

**Winter Park Memorial American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112
General Meeting Minutes**

January 11, 2011

Nell Colbert activated the conference bridge for remote participation and the January general meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112 was called to order at 7pm by President, Aunita Padgett. Aunita offered the invocation and Johanna Langis led the Pledge of Allegiance. The group recited the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Members in attendance included:

Marge Berrios	Aunita Padgett	Deb Shannon
Nell Colbert	Jolene Ruiz (Junior)	
Johanna Langis	Mayra Ruiz	

Nell confirmed that we have a quorum for this meeting. Aunita asked for permission to deviate from the printed agenda should the need arise and everyone agreed.

Tonight we celebrated the lives of Marilyn Updike and Catherine Powell who passed away during the holiday season by conducting the Charter draping ceremony. While Catherine was not a member of our unit, she is the mother of one of our members, Debi Shannon, and the grandmother of another unit member, Staci Shannon. Marilyn was a recent transfer into our Unit and is the grandmother of our friend Grafton Day from the national Auxiliary office. Our charter will remain draped until our next meeting in honor of these two ladies.

Nell Colbert reported that the minutes from the last meeting that were emailed to all members and posted on the Unit's YahooGroups. Nell also provided copies for review as part of the meeting. Marge Berrios moved (seconded by Debi Shannon) that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert gave the Treasurer's Report showing that we began the month with \$579.38, received income of \$473.36 and had expenses of \$446.16, leaving us with a closing balance of \$606.58 as of the end of the month. Nell reported that we have received no additional income since 12/31 but that we paid out \$95.62 since the first of the month. Nell reported that the Treasurer's Report was also emailed via the Unit's YahooGroups and was posted on the YahooGroups website. Nell provided paper copies for review during the meeting. Johanna Langis moved (seconded by Marge Berrios) that the Treasurer's Report be approved as written and filed for audit. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert shared items of correspondence received this month including copies of the Goldenrod Chamber newsletters for December and January. Nell noted that there have been no Department Communiqué's posted since the October edition. As soon as November and December are posted, Nell will forward them to the members via the YahooGroup.

Aunita Padgett reported that there was no information from the Post's Executive Board meeting held last week that was pertinent to the Unit and that we have not been asked to assist with any upcoming events.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Membership:** Nell reported that with the transfers into the unit that we've received plus Marge's new membership and the couple of renewals that we received, we are now at

88% of our membership goal. We need two more memberships to achieve 100%. The Department's goal is 75% by January 15th, so we met that goal early.

- **National Security:** Marge Berrios reminded everyone to bring in their store coupons, soda can pop tops, Box Tops for Education and Campbell's soup can labels. There is a new box in the Post hall. Marge will be working with Nell Colbert to transition chairmanship of this committee from Nell to herself.
- **Veterans Affairs and Rehab:** Aunita Padgett suggested that we put another box in the Post hall to collect comfort items for Veterans since they are always needed. No one was identified to make this happen.
- **Girls State:** Marge and Aunita reported that they took the packets that Nell prepared to Winter Park High School, Trinity Prep, Lake Howell High School and Oviedo High School on Monday, January 10th. They received a great reception at all of the schools and the Guidance Counselors promised to send us qualified candidates to be interviewed in February. Debi Shannon agreed to co-chair the Girls State Committee with Marge.
- **Legislative:** Aunita reported that she is regularly calling and emailing her legislators and encouraged everyone else to do the same. What counts is that we are pro-active in our efforts, not that we necessarily get responses from those with whom we communicate. Aunita encouraged everyone to keep a log of what they are doing so that we can show our efforts on the annual report due in April.

Leadership Training:

Our leadership segment for this meeting was given by Debi Shannon who talked about Girls State. Debi shared her experiences as a staff member along with some ideas we can use in the future. Debi so reviewed the Girls State process, including the interview process and the paperwork needed to secure our candidate's spot at Girls State.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Friendly's Fundraiser – Aunita Padgett reminded everyone that our next event is Wednesday, February 16th. We need everyone to be at Friendly's from 5-8pm so that we have a good showing. Aunita also encouraged everyone to spread the word to their friends, neighbors and family so that we can get more customers to come to the restaurant for dinner. Our commission is based on the total sales during the 5-8pm dinner hour.
- Girls State – Marge Berrios reminded everyone that we will conduct interviews on Saturday, February 26 beginning at 1pm. We need as many people as possible to help with the selection process. Nell suggested that we should develop a score sheet to use during the interview process so that all the candidates can be judged using the same standards. Nell offered to contact the Post's Boys State chair to get a copy of the score sheet the post uses to see if it can be adapted for our use.
- Flag pole and stand purchase – Debi Shannon suggested that we table discussion on the purchase until the February meeting so that we have time to research costs. Debi and Marge will research flag stores for costs on 7 foot flag poles, flag stands and the Eagle topper we will need. Nell will price the same items at the Boy Scout store.
- Committee Chairs – There was a lengthy discussion about the need to get more people involved in chairing our various program committees and getting chairs named. Nell Colbert will continue to handle AEF, Community Service, Constitution and By-Laws, Leadership and Membership. Aunita Padgett will co-chair Children and Youth with Mayra Ruiz and will continue to chair Education, Legislative and Poppy's. Marge Barrios and Debi Shannon will co-chair Girls State and Marge will take over as the National Security Chair. Mayra Ruiz agreed to chair Juniors and Public Relations. This leaves us with only two

committees without chairs – VA & R and Americanism (Johanna Langis is considering this one.)

NEW BUSINESS:

- Membership Packets – It was agreed to postpone this project until our February meeting. Nell will make sure that we have the needed forms to go in the packets and Aunita will pick up the baggies that we will need.
- Reading Rockets – Aunita reported that Cheney Elementary is not interested. Nell agreed to contact Eastbrook to see if they would like to have the packets for their students.
- Post yard sale – Aunita distributed flyers for the next yard sale that will be held on March 19th. We will again be handling the posts table and split the proceeds on the table sales with the post. We can also do a bake sale if we want. We will plan further for this next month but Aunita asked that everyone put the date on their calendar so that everyone is available to help. The yard sale runs from 8am until 3pm.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Aunita reminded everyone about the dinner for Department President Irma Wehrli that will be held on Friday, January 21st at Post 19 on Lee Road. Please let Aunita know ASAP if you plan to attend so that she can turn in our head count.
- Aunita also reminded everyone about the Department's Winter Festival that will be held in Plant City at the Strawberry Festival grounds during the weekend of January 14-16. The Department is looking for volunteers to help take tickets. Again, please let Aunita know if you can help so that she can get more information for you.
- Nell passed around the AEF piggy.

With no further business, Aunita offered the closing prayer and closed the meeting at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted



Nell Colbert
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes approved _____

Nell Colbert, Secretary _____

Aunita Padgett, President _____