Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 27 OCT 2026 (Tuesday)

Opening Ceremony: 7:03 pm (19:03)
Standard opening ceremony held per Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies.

Sergeant-at-Arms reported a quorum was present.

Guests and Prospective Members Present: Battalion Chief Lee Mooney plus seven guests from the Hanover County Fire and Rescue Department.

Time: 7:08 pm (19:08) - Upon completion of opening ceremony, Commander suspended meeting for an award presentation to Battalion Chief Lee Mooney for Hanover County Fire and Rescue support of Honor Flight.

Time: 7:14 pm (19:14) – Commander reconvened meeting after award presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation and departure of guests.

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

No motions submitted for a vote in advance.

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

Finance / Fiscal: Report provided by the Finance Officer

Hard copy report with Post financial standing, for the month of September as well as Fiscal Year, provided. Mortgage Reduction Donations stand at

45 donors to date. (Status as of 27 October 2026.) Post finances continue show a positive cash flow for the year. Financial status for The American Legion Riders (ALR) and The Sons of The American Legion (SAL) were also reported.

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

Membership: Report provided by the 1st Vice Commander

Membership status: 182 members affiliated for 2027 membership year. Goal is 296. We are currently at 61.5% of goal. Next milestone is 65% by 12 November. Two new members scheduled for a vote and one member still having issues being addressed by Department Membership Chair, Kevin G.

Submitted for membership: Michael T., Army Veteran and William P., Jr. Air Force Veteran. Both are transfers, therefore require only one vote by the membership for affiliation.

New Members - A motion for membership acceptance was properly made and seconded.

Commander's Comment: On October 14th our goal was 55%, on 12 November our goal is 65%, so we need seven (7) more new members to reach our goal of 65%. Any questions on our two transfers?

Hearing none, the Commander called the question. Membership was unanimously approved by a voice vote for Michael T. and William P., effective immediately.

1st Vice Commander Comment: (Update on Post solicitation letter to local businesses and corporations.) At the request of the Commander and Adjutant, I sent out electronically (e-mail) our solicitation letter and donation form to the membership of the Hanover County Chamber of Commerce. One hundred forty five (145) messages have been sent. Of those, as of fifteen minutes ago, forty-nine (49) have opened the e-mail, five (5) have

‘clicked’ on the attached portable document format (,pdf) documents, and we have had two e-mails ‘bounce back’.

Commander’s Comment: So… Our donations request, primarily for donations through our Department 501(c)3, has gone out electronically. We will let that ‘float’ for some time to see what kind of return we get. After we give that time to get responses, we will then go to a more direct route via USPS (U.S. Postal Service) to see if we can get additional participation though the mail. Then, after we give that a chance for a while, we may actually visit the corporations in the Hanover area personally and see if we can get their attention that way.

I would say that the electronic requests may take a couple of months, maybe, but then again the holidays are coming up so I am not sure how long to wait before we go to USPS and see what donations we can get that way. In the new year, we will reassess what kind of a response we get to our donation letters.

If you would like to see the donation letter, you are most welcome. Our Adjutant has copies of the donation letter and donation form available if you would like a copy. It is a one page, two-sided letter, with the donation request on one side and the donation form on the other, so it wouldn’t be overly burdensome for those receiving the e-mail. We are hoping the brevity, but the depth, of that letter will impress them to participate in our efforts to make an impact on the community and for our Veterans.

We are very pleased that we have gotten to this point. So, everybody, if you wish to speak with “the Big Guy”: “Bless us with something with which we can get our building paid off as well as serve the community and serve our Veterans… please make it happen.”

1st Vice Commander Comment: I will say… there are about three hundred (300) more businesses on that list (Hanover County Chamber of Commerce membership list) that I have not mailed yet, which may take another one or two e-mails. The initial 145 were listed in: Mechanicsville, Hanover, Glen Allen, Ashland, and Doswell. I wanted to target the local ones first.

