

POST 177 LEGION NEWS

LYNNE TO THE RESCUE...TWICE!

We, as a Post, would like to pass a big thank you and salute to Lynne Douglas Farley Pahl, our social quarters bar manager. Lynne is very vigilant of the well being of our members and guests. On two occasions this month Lynne saw members in health distress and took action. Our Fairfax Fire Department Captain said that in each case her action played a big difference in the outcome for each of these members. One suffered a minor stroke, the other a very bad seizure.

We salute you Lynne!

Reid Griffin

3rd Vice Commander Post 177



The American Legion
Post 177

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Fairfax, VA 22030-3725

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www.fairfaxpost177.org

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

May/June/July 2021

Azara Emami, USAF Veteran and his daughter **Nima** with one of the horses at Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program. See bottom of page 8 and 9 for story.



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Special points of interest

- Post Elections Update
- Lynne saves the day...twice!
- Jule Szabo's report on the new National Museum of the US Army
- Candidate statements p 8 and 9

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

Post 177 Legionnaires,

We will have early electronic voting by email this year much like we did last year. Voting will start at 1900 on Wednesday 5 May 2021 and end at 2400 on Tuesday 11 May 2021. If you do not vote early, you may vote in person at the Post on 12 May 2021 from 0800 until 1900.

We are going to use an online voting platform called *election runner*. You will receive an email labeled from "TAL Post 177". The email address it comes from will be noreply@electionrunner.com. You should make sure that this email address is in your email address book to ensure that the invitation to vote does not go into your spam folder. The subject line will begin "Your Invitation to Vote in the Election:"

You must register to vote by providing Post 177 with your email address by 1 May 2021 in order for us to have time to enter any new email addresses. If you received this message via email then you are already registered and do not need to re-register.

If you are reading this on our website or Facebook page *and did not also receive it via email*, then you are not registered. To register send an email to votingregistration@fairfaxpost177.org with "register to vote" in the subject line. In the body of your email give your **name** and **membership ID number** as they appear on your Legion membership card.

If you have registered but have not received an invitation-to-vote email by 9 May please let us know by sending a note to the same email address: votingregistration@fairfaxpost177.org.

Membership Membership Membership

Members are the lifeblood of our organization. We are lagging a bit behind of where we want to be in terms of meeting our goals. We still need almost 100 more of you to renew in order to meet our 100% goal of 924. Complicating achieving this is the situation with online renewing which is currently unavailable due to the problems National is having in getting the new version of MyLegion.org up and running. Until they get it going we have to process renewals at the post old school style which means you must mail or bring your dues to the post.

IMPORTANT: Only members in good standing may vote in the May election. "in good standing" means your 2021 dues are paid. If your dues are not paid you will not receive an invitation to vote by email. We will also be doing in-person voting and you could pay your dues then, but why wait? Do it now!

Social Quarters

We are still operating under Covid-19 restrictions but they are starting to ease up a bit. We are now allowed to have seats at the bar as long as they are 6 feet apart and on 15 May the allowable gathering size will go from 50 to 100 indoors and from 100 to 250 outdoors. Social distancing and mask wearing are still needed.

We will not be hosting any Run to Thunder or Rolling to Remember events at the Post on Memorial Day weekend because we feel it is not yet safe to invite friends from all over the country to travel. We may have a Post 177 celebration, keeping it local and not too big. Keep an eye on our website and the bulletin boards.

Our Color Guard will participate with VFW Post 8469 in a reading of the names of the fallen on Memorial Day, 31 May at "The Rock" on the grounds of Old Fairfax Courthouse at Chain Bridge Rd and Main St.

For God and Country,
Jeff White, CMDR

CORPORATE BOARD REPORT

From Secretary Gary Welschenbach: Spring Greetings to you all, hoping this finds each and every one of you, your families and friends safe and healthy in this trying time, as we work on many things that must continue to sustain the American Legion and its mission.

Item 1: The development project team for the New Post Home has spent this past month addressing key issues identified in our last presentation to the City Council February 23rd. Key changes have been made to increase overall parking, reduce Affordable Dwelling Units by 7 apartments, and allocate that 4 units within the building are to be part of the City Affordable Housing efforts. The Toll Brothers have modified their buildings from condos to what is called a TriPlex type of multi-family building with three units per "section." Chilcott Field will be limited to resurfacing the fields due to all the push back from the various staff agencies and City organizations. Overall green space remains above 20%. A Tot Lot is proposed for placement near the ballfield. The reset to the project we believe now addresses key issues of parking, traffic flow, entrances, and concerns that we were over-building Chilcott Field.

