



City of Cambridge

91.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 27, 1998

COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO

WHEREAS: The Isaac W. Taylor V.F.W. Post No. 2443 has a long and distinguished history in the City of Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: The Veterans of Foreign Wars was founded by veterans of the Spanish American War; and

WHEREAS: In the early 1930's, as part of a drive to boost the membership, Louis B. Caution of Cambridge, Deputy of the State Department V.F.W., with the power to organize posts in Middlesex County, conceived the idea of organizing another post in Cambridge composed of veterans of color, in memory of Isaac W. Taylor, a Cambridge veteran of color, who died overseas in the service of his country; and

WHEREAS: Despite some initial controversy and opposition on the part of the Russell Hoyt Post No. 299, because of the general belief that no city could support more than one post, the Isaac W. Taylor Post was duly chartered and held its first installation of officers in Cypress Hall, Cambridge on March 29, 1932; and

WHEREAS: William S. Elliot was installed as First Commander, Robert H. Elam as Senior Vice Commander, Joseph Callender as Junior Vice Commander, Sothern Smallword as Adjutant, William E. Wise as Quartermaster and the Reverend Clarence Burrell, now pastor of a large Pittsburgh Church, as chaplain; and

WHEREAS: Over the years the Isaac W. Taylor Post No. 2443 has been a vibrant and successful post which has provided much needed support and camaraderie for its veteran members and has contributed greatly to its community as well; and

WHEREAS: The post is now functioning under the excellent guidance of Commander Ulysses H. Gore, and it continues its key role as a veterans organization that supports its members, honors the service and sacrifice of all veterans and contributes to its community; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record congratulating and honoring the Isaac W. Taylor V.F.W. Post No. 2443 for its long and distinguished history in Cambridge and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Isaac W. Taylor V.F.W. Post on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council April 27, 1998.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy; *D. Margaret Drury*

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

KT
UMG

91

Whereas: The Isaac W. Taylor U.F.W. Post No. 2443 has a long and distinguished history in the City of Cambridge; and

Whereas:

Whereas:

In ^{the early} 1930's, as part of a drive to boost the memberships ~~of~~ The Veterans of Foreign Wars, which was founded by veterans of the Spanish American War, Louis B. Cauton of Cambridge, Deputy of the State Department U.F.W., with ^{the} power to organize posts in Middlesex County, conceived the idea of organizing another post in Cambridge composed of veterans of color, in memory of Isaac W. Taylor, a Cambridge veteran of color, who died overseas in the service of his country; and

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Whereas: William S. Elliot was elected as First Commander,

Robert H. Elom as Senior Vice Commander,
Joseph Callender as Junior Vice Commander,
Solomon Smallwood as Adjutant, William E.
Wise as Quartermaster and the Reverend Clarence
Bunell, ~~now~~ ^{now} pastoring ~~to~~ a large Pittsburg
church, as Chaplain; and

Whereas: ^{Over} ~~Through~~ the years the Isaac W. Taylor
Post No. 2443 has been a vibrant and
successful post which has provided ^{much needed} support and
comradeship for its veteran members and
has contributed greatly to its Community
as well; and

Whereas: ^{One of the} Throughout ~~its entire~~ the entire existence
of the Isaac W. Taylor Post, the Ladies
Auxiliary has been an important adjunct to the
post, beginning under the leadership of ^{its} first
President, Mrs. William S. Elliot; and

Whereas: The post is now functioning under the
excellent guidance of Commander Ulysses A.
Gore, and it continues its key role as a
veterans organization that supports its members,
honors the service and sacrifice of all veterans
and contributes to its community; now
therefore be it

Resolved: That the C-C go on record congratulating
and honoring the Isaac W. Taylor U. F. R.
Post No. 2443 for its long and distinguished
history in Cambridge; + be it further

Resolved: SEC to ~~the~~



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

ISAAC W. TAYLOR POST NO. 2443

POST OFFICE BOX 179 • CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

Sr. Vice Commander

Lloyd C. Haynes

Jr. Vice Commander

Lawrence Montgomery

Commander

Stanley J. Burrell

July 22, 1985

The following statement was found among the papers in our "OLD" quarters, the author is unknown, but his words should live forever.

History of the Isaac W. Taylor Post # 2443

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

At the conclusion of World War I, the returning veterans had the privilege of joining either the Veterans of Foreign Wars, an organization founded by veterans of the Spanish American War, or the American Legion, the new organization born of World War I. Both organizations have done a remarkable job in keeping alive the memories of their departed buddies and taking care of the general welfare of veterans, his widows and orphans for the past twenty-six years.

