



# LEGION NEWS

AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

3939 Oak Street  
Fairfax, VA 22030-3725

*July - August 2017*

703-273-2250  
[www.fairfaxpost177.org](http://www.fairfaxpost177.org)

## New Members

William Covey  
Robert Eisminger  
Daniel Harrison  
Kenneth LaPlante  
Morgan Lewis  
John Machey  
James Moore

## Honorary Life Members

William Anderson  
Alvin Doehring  
Edward Heitchew  
George Lamborn  
Anthony Osborne  
John Price  
Robert Sussan



This year marked the 51st anniversary of the Fairfax City Independence Day Parade. Since its beginning in 1967, the parade has grown into one of the largest in Northern Virginia. This year's parade was themed "Volunteers Light Up Fairfax" and included over 100 individual groups including marching bands, floats, fire engines, and clowns. Post 177 was there with the Honor Guard, Legion Riders, and our own float which was awarded 3rd place. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported the parade and the P



# LEGION NEWS

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

*Page 2*

### Commander's Corner

Hard to believe we are halfway through 2017. I hope everyone is having an enjoyable and safe summer. Since it is summer it must be time for our annual Family picnic! This year it will be on Sunday, August 20th about 1:00. We will have games and food and fun for all. This is a Post 177 member event and is a good time to renew your membership and bring your Legion eligible neighbor that you have been inviting to join out to sign up. Speaking of membership, Legionnaires should have received your 2018 renewal notices in the mail by now. This may confuse new members thinking, "Jeez, I just joined in February and I'm being asked to renew in July?". All American Legion memberships expire December 31 of the year on the card. The Legion collects next year's membership dues starting in July of the previous year. (This also means that current year membership goals must be met by July. We missed our 100% goal by 7 members). So, if you first join the Legion in the first half of a year, you get a little less time for your dues and if you join in the second half of the year you get a little more time for your dues. But after the first year it evens out.

Membership is the currency of influence for our organization when we are advocating for our causes in Washington and Richmond. I encourage you to renew your membership for 2018 as soon as you are able. You can do so by mailing your dues and notice to the post or dropping it off next time you come in or, do it online at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew).

The annual Salus golf tournament will (as usual) take place on Monday the 22nd, the day after the Family Picnic. This year the proceeds will be divided between the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team Kids Camp and Shriners Hospitals for Children. See the flyer on page 4 for more info.

The Corporate Board has formed a Building Initiatives Committee (BIC) to develop long range plans for our Post home (see CB article on page 6). This is an exciting but daunting task. Post 177 has been fulfilling The American Legion mission for over 70 years and we need to consider how our facility and property can best enable us to continue do so for the next 70 years. It is easy for us to get caught up in ourselves and the day to day activities of our lives and not really notice all the important functions and services performed by and at Post 177. Can you imagine the City of Fairfax without Post 177? I can't and I don't want to try. It will take work and thought by many and some time to reach the best conclusion on how we move forward.

I know many members feel attached to the Post Home building and would not want to see it changed. Some may feel that the building has historical significance. I personally like the social quarters very much. I felt at home pretty much the first time I walked in. However, what makes it special and important is the people inside and the things that you do for each other and our Veterans, and our Community, and our Country. So, share your thoughts and ideas with the BIC and we will move forward and keep Post 177 the best American Legion Post anywhere.

Thank you to the returning and new members of our Executive Committee and Corporate Board. I feel very fortunate to be in the company of such competent and dedicated Legionnaires. I'm looking forward to another great year!

For God and Country

Jeff White



## Post Officers

### Commander

Jeffrey White  
703-591-0298

JWhite@fairfaxPost177.org

### 1st Vice Commander

Sean Hodgson

### 2nd Vice Commander

Shawn Fiebiger

### 3rd Vice Commander

Luke Munson

lukemnsn@gmail.com

### Adjutant

Mary Grace McAlevy

### Finance Officer

Michael Kimlick

michael.kimlick@tsa.dhs.gov

### Chaplain

Joseph Boyle

703-646-5576

jdboyle@aol.com

### Sergeant-At-Arms

John Price

703-307-3332

JPriceAdvertising@yahoo.com

### Service Officer

Bradford Watkins

571-233-0985

bradwatkins@consolidatedsafety.com

### Judge Advocate

Anthony Osborne (Tony)

703-934-8915

anthonyosborne437@yahoo.com

### Historian

Earl Seay

dolphins113@netzero.net

### Exec. Comm. Members at Large

John Skoglund, Stan Verrocchio

### Legionnaire of the Year

Brad Watkins

### Corporate Board

Rand Gaber, Jonathan Thatcher, Gary  
Welschenbach, John Kinzel, Mike  
Kimlick, Russ Comps, Tony Osborne