Item 2: Buckman Rd. Property-As you know, we now signed a lease agreement that will include an option to buy this property. To date, all is going well on this effort.

Item 3: Financial performance this year is on target for revenue and expenses. The Board continues its fiscal support for Social Quarters and the donations program as we rebound from the Covid-19, increase in post cleaning services to protect members and guests, support of the development project along with our normal expenditures for the upkeep of the Post.

Item 4: The Corporate Board will continue to meet as Zoom meetings and the tentative schedule for the next three months meetings of the CB are Wednesdays 19 May, 16 June and 21 July. As previously mentioned, ALL MEETINGS WILL BE ZOOM, and will begin at 7PM.

****Please be safe, wear your face mask and Please respect social distancing and you are encouraged to get a vaccination****

Post Officers

Post Commander

Jeffrey White

703-591-0298

JWhite@FairfaxPost177.org

1st Vice Commander

Gary Mesaris

mesaris@verizon.net

2nd Vice Commander

Joe Schmidt

Joe.ch46@gmail.com

3rd Vice Commander

Reid Griffin

Adjutant

Rich Strauss

Finance Officer

Michael Kimlick

Chaplain

Joseph Boyle

Sergeant-At-Arms

John Price

Service Officer

Tony Poulin

Judge Advocate

Tony Osborne

Historian

Earl Seay

Executive Committee Mem-

bers at Large

Russ Combs

Tejas Patel

Corporate Board

John Kinczel

Jonathan Thatcher

Gary Welschenbach

Hank Waters

Tony Osborne

Russ Combs

SAL Squadron 177

Jim Price, Commander

American Legion Post 177

Riders

Tom Pike, Director

Auxiliary Unit 177

Sandra Price, President

Post 177 General Email

Info.@fairfaxpost177.org

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE U.S. ARMY OPENS

National US ARMY Museum Opens

By: Jule Szabo

The American Legion supported National Museum of the United States Army officially opened Nov 11th 2020 at Fort Belvoir, VA. The 84-acre museum campus honors the service and sacrifices of more than 30 million men and women who have worn the Army uniform since 1775. The American Legion has supported the museum since 2005. The 200 million revenue with artifacts, documents, equipment, art and weapons never been seen before by the public. This effort was both privately and public funded. The Museum is less than 30 minutes south of our DC, and just ten minutes from George Washington's Mount Vernon. The Museum is constructed on 84 acres with generous amounts of parking.

I visited the new US Army museum on 16th November 2020 and impress with displays and artifacts. The National Museum of the United States Army celebrates over 245 years of Army history and honors our nation's Soldiers—past, present and future—the regular Army, the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard.

The main building is approximately 185,000 sq ft and displays selections from the United States Army Center of Military History. The museum is broken down into 9 areas. You enter into a large open area that displays ribbons hanging from ceiling, the very large Army seal on the floor and Solders story's pylons off to the right. The first is the Army Society that displays artifacts that all of the past and present duties and related equipment's; the Second is "Founding the Nation" (*1607-1835 Revolutionary War, War 1812, Indian Wars*) of US Army displays uniforms, weapons and major events of time period; the Third is "Preserving Nation" (*1846-1891 – Mexican War, Civil War, Indian Wars*) displays uniforms, weapons and major battles and solders, the fifth "Nation Overseas" (*1898-1918 – War with Spain, China Relief Expedition, Philippine Insurrection, Mexican Expedition. World War I*) displays both our forces and the enemy's uniforms, weapons, ammunitions major battles and soldiers and their images, the sixth area Global War (*1919-1945 – World War I American Theater, Asiatic-Pacific Theater, European-African-middle Eastern Theater*) I displays artifacts displays both our forces and the enemy's uniforms, weapons, ammunitions major battles, soldiers and displays Sherman tank; the seventh area displays artifacts Cold War (*1947-1991 Korean War, Vietnam War, Armed Force expeditions*) displays artifacts displays uniforms, patches, weapons, ammunitions major battles, soldiers and nurses, MASH unit camp, Medevac and Assault helicopter (Hughes helicopter); Eight area Changing World (*1980 to Present – Armed Forces, Southwest Asia, Kosovo, Global War on Terrorism, Afghanistan, IRAQ, Inherent Resolve*) displays artifacts displays uniforms, patches, weapons, ammunitions major battles, soldiers and nurses, Bradley Fighting vehicle, Black Hawk engine from "Black Hawk Down" helicopter and engagements today's world. On the upper floor there is Army art displays and Medal Honors area that defines meaning, the names and looks out onto parade grounds. There is also Army theater, cafeteria and store to buy souvenirs. Outside this facility is a park with gardens and a parade ground. Space is included to accommodate ceremonies, reenactments, lectures, educational programs, and reunions. Lastly is walk along the parade grounds edge is the many bricks purchased to honor army personnel, groups, and units. The link the National US Army museum is <https://www.thenmusa.org/>.



