



# Post scripts

The American Legion  
Volume 52, 6120 Amherst Avenue, Springfield Virginia

October 2007

23 September 2007

Comrades, Sisters and Sons,

After my first few articles of the year I've been encouraged by quite a few of you commenting favorably on them so I'll continue with my original purpose which is to keep you informed of my activities and the activities of the Post. This month I'm going to change the format slightly in an attempt to let you know at a glance the paragraphs subject and date. Then if you participated in the event or activity and/or already know about it you may choose to skip to the next topic. Reading my recent VFW "Camaraderie" in it's new format gave me the idea. Here goes:

**Corporate Board Meeting, 8/27:** At the monthly meeting the major topic was the extension of the GM's contract. It was signed prior to the approval of the budget and extends beyond the budget year (by seven months) and before being approved by the membership on 3 July. It was these two issues that caused the ExCom to question the legality of it.

## COMMANDER'S CALL

The ExCom has received a response from the Corporate Board on the issue and will take action on it at the September ExCom Meeting. The Corporate Board has not had a secretary in this Legion Year or in prior months so minutes haven't been available but I am advised that a secretary will be appointed when he transfers to our Post.

**Veterans' Bridge Walk, 8/28:** The sixth annual community bridge walk attracted about 250 members of the Springfield Community. Our Color Guard, led by Les Albers, brought our's and VFW 7327's Colors across the bridge and after everyone had gathered in our park under the Flags I was honored to welcome everyone to our Post Home and grounds. Supervisor Dana Kauffman was the host and he welcomed local politicians. Attendees enjoyed Mexican food and ice cream for dessert. Janet and Rex Buckley and Sarah O'Donnel helped me ice bottled water and get tables out to the park. Thanks.

**Adopt-a-Highway, 8/29:** I filled in for the Third Vice and with 23 Edison JROTC students and two of their instructors, LTC Kurt Berry and Sergeant Allston, we picked up trash along a mile stretch of Route 7900 (three miles total coverage). Upon completion we all enjoyed Siad's hamburgers, hot dogs and French fries. We all ate like we hadn't eaten in a while. My thanks also to Tony Dzierski who helped drop the students along the highway and serve lunch.

**Post General Membership Meeting, 9/4:** Minutes are on the web site and the bulletin board so I will not include points of the meeting except to point out that we conducted a short ceremony in honor of POW/MIA Day (21 September). Additionally we were honored to have the 17<sup>th</sup> District Commander, Bill Strawsburg, and two of his vice commanders, Mark Duke and Marvin Rodney visit.

continued on page 3.

## OCTOBER

### IN HISTORY

- 7<sup>th</sup> - War on Terror Began (2001-25 days after 9/11)
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Federal Holiday chosen to honor Columbus Birthday (12<sup>th</sup>)
- 13<sup>th</sup> - U.S. Navy established in 1775
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Cuban Missile Crisis Began
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - US Invades Grenada
- 24<sup>th</sup> - United Nations Day

### Corrections to September Post Script

Re September in Military History: 18 Sept. was the date the U.S. Air Force was established.

Re Legal Election notice on page 2: Nominations for the Committeeman position will be taken at the October 2 GMM

Re box for gifts for veterans: Liz Woodard and Dodie Meyer helped make the box

Re Cdr's father-in-law's age: He is currently 96 and will be 97 on 21 October.

**Post 176 Officers**

Commander.....Lew Lipscomb  
 1st Vice.....Ray Stone  
 2nd Vice.....George Tesla  
 3rd Vice.....Stu Bailey  
 Finance Officer.....Robert Cable  
 Chaplain.....Maudie Price  
 Sgt-At-Arms.....Ron Phillips  
 Adjutant.....Rex Buckley  
 Service Officer.....Ali Nikolai  
 Historian.....Ralph Nichols

**Executive Committee**

Committeeman 1yr.. .....Vacant  
 Committeeman 2yr.....Jim Brado  
 Committeeman 3yr.....Ken Hanson

**Corporate Board**

President 1yr.....Rod Carlone  
 Member 2yr.....Rich Tiner  
 Member 3yr.....Dennis Stokowski

**Unit 176 Auxiliary Officers**

President.....Marty McGrail  
 Vice President..... Vacant  
 Secretary.....Debra Weimer  
 Treasurer.....Andrea Sutherland  
 Chaplain.....Jere Vatter  
 Historian.....Mable Sanderson  
 Sgt-At-Arms.....Raheleh Faziollah  
 Asst. Sgt-At Arms.....Hazel Babler

**Squadron 176 Officers**

Commander.....Chip Byers  
 Vice Cmdr..... Bill Hall  
 Chaplain.....Art Childers  
 Adjutant.....Ted Byers  
 Sgt-At-Arms.....Tim Dioquino  
 Finance Officer.....Bill Swaner  
 Membership.....Terry Breyman

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Post Scripts is a monthly publication of Springfield American Legion Post 176. Publication deadline for article submissions is the 15th of every month.

**AUXILIARY UNIT 176 NEWS****EARLY BIRD DONS  
CHEF'S HAT**

The 2008 Early Bird Campaign is nearly over and will conclude with the Spaghetti Dinner on Tuesday, 9 October 2007, from 5:30 until 8:00 p.m. The menu will feature spaghetti and meatballs, tossed salad, bread and butter, coffee and tea, and dessert. The cost will be free to all Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members who have paid their 2008 dues. For members who wish to attend, but have not paid their 2008 dues, the cost will be \$10.

