

POST 177

LEGION NEWS



The photo above is Post 177 Boys State Delegate Aryan Hamdard from Fairfax High School, who was voted in as the 2021 Boys State Governor. The swearing in was conducted by the Boys State Chief Justice Caleb Kuo from Woodson High School, who is also a Post 177 Boys State Delegate. Both state offices are elected positions by the delegates at Boys State and is a reflection of Aryan and Caleb's hard work and leadership skills. Having two delegates from the same American Legion Post achieve these two elite positions is a rare and high honor

-By: Mike Kimlick



The American Legion Post 177

3939 Oak Street
Fairfax, VA 22030-3725

(703) 273-2250
www.fairfaxpost177.org

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Aug/Sep/Oct 2021

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Special points of interest

- Girls State from a counselor's view and the District chair's view.....8, 9

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

Think about how different things are now compared to a year ago when we were operating under the pandemic protocols.

Memorial Day: Last year consisted of a Facebook streaming of a couple Honor Guard members hoisting the flag back to full staff and a short speech by Sang Yi on our front lawn. This year we had a family picnic on the front lawn after raising the flag and listening to remarks from several of our elected officials.

Independence Day: Last year City of Fairfax wave parade. This year normal parade and barbeque.

We started having 2nd Sunday Breakfasts again in June and both June and July were very well attended. Thank you to all who came out to serve and to all who came to enjoy.

Most Post meetings have returned to in-person operation, though we still have the ability to do zoom and may choose to do hybrids if there is a great demand for it. We will continue to hold elections using email voting. In each of the 2 elections we held during the pandemic we had about twice the participation that we ever had before.

The Social Quarters is fully open now including the popcorn machine! We trimmed the tree and overgrown bush at the corner of the parking lot so now you can sit on the balcony and watch baseball. We are planning to have a family picnic around Labor Day instead of August. Keep an eye on the website and Facebook pages. Also, if we have your email address, we can send a notice out that way when we finalize those plans.

Speaking of email, we use Constant Contact for our email notifications. It is an email marketing service used by many companies and non-profit organizations. Most email providers use some level of spam filtering to help users keep junk out of their inboxes. Some are more aggressive than others and may send our emails into your junk or spam folder. You should be able to stop that from happening by adding info@fairfaxpost177.org to your contacts list. The from line in an email sent by Post 177 via Constant Contact looks like this:

American Legion Post 177 <info@fairfaxpost177.org>

We will not sell or give our member email list to anyone for any purpose so if you get an email from the above you can be confident that it is from Post 177.

Stay safe. I'll see you at the Post.

For God and Country,

Jeff White, Commander

CORPORATE BOARD NOTES

-From Secretary Gary Welschenbach-

Spring greetings to all, hoping this finds each one of you, your families and friends continuing to be safe and healthy in this trying time, as we work on many things that must continue to sustain the American Legion and its mission.

1. The development project team for the New Post Home has submitted updated drawings to the City of Fairfax staff including all the updates of Key items of interest as defined in the last newsletter. In case you do not recall here are the key changes: reduce Affordable Dwelling Units by 7 apartments to increase parking, 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 22%. A Tot lot is proposed for placement near the ballfield. The reset addresses key issues of parking, traffic flow, entrances, and concerns that we were over building Chilcott Field. The new layout was presented to Planning Commission on 12 July, receiving positive response and the words of encouragement to proceed to City Council on 27 July. You are encouraged to write an email to each City Council member for their support on this project in quest of a new Post Home.

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.

3. The Corporate Board Has started back with in person meeting and a ZOOM alternative for its meetings. The very very tentative schedule for the next three months meetings is Wednesday 18 Aug, 15 Sept, 20 Oct. Meetings will begin at 7PM.