One engine from the Blackhawk helicopter from Delta Force raid in Somalia – “Black Hawk Down”



Operation Desert Shield uniforms and soldiers weapons



Civil War soldiers moving the large cannon during winter storm for upcoming battle

ANNUAL POST ELECTIONS

New Members

Daniel Barbato
 Jay Brunkow
 Michael Carrubba
 Stewart Ellis
 Matthew Farrell
 Kenneth Henderson
 Daniel Kemp III
 Hugh O'Brien
 Jean Pinard
 Leslie Reisinger
 Eric Schnabel
 Aidan West-Crews
 Cassandra West-Crews

Sample Ballot:

Commander	Jeff White	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adjutant	Rich Strauss	<input type="checkbox"/>
First Vice Commander		<input type="checkbox"/>
Second Vice Com- mander	Joe Schmidt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Third Vice Commander	Reid Griffin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chaplain	Joseph J. Boyle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Finance Officer	Mike Kimlick	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historian	Earl Seay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Judge Advocate	Anthony Osborne	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Hank Waters	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sergeant at Arms	John Price	<input type="checkbox"/>
Service Officer	Tony Poulin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member at Large vote for 3 One (1) year terms	Russ Combs	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Bruce Mersereau	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Tejas Patel	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corporate Board Three Vacancies: Least num- ber of votes will fill the Two year Term	Anthony Osborne	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Tom Pike	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Hank Waters	<input type="checkbox"/>
LEGIONAIRE OF THE YEAR	Gary Welschenbach	<input type="checkbox"/>

Post-Elections 2021 – from your elections Officer Gary Welschenbach

The Post-Election of Officers for the Legion Year 1 July 2021 thru 30 June 2022 is fast approaching, in fact when you receive this newsletter it will only be a few fast days till electronic voting begins. Yes, this year due to COVID, we will again be doing a combination of online voting and in-person voting.

Online voting will begin at 0700 on Wednesday 5 May 2021 and run through closing at 2400 on Tuesday 11 May. In person voting will open at Post 177 Social Quarters at 0730 on 12 May and run through the Commanders Call of the May General Memberships meeting to order at 1900 hours, when he closes voting. Votes will be then tabulated, and results validated and announced.

The Commander, as he did last year, will be sending an email to all those members who have provided emails with information and the process to vote electronically. Please ensure to read and follow these instructions if you so choose to vote electronically.

It should be noted that the only office being contested is that of Judge Advocate, two names are listed you MUST ONLY VOTE FOR ONE. Please read the statements from each candidate on pages 8 and 9.

There are two 3 year terms and one 2 year term on the **Corporate Board** to be filled. The candidate who gets the smallest number of votes will serve the 2 year term. While voting for all three is technically allowed you can help avoid a tie situation by voting for only 1 or 2.

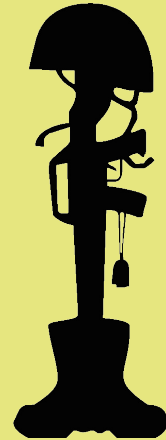
2ND VICE COMMANDER

Greetings everyone. I wanted to reiterate my previous report which stated please let me know if there are any events of note that I can push out on our myriad of outlets for news. I'm not limited to just events but also good news, bad news, and everything in between. Our Post is a family, and we need to hear about all the goings-on to share the word and give kudos, or a Bravo Zulu when warranted.

