



LEGION NEWS

AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

3939 Oak Street
Fairfax, VA 22030-3725

Spring 2019

703-273-2250
www.fairfaxpost177.org

New Members

Ronald Bissi
Wilson Dodge
Anthony Febbo
John Funkhouser
Richard Hall
Mark Janszewski
Heather Masten
Andrew Neville
Steven Salazar
John Sander

Honorary Life Members

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

Constitution and Bylaws Amendments

In order to bring our Constitution and By-Laws up to date and reflect 21st Century electronic capabilities, the following amendments and modifications are proposed. Most are editorial in nature to clarify definitions and statements regarding our procedures (most of which we already follow), but 13 are substantive in nature, to different degrees. All of the items have been passed by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee over the last year. All comments received were addressed. On 2-6-2019, this document and the accompanying version of the Post 177 Constitution and By-Laws was approved unanimously by the Executive Committee. On 2-13-2019 Amendments were read during the Regular Membership meeting to satisfy our Post's notification procedure, and with the intention of voting the amendments into place on March 13, 2019.

Respectfully, Anthony F. Osborne (Tony), Judge Advocate Emeritus

Amended and appended text appears in italics.

Supplemental Information. Since this document will also be used for training purposes and to inform new members as to how the Post was originally conceived, established and now operates, an introductory Preface was developed and included as part of the document to provide an overview. It is not part of the formal Constitution and By-Laws, and may be amended and/or appended without vote by the membership, but with approval of the Executive Committee. Other parts of the document that are considered supplemental, and amendable by approval of the Executive Committee, are the Table-of-Contents, the Cross-Reference Index, and the Record of Motions.

Substantive amendments, below, are preceded with an "•".

- Cover Page. Amended Date is March 13, 2019 – 7:00 PM May 8, 2019 – 7:00 PM.
- Supplemental Information. Table of Contents. Provided for ease of use.
- Cons, Art-IV, Sect-5, Part-2 was reworded and expanded. No substantive change.
- Cons, Art-IV, Sect-5, Part-3. "Severe Offense" guidance expanded to reflect Department's policy.
- 1. Cons, Art-IV, Section 6, Part-2. New. Ballot voting procedures codified/spelled out.
- 2. Cons, Art-IV, Sect-6, Part-3. New section regarding authority of Executive Committee to address and implement electronic voting in the future.

Continued on page 5

See full documents at:

<http://fairfaxpost177.org/post-constitution-and-by-laws-amendments/>

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Commander's Corner

March 15, 2019 marks the 100th anniversary of the first American Legion caucus, held by members of the American Expeditionary Force, convened in Paris after the end of The Great War. We consider this date to be our organization's birthday, even though our charter was not complete until created by an act of congress on September 16, 1919.

Our predecessors created, nourished, and developed The American Legion into the important entity that it is today through hard work, vision, and a can-do volunteer spirit. From the local Post helping teaching Flag Etiquette to grade schoolers to the national leadership testifying to Congress and advocating for Veterans programs and everything in between, Legionnaires lead our nation.

While we celebrate 100 years of work and achievement on behalf of Veterans, our military and their families, national defense, and youth development, we must look to the future. We must ensure that we adapt and are ready and able to continue to serve the Veterans that come after us and that the next generations of Legionnaires have facilities and resources to continue the work of The American Legion.

These thoughts are what have been, and continue to guide the Corporate Board and the Building Initiatives Committee as they have sifted through various ideas and proposals about our property and post home that have come to us from within and without the organization. Please pay great attention to the article from the Corporate Board on page 6.

We will be voting on some changes to our constitution and by laws in March. The changes were read at the February meeting and are included in this issue of the newsletter on pages 1 and 5.

Don't forget 2nd Sunday breakfasts! March 10 it is brought to you by the Auxiliary and in April it will be the SAL.

MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP MEMBERSHIP! We cannot be successful without members. Right now, there are 147 Post 177 Legionnaires carrying 2018 cards that need to be renewed for 2019. We need 81 more renewals to achieve our goal for 2019. Remember that our organization's ability to influence congress and our local and state legislators is a direct result of the number of Legionnaire voters we represent. Even if you are not able to participate in the Post's business or social life, your continued membership is very important. Please renew now at www.legion.org/renew.

