



## Hopewell Memorial Post 146, The American Legion

### Summary of Previous Meetings

November 21, 2023 General Membership Meeting and  
the December 5, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting

December 9, 2023

The following is a summary of the November 21, 2023 General Membership Meeting and the December 5, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting.

#### November 21, 2023 General Membership Meeting

1. In Memoriam: At the opening ceremony, the Post Charter was draped in memory of Ellen Blanding (USAF) who passed away on November 10, 2023.
2. Summaries of the October 17, 2023 General Membership and November 7, 2023 Executive Committee Meetings were provided for member review on the Post website and presented at the meeting. Summaries were accepted with no corrections. The meeting was briefly adjourned so all could celebrate the USMC's 248th Birthday.
3. Officer Reports:
  - a. Membership (1st Vice):
    - Presented seven new applications for membership: Marshall Hartless (USMC), Paul Neumann (USAF), Torrance Lewis (USA), Davis Whipp (USA), Michael Sullivan (USA), Charles 'Chuck' Brown (USA), and Victor Musanda (USA)

ACTION: A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to accept the above named membership applicants as members of the Post and American Legion.

    - 2024 Membership Campaign - currently the Post has: (39) Online Renewals; (19) New Members; (42) PUFL Members; (1) Honorary Life Member [Roger LaPierre (unpaid)]; (208) Post Renewals.
    - Members in good standing for 2024 membership: 274
    - Post stands at 69.54% of the Department's 394 renewal target.
    - The next Post goal is the "Dogwood Award" for meeting the 75% target objective by Dec 5th.
  - b. Americanism/ Children & Youth Programs (2nd Vice): Veterans Day Ceremony went very well. There were some glitches, but it all came together in the end.

- c. Bingo/Gaming (3rd Vice): EOM October - Gross Income: \$48,988; Authorized Uses: \$7,388.26. Donation Target: \$4,899.80. Totals for the CY year: Gross Income: \$521,965.20; Authorized Uses: \$64,428.37; Donation Target: \$52,196.52; +/- Target: +\$12,231.85 [2.3% above target].
- d. Post Finances (Fin Off): For EOM October - Total Income: \$59,858.69. Total Expenses: \$61,208.17. Net Income: **-\$1,349.48.**
- e. House Committee:
  - Ms. Amy Hall resigned as Kitchen Manager effective November 2nd. The House Committee is searching for a replacement. Cook schedules are set through the end of November. The committee is accepting any recommendations or leads.
  - Veterans Day: The ceremony was a great success and the Post saw nearly 100 people come for lunch.
  - Thanksgiving Day: As is our tradition, the Post will offer a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, Nov23rd. The Post will open at 11:00 am and dinner will be served from noon until 2:00 pm. The Post will close at 4:00 pm.
  - Christmas Schedule: Christmas Day falls on a Monday this year and the Post will be closed. We will serve our traditional Christmas Eve dinner on Friday Dec 22nd from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. The Post will be closed Saturday (12/23) through Monday (12/25) and open at the regular time (8:00 am) on Tuesday, Dec 26th.
- f. Service Officer: No report
- g. Chaplain: Bruce Powers is ill.
- h. Historian:
  - November 9, 1989 - **The Berlin Wall was dismantled** after standing for 28 years as a symbol of the Cold War. The 27.9 mile wall had been constructed in 1961.
  - November 10, 1775 - **The U.S. Marine Corps was established** as part of the U.S. Navy. It became a separate service on July 11, 1789.
  - November 11th - Celebrated in the U.S. as **Veterans Day** (formerly called Armistice Day) with parades and military memorial ceremonies.
  - November 19, 1863 - President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address during ceremonies dedicating 17 acres of the Gettysburg Battlefield as a National Cemetery. Famed orator Edward Everett of Massachusetts preceded Lincoln and spoke for two hours. Lincoln then delivered his address in less than two minutes.
- i. Sgt-at-Arms: No report
- j. Judge Advocate: N/A



