Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 13 OCT 2026 (Tuesday)

Opening Ceremony: 7:03 pm (1903)
Standard opening ceremony held per Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies.

First Vice Commander reported a quorum was present.

Guests and Prospective Members Present: None

Reports:

Administrative: Report provided by the Adjutant

Previous month's minutes posted to website on 27 September 2026 at 5:21 pm (17:21) www.Post175.org/Meeting-Minutes

Motion to approve meeting minutes properly made, seconded, and unanimously approved by a voice vote.

No other motions submitted in advance for consideration and a vote.

Finance / Fiscal: Report provided by the Finance Officer

Hard copy report with Post financial standing as of 13 October as well as Fiscal Year (FY), provided. Mortgage Reduction Donations status as of 12 September 2026. Financial status of The American Legion Riders (ALR) and Sons of the American Legion (SAL) presented. Post finances continue to show a positive balance for the FY to date.

Motion to accept financial report properly made, seconded, and unanimously approved by a voice vote.

Membership: Report provided by the 1st Vice Commander

No new members scheduled for a vote. Membership status: 177 members affiliated for 2027 membership year. Goal is 296. We are currently at 59.8% of goal and this number meets our October target. One member's record needs correction. Once that is done, we will be at 60% of goal, which is our November goal target percentage. All cards for those that have already paid have been signed and are available for distribution in my desk.

Chaplain Comment: Prospective member Athan P., who recently moved here from Ohio, was at coffee and doughnuts this morning.

1st Vice Comment: Understood. I spoke with him for @ 30 minutes over the phone this morning.

Rentals: Report provided by the 2nd Vice Commander

We have had 14 rentals since June. We have eight (8) remaining for this calendar year, and have two (2) rentals already scheduled for 2027. We are receiving a lot of inquiries, but many are for dates already taken. Things are looking reasonably good.

Legal: Report provided by the Judge Advocate

I have reached out to RNC Builders… they are working some issues with their construction project, so are postponing further discussions over our piece of property next to their project.

I have received the updated Bylaws proposal for the Riders (The American Legion Riders). I made a suggestion to the ALR Director this evening… just one change, the rest looks pretty good, pretty decent. I will speak with the Chair of their Bylaws Committee about the change after the ExCom meeting. We will then move forward.

Commander's Comment: Q: Will we have the final version ready by next membership meeting in two weeks? A: Yes.

Commander's Comment: On the Post Bylaws, are you making any headway on including the proposal to be able to have 'virtual' (electronic) attendance at meetings by members?

Judge Advocate Comment: I have spoken with the Fluvanna Post to get an idea of what it will take… As it stands, only the person monitoring the account will be able to "see" those in electronic attendance unless, we do place a TV monitor back into the meeting room, but I not think we will need to do that. The person monitoring would see who is asking a question, etc.

Commander's Comment: That is why we have an Adjutant. A: Right, exactly.

Commander's Comment: You know, Kevin Gaddis (Department Membership Chair) does it every month with the membership meeting.

Judge Advocate Comment: Yes, he is one person, and we are all sitting at home, but he is not trying to direct a meeting with multiple elements.

Americanism (Children & Youth): Report provided by the Committee Chair

I have mailed out letters to the five (5) Middle Schools advising them of the Middle School Essay Contest. Since it is the beginning of the school year, I will follow-up later. The Essays are due by Christmas.

Commander's Comment: I believe they are due to John S. ("Legion John") by 15 January, but you are right: they must be scored by the Post and District before John S. (Department Committee Chair) gets them.

Sick List (Buddy Checks): Report provided by the Chaplain

I have sent out cards to two members, and also made Buddy Check calls. Nothing else to report.

Adjutants Comment: Please remember to include the cards and calls on your input to the Consolidated Post Report (CPR) as all contacts may be considered 'Buddy Checks'.

Commander's Comment: I also reminded everyone at coffee and doughnuts this morning: please keep track of all your mileage, hours, and unreimbursed expenses for the CPR (Consolidated Post Report) for next year. That is very important.

Americanism Chair Comment: Q: If I check on my daughter (also a Post member), is that considered a 'Buddy Check'? A: Yes

Chaplain Comment: Ernie W. is letting his membership lapse. I offered to transport, but he declined. He can no longer walk.

1st Vice Comment: That is an example of why 'electronic' attendance at meetings is beneficial for our members.

Veteran Assistance: No report provided. Service Officer not present.

Communications and Media: Report provided by Committee Chair

Website is being updated three (3) to four (4) times per week as I receive inputs. Example: Flag education in the elementary schools. I have placed all events on the calendar with the link to register with the school system for those that wish to support this effort.

All external entities requesting support are being posted, as well as all 'invitations' (offers) for free event attendance for our members. A lot of event notifications for November, such as Veterans Day events at Oak Knoll Middle School (OKMS), the Hanover County Veterans Committee (HCVC) event at the county Veterans Memorial, etc.

Commander's Comment: Hell of a job on the website by the team. Thank you so much. That is spectacular. A: Thank you. Our efforts will also be reflected in the Consolidated Post Report (CPR).

