



# LEGION NEWS

AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

3939 Oak Street  
Fairfax, VA 22030-3725

*March - April 2018*

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

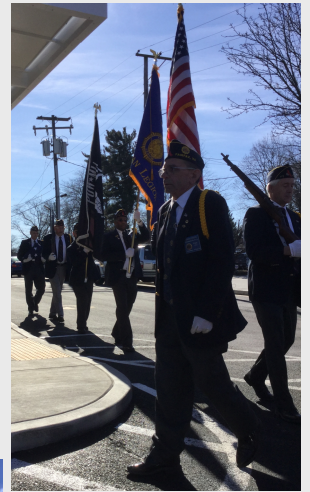
## New Members

Michael Anderson  
Frederic Bowers  
Peter Chan  
Nelson Chu  
Melissa Farley  
Scott Gaber  
William Gladbach  
Charles  
Harrington Jr.  
John Harlow  
Cory Leathers  
W.J. Leonard  
Anthony Myers  
Tony Poulin  
Joseph Purello  
Donna Poulin  
James Taylor  
Brian Watkins  
James Whitmoyer

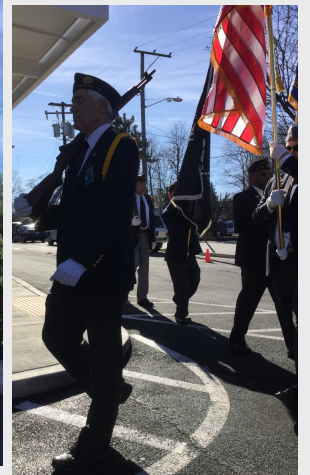
## Honorary Life Members

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

## McDonald's Reopening



On January 20th, the Post 177 Honor Guard supported the Grand Reopening of the Fairfax McDonald's following its renovation. The Honor Guard also participated in the Four Chaplains Service (page 5) the following day. The Post 177 Honor Guard supports many community events every year and is always looking for more volunteers. Contact any Board member to see how you can help out.





# LEGION NEWS

AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

*Page 2*

## Commander's Corner

I am pleased to announce that the Office of Adjutant has been filled. Thank you and welcome to Tony Poulin. Tony is a retired Marine (I hear all you Devil Dogs out there going "oo rah" and barking). His wife, Donna, is active duty Navy and they both joined the Post on New Year's Eve.

In 2016 the National dues assessment was increased by \$5.00 from \$13.50 to \$18.50. Post 177 chose not to increase our dues at that time even though it effectively cut the income to Membership by about \$5,000.00. The Post keeps \$11.00 of the \$40.00 yearly dues paid by members. \$29.00 is sent to the Dept. of Virginia who keeps \$10.50 and sends the \$18.50 on to National. When you renew your membership and pay your dues online it just goes the other direction. National keeps \$18.50 and sends \$21.50 to Department who keeps \$10.50 and sends \$11.00 to Post 177.

Of the approximately \$11,000.00 in dues that Post 177 collected in 2017, \$8,072.00 was spent for printing and mailing this newsletter. That is 73% or about \$8.00 of each member's dues spent on the newsletter. Which leaves about \$3,000.00 each year to pay for the Early Bird Dinner, the Family Day Picnic, and the other miscellaneous membership expenses involved in running our post. We still have a surplus in the membership account that was accumulated before the last National dues increase but it is slowly decreasing.

The Executive Committee has is investigating options for newsletter production and dissemination. Constant Contact is a company that I'm sure many of you have heard of. You probably already receive newsletters and announcements from the other groups and organizations that you are involved with. For less than \$400.00 a year we can publish and send an unlimited number of email newsletters or special messages to our members.

While we believe that most people these days use email for communicating we are aware that there are some members who do not have an email address and we are considering ways to keep you in the loop also. We are not scrapping the printed newsletter yet and probably will not completely do away with it, but we need to make some changes and improvements. Watch for more information in our newsletters and on our website and Facebook page as we move forward.

As always,

For God and Country,

Jeff White, CMDR



## Post Officers

### Commander

Jeffrey White  
703-591-0298

JWhite@fairfaxPost177.org

### 1st Vice Commander

Sean Hodgson  
shfire2000@gmail.com

### 2nd Vice Commander

Shawn Fiebiger

### 3rd Vice Commander

Vacant

### Adjutant

Tony Poulin

### 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,  
Cal Salch

### Legionnaire of the Year

Brad Watkins

### Corporate Board

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

### Building & Grounds Chairman

Rand Gaber

### 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

This year is on its way to be going fast, can't believe it is March already. The auxiliary is in the process of obtaining applications for the Virginia Girls State program. Interviews will be the second week of March, 2018. We are asking members to volunteer if you are interested in meeting and interviewing these young ladies.

