



American Legion Post 177 Fairfax, Virginia

# LEGION NEWS

For God and Country

3939 Oak Street

703-273-2250

**APR-MAY 2013**

**NEW MEMBERS**  
**Feb - Mar 2013**

A Grayson Bishop  
Nicholas B Cortis  
Robert E Duso  
Brain G Gawne  
David Holtman  
Rex H Howke  
Joseph L Johnson  
Jae M Lee  
David Lewis  
Edward B Major  
Michael R McKenna  
John Milton  
Steven W Nicholas  
James S Okeefe  
Randy L Perry  
Edward J Pokora  
James A Procnunier III  
Eugene Slebrch  
George E Swick  
Oscar H Wygul  
Jim Zalewski

**2012 MEMBERS - 963**  
**2013 MEMBERS - 883**

**HONORARY**  
**LIFE MEMBERS**

William J. Anderson  
Alvin W. Doehring  
Louis C. Frank  
Edward N. Heitchew  
George L. Lamborn  
Anthony F. Osborne  
John W. Price  
Robert B. Sussan



## National Commander Visits Post 177

American Legion Fairfax Post 177 hosted National Commander James E. Koutz for lunch on 1 April 2013. While at the post CMDR Koutz addressed the assembled Legionnaires about the American Legion's program "Operation Comfort Warriors", and accepted a donation of \$20,000 for that program. He also received a proclamation from L. Scott Lingamfelter on behalf of Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell, and one from the Mayor of the City of Fairfax.

In December 2012, shortly after Christmas, Tom Hovis lost his battle with cancer. Tom had been Post 177's Historian for many years and was always doing something to honor and care for America's Veterans. After his death, his wife Ann gave the post a gift of \$10,000 to be used to benefit wounded warriors. Post 177's membership voted in a regular meeting to add \$10,000 to that amount and donate it all to Operation Comfort Warriors. Post 177 Commander Michael F. Kimlick and Ann Hovis made the presentation of \$20,000 in Tom's honor for Operation Comfort Warriors.

OCW is a program operated by The American Legion which provides service members with comfort items, things most of us here at home consider necessities like music players, computers, cell phones and other personal items. As CMDR Koutz pointed out "The military is providing the healthcare and other things the wounded soldier needs, but that isn't all there is to recovery". A soldier recovering from wounds in a hospital may not medically need to talk to his/her spouse half a world away, but it sure wouldn't hurt. Operation Comfort Warriors endeavors to fill the gap between "need" and "comfort".

Then L. Scott Lingamfelter addressed the group and presented a proclamation to CMDR Koutz from Governor Bob McDonnell recognizing and commending him for his leadership of the American Legion, the largest organization of wartime veterans. His comments focused on the unique bonds veterans share and their responsibility to sustain the ideal that is America.

Neither the Mayor nor any of the City of Fairfax Council members were able to attend the

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**Post Officers****Commander**

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**Junior Past Commander**

Robert B. Sussan  
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**Executive Comm. Members-At-Large**

John Bagg, Charles E. Camper,  
William F. Hendricks

**Legionnaire of the Year**

JOHN W. PRICE

**Corporate Board**

James C. Brown, Charles E. Camper,  
Stanley L. King Jr.,  
Walter Potock.,  
Kenneth J. Strafer, Jonathan C. Thacher

**Building & Grounds Chairman**

Walter Potock

**Sons of the American Legion**

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703-307-0671  
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**Post 177 Legion Riders**

Brad Watkins, Director  
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**Auxiliary Unit 177**

Sandra K. Price, President  
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The big news for this newsletter is the election of Officers for 2013-2014. There is a requirement to provide the membership with the names of those seeking to become an officer of the Post for next year. Our Constitution and By-Laws, Article VII, Section 4 (as amended 13 October 2010) requires a quorum of not less than 6% of the members in good standing to vote at the May membership meeting to elect officers for the next year. **A quorum for this year's election requires about 70 members to cast their vote on the day of the election (May 8) between the hours of 0730 and 1900 hours.** Please know that casting your vote anytime during the day will help meet the 6% quorum requirement and you will be considered present at the meeting if you vote during the day and are unable to attend the meeting. This year most of the officer positions are not contested, however, **a 6% quorum is required to vote to make the election official.** To ensure that the election is conducted according to the requirements of our Constitution and By-Laws, Post member Jim Brown, is leading the effort and will manage all aspects of the election process. You will find the slate of those seeking office and the position they desire on Page 6.