Please join us for our meeting, it is always on the first Tues-

day of the month starting at 7:30. Light refreshments will be served after our meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

We have a few positions' that are currently vacant. If you have an interest in helping your Auxiliary, please sign up today. We need "YOUR HELP" and your life experience is always greatly appreciated. We have a vacancy for the position of Vice President; this will serve as our 30-day notice for a new election. Janet Buckley has resigned her post. If anyone has an interest in this position, please, feel free to contact me

[Marty@mcgrail.com](mailto:Marty@mcgrail.com)

We are collecting food again for our families for the Holiday Gift Food Baskets. Please bring your food products and/or cash up to the lounge area where there is a box for our veteran's for the food and place your donations in the Auxiliary mailbox or give to one of our bartender's. Please give generously.

The Auxiliary will be collecting winter coats for those in need. Please have them

cleaned and in a plastic bag. Please leave at our Post home in the coat closet in the lounge.

Let's show our Community, our commitment and goal for leading the way by helping our families and comrades in need.

Members of the American Legion Auxiliary help to ensure that thousand of Americans learn the values of good citizenship. They take a leading role in sustaining our efforts in sharing ideas and interest in our troops. This dedicated group of women invites you to offer your help for the ones who have risked their lives in the name of Freedom for us. Please follow in their footsteps and join today! Support our "VETS."

Poppy time will be upon us soon and we will need you to help distribute Poppies. We will have sign up sheets at the Post for days and times, please sign up...after all it is for our family.

Keep up the Great work!!

For God and Country,  
Marty McGrail

**Executive Committee Info**

Lipscomb:	866-4919
Stone:	407-1962
Tesla:	922-9396
Bailey:	569-4074
Cable:	944-1333
Price:	751-0234
Phillips:	754-3206
Buckley:	764-7719
Nikolai:	301-266-4933
Nichols:	960-1880
Brado:	569-1305
Hanson	971-4040

### “Commander’s Call” continued

Git-R-Done is the 17<sup>th</sup>’s rally cry for the year. This means 100% membership as well as excelling in every other undertaking, not the least of which is the Department Convention in Falls Church in 2008

**Honor Flight, 9/8:** The second Honor Flight that 17<sup>th</sup> District and Post 176 members met at the WWII Memorial had 900 veterans visiting and being supported by legionnaires from NoVA. Just from Post 176 we had twelve members, families and friends providing water and guidance and wheelchairs. Thanks to all of you. Next one is 13 October!

**Monthly Breakfast, 9/9:** Ninety-five members and friends enjoyed our “all you care to eat” breakfast. I shake hands and talk to people while maybe bussing a table or two but the real workers on this Sunday were Bill Hall, Terry Breyman, Betsy and Dennis Egan, Doris Cortez, Les Grizzard, Tony Dzieriski, Liz Woodard, Sarah O’Donnel (the Post’s newest grandmother) and Floyd Bingham. Thanks folks. Without you volunteers we couldn’t have our monthly breakfasts.

**17<sup>th</sup> District Meeting, 9/9:** This year’s 17<sup>th</sup> District leadership held it’s first organizational meet-

ing at Post 130 in Falls Church. Comrade Eddie Dentz installed the officers and committee reports were presented. At 2 p.m. it was over and folks could see the remainder of the Skins game.

**Farewell and Tailgate Party, 9/9:** Starting with the kickoff of the Skins vs Dolphins game the Club Area/Lounge was really hopping. Our first tailgate party of the season commenced and at the same time we, with VFW Post 7327, bid farewell to Past 17<sup>th</sup> District and Post 176 Commander Terry Johnson (also a Life Member of VFW Post 7327) and to Auxiliary Member (both Auxiliaries) Beverly Edmonds who are departing the area to reside in sunny Florida. All enjoyed plenty of good food and two cakes provided by Post 7327. Of course we hope Terry and Beverly stop by and see us on return trips to NoVA. They aren’t an “item”- just business partners!

**Interservice Club Council of Springfield, 9/10:** This is my second Monday of the month “zero dark thirty” (7:30 am) meeting when members of the community get together and exchange information and plans and ideas. This month’s speaker was Delegate Dave Albo who explained what’s come to be called the “Driver

Abuser Fees”. In case I do not get around to preparing a separate article on the subject suffice it to say although Delegate Albo was a co-sponsor, the bill had all levels of State Government make changes. This meeting usually ends about 9:15 and I can get to Wakefield to do my 4-hours of volunteer work which is included in our Post’s annual report. If you’d like to be involved in this, talk with Jimmy Jones, John Schroeder or myself. Many of you are doing much in the way of volunteer work-the Post needs to capture the hours for our annual report.

**Bingo, 9/10:** This particular night I called. But I include it to thank all the volunteers who help every Monday from 5:30 or 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. and to ask those of you who’d like to give back something to the Post to call Tony Dzieriski or Bill Hall or me. Try it, you’ll like it! One night this reporting period I met with the Bingo Committee (Stu Bailey, Tony Dzieriski and Bill Hall) for an hour outlining what information I need and what you, the members, want to know about the Bingo operation, i.e. number of players and volunteers, expenses and profits. We should start hearing this information at the next GMM.

