



**The American Legion Post143
Combined Regular Monthly Membership Meeting
Thursday, October 17, 2019**

Commander Harrod called the combined membership meeting to order at 6:03 PM. All stood for a salute to the Colors. The meeting was declared regularly convened.

WELCOME VISITORS & GUESTS: by Commander Harrod

- **Guests:** Lori Graham, representing the Marine Corp Reserve **TOYS FOR TOTS**
- **5th District:** NONE
- **Prospective New Members:** Horry and Eunice Johnson, and Tony Roberts
- **Prospective Transferee's:** NONE

RECOGNITION:

- **Birthdays:** Cmdr. Joe Harrod (76) and Paul Scheufler

- **Anniversaries:** Carlos and Ruth Fuller (70), Sam and Linda Pyle (38), Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Smith (26),

- **CERTIFICATE of DISTINCTION:** Robert Hilliard, the Historian for Post 143, was awarded 1st Place in the State of Georgia for the 2018-2019 Narrative History of Post 143 at the Department Convention in Valdosta, GA in June.

Cmdr. Harrod announced that after being submitted to the National American Legion 2018-2019 Post Narrative History competition at the National Convention in Indianapolis, IN this past August, a **FIRST PLACE** Certificate of Distinction was awarded to Robert Hilliard for the overall comprehensiveness, readability and arrangement of his narrative history of Post 143. Robert will be presented with a plaque from National during the GA Dept. Spring Conference.

GENERAL BUSINESS

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jeanette Henson

- **REMINDER:** The Unit 143 membership is continually accepting new members in order to maintain our Dept. goal. Please contact family members and encourage them to consider joining the women's group and to help support the organization. Eligibility includes wives, daughters, mothers, grandmothers, granddaughters, great granddaughters, sisters and also those women who are eligible for Legion membership in their own right. The Auxiliary dues are \$25 annually.

- We still need eligible individuals to join the Auxiliary in order for our Unit to meet its goal this year.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Jeanette Henson **NO REPORT**

- **REMINDER:** Please contact Jeanette if you are interested in volunteering at the Trink Davis Veterans Village. Jeanette can give you the information for training and the available days and times that still need coverage at the facility. Consider helping our veterans in a very rewarding way.
- There is an ongoing need for volunteers to assist with activities and residents at the Trink Davis Veterans Village in Carrollton.

SICK CALL:

Please keep the following members and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Hubert Carroll has cancer; **Peggy Riley** is still recovering from her mini-stroke. **Debra Robinson** had emergency surgery recently, **Mary Nelson** is recovering from cancer surgery, **Nancy Blackwelder** also had surgery. **Joseph Schadt** needs our prayers. **Steve McEwen's** mother passed away, and, Morgan Frank's father, **John Frank**, is in critical condition at WellStar Kennistone Hospital.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Again, this year, the **TOYS FOR TOTS** coordinator, Lori Graham, is requesting our support at the Toys for Tots Collection Points at Walmart during the month of November. Frank Joswick has a signup sheet for each weekend with 2-hour periods beginning at 9:00 am. and ending at 5:00 pm. Please contact Frank with your choice of date and time NLT October 30th at frankjosw@live.com. (American Legion volunteers are encouraged to wear your cover).

STAND and UNCOVER for prayer by Chaplain Larry Boswell

INSTRUCTIONS for MEAL

- *Thanks to everyone who helped set up the meal.
- *Those needing help with their meal and guests will be first in line
- *Members at center tables facing podium will be next
- *Exit into hallway thru door nearest podium and back in by food line
- *Please uncover while eating
- *Please help with cleanup after meeting.