Another topic I wanted to talk about is "Service to Others" and remind everyone of some of the programs our Post operates to service our members, veterans and the community to include our youth programs.

Our Oratorical Contest had five contestants this year and our rep finished third at District. Last year our contestant finished second for the Department. For Boys State we will be sending 22 delegates this year. Our Legion baseball team is getting ready to start the season and will be playing at Fairfax High School on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The Challenger Baseball Season has started; the league has grown to four teams and over 50 players. The Post also supports a Boys Scout Troop, a Sea Scout Ship, a Civil Air Patrol Squadron and a Cub Scout pack.

The Post Honor Guard is always busy either out in the community or providing support for a memorial service. We are also the Post home for the Wound Warriors Amputee Softball Team coached by one of our SAL members. The Post also supports Final Salute, a homeless shelter for female veterans with a member of the Auxiliary providing daily support as one of the "house moms". One of our newer programs is providing movie tickets to the Warrior Transition Battalion at Fort Belvoir for PTSD patients.

Our Service Office has initiated the "Helping Hands Program", and has coordinated with the DAV to provide assistance to any veteran needing support for their VA claim. The claims assistance seminar she organized at our Post in February had over 150 veterans from Virginia and Maryland attending.

The last program I will address is our support to the WW II veterans with Honor Flight. An example is the group we hosted from Tennessee over the April 13 weekend with Friday Night Dinner, box lunches and the Aux hosted them for their Saturday night buffet.

Our Sons of the American Legion Squadron, Auxiliary Unit, and American Legion Riders Chapter also have their own programs. This list cannot include the individual acts of generosity all of you do on a daily basis to help each other, our veterans or contribute to the community. Thank you for all you do.



FOR GOD AND COUNTRY  
Michael F. Kimlick  
COMMANDER

After attending our executive board meeting last night , I was a little concerned about what has been going on in our social quarters so this is why I am addressing this hand full of small issues.

1) No one should be walking behind the bar to serve them selves or to grab anything from the kitchen with out getting the Bartender’s permission except for coffee.

2) Yelling at or disrespecting any of our employees at the Post constitutes unacceptable behavior and persons doing so will be reprimanded and removed from the establishment.

3) There is no excuse for fighting in this establishment and it will not be tolerated.

All members, Legionnaire, Auxiliary, and SAL are asked to read the Club 177 House Rules. They are posted on the bulletin board in the Post and also on our web site. Here is the link:

[http://fairfaxpost177.org/files/4212/8140/7737/House\\_Rules.pdf](http://fairfaxpost177.org/files/4212/8140/7737/House_Rules.pdf).

The point I am making is that no member is more special than any other member. We have house rules and bylaws that every member should follow.

I like to think of the Post members as another family that I have, we can't allow a few bad eggs to spoil the dozen. I have been trying really hard to sift through these issues. People please come to Doug or myself if you have any issues in the social quarters, please don't take matters into your own hands if you don't think you have been treated equally by our employees, or if you may see something that you don't believe is right, let us know immediately and the issues will be handled.

Thank you  
 Luke Munson 3rd Vice  
 for God and Country

**1st Vice Commander Report**

Spring has sprung and summer’s right around the corner. As of this writing (March), the Post is at 90+% of its membership goal for this year. Our goal for this year is 1,000 members. Membership is the key ingredient to a successful Post and Post members are its recruiters. The American Legion needs you to actively recruit new members. Your membership is the life-blood that drives all of the programs that support our community, youth and veterans. The last year has seen several great activities to demonstrate this, including a partnership with the Disabled American Veterans that supports our veterans with VA claims, Boys & Girls State, the Oratorical Contest,

and Legion, Little League & Challengers baseball, among others. A very active American Legion Riders (ALR) program has supported the Post and the American Legion with over 5,000 hours of donated time since November. A very active Auxiliary supports the Post with fund raising and other activities, and a Sons of the American Legion (SAL) continue to support the Post with activities such as renovation of our game room. These are all activities and programs that rely on membership and membership relies on you. Go out and recruit a new member today.

**Brad Watkins  
 1st Vice Cmdr.**

<b>Membership Eligibility Dates</b>	
<b>April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918</b>	<b>(World War I)</b>
<b>December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946</b>	<b>(World War II)</b>
<b>June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955</b>	<b>(Korean War)</b>
<b>February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975</b>	<b>(Vietnam War)</b>
<b>August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984</b>	<b>(Lebanon/Grenada)</b>
<b>December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990</b>	<b>(Operation Just Cause - Panama)</b>
<b>*August 2, 1990 to today</b>	<b>(Operation Desert Shield/Storm)</b>

Membership applications are available at the Post Home, on the National website ([www.Legion.org](http://www.Legion.org)) or on our website – [www.FairfaxPost177.org](http://www.FairfaxPost177.org)



Greetings,

With spring flowers blooming and the temperature a bit warmer we know that summer is just around the corner. Thanks to all that participate in the Queen of Hearts buffets, we have a lot of fun and the food is good. Hopefully we will see you at the next one.