**Patriot Day, 9/11:** The Post held a service which lasted about an hour to honor those 3000+ victims

of the 9/11/2001 attacks. About 25 members of the legion family attended. Following the service we enjoyed sandwiches and soft drinks prepared by the GM and her staff. I want to thank George Tesla, Maudie Price, Chip Byers and Art Childers for their participation.

**Sons of the American Legion, 9/11:** I stopped by the meeting to thank the commander and members for all they’d done over the summer while technically not in session and to briefly talk about how I wanted to work with them this year.

**Cookout at VA Hospital, 9/14:** Post 176 members: Comrades Lipscomb, Price, Durham, Grizzard, Cortez and Jimmy Jones participated in a cookout and meeting for the patients, their family members and the staff of the Nursing and Rehabilitation Unit at the DC VA Hospital. Everyone enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs and delicious desserts. This annual cookout is sponsored by the American Legion and Auxiliary (NoVA), the VA Hospital’s Family Council and the Raytheon Company. Post 176 supplied the meats and the above named volunteers.

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**“Commander’s Call”**  
continued

**Retiree Open House, 9/15:** Annually Fort Belvoir (and most other Army installations) holds an open house for retirees living in the area. It’s to keep retirees up to date on what’s happening that affects them. I worked the booth with the VFW Post 7327 to recruit new members. Since Fort Belvoir has an American Legion Post (1775) I couldn’t try to recruit for us but I did talk with a few current members of our Post and a few people from our Springfield Community who now know us a little better.

**Lorton Post 162 Picnic, 9/15:** On two separate occasions we (Post members and family) had been invited by the 17<sup>th</sup> District Commander to his home Post’s picnic so Floy and I went. (wherever we are I drag her to the local AL and VFW Posts) We enjoyed ourselves and the fact that we met some people we had not known

before as well as the Post leadership. Thanks Commander Sam Ramseur for your very gracious hospitality.

**Queen of Hearts, 9/15:** In our Club Area every Saturday evening starting about 5:30 tacos (soft and hard shell) are available (three for \$2) and tickets for the game “Queen of Hearts” (\$1 per or 6 for \$5). Excitement builds until 7:30 when the drawing and attempt to uncover the “queen” occurs. Floy and I attended this particular night and a couple of others during this reporting period. I just donate-I’m extremely unlucky when it comes to door prizes, 50/50’s and the like. But the atmosphere and camaraderie in the Lounge is great.

**Meeting with Auxiliary President, 9/21:** Marty McGrail and I met for lunch and talked for over two hours of Post matters and how we needed and planned to work together this year. We left no stone unturned and were

brutally honest with each other. We’re planning to work together and have a great year. The one subject we forgot is “who’s preparing the early bird dinner?” By the time you read this we’ll have worked it out.

**Post 364 POW/MIA Ceremony, 9/21:** 16<sup>th</sup> District’s Woodbridge Post conducted a very nice ceremony on the actual day to remember POW/MIA’s from all wars. I had been invited so of course wanted to attend so Floy and I found our way using back roads (Hooes, Silverbrook, etc.) so as to avoid the parking lot called I-95 and arrived in plenty of time for the 6:30 ceremony. It was very nice and it was obvious that much work had gone into it.

**Jeff McGee the DJ, 9/21:** Still Friday evening Floy and I arrived back at the Post from Woodbridge to enjoy Sukie’s Friday dinner before going to the lounge and

listening to Jeff, the DJ, spin records (or whatever the modern term is) for a huge crowd that quite a few people were making “old home week”. Lou and Peggy Cook, PC Glenn Nicholas, Cheryl and Cindy were just a few of the crowd seemingly seeing each other for the first time in a while.

Between the Adopt-a-Highway and the ISCC of Springfield Meeting, Floy and I made a quick trip to SC to look in on my mother who has returned home and drove for the first time this week and who is regaining her strength and her father who continues to do okay even though he’ll be 97 on October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Please continue to keep our service men and women in your thoughts and prayers.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY,  
Lewis M. “Lew”  
Lipscomb, Commander

**NOTICE TO MEMBERS:** I have included telephone numbers for the ExCom members. Please follow current etiquette when calling (9am to 9pm) any member. I’ll take the lead to get the Corporate Board, Auxiliary and the Sons of the Legion to include their numbers in a later issue.

Commander

**NOTICE TO MEMBERS:** November’s General Membership Meeting will be on Tuesday evening the 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 hours. This change is IAW our Constitution and By Laws which states November’s meeting is the second Tuesday of the month to accommodate Election Day.

Commander



# Sons Of The American Legion

**Meetings resume:**

It was so great to see everybody at our September meeting. We had a wonderful time and discussed several ideas for service over the next year. The officers who were unable to be installed in June were installed at the meeting. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. We will be discussing the budget and spending for the next S.A.L. year as well.

**Boy Scouts**

The scouts are doing well and are getting back into the swing of things for the fall. Sgt. At Arms Dioquino reports that there will be opportunities for service so keep posted.

**BINGO**

Bingo Chairman Tony Dzierski has requested some assistance from the

Sons on Monday evenings. He would like at least one Son to volunteer as a “floater” to work “on call” on no more than one Monday evening a month. If you are interested, please contact either Tony Dzierski or Commander Byers.