4. The following is the results of the election of those to the Corporate Board (CB) followed by the remaining elected CB Members for Legion Year 2021-2022:

Anthony Osborne – 3 Year Term

Tom Pike – 3 Year Term

Henry (Hank) Waters – 2 Year Term- B&G Committee Chairman

Jonathan Thacher - President

Gary Welschenbach - Secretary

Jule Szabo - Treasurer

John Kinzcel

Commander White

Legionnaire of the Year: Gary Welschenbach

Please be safe, wear a 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

Gerry Lemnah

glemnah@yahoo.com

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

Bruce Mersereau

Corporate Board

Jonathan Thatcher

Tom Pike

Hank Waters

Gary Welschenbach

Jule Szabo

John Kinzcel

Anthony Osborne

Sons of the American Legion

Squadron 177

Jim Price, Commander

American Legion Riders

Chapter 177

Tom Pike, Director

American Legion Auxiliary

Unit 177

Sandra Price, President

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS NEWS

Well, it looks like we may be beating Covid finally. Things are opening up and the weather is now hot. Through it all your riders were still riding in a socially distant way.

In June five riders participated in the Virginia Legacy Run. We rode almost 800 miles around the Commonwealth of Virginia collecting donations for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. Our director created a new fundraiser for the ride by creating some targets for the ever-present bugs to hit. Unfortunately, a rain storm on the last leg of the ride washed the bugs off and a tie was declared with all proceeds going to the scholarship fund.



On the second morning of the ride one of the riders stepped up to present a \$50 donation from a local minister who had seen us at a fuel stop. Other riders started stepping up to match the donation out of their own pockets and in a few minutes \$2,100 had been raised. In total the riders collected over \$40,000 for the scholarship fund.

On July 3rd we had eight riders join the color guard and scouts in the Fairfax City Independence Day parade. We then returned to the post for a great lunch by the Son's. At 1300 we drew the winning ticket for our Spirits of America booze raffle. Jean Hendricks won the prize.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS NEWS CONT'D



On July 17th we took a ride to the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum. The weather was hot and humid, but we dodged the thunderstorms. Had a nice lunch at Captain Billy's Crab House. Had a great time walking around the museum. There are over 25 aircraft on outdoor display and several more inside. They had just received an F18-B from the Blue Angels, it was freshly painted and still in the process of being demilled. The F18-B is the two seat version the Blue Angels use for giving VIP's rides.



New Members

Bradley L. Bowman

Stephen A. Bucher

John H. Grimes

Marta I. Nazario

Michael G. Nicholas

Tejas Patel

Michael Semenec, Jr.

Jack L. Sine II

Chester R. Smith, Jr.

Luzanne G. Trotter

Harry D. Croft

James Minor

Mark A. Ritter

Harvey Wells, Jr.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CONT'D

In August four of our riders will make the ride to the American Legion Legacy run. They will ride from here to the starting point in Rogers, Arkansas, then take five days to ride together in a group of about 400 motorcycles to the American Legion National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona.

In October our first Honor Flight will be coming back to the area. On October 9th the Riders will deliver lunch to the Honor Flight participants.

Our meetings are the 2nd Saturday of the month and we usually go for a ride after the meeting. If it's not pouring rain at least some of our riders are riding every weekend. If you are a member of the Legion Family, own a motorcycle, and are looking for some great guys and gals to go riding with come on out.

Ride Safe
Tom Pike
Director ALR Post 177



FIRST VICE COMMANDER

July 1st started the 2022 membership year. Renewal payments by mail are pouring in and that's a good thing. I am asking everyone to renew for the 2022 year. You can go to www.MyLegion.org to renew on-line. It's very easy to get registered there if you haven't registered for an on-line account. Renewing online saves us time and money so we have more dollars to help your fellow veterans. Just a note, you will be getting a reminder renewal notice from National in late August or September. Please don't pay again if you have already received your 2022 membership card. It will save me a phone call to find out what you want me to do with your extra payment check. Please leave a message for me at (703)273-2250 if you have sent a check for renewal but haven't received your 2022 card in what you think is a reasonable amount of time. The Post Office can take up to 1-1/2 weeks to get a letter to you once I put your card in the mail.

For God and Country,
Gerry Lemnah

SECOND VICE COMMANDER

Hi all, as always please continue to send me all dates of the goings-on so I can add them not only to the website, but to our myriad of social media outlets. Getting word out to all who need to know it is a passion of mine.

I ask all those who are members of the number of these social media outlets to ensure they are adhering to the rules which are agreed upon during the acceptance process. We all have similar backgrounds as it pertains to military service, or being affected very closely by a loved one serving. Please continue to treat each other with respect, and know we're all here to help one another.