Saturday April 20th, 2013; 8:00am - 2:00pm the Auxiliary will be hosting a YARD SALE!!

Someone wants that stuff you have that you don't want anymore. Rent a table and find a new home for those items. \$10.00 per table for members of the Legion/Auxiliary/SAL/AL Riders (any post), \$20.00 for non-members. Proceeds support Auxiliary programs.

Saturday May 4th, 2013 Kentucky Derby Day so stay tuned for more information concerning activities at the post.

Sunday May 12th, 2013 is Mother's Day and the Legionnaires will be serving BREAKFAST. Bring Mom to enjoy a nice meal along with great friendship.

Sunday May 19th, 2013 Unit 177 will host Girl's State Orientation starting at 1:00PM.

Friday May 24th, 2013 is the beginning of Rolling Thunder. We will be serving Friday Night Dinner to all the riders that come in for this BIG week-end.

Saturday May 25th, 2013 there will be breakfast, and starting at 1:00pm the SAL will be serving their famous BBQ Buffet. There will be lots of activities, with music and dancing. Come out and meet all the nice people from American Legion Posts from across this great USA.

Sunday May 26th, 2013, the Auxiliary will be in front of the Patriot Harley Davidson on Fairfax Boule-

vard and 6:30am to distribute poppies, serve coffee, donuts, baked goods, pass out flags and meet a lot of riders. This is a very impressive event if you have not attended, try to. It will restore your patriotism and remind you of what a great country we live in.

Monday May 27th, 2013 the HONOR GUARD will march to Chilcott's Grave to pay respect to this fine gentleman and to all our veterans.

During the May meeting we will hold the election for new officers. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Elly Burton who is the nominating committee chairman.

Remember Friday Night Dinners and Queens of Hearts on Saturday Night at 7:30pm.

Hope to see you at the post. We can always use volunteers, especially during Rolling Thunder week-end.



### **Candidates for Auxiliary Officers for 2013-2014**

President	Sandy Price
Vice President	Mary Nel Day
Secretary	Madelyn Windmiller
Treasurer	Nancy Shelton
Historian	Elly Burton
Chaplain	Joanne Schaffstall Ann Trexler
Sergeant-at-Arms	Angie Anderson

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY  
SANDRA K. PRICE  
UNIT PRESIDENT

### **American Legion Riders**

Winter is over and motorcycle riders are springing up all over the place. As of this writing (March), your ALR Chapter has already participated in several events to support veterans. One particular moving event is the Missing In America Project's interment of previously unknown cremains of veterans at Quantico National Cemetery. Several hundred riders escorted the cremains of sixteen veterans from southern Virginia to Quantico to honor their service. ALR Chapter 177 is looking forward to this year's ALR Run to the Thunder 2013 in May. Last year, over 600 riders left the Post to support Rolling



Thunder and we expect even more this year. We expect several hundred riders from all over the country to visit the Post again this year during Memorial Day weekend. Twenty vendors are slated to participate. The SAL will host their annual Memorial Day weekend BBQ. We will host a Friday night ride to the

Candle Light Vigil at the Vietnam Memorial and will lay a wreath the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday.

Thanks for supporting your American Legion Riders.

Brad Watkins,  
Director

**WARRIOR TRANSITION BATTALION**

Under the direction of Commander Mike Kimlic, Post 177 is partnering with Friends of Wounded Veterans headed by Bob Froehlich to provide ongoing support to the WTB (Warrior Transition Battalion) at Ft. Belvoir Va. The WTB consists of anywhere from 250 -400 currently active Afghanistan veterans, who've displayed symptoms of PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder).

To ease their transition during this difficult time Post 177 has provided 50 sets of movie tickets and snack vouchers for their use. We've also extended an open invitation to those members and their families to join us for Friday Night Dinners and monthly Legion breakfasts at no expense.

In addition we're also supporting those veterans stationed at Ft. Belvoir who have "full blown" PTSD and require monitoring 24/7. For those veterans, we're donating exercise equipment and exploring providing a Wi-Fi "hot spot" for their use since they have limited Wi-Fi access at their location.

