AMERICAN LEGION | Leonard W. Kidd Memorial

American Legion Post 2001 | Ashburn, Virginia

POST 2001 DISPATCH | November 2026 EDITION



Commander Ken James
USAF Colonel (Retired)

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Each month brings many challenges to our ever-busy schedules, and November is another example especially with Thanksgiving around the corner. We kick off the month with our Annual Veteran's Day Poppy Distribution at Ashby Ponds and the Ashburn Village Giant November 8th and 9th-11th. Between Veterans Day and Memorial Day, these two events account for a good portion of the money used to take care of Veteran's in need. While volunteer turnout is good, we still have slots available so please consider volunteering. On November 12th we have our monthly meeting at the Brambleton Office, 23710 Schooler Plaza, Suite 2097. Following a brief business session, we will officially dedicate the new office and celebrate with cake and coffee. We will conclude the month's activities with our semiannual Firing Range Event at XCAL on November 23rd from 4:00-6:00PM. While there will be a variety of pistols available, you are welcome to bring your own. We will be sending a separate on-line signup that must be completed by November 18th. As you prepare to spend Thanksgiving with family and friends, we wish you safe travels and many fond memories of good times had by all!!

VA NEWS & RESOURCES

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed Nov. 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations…

Oct. 8, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the first "Veterans Day Proclamation" (PDF), which stated:

"In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all Veterans, all Veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, …"

For more info:
https://news.va.gov/125098/veterans-day-originated-end-of-world-war-i/

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/4 – Veterans Coffee Social (1st Wednesday of every month)

11/6 – 251st Marine Corps Birthday Ball

11/7, 9, 10, 11 – Poppy Distribution

11/11 – Veterans Day

11/12 – Post Monthly Meeting

11/14 – Wall Wash, Americans Disabled for Life Memorial

Event details can be found on our website, ashburnlegion.org

To our men and women in uniform, past, present, and future, God bless you and thank you.



POST 2001 HIGHLIGHTS

October was a busy month for Post 2001. Here are some of the highlights:

- Poppy Distribution is confirmed for Veterans Day week (Sat, Mon-Wed)
- Post Social at Ashby Ponds in conjunction with October Meeting
- Participated in Flag Retirement Ceremony with VFW 1177; Retired over 2000 flags

Buddy Checks
We encourage members to reach out to veterans in our community. A simple phone call can make all the difference to a fellow veteran.

Veteran suicide rates remain alarmingly high, serving as a distressing reminder of the urgent need for intervention. In the United States, it is estimated that an average of 17-24 Veterans die by suicide each day.

VETERANS SERVICES & SUPPORT

Post 2001's Veteran Services Officer helps Post members and Loudoun County veterans with no-cost assistance for VA disability benefits applications and guidance on other VA resources.

Program Spotlight
A vetern-led community hub for podcasts, gatherings, and workshops. Great organizations started by one of our members. https://theoathandoak.com/

Last month, Post 2001 helped:

85 Veterans aided with claims
9 Veterans provided financial aid
$4,893 of financial aid provided to Veterans and their families (includes contributions from other VSOs).

For more information on Veterans Services, visit our website. https://ashburnlegion.org/veterans-services/

Veterans Crisis Line
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Post is looking for volunteers to help on several of the Post Committees and Programs, including:

- Looking for Volunteers to join the Post Color Guard Team, Social Media, and Publicity



MEMBERSHIP MILESTONES

Membership Goals:

Post met the October 55% Membership Renewal Goal. Next goal is to hit 65% in November.

New Members:

Chris Welch, USMC Veteran

Birthdays:

Daniel Moore, Patrick Tynan, Sandra Clement, James Flanders, Maryanna Diaz, Michael Turner, James Mullen, Hector Rodriguez Jr, John Whitmire, Samuel Meyers, Ken James, Santos Munoz, Joseph Rawson, Michael King, Dean Edmundson, Sheryl Butler