**Honor Flight:**

On Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> We assisted nearly 900 veterans. It was a great day. We had veterans from Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. We will be assisting again in October but the date is still uncertain. It will likely be on the 13<sup>th</sup> but, please feel free to check with commander Byers (703-256-2286 or [jbyers@erols.com](mailto:jbyers@erols.com)) for more information.

**2008 MEMBERSHIP :**

The new membership

year is underway, and we are doing well. We are at approximately 35% of our Goal. It would be great if we can get to (or close to) 100% by the end of the year. So let us hear from you with your renewals or bring in a new member. Dues are \$25 for Senior Members, \$10 for Junior Members and \$15 for Dual Legion/SAL members. Let’s all work to exceed 100% this year. (Legionnaires: If you are reading this please consider joining as a Dual Member if you qualify. If your Father or any ancestor is a legion member or died subsequent to service which would have qualified him or her to join the Legion, you qualify as do any of your sons, Grandsons, or Stepsons.)

White House Ornaments  
The 2007 ornaments

are for sale and now is a good time to get them in preparation for the Holiday season. See any SAL member or ABC Manager in the lounge. They are the same price as last year (\$17.00) and they make great presents for friends and family. See form on bottom of page. Again these are most exquisite and make fine gifts and collectors items.

Chip Byers,  
SAL Commander

<p>NAME:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>ADDRESS:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Number requested: _____</p> <p>\$17.00 ea. for a Total of _____</p>
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## ***POST PARKING LOT***

Commuters who arrived too late to park in one of the VDOT spaces in the rear of our parking lot had resorted to parking in the empty Circuit City lot. Those commuters’ cars were towed on 11 September. So you guessed it! On the 12<sup>th</sup> commuters parked in our spaces reserved for our members and guests. The General Manager placed notices on the windshields of 12 vehicles advising of the legal parking in our lot but the illegal parking continues to a lesser extent. We do not have enough spaces to allow additional members to park in the upper part (non VDOT) of the parking lot. Annually in December the GM receives “Requests for Parking Permits” and conducts a lottery/drawing for those spaces.

## CORPORATE BOARD REPORT: PROPERTY REPAIRS NEEDED

Before I comment on the above statement, let me give you a rundown of a few items that were mentioned in past articles. Well, it happened as I said it might. The Federal Reserve has lowered interest rates this month and it may happen again in October. This is good timing for the post because we now have the financial records and status where we can take advantage of lowering rates and possibly re-finance the mortgage on the post. This will be a topic at the next board meeting. Also, at the November members meeting the board, in conjunction with the Finance Officer Bob Cable, will

present in power point format an overview on how the post is now managed and accounted for. You will find it interesting and hopefully you will be able to see for the first time all the business activity that goes on in the post.

Now, concerning property condition I must tell you that we have a big project at hand. Director Rich Tiner has done a very detailed review of the condition of the equipment in the post. He is presenting that information to you directly. Also, An assessment of the building structure needs to be done. I must tell you that for the last

15 years our property has been totally neglected. We had no scheduled maintenance on any equipment or structures. We had a severe long-term water leakage in many parts of the building. The board will get an assessment of the entire property with a cost to repair statement as well. We have already spent thousands of dollars in emergency repairs. The cost of replacing needed equipment and structure repairs could exceed 100,000 dollars. This is why we need to stay informed on the re-development process in Springfield. It is an option we have to absorb any cost that we may

have to pay to keep our property in good condition. Good business dictates we don't bury our heads in the sand.

I appreciate all the good comments that I have been receiving concerning all the improvements that have been made in the post during the past year. It is a 7-day a week job to have the kind of facility and services that are top-notch. I wish to thank the General Manager and all the volunteers who are committed to making it happen.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY,  
Rod Carlone

## Chaplain's Report by Maudie Price

Greetings Legionnaires, I sent several cards of get-well and sympathy in this reporting period as well as made several phone calls and e-mails to our Legionnaires. Comrade Jay Cabacar's Mother passed away. Comrade Sonny Thomas's Mother-law passed away. Comrade Jim Bertine is recovering from by-pass surgery. Comrade Dan Quaid is suffering with his knees and his wife is home recovering. Comrade Harry Cheseboro died on August

31, 2007. Comrade John Shroeder's wife is in hospice. I sent a welcoming e-mail to our new Legion Color Guard Member Tony Esteve. I with others attended the D.C. Veteran's Picnic. I was pleased to talk to hospital patients as they enjoyed the lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixings. The Honor Flight on September 8, 2007 said a lot about our Legion Family's ability to work together. Many bottles of water and much visiting with the World

War II Veterans included Our Department Commander Andy as well as District 17 and District 16 members and officers of the Legion Family. I ate Friday Night Dinner and attended the Post 176 entertainment on September 14th. A really good time was had by all. Please say a prayer for our POW-MIA Comrades; Some updates have been reported but the search goes on. Please add to your prayer list my Aunt Lou and commander Lew's Mother. Aunt Lou is in declining health. Fall is on the way

and I hope that all of you had a happy and healthy summer.

Charter Member Knox Singleton died during the week of 3 September 2007. Although not still an active member of Post 176, the Post leadership and members appreciate his commitment and work during the years he was a member.