- k. Executive Committeemen: No report
- 4. Correspondence: No correspondence received
- 5. Old Business: (Cdr): None presented
- 6. New Business (Cdr): None presented
- 7. Good of the Legion (Cdr):
  - 50/50 Drawing (Sgt-at-Arms): Gary Easter won \$5.00 in the 50/50 drawing which he donated to the Post.
  - Progressive Attendance Drawing (Sgt-at-Arms): The jackpot stood at \$60. The number drawn was 396 belonging to Legionnaire Joseph Budjinski. As Legionnaire Budjinski was not present, the jackpot will be \$80 at the December 19, 2023 meeting.

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**December 5, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting**

- 1. Summary of Previous Meeting (Adj): A Read-Ahead Packet which included a summary of the November 7, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting, was provided to all committee members prior to the meeting. The meeting summary was reviewed and approved.
- 2. Officer Reports:
  - Membership (1st Vice): As of the last District Membership Report, 10/26/2023 currently the Post has:
    - (39) Online Renewals, (19) New Members, (42) PUFL Members, (1) Honorary Life Member, (208) Post Renewals which equals 274 members in good standing for 2024
    - The Post is now at 69.54% of the 2024 target goal, which is 394 members. The next award is the "Dogwood Award", which requires meeting a 75% target goal before 12/05
    - Seven new member applications have been received for consideration at the next general membership meeting: Marshall Hartless (USMC), Paul Neumann (USAF)

- Torrance Lewis (US Army), David Whipp (US Army), Michael Sullivan (US Army), Chuck Brown (US Army), and Victor Musandu (US Army)
- Members were briefed on the recent approval of a Multi-Year Membership Option which was approved by the National Executive Committee this past May.
- Americanism/Children & Youth (2nd Vice):
  - Thank you letters are being prepared for those who assisted/participated in the recent Veterans Day Ceremony.
  - LTC (Ret.) Jason Pape provided important information and contacts for getting information out about Boys State. Jonathan Singleton reported that his daughter was enrolled Hopewell HS's JROTC Program and he was soon to meet with 1SG Cabrera to discuss the program and re-establish the Post's partnership with the program. One emphasis would be the Boys State Program.
- Bingo (3rd Vice): EOM November: Gross Income for November - \$57,330.00; Total Authorized Other Uses - \$5,400.98; Gross Income YTD - \$579,295.20; Total Other Uses YTD - \$69, 829.35; 10% Required Other Uses Target YTD - \$57,929.52 Sales for November were average with the second and fifth week returns better than average. Total use of proceeds against gross income stands at 12.05 percent; 2.05 percent ABOVE the established 10 percent target.
- Post Finances (Fin Off): ): For EOM November - Total Income: \$67,962.83. Total Expenses: \$70,369.20. Net Income: **-\$2,406.37**. A detailed Financial Report is attached at Enclosure 1.
- House Committee: The committee has accomplished or is working on the following:
  - Veterans Day: The kitchen provided a hot lunch on Saturday, Nov 11th for nearly 100. Lunch began at about noon and was served until 2:00 pm. ALA provided servers and table decorations.
  - Thanksgiving Day: Overall the event was a rousing success with 104 meals served. Many brought 'pot luck' items (from casseroles to desserts) and all was delicious. Many stayed for a special Trivia Contest and it appeared everyone had a good time.
  - Almost Christmas Eve Dinner: The Post will host an "Almost Christmas Eve" dinner on Friday, Dec 22nd from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. The menu is baked ham with scalloped potatoes. The dinner is open to all members and their guests, free of charge.
  - Christmas Schedule: Christmas Day falls on a Monday this year and the Post will be closed Saturday (12/23) through Monday (12/25) and open at the regular time (8:00 am) on Tuesday, Dec 26th.