I am actively seeking a marketing guru. If you know a member that does this, or someone who would be willing to hear my vision please have them email me (listed below). Our website is cumbersome, not very flashy, and contains mostly text only. It would be great to embed some interviews from our Officers, or those doing great things. Sure, I can maneuver my way around a computer without issue, for the most part, but as a Marine helicopter mechanic, marketing and technology is not my calling!

We have hundreds of members and still vacancies on the Officer slate this year. I am attempting a recruiting campaign to get new members here, and make them understand that we want them here, want them to be involved and fill our vacancies. My hope in making a more robust welcome aboard program, is that we can get the talent and experience I know we have!

For God and Country,
Joe Schmidt
Post 177, 2nd Vice Commander
Joe.ch46@gmail.com



Post Everlasting

Charles Corbett

Honorary Life Members

William Anderson

Alvin Doehring

Edward Heitchew

Michael Kimlick

George Lamborn

Anthony Osborne

John Price

Robert Sussan

Sick Call

Statement from Henry Waters, candidate for Judge Advocate

Subject : Seeking Position of Post Judge Advocate
40+ years of military and defense service career

10 year Member of the American Legion

Currently serving as a member of the Post Corporate Board. Increased Post revenue over those three years by over 140K dollars through contractual actions concerning our Radio Towers and Buckman Road leasing actions. Have secured a 10 Million dollar sale of our real property which will result in a single level Post home.

Current employment - Director for the largest Motorcycle training school in Virginia, operating from Virginia Beach to Richmond to here in Northern Virginia.

Why seek the position of Post Judge Advocate?

I believe Post 177 will change significantly in the next five years as we develop our property and acquire a new Post Home here on Oak Street. I seek the position to best assist the Post membership and commander in entering a new era of service to our Veterans, Community and Youth. Overall the Judge Advocate position has evolved to an over reliance on procedure and rules. Our ability to operate should not be defined by writing more rules and regulations on how we should operate in the future but rather be based on the needs of the membership. We should operate within a frame work that complies with National and Departmental constitutions, responds to public law and allows the Post to operate as we are guided by our Preamble. The Post Judge Advocate's position is not that of rules enforcement but rather that of being an advisor to the membership.

I ask for your vote in the coming election to serve as Judge Advocate.

Sincerely,

Henry 'Hank' Waters

On 15 April, Gary Welschenbach, Mike Kimlick, and Jeff White met up at Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program in Clifton. One of NVTRP's missions is helping Veterans. We got a tour of their new, almost finished, indoor riding ring (think dirt floor drill hall), watched some training, and got to speak with one of the therapists/riding instructors that works with military clients. At the end of the tour Commander White presented them with a check for \$1500.00 to support the program. We expect to make NVTRP one of the organizations that we support yearly.



Statement from Anthony Osborne, candidate for Judge Advocate

Why re-elect Tony as Judge Advocate?

Anthony Osborne (Tony) has been an ACTIVE member of Post 177 for 30 years; and has served in most of the Post's Officer and Corporate Board positions including Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Service Officer, Acting Third Vice Commander; President, Treasurer and member of the Corporate Board; and for years now Judge Advocate Emeritus. As Judge Advocate, by conservative direction and approval of the membership as a whole, he has led; promulgated and vetted throughout the membership; edited, and produced numerous unbiased revisions to our Constitution and By-Laws (hence C&BL's) since 1995, thus ensuring that we are always in compliance with the National and Department Constitutions. He has also been the designated by consecutive Seventeenth District Commanders as 'keeper and editor of the 17th District's By-Laws' for over 5 years: editing it and reproducing it for compliance as well. He has attended Department-Level working sessions regarding the Department's Constitution and By-Laws. He has attended numerous District and Department meetings and Conventions regarding Legislative Affairs and officially represented our Post. He defended our Post's C&BL's and position at a Department Convention, when attempts to negatively alter the Department Constitution and By-Laws were presented for vote. He has served as officiating officer when member disciplinary actions had to be addressed, and has been instrumental in revising and keeping our house rules up-to-date to reflect changing requirements. He is a proponent of full membership participation in all meetings, and continuously strives to keep the membership informed.

Anthony 'Tony' Osborne

Thank you note from NVTRP

Hello Jeff, Michael, and Gary-

I so enjoyed your visit today; thank you for taking the time to come see our facility and learn more about what we do.