For God and Country

Jeff White

Post Officers

Commander

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Sean Hodgson

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2nd Vice Commander

Shawn Fiebiger

3rd Vice Commander

John Skogland

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Finance Officer

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Service Officer

Tony Poulin

Judge Advocate

Anthony Osborne (Tony)

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Historian

Earl Seay

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Exec. Comm. Members at Large

Russ Combs, Stan Verrocchio,

Cal Salch

Legionnaire of the Year

Brad Watkins

Corporate Board

Rand Gaber, Jonathan Thatcher, Gary Welschenbach, John Kinzel, Hank Waters, Russ Combs, Tony Osborne

Building & Grounds Chairman

Rand Gaber

Sons of the American Legion

Jerry Miller

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Post 177 Legion Riders

Bruce Mersereau

mersereaub@gmail.com

Auxiliary Unit 177

Sandra Price

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Post 177 Auxiliary

Greetings from the Auxiliary,

It is with a heavy heart that the entire membership of the American Legion Fairfax Post 177 has to say farewell to a very good friend, a longtime member, a co-worker to many of us, and just a beautiful individual Donna Frank. She will be missed by a lot of people in her church, her community, and the post. REST IN PEACE MY FRIEND.

- March 1st - 3rd Department Spring Conference starts in Portsmouth, VA
- March 6th Executive Board Meeting @ 7:00pm/ASH WEDNESDAY
- March 10th Auxiliary serves breakfast @ 9:30am till 11:00am
- March 13th Regular Membership Meeting @ 7:00pm/dinner served @ 6:00pm
- March 16th 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ORGANIZATION
- March 16th Auxiliary serves International Dinner @ 5:30pm till 7:00pm
- March 17th ST. PATRICK'S DAY
- March 20th SPRING BEGINS
- April 3rd Executive Board Meeting @ 7:00pm
- April 10th Regular Membership Meeting @ 7:00pm/dinner @ 6:00pm
- April 14th SAL serves breakfast @ 9:30am till 11:00am/ PALM SUNDAY
- April 21st EASTER SUNDAY
- April 26th Southern Virginia Honor Flight arrives
- April 27th Auxiliary serves Southern Virginia Honor Flight @ 5:00pm

Our schedule is starting to fill up with many programs for our veterans, the busiest month is going to be May, so be prepared.

For God and Country,

Sandra K. Price, Unit President

Wounded Warrior Donations

Post 177 is still collecting donations for Wounded Warriors at Ft. Belvoir. The following items can be dropped off at the donation box in the Post 177 social quarters.

Health and Body

White Washcloths

Toothpaste

Shampoo

Conditioner

Body Wash

Shaving Cream

Razors (men and women)

Tampons

Hand Soap

Mouthwash

Toilet Paper

Household Cleaning

Paper Towels

Swiffer Floor Cleaner

Clorox Bleach

Clorox Wipes

Kitchen Cleaners

Broom

Dust Pan

Household

Appliance

Large Crock Pot

Rice Cooker

Toaster Oven

Toaster

Household Products

Ironing Board

Bath Mat (outside tub)

Clear Bath Mat

(inside tub)

Culinary Items

Pots and Pans

Cutting Knife

Cutting Board

Utensil Set (small)

Dish Rack

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Legion Riders

We are gearing up for our annual Run to the Thunder event that will take place on Memorial Day weekend. Post 177 will once again host American Legion Riders Nationwide. With the news that 2019 will be the last year for the Rolling Thunder Demonstration this could bring more American Legion Riders that our seven previous years.

This has always been our biggest event of the year and a great opportunity to meet Legionnaires from all over the country. We will also be hosting Gold Star families at our post for the weekend. Please come out and join us for this great event.

The schedule of events for the weekend is below. The schedule is subject to minor changes, so if you would like more information, please contact one of our riders or check out the web page at www.alrrollingthunder.com.

