



LEGION NEWS

AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

3939 Oak Street
Fairfax, VA 22030-3725

Summer 2019

703-273-2250
www.fairfaxpost177.org

New Members

Val Albert
Angel Benitez
Joseph Christadore
William Hayden
Robert Holden
William Jensen
William Kerivan
Donald Mailki
Richard Marquis
Alan McLaughlin
David McLean
Marvin Raynor
Christopher Refalo
Theodore Rhee
Ronald Rich
Donald Stone
Richard Strauss
Alver Swett
James Ward
Myron Wong

Honorary Life Members

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

Elections

As presented by the Election Committee Chairman and approved unanimously by the General Members present for the 4/10/2019 General Membership meeting the below slate of Officers will be voted on by ballot on **Wednesday, 8 May 2019:**

Commander	Jeff White
Adjutant	Brad Watkins
First Vice Commander	Gary Mesaris
Second Vice Commander	
Third Vice Commander	John Skoglund
Chaplain	Joseph J. Boyle
Finance Officer	Mike Kimlick
Historian	Earl Seay
Judge Advocate	Anthony F Osborne
Sergeant at Arms	John Price
Service Officer	Tony Poulin
Member at Large vote for 3 <u>One(1)</u> year terms	Russ Combs
	Reid Griffin
	Cal Salch
Corporate Board Vote for 3 Three (3) year term	Jonathan Thacher
	Gary Welschenbach
	Rand Gaber

Additionally, the General Members will vote on the future of our post home with the motion outlined on page 2.

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Post Home Motion

At the 10 April 2019 General Membership meeting, the Corporate Board conducted a Question and Answer program on the full development of our property. This project involves the full development of our property to include a new Post Home, Workforce Housing, Retail lots, and in conjunction with the City the development of Pat Rodio park which would include two Class A ballfields for Fairfax Little League.

The board presented a written set of Q&A and provided a short presentation to the membership. Both documents are available at the Post if you were unable to attend the meeting. Please reach out to Corporate Board Member Hank Waters 703-201-1503 or hankjwaters@verizon.net if you would like an electronic copy of the documents or have questions that have not been addressed.

The motion on page 2 was approved by the members present (37-yes, 9 no, 2-abstain) for inclusion on the ballot for the 8 May Elections being held here at the post. The Corporate Board and Executive Committee request your vote to approve the project. A value added project that will provide us a New Post Home, Workforce Housing for our Community (25% set aside for qualified veterans), and a great Rodio Park that will benefit our Youth.

The Motion to be approved in its entirety is:

- The membership authorizes the Post Corporate Board to enter into a contract agreement with Toll Brothers Development and Good Works LP to develop the post property described herein as 3909, 3929 and 3939 Oak Street, Fairfax,
- The Post will sell 2.5 Acres of property to Toll Brothers for not less than 10 Million Dollars, funds from this sale will be deposited in Corporate Board Trust Fund.
- Proceeds from this sale will be used by the Corporate board for the project and remaining funds reserved to secure the property in the future.
- The Post will lease 2.5 Acres of property to Good Works LP.
- The project will construct a New Post Home of an approximate size of 14K square feet and provide Work Force (Affordable) Housing under the responsibility of the Good Works LP.
- The Corporate Board will oversee the project to build retail pad(s) facing Oak street and or Panther Way for 15-30K square. This will be defined through the zoning process.
- The Corporate board will with the City of Fairfax develop Pat Rodio Park to support the community with Ball Fields for Fairfax Little League, and other activities as defined through the zoning process.
- The Corporate Board will report quarterly to the membership for the next two years beginning (July 2, 2019 -April 6, 2021) progress of the zoning and funding activities/processes required to accomplish this project. These reports will be presented at the ExCom meeting and the report will be entered into record “Quarterly”, at General Membership meeting.
- Once the City Zoning process is completed the Corporate Board will update the project authorization as described above.