For God and Country,
Joe Schmidt
Post 177, 2nd Vice Commander



Post Everlasting

Charles H. Attmanspacher

Patrick E. Russell

Arthur O. Schlosser

Benjamin F. Wiles

Honorary Life Members

William Anderson

Alvin Doehring

Edward Heitchew

Michael Kimlick

George Lamborn

Anthony Osborne

John Price

Robert Sussan

From the Third Vice

Please when dumping waste in the dumpsters, be sure to break down boxes! We're limited on visits from the garbage trucks, and need to make it until they show up.

-Reid Griffin-

FAMILY PICNIC

5 Sep 2021

1pm—4pm

The Family Picnic is for Post 177 Legion, ALA, SAL, and ALR family members and guests. It's a great time to renew your membership for 2022 and help us reach our membership goals for 2022..

GIRLS STATE UPDATE

While Girls State was very different this year from years past, it was still an amazing experience, was still able to teach the rising senior girls of high schools how to run the American government and provide us the possibility of America having a bright future. Having a virtual Girls State this year provided a lot of pros. Going into this year, I think a lot of the staff had their doubts with how this year would play out, but after a few hiccups the first night, Virtual Girls State turned out well. We had to cut a few roles like Attorney General, the City Nightingale, City Officials, and a few others. Other than those few cuts, we were able to proceed as normal...just virtually.

When it comes to Girls State, each and every one of the girls that attend are more than qualified to run for the various positions we have in the state level government. Each and every one of them are passionate about the topics and issues they talk about. Each and every one of them are creative and bright. As a counselor and a member of Post 177 Auxiliary, it's amazing to watch these girls go to work and put a step forward to change the world. I was in the city of Preston. Ivy Chen, a girl in my city ran for governor and was chosen as the Federalist's nominee. Ivy ran against six other girls out of about three hundred. Unfortunately, in the end Ivy was not elected, but I think being one of seven girls out of three hundred is still an impressive feat.

My mother Deb Dornemann, also a member of Post 177 Auxiliary, was the counselor for the city of Lewis. Ashley Hume of Lewis City ran for Lt Governor and was chosen as the Nationalist candidate from the primaries. Every year Girls State receives a Samsung scholarship for the chosen girl to put towards their college. That chosen girl is also then put in the running for an even bigger scholarship prize. This year the girl chosen was Lauren Doty from Lewis City.

So, while the girls of Girls State 2021 were not able to experience the whole of what Girls State normally is, virtual Girls State was still absolutely wonderful and a great experience for these rising senior girls. Being counselors at Girls State gives us hope for a bright and wonderful future where the girls become women and can work together with the boys who become men to make America better than before.

This article was written by Maya White

17th DIST. GIRLS STATE UPDATE

News about Virginia Virtual Girls State 2021

It's time to celebrate 17th District Delegates' accomplishments at Virginia Virtual Girls State 2021!!!! We sure did shine, taking four (4) of seven (7) positions of honor as follows:

Girls Nation Senators

Megan Clinton of George Mason High School Sponsored by [ALA Unit 130](#)

Maya Berry of South Lakes High School Sponsored by [ALA Unit 177](#)

Verna Vance Scholarship Winner

Keydy Aguilera Martinez of Annandale High School Sponsored by [ALA Unit 1976](#)

Nell Collins Hatcher Scholarship Winner

Hailey Askelson of Brooke Point High School Sponsored by [ALA Unit 139](#)

As this session was the first ever conducted virtually, there were many apprehensions and questions regarding the value heading into it. A few snippets from Delegates about their experience with the virtual program proves otherwise:

I ran for the position of Sheriff ..., and while I didn't win, I still gained valuable experience regarding government responsibilities.

I've always been interested in government positions, and this has given me a much better insight of what goes on behind the curtains. I would like to major in International Affairs ... Either way, both national and international government jobs require knowledge on how to handle citizen's concerns, public projects, and budgets - all of which I learned during Girls State.

The group-building activities were most effective at having the girls bond in our city and virtually getting to know one another.

Despite the challenging Virtual platform, I made lasting friendships

Visits from the various government officials were very exciting and engaging and provided me with a lot of insight into how the government functions.