Friday, May 24, 2019

- 8:00 Post Social Quarters open for breakfast and lunch until 1:00 pm
- 8:00 American Legion Emblem Sales Opens inside Post 177 bldg. – open until 8 pm
- 12:00 Registration & Check-in opens @ Post 177
- 12:00 Vendors begin setup in Post 177 parking lot
- 2:30 ALR Riders support national “Run For The Wall” with flag line & salute at two overpasses on I-66: **Blake Lane** (near Oakton HS), and **Cedar Lane**
- 5:00 POW Ceremony in Post 177 ballroom
- 5:30 Friday Night Dinner: Served in both upstairs Ballrooms
- 7:30 KSU 7:30 pm. Ride to the Candlelight Vigil at the Vietnam Veterans’ Mem –Safety brief at 7:00 pm. Lineup @ Paul VI High School parking lot. Lead by Maryland American Legion Riders

Saturday, May 25, 2019

- 8:00 Registration & Check-in opens – all day
- 8:00 Breakfast at Post 177. Normal a la carte menu
- 8:00 American Legion Emblem Sales open until 7 pm. (Last chance. No Sun hours)
- 9:00 Post 177 OPEN HOUSE (Food and Vendors) open – all day
- 9:00 “Bike Blessing” provided courtesy of Brothers in Christ Motorcycle Ministry
- 11:00 Depart for Wreath-laying at Arlington National Cemetery (Ceremony 1:00pm). Secondary group meets at Rally Point near ANC. See website for details. Line-up in Paul VI HS parking lot. Commercial bus loads @ Post 177.
- TBD Barbecue at Post 177, provided by Sons of the American Legion
- 4 - 8 Live Music Band: “Riptide”

Sunday, May 26, 2019

- 4:00am Parking lot setup (see signs & flyer in registration packet)
- 4:30 Motorcycle line-up in Post 177 parking lot
- 5 - 6 Last-minute registration & Check-in at Post 177
- 5 - 6 Buffet Breakfast at Post 177 (Donation to the Legacy Fund)
- 6:15 Safety Briefing
- 6:30 Riders depart to join Ride of the Patriots to participate in the Rolling Thunder demonstration ride
- 7-11 Clean-up at Post 177

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- 3. Cons, Art-V, Sect-1. Syntax improved, regarding Post Administration. When officers are elected has been changed to reflect that all Executive Committee members are elected each year.
- Cons, Art-V, Sect-2. Elected Officers. Syntax improved and definitions qualified. Last sentence added, regarding Conflict of Interest and Whistle Blower protection forms.
- Cons, Art-XI, Sect-1, Part-1. Syntax improved.
- Cons, Art-XI, Sect-4. Typo corrected on line 4.
- 4. Cons, Art-XI, Sect-6. Definition more precisely stated. Added last 2 sentences.
- 5. Cons, Art-XI, Sect-10. Added authority to fill vacancy on the Corporate Board, should the Corporate Board President be unavailable to do so.
- By-Laws Title Page. Effective Date updated.
- By-Laws-Art-II, Sect 6. Codifying dates and times of Executive Committee meeting stated for the record. [[Schedule already being observed.]]]
- By-Laws, Art-III, Sect-1. Codifying definition expanded to reflect Dept of VA requirement, to exempt officers of the 20 and 4, and 40 and 8. [[[Process already being observed.]]]
- By-Laws, Art-IV, Part-1, Sect-3. Codifying Additional Duties of 1st Vice Commander. [[[Duties already being performed.]]]
- By-Laws, Art-IV, Part-1, Sect-7. Codifying and clarifying description of duties of Post Finance Officer. [[[Duties already being performed.]]]
- 6. By-Laws, Art-IV, Part-1, Sect-8. Codifying requirement from the By-Laws of the American Legion (National), regarding recording keeping.
- By-Laws, Art-IV, Part-1, Sect-10. Codifying specific additional duties from American Legion Officer's Guide. [[Duties already being performed.]]
- 7. By-Laws, Article IV, Part-1, Section-13. Codifying 'processes and procedures' and adding specific duties re members-at-large.
- 8. By-Laws, Article IV, Part-2, Sect-3. Adding authority to appoint SAL member to position.
- By-Laws, Article VI, Sect-4. Codifying expanded procedures re Legionnaire of the Year. [[[Process already being observed.]]]
- By-Laws, Article-VI, Sect 5. Codifying options and restrictions re Life Member and PUFL. [[Process already being followed.]]
- 9. By-Laws, Article-VII, Section 1. Expanded to include electronic e:mail broadcasts and notifications.
- 10. By-Laws, Article VII, Section 4, Part-3. New. Questions that may appear on the annual meeting ballot.
- By-Laws, Art-VII, Sect-5, Part-2. Notation added.
- 11. By-Laws, Art-VII, Sect-8. New. Electronic notification of members allowed.
- 12. By-Laws, Art-VII, Sect-9. New. Electronic Newsletter allowed.
- 13. By-Laws, Art-VIII, Sect-1. New. Members required to provide addresses and e:mail addresses.
- By-Laws, Article IX, Sections 1, 2, 3, & 4. References to Robert's Rules and Voting. Split into 4 sections to make more readable.
- By-Laws, Article XII. New. Supplemental Appendices for Cross References and Record of Motions.