Post Officers

Commander

Jeffrey White
703-591-0298

JWhite@fairfaxPost177.org

1st Vice Commander

Sean Hodgson

1stvcd177@gmail.com

2nd Vice Commander

Shawn Fiebiger

3rd Vice Commander

John Skogland

Adjutant

Brad Watkins

bradwatkins@consolidatedsafety.com

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

Tony Poulin

Judge Advocate

Anthony Osborne (Tony)

703-934-8915

anthonyosborne437@yahoo.com

Historian

Earl Seay

dolphins113@netzero.net

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

info@fairfaxpost177.org

Post 177 Legion Riders

Bruce Mersereau

mersereaub@gmail.com

Auxiliary Unit 177

Sandra Price

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Memorial Day

Memorial Day weekend is an important time for us at Post 177. We will be hosting American Legion Riders from all over the country as they come to the Washington Capital area to participate in the Rolling Thunder demonstration to support the search for POW/MIA's. While ALR chapter 177 takes the lead in most of the planning and execution of the events throughout the weekend, it is a whole post effort. I particularly want to thank our Sons squadron who put on the BBQ on Saturday afternoon.

Being the host of a large national event like this requires some changes to some of our normal routines. Our parking areas will be organized differently and there will be volunteers in the parking lot to help. Members with valid handicapped license plates or placards will be directed to the back entrance and spaces that will be designated handicapped for the weekend.

Friday Night Dinner will be served buffet style both upstairs and in the Social Quarters on 24 May.

I trust you will join me in welcoming our guests and continue our reputation as one of the friendliest Posts anywhere.

For God and Country.

Jeff White

The next newsletter will be the Fall issue at the end of August. To get Post related notices and news, sign up for the Post E-Newsletter by visiting our website (<http://fairfaxpost177.org>) and click the "Sign up for our eNewsletter here" link at the bottom of the page.

July and August events

- 4 July: Independence Day
- 14 July: SAL serves breakfast
- 11 Aug: Legionnaires serve breakfast
- 18 Aug: Family picnic
- 19 Aug: James Salus memorial golf tournament

Post Everlasting

Clifford
Ellis

Jack
Manbeck

Philip
Orndorff

Alban
Pampel

Stan
Verrocchio

Commander's Corner

At our April General Membership meeting nominations for The Executive Committee and Corporate Board officers were read. There were no nominations from the floor, so in accordance with our Constitution and By-Laws the nominations were closed. You will find the slate of candidates on the first page. There is one vacant position, 2nd Vice Commander. Even though there are no contested positions, the Post still needs you to come vote on May 8th to validate the election. The quorum for election of officers is 6% which is 60 members. You can vote any time during the day from 0730 until we close voting after opening the General Membership meeting at 1900.

Also, at the April meeting the membership approved the changes and modifications to our Constitution and By-Laws that Tony Osborne and his committee have been working on for about a year now. We now have the ability to place motions that require a vote by the membership on a ballot and have voting take place during the day as we do for elections. The motion to move forward with developing our property is the question that will be on the ballot in May. This proposal involves selling part of the property and in accordance with our Constitution and By-Laws, such an action requires a 7% quorum and a 2/3 majority in favor in order to pass.

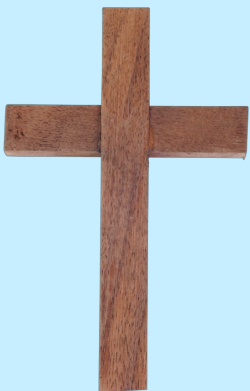
This development plan is the result of about 2 and a half years of work and study and review that was undertaken by the members of the BIC (building initiative committee) and other post members. It started when we realized that our current building was starting to be more and more expensive to maintain and repair and that parts of it (like the drain system) are no longer fully adequate for our current usage. At about the same time we learned of the impending redevelopment of Paul VI High School into a mixed-use residential community and Mount Vineyard, to our south (or uphill from us) was completing. It became clear that now was the time to prepare our facility and property for the next generations of Veterans.