Comment from member Myrtle S.: I used to be very active in the Hanover Chamber of Commerce. They always have ‘outings’, at least once a quarter, averaging sixty (60) to eighty (80) people. They were all business owners or managing work in that business. Has anyone gone over to the Chamber?

1st Vice Commander Comment: We have one coming up. If you’d like, I can register and you can attend as my guest.

Commander’s Comment: Yes, yes, let’s get together on that. Because, if we can do this ‘face-to- face’…

Comment from member Myrtle S.: That is the best way of doing it. You can join, and get your name in the book at the Chamber, next to Jiffy Lube for example… You can always offer to host one of their meetings, then they can see how big this place is…

Commander’s Comment: Really? Okay, well, so… all right. I have never heard that. I think that is something we could pursue whole-heartedly, so we need to get together and find out how to get that into action. I am up for it. I’ll be there. Thank you so much. We will get together later. Anything else? Thank you.

Rentals: Report provided by the 2nd Vice Commander

I am signing two (2) contracts on Friday, one (1) for 2026 (December) at 12:00 and one (1) for 2027 (January) at 12:30.

We also have rental on Saturday afternoon, after the Community Breakfast.

We have three (3) rentals scheduled for November, so far. And, four (4) in December, so far.

Inquiries are picking up. Telephone has been real busy, e-mails a little less so, but occasionally. So… things are looking good.

Commander's Comment: Excellent. Good job Bill. Thank you for what you do… You are 'kicking butt and taking names', and hopefully they are on contracts. "Show me the money." Thank you so much.

Legal: No Report. Judge Advocate not present.

Discipline / Protocol: Report provided by the Sergeant-at-Arms

Nothing to declare. (Jack B. (also ALR Director) has assumed duties as Post Sergeant-at-Arms as Tom B. has resigned.)

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

I am working on the Middle School Essay Contest and then we will have the Oratorical Contest jointly with Post 90 (Beaverdam). Right now I am handing out flyers to our Middle Schools.

Commander's Comment: Let me ask you this: The Essay contest is due by Christmas, so as District Chair for the Essay Contest, should I be sending out an e-mail to the Post Commander's and let them know that the deadline is in December, and that if they want to get something done at District, now is the time to get their letters out? A: Yes.

Sick List (Buddy Checks): Written report submitted by the Chaplain and read by the Commander

Tamara Pearson (daughter of Doug S., and also a Post Member) is in treatment for very serious medical issue. She is an Air Force Veteran . Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Anthony (Tony) R. has congestive heart failure, so please keep Tony in your prayers as well.

Harold F. is doing 'fair' according to Art. No blockage, just some stomach muscle cramping. He is back at the nursing home according to Art's note.

Communications and Media: Report provided by Committee Chair

The website is being updated three (3) or four (4) times a week now. Upcoming events were updated again today. Entries with “CG” or “HG” are Color Guard or Honor Guard events, where they will be presenting the colors or participating in the event with a flag display for the audience.

Also, if you are on a cell phone or laptop, when you see the calendar entry or title of an event, when you tap or ‘click’ on it, it will open another window that gives you more information, like the address of the event facility or any other special requirements that are in the calendar background.

Commander’s Comment: Thank you. And I must say, heck of a job with the website. There is so much information there… my gosh. So, when I talk to people and they go: “What can you tell me about…” I tell them: go to www.Post175.org, click on Events Calendar, or go down to the events, and if you want to know anything about what we are doing, it’s there. So, George is doing a heck of a job keeping it up to date. Thank you.

Buildings and Grounds: Report provided by Committee Chair

As of Friday, we purchased and received the thirty (30) chairs that the Auxiliary, our Post, and Mr. Warren Rice donated to make that happen. All chairs are now designated: vinyl, covered cloth, and standard, so that way we don’t get them all mixed up. We now have actual ‘good seating’ for our rentals.