Corporate Board

Since early 2016 the Corporate Board has been engaged with the City and various developers concerning properties surrounding the Post. In the lands adjacent to the Post, the Pulte development (townhouse/condo complex) has been built, Paul VI High School will be developed over the next 4 years and the Breezeway Hotel areas is in the process of being rezoned with construction expected in the next 4 years also. Our neighborhood is changing significantly. The Corporate Board has remained engaged in the rezoning actions and building processes of these developments and has represented our requirements/interests in all zoning actions.

In the Summer of 2017, the Corporate Board formed a Building Initiatives Committee (BIC) to perform a multi-year effort that looked at our current Post Home and how it could support our mission in the 30 -50 years ahead. By the middle of 2017, the Corporate Board had asked the BIC to review potential paths for our Post Home: to retain the existing facility, renovate the Post Home, or to build a new Post home. A straw poll of our membership showed a strong support for a new Post Home.

The BIC has held key principles in the ensuing discussions, meetings, and proposals with developers. **A.** The mission of the Post is to our Veterans, our Community and the youth of our community. **B.** Any project remains fiscally sound. **C.** Our youth programs are sustained and our 60 year commitment to Fairfax Little League Baseball is unwavering. **D.** The Post Home will remain here on Oak Street.

The Corporate Board in February of this year received a viable proposal from a developer to develop our land that the Building Initiatives Committee reviewed and recommended to the full Corporate board for consideration. The Corporate Board has approved bringing the proposal forward to the membership.

At the highest level the proposal would develop our full parcel of land up to the McDonalds restaurant. It would include a new and larger post home, relocate the little league ball field, develop 30,000 SF of retail pads, provide veterans and affordable housing, a townhouse/condo development and a pre-school on the property.

The next steps require your assessment, insight, comments, and support if we are to go forward.

The March Membership meeting: the board will present the proposal to the membership, explain the key aspects of the development and review to the depth possible specific details of the development.

The April Membership meeting: we will conduct a Question and Answer type format for the membership to look at the proposal from a cost, schedule and performance of the project, and near-term impacts to the Post Operations in the next 3-4 years. We will review the risk and opportunities that the Post will address if the project goes forward.

The May Membership meeting: the membership will vote to approve or disapprove the project.

This is a daunting project that the Corporate Board believes correctly supports the Post's mission and securing the Post Home for another 100 years. Please participate in the membership meetings and help decide the next steps.

MARCH

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Exec Cmte meeting 7pm.	7	8	9
10 Auxiliary Breakfast 9:30am	11	12	13 General Member meeting 7pm.	14	15	16 Legion 100th Anniv. and Auxiliary Dinner 5:30pm
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring Begins	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		

APRIL

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
	1	2	3 Exec Cmte meeting 7pm.	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 General Member meeting 7pm.	11	12	13
14 SAL Breakfast 9:30am	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Easter	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	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.

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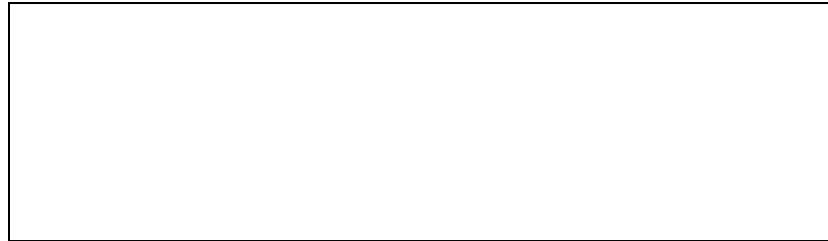
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