Our guiding ideas became: **1. Our post home must be ADA compliant or better.** It is unacceptable for a disabled comrade to be unable to move around to all parts of our post. **2. We want to create affordably priced housing for Veterans and the workforce.** It is hard for a new teacher, police officer, or fireman to afford to live here in the city where they work. **3. We want to continue our support for Little League Baseball** as we have for 60 years since our members built Chilcott Field. **4. We did not want to have any debt.** **5. We want to remain in and be part of the City of Fairfax.**

I wholeheartedly believe that the planned project that is now before you for approval is a good thing for the future of the American Legion, the City of Fairfax, the Veterans in Fairfax, and the youth of Fairfax. A lot of work has gone into the effort to get us here. There will be a lot of work to do to complete the project and realize the dream. I hope that you vote to approve the project, and I pledge that I will be here to help with the work if you do.

For God and Country

Jeff White



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Legion Riders

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.
3 – 8 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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Auxiliary

Greetings,

I can't believe it but it's true another year has ended for the auxiliary. We had a very productive year and worked very hard to have successful programs so all the members of unit 177 should be proud. I could not have done it by myself, so hats off to the ladies that worked alongside me to make it a great year. The unit could not have accomplished all that it did without the help of the Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion, and American Legion Riders. A new year has started so let's all make an effort to get more involved this year and work together.

Slate of Officers for 2019-2020 is as follows:

President: Sandy Price

Vice President: Jessica Orlando

Secretary/Treasurer: Arlene Price

Historian: Peggy Dettinger

Chaplain: Karen Hauck

Sergeant at Arms: Jean Hendricks

Executive Board: Lillian Sparks & Elsie Mersereau

Events:

- Friday, April 26: Southern Virginia Honor Flight @ 5:30pm/dinner and POW/MIA service-upstairs
- Saturday, April 27: Auxiliary serves dinner @ 5:00pm to honor flight
- Wednesday, May 1: Executive Board Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Friday, May 5: Tennessee Honor Flight arrives @ 5:30pm/dinner and POW/MIA service upstairs
- Saturday, May 4: Auxiliary serves Honor Flight @ 5:00pm-Edie is bringing their music
- Sunday, May 5: Girls State Orientation @ 1:00pm
- Wednesday, May 8: Regular Membership Meeting @ 7:00pm, dinner @ 6:00pm
- Sunday, May 12: Breakfast served by legionnaires @ 9:30am
- Friday, May 24: Beginning of RUN TO THE THUNDER, dinner upstairs @ 5:00pm
Ride to the Candlelight Vigil @ 7:00pm
- Saturday, May 25: BBQ buffet by the Sons of the American Legion, Music by "Riptide" @ 3-7 pm
- Sunday, May 26: @ 5 am Auxiliary serving coffee & donuts in front of Patriot's Harley-Davidson-distribute poppies & flags
- Monday, May 27: MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED


New Business: Due to the increase of dues by Department of Virginia, the unit voted to increase 2020 dues to \$ 40.00 yearly. This is the second increase due to National increasing their dues for 2019. Please remember we are a veterans organization, I know the men and women that served for our freedom, paid a lot more than \$ 40.00.

THANK YOU for your service,
FOR GOD AND COUNTRY,
SANDRA K. PRICE, UNIT

MAY

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

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Exec Cmte
meeting 7pm.

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General Member
meeting and
elections 7pm.

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12 
Legionnaires
Breakfast 9:30am

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23

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25 
SAL BBQ Buffet
3pm

26 
Run to the
Thunder

27 
MEMORIAL DAY

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31

JUNE


sun mon tue wed thu fri sat

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Exec Cmte
meeting 7pm.

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Auxiliary
Breakfast 9:30am

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General Member
meeting 7pm.

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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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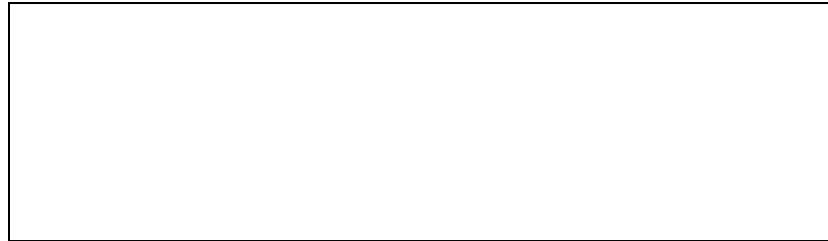
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THE AMERICAN LEGION
FAMILY

