

## Post 177 General Membership Meeting

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**Call to Order:** Colors were presented, POW/MIA chair, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Preamble to TAL Constitution and a quorum was confirmed with 23 members present

**Special Guests:** Department Vice Commander Bob Brady and Post 225 guest Commander Dewey Chastain and his wife, who is president of their auxiliary

**Presentations:**

- Plaque was presented with Certificate of Appreciation to the Post 177 Honor Guard for support at the Army/Navy Country Club.
- Mike Kimlick provided an overview of Boy's State and introduced three Post 177 Boys State delegates who provided a presentation of what they learned at Boy's State.

**Reading of Minutes:**

- Minutes from September were read and unanimously approved with one change to the passing of Randy Broadway.

**New Members:** Devin Bright, James Custodio, Patrick Donohue, Carrie Gillen, Bradley Heath, Richard Louie, Michael Brown, Benny Leonard, William Nuckolls, and Dennis Wince. All members were unanimously approved.

Michael Brown and Carrie Gillen were present and sworn in.

**Old Business:**

- No old business

**Reports and New Business:**

Finance Officer:

- Financial report was presented
- \$2,100 loss last month
- \$3,000 up in social quarters
- \$23,000 income from gaming
- Question was asked why the Post pays Commission and Salaries while losing money
  - The commission is part of contract with the manager, which will be provided to Judge Advocate

Adjutant:

- None

First Vice:

- Current membership 630 estimated
- We are pushing to get regular members paid up to meet our 1,015 member goal and memberships renewed before costs rise.
- November 15th 3:00 pm early bird Cajun style dinner
- It was proposed that we should consider a GMU appreciation night once a month. With regular promotion the Post should be able to get more student support. Could

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be conducted short-term through the winter until March. Possibly provide some food and a drink (work it into Thirsty Thursday).

- Another proposal was to have the event when the Auxiliary is doing a Saturday dinner. There would be a set day, food available and drinks downstairs. It would be a set regular day.
- CC agreed and motion was not required. Judge Advocate included that we have a budget line that can cover the appreciation night.

Second Vice:

- Newsletter Articles are due Friday (16 October)
- Working on updating/modernizing the website
  - Adding some new pages for post officers, volunteer opportunities and board openings.

Third Vice:

- (not present)
- Social Quarter events have been successful
- Several new members have been brought in through events

Chaplain:

- Called by a widow of a Vietnam vet who died suddenly on a trip and he was a member of our post. Funeral arrangements were made out of town, but he was buried in Fairfax and she could not find his DD214. Sergeant at Arms provided a flag for the family and some veteran's volunteered to take care of the flag folding at presentation at the burial site.

Service Officer:

- DAV will be at the Post Saturday and will be helping with claims.
- ALR had presentation from a Marine canine handler and is operating a business where he takes dogs from shelters and trains them to assist veterans. Brochures are available and they are in need of help from anyone interested and able.
- 17 November - Project 22 screening at Lakeside Theater. Proceeds will go to Semper canine program.
- Program called Malawi project that collects pill bottles and sends them to Malawi to dispense drugs in the country. ALR will be collecting bottles by setting up a bin and will handle collection and shipment. The labels have to be removed and bottles empty. There was no objection to place the bin in the social quarters.

Judge Advocate:

- None

Sergeant at Arms:

- Membership table can be set up by anyone willing to set it up, but need volunteers to help.
- Need to get GMU night with auxiliary posted on website
- Supported 2 honor flights
- November 9th supporting a Legion service at Fairfax memorial gardens

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- November 7th - Post will honor WWII veterans and will perform flag disposal ceremony. 1200 food served for seniors, 1300 politicians speech and 1330 ceremony will start.
- There was a suggestion that we consider canceling, or postponing ,the next general meeting as it falls on November 11th. However, after discussion, it was decided that most events would be concluded and 1st Vice can start meeting if Commander is late.

Historian:

- Oct 13, 1775 US Navy was founded
- Oct 19, 1781 British surrender at Yorktown
- Oct 10, 1951 Battle of Heartbreak Ridge
- Oct 12, 1968 Operation MacArthur
- Oct 25, 1983 US forces invade Grenada
- Oct 7, 2001 operation enduring freedom began in Afghanistan

Members at Large:

- None

Corporate Board:

- New roof was installed estimated for \$35K, but final cost was less than \$30K
- A new door was installed for \$200 (cost of parts) vs \$2K estimated.
- A/C put in pool hall
- Covers for bar stools are on order
- 4 complete seats on order
- 10 more items on punch list for buildings and grounds

Auxiliary:

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SAL:

- November 8th will be the 6th annual Chili contest, which average 12 - 20 entries, and will be held during Redskins vs Patriots game.

Legion Riders:

- Honor flight support this weekend. Delivered lunches for Tennessee and attended dinner
- Delivering ice chests and water for Alaska group
  - Delivering lunch to them at AF memorial and will be at Post for dinner on the 15th at 6:30
  - encourage everyone to come out and meet them
- End of month cleaning at the Disable american veterans memorial on the last Saturday of the month and will be the last time for this year.
- Also be the last washing of Vietnam wall at 6:00 am next Sunday.

Commander:

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Announcements:

- 15 October, 1800 Alaska Honor Flight
- 17 October, 1000: DAV meeting

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- 24 October, 1300 - 1500: Stop Hunger Now meal prep event to make 25K meals in a few hours. Need volunteers.
- 7 November, 1200: Senior veterans luncheon; 1300: Veterans Day ceremony and Flag Retirement Ceremony
- 8 November, 0930 - 1100: Legionnaires 2nd Sunday Breakfast
- 8 November, 1300: SAL "Bear" Chili Bowl
- 10 November, 1900: Marine Corps cake cutting ceremony
- 11 November, 1100: Veterans Day program at Veterans Amphitheater, Fairfax
- 15 November, 1500: Early Bird Dinner
- 23 - 25 October: Fall Conference at Williamsburg

Good of the Legion:

- Challenger baseball has 2 more games left
- A briefing was provided on the HERO child rescue corps
- Wreathes across America is coming up again. We usually get a bus funded from the city of Fairfax and last year we had 35 people. Will be mentioned at Corporate board to determine rental of bus. Event is on December 12th and a request should be submitted through the donation committee.