American Legion Post 129 General Meeting June 1, 2023

Commander Joe Maichles called the meeting to order at 1900 and conducted the opening ceremony.

**Draping of the Charter**: Not this month

Chaplain Danny Rodriguez

Adjutant David Tarnowski conducted roll call of officers and certified a quorum was established. Roll call sheet attached.

Commander Maichle recognized Post 129 past and present commanders and department officers.

**Guest**: No

**Reading of the minutes**: Minutes read from the E-board meeting from 5/4/23. 2nd & passed. The General Membership meeting minutes are posted on the website. 2nd and passed.

**Commander’s Note:** As everyone knows by now the election was held after the General Membership meeting last month with the following results.

Commander Joe Maichles

1st Vice Mike Flanagan

2nd Vice Terry Stickles

3rd Vice Kelly Rice

4th Vice Rick Miller

Sgt at Arms Matt Altman

Chaplain Brian Hancher

E Board Chuck Nist

Lee Fair

Jeff Durden

Joe Clark

Kinneth Daniels

Installation is on July 8th at 4 pm Dinner will be served afterward. White Shirt and Blue pants.

Cleaning of the post will be picked up by the new cleaning service and in the meantime, Rick Miller has stepped up. Thank you, Rick. Tom will cover more on this with the house committee report.

At this time, membership is at 100.3% and we made Department goals. It also helps that many new and transferring members joined us during the year. This should make Post proud as everyone, Riders, SAL, and Auxiliary all have made 100%. Thanks to everyone.

On Tuesday May 16th, I attended an Eagle Scout Court of Honor at Troop 277 in Ponte Vedra where I handed out certificates for Good Citizenship and Eagle Challenge coins to each new Eagle Scout. You of the boy’s grandfather made Eagle Scout in 1947 and had the honor of pinning his Grandson. This makes approx. 25 Eagle Scout from this troop in the past 3 years.

On Tuesday May 23rd, Jim Wineland and I went to Tallahassee to witness the Governor sign a bill that will put many dollars available for motorcycle safety. For every motorcycle registered over 650,000) in Florida $2.50 will be placed in a fund to be divided equally between American Legion Riders, ABTE, and LAMA. (Latin American Motorcycle Assoc) The estimated fund could be approx. $1.1 million for Motorcycle safety and education.

On May 28th, 23 members helped place flags on our brothers and sisters’ graves at the cemetery at Penman and Beach Blvd. Then on Tuesday May 31st 8 of us retrieved the flags. A big thank you to all who helped out.

Anyone interested in being a delegate at the convention in June in Orlando let me know at the end of the meeting. We are allowed 8 delegates and they have to be certified and registered before convention.

**Finance Report**: Was read by Joe Maichles and is posted in the hallway.

Second and passed subject to Audit.

**House Committee Report**: Has been submitted. The meeting was called 1830 HRS on 5/30/23. Guests: Bar Manager Brandy

Club report presented by Brandy.

Pull Tabs-in $4,173 out $3434, and Profit of $739

Lotto $362 Bingo-Liberty $2,429.50, Freedom $10,765.48 Fish $21,767.40 Profit only

Profitability of liquor sales overall is 72% total. Profit 13%

Inventory will be conducted next week.

The new Bingo system is in progress of being installed, it was delayed due to system issues.

New tables and chairs are in, we need new chairs for the Freedom Hall. Request $32,000 for new ones. I have the invoices.

Hall doors were painted.

We have a quote on cameras of $5920, we can upgrade one step for an additional $3040. They can be installed by a member, which is a big saving.

We hired a cleaning company, their cost is $2350 per month, and if requested a onetime deep cleaning for $2800. They start next week on Thursday. I have a certificate of insurance from a cleaning company. If there is a problem, they will send someone out. If we are not satisfied, the contract can be cancelled.

Pinball is gone and Fuzzball departs next week.

Second and Passed

**1st Vice Membership**: New 5 and Transfer 2. Second and Passed

**2nd Vice Kitchen Report**: No report

**3rd Vice**: No Report

**4th Vice:**  Salisbury Steak, potatoes, and gravy

**Chaplain**: Miss Patty Jordon is in the hospital. She was a long-time bartender here. Asking for prayers

**SAL:** Meeting is next week.

**Service Officer:**  Served 5-6 people in the last month and directed them VSO downtown. Been receiving calls from all over, one from Clear View FL. Past on the information of the closest VSO.

**ALR:**  Report received.

**Baseball:**  No report

**Boys State:**  No report

**Honor Guard**: No report

**Old Business**: No

**New Business:** Motion for $10,000 for a new camera system. 2nd and passed.

Motion for $3500 for new chairs and tables to replace worn ones. 2nd and passed.

Motion to not buy a floor cleaning machine putting $3700 back into our coffers. 2nd and passed.

Motion to have Brian Hancher as Chaplain for the coming year. 2nd and passed.

**Correspondence**:

April 11, 2023, Jax Chamber thanking us for our investment and involvement. Membership is the foundation for success in making Jacksonville the best place to live.

A flag flown from the USS Philippine Sea (CG-58) presented to Post 129. A certificate is also included.

Liberty, one of the dogs we sponsored is a full-fledged seeing eye dog. Out of the 4 or 5 dogs we sponsored have become eyeing eye dogs.

**Good of the Legion**:

Danny Rodriguez – School medals presented to Jax Beach Elementary (2 medals, male and female), San Pedro Elementary (2 medals), and Sea Breeze Elementary got the last of the medals plus certificates.

Matt – Jun 17th, Wreaths Across America have a fund raiser of bicycles pub crawl. Leaves here and returns here. (1100 starts) The matt Altman band will be playing at 7 pm the same night.

Chuck Nist - Motion for $1000 for Wreath Across America. 2nd and passed.

Jerry Brandt – Amendment for membership. Old way was Sign up for 1 year or Life. The new amendment is signed up for 1 or 3 years, and life. $35 for early bird.

Motion to adjourn 2nd and passed.

**Meeting adjourned** 1945 hours

David Tarnowski Adjutant Joe Maichles