



LEONARD W. KIDD
AMERICAN LEGION POST 2001
Minutes of Meeting
10 March 2016



Members in Attendance: John Alban, Ken Canterbury, Rick Carr, Pete Holleran, Norm Larson, Jim Linn, Chuck Loomis, Chris Marcoux, Charlie McKinney, Sam Meyers, Nick Monje, Frank Mullen, Bob O'Such, Greg Rhoades, Larry Rosenberger, Richard Ryan, Joe Scalione, Tobin Seven, John Strauchs

Guests: Ernie Rojas (Fishing with Heroes Program)

General Meeting.

Opening. Commander Charlie McKinney began the meeting at 1930 hours. The colors were posted prior to opening. Comrade Loomis delivered the opening prayer. Commander McKinney read the POW ceremony while the Sergeant at Arms Ken Canterbury prepared the POW chair of honor.

Report of Officers.

Post Minutes. The Adjutant presented the minutes from the January and February 2016 meetings, having been distributed earlier. Adjutant Larson indicated that there was one update to the February minutes to add a member in attendance (Biggs), but no other changes. A member moved to accept the minutes of both meetings into the Post archives, and the motion was passed by voice vote.

Membership. The Adjutant noted that the Post had achieved the 100 percent goal for the 2016 membership year and was currently second overall in the 16th District.

Finance. The Finance Officer Richard Ryan reviewed the budget for 2016 and noted that the Post was budgeting additional funds to support Boys and Girls State programs as well as for donations to support veterans and active duty personnel. He then presented the finance reports for January and February. A member moved to accept both reports into the archives of the Post, subject to audit. The motion was passed by a voice vote.

Second Vice Commander's Report. 2nd Vice Commander Bob O'Such welcomed back Comrade Pete Holleran who had been combating some health issues. Comrade O'Such discussed the meeting on 9 March 2016 between Post 2001 and the veteran support group Serving Together, and suggested them for the Salute event.

First Vice Commander's Report. 1st Vice Commander Chuck Loomis discussed the Serving Together group. He also pointed out that Loudoun County is one of the few counties with a veteran outreach program, and it is being run by Mike Ball.

New Members.

Comrade Tobin Seven presented a candidate for membership, James Stakem, a Marine who served in Vietnam. Following the presentation, the members of the Post in attendance approved by unanimous voice vote the new member. Welcome to our Post, Jim!



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New Business.

Boys and Girls State. Comrade Greg Rhoades, the Post Chairman for the Boys and Girls State program, gave a short briefing on the upcoming selection interviews scheduled for 15 March at Stone Bridge High School. He encouraged everyone who could to participate in the interviews and see firsthand what impressive students are interested in the program.

FishingCommunities.Org. Mr. Ernie Rojas gave a briefing on the “Fishing with Heroes” initiative. The program (see fishingcommunities.org for details – click on the “wounded heroes fishing project” button) supported an “Ashburn Village Veterans Fishing Classic” in 2015 and they are looking to do a similar event this year on 23 July 2016. For information, send an e-mail to pdell@fishingcommunity.org.

Baseball. Baseball Committee Chair Jim Linn provided an update on the Post’s American Legion baseball team. This year the team will draw players from Stone Bridge High School, Briar Woods High School, and possibly one other (Broad Run or Freedom) depending on the student enrollment numbers (recruiting areas are limited by the total school attendance numbers.) Try-outs for the team are going to be in mid-May with the season running from June to July. The State level tournament for this year will be in Danville.

Loudoun County Salute to Veterans. Comrade Tobin Seven, the event chairman for 2016, reminded everyone that the Salute will be 15 October, from 0900 to 1800, at Stone Bridge High School. There will be a fun run as part of the event to start the day. Of note, student Joseph O’Such will be working with Post as a representative for Loudoun schools, and Comrade Ken Faulk (Boulder Crest Retreat) is going to speak at the event. Volunteers are needed to help with the Salute and anyone wanting to help should contact Tobin Seven.

Annual Elections for Post Officers. The following are the current candidates for the 2016-2017 year:

POST COMMANDER. Charlie McKinney
1st VICE COMMANDER. Chuck Loomis
2nd VICE COMMANDER. Bob O’Such
ADJUTANT. Norm Larson
FINANCE OFFICER. Richard Ryan
Co-CHAPLAIN. Fr. James Hinkle and Al Gabriel
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS. Ken Canterbury

All members in good standing (i.e. paid up for 2016) are eligible for any of the Post officer positions. Please contact Adjutant Larson or any of the other officers if you are interested in becoming an officer of our Post.

Service Officer Update. Comrade Joe Scalione gave a brief update on Service Officer activities. If you are interested in becoming an American Legion Service Officer and assisting other veterans, please contact Comrade Scalione or Comrade O’Such for more details. Post is looking for additional Service Officers to assist during the Salute event.



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Gold Star Mothers. Comrade Nick Monje updated the group on the Gold Star Mothers program. This year, the group will hold a golf tournament at Stone Wall Golf Club on 23 September. Interested members should go to <http://www.goldstarmoms.com/> for more details about the organization.

Memorial Day Poppies. Comrade Larry Rosenberger presented and update on the Memorial Day poppy distribution by our Post. Post will distribute poppies in remembrance of our fallen comrades on 27 and 28 March. He passed around several examples of poppies that could be given, including one type made of cloth. Post is working with the local American Heritage Girls to assemble the traditional paper poppies using kits from the American Legion.

Department Spring Conference. Commander McKinney noted that the Department of Virginia was holding its Spring Conference in Virginia Beach from 11 to 13 March.

For the good of The American Legion.

Sons of the American Legion Event. Comrade Jim Linn noted that the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) were having an event at the Little Theater of Alexandria on 15 March. Cost is \$100 per couple or \$60 for individuals.

Legion License Plate. Comrade Larson noted that the Department of Virginia is working on an American Legion license plate and needs more interested members to submit requests for the plate before the Commonwealth will approve the design. More information at valegion.org (look for the license plate.)

Post 290 Golf Tournament. Comrade Larson presented information about the golf tournament sponsored by Post 290 to be held on 2 May 2016 at the Medal of Honor Golf Course, USMC Base, Quantico. Shotgun start at 0800. Cost is \$80 per person, with lunch and beverages served. If you are interested, send an e-mail to vice_commander@staffordpost290.org or call Ken White at 540-846-4053.

Book Recommendation. Commander McKinney recommended the book, "Where Youth and Laughter Go" by LtCol Seth Folsom. The book takes a firsthand look Marines in Afghanistan.

Closing. At 2107 hours, there being no further business to bring before the Post, Comrade Loomis delivered the closing prayer and thereafter Commander McKinney adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting will be 1930 hours, 14 April 2016, at the Mills Recreation Center.

Our webpage is: <http://ashburnlegion.org/>

Check out our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/alpost2001AshburnVA>

Our webpage is: <http://ashburnlegion.org/>

Loudoun Salute 2016: <http://www.loudounsalute.com>