### Building & Grounds Chairman

Rand Graber

### Sons of the American Legion

Jerry Miller

info@fairfaxpost177.org

### Post 177 Legion Riders

Bruce Mersereau

mersereaub@gmail.com

### Auxiliary Unit 177

Sandra Price

# LEGION NEWS

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

Page 3



Greetings,

## Post 177 Auxiliary

Summer is here and the unit has closed another year. We had a very successful 2016 - 2017. We participated in new programs and with the help of the Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion, and the Legion Riders we were able to accomplish our goals. Many thanks to the post for all the support that was given to the Auxiliary. June 14th, 2017 was installation so here we go again, looking forward to another good year. At the Annual Convention, Fairfax Unit 177 was awarded the trophies for Children & Youth, History, and National Security. Thank you to all the members for your hard work, dedication and support. Now, with all our new members that are willing to get involved, I'm sure 2017 - 2018 will be an even greater year.

- July 4th: Fourth of July. Stay safe and have a good day
- July 13th - 16th: Department Convention at Dulles Hilton
- August: Annual picnic; watch for details at a later date

Remember, the Auxiliary does not meet in July and August.  
Wishing each and everyone a very good summer; stay safe and cool.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Sandra K. Price

## Missing Members

The USPS has returned the Newsletters to the following members because their addresses are "undeliverable". Do you them or their current addresses? If so, please contact Bill Anderson - wispbill@netscape.net - or at the Post. Thank You.

James Bolin

William Chester

Paul Gauthier

Tim Hone

Warren Martin

James Ogletree

Randy Perry

Melvin Schlattman

Ronal Shupp

# LEGION NEWS

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

Page 4

### Post Everlasting

William  
Pickering



#### James W. Salus Memorial Golf Tournament - 2017



#### Sons of the American Legion Squadron 177

**Where:** Penderbrook Golf Club 3700 Golf Trail Lane Fairfax, VA 22033

**When:** 21 August 2017

**Venue:** Captain's Choice

**Cost:** \$90 – Includes cart, greens fees, unlimited beverages on course, closest to the pin (2 par 3 holes) and 2 longest drives prizes, Bar-B-Que buffet at legion immediately following.

#### Agenda

- 0700-0800 Hrs. – Registration & Breakfast @ Legion (Includes Mulligan's Purchases)
- 0830 Hrs. Arrive Golf Course
- 0900 Hrs. Shotgun Start
- 1430 Hrs. Bar-B-Que Buffet at Legion (cash bar)



**Shriners Hospitals  
for Children®**  
Love to the rescue.®

Proceeds from Event (via James W. Salus Foundation and Our Legion Post) will be donated to the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team Kids Camp and Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Registration for this tournament at Legion Bar: cash, check or charge; checks make payable to "SAL Squadron 177." Payment at golf course cash or check only.



# LEGION NEWS

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

Page 6

### VA Home Loan Program Seminar

When: Saturday, November 18, 2017, from 10:00 to 12:00

Where: American Legion, 3939 Oak St, Fairfax, VA 22030

Post Grill meeting room, downstairs

#### National Guard and Reserve Members VA Benefits

Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Program supports and enhances the mobilization readiness of the Reserve components. The AGR includes both National Guard (Title 32) and Reserve members (Title 10) who serve full-time. National Guard members may establish eligibility for certain VA benefits by performing full-time duty under either Title 32 or Title 10.

Generally, all National Guard and Reserve member discharged or released under conditions that are not dishonorable are eligible for some VA benefits. Come to the seminar and find out what constitutes qualifying service for the National Guard and Reserve.

This seminar will also include a discussion of the most up to date information on available VA home loan program benefits. It will include info on the increase in maximum loan limits in high cost areas such as Fairfax and Arlington counties. Additionally, it will cover options for disabled service members, Veterans and their spouses along with grants available for disabled veterans. All are welcome! An RSVP is appreciated but not required. If you would like to receive informative emails of changes in VA Housing Benefits, please send your email address to [ry5058@gmail.com](mailto:ry5058@gmail.com).