God and Country,  
Maudie Price



**BLOOD DRIVE**

Our next Blood Drive is scheduled for Tuesday, 16 October 2007, in the main ballroom of the Post. We will start at 2:00PM and end at 7:00PM. The last appointment block will start at 6:45PM. Please come out and support this wor-

thy program. Call Joe Finch at 703-569-1552 to schedule an appointment. You can also contact Joe using email to the following address: [SEPPL1552@AOL.COM](mailto:SEPPL1552@AOL.COM)

Our last drive held in August was a good one. We collected 44 units of blood. Thank you to

ALL who came out and helped to make the drive a success. A BIG thank you to our team of volunteers from the Post and the Auxiliary who are always there to insure that we have the best operating Blood Drive in the Northern Virginia area.

The American Red Cross will be having a raffle for a \$500.00 gift card to the Tech Store of your choice. Details will be available at the drive. Post 176 will have a drawing for a Dinner for Two at the end of the drive. Come out and give blood!

Post 176 has a total of 178 parking spaces.....

Fairfax County leases 111 blue parking spaces yearly for park and ride. The Post has 67 parking spaces of which 13 spaces in the back row are set aside for all day parking for Legion members who have authorized parking permits which

**Legion Parking Spaces** *by Rich Tiner*

leaves 54 spaces for our daily operations of which 14 spaces are marked for handicap. Leaving 38 spaces for customer/employee parking and 2 reserve spaces for the Commander and the General Manager. We are very limited on parking spaces and when we have daytime functions we

quickly run out of parking.

During the week of 8 September the Circuit City parking area which was posted no parking had over 60 cars towed at owners expenses. This action has resulted in a number of cars trying to park in our limited spaces.

We are being forced to notify these parkers that we will have them towed at their expense in the future if they continue to try parking all day in our spaces.

We are sorry to have to take this action but its essential for our daily business operations to have our limited spaces available to our employees and customers.

**Listing of work projects that need to be done to fix problems at the Post**

This is a list of items that we are currently aware of that need priorities so we can program our efforts. This list is in addition to the list of our side projects submitted a few months ago many of which are still open.

1. The five AC/Heating units are old and will need replacement too in early spring.
2. The kitchen dishwasher needs an overhaul It's old and parts availability is a problem.
3. Security system needs repaired and system completed
4. The roof still leaks in several areas and part of it is still under warranty.
5. The kitchen area is not able to be locked and things can be removed.
6. We need a separate beer cooler and storage area down stairs.
7. Several areas of the ceiling need replaced after water leaks are fixed.
8. Smoke eaters in the bingo, dining and lounge areas need replaced.
9. The entire Post lighting system needs to be replaced with low cost/energy efficient lighting fixtures.
10. Need to investigate for mold in the ceiling and walls where water leaks occurred.
11. Police review indicated a special glass cover on all down stairs windows/doors for security as well as cameras hooked up in outside areas
12. Store room off the kitchen needs dry-wall and shelves
13. The bath rooms need repairs and some fixtures

If we have any members that are qualified and have some time we could certainly use your assistance or information as to who we might contract with in any of these areas. We are trying our best to get our Post facilities improved.

**- LUNCH SPECIALS -**

*Carry out service is available*

**11 am – 2 pm**

*(only \$4.00)*

**Mon** – Spaghetti & Meat Sauce w/garlic bread

**Tues** – BBQ Pork w/FF & Cole Slaw

**Wed** – Meat Loaf, Mashed Taters,  
Veggies and Roll

**Thur** – Butterfly Shrimp, Cole Slaw & FF’s

**Fri** – Fried Tilapia, Cole Slaw & FF’s

*- Also available daily -*

Cold Plate: Tuna or Chicken Salad, Fruit, Cucumber  
& Cole Slaw

***Your Regular Menu Favorites Too!***

*Enjoy!*

***Help Wanted !!!***

Cooks, Bartenders and Wait Staff.  
Please inquire of the General Manager  
at 703- 440- 0335/6 or 703-399-5255.

**Friday Night Entertainment - in the Club**

10/05 – Karaoke with Joe Clay

10/12 – Karaoke with Joe

10/19 – Juke Box Night in the Lounge

(Heidi & Heimat in the Great Hall)

10/26 – Jeff the ‘DJ’ *(Suggestions are always Welcome!)*

***ENJOY !***

**Friday Night Entertain-in the Club**



## Come on and Join us !!



## Legion: Support Surge, Troops, Petraeus

WASHINGTON, DC (September 10, 2007)

The National Commander of the nation's largest veterans organization today called for "much resolve and patience" by Congress and the American people on the war in Iraq after Multi-National Force Iraq Commander Gen. David Petraeus's testimony before Congress. National Commander Marty Conatser voiced The American Legion's continued support for the "surge" in Iraq and the improving security environment.

"Gen. Petraeus forcefully and effectively reported measurable gains to the joint session of the House Armed Services and Foreign Affairs Committees and his honest

and professional assessment reinforced what I had seen in Iraq in the last month," Conatser said. "General Petraeus's assessment that the military objectives are in large measure being met plus his reasonable proposal for a troop draw down prove the wisdom of the "surge" strategy," Conatser explained. He also applauded Gen. Petraeus's view that failure to follow through would be a "rush to failure."

"I visited Iraq in August and met with troops and Gen. Petraeus," Conatser said. "There is no doubt in my mind, a premature troop withdrawal from Iraq would be disastrous for the Iraqis

and the United States." Conatser said the troops he spoke with there said they've seen significant change and real improvements in the security environment, echoing what Gen. Petraeus told Congress today.

