



**LEONARD W. KIDD MEMORIAL
AMERICAN LEGION POST 2001, Inc.**

Minutes of Meeting
14 November 2013



Members in Attendance: Terry Williams, Norman Larson, Al Gabriel, John Alban, Charlie McKinney, Larry Porter, Bernie Spriggs, Stanley Wong, Bob O'Such, Larry Rosenberger, Ron Milberg, Pete Holleran, David Austin, Chuck Loomis, Don MacEoin, Jon Canerday, Richard Ryan, Pete Haralampus

Guests in Attendance: Jon Elwell, Eric Erickson, Jim Linn, Dane Bannach, Ernest Bernhardt (candidates for membership), Bruce Biggs (membership in-process)

Open Meeting

At 1928, Commander McKinney commenced with the open portion of the meeting to honor the Boys and Girls State delegates sponsored by Post 2001. Comrade Greg Rhoades provided an overview of the Boys and Girls State program and introduced our delegates in attendance. They were:

Girls State:

Alexis James (Freedom) elected as one of two from Virginia to attend Girls Nation
Hannah Keely (Briar Woods)
Amanda Ryerse (Stone Bridge)

Boys State:

Mike Hickey (Stone Bridge)
Sam Little (Briar Woods)
Dan Rhoades (Briar Woods)
Matt Riley (Freedom)

Cristi Goldberg (Freedom) Counselor

Each of the delegates gave a two minute speech on their experience during this year's program.

Commander McKinney and Comrade Rhoades then presented certificates from the Post to each of the delegates.

General Meeting

Commander Charlie McKinney opened the meeting at 20:00. The colors were posted prior to opening. Chaplain Terry Williams delivered the opening prayer and Commander McKinney read the POW ceremony.

Post Minutes. Adjutant Larson presented the minutes from the October meeting and noted that they had been distributed previously. A member moved to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded, and the minutes for September were accepted into the archives of the post by unanimous voice vote.



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Membership. Two new candidates for membership and three for transfer into the Post presented themselves. The new members were Gary Bucy, a Navy veteran (had previously attended and been voted for acceptance), and Dane Bannach, currently on active duty with the US Air Force. Transfers were Jim Linn, Army veteran, Ernest Bernhard, a member from Delaware and a WWII US Navy veteran, Jon Elwell a Navy veteran now working with the US State Department Diplomatic Security, and Eric Erickson, an Army Veteran who had served in Baghdad, Iraq and now works at Department of Homeland Security. The members present voted to accept all of those presented into the Post, contingent upon all other requirements being met.

Finance. Comrade Larry Porter, Finance Officer, presented the finance reports for September and October and provided an account overview and balances to the membership. A member moved to accept the reports, subject to audit. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Unfinished Business:

Holiday Party. Comrade Larson gave a brief summary of the plans for the Post's Holiday Party to be held in place of our December meeting. As part of the event, Post will collect Toys for Tots. Comrade Dave Austin will be responsible for collecting the toys and getting them to the Toys for Tots organization. Comrade Austin pointed out that the program really needs toys for infants and teen girls. Comrade Spriggs asked if gift cards could be donated, and Comrade Austin gave a tentative answer that cards of \$10 or \$15 may be appropriate, but not for larger amounts. Comrade Spriggs pointed out that Navy Federal Credit Union members can by gift cards with no surcharge.

Honor Flights. Commander McKinney thanked all the members who supported this year's Honor Flights that bring veterans to Washington to see the monuments and other sights. Next flights begin in April 2014.

Second Vice Commander. Second Vice Commander John Alban discussed the poppy distribution over Veterans Day weekend. The Post distributed poppies in front of the Ashburn Village Giant on Friday 8 November and Saturday 9 November. He thanked all of the members who dedicated time to the effort and said that the generous donations to the Post amounted to \$3809.50 dollars.

First Vice Commander. First Vice Commander Al Gabriel discussed his work to set up a flag retirement ceremony. The Post does not have a fire pit to conduct the ceremony and Comrade Gabriel moved that \$200 be set aside to purchase a fire pit for this purpose. During the discussion, several ideas were proposed to include checking with the Ashburn Fire Department to see if they had a facility, and that the Purcellville Post does a flag retirement ceremony each Flag Day. The motion was tabled to allow for further research.

Comments for the Good of the Order:

Commander McKinney presented a letter from the USO Operation Enduring Care program that he received from that organization. He also set out wrist bands from the Boulder Crest Retreat for members to take and wear.



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Comrade Milberg raised the issue of presenting a resolution to accept all veterans into the American Legion, regardless of the period of service (war time or peace time). Commander McKinney said that he would look into this further and possibly draft a resolution.

Baseball Committee. Comrade Loomis stated that the Post Baseball Committee would meet this coming Wednesday, 20 November, at Potomac Green.

At 21:05, there being no further business to bring before the Post, Chaplain Williams delivered the closing prayer and Commander McKinney adjourned the meeting.

On 12 December at 1930, Post 2001 will host its annual holiday party at the Mills Recreation Center. Watch your e-mail for further details. The event will be a pot-luck with the Post providing soft drinks and the main meat dish. Members will be asked to bring a side dish or dessert. Spouses welcome! More to follow soon.

The next Post meeting will be 9 January 2014 at 7:30 pm at the Mills Recreation Center, 43895 Grottoes Drive, Ashburn.