Future efforts will include access to VA officials, job counseling/placement, financial support for movie tickets, and attendance at special Legion events.

I will continue to update you with our progress as we support those brave men and women who have gallantly risked their lives for our country.

**AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL**

HEY! The Nats aren't the only baseball team in town. Our Post 177 American Legion baseball team kicks off its season in June. The team will play Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. All of the games are currently scheduled to be played at Fairfax High School. The complete schedule should be coming out soon and will be posted in clubs Social Quarters. So make plans to come out and support our Post team.

**KENTUCKY DERBY**

Post 177 will be hosting our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Kentucky Derby Party on May 4, from noon until Derby post time (approximately 6:30 P.M.). Last year's party was a blast and we expect this year's to be even better. Every 10 minutes starting at noon and up until race time we will be giving away winning Derby tickets, there'll also be lots of Derby prizes and contests. There will be drink specials and the Ladies Auxiliary will be providing the food. So make a date to spend Derby day at the Legion.

**Sons of the American Legion**



The story of America's quest for freedom is inscribed on her history in the blood of her patriots.

*Randy Vader*

The past year has been an active and busy year for the SAL, and it is time to once again look forward to next year as we prepare to have our annual elections on May 8, 2013. It is imperative that we exercise one of the many freedoms granted to us by the likes of the organization that we have come together to support. With all of the actions that are taking place in foreign countries today, we need not to forget how fortunate we are to live in such a great country where our voice can be heard.

I would be remiss to not thank the 2012-2013 SAL Executive Board for all their hard work and dedication they have shown over the past year. In particular, my schedule this year has caused my absence from the Squadron many times; it is with much appreciation that I extend a heartfelt thank you to First Vice-Commander Jerry Miller, for always being there to represent and lead the squadron. I am a firm believer in the strength of team work, and I have had the honor to lead a strong team over the past 5 years. Everything that the SAL was able to achieve this year was as a result of the time and commitment made by these gentlemen and the support of our dedicated crew of SAL members. It is with the utmost sincerity that I thank you all for the great year.

As a squadron we can only be as strong as the membership makes us. As we prepare to start our next year, I encourage the new members to take this time to start to participate so that they can support the cause of the organization they made the decision to join not only by name but by actions. The current slate of nominations for the 2013-2014 Year stands at:



- Commander: Robert Tucker Jr.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: Gerald Miller
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Robert Tucker III
- Adjutant: Gary Weaver
- Finance Officer: Radleigh Smith
- Chaplain: David Shook
- Historian: Norvell Cooksey
- Sgt. at Arms: James Price

We are once again doing a Challenge Coin for our Post home, which goes on sale in May. These dog tag shaped coins are a great representation of the Post 177 Legion Family units. The costs of these coins are \$10, until May 22, 2013. After this time, the price will go up to \$15. So make sure you get your coin soon!

The SAL will be holding its annual Saturday afternoon cook out and entertainment during the Memorial Day Weekend festivities at our Post home, on Saturday, May 25, 2013. We will once again welcome the many out of town people who have made the venture to our town for Rolling Thunder! There will be music, good food, and good fellowship. We hope to see you there!

For God and Country  
 Ken Self  
 SAL Commander

Post 177 2013-2014 Slate of Candidates

\* denotes incumbent \*\* denotes 3 year term

<b>COMMANDER</b>	<b>Michael F. Kimlick*</b>	<b>JUDGE ADVOCATE</b>	<b>Thomas R. Devaney*</b>
<b>ADJUTANT</b>	<b>Bradford J. Watkins</b>	<b>SERGEANT at ARMS</b>	<b>John W. Price*</b>
<b>FIRST VICE CMDR.</b>	<b>Jeffrey R. White</b>	<b>SERVICE OFFICER</b>	<b>Lisa M. Roti*</b>
<b>SECOND VICE CMDR.</b>	<b>No candidate</b>	<b>**MEMBER at LARGE</b>	<b>John A. Gluffling</b>
<b>THIRD VICE CMDR.</b>	<b>Ray C. Broadway</b> <b>Lucas E. Munson*</b>	<b>**CORP. BOARD DIRECTOR</b>	<b>John A. Gluffling</b> <b>Jonathan C. Thacher*</b> <b>Gary N. Welschenbach</b>
<b>CHAPLAIN</b>	<b>Joseph J. Boyle*</b>	<b>3 seats to be filled</b>	
<b>FINANCE OFFICER</b>	<b>George A. Stewart*</b>	<b>LEGIONNAIRE of the YEAR</b>	<b>Jeffrey R. White</b>
<b>HISTORIAN</b>	<b>Anthony F. Osborne</b>		

**Post Everlasting**

Since the last newsletter the following members have transferred to Post Everlasting.

