



LEGION NEWS

AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

3939 Oak Street
Fairfax, VA

703-273-2250
www.fairfaxpost177.org

SEP - OCT 2015

New Members Jul - Aug 2015

Kenneth Belisle
Brian Boyle
Philip Buhler
Lauretta Levison
Frankie Spielman
William Connelly
Daniel Dunn
Sean Hodgson
Joseph Mandato
Anthony Peters
Holly Russo

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

William J Anderson
Alvin W Doehring
Edward N Heitchew
George L Lamborn
Anthony F Osborne
John W Price
Robert B Sussan



Independence Day got off to a wet start this year. But, despite the weather, there was a great turnout along the parade route where several thousand people lined up to view the 98 different floats and marching groups. Post 177 was represented by the Color Guard, Legion Riders, Auxiliary, SAL and a float honoring first responders where our float was awarded 2nd place.

Thanks to all the volunteers that made this year's parade a success!



Legion Riders



Post 177's float



Post Color Guard



Fortunately we had better weather for the Post Family Day. Family members and some of Fairfax's first responders gathered to enjoy the live band, games and, of course, lots of food.

We hope to see everyone back next year!



2015 Members = 976
2016 Members = 540

POST OFFICERS

COMMANDER

Jeffrey White
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1ST VICE COMMANDER

Vacant

2ND VICE COMMANDER

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3RD VICE COMMANDER

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ADJUTANT

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Vacant

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JUDGE ADVOCATE

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osborneai@netzero.com

HISTORIAN

Earl Seay
dolphins113@netzero.net

EXEC COMM. MEMBERS AT LARGE

John Gluffing, David Shook, Richard Sullivan

LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR

Anthony Osborne

CORPORATE BOARD

Charles Camper, John Gluffing, Michael Kimlick, Anthony Osborne, Walter Potock, Jonathan Thacher, Gary Welschenbach

BUILDING & GROUNDS CHAIRMAN

John Gluffing
info@fairfaxpost177.org

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

info@fairfaxpost177.org

POST 177 LEGION RIDERS

Colin Waldroup
colinwaldroup@yahoo.com

AUXILIARY UNIT 177

Elly Burton

COMMANDER'S CORNER

PAGE 2

Summer is not quite officially over but we are on our way into fall. Fairfax County Public Schools start classes on Tuesday the 8th of September, right after Labor Day. Some of the private schools in Fairfax have already started as well as the colleges and universities. The days are getting shorter and the nights are getting cooler. But what does this all mean for us at Post 177?

First, as members of our communities we need to watch out for students of all ages traveling to and from school. Elementary and middle school age children walking and getting on and off busses. STOP from both directions for school busses with their lights flashing. High schoolers also ride busses but many are new drivers and are driving themselves and maybe friends before and after school. Remember that they are not experienced drivers yet and more likely than some to make bad decisions. Be alert and drive gently.

Second, we will be getting ready for the Oratorical Contest. We have not set the date for our contest yet but it will probably be early January. Still a ways off but we need to get the word out to the schools soon in order for the students to prepare. I have run our program for the last 5 years and need to turn it over to one of you. There is some front end preparation involved and recruiting of students and volunteers to run the contest. It is a very rewarding experience as well, so if you have any interest at all, please contact me: jwhite@fairfaxpost177.org. Thank you.

The end of summer also brings the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 10 back to the post for their regular monthly meetings starting on 19 Sep. at 10 am. After the meeting they hang around to help any Vet who needs assistance with a claim or other advice. They have helped many folks, post members and non-members, and are happy to be able to do it.

We have a number of events coming up in the social quarters. The Sons are going to have a pig roast on 12 Sep and of course the annual "Bear Bowl" chili cook-off is scheduled for 8 Nov. See Squadron 177 Commander Jerry Miller's article for more details.

I want to close with some thanks and commendations. First, to all our post family volunteers and the staff who made our annual picnic so great this year. The weather was fine if just a bit warm. Some of the chairs and tables we needed were being used in the ballroom the night before and couldn't be set up until the morning of the picnic. We had plenty of help both for the setup and for the cleanup. Everything was broken down, folded up, and put away by 5 o'clock on Sunday. I think that was a first, at least since I've been here. Way to go!