My take-away from this experience is that:

the legislative process is a lot more collaborative than I initially thought

despite all of us holding varying political views, true leaders persevere towards what they believe will make the most positive impact, no matter their level of disagreement with others

while a career in elected office may not be what I am destined to do, I am eager to be involved in developing party platforms and advocating for social justice. In essence, I realized that while campaigning isn't for me, I am definitely interested in aspects of public policy like economics, global health, and equity.

the state of Virginia is so richly intertwined with different backgrounds! Living in the bubble that is Northern Virginia, Girls State allowed me to interact and hold conversations with people from differing perspectives and places - fostering a deep empathy.

Hats off to everyone involved for your continued dedication to the Girls State program and for all the hard work that went into making this 74th Session a huge success.

Marian

Marian Chirichella

Girls State Chairman

17th District, Dept. of Virginia

AUXILIARY NEWS

Greetings,

Hope everyone is having a good summer. I can't believe how fast the days are passing us by, I guess time does not stand still.

I want to express our condolences to The Weaver Family for the loss of Bucky's mother, Doris Weaver. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

As most of us know the auxiliary doesn't meet in the months of July and August. Our next meeting will be September 8th, 2021. We meet at 7:00pm, with dinner at 6:00pm.

Look forward to seeing old friends.

Congratulations to Maya Berry, our delegate from South Lakes High School, who was honored by being selected to attend Girls Nation, we wish her all the best in representing Fairfax Unit 177.

Note: See more information about the First Virtual Girls State program in the enclosed newsletter article page 8 by Maya White, ALA Unit 177, and page 9 by Marian Chirichella, 17th District Girls State Chairperson. The auxiliary will update their calendar in the September meeting and come up with some International dinners and future fundraising events. Please watch for the special announcements and flyers.

Stay safe, enjoy your summer and see in September.

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.

First off, please keep the Weaver family in your prayers. They are going through a tough time with the passing of Doris Weaver. The mother of Bucky Weaver one of our life long SAL members. Bucky is a great guy and has been a integral part of our squadron for many years. He is also our Adjutant and is a volunteer at just about every legion event no matter who is hosting. He has spend many years of volunteering with the wounded Warriors, Wounded Warrior Kids Camp and the Challenger Baseball League. We are so sorry for your families loss Bucky. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

As things are opening back up it has been great to see everyone out at the last few events. Thank you all for coming out to support our organization. I would like to thank all of our Legion Family volunteers that helped at our last breakfast and the July 3rd picnic! They were both very successful events. Thanks to the Auxiliary for supplying the delicious deserts at both of those events.

We are hoping to have our Bear Chili Bowl and a Bull and oyster roast in the near future, dates to be determined. Keep an eye on the Post 177 website for details.

We do have 2022 membership cards available, so please pay your 2022 membership dues. Also please leave updated info when you do so that we can keep our records up to date. Phone number, email, mailing address and whether you want your card mailed out or left at the social quarters for pick up. Our current SAL dues are \$35 for regular members, \$15 for dual members and members under 18 years of age. Thanks in advance for renewing your membership early. You are our the backbone of our organization. Anyone that has not received your 2021 card please let me know so we can get you one. We are having a lot of issues with the local mail service so thanks for your patience.

Please stay safe and never forget the sacrifices our military personnel and law enforcement have made for us.

I would like to say thank you to all Veterans, first responders and frontline workers. You all give us the freedom and security to live our lives as we want.

I am looking forward to seeing you around the post. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Jim Price

Squadron 177 Commander

571-237-7597

jpmustang1967@gmail.com

August 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 ExCom 1900 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Corp Board 1900 (Hybrid) | 10 | 11 Gen Mem Meeting 1900 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

September 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------------------------------|-------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | 1 ExCom 1900 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Family Picnic 1300-1600 | 6 Labor Day | 7 | 8 Gen Mem Meeting 1900 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Corp Bd at 1900 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

October 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-------|--------------------|-----|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 ExCom 1900 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 Columbus Day | 12 | 13 Gen Mem Meeting 1900 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Corp Bd at 1900 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24/31 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |




3939 Oak Street
Fairfax, VA 22030

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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