"The Senate confirmed Gen. Petraeus to change direction in Iraq," Conatser added. "He's doing that but change does not happen overnight and his "surge" strategy just became fully implemented in mid-June when the requested reinforcements finally arrived.

"In the broader context, this report to the Congress today demonstrates progress in the global war on terrorism,"

the national commander said. "We agree with the Multi-Nation Force Iraq Commander that this will be a long struggle but we support our nation's forces and their leadership for the long haul." Two weeks ago, The American Legion unanimously re-affirmed The American Legion's unwavering support for the war on terrorism during the organization's 89th National Convention in Reno, Nevada. Resolution 169 also points out that the United States was "suddenly and without provocation, attacked by terrorists on September 11, 2001." It adds, "The global war on terrorism is a just war,

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**Your Club** by: Sukie Knarr, GM

**Team 176**, I don't know about all of you but I'm glad to see Fall come along and give all of us a break from the heat! A beautiful Indian-Summer and mild-Winter would be most welcomed. Keep your fingers crossed! Well, we have a lot of business to discuss, so, I better get on with it.....

**'OOPS' List** - Last month I forgot to send out a 'special thanks' to Maudie Price, Chip Byers and Jeff Harrison for their wonderful job of collecting and arranging for the proper disposal of a whole bunch of old/retired flags (it's really nice to see the respect our local businesses and people pay to our flag). I also want to pat all of those **Tail Gaiters** on the back for their efforts to get our seasonal 'game day' sporting events activities ready for your viewing and snacking pleasure.

**Early Breakfast** is sadly fading away. Although our volunteers and some of our members enjoy this service, the program just isn't proving cost efficient and staffing for this activity is difficult. This will only affect operating hours - but - the good news is that, all you *late sleepers can still get breakfast* during our normal lunch hours - 11:00am-2:00pm. This is not to say we will not try to accommodate special requests by groups - or that the programmed hours are gone forever - just that - unfortunately, the demand just isn't great enough at the moment to justify our expenses.

**Lunch** is really doing nicely and more lunch bunchers are enjoying our menu options and service between the hours of 11:00am and 2:00pm. And remember - we do provide Carry-Out Service - and groups are always welcome.

**OKTOBERFEST at the Post** - Friday, October 19, 2007 - our Friday Night Dinner will be in the Great Hall - reservations are suggested and tickets are available in the Lounge @ \$18.00 ..... or \$20.00 at the door. In addition to our *World Famous Post 176 BBQ Ribs* - we will serve German favorites: Knockwurst, Bratwurst, Sauerkraut, Red Cabbage, German Potato Salad...mmm..mmm... you will not go home hungry! Also - Heidi und Heimat Echo Band will be playing traditional

German and dance music. Social and dinner service will start at 5:30-8:30pm and Heidi and Heimat will continue to play until 11:00pm. Bar service will be available in the Great Hall. The Lounge will be open, featuring Juke Box Night until 2am.

**Queen of Hearts** continues to do well, and is now a stand alone game. How Queens grows and where the proceeds go, are now up to the membership and how those funds will support the Club. A reminder on the rules of the game - Only One (1) name to a ticket, as it says in the posted rules (tickets 'per person'). How you share your winnings is your business - but - the only way to receive the 60% pay-off, is for the 'one and only' person on the winning ticket to be present. Hey, 40% pay-out isn't that bad either, when you think about it.....

**Taco Night / Bar** - many of our members enjoy this service prior to our Queen of Hearts drawing - if you haven't tried it - it's not only good food - it's a **GREAT DEAL @ only \$2.00 for 3 Tacos**.

**\*New Club Hours of Operation:****Monday-Thursday 11am - 10pm****Friday-Saturday 11am - 2am****Sunday 12-noon - 8pm**

**\*(These hours are subject to change due to Patronage, Weather, Holidays, Special Events or Pre-Approved Functions/Activities that comply with VA ABC Code and various licensing)**

**Let's have a GREAT October and look forward to a wonderful Fall season! - THANK YOU! - Sukie**



**- Friday Night Dinner Menu -  
...for October**

*\*Our house Steaks are always available!*

*\*All dinners include: Salad, Rolls, Coffee, Tea (hot/iced), and assorted desserts.*

- 10/05 - 'Porky Night' Pork Tender Loin w/onion gravy, mashed taters, mixed veggies - \$12.00  
 10/12 - 'Prime Time' Prime Rib, baked or scallop potatoes, green beans - \$15.00  
 10/19 - In the Great Hall - 'German / American' Knockwurst, Bratwurst, Sauerkraut, Red Cabbage and German Potato Salad -> also <- Post 176's Famous BBQ Ribs - \$18.00  
 10/26 - Surf-n-Turf NY Steak w/grilled Shrimp (5) on a stick w/ baked or scallop potato and green beans - \$16.00