Second I commend our Sons of the American Legion on running another successful Jim Salus Memorial Golf Tournament. This has become a great fundraiser for a worthy cause selected by the SAL. We are very proud to support this event.

I look forward to seeing you at the Post.

For God and Country,

Jeff White





Alright! The official days of summer are drawing to a close, but some of the best activities at the American Legion are just heating up. This year saw a bit of a shift among the officers of the SAL Squadron here at 177, we have some newer faces as officers and had to say goodbye to some long standing contributors.

As this is my first article of the year let me first take this opportunity to thank our immediate Past Commander Bob Tucker for stepping up again, when we really needed someone to take the helm and filling that position for the last few years. Bob saw the need we faced when Ken stepped down and accepted the challenge to provide his services again as Commander. Next I would like to also recognize Rad Smith. According to his membership card Rad has been a member for 22 years, but as he now steps out to begin the next chapter in his life, (outside of the 22030 zip code) we want to thank him for both all of the great work, guidance and leadership he has provided as well as all of the lessons learned he has contributed throughout the years to bring the success our Squadron has enjoyed.

Moving forward the SAL has several new ideas and we are revitalizing some of our past activities to provide additional opportunities to the members of the American Legion 177 family. The first new idea is the benefit of our challenge coin. As some of you know, at the SAL Breakfast in July we announced the new SAL discount program. Anyone who has an SAL challenge coin with them when they purchase a ticket to an SAL function, will receive a discount for that event. At the July breakfast the discount was \$1.00 off of the regular price. At future SAL Breakfasts, (October, January, May ...) the discount will also be \$1.00, and this will continue for as long as we can financially provide this discount. Additionally, at our other events, such as the Annual Chili contest and our upcoming Pig Roast there will also be a discount for anyone who can present the challenge coin when they purchase their ticket. The challenge coins are available for \$10.00 and can be purchased at our events or from several of our officers who may be in attendance at the Post.

Speaking of those events, the SAL will be hosting a Pig Roast in the Social Quarters on Saturday September 12th. We will be cooking a whole pig on the BBQ the night/morning before as the main course, and that will be complimented by several side dishes selected especially for this event. We will start serving dinner about 4pm. The cost of the tickets for this event are on sale now for \$15.00, HOWEVER, for those with an SAL challenge coin, the tickets will be available for only \$12.00.

The next event on our calendar will be the Annual Chili Contest. This year we will be hosting that event on November 8th during the Washington Redskins vs New England Patriots football game. I would not want to pump up any expectations, however, past contests have yielded some of the best chili in the area and I don't think anyone will leave ~~deflated~~ disappointed (unless of course their team does not win).

I look forward to seeing everyone at these events. We hold the events to provide a service to the Post and it's members, however your participation and support in the events helps us to be able to provide more of these events. So thank you in advance and I look forward to seeing you there.

For God and Country

Jerry Miller

Commander, Squadron 177





President
Elly Burton

Vice President
Wilma
Phillips

Treasurer
Andrea
Rasmussen

Chaplain
Joanne
Shaffstall

Sergeant at Arms
Angie
Anderson

Executive Committee
Lillian
Sparks
&
Mary
Day

As the newly elected President of Post 177 Auxiliary, I thank Sandy Price for her many years of service and dedication as she moves on to her new position as 17th District President. I congratulate her and know she will again be outstanding in her new position. I will, to the best of my ability, serve as the next leader and will be asking for help from auxiliary members and guidance from Sandy.

I was a Military wife for 22 years, my husband served in World War II with the 41st Infantry Division from Portland, Oregon. As a tall 15 year old he spent 32 months in New Guinea. I was born in Minnesota, moved to Portland after High School, and worked in an Army General Hospital until the war ended. After the war, I was transferred to the Portland Army Recruiting Office where I met my husband. We have five children, moved around a lot before settling in Virginia. After many years with Army Counter Intelligence, my husband rests in Arlington National Cemetery.

I am very active in Christ Lutheran Church in Fairfax, President of the National Capital Chapter Army Counter Intelligence Corps Veterans (ACICV), on the Board of Directors and for 20 years observed a National Day of Remembrance (DOR) at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Due to "thinning of the ranks", I now observe the DOR at the annual ACICV National reunions. The next reunion will be in Pensacola, Florida where I will observe the DOR on the USS Alabama.

