



# CHAPTER 168 TUM TUM POST 168



December 5, 2019

## Meeting Minutes

### **ALR Meeting Structure/Agenda**

Call to Order (2 Taps)

Sgt at Arms: Secure the Room (Silence phones, Door.....)

Please, Rise, Remove Covers

Sgt at Arms: Post the POW/MIA remembrance

Prayer was given by Dan Halverson

Pledge of Allegiance (Veterans may Silently Salute Covered)

Placing what is First, First.

Recover. Please, be seated

Sign-in (Sign-in Sheet passed around.)

Introductions of Guests and/or new members.

Kevin Russell, 5<sup>th</sup> District Commander, Carson Post 137 ALR,

Dan Halverson, 5<sup>th</sup> District Riders Director, Kelso Post 25,

Angelica Velazquez, Auxiliary 5<sup>th</sup> District President, Kelso Post 25, Auxiliary President,

Wayne Beseau, Yacolt, perspective Post and ALR member.

**District Commander Kevin Russell** spoke about the importance of communication between the Post and the ALR Chapter. He wanted to make sure that the members of Post 168s ALR start right and stay on the correct path. We are a Federal Organization that reports to the Congress of the United States. That we are a bottom-up organization, the individual Posts lead the legion, not the other way around. He Stressed the importance of this, and for us to understand that we are not a Club, MC, or drinking group! We are the Legion Family and participation and support of Post 168 are and must be our goals. We are non-political, non-denominational, God-fearing Patriots bound by the Pillars of our Constitution as defined in the Preamble of the American Legion.

He concluded by wishing us well and encouraging us to continue the path that we have started down. He urged us to feel free to reach out to him for advice at any time. He also told us that the meetings and everything we do need to be focused on fun as well, enjoying being together, avoid drudgery, and make our activities about the American Legion Family!

**District Ride Director Dan Halverson** spoke about the funeral support that the Patriot Guard / ALR provides. He stressed that each of us should be aware of friends, families, and

acquaintance that may have a veteran pass that is unaware of our services. Ask them if they are aware of what we provide and if they are interested contact Rick Halle or himself.

He then defined the differences in the Patriot Guard (PG) and the latter group known as the Patriot Guard Riders (PGR).

As it relates to the ALR we honor and respect our veterans, we are a federal organization through the American Legion, and we must make sure that all of our actions and conduct reflect that with courage and integrity.

**Auxiliary 5<sup>th</sup> District President Angelica Velazquez** spoke about her desire to be a support for Auxiliary Units in our district. She herself struggled to get answers when she needed to know how to do things, who to talk to, and even where to find certain forms to perform standard Auxiliary functions. She had to self-teach herself and only wished that somebody like herself was around when she needed the help. Therefore, she is committed to being that person for our district and those finding themselves unsure. She is focused on improved communication between Posts and the Aux and improving cooperation across the district at all levels. She knows that our Post is looking to start an Auxiliary and she stands ready to do anything she can to assist.

Secretary:

John Nanney put a motion on the floor to accept the minutes as posted on the ALR website and provided to the members via email.

Seconded Mike Rose

Discussion: None

President Halle conducted a voice vote,

Motion passed.

Reports from Officers:

Director: Rick Halle stated that most of what he wants to talk about will be in the new Business section of the meeting. However, he wanted the members to know that he visited Post 25 to learn from their proceedings and start getting to know the different chapters. He stated that he hoped to visit additional meetings at other chapters in the future.

Assistant Director: Excused Absents.

Treasurer: NA

Run Coordinator: NA

Chaplain: NA

Communications: NA

Membership: NA

Historian: NA

## Old Business

1. Online Reminder Program – Frank Decker,  
No update
2. Christmas Gift Run to the VA Hospital – Nettie Nanney  
Nettie brought up the idea of how visiting VA patients should be one of our focuses. She has done this over the years in the past and would love to be able to do it here in our area.  
Kevin Russell really liked the idea and volunteered to help introduce us to the VA and take our first visit run. He spoke of the heartfelt joy that such work brings to those that participate. That most of the veterans just want to talk and have somebody to listen to. Dan Halverson also talked about some experiences he has had and encouraged this activity.  
It was decided to meet at the Vancouver VA on December 12, 2019, at 3:30 PM. Kevin Russell will meet all of those that would like to join us and visit veterans.  
For directions and/or meeting location please contact [secretary@tumtumalr.org](mailto:secretary@tumtumalr.org).
3. Flyers for Yacolt and the surrounding area of Chapter 168 formation – Frank Decker  
No Up-date

