

## LEONARD W. KIDD AMERICAN LEGION POST 2001

Minutes of Meeting 13 October 2016



**Members in Attendance:** David Austin, Michael Ball, Bruce Biggs, Rick Carr, Steacy Hicks, James Hinkle, Mary Gubler, Pete Holleran, Carl Johnson, Norm Larson, Chuck Loomis, Sam Meyers, Nick Monje, Frank Mullen, Bob O'Such, Greg Rhoades, Larry Rosenberger, Richard Ryan, Joe Scalione, Chris Terrio.

**Guests in Attendance**: Pauline Furlong (candidate for membership), Sonnie Dickerson (16<sup>th</sup> District Vice Cdr)

**General Meeting.** The meeting was at Mills Recreation Center.

**Opening**. Commander Chuck Loomis began the meeting at 19:30 hours. The colors were posted prior to opening. Chaplain James Hinkle delivered the opening prayer.

## Report of Officers.

## Adjutant.

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

**Change of Command.** The Adjutant reviewed the Executive Committee's endorsement of our new Post Commander, Chuck Loomis, who assumes command in accordance with the Post By-Laws following the passing of Charlie McKinney. Upon assuming command, Commander Loomis has appointed Bob O'Such as First Vice Commander (previously Second Vice), and Joe Scalione as Second Vice Commander (Joe retains his position as Post Service Officer).

**Finance Officer.** The Finance Officer Richard Ryan reviewed the budget and presented the finance report for September 2016. A member moved to accept the report into the archives of the Post, subject to audit. The motion was passed by a voice vote. There was also discussion on the recent initiatives to provide financial aid to Veterans in need.

**Second Vice Commander**. Comrade Scalione provided an update on the process for validating the military service of Veterans who receive assistance from our Post. This is to ensure that our comrades who have served get support and at the same time avoid "stolen valor" type requests.

**First Vice Commander**. Comrade Bob O'Such read a letter from an American Heritage Girl who has volunteered to assist the Post. He also provided an update on the 15 October Loudoun Salute to Military and Veterans. Comrade Chris Terrio put together the event program for the Salute (thanks Chris!). Comrade Nick Monje has been working hard with Chris on seeking and managing donations for the event (thanks Nick!). Comrade Mary Gubler is running the concessions for the event and discussed some of the details. To wrap it up, Bob O'Such noted that there were 30 groups scheduled to have tables at the event.



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**Membership**. Pauline Furlong, Air Force veteran, presented a short biographical sketch of her Service in the Air Force. In accordance with the Post By-Laws, the members present discussed the new candidate and voted to accept her into the Post by unanimous voice vote.

**Awards**. The 16<sup>th</sup> District Vice Commander, Sonnie Dickerson, presented the Legionnaire of the Year Award to Comrade Greg Rhoades. Greg has done fantastic work with the Boys State and Girls State programs.

**Boys and Girls State.** Comrade Greg Rhoades gave a quick update on this year's Boys and Girls State program. Post 2001 sent 15 total participants this past summer. The participants represented six area high schools.

**Funding for Loudoun Salute.** Comrade Chris Terrio gave a short update on the current state of funding. Comrade Nick Monje noted that the Knights of Columbus had donated \$200 by check and \$40 in cash.

**Gold Star Mothers Monument.** Comrade Monje discussed the Gold Star Mothers Monument project that he is working and noted that the project has received final approval for the land to be used as the site for the monument.

**Loudoun County Veteran Assistance.** Comrade Mike Ball (a member of our Post and Loudoun County Veterans Programs Coordinator) gave an update on projects to assist Veterans within the county.

**Scouting**. Comrade Bruce Biggs provided an update on the upcoming flag retirement ceremony. The Boy Scouts will be conducting the ceremony at Hillside Park on Thursday 20 October at 18:30 hours.

Salute Fund Raising. Comrade Monje provided an update on fund raising for the event. Comrade Chris Terrio has put together a flier for the event that will be of great value in fundraising and increasing awareness. (Comrade Monje later highlighted that Staples had donated the copies for the fliers to our Post.) M&M Print and Design in Leesburg is the major contributor for printing for the Salute and has also contributed fliers to the effort. Comrade Monje reminded everyone that "fundraising is a team sport". We encourage all Legionnaires to actively support getting the gord out and identifying contributors/sponsors so we can continue our mission of supporting our military, veterans and their families in our Loudoun community. Comrade Larry Rosenberger noted that he would be conducting a raffle at the Loudoun Salute to raise funds using several of the "in-kind" donations as prizes.

**Veterans Day Poppy Distribution.** Comrade Larry Rosenberger gave an update on plans to distribute poppies in remembrance of our fallen comrades as we approach Veterans Day. Members of Post 2001 will distribute poppies on 4 and 5 November at the Ashburn Village Giant supermarket. Post is working to have volunteers from 09:30 to 19:30 on both days. Contact Larry to participate.

#### General Announcements.

**Poster/Essay Contest for Loudoun Salute.** Comrade Greg Rhoades gave an update on the poster and essay contest for the Loudoun Salute. These events are for students from our local schools to present



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posters or essays relevant to the military and Veterans. The winning posters and essay will get a cash prize.

**Navy Birthday**. Comrade Sam Meyers noted that it was the 241<sup>st</sup> birthday of the US Navy.

**Suicide Prevention**. Comrade Meyers also pointed out the organization "22 Until None" (see their website at <a href="http://www.22untilnone.org/">http://www.22untilnone.org/</a>) is working to raise awareness of Veteran suicide.

**Marine Corps Ball.** Comrade Dave Austin noted that the Marine Corps Ball is scheduled for 12 November. (http://loudounmarines.org/buy-ball-tickets.html)

**Closing**. At 21:04 hours, there being no further business to bring before the Post, Chaplain Gabriel delivered the closing prayer and Commander Loomis adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting will be at 1930 hours, 10 November, at the Mills Recreation Center, 43895 Grottoes Drive, Ashburn, Virginia.

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

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

Loudoun Salute 2016: <a href="http://www.loudounsalute.com">http://www.loudounsalute.com</a>

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