- Sunday, March 4th: 17th District American Legion Conference at Post 177. Executive board at 12:30pm, regular meeting @ 1:00pm. THE AUXILIARY DOES NOT MEET AT THIS TIME.
- Wednesday, March 7th: Executive Board meeting at 7:00pm
- Friday, March 9 - 11th: Department Spring Conference at Virginia Beach
- Sunday, March 11th: Auxiliary serves breakfast at 9:30am
- Wednesday, March 14th: Regular Membership meeting at 7:00pm, dinner at 6
- Saturday, March 24th: Sons of the American Legion Bull Roast and Oyster Feast at 4:00pm. Auxiliary will be having a bake sale during the feast.
- Sunday, April 1st: Easter Sunday
- Wednesday, April 4th: Executive Board meeting at 7:00pm
- Sunday, April 8th: Sons of the American Legion serve breakfast 9:30 - 11:00
- Wednesday, April 11th: Regular Membership meeting at 7:00pm, dinner at 6
- Saturday, April 21st: Auxiliary serves International Dinner 5:30 - 7:00pm. Menu is to be determined.
- Friday, April 27th: Tennessee Honor Flight arrives.
- Saturday, April 28th: Auxiliary will be serving dinner for the Tennessee Honor Flight at 5:00pm in the social quarters.

March 20th, SPRING BEGINS

For God and Country

Sandra K. Price, Unit President



# LEGION NEWS

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

Page 4



### American Legion Riders

The American Legion Riders of Post 177 have started the planning for the annual Run to the Thunder (RTT) event. This event takes place over Memorial Day weekend in conjunction with the Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom Demonstration that has been held for 30 years to raise awareness and bring accountability for the Prisoners Of War-Missing In Action (POW/MIA) of all wars, "We Will Never Forget".

We are honored to be joined each by several Gold Star Families who have lost a son, daughter, husband or other loved one to war. For these families, every day is Memorial Day.

This will be our 7th year holding RTT where we host over 500 American Legion Riders Nation Wide here at our Post. For many riders, this is the main event of their year and we are honored to welcome them here at Post 177. Riders will start arriving on Friday and the weekend will kick off with a Friday night dinner for the riders held in the main Ballroom. There will a guest speaker, and the Honor Guard will conduct a POW/MIA ceremony.



On Saturday, there will be a ride to lay a wreath at the original Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Lee Mansion in Arlington National Cemetery. There will also be a bus to transport any non-riders that would like to attend the wreath laying ceremony. After the wreath laying, the Sons of the American Legion will be hold their annual BBQ at the post (1500-1800). The will be live entertainment provided from 1600-2000 by the classic Rock Band Riptide with our own Post 177 member, Dick Cole playing drums.



Sunday morning will kick off in the dark and early hour of 0430 when we start staging motorcycles in our parking lot. Breakfast will be served from 0500-0600. After a short ceremony, the group will move down to Patriot Harley Davidson to join the Ride of the Patriots. The Fairfax Harley Owners Group (HOG) runs the Ride of the Patriots each year and they give us a place of honor in the front of the formation of more than 4,000 motorcycles.

This is the largest event of the year for the Riders and the Post. It is also a great opportunity to host American Legion Members from all over the Country. We greatly appreciate all of the help from the Auxiliary, SAL and all of members and staff at Post 177.



# LEGION NEWS

AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

Page 5

## Challenger Baseball

Our Post is again sponsoring the Fairfax Little Challenger Baseball League for special needs children. This will be the 10th year we have supported the league.

The league for this spring season will consist of a Junior Challenger Division for players age 5-18 and a Senior Challenger Division for players age 15 and up. There are six teams with over 80 players participating. Games are played every Sunday at 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 on Chilcott Field.

The league will also travel to Virginia Beach for the Challenger Little League Baseball World Jamboree on Mother's Day weekend. Three teams with 50 players will make the trip. The Challenger Jamboree will consist of 84 teams from 6 states. This trip is the highlight of our spring season, and it would not be possible without the support from our Post and its members. Come on out and support our players.....