## New Business

1. Constitution and By-laws,  
John Nanney described the normal pattern of instituting a Constitution and By-laws per Roberts rules. He then suggested that in the view of preventing drudgery at our meetings that instead of reading the Constitution and By-laws that we take them home read them and mark them up. Next meeting, the equivalent of the second reading, we can discuss all member's questions, make appropriate edits and changes at that time. The Secretary can make those changes and provide those copies via email and we can then have a final discussion and vote on the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. If necessary we can have a fourth meeting, but if everyone is satisfied at the third meeting we can vote for ratification.  
Discussion on this ensued. Members were in unanimous agreement in this arrangement.
2. Banking and money handling plan,  
John Nanney (also the Finance Officer of Post168) informed the ALR membership that Riverview Community Bank can set up a "Subaccount" under Post168s supervision. This would allow selected Officers of the ALR the benefit of a fully 503c3 account to work from, while also providing the Post control over Programs operating under their incorporation. This will require several steps to occur, first and foremost an amendment to Post168s by-laws will need to happen. In addition, the selection of officers in the ALR needs to be voted on, and finally, those officers need to be accepted by a vote by the Posts membership.  
John Nanney placed a motion on the floor to request our Post to set up a subaccount for the ALR Chapter 168.  
Seconded by Zach Halle

Discussion: No further discussion  
President Halle performed a verbal vote  
Motion Passed.

John Nanney placed a motion on the floor to set Rick Halle and Frank Decker as ALR signing members to the Posts Subaccount.

Seconded by Zach Halle

Discussion: No further discussion

Motion Passed.

3. Windhaven Therapeutic Riding charity ride.

Rick Halle brought up that he and John Nanney had been discussing our first Legion Riders fundraiser. He then asked John to give the membership a summary of what we had thought of doing.

John Introduced the Foundation called Windhaven Therapeutic Riding, a foundation set up to assist veterans of all ages that are having issues with PTSD and other emotional trauma associated with their service. They use horses as the principal method to connect with the veteran. Allowing the veteran to gain confidence and bring emotions under control by working with the horse. A very interesting and nationally recognized operation. On top of this, the Foundation is right here in La Center.

Our Post has been a Bronze supporter of Windhaven through donations of \$400 last year and again \$400 this year. We have toured their facility and watched their work and believe strongly in what they are doing.

Our idea: Have a fundraiser ride that starts at Ilani Casino in La Center and take the 503 out through Woodland towards cougar and then south to Amboy landing in Territorial Parks. Windhaven would have horses and veterans in the program there for the riders to meet and see what they do.

It is our hope to get the Shariff on board to make the ride a fully escorted ride. It would also require tickets to ride with 100% of all proceeds (after event costs) going directly in support of Windhaven. We believe that we would provide the riders a patch for the ride as part of their ticket price. We would call the fundraiser ride:

**Windhaven Ride for Veterans  
Letting the Iron horses Help!**

Both Kevin Russell and Dan Halverson thought the plan sounded fantastic and suggested that this should be a District 5 effort! He suggested that ALR Chapter 168 take the lead but look to the District to assist as needed and participate. Both requested to be kept informed and we progress.

Membership also unanimously approved of the idea. Rick suggested John be the Chair for the committee. John agreed. Jeannette (Nettie) Nanney volunteered and Rick Halle also volunteered for the committee.

John Nanney put a motion on the floor to form a committee to investigate and proceed with the Windhaven fundraiser rider.

Seconded by Nettie Nanney

Discussion: No further discussion  
President Halle performed a verbal vote  
Motion Passed

Committees  
None

Correspondence  
None

For the Good of the Legion

1. Kevin Russel informed the membership that there will no longer be any “unclaimed Veterans” in Washington State. That an RCW was passed that each county must designate an agency to bury any veteran that dies without family or ability. Kevin himself was involved with getting this law passed and wanted to make sure that all legion members are aware of it and if they hear of a veteran that is not being honored to let him know.

Directors closing comments

Please Rise

Sgt at Arms: Recover the POW/MIA remembrance.

Closing Prayer: Dan Halverson

Please be seated

Next Meeting Date  
Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 6 PM Sharp.  
Motion to Adjourn by Zach Halle  
Seconded by Nettie Nanney  
Director Halle conducted a voice vote.  
The motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Nanney (AKA Hooter)  
**The American Legion Rider**  
Secretary  
TUM TUM ALR Chapter 168  
Amboy WA