

MINUTES
Ben Harrison Camp #356
Saturday, September 10, 2011
American Legion Post #500, Speedway, Indiana

Call to Order: Commander Walls called the meeting to order.

Roll Call of Officers: Present were Commander Walls, Senior Vice-Commander and Patriotic Instructor Bowyer, Secretary and Historian Thompson; Color Bearer Copeland; and Signals Officer, Graves Registration Officer and Camp Council Member Beckman. In all, six brother and two sisters were present.

Secretary's Report: The minutes were approved as handed out.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was approved as handed out.

Brothers in Distress: We recently learned that Donald Cook passed away in January of this year. Commander Walls will send a card to his widow. Our charter and badges were draped in mourning.

Initiation Certificate: A membership initiation certificate was presented to Brother Winters, who was welcomed into our order in March.

Application Received: The camp was pleased to learn of the application of Terry Wilcox, who derives his membership from his great-great grandfather Josiah Wilcox, who served in Company K of the 48th Indiana Infantry.

Reports and Other Business:

- First Annual David Wiley Lecture: We received a notice from Brother Wiley's widow about the opening meeting of the Monroe County Civil War Roundtable; the opening meeting will be named in his honor each year. This meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on September 13 at the Monroe County History Center.
- Report on Honorably Discharged Brother: Brother Thompson reported that he met with Stephen Bauer to give him his requested honorable discharge. He requested the discharge because he felt we were not doing enough for: remembrance of Sons, GAR, graves and our own history; recruitment; and retention.
- Camp Report: This was not turned in at the Annual Encampment.
- Maplewood Cemetery: The stones we cleaned are looking very good now.

After a break for lunch, we continued with:

- Auten Dedication: Brother Beckman reported about the Auten dedication.
- Facebook Page: The Ben Harrison page is going well.
- Real Daughter Funeral: The Bowyers and Barbara Stone visited the funeral home in Lewisville for a real daughter, who recently died. Her sons will be joining the Centerville Camp.
- Civil War Artifacts: Brother Copeland showed some items he recently purchased: a 12th and 20th Corps combined badge, a 1915 state encampment reunion badge and a ladder badge for Co. I, 16th US Infantry (this unit is still in active service today).
- Hamilton County Cemetery: Brother Beckman reported that Brother Jourdan has found a cemetery in Hamilton County that needs some work.
- Frankfort Cemetery: Brother Winters is working on getting stones for unmarked veterans.
- Eighth Indiana: Sister Thompson had posted that she was researching the 8th Indiana on the Sons email list. Someone from Ireland contacted her about his distant relative who served in the 8th Indiana. He found out this veteran died in Richmond and was buried in Centerville. She was able to get his obit and the grave location from the librarians in those counties.
- CRA Conference: Brother Teller has been asking why more brothers have not signed up for this meeting on October 1 in Rockville.
- Remembrance Day: This will be the next big activity for the year.

- Next Year's Officers: We need to nominate these in the October meeting. We will need to elect them in November and install them in December.
- ICWRT: They now have a Facebook page. Brother Beck will be giving a presentation to their group on the Merrill Rifle in February.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with appropriate ceremony by the camp.

Jerry Thompson, Secretary

Garry Walls, Commander

Date