Buildings and Grounds: Report provided by Committee Chair

Everything has been set-up, and we are back and operational. (Referring to our new social quarters cooler/refrigerator and bar setup.)

Thanks to our Auxiliary's donation, I ordered 22 new chairs today. I ordered them in cloth, but after reconsidering the purchase, I think I will call them tomorrow and change the chairs to vinyl which will save us money and allow us to purchase more chairs for the same amount. From a durability standpoint, the vinyl seems to last longer and is easier to clean. If there are no objections, I will change the order from cloth to vinyl tomorrow. (There were no objections.)

Commander's Comment: Everyone that helped put that corner back together, I mean everybody: Jack, Bert, Art, Tony, Jim, Doug… good job guys! I walked in tonight, and Jack was behind the bar wiping and cleaning and I asked him: "You still working?" and he replied: "It's got to be done." So, Good Job!

Special Events: No report provided. Committee Chair not present.

Color/Honor Guard: Report provided by the Guard Lieutenant

November starts Veteran's Day 'stuff'. We already have Oak Knoll going, we have Heritage Green going, we are waiting on calls from others. We have Atlee Library, we have a church function, we have the County on the 11th at 2:00 pm, and then I have events going on separate from the Post… going to the prisons and having Veteran's Day there: Bland Correctional Center, Lawrenceville Prison.

Color/Honor Guard is changing their pants to all black beginning 01 November. We are getting them though Galls, a huge distributor for First Responders and many others. The new pants cost @$35 a pair. The current pants, grey with the gold stripe are no longer available, and when they were, cost @150 a pair. (Note: Color/Honor Guard members purchase their own uniforms.)

Sons of the American Legion (SAL): Report provided by Commander, SAL

We have decided to enter our shooting team in The American Legion Three Position postal shooting matches. You (Commander) will have to, at some point, sign the authorization so we can enter the competition. We have also

been notified that the NRA (National Rifle Association) Foundation Grant Program is open, so I will be working on a grant proposal. We don't need much equipment, but I would still like to get a few things.

On the Americanism Program, I mentioned to Comms and Media before we began this meeting that I don't do social media… But I was informed that we got a "shout out" from Kersey Creek Elementary School (on Instagram) because we donated flags and books to them. So they posted a video of their first graders marching around their classroom with the donated flags. You may wish to look that up if you do social media.

Year-to-date, as of this afternoon, we have interfaced with six (elementary) schools, four of which we have visited and we have (so far) distributed 450 Pledge of Allegiance books and 382 flags.

Commander's Comment: That's a lot of kids. That's a lot of impact.

Commander SAL Comment: Everyone that has contacted me, has been scheduled.

Riders (ALR): Report provided by Chapter Director

The (baseball) bat raffle, we are at $80 at the moment. We will continue to sell tickets, and expect to conduct the drawing at the first coffee and doughnuts after our last Community Breakfast.

On October 17th, we will escort Honor Flight to Quantico. October 18th, Sunday, we participate in Halloween 'Trunk or Treat' at the 9th Annual Better Together Halloween Hustle 5k event. This is one of two (2) of their fundraisers and so far have 400 people registered for the event. If anyone wishes to attend, we are leaving the Post at 11:45 am.

We are doing Brunswick Stew again this year. We will be doing three quarters (3/4) of a batch. I have already made up the recipe, and will be doing the shopping on November the 18th. The 19th, we will slice and dice in the kitchen, and should finish by 3 pm. On the 20th, we will cook, and should be out of the kitchen by 4 pm.

(Humorous comments, an anecdote, and a question followed regarding stew ingredients.)

The American Legion Auxiliary: Report provided by Unit President

I have nothing new besides what I mentioned this morning, which was: we will be having Pot Luck (dinner) tomorrow night. We just delivered two signs and posted the flags honoring our veterans to: William (Bill) R. and Lowell B. At our next Community Breakfast on October 31st, we will be having a Bake Sale. We did approximately 182 cards for Honor Flight. And, we would normally have our Boys State and Girls State post event reception in October, but we haven't been able to get everyone organized, so that has been delayed. Hopefully we will be able to have the event scheduled, along with the parents, sometime in November.

Discipline / Protocol: No report provided. Sergeant-at-Arms not present.

Unfinished (Old) Business: None pending.

New Business and Correspondence:

Buildings and Grounds Chair: The President for Honor Flight was here this afternoon, preparing for Saturday, and mentioned they are in dire need of wheelchairs.

Motion: That the three wheelchairs owned by the Post be donated to Honor Flight.

Chaplain Comment: In case we should need a wheelchair in the future, what happens if we give them all away? We should retain one.

Commander's Comment: So, the question on the motion is: Should we give them all away or retain one in case we need it?

Buildings and Grounds Chair Comment: I have been in charge of the building for about four years now, and in all that time we have never had to use (provide) a wheelchair. Not saying we may not need one tomorrow, but

the way things go, as soon as we donate these we may need one tomorrow. All I know is: they expressed their need, and ours have just been sitting there with no usage, and they will definitely get use out of them. Now, if you need the motion amended to retain one, I will do so if that is what you want.