Commander’s Comment: So, we’ve taken the old…

Committee Chair: Yes sir. As of Monday, at about noon, I hauled them to the Thrift Store at Manakin (“The Fix”) which is what we had set up.

Commander’s Comment: Excellent. Thank you Tony. We saw the new chairs this morning. Great job. We got those in… things are getting a little better looking for our rentals as well as for ourselves.

Special Events: Report provided by Committee Chair

First of all, I would like to thank everyone in the Post that had anything to do with Honor Flight: from the Riders riding in the rain, the 'Welcome Back'… everything was well received, as you saw from the Firefighters that were here tonight.

I would also like to point out that, maybe in the future, when we recognize them, not only recognize them for their efforts being here for the welcome back, but also think about: half of our EMT's (Emergency Medical Technicians) that are on the buses are from East Hanover as well. We had the Chief of the EMT's here tonight, but anyway, just for a future note.

Tony, for the Ice Cream Social, on the 12th we expect to have the ice cream delivered. The Social is set-up for the 14th, from 1:00pm (1300) to 3:00pm (1500), and they will begin setup at 12:00 noon (1200).

Anyone not eligible for Honor Flight, or that has already been, are welcome to attend. If you have any future plans of going on Honor Flight, please do not come to the Ice Cream Social, because we talk about things that may spoil your trip. That's the best way I can tell you that.

We have been confirmed, I don't know our spot in the lineup yet, but we are confirmed for the Christmas Parade on the 6th (December), and I've lined up the truck, so everything is onboard for that and… that's all I have.

Commander's Comment: What I'd like to say is: Jim, thank you for Chairing the Honor Flight. I think you did a hell of a job. That whole process, even though it got a little muffed up with an errant driver… But I can tell you that's probably happened before, among all these Missions…

Committee Chair: We've never had that happen exactly, but we did have practice on the trip I went on in 2011… I didn't realize it was that long ago… until we were talking about it that morning. That was the year the buses broke down coming back and we had to do the same thing on the side of I-95. Put all the Veterans on one bus… I was lucky that I was my Veterans ride home, so they put me on the bus with him. So, we have had practice before.

Commander's Comment: Well, even though there was a 'hitch', the 'hitch' went off without a 'hitch'. So, the Veterans were all put on one bus and they took off to Quantico to make sure that they got there on time for their appointment. And then, when the other bus got here, all the Guardians got on and met them (Veterans) at Quantico and had a great day. So, Jim, thank you so much. I appreciate it. (Applause.)

Color/Honor Guard: Report provided by the Guard Lieutenant

The Honor Guard / Color Guard, in November, is very busy. We have a number of Honor Guard / Color Guard functions to attend and they start next week. Next week, through the end of the month, will be busy for the Honor Guard / Color Guard. As George said, during the Comms and Media piece, all that information is on the website so if you'd like to get more detail, it is there already.

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

We have finished all our school visits that had been scheduled so far this year. We visited eight (8) schools and provided materials. In addition, we provided materials to two (2) other schools, for a total of ten (10). We distributed 790 of the Pledge of Allegiance activity books and 722 of the individual flags – for the children to take home.

I want to thank those members here at the Post who helped make those presentations and visits. For the remaining schools, I will be sending an e-mail to them and again ask them if they would like us to follow-up.

For the shooting program (Junior Shooting Sports Program – JSSP) we do have our air rifle team registered for the National American Legion Three-Position match. The first round we will be shooting right here, as it is a postal round. We shoot the targets and mail them in. We have two teams registered for that: a Precision Team and a Sporter Team.

And, the Fish Fry: Friday November 13th. Everything is the same as it has been before… the date is getting closer, so for tickets see me (Jim O.) or Jack B. Tom E. has volunteered to have tickets here Saturday morning at

the breakfast since I can't be here this Saturday. So you will still have an opportunity to get Fish Fry tickets.

