



LEONARD W. KIDD
AMERICAN LEGION POST 2001
Minutes of Meeting
14 April 2016



Members in Attendance: John Alban, David Austin, Michael Ball, Gerry Christeson, Tag Greason, Pete Holleran, Norm Larson, Jim Linn, Chuck Loomis, Chris Marcoux, Frank Mullen, Larry Rosenberger, Richard Ryan, Joe Scalione.

Guests: Jason Brownell (Hero Homes), Bob Hough (Baseball Coach), Tim LeMaster.

General Meeting.

Opening. First Vice Commander Chuck Loomis began the meeting at 1936 hours. The colors were posted prior to opening. Comrade Loomis delivered the opening prayer and read the POW ceremony while the acting Sergeant at Arms Larry Rosenberger prepared the POW chair of honor.

Report of Officers.

Post Minutes. The Adjutant presented the minutes from the March 2016 meeting, having been distributed earlier. A member moved to accept the minutes of the meeting into the Post archives, and the motion was passed by voice vote.

New Members. The adjutant introduced two candidates for membership. Mr. Tim LeMaster was at the meeting and gave a short summary of his service in the US Air Force from 1985 to 1997. Not able to attend, Tanya Scalione served on active duty in the US Air Force and is still serving in the US Air Force Reserves. Comrade Joe Scalione presented a brief summary of her service. Following the presentation, the members of the Post in attendance approved by unanimous voice vote the new members. Welcome to our Post Tim and Tanya.

Participation in Political Events. Adjutant Larson reminded the members present that the Legion encouraged participation in the political process but individual Legionnaires are not authorized to wear their Legion headgear and/or signed/emblazoned clothing to political rallies and events. This is to avoid the appearance that the American Legion is endorsing a particular candidate or party.

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. The Post will elect officers for 2016-2017 at the May meeting.



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Finance. The Finance Officer Richard Ryan reviewed the budget and presented the finance report for March. A member moved to accept both reports into the archives of the Post, subject to audit. The motion was passed by a voice vote.

Post Service Officer / Loudoun County Salute to Veterans. Comrade Joe Scalione provided an update on service officer support to the Salute (15 October, from 0900 to 1800, at Stone Bridge High School.) Comrade Scalione also gave a short update that the rules for claims for out of pocket expenses for emergency care costs has changed and anyone who may have had a claim denied between 2009 and - present should consider revisiting their claim. First Vice Commander Loomis pointed out that Post member Comrade Mike Ball is the Loudoun County Veterans Program Coordinator; he can provide info on county programs to any vets who might need assistance.

First Vice Commander's Report. 1st Vice Commander Chuck Loomis discussed the recent Scout Troop 2970 Court of Honor where the scouts presented Post Chaplain Al Gabriel, Comrade Tag Greason, and him with a "bolo" tie made with grommets taken from the ashes of the flags retired during the last flag retirement ceremony. The Scouts had cleaned and polished them to be included on the bolo ties given to those adult guests who had participated in the 17 September, 2015, Post-supported annual Troop Flag Retirement Ceremony held at Hillside Park in Broadlands. He also discussed Post 2001 sponsorship of Cub Scout Pack 1500, led by Comrade Scott Morse, assisted by Comrade Dennis Kellen, as well as the Pack Chartering Ceremony attended by Commander McKinney, First Vice Commander Loomis, Second Vice Commander Bob O'Such, Adjutant Norm Larson, Comrade Tobin Seven, Comrade Biggs and two scouts from Troop 2970

Old Business.

Discussion of a Families of Veterans Day, as proposed by Comrade Sam Meyers was postponed to the next meeting.

Donations. Comrade Ryan reviewed our proposed upcoming donations to several organizations. Previous decisions by the membership authorized donations to Boulder Crest Retreat (\$2500), and Operation Home Front (\$2000). Comrade Ryan proposed new donations to: Operation Vets Haven (\$1000), and for Sgt Charlie, the therapy dog used during visits to hospitalized veterans, \$600 to cover a year's supply of dog food. The owners currently personally bear all expenses in caring for Charlie. A member moved to approve the donations as discussed. The motion was seconded and following further discussion, the motion passed by voice vote.

New Business.

Hero Homes. At the invitation of Finance Officer Ryan, Mr. Jason Brownell gave an overview of the Hero Homes program that works to build homes for disabled veterans. The next project is in Purcellville with a ground breaking ceremony on 23 April. The goal of this 23 home development is to have 4 or 5 homes be dedicated to veterans support. As they move further into construction, they will identify the supported veteran at the 60% build point for each planned veteran home. At this point, they will finalize the specifics of how the veteran will be financially supported, etc., and more information will be forthcoming on how the Post may be able to help. The organization is sponsoring a "Classic Car



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and Motorcycle Cruise” in Purcellville on 20 August to support their efforts and fundraising. For more information, go to <http://cloudonate.com/projects/hero-homes>.

Boys and Girls State. The Post conducted interviews of boys and girls from the local high schools on 15 March. Overall, Post interviewed 17 students and all qualified for the program. As of the meeting, the Post had funding for 14 participants and was working on additional funding to send as many as possible.

Baseball. Baseball Committee Chair Jim Linn provided an update on the Post’s American Legion baseball team. This year the team has 18 players. The Post welcomed Bob Hough, the new coach for the team, who gave a short presentation on the team and upcoming events.

Memorial Day Poppies. Comrade Larry Rosenberger presented an update on the Memorial Day poppy distribution by our Post. Post will distribute poppies in remembrance of our fallen comrades on 27 and 28 May at the Ashburn Village Giant store. Please contact Comrade Rosenberger or Comrade Larson to sign up for the event. Watch for more e-mails about this event.

For the good of The American Legion.

Honor Guard. Comrade Dave Austin discussed his efforts to assist finding an honor guard to participate in a service for a local Veteran in Herndon. Unfortunately, there were no honor guards available to support this effort.

Legion Riders - Post 150 Poker Run. The Legion Riders and Post 150 are sponsoring a motorcycle Poker Run on Sunday 30 April. Registration is at 0900 at Jimmy’s Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring Street, Herndon. Cost is \$20 per rider and \$10 per passenger. The ride will take you throughout Loudoun County over a course of about 90 miles. Contact the Legion Riders at LoudounALR@gmail.com or on FaceBook at American Legion Post 150.

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.

MeetUp Page. Comrade Frank Mullen has started a “Meetup” page for our Post that will provide information on upcoming meetings and events. If you would like to join the page, visit <http://www.meetup.com/American-Legion-Post-2001-Ashburn-VA/> and sign up.

Closing. At 20:59 hours, there being no further business to bring before the Post, Comrade Loomis delivered the closing prayer and adjourned the meeting.



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The next meeting will be 1930 hours, 12 May 2016, at the Mills Recreation Center.

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

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

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

Meetup : <http://www.meetup.com/American-Legion-Post-2001-Ashburn-VA/>