## First Vice

I am asking all legionnaire's to contact me and update your email address and any other information. Please use my email [shfire2000@gmail.com](mailto:shfire2000@gmail.com). We need this because we are setting up an email list for all members. I will eventually need SAL and Auxiliary members for this but I do not want to get overwhelmed right now. I would like to remind all legionnaires that renewing your membership online helps us out a whole lot. It's cheaper and easier for us to process your membership that way. It also allows you to keep an up-to-date address and contact information for us in case you move, etc. You can do this by going to "mylegion.org". One last thing go online and renew today! Sean Hodgson , 1st Vice Commander

## Four Chaplains Service

On February 4th, the post held its annual Four Chaplains Service. The ceremony honors the memory of the four chaplains sacrifice during the sinking of the USAT Dorchester on February 3rd, 1943. Find out more about the four chaplains and their story at [fourchaplains.org](http://fourchaplains.org).





# LEGION NEWS

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

Page 6

### Corporate Board

The next CB meeting will be Tuesday, March 27th, 6:00pm at The Post.

The following information is again provided by the CB and the Building Initiatives Committee. We have reached NO decisions on the Building or remodeling for our future POST Home. All options are on the table and being formulated.

We, however, as you read below we have developed a strategy, to give you the latest in actions, some next steps and Points of Contact for you to provide feedback to or ask questions thereof.

#### Strategy

- In 1956 the American Legion sold a strip of land (now Panther Place) for \$5 to allow traffic access to then Fairfax High School.
- Paul the VI High School is moving and the land will become a private development 2019-2020.
- Panther Place as an access road into the development will significantly impact the American Legion, the LePort School, and our Little League field operations.
- Post 177 seeks the return of the land to preserve our ability to develop our land for the benefit of this Post and its mission

#### Latest events

- Presented a letter to the City of Fairfax stating our desire to have Panther Place returned to the Post. Awaiting reply
- Met with City Manager and delivered letters for City Council and Mayor.
- Attended City Planning meeting - no actions affecting the Legion.
- Attended Joint session of City Planning Commission, City Council. The briefings are available on line: [http://fairfax.granicus.com/GeneratedAgendaViewer.php?view\\_id=11&event\\_id=1468](http://fairfax.granicus.com/GeneratedAgendaViewer.php?view_id=11&event_id=1468)
- IDI developer, presented general plan for 550 Unit development. City Council general questions and planning commission. IDI is now in its next round of redesign. No indication of where they are specifically going:
- IDI presented a traffic study which shows significant overall increase on Oak street via Panther Way. Impacts to our post in our daily operations and weekend operations.

#### Next Steps

- Begin to schedule visits with the Fairfax City Council members
- We will in the not so far off future ask our membership to contact city council
- BIC committee has no recommendations for the membership on a refurbish, renovate or replacement of the Post building. We are 5 months into an 18-24-month process.

#### POC

Rand Gaber	BIC Chairman
Hank Waters	BIC member
Jeff White	Post Commander



# MARCH

sun

mon

tue

wed

thu

fri

sat

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

4

5

6

7



8

9

10

Exec Cmte  
meeting 7pm.

11



12

13

14



15

16

17

Auxiliary B'fast  
9:30

General Member  
meeting 7pm.

18

19

20

21

22

23

24



SAL Bull and Oyster  
Roast 4:00pm

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

# APRIL

sun

mon

tue

wed

thu

fri

sat

1



Easter

2

3

4



5

6

7

Exec Cmte  
meeting 7pm.

FX Little League  
Opening Day

8



9

10

11



12

13

14

SAL Breakfast  
9:30am

General Member  
meeting 7pm.

15

16

17

18

19

20



21



First Day  
of Spring

Auxiliary Dinner  
5:30 - 7:30 pm

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

Tennessee Honor  
Flight

29

30



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

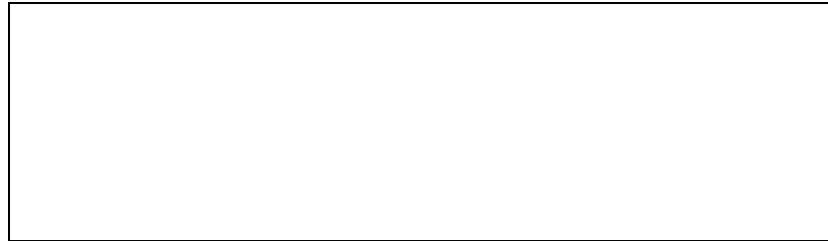
PAID

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**

