



LEGION NEWS

AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

3939 Oak Street
Fairfax, VA

November - December 2015

703-273-2250
www.fairfaxpost177.org

New Members

Devin Bright
Michael Brown
James Custodio
Patrick Donohue
Steve Fred
Carrie Gillen
Bradley Heath
James Kane
Harvey Knowles
Benny Leonard
Richard Louie
William Nuckolls
Rodolfo O'Shea
Anthony Schaffer
James Schillinger
Dennis Wince

The newest edition to the post is our new roof. It was well overdue and several leaks had formed. There were several boards replaced that had begun to rot.



The projected cost was \$35K, but the work was completed on time and \$5K under budget.



Help Wanted

Wanted/Needed: Post Adjutant. No experience required. Attendance at the Executive Committee Meeting (1st Wednesday of the month) and attendance at the Regular membership meetings (2nd Wednesday of the month) highly desirable.

The Adjutant shall have charge of and keep a full and correct record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep such records as the departmental and national organizations may require, render reports of membership annually or when called upon at a meeting, under direction of the Commander handle all correspondence of the Post, and perform those duties applicable to Post 177 as enumerated in the Post Adjutant's Handbook.

Apply by contacting the Post Commander (jwhite@fairfaxpost177.org).

Honorary Life Members

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

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Commander's Corner

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November is a busy month at our post, but before I get into that I want to talk a little about some of our recent activities.

In early October we hosted three Honor flights; East Tennessee, Lake County Illinois, and Alaska. All have come to Post 177 before. The Honor Flight organizations bring WWII vets to Washington to see the monuments that have been erected in their honor. They have also started including Korean War vets in the groups. The schedule for East Tennessee and Lake County put them here on the same day, which presented a big challenge for our staff, Members, Auxiliary, Sons of the Legion, and Color Guard. I need to tell you that everyone pulled together to create a memorable experience for the Vets and their guardians. After the Lake County group had dinner in the small room upstairs, and the Tennessee group finished eating downstairs in the social quarters (served by the Auxiliary), Lake County came down and joined Tennessee for some music, dancing, and camaraderie. It was a wonderful evening that I am sure no one who was there will soon forget. On top of all that our banquet staff served a large dinner party in the main ballroom. Well Done to all who worked to make the events that weekend so successful.

On Oct 25 we donated our ballroom to Stop Hunger Now. This organization puts on events to pack up meals that can be shipped to places in the world where people are starving. After staging pallets of rice and soy flour and freeze dried vegetables, about 75 or so volunteers packed up 25,000 meals in about 2 hours. Each packaged meal will feed 4 people. These meals are designated to be shipped to the Philippines. I want to thank members Janet, Reid, Shirley, and Patty for joining the other volunteers in the packing process. I also need to thank 3rd Vice Luke for taking some time off from preparing for the Sunday football afternoon to help move tables out of the shed. Another Well Done to you all.

Now, to the future: 1 Nov and 8 Nov we have special food events to go along with football season. Check the SAL's article for details. Also on 8 Nov the Legionnaires serve 2nd Sunday breakfast. Our Annual Early Bird Dinner is on 15 Nov at 3 pm. Remember this is a Post 177 membership event. Your ticket for this annual event is your 2016 post 177 Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of the Legion membership card. You will be able to renew at the door if you haven't yet done so. Non-member guest tickets are \$20 per person.

Our Veterans Day observance will start on Saturday the 7th of Nov with serving senior veterans lunch in the social quarters at noon by the Auxiliary. At about 1 we will start our Veterans Day and Flag Retirement ceremony. The general public is invited to the ceremony so spread the word.

On 11 Nov we will participate with VFW Post 8469 at Veterans Amphitheater in the City of Fairfax in a joint Veterans Day Observance. The program starts at 1100 and will include reading the names of Fairfax residents who made the ultimate sacrifice from WWI to the present day. The general public is encouraged to attend this solemn ceremony. The Post 177 Color Guard will visit 2 nursing homes and Woodson High School after the City of Fairfax ceremony. It will be a busy day for them.

Lastly, I must offer an apology. We hoped, and 2nd Vice Shawn worked hard, to get this in the mail in time to be in your mailboxes before Nov 1st but I don't think we will make it. I must take the blame for that because I did not write this article in time. Shawn, and the rest of you who wrote your news on time, thank you. I'll try to do better in December.

For God and Country,

Jeff White
Commander

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First Vice Commander

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Post Everlasting

Grayson Bishop
Leo Chillemi
John Edelbrock
Buck Shelton



Friday Night Dinner

The price for Friday Night Dinner has remained constant for about 5 years, though as we all know food prices have increased.

The Executive Committee and the Club Manager are contemplating some changes in the menu and pricing structure.

We will keep you notified.