#### Informative VA Housing Benefits Websites:

How to Apply for Housing Benefits:

<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/learn/housing>

Apply for or check the status of your Specially Adapted Housing claim:

<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/learn/housing>

Calculate your VA Home Loan benefit and entitlement to get a Certificate of Eligibility:

<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/about/feature?feature=cert-of-elegibility-home-loan>

Presenter: Debbie Young, Realtor

Keller Williams, Falls Church, VA

[ry5058@gmail.com](mailto:ry5058@gmail.com)

[703-475-8317](tel:703-475-8317) Cell

# LEGION NEWS

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

Page 6



### Corporate Board

Keeping you up to date on Corporate Board (CB) activities the following is provided: Elections were held in May, Russ Combs and John Kinczel were elected to the board for three (3) year terms. In addition, at the May meeting Officers were elected for the CB and appointments made. The following is a list of all Board Members and their office or appointment is listed in parens ( ) after their name. Jonathan Thacher (President), Gary Welschenbach (Secretary), Anthony "Tony" Osborne (Treasurer), Rand Gaber (Building & Grounds), Mike Kimlick, Russ Combs, John Kinczel and Jeff White Post 177 Commander

The CB continues to diligently watch over The Post's financial asset structure in savings, checking, CD's, building infrastructure/maintenance, furniture, equipment, exterior structures and grounds. We are presently, as has been the case in the past and the goal of the future in an excellent financial position.

The first meeting of the Building Initiatives committee was held on 2 June. As stated in the last newsletter this is just the beginning of a multiyear process to lead the Vision of Post 177 in the Year 2047. The committee is looking at sustaining and/or remodeling the present Post; or is there a need for a new facility. The committee is looking at Maintenance cost today and in the next five years by developing a 5 -10 year plan. It is felt there are in some ways many sustaining costs and factors that will need inclusion into remodeling. This is a labor intensive task that must be done to then get an accurate risk analysis. Again as to why it will be a multiyear scenario to reach an answer. There is one primary assumption: Our revenue stream must remain continuous and we must look at ways to increase it so that there is minimal to no cost to the POST and revenue still maintains the operations of the Post to our best standards.

The CB is trying to stay on a cycle of meeting the third (3rd) Wednesday of each month at 6 PM at the Post.

### Post 177 Hawaiian Luau Party

Post 177 will be hosting a Hawaiian Luau Party complete with Luau food (roasted pig, sides, and dessert), a tiki bar and LIVE entertainment. Grab your favorite Hawaiian shirt or grass skirt and come out to the party.

**Saturday, September 9, 2017**

**5:30 - 9:30 pm**

**Cost: \$12.00 per person**





# JULY

sun

mon

tue

wed

thu

fri

sat

2

3

4



Independence Day

5



Exec Cmte  
meeting 7pm.

6

7

8

9



Auxiliary  
Breakfast 9:30am

10

11

12



General Member  
meeting 7pm.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

Dinner every Friday Night 5:30 - 8:30  
Club Hours: Sat - Th 8:00 am - 11:00 pm  
Fri 8:00 am - midnight

# AUGUST

sun

mon

tue

wed

thu

fri

sat

1

2



3

4

5

Exec Cmte  
meeting 7pm.

6

7

8

9



10

11

12

General Member  
meeting 7pm.

13



14

15

16

17

18

19

Legionnaires  
Breakfast 9:30am

20



21



22

23

24

25

26

Family Picnic

Salus Golf  
Tournament

27

28

29

30

31



Legion News is published bi-monthly and is the 1st Place Winner of the 2007 VALPA "Best Papers Award" and 1st Place in the Nation for Large Posts winning the 2007 Al Weinberg Publication Award.

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRODUCED BY VOLUNTEERS  
OF THE POST.**

Non-profit  
Organization

U.S. Postage

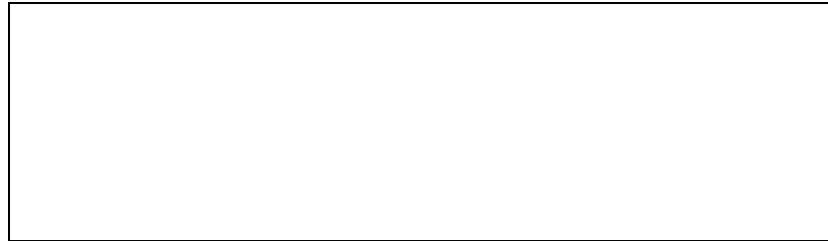
PAID

Fairfax, VA  
Permit Number 17

3939 Oak Street  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

*The #1 Legion Newsletter in the Nation.*

Address Service Requested



**For God and Country**

We're on the Web:

[www.FairfaxPost177.org](http://www.FairfaxPost177.org)

[www.facebook.com/  
LegionPost177](https://www.facebook.com/LegionPost177)

[www.twitter.com/post177](https://www.twitter.com/post177)

Dated Material

**WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS**



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
**FAMILY**