**BY POPULAR REQUEST - we will feature 2 Friday Night Steaks (NY @ \$12.00 & Filet Mignon @ \$16.00)**



*(It's always GREAT to serve the greatest - YOU!)*

*Enjoy!*



**Halloween  
Costume  
Contest  
Saturday,  
27  
October  
2007  
In the  
Lounge at  
8:00 p.m.**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1  <b>Bingo 7:00 pm</b>	2 <b>Membership Meeting 7:30 pm</b>  <b>Auxiliary Meeting 7:30 pm</b>	3  <b>Bridge</b>	4  <b>Cribbage</b>	5  Pork Tenderloin  Karaoke w/Joe 8:00 pm	6  Queen of Hearts 7:30 pm
7  Tail Gate 1:00 pm	8  <b>Bingo 7:00 pm</b>	9  Early Bird Dinner 5:30 pm  <b>SAL Meeting 7:30 pm</b>	10	11  <b>Cribbage</b>	12  Prime Rib w/potatoes  Karaoke w/Joe 8:00 pm	13  Honor Flight WWII Memorial  Queen of Hearts 7:30 pm
14  Pig Roast 1:00 pm Tailgate  Sunday Breakfast	15  <b>Bingo 7:00 pm</b>	16  Blood Drive 2:00-7:00 pm	17  <b>Bridge</b>	18  <b>Cribbage</b>	19  October fest German/American night In the Great Hall  Juke Box Nite'	20  Queen of Hearts 7:30 pm
21  Tailgate 1:00 pm	22  <b>Bingo 7:00 pm</b>	23  <b>Executive Meeting 7:30 pm</b>	24  <b>Corporate Board Mtg. 7:30 pm</b>	25  <b>Cribbage</b>	26  NY Steak w/grilled Shrimp  DJ w/Jeff 7:00 pm	27  Halloween Costume Contest 8:00 pm  Queen of Hearts 7:30 pm
28  Tailgate 4:15 pm	29  <b>Bingo 7:00 pm</b>	30	31	<i>October</i>		
		<b>Halloween</b>				

## MEMBERSHIP BY COMMITTEE

With four people, Ray Stone (1<sup>st</sup> Vice and Membership Chair), Jeff Harrison (Membership Administrator), Jim Brado (Committeeman and Phone Call Maker) and yours truly (Commander) make up the Membership Team. The last 33% to reach goal (590 members), obviously, is the toughest part of the task so we need a few volun-

teers to join the team to help call "renewals", prospective transfers (Post 141 into a real Post) and members of the American Legion who have indicated to Department they would transfer but need info from us.

If you have the time, energy and dedication to make local telephone calls and/or stuff and address some envelopes

please call (703.866.4919) or e-mail me ([fal-lml@juno.com](mailto:fal-lml@juno.com) or [com-mander.vapost176@cox.net](mailto:com-mander.vapost176@cox.net)). If you prefer to mail me a note send it to Box 689, Springfield, VA 22150. Please express your willingness to help.

How would you recruit new members? To my knowledge no member of the Membership

Team is a member of MENSA so we do not have a "lock" on the brain power around the Post. Do you have an idea about how we can recruit new members or what we need to do or say to renew members? Please send me your ideas. Thank you!

Submitted by the Commander

**THE WHITE HOUSE**  
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release      September 21, 2007

GOLD STAR MOTHER'S DAY, 2007

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
A PROCLAMATION

The gift of liberty is secured by heroes who have answered the call to serve when America needed them most. On Gold Star Mother's Day, we honor the mothers of the service men and women who have given their lives in the defense of our great Nation.

America's Gold Star Mothers are remarkable patriots who serve their communities by demonstrating good citizenship, providing support and services to our troops and veterans, and helping comfort the families whose loved ones have made the ultimate sacrifice. Their sense of duty and deep devotion to our country inspire our Nation, and we thank them for their compassion, determination, and strength. Though they carry a great burden of grief, these courageous mothers help en-

sure that the legacy of our fallen heroes will be forever remembered. On this day, we offer our deep gratitude and respect to our Nation's Gold Star Mothers; we honor the sons and daughters who died while wearing the uniform of the United States; and we pray for God's blessings on them, their mothers, and their families.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 115 of June 23, 1936 (49 Stat. 1895 as amended), has designated the last Sunday in September as "Gold Star Mother's Day" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in its observance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I,  
GEORGE W. BUSH,

President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Sunday, September 30, 2007, as Gold Star Mother's Day. I call upon all Government officials to display the flag of the United States over Government buildings on this solemn day. I also encourage the American people to display the flag and hold appropriate ceremonies as a public expression of our Nation's sympathy and respect for our Gold Star Mothers.

IN WITNESS  
WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of

the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

GEORGE W. BUSH

**ATTENTION MEMBERS:**

The Edison High School JROTC Eagle Battalion will conduct a "Pass in Review" at their Homecoming football game. The review is in honor of all veterans. (Edison H.S. is on the corner of Franconia and Van Dorn) The time and date for this is 19 October at 7:15 hours. Vendors will be at the gates to football field for tailgate activities.



*The following letter was sent by email this afternoon to Chris Matthews, host of MSNBC's "Hardball" by PNC Ron Conley...*

To: Chris Matthews  
HARDBALL

Enlightened debate on the merits of the Iraq War is a welcome, healthy enterprise for our nation. But the blatantly slanderous attack against the courageous, honorable man chosen to lead our troops is despicable and impugns the valor of those outstanding young men and women striving to do their duty for their

country. You should have been leading the charge on HARDBALL to denounce moveon.org for such an inappropriate ad and certainly any ad that calls a commanding general a traitor is inappropriate by any measurement. Just as the media disparaged Gen. Westmoreland and spawned the concept that our military in Vietnam were "baby killers," your remark that our

involvement in Iraq is a "waste of blood," echoes the same disdain for those brave men and women who willingly serve our nation under arms.

