



**LEONARD W. KIDD MEMORIAL
AMERICAN LEGION POST 2001
P.O. Box 1243
ASHBURN, VA 20146
www.ashburnlegion.org**



Still Serving Other Veterans, Our Country & Our Community!

22 December, 2016

My Fellow Legionnaires,

I want to thank you for your support and involvement in the activities of our Post this past year. I hope to see many more of you involved in 2017, adding your time and talents to the tremendous work that's been started helping veterans and youth in our community as well as encouraging patriotism however we can. We also need to continue "growing" the Post membership and I ask that you encourage all vets you know to become members of *your* Post.

2016 has been a year of challenges, victories, sadness, joy, but with many goals accomplished. For instance, we sponsored a Cub Scout Pack, led by a Post member; found three excellent coaches for the 2016 Knights baseball team that went on to win the District 16/17 championship, ending the season as Department (State) championship semi-finalists; ran a competition that provided Boys and Girls State scholarships to 7 boys and 8 girls representing five area high schools; assisted an Eagle Scout candidate with his project to build and place collection boxes for flags needing proper retirement in 8 HOAs, and later cosponsored a large, formal Flag Retirement Ceremony involving Cub and Boy Scouts; conducted the highly successful 3rd Annual Salute to Loudoun County Veterans and Families, raising over \$8,000 for Post projects and assistance to vets in need; held two highly successful Poppy Distributions at Memorial Day and Veterans Day, gathering several thousands of dollars in contributions from generous and patriotic Ashburn residents; partnered with several young citizens and girl and boy organizations to make poppies for distribution at minimum cost; kept our "adopted highway" section of Claiborne Parkway clear of trash; and provided a multi-echelon element to march in the Leesburg 4th of July Parade! Tragically, we lost our Comrade and Commander, Charlie McKinney, to cancer this year. Many of you and other veterans participated in honoring him and his family at the funeral and internment. Charlie has joined our numerous comrades in the Post Everlasting. He's missed, but fondly remembered.

Please note, we will be meeting at the Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department (AVFRD) starting 12 January at 1930 hours, 20688 Ashburn Rd, Ashburn, VA 20147. I hope you will join us then.

And lastly, a very Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah! During this holiday season, please remember our Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guard personnel who are away from home. Cathy and I wish all of you and yours a wonderful and safe Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

For God and Country,

Chuck

Chuck Loomis
Commander