Thank you especially for the additional funding. We will apply it as restricted funding to directly support the services for recovering service members and Veterans Clarice was describing to you.

As we discussed, I'm attaching here our Fall 2020 Newsletter, with a feature story written by the daughter of one of our Veterans. They are still riding with us now and are an amazing family.

I'm also attaching a couple of photos of Veterans on our property that you are welcome to share. The ones with the young teen girls are of the same family profiled in the newsletter.

I hope to have the video featuring an interview with one of our Veterans ready to go in a couple of weeks and will also send along that.

In the meantime, please know how grateful we are for your partnership.

Take care,
Wendy

Announcements

Hi Folks!

We like to think every day is Armed Forces Day. We are grateful for the service and sacrifices of those men and women who have put the uniform on to protect and defend the freedoms of Our Country. Each year at MISSION BBQ, we make the third week of May very special. Each day of the week, we will be honoring a different branch of the military and serving all active duty service members and veterans a free sandwich.

Monday, 5/10 - Army

Tuesday, 5/11 - Marine Corps

Wednesday, 5/12 - Navy

**Thursday, 5/13 - Air Force and
Space Force**

Friday, 5/14 - Coast Guard

On Saturday, May 15, we will be celebrating Armed Forces Day with "Lunch with the Heroes." From 11:00am-2:00pm, we will be offering all service members and veterans a free sandwich with our thanks. At noon, we will have a live version of the National Anthem, and we recognize all members of the Armed Forces in attendance.

Elizabeth McGuirk

Regional Community Ambassador

Mission BBQ

AUXILIARY NEWS

Greetings,

According to department, the auxiliary year has come to a close. All reports from Unit 177 have been submitted for year 2020-2021. Our year was very different, and we all know why-because everyone's life is different. My hopes and prayers are that we can get back to some normalcy in the auxiliary and get a fresh start with some new projects.

Our slate of Officers for year

2021-2022:

President: Sandy Price
Vice President: Jessica Rodgers
2nd Vice President: Karen Donais
Secretary/Treasurer: Arlene Price
Sgt at Arms: Elsie Mersereau

Reminder! The National Commanders Project: 100 miles for HOPE. This is an annual event to benefit and support the Veterans and Children Foundation. Embrace Fitness and Wellness. Options to register, participants can sign up on Kilter, or visit Emblem Sales to register. There is a \$20.00 fee and participants will receive their medal later this summer. 30 minutes required for an activity to count, until you reach 100 miles. Started April 1 through September 6. Share your journey, post stories and photos on legiontown webpage at <http://www.legion.org/legiontown>

The auxiliary is still collecting new baby items for Gabriel Project, at St. Leo the Great's Catholic Church. If you wish to contribute you can bring new items to the post. Please just label it "Attn: Auxiliary" I hope everyone is staying safe.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
Sandra K. Price, Unit President

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

Hello everyone I hope you and your families are doing well. We are looking forward to seeing you as soon as things open up more. Unfortunately, we do not have anything planned just yet. Please make sure that you and any fellow members have paid your 2021 membership dues. Thank You to all Veterans and Frontline workers. Please stay safe and never forget the sacrifices our military personnel have made for us. Please see attached slate of officers for 2021-22 Squadron 177.

Thanks,

Jim Price

571-237-7597

Squadron 177 Commander

Jpmus-
tang1967@yahoo.com

2021 -2022 Squadron 177

Slate of Officers :

Commander: Jim Price
1st Vice: Norvel Cooksey
2nd Vice: Jerry Miller
Finance: Jim Handlon
Historian: Brian Drummond
Chaplain: Mark Briley
Adjutant: Gary Weaver
Sgt @ Arms: Bryan Rodgers

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Ex Comm Online Elec-	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Gen Mem & Elections	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Memorial Day	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Ex Comm	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Gen Mem	10	11	12
13	14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Independence Day	5	6	7 Ex Comm	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Gen Mem	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31




3939 Oak Street
Fairfax, VA 22030

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Visit us on the web at www.fairfaxpost177.org

 [Facebook.com/LegionPost177](https://www.facebook.com/LegionPost177)

 [@fairfaxpost177](https://www.instagram.com/fairfaxpost177)

Legion News is published quarterly 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.

"The #1 Legion newsletter in the Nation!"

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WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!



THE AMERICAN LEGION
FAMILY