Mr. Matthews, I am sure your comments were spoken in the heat of passion, but nonetheless you owe an apology to our brave servicemembers who are on the front lines risking their lives

because our nation asked them to do so. You especially owe a personal apology to Gen. Petraeus who has dedicated his life to the protection of this nation.

As Americans we can certainly criticize his policies, but to attack his character is unforgivable.  
Ronald F. Conley  
Past National Commander  
The American Legion

**PAY YOUR DUES BY CREDIT CARD**

The American Legion has established accounts with VISA, MASTERCARD, and DISCOVER so that membership dues may be charged to a credit card. Other than the obvious information (name, post number, membership and credit card numbers and expiration date on the credit card) nothing else is required except the card holder's signature.

**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA** is presenting the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade in celebration of the dedication of 'THE WALL' on

Saturday, November 10, 2007.

The schedule:

Opening Ceremony 10:00 until 11:00 a.m.

Parade 11:00 until 4:00 p.m.

Washington Monument Grounds

4:00 until 6:00 p.m.

**GET OUT THE VOTE**

November 6<sup>th</sup>, just one month and a few days away, is election day. In Virginia all 140 seats in the House of Delegates and the Senate are open. Additionally all of Fairfax County's Supervisors' seats will be contested. Do you know the candidates and their platforms? Start preparing to vote for the candidates of your choice now!

**"Legion Support Surge".... Continued**

aimed at protecting the very foundations of freedom and freedom-loving people everywhere." Conatser, a retired sergeant major with the Illinois National Guard, fully supports Resolution 169.

"I am proud that The American Legion passed Resolution 169, which reminds people that supporting the troops also means supporting their mission. Iraq is part of the Global War on Terrorism. I always believed that but after seeing it firsthand, I am more convinced than ever," he said. "Everything I saw in Iraq last month points to the fact that the "surge" is working."

The national commander also addressed recent personal attacks

on Iraq's top military commander. "For anyone or group to portray Gen. Petraeus as a traitor is outrageous and downright despicable," Conatser said. "The military leader I met with is an honest, dedicated patriot who is succeeding given the very difficult mission before him. He should be commended not condemned for his 35 years of selfless service to our nation."

With a membership of 2.7-million wartime veterans, The American Legion was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veterans affairs, Americanism, and patriotic youth programs. Legionnaires work for the betterment of their communities through more than 14,000 posts across the nation.

**The American Legion  
Springfield Post 176  
P.O. Box 689  
Springfield, Virginia 22150**

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
SPRINGFIELD, VA  
PERMIT NO. 20

## **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Please forward any address change to the Legion. Returned copies cost the Post full Postage. If you do not wish to receive POST SCRIPTS, or you leave mail at the Post Office, it will be returned to us at full Postage cost.

Our address is 6520 Amherst Ave., PO Box 689, Springfield, VA 22150; Tel. (703)440-0335 The Post website is [www.vapost176.org](http://www.vapost176.org). The Post email address is [vapost176@cox.net](mailto:vapost176@cox.net).

## **OCTOBER & NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS**

### **OCTOBER**

- 2<sup>nd</sup>- General Membership Meetings 7:30 p.m.
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Honor Flight III 9:15 a.m.
- 6<sup>th</sup>- IRS Class re Non-Profit taxes,  
Richmond 9:00 a.m.
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Tailgate 1 p.m.
- 8<sup>th</sup>- Columbus Day
- 9<sup>th</sup>- Early Bird Dinner 5 p.m.
- 13<sup>th</sup>- Tacos and Queen of Hearts  
(also on 6, 20 and 27 Oct.)
- 14<sup>th</sup>- Monthly Breakfast 9 – 11 a.m.  
17<sup>th</sup> District Meeting 12:30 p.m.  
Pig Roast 1 p.m. \$10 and \$5  
(age 12 and under)
- 15<sup>th</sup>- ISCC of Springfield 7:30 a.m.
- 19<sup>th</sup>- October Fest w/Heidi Band 6 p.m.  
Pass in Review at Edison  
Homecoming 7:15 p.m.
- 21<sup>st</sup>- Tailgate 1 p.m. Mexican Food (vs. Cardinals)

- 23<sup>rd</sup>- ExCom Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 26-28<sup>th</sup>- Department Fall Conference, Hampton, VA
- 28<sup>th</sup>- Tailgate 4:15 p.m.  
(bring your own meat for grilling) (vs. Patriots)

### **NOVEMBER**

- 3<sup>rd</sup>- Department President's Homecoming  
at Post 180 (Time TBA)
- 5<sup>th</sup>- Adopt-a-Highway 11 a.m.
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Election Day (No Gen Mbrshp Mtg)
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Make Tape for Presentation to Greenspring  
Residents 9:30 a.m.
- 10<sup>th</sup>- Vietnam Veterans 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
Wall, 10 – 6 p.m.  
Joint AL/VFW Party 6 p.m.  
Department Commander's Dinner at Post 177  
(Time TBA)
- 11<sup>th</sup>- Veterans Day Service 11 a.m. w/lunch following.
- 13<sup>th</sup>- General Membership Meeting, 7:30 p.m.