Sandy brought back many awards from the July convention in Roanoke, VA. Our unit was awarded first place in Americanism, Children and Youth, Education and Public Relations. An overall award was given for Meritorious Citations for Service. Please support the SAL "Pig Roast" on 12 September by contributing desserts. The September Sunday breakfast will be hosted by the Auxiliary, We ask that Auxiliary members provide the ingredients for the fruit salad and also furnish desserts.

For God and Country, Elly Burton



BLUE STAR MOTHERS

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER VA5

Blue Star Mothers of America is a National organization of mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, foster mothers, and female legal guardians who have children serving in the military, guard, or reserves, or children who are veterans. We support each other and our children while promoting patriotism.

The local Northern Virginia Chapter, VA5, meets monthly at Post 177 (thank you for your hospitality!). We would like to invite interested moms (and other "mom" relations mentioned above) to join us at an upcoming meeting to find out more about our chapter and to join our organization. As one of our members puts it, "We're a group of proud, patriotic, and sometimes petrified military moms" supporting each other. Contact Nancy Carter, Chapter President, for more information at bsmva5@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming you!

2015 Meeting Schedule

- Tuesday, September 8th at 7:00pm
- Sunday, October 11th at 1:00pm
- Tuesday, November 10th at 7:00pm



“Veterans helping veterans” is a slogan representing the heart of the American Legion’s cause; to get a job, obtain duly earned benefits, receive educational assistance, ensure adequate health care, assist with family matters, and provide financial assistance. We at Post 177 have a large number of friends and comrades willing to help. Many go about their daily routine helping others without anyone really knowing about it. However, there are also many of our members who need assistance we don’t know about. With your help, we can reach out to those in need and get them some assistance. Please let me know if you know of someone, or if you, are in need of assistance. We can’t help everyone with everything, but we are able to provide some help to make life easier. As your Service Officer, you can contact me anytime at bjhime1@aim.com, or 571-233-0985.

To provide greater information about veterans’ services and information, we created a Service Officer web page. Within the American Legion Post 177’s web page that located at: fairfaxpost177.org/help-for-veterans/service-officer/. I will post articles of interest that may be of some benefit to you. If you would like for us to post an article there, please let me know. As Service Officer, I will do my best to help you.

Fortunately, we have the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) organization to lend assistance to our members. DAV Chapter 10 meets at Post 177 on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 11:00am beginning in September. Following their meetings, they are available to assist you with any VA claims issues or contact me and I’ll facilitate a meeting with them.

Brad Watkins, Service Officer

SOCIAL QUARTERS NEWS

Third Vice Luke is working hard to make the club a great place to hang out and relax. He is planning theme menus to go along with football season, like Philly cheese steaks when the Skins play the Eagles. You have to come in to find out what is happening. We will try to get the details on the web, facebook, and twitter. Here are a couple specials that we’ve already started.

Taco Wednesdays: One dollar tacos on Wednesdays from about 4 o’clock til they are gone. You get your choice of hard shell or soft tortilla with taco beef and load up the rest of the fixin’s yourself. 3 tacos and a beverage for barely over \$5 is a meal-deal that’s hard to beat.

Thirsty Thursday: Wings, Taquitos, and buckets-o-beer. On Thursdays from 3 to 6:30 you can get 10 chicken wings or 6 taquitos for \$5, or if you aren’t that hungry get 5 wings or 3 taquitos for \$3. Try the Bucket-O-Beer special to wash them down.

Membership applications available at Post Home, on the
National website www.Legion.org or
on our website www.FairfaxPost177.org.

SICK CALL

None Reported

Please Send Sick Call notices to: sfiebig@fairfaxpost177.org



Well, what started out as a soggy day actually turned into a pretty good morning as 13 American Legion Riders jumped on their Bikes and joined the 4th of July Celebration in old Town Fairfax. Just before the parade started, the rain subsided and all went well. Our float won 2nd place over all. Nice Job!