I would like to take a minute to introduce myself as the new 1st Vice. My name is Colin Waldroup and I saw the Post needed a 1st Vice and wanted to get more involved in taking care of our Veterans and you so I volunteered to help out and stepped into the position. I enjoy talking to new people and I'm also the Director for the Post 177 Legion Riders. I served in the Marine Corps from 1986 through 1990 as a machine gunner in 1st Battalion, Second Marines. I also served at 8th and I SE Washington DC doing funerals, White House details, parades, etc...although I missed the Gulf Wars, (not by choice). I love my country and those that have and do serve.

As of today, we are 60% of the way to our membership goal with 630 members. Our goal for the 2016 year is 1,015 members. We have some work to do, so if you know of anyone that served, send them our way. My email is colinwaldroup@yahoo.com and we will get them signed up. I will also be setting up tables around local businesses and events around town, so if you can volunteer let me know.

As you may or may not know, our membership fees will be increased in January from National. Although our membership fees to the Post have not increased, we (as a Post) will have to pay more for each member starting in January. So, the more members we get to join early the more of the membership fees will go to your Post. If you have not signed up, do so now! On the lines of early sign-up, the Early Bird Dinner will be November 15th at 3:00 pm. The theme this year will be Cajun style. I will be working with Doug on the menu. Stay tuned and look for flyers that will be posted in the social quarters. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

Again, get with me if you have any questions about membership or just want to sit and chat...

NOVEMBER 3, 2015 GET OUT AND VOTE! Your vote counts...

Membership Eligibility Dates

World War I	April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918
World War II	December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946
Korean War	June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955
Vietnam War	February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975
Lebanon/Grenada	August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984
Operation Just Cause/Panama	December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990
Operation Desert Shield/Storm	August 2, 1990 to Today

Post Officers

Commander

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703-591-0298

JWhite@fairfaxPost177.org

1st Vice Commander

Colin Waldroup
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2nd Vice Commander

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3rd Vice Commander

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Vacant

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Anthony Osborne (Tony)
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Historian

Earl Seay
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Exec. Comm. Members at Large

John Gluffing, David Shook, Richard Sullivan

Legionnaire of the Year

Anthony Osborne

Corporate Board

Charles Camper, Rand Gaber, Michael Kimlick, Anthony Osborne, Walter Potock, Jonathan Thatcher, Gary Welschenbach

Building & Grounds Chairman

Anthony Osborne (Tony)
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Sons of the American Legion

info@fairfaxpost177.org

Post 177 Legion Riders

Colin Waldroup
colinwaldroup@yahoo.com

Auxiliary Unit 177

Elly Burton

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AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

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Service Officer

I would like to introduce you to a program that you may not be aware of, at least I don't think many people in the Legion may be aware of, that benefits veterans nationwide and is hosted right here in Fairfax.

The investigative arm of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), has created a great program for veterans called the HERO Corps. This program was developed by ICE and the Special Operations Command (SOCOM) in order to provide technical computer forensic training to wounded veterans to give them marketable skills as well as assist law enforcement organizations in investigations against online child sexual exploitation.

The program involves applying for a one-year, non-paid internship that provides the veteran with the skills and experience to become a computer forensic examiner for a state or federal law enforcement agency.

The announcements are made through USA JOBS. The current announcement was open through October 9, 2015. However, there will probably be another announcement next year.

More information can be found on their website at www.herocorps.net

Oratorical Contest

Post Members,

Do you have a love for our Constitution? Do you have a sense of obligation to our community? Do you respect the art of public speaking? Then I'm looking for you.

My name is Dusty Hamacher and I answered the Post Commanders plea for Oratorical Chairman for 2016. If you're not aware, the American Legion Oratorical Contest is "A constitutional speech contest" that exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship. The program has featured numerous politicians and prominent contestants over the years, including former president candidate Alan Keyes and CNN anchor Lou Dobbs.

This year's Post 177 Contest will be on Sunday, 10 January 2016 at 1:00 pm and I'll need your help.

- Timekeeper (1)
- Judges (3-5)
- Tabulators (1-2)

Please consider helping me with this worthy cause & expect a planning meeting at the Post sometime in December. In the meantime, learn more about the contest at <http://www.legion.org/oratorical> or contact me at dustin.e.hamacher@gmail.com or 251-689-8745.



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Legion Riders

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The riders have geared up for the Fall Honor Flights. This past weekend we escorted lunches to a couple of our adopted Honor Flights and participated in hosting them for dinner at the post. The Veterans are so happy when we bring them in and treat them the way they should be treated. One of My two Favorites (if there is a Fav) is the Tennessee and the Alaska flights. I befriended Ron Travis, the President of the Last Frontier Honor flight (Alaska) a few years ago during Rolling Thunder and we stay in touch throughout the year. It is always a pleasure to see these guys. But who could miss the Tennessee Group as they are always a treat. Edie brings her A game when she comes to town. Watching them "Get their Groove on" after dinner in the social Quarters is always a treat.

I would Like to take the time to say, Please watch out for Motorcycles. I was almost in not one but two accidents this past week. Both were from someone merging into my lane. One actually wrecked but I was luckily not involved other than being a witness. When I revved my engine, she swerved back and struck another vehicle. Please watch and be careful. Bikers be careful as well, Drive responsibly and watch for leaves on the roads, especially when wet.

