

Post 177 General Membership Meeting

Call to Order: Colors were presented, POW/MIA chair, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Preamble to TAL Constitution and a quorum was confirmed with 26 members present

Reading of Minutes:

- Re-created minutes from June were read and unanimously approved.
- Minutes from July were read and unanimously approved.

New Members: William Connelly, Daniel Dunn, Sean Hodgson, Joseph Mandato (WWII), Anthony Peters, Holly Russo, James Leslie, and Chris Solazzo were all voted in. William Connelly was present and was sworn in by the Commander.

Old Business: Motion to elect Rand to the vacant Corporate Board position and was passed unanimously.

Reports and New Business:

Finance Officer:

- Two reports were approved (July and FY 15-16)
- Budget was distributed to members
 - Benchmark for beer sales is \$10,000
 - Benchmark for gambling is \$20,000
 - Some line items were moved in the budget into correct buckets.
- Motion was passed to approve the budget with 1 abstention

Adjutant: No update. However, Commander noted that the Adjutant and First Vice positions are vacant and Post is looking for volunteers.

First Vice:

- Final membership count for 2015 was 976.
- We haven't received the goal for this year, but we over 50% renewals so far. 979 was the goal last year and best guess for this year is about 981.
- National dues will be raised \$5, but Department will not be raising dues.
 - Starting January 21st, \$29 of dues will be sent to Department.
 - We need to push to get renewals in as the Post will pay \$24 for dues between now and January 21st.
 - There was discussion if the Post should raise dues to help cover the cost of dinners and events. Bill added there is \$16,000 in membership account and we would be able to cover the cost for 2 years. Any increase would have to be decided and approved before May.

Second Vice: Website was updated with no issues. Need Newsletter inputs by Friday, 14 August.

Wednesday, August 12, 2015

Third Vice: Could not attend but passed on a “Thirsty Thursday” Happy Hour will be starting soon. It will begin at 3:00pm and will feature items such as \$10 for 10 wings and buckets of beer for \$7. It will be a work in progress.

Chaplain: No update.

Service Officer:

- There is a section on the website now for the service officer where articles and helpful information concerning veterans will be posted.
- Working to help a veteran build a wheelchair ramp.
- DAV will meet again on 3rd Saturday of September and will be available after the meeting to assist with claims.
- On 19 September the DAV will be hosting a mobile assistance van at the AAFMAA Ruston Campus (1856 Old Reston Ave).

Judge Advocate:

- During National Convention we managed to stop a proposal to change the National Constitution requiring 100% of post members to vote and 2/3 majority to approve the buying and selling of assets (including real estate).

Sergeant at Arms:

- We will be presenting the colors at opening meeting for U.S. Army Association at the Army Navy Country Club on 18 August.
- Scott LoBaido, and artist famous for his U.S. flag paintings, chose Post 129 to paint a mural and we will be presenting the colors at the dedication.

Historian:

- August 4, 1790 U.S. Coast Guard established.
- August 7, 1782 Badge of Military Merit created (later renamed as the Purple Heart)
- August 12, 1889 the Spanish American War came to an end
- Visited post 18 in Ninilchik, Alaska. One of the member's fathers had visited out post during a Honor Flight visit and praised our Honor Guard. Our Post officers signed a license plate and mailed back to them to hang on the wall.

Members at Large: No update

Corporate Board:

- Proposed a motion that the version #1 of the Corporate Board Capital Improvement Plan/Corporate Budget (Currently identified as 2nd draft and dated 8/12/2015 - 3:48pm) as reported be approved, and the items identified as #1 priority, and non-#1 priority items (specifically ceiling tile replacement, drapery for the upstairs windows, and bar stool seat cover replacements), if not already acquired because of house keeping or safety concerns, be pursued immediately. And that the Corporate Board in conjunction with the Buildings and Grounds Committee prioritize and approve, or put on hold, the other items identified in the report.

Wednesday, August 12, 2015

- Motion passed with 3 abstentions.

Auxiliary: NO update.

SAL:

- September 12th will be hosting a pig roast. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door and if you buy a challenge coin will get \$2 off.

Legion Riders:

- Charity flash tattoo event in Manassas. \$60 per tattoo and all proceeds will go to Legacy Scholarship Fund.
- On the 21st, 7 riders are going to Indianapolis to meet up with 600 other Riders to ride to Baltimore where we will present a check for \$16,000 for Legacy Fund.
- 22nd riding to Manassas for Rockin' Recruits
- 23rd supporting Bravehearts fundraiser in Chantilly
- Received a letter of appreciation from the Fairfax Police Department for the motorcycle training course that was held in the parking lot

Commander:

- Presented Tony Osborne with Legionnaire of the Year pin.
- Post received 2nd place ribbon from Independence Day Parade.

Announcements:

- Family Day this Sunday (16 August). Food will be served around 1:00 pm. Should have the Fairfax Fire Chief and Police Chief, or a representative, attending.
- Need a work party Saturday at 11:00 am to put up tents for the Family Day Picnic
- Chili cook-off will be November 8th during the Patriots vs. Redskins game. Starts at 1:00 pm and expect about 15 entries. Taste all you want and will get three votes.
- Early Bird Dinner will be November 15th. Currently working on a theme if anyone has suggestions and the time and menu is being worked.

Good of the Legion: Dan Northcut gave a briefing about Veteran's Treatment Dockets. In 2007 there were no veteran's dockets, but there are currently 230. Judge Penny Azcarate has created a program in Fairfax and is moving to the Circuit Court. Her robing on August 14th. 27 people have signed up to be mentors to veterans in the courts. There is a committee being formed to represent veterans groups in Richmond to support additional veteran's dockets in Virginia. There will be an article in the coming newsletter.