Legion Riders (ALR): Report provided by Chapter Director

I have an American Legion bat that was built by the Titan Bat Company and they only built 1,776 of these things. This is number six (6). It is numbered on the choke, and is a collector's item. I have raffle tickets: three (3) for five (5) dollars; seven (7) for ten (10) dollars. For tickets, see me after the meeting. We will be doing the drawing on November the third (3rd) at coffee. And, I'm not doing the drawing because every time I do the drawing – I usually win. (Laughter.)

The Riders did the escort for the Honor Flight. It was a little wet, to say the least.

On Sunday, we doubled-up at Deep Run Park. My daughter works for Better Together, which helps children that are not quite all there, if you know what I mean. And we did a 'Trunk or Treat'. We had eight (8) bikes; gave out a LOT of candy. Some people we gave candy to four or five times. They were all happy, but we did give them an address for a good dinner. I think everybody had a good time at the 'Trunk of Treat'.

Some of us dressed up, some of us didn't. Some of us dressed up our vehicles, motorcycles, and everything. But, we had buckets and buckets of candy and were on one side of the street, and the rest of the bikes were on the other side of the street. Lynn had her car with the trunk lid open with spider webs, spiders hanging down, pumpkins, and giving out candy.

Then, they would come to me and I had a mannequin that I just basically built on the motorcycle and Lynn forgot the doggone skeleton face…

Commander's Comment: To add a little bit to what Jack was saying about the 'Trunk or Treat'… We have been invited by Jennifer Mayhew to the Harmony Collection at Hanover for their annual 'Trunk of Treat' family and friends day of Friday, October 30th from three (3pm) to five (5pm), and they

would be honored to have members of our Post participate at 8203 Meadowbridge Road.

Veteran Assistance: No Report. Service Officer not present.

Unfinished (Old) Business: None

New Business and Correspondence:

Comment from member Bob M.: Funding for the cooler.

Commander's Comment: Yes. For those that don't know, we had to buy a new cooler for the Member's Quarters. The previous cooler was ten (10) to fifteen (15) years old, and bit the bullet again. It had done that three or four times in the last two years, and it cost just about one thousand dollars ($1,000) every time we had to repair it. So we made the decision to purchase a new one, which Doug S. put on his credit card.

Comment by member Doug S.: I have made a charitable contribution to the Post, which will offset the reimbursement for the purchase. Meaning: the cooler does not cost the Post anything.

Commander's Comment: We had discussed, prior to the purchase, that we would vote on reimbursement for the purchase, up to a maximum of $2,500.00. Vote was not held last month because we did not have a quorum.

Adjutant Comment: At the ExCom (Executive Committee) it was decided to bring it to the membership because the expenditure exceeded $1,000.00. Last membership meeting we did not have a quorum so the vote was delayed until this meeting. As I am understanding it, no vote is required because Doug has graciously donated the cooler to the Post. Correct?

Comment by member Doug S.: No… Vote still needs to be taken to reimburse for the cooler. I have made a separate charitable donation to the Post for more than the cost of the cooler.

Adjutant Comment: Q: So, you have made a charitable contribution to the Post's general fund, but we still need to reimburse you for the cooler? A: Yes.

Comment by member Jim E.: Motion - To reimburse Doug S. for the purchase of a new cooler for our Member's Quarters, not to exceed approximately $1,800.00. (Exact amount to be reimbursed is on the purchase receipt.)

Motion was properly made, seconded and discussion held.

Commander called the question. Motion was unanimously approved.

For the good of The American Legion / Post:

Director ALR Comment: The Riders will be making their wonderful Brunswick Stew on Friday, November 20th. It should be done by 4:00 pm (1600). You can pick it up, piping hot, soon after it's done. We will vote on price per quart on Saturday at the Riders meeting following the breakfast. It will be either $10, $11, or $12 per quart. It will probably be $12 as that is what it sold for last time, and others are already selling it for that amount.

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

Meeting Adjourned: 7:54 pm (19:54)

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