- The committee is finalizing a number maintenance and improvement projects. Offices have been cleaned, repainted and re-located. New and additional security cameras, an outside power outlet, a new hose bib, new icemaker, new kitchen exhaust fan, commercial dishwasher, HVAC unit and new locks were installed over the past year. The most critical issue continues to be the condition of the roof.
- Service Officer: No report
- Chaplain: No report
- Sergeant-at-Arms:
  - New Member Orientation is scheduled for the January General Membership Meeting (Jan 16th).
  - A Flag Destruction Ceremony is scheduled for next year, possibly March, as it involves a number of officers, the membership and perhaps the JROTC and Boys Scouts. It was pointed out that with so many participants, it is important to rehearse so it is well executed and meaningful.
- Historian: Special dates and events:
  - December 2, 1823 - President James Monroe introduced his "Monroe Doctrine" during his annual message to the Congress, prohibiting any further colonization of the American continents by European powers, stating, "we should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety..."
  - December 5, 1933 - The 18th Amendment (Prohibition Amendment) to the U.S. Constitution was repealed. For nearly 14 years, since January 29, 1920, it had outlawed the manufacture, transportation, and sale of alcoholic beverages in the U.S.
  - December 7, 1941 - The U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, was attacked by nearly 200 Japanese aircraft in a raid that lasted just over one hour and left nearly 3,000 Americans dead.
  - December 8, 1991 - The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) ceased to exist, as the leaders of Russia, Byelorussia and the Ukraine signed an agreement creating the Commonwealth of Independent States.
  - December 13, 1636 - the Massachusetts General Court in Salem issued an order requiring all able-bodied men between 16 and 60 years old to create a standing Army for protection. With that order, what we now know as America's National Guard was born.
  - December 20, 2019 - The United States Space Force was created. Its establishment was the first new branch of the armed services in 73 years.
- Judge Advocate: N/A



- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Year Executives: No reports

3. Correspondence: :

- Letter from the Historic Hopewell Foundation thanking the Post for its donation to the foundation.
- Letter from John Randolph Foundation thanking the Post for its sponsorship of the 24th Annual “Hit the Greens for Scholarship” Golf Tournament.
- John Randolph Foundation 3rd Qtr 2023 Financial Report:

<b>JOHN RANDOLPH FOUNDATION</b>		
<b>Daniel W. Barbee Memorial Scholarship Fund - AL Post 146</b>		
<b>3rd Qtr Report</b>		
<b>Item/Activity</b>	<b>3rd Qtr</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>
Principal Fund - Beginning Balance	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Principal Fund - Ending Balance	<u>\$ 20,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 20,000.00</u>
Available Fund Balance - Beginning Bal	\$ 23,416.77	\$ 19,992.58
Investment Results	\$ (1,153.84)	\$ 2,270.35
Gifts	<u>\$ 7,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 7,000.00</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 5,846.16	\$ 9,270.35
Scholarship and Awards	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Available Fund Balance - Ending Bal	<u>\$ 27,262.93</u>	<u>\$ 27,262.93</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u><u>\$ 47,262.93</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 47,262.93</u></u>

4. Donation Requests (Donation Coordinator): The Post received the following requests:

- a. City of Refuge Hopewell: UPDATE In response to last month’s query, Pastor Collier, CEO City of Refuge replied that they have served 24 military veteran clients during the organization’s five years of existence. He further commented that one veteran is currently living in their “Hope House” under treatment for substance abuse.

★ **ACTION:** A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to donate \$500.00 to the City of Refuge Drug Rehabilitation Program.

- b. Virginia Veterans Services Foundation: The Foundation requests an unspecified amount to help them reach their goal of \$100,000 to help the Virginia Department of Veterans Services address unbudgeted support requirements.

★ ACTION: The committee tabled action on this request until further information could be obtained. Service Officer is to report at the next committee meeting.

- c. Prince George High School JROTC Program: The PGJROTC has supported Post 146 Veterans Day ceremonies for the past three years. They help set and remove flags at gravesites and have provided a color guard for the ceremonies.

★ ACTION: A motion was made, seconded, and APPROVED to donate \$500.00 to the Prince George High School JROTC Program in recognition of the program's continued support of Veterans Day activities.

