are \$8446.61.
 - b) The Membership Report was given by 1st Vice Commander Bernard Aderholt. District Commander made note that two posts that were %100 are not eligible for any awards due to not sending officer certification on time.
 - c) Boys State Committee Chair Gladys Davis presented the Boys State report.
 - d) SAL Advisor Bob Elkins gave the SAL Report. The SAL is doing well, membership is strong.
 - e) Americanism Committee Chair Bob Elkins gave the Americanism Report. He again stressed the importance of supporting Academic and Military Medals for the Junior ROTC Programs as well as the importance of attending these functions. Bob also mentioned Policeman\Fireman awards.
 - f) Rick Norman gave the American Legion Rider report. On May 18 Post 81 will be hosting their 4th Annual Run For the Wall Bridge party at 8:45 AM. Please make plans to attend these events if you can. Rick also mentioned vest etiquette. Rick also made note of the dates for the Flags up\Flags down dates at the National Cemetery. These dates and times are: Flags up 17 May 08 at 8:00 AM. Flags down 31 May 08 at 8:00 AM.
 - g) Public Relations report was give by Gary Poplin. Specifically he outlined the Memorial Day events at the National Cemetery May 26th beginning at 3:00 PM. Governor Rick Perry is to be the keynote speaker. Please make plans to attend if you can.
9. **New Business:**
 - a) Commander Dan Arnold mentioned that the 5th District Coffee tour would be 3 May 08 at 1:00 PM starting at post 597. Post 453 and 368 would be visited as well.

- b) Judge Advocate Pat Marrs presented a resolution endorsing Bill Hueske from Post 322 as Dept. Vice Commander. No action was taken.
- c) Post 29 presented a resolution endorsing Jim Fleming as 1st Division Commander. Pat Marrs motioned, Bernard Aderholt seconded to endorse Jim Fleming for 1st Division Commander. Motion passed.
- d) Post 77 presented a resolution endorsing Tom Larsen for Department Commander. No action taken.
- e) District Commander Dan Arnold appointed Bernard Aderholt as Chairman of the Legionaire of the Year Committee. Award is to be given at the Fall Convention.
- f) A motion was made by Gary Poplin to appoint S.A. Lejuene and Jim Prendergast as Delegates to the National Convention. Matt Graska seconded, motion passed. Commander Dan Arnold will appoint a 3rd delegate.
- g) The next District Meeting will be 18 May 08, at 2:00 PM at Post 81.

10: Good of the Legion:

- a) There will be an ALR Division Rally at Post 283, in Bonham, Texas on 3 and 4 May 08.
- b) Gary Poplin discussed the upgrades to the memorial at the National Cemetery. This is to be the All Veterans Memorial and Faces of Freedom Monument. Sponsors will be needed to complete this memorial. More information can be found at www.TNCF.org or by emailing info@tncf.org or calling 877-872-0005 or by snail mail at P.O. Box 210606, Dallas, Texas 75211-0606.
- c) The Greater Dallas Vet's Council will meet the 3rd Thursday, 15 May 08 at the Frontiers of Flight Museum, time of meeting was not given.

11: Prayer: Chaplain Don Cecil offered the closing prayer.

12: Retirement of Colors: District Asst. Sgt At Arms Bob Hemstreet Retired the Colors.

13: Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned by Commander Dan Arnold at 10:15 AM.

5th District Meeting minutes for March 2008 Submitted 7 May 2008 via email.

/signed/
Matt Graska
Adjutant, 5th District
Department of Texas

2 Atch: Apr 2008 Finance Report
Letter of Endorsement for Tom Larsen for Department Commander