



**Guests**: Tim Hood (Virginia Department of Veterans Services); Jimmy Joint and Angela Joint (keepers of Sergeant Charlie the Therapy Dog).

General Meeting. The meeting was at the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department Station 6.

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

# **Report of Officers.**

**Post Minutes.** The Post Adjutant was absent. The minutes from August were presented in his absence, having been distributed earlier. A member moved to accept the minutes into the Post archives. The motion passed by voice vote.

**Welcome Visitors**. Commander Loomis welcomed our guests, Bob Brady 16<sup>th</sup> District Adjutant; Ken Kilmeyer: Flags for Heroes; Tom Grant: Loudoun County Veteran Services; Bob Stein: visitor from Fairfax Post; and Stan Murphy: visitor veteran from Ashburn Fire Department.

**Commander Comments**. Commander Loomis spoke about the status of Post Members weathering the storm, Irma, in Florida – they are doing alright and appreciate the prayers.

**Finance Officer.** The Finance Officer, Richard Ryan, not present at the start of the meeting and the Commander postponed the Post financial report.

**First Vice Commander**. First Vice Commander Bob O'Such noted that we are appreciative of Tom Grants' wisdom and we look to benefit from his service in Ashburn as the new Loudoun Vet Services Coordinator. He's looking forward to working with him and the county on the upcoming SALUTE event. The two main purposes of SALUTE are to allow an encounter with veterans and the services officers as well as to extend the value of patriotism to the youth of the county. There are two contests for SALUTE – both the Poster and Essay contest which have been successful with support in the past. Frank Mullen is the executive director of SALUTE, he's doing a great job, but cannot act alone – he needs help. Please step up and serve. We're excited to have 4-Star General Lester Lyle, former USAA Chairman to speak.

**Chaplain**. Chaplain Hinkle offered words and prayers to victims of IRMA and Harvey, and encouraged support either through churches or civilly. Note that Legionnaire Pete Holleran is out of rehab!

#### Old Business.

**Loudoun Salute to Veterans.** Comrade Frank Mullen, leading Post 2001's efforts for the Salute, provided an update on the event planning and work to develop sponsors. He stated that we are doing well in the basic structure, but we need more help in getting the word out. A reminder that this is a fundraising event that supports the post. Loudoun County is helping with contests and video presentations. Comrade Mullen also talked about ways of getting publicity out.



# LEONARD W. KIDD AMERICAN LEGION POST 2001 Minutes of Meeting 14 September 2017



The event will be on 28 October 2017 at Stone Bridge High School. The Loudoun Salute team is looking for additional assistance in several areas – if you are interested please contact Frank Mullen (<u>fmullen@liquidcapitalcorp.com</u>).

**Honor Flight**. Comrade Sam Meyers spoke of upcoming honor flights. If you are interested in greeting these Veterans as they arrive at the airport or providing other assistance during their visits, contact Comrade Meyers (Schwanme@aol.com) or visit <u>https://heroeswelcomeiad.com</u>

**Boys/Girls State.** Post sent 22 participants from the local area this past year – the  $75^{th}$  anniversary of the program. One Legionnaire noted that all are welcome on the Friday afternoon of the event for the parade, dining with the students, etc. Stay tuned for next year!

#### New Business.

**Flags**. Ken Kilmeyer of the Rotary Club of Sterling spoke on the 100 flags that were planted through donations along the corridor of route 7 between the Lakehouse Restaurant and the Regal cinema – a sight to behold. November  $4^{\text{th}} - 13^{\text{th}}$ , 2017 – the flags will be out again. See <u>www.sterlingrotary.org</u> for more info on donating or helping. Ken gave the history of the USS Forrestal fire incident during the Vietnam buildup and addressed questions.

**Loudoun County Veterans Services**. Tom Grant, new Veteran Service Officer for Loudoun County – Army Veteran from New York, enlisted in 1972 and commissioned in 1978 retired in 2004. He took the job in Loudoun County because it was something he wants to do – a way to serve the veterans who serve the nation. With only 96 hours on the job, he realizes he cannot do it alone and will be relying on all the service organizations for help. There are thousands of vets and families in Loudoun County, it is a big job, and he appreciates support. A big thanks to Mike Ball for all the work he did to set this up.

**Legion Junior Shooting Team**. Comrade Han Kuo has done the research on setting up a Junior Shooting Team for the Legion Post. Open to all 17 and under. It is a feeder for the Junior Olympics. The .177 air rifles cost around \$450 and each shooter should have his own. It takes at least five Legion members to support a team. The challenge is finding an indoor venue with the insurance to support the shooting. Continuing to research.

#### **General Announcements.**

Flag Retirement. Flag Retirement Ceremony coming up on October 5<sup>th</sup> – looking for a venue.

**Veterans Day Poppies**. We need a Poppy Distribution Chair. Larry Rosenberg ran the events twice a year for the last four years. Post needs a new volunteer to step up. The poppies are given out freely, but the money collected as donations goes to veterans.

**Eagle Scout**. Scout Brian Biggs has a court of honor coming up – Brian worked with our Post on his Eagle Scout project and designed and built the American flag retirement boxes that are posted throughout the Ashburn community. The Court of Honor is scheduled for Saturday 18 November 2017 at the Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church 43115 Waxpool Road, Broadlands. The time is yet to be set.





### Good of the Legion.

Suicide Prevention. Reminder this is National Suicide Prevention Month.

**Other Happenings**. A photo of our Post Webmaster, Comrade Stan Wong and a Tuskegee Airman was passed.

Final announcements. Post extended thanks to Tom Grant.

Four Citations were issued at the meeting: 2016-2017 Legion Membership Goals Award Post Service Officer Certification for Nick Monje and Scott Morse 2016-2017 100% Old Dominion Award

**Closing**. At 20:37 hours, there being no further business to bring before the Post, Chaplain Hinkle delivered the closing prayer. Commander Loomis conducted the closing and adjourned the meeting.

The next general meeting will be at 1930 hours, 12 October 2017, at the Ashburn Volunteer Fire Department Station 6, 20688 Ashburn Rd, Ashburn, VA 20147.

Our webpage is: <u>http://ashburnlegion.org/</u> Check out our Facebook page at: <u>https://www.facebook.com/alpost2001AshburnVA</u> Honor Flights: <u>https://heroeswelcomeiad.com</u> Sierra Club Military Outdoors: <u>http://content.sierraclub.org/outings/military</u>