Then as well as now, many of the veterans did not seem interested in becoming members of any organization. Realizing the need for larger membership, the national body of the Veterans of Foreign Wars put on many drives for the formation of new posts. It was during one of these drives in the year 1932, that Louis B. Caution of Cambridge, having been appointed Deputy by the State Department V.F.W. with the power to organize posts in Middlesex County, conceived the idea of organizing another post in the City of Cambridge, composed of colored veterans in memory of Isaac W. Taylor, a Cambridge veteran, who died overseas in the service of his country.

It might be well to mention here the general belief among the posts already set up was, that no city or town could support more than one post of the same organization

Order

Donna

Resolutions
congratulatory
+ celebratory
the history
of the Isaac
W. Taylor Post

KT
VMB

WJG



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

ISAAC W. TAYLOR POST NO. 2443

POST OFFICE BOX 179 • CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

History of the Isaac W. Taylor Post # 2443(continued page 2)

A sort Of an unwritten law as it were. This did not deter Mr. Caution from making the attempt to carry through his plans. He contacted a fellow postal employee William S. Elliott, who gladly opened his home for meetings and helped secure sufficient names for a charter. Everything was in readiness to make application in the proper manner, when a storm of protest arose from the Russell Hoyt Post No. 299 V.F.W. who could not see the practicability of another veterans of foreign wars post in Cambridge.

However, after much debate pro and con in the County Council meeting, composed of delegates from all the posts in Middlesex County, the Isaac W. Taylor Post # 2443 was given the Hoyt Post's parental blessing, and the installation of officers took place in Cypress Hall, Cambridge on the evening of March 29, 1932.

William S. Elliott, Class of 1912 Rindge Technical School, was installed as first Commander; Robert H. Elam, Sr. Vice Commander; Joseph Callender, Jr. Vice Commander; Sothern Smallwood, Adjutant; William E. Wise, Quartermaster and Rev. Clarence Burrell Chaplain, who is now pastor of a large church in Pittsburg Pa.

Our first meeting place was in the old Tarbell School House, now known as the Cambridge Community Center at 49 Howard St. Much assistance was given this new post by the Russell E. Hoyt Post # 299 through the benefit of her experience in veteran matters. William Mahoney, Commander and John Moran were outstanding in their cooperation. It is also pleasing to note the mutual feeling of friendship and fraternalism that has existed up to the present time.

After many disappointments we succeeded in securing quarters in the Inman Square Firehouse with thanks to John H. Lynch, who was then Mayor of Cambridge and instrumental in making possible our present location.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

ISAAC W. TAYLOR POST NO. 2443

POST OFFICE BOX 179 • CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

History of the Isaac W. Taylor Post #2443 (continued page 3)

Our Auxiliary has functioned through the years in support of the post. Incidentally, Mrs. William S. Elliott was elected first president of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Isaac W. Taylor Post # 2443, and both husband and wife received excellent cooperation from the members. Mrs. Grace Taylor, wife of Isaac W. Taylor modestly preferred to stay in the background at the beginning, although she worked just as hard when holding minor offices, as when she became president later. Past President Mrs. Grace Caution, wife of Louis B. Caution, the founder, was an ardent worker as likewise Past Presidents: Mrs. Julian Lawrence, Mrs. Sarah Smith, Mrs. Bruce Wright, and Mrs. Ernest Kenswil.

We can boast of having the same quartermaster for fourteen years in the person of William E. Wise. A few of the charter members who have contributed considerably toward the success of this post are as follows: Past Commanders Henry Roberts, Julian Lawrence, Gilbert Harvey, James Moore, Albert Sumpter, Dr. C.B. Clark, Stanley Jarvis Nathaniel Cotten and Edward Harmon Sr.

The post is now functioning under the excellent guidance of Commander Clifton C. Merriman, holder of the Distinguished Service Cross, who has been acclaimed by many not only for his wonderful war record, but for the spirit he has infused among the members toward civic pride and the betterment of the community. He is responsible for the large membership the post is now enjoying.

Ethusiasm is running high among the members at the present time in anticipation of the coming convention which takes place in Boston from September 1 to September 6.

P.S. Past Commander Clifton C. Merriman was in office 1935-36

PRESENT CMDR
ULYSSES A. GORR

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9-5-8

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record congratulating and honoring the Isaac W. Taylor V.F.W. Post No. 2443 for its long and distinguished history in Cambridge and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Isaac W. Taylor V.F.W. Post on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council April 27, 1998.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

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A true copy;

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R-530

Consent Order #91

Councillor Triantafillou and Vice Mayor
Galluccio re: congratulations to the
Isaac W. Taylor V.F.W. for its long
and distinguished history in Cambridge.

In City Council April 27, 1998

ORDER ADOPTED