**Ronald R. Crooker**

Rest in Peace  
Comrades



**SICK CALL**

Please send SICK CALL notices to  
jwhite@fairfaxpost177.org or li-  
sa@roti.cc

*(Continued from page 1)*

lunch but Mayor Silverthorne gave a proclamation to Bob Sussan, 17<sup>th</sup> District Senior Vice CMDR, for presentation. The document commended CMDR Koutz for his leadership of the American Legion.

Sergeant First Class Daniel R. Burger and Staff Sergeant Luke Cranford from the Army Recruiting Command out of Fairfax and Manassas then came forward to present a plaque recognizing and thanking Post 177 for supporting the Manassas Recruiting Center.

Finally, it was Koutz's turn to speak. He talked about Operation Comfort Warriors pointing out that 100% of the money that is donated to OCW is spent providing items for service members. The American Legion pays for any and all administrative costs and much of that is done by volunteers. "You won't see television ads for OCW at any halftime show. We won't spend money on that kind of thing." He continued, encouraging the Legionnaires listening to publicize the program in their posts and communities. He also reminded everyone to make sure our local communities learn about all of the things that our Posts do. In addition to the many veteran support programs, Koutz mentioned the Oratorical Contest which culminates in an \$18,000 scholarship for the national first place winner and many thousands more in scholarships distributed along the way.

CMDR Koutz closed by thanking the group for their service to the Nation and to the Legion.

Legion Family Members,

While our Department Leadership was on tour throughout the Department, many photos were taken at the various stops of members with the National Commander James Koutz. All of the photo albums can be viewed at:




<http://imageevent.com/institor/department>

I would like to personally thank all that made this trip possible. The members of the Legion Family in Department of Virginia did an awesome job of welcoming and hosting our National Commander.

Thank you,

Bob Sussan

## April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>31</b> EASTER	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:00 - Exec. Committee Mtg. 	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 5:30 - 8:00 Friday Night Dinner - \$12	<b>6</b> 7:30: Queen of Hearts
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:00 - General Membership Mtg. 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5:30 - 8:00 Friday Night Dinner - \$12	<b>13</b> 7:30: Queen of Hearts
<b>14</b> Buffet Breakfast by SAL 	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 5:30 - 8:00 Friday Night Dinner - \$12	<b>20</b> 7:30: Queen of Hearts Auxiliary Yard Sale
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5:30 - 8:00 Friday Night Dinner - \$12	<b>27</b> 7:30: Queen of Hearts
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	14 April, 9:30-11:00: Second Sunday Breakfast by SAL 20 April, 8am - 2pm: Auxiliary Yard Sale 4 May: Kentucky Derby - check post for details 8 May, 7:30am-7pm: Post 177 ELECTION DAY			

## May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12 May, 9:30-11:00: Breakfast by Legionnaires 19 May, 1pm: Girls State Orientation - Post 177 24 May - 27 May: Memorial Day weekend. Events too numerous to list here. Check at Post.			<b>1</b> 7:00 - Exec. Committee Mtg. 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 5:30 - 8:00 Friday Night Dinner - \$12	<b>4</b> 7:30: Queen of Hearts Kentucky Derby
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:00 - General Membership Mtg. 	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 5:30 - 8:00 Friday Night Dinner - \$12	<b>11</b> 7:30: Queen of Hearts
<b>12</b> Breakfast by Legionnaires MOTHER'S DAY 	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 5:30 - 8:00 Friday Night Dinner - \$12	<b>18</b> 7:30: Queen of Hearts
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5:30 - 8:00 Friday Night Dinner - \$12 <span style="color: red;">Memorial Day Weekend -Run</span>	<b>24</b> 7:30: Queen of Hearts
<b>26</b> <span style="color: red;">to the Thunder</span>	<b>27</b> MEMORIAL DAY	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 5:30 - 8:00 Friday Night Dinner - \$12	



Legion News is published bi-monthly and is the 1st Place Winner of the 2007 VALPA "Best Papers Award" and 1st Place in the Nation for Large Posts winning the 2007 Al Weinberg Publication Award.

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS PRODUCED BY VOLUNTEERS OF THE POST.**

Non-profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Fairfax, VA  
Permit Number 17

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**WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS**



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
**FAMILY**