As the Holidays fast approach, I hope that everyone enjoys the time with their Families during the Holiday season. Don't forget those less fortunate and help someone out. There are so many great organizations out there that you can help. either financially or with time. The cold weather is an awful time for our homeless and some may just be a veteran.

The riders will once again be laying wreaths with the Sgt Mac foundation at Quantico. If you have never done this before. It is always a treat. Come Join us. More info to follow.

Do not forget NOVEMBER 3rd is Election Day. Your vote counts so get out and Vote!!! Also, November 10th is the Birthday of my beloved Corps. There will be a brief ceremony in the social Quarters.

Colin Waldroup
Semper Fi

Auxiliary

Coming Events

- November 7th - Auxiliary will serve lunch to veterans from George Mason and Fair Oaks Sunrise facility in observance of Veterans Day. The Flag Disposable Ceremony will take place afterwards.
- November 8th (9:30 - 11:00) The Legionnaires will be serving Breakfast and the Chili cook-off will also be that afternoon.
- November 14th (5:30 - 7:00) - Auxiliary International dinner will be serving German food.
- November 15th (5:30) - The "Early Bird" feast will be Cajun themed.



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Sons of the American Legion

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Greetings!

As we enter November our thoughts automatically go to Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving, so let me first start by thanking everyone who was able to join us at the Pig Roast on September 12th. It was a big win from every point of view. Those in attendance really enjoyed the great food, wonderful camaraderie, and the college football games were pretty good as well. (Go Irish) Thanks also to all the workers who helped both Friday night getting the pig on the grill as well as Saturday for the event itself. I would also be remiss if I did not give a special thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary for bringing in those great deserts. That event will allow the Squadron to accomplish multiple items on our charitable front.

Now on the subject of Veteran' Day. The Sons of the American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires. Those who attended our October Breakfast on the 11th, saw the unveiling of our new SAL shirt which simply states one of the main reasons we exist "Serving". Legion members earned their membership by serving their country when they were called to help maintain the freedom we enjoy today. As the SAL Commander I would like to say Thank You to each of the Legion members reading this article for your service, and I would ask that every SAL member utilize this Veteran's Day especially to simply thank any Veterans you come in contact with for their service.

As we quickly move into November, the SAL will be hosting a couple more events in the Social Quarters. First up will be on November 1st when Ray and Dave will be breaking out the 1 pound hot dogs and the design your own pizza during the football games. The following Sunday (Nov 8th), will be the 6th Annual Bear Chili Contest. This contest is open for any member to enter. There is always some serious competition for the top prize, and I expect the same this year. If you bring a chili entry the admission is free, however if you just want to come down and enjoy sampling the great chili, a mere \$5.00 will give you three votes and the opportunity to really treat your tastebuds. The contest will start at halftime of the Redskins/Patriots game.... (and I am not supposed to depress anyone or make any more jokes about that...)

As we quickly move forward toward the end of the calendar year I also need to remind everyone about renewing their membership. I realize your current card is good until midnight December 31st, but it would really be great if you could start sending those dues in now. The membership year is well underway and right now we are behind in reaching some of the established goals. Your renewal will help us to catch up and reach some of those goals. I can also say that getting your dues in now will also be appreciated by our 1st Vice Jim Price as it will give him the time to get everyone their 2016 cards well before you need to show them on January 1st. Thank you in advance for that support.

For God and Country, and Thankful for your Service,

Jerry Miller

Commander, Squadron 177

NOVEMBER

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sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
1	2	3	4 7 pm - Exec Committee Meeting	5	6	7 11 am - Veteran's Day Observance
8 9:30 am - Sunday Breakfast 1 pm - Chili Cook-off	9	10 10 am - Marine Corps cake cutting ceremony 	11 7 pm - General Membership Meeting 	12	13	14
15 3 pm - Early Bird Dinner	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dinner every Friday Night 5:30 - 8:30 • Club Hours: Sat - Th 8:00 am - 11:00 pm Fri 8:00 am - midnight 				

DECEMBER

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
		1	2 7 pm - Exec Committee Meeting	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 7 pm - General Membership Meeting 	10	11	12 Army - Navy Game Tailgate 3 pm
13 Auxiliary Breakfast	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Children's Christmas Party 1 pm	21	22	23	24	25	26
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.

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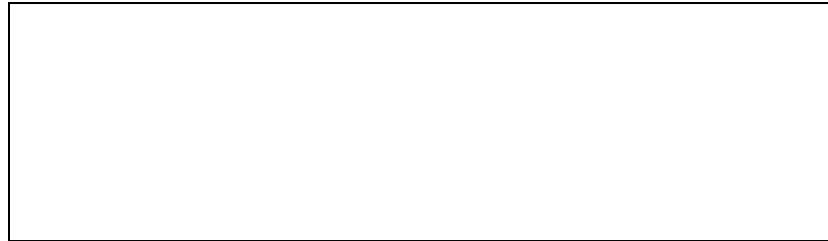
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