- d. Crater Community Hospice: This organization provides incredible services to the Hopewell/Prince George Community. The Post has supported this organization for many years as they provide hospice services free of charge to people across the area. They have been a real help to many veterans and their families and have a proven track record of excellent care and service.

★ ACTION: A motion was made, seconded, and APPROVED to donate \$250.00 to the Crater Community Hospice.

- e. Veterans and Athletes United (VAU): A North Chesterfield veterans charity, the VAU reports that they are "an all-volunteer 501c3 non-profit run by veterans. [They] cover [their] less than 5% overhead costs through board donations to maximize every donated dollar towards their programs and those [they] serve." Their mission is to provide much-needed support to disabled veterans and their family members through accessible retreats and adaptive sports/recreation events. Secondly, they wish "to honor our fallen heroes from the War on Terror as well as their gold star families." Since 2015 they have directly helped over 6,000 veterans and their family members, conducted 218 handicap-accessible retreats; 62 Vetnet events, given more than 500 sports grants and their Fallen Heroes Memorial has traveled to nearly 150 destinations across the nation.

★ ACTION: A motion was made, seconded, and APPROVED to donate \$500.00 to Veterans and Athletes United.

- f. Downtown Partnership: UPDATE The Downtown Partnership requests a donation of \$2,000.00 to join the partnership and help support Hopewell downtown re-vitalization efforts.

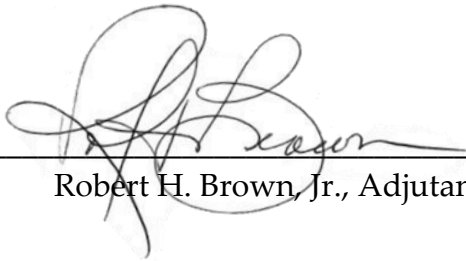
New information was received that identifies the Hopewell Downtown Partnership as an IRS recognized public charity under para 501 (c) 3 of the IRS Code. The Partnership's EIN is: 26-1282648. However, the Partnership does not appear to directly impact the veteran community in any way other than to offer reduced/discounted membership rates to active duty military members and veterans who wish to join the Partnership.

★ ACTION: In view of the information provided, the committee chose to take no action on this request..

Total Approved Donations: \$1,750.00

5. Old Business: None presented
6. New Business: Non presented
7. Good of the Legion: None presented

Official Summary of the Meeting/Conduct of Business is attested by the undersigned.



Robert H. Brown, Jr., Adjutant



# Post 146 Summary Financial Report

NOVEMBER 2023

## Post Business and Administration

### Income

Insurance Claim	\$ 500.00	
Gaming	\$42,064.00	
Earnings	<u>\$25,398.83</u>	
Total Income		\$67,962.83

### Expenses

Donations	\$ 1,595.00	
Personnel	\$19,264.71	
Club Supplies	\$15,148.87	
Reimbursements	\$ 1,084.95	
Electronic Game Fees	\$20,278.02	
Rental Refunds	\$ 250.00	
Printing/Postage	\$ 385.82	
Maintenance/Utilities	\$ 6,101.98	
Membership Dues	\$ 1,083.00	
Insurance	\$ 1,508.00	
It Services	\$ 750.35	
Sales Taxes	\$ 1,338.91	
Other Taxes	\$ 1,529.59	
Miscellaneous	\$ 50.00	
Total Expenses		\$70,369.20

Total Net Income (\$2,406.37)

## BINGO MONTHLY RECAP – NOVEMBER

Month	Gross Income	10% Rqmt.	Donations	Other Uses	Total Auth Uses	Available for Donation
November	\$57,330.00	\$5,733.00	\$1,595.00	\$3,805.98	\$5,400.98	\$4,500.00
30 Nov	\$579,295.20	\$57,929.52	\$27,195.00	\$42,634.35	\$69, 829.35	+/- Target <b>+2.05%</b>