Buildings and Grounds Chair Comment: In addition, I think we should put out the word to our Post members and community, to see if we can acquire additional wheelchairs for Honor Flight.

Judge Advocate Comment: I would let these go. And for those of us that have some, or access to some, we can replace the ones we are donating with newer ones. For example: I have two in my garage, and can donate one, a newer one, to the Post.

Commander's Comment: So, Chaplain recommends holding on to one. Children and Youth Chair concurs that we should hold on to one. Judge Advocate says donate all to Honor Flight and he will provide the Post with one, a newer one, for our use.

Buildings and Grounds Chair Comment: I amend my motion as follows: Donate all three Post wheelchairs to Honor Flight and accept the donation of one wheelchair from Post Judge Advocate.

Motion to donate three wheelchairs owned by the Post was properly made, seconded, amended after discussion, and unanimously approved by a voice vote.

Buildings and Grounds Chair Comment: Honor Flight also indicated they could give us a donation letter, with the value of the chair, for tax deduction purposes.

Finance Office Comment: That is unnecessary, as we are a non-profit (not-for profit) organization.

<u>For the good of The American Legion / Post</u>:

Historian Comment: I have a bunch of yearbooks, and there are some in the other room (conference room), I would like to buy a shelf/cabinet where we can store them and see them, and need to know if it should be light or dark wood.

Buildings and Grounds Chair Comment: Where would we put it? I mean, my advice would be to take the end table with the toys out of there, and that would be an excellent place to put them.

Further discussion followed concerning location and number of all the yearbooks.

Historian Comment: OfficeMax has a nice white unit.

Buildings and Grounds Chair Comment: Dark wood color is preferable, as it does not show dirt as easily. However, I will have to get together with Madame President (Unit 175 President) as I still have two other boxes of memorabilia that needs addressing, as well as other items in a closet. I will get with her and see what can be done, especially with the end table. Q: Does anyone need the black end table that is in there? (No responses.)

First Vice Commander Comment: I have cards from Department of Veteran Services (DVS) that were handed out at Honor Flight training. They have QR codes and links for their services. I am providing them for the Post membership and will provide to our Service Officer.

Commander's Comment: This morning, at coffee and doughnuts, Tom E. brought up the two bins at the entrance to the Post. They are unsightly, and are collecting damaged, unusable items. I called yesterday, I called again today, and will call every day. If anyone has a better way to contact the DAV (Disabled American Veterans) than the number on these bins, please let me know. One member actually stated he had a flatbed/dump trailer, and we could just take all the contents to the dump if DAV does not address the issue. The bins and around them are just a mess. And these bins are ugly, rusted, things falling off them… the previous ones were nice and they took care of them.

Adjutant Comment: Q: My question is: Who, and when, granted them permission to place those bins on our property?

Buildings and Grounds Chair Comment: I asked them when they were replacing the bins. They stated all they were doing was ‘swapping them out’ because they new ones were supporting a new organization. The gentleman delivering them stated: Don’t worry, all we are doing is changing them from the “Veterans and Children’s Foundation” to the “Special Olympics.” He did not leave a contact number.

Adjutant Comment: We have had issues with the bins in the past. During my time as Post Commander, we had to call for a pick-up. We were not on a regular route or schedule. My thoughts, as an individual member of the Post is that: if they can’t show us they have permission to place those boxes on our property, since they are not taking care of them, you need to remove them.

Historian Comment: If we had and agreement, it would state they had to ‘keep them up’ anyway, so we should just give them a 30 day notice…

Chaplain Comment: There have been boxes here for over ten years.

Commander SAL Comment: The previous boxes, the (phone) number on the blue ones, I asked Bert B. about that because they weren’t being emptied, and he stated that was not the number to call. He had a different number to call for action on the pick-up. You may wish to check with Bert B. on that number, and if it is the same number or people for the new bins.

Commander’s Comment: I will contact Bert B., because they way things are, that is not sustainable. That is an eyesore.

Chaplains Comment: I will not be here, I will be out of town during the next general membership meeting, so if something comes up just call my cell and will call someone to support.

Commander’s Comment: You may not have heard, but our Sergeant-at-Arms has turned-in his keys and we are in need of someone to take over

that position. If you wish to be that person, or know of someone who would like the Sergeant-at Arms position, that's number one.

As I was leaving earlier today, Bert B. (Post Quartermaster) indicated I should start looking for someone to assume the position of Quartermaster for the bar and kitchen, as he would like to end his tenure soon.

Adjutant's Comment: Q: So, for our next newsletter, we should announce that we are looking for a Sergeant-at-Arms, a Quartermaster, and for FY-2027 an Adjutant as well. A: Yes.

No further items.

Closing Ceremony:
Standard closing ceremony held per Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:01 pm (2001)

Respectfully submitted: ***George Navas***, Adjutant
Approved for Distribution/Posting: ***Robert (Bob) White***, Commander