On 21 Aug, 7 of our very own Riders will be headed to Indianapolis for this years' Legacy Run. It will run from Indy to Baltimore and will end at the National Convention and will have a parade on Sunday the 30th in Downtown Baltimore. Each year, during the run, Riders from each post present the Commander with donations raised for the Legacy Fund over the last year. Last year we gave donations of a little over \$3,000. This year, thanks to great support from our donors, funds raised during Memorial Day weekend, and donations from Post 177, we will be presenting the National Commander a check of over \$15,000 (plus any amount raised at our first annual Tattoo for Charity event). I would personally like to thank Mike Nicholas for his diligence in getting a huge donation from a local Mason group and all the Riders that worked feverishly to raise funds through local business donations.

As mentioned, on Sunday, 16 Aug we had our first annual Tattoo for Charity Event in Addictions Tattoo in Manassas. The parlor offered to open their doors all day and had 3 artists to give tattoos. Each Tattoo cost \$60 and all proceeds go to the Legacy Fund. Total amount donated will be in next month's newsletter. The Legacy Fund provides any child that loses a parent in active duty since 9-11 a scholarship to the college of their choosing. The fund is driven by donations and your help is needed. If you would like to personally donate to the Legacy Fund, you can see any of the Riders for details.



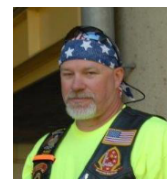
For those members that did not know, the Riders have taken on the privilege of washing the Disabled American Veterans for Life Memorial in downtown DC on the last Saturday of each month. For our July Mission, we were joined by the DC post Auxiliary. We had an awesome time and got a lot accomplished in a very short period of time. You don't have to be a Rider to participate and we begin around 7:00am. Also, on the 2nd Sunday of each month we join one of the Northern Va Rolling Thunder Chapters and help wash the Vietnam Veterans and the Korean War Memorials. We begin around 6:15am and usually lasts about 2 hours.

We are looking forward to a little cooler weather when see our friends from Tennessee, Houston, and Alaska and any other Honor flights that come to town. We thoroughly enjoy speaking with these war heroes and escorting them downtown. Again, you don't have to be a Rider to participate. Anyone can meet them at the airport when they arrive. The veterans thoroughly are amazed when they get off the planes and there are people cheering for them as they are escorted through the airport.

Lastly, we are always looking for new members. The riders do a lot of things to support the community and veterans. If you know anyone that owns a motorcycle and served during a conflict, same as post requirements, send them our way and we will treat them right.

Upcoming Events:

- 22 Aug – Ride to Manassas post to support Rocking the Recruits
- 23 Aug – Stillbrave pep rally supporting children and families with cancer
- 12 Sep – Healing Heroes Ride
- 12 Sep – Bike and car show ride at Warrenton post
- 14 Sep – POW/MIA recognition day
- 26 to 27 Sep – American Legion Riders rally



Colin Waldroup
Director Post 177 ALR
For God and Country

SEPTEMBER

| sun | mon | tue | wed | thu | fri | sat |
|---|-----|-----|---|--|--|--|
| | | 1 | 2  Exec Council mtg 7pm | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9  General mbr mtg 7pm | 10 | 11 | 12  Riders mtg 0900 SAL Pig Roast |
| 13  Auxiliary Breakfast | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18  Air Force Birthday | 19  DAV mtg 11am |
| 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 pm Club Hours: Sat - Th 8:00 am - 11:00 pm Fri 8:00 am - midnight | | |

OCTOBER

| sun | mon | tue | wed | thu | fri | sat |
|---|-----|---|---|-----|-----|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7  Exec Council mtg 7pm | 8 | 9 | 10  Riders mtg 0900 |
| 11  SAL Breakfast | 12 | 13  Navy Birthday | 14  General mbr mtg 7pm | 15 | 16 | 17  DAV mtg 11am |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |



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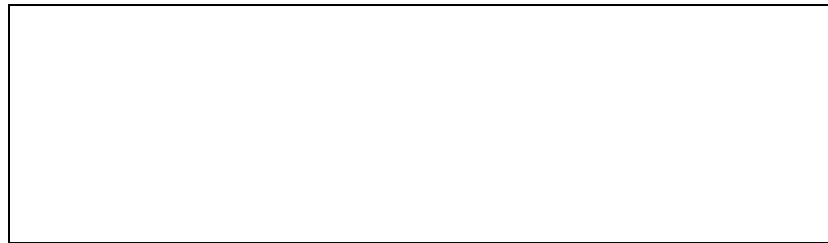
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Dated Material

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THE AMERICAN LEGION
FAMILY