BEGIN REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

1. The regular Post meeting began at 6:58 **PM** with one rap of the gavel. Sgt at Arms (Thomas Underwood) closed doors and secured meeting room.
2. Three raps of gavel.
3. Commander asked members to **UNCOVER**
4. **Chaplain Larry Boswell offered a prayer.**
5. **POW/MIA EMPTY CHAIR (Sgt. at Arms Thomas Underwood) was remembered**
6. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Cmdr. Harrod
7. **RECOVER.** The Preamble to the Legion Constitution was led by Cmdr. Harrod
(One rap of the gavel to seat members)
8. **Commander Harrod declared General Membership Meeting of Carroll Post 143, Department of Georgia, officially convened.**

9. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- The Adjutant took a roll call of officers and it was determined that enough members in good standing were present to declare a quorum.
- A vote was taken and the minutes of September, 2019 General Meeting were accepted.
- A vote was taken and the minutes of September, 2019 EC Meeting were accepted.
- Membership & Guest attendance rosters are attached to the minutes of each meeting.

POST REPORTS

10. COMMANDER

- **PRESENTATION**

Lori Graham thanked the Post for all its support in 2018. Over 900 families (3700 children) were able to experience Christmas in 2018 in part because of Post 143 volunteers. Lori presented Post 143 with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Marine Corp Reserve Carroll County GA **TOYS FOR TOTS** campaign for the Post's outstanding volunteerism and participation.

- Commander Harrod plans to attend the Dept. Fall Conference in Duluth later this month.
- **The District Revitalization at Post 29 in Marietta on October 4th had a positive outcome. Cmdr. Harrod and Jr. Shooting Sports Chair Frank Joswick represented Post 143 and submitted our report for approval. Dept. Treasurer Robert Woodruff inspected and approved the document.**
- **The October Caravan Report was "excellent and impressive"!**

11. Finance Officer/Finance Committee Chair: Ronnie Martin

- The Financial Report for the Month of September 2019 (including the BBQ Fundraiser update) was read to the membership by Finance Officer Ronnie Martin and a copy was presented to the Commander. A second copy will be filed and become a permanent record of the post.

12. Adjutant Report Steve Fuller **ABSENT**

Adjutant Steve Fuller left a list of prospective new members and transferees to be voted on for acceptance into Post 143.

NEW MEMBERS:

Randall Wilson
Bob Martin
Judson Bell

TRANSFEREES:

Waymond Cheatwood
David Farmer
Randall Moore

Roy Moore
Andrew Belair
Jim Hill

A motion was made by Ronnie Martin to accept the above-named prospective members by voice vote. The motion was seconded and the voice vote was carried. Congratulations to our new members!

REMINDERS:

- 5th District Meeting and Training is November 17th at Post 294 in Powder Springs. At this time 2 volunteers are needed. The 2019-2020 schedule is posted on the Post bulletin board.
- Dept. of GA Hospital Visits schedule and the Dept. of GA newsletter are also posted on the Post bulletin board.
- Emails were sent out to the membership with the details for Georgia Veterans Day on November 9th in downtown Atlanta at the Centennial Park District. All this printed material is also on the Post bulletin board.

13. Sr Vice Ron Knowles **ABSENT**

Membership Committee Report: Membership is at 75%.

14. JV/Americanism Chair: Tim Bass

JV Bass expressed his appreciation to everyone who helped the Honor Guard perform their Flag Retirement Ceremonies at the Ag Center during Heritage Days in September.

15. JV/ Legislative & Protocol Chair: Sam Pyle

REMINDER: On November 2nd, the Vietnam War Symposium will be at the Atlanta Historical Center. Registration is required. An email with the details was sent to the membership recently by Adjutant Steve Fuller.

Chairman Pyle also reminded the membership that the rededication of the James C. Holland headstone would be performed on October 19th at the Carrollton City Cemetery. This ceremony will complete the Post 143 program for the Centennial American Legion Year.

16. JV/Children & Youth Chair: Charles (Doc) Stuckey

Heritage Days was held on Sept 26th & 27th at the Ag Center. American Legion volunteers served as supervisors this year to assist the teachers each day. Over 1800 third grade students attended the event. JV Stuckey thanked everyone who participated and made this year's Heritage Days such a huge success.

17. Judge Advocate: Richard Guynn **NO REPORT**

18. Service Officer/Legion Centennial Committee Chair: Don Levans

REMINDER: *Trinka Davis* has two (2) excellent individuals, Nikia Hall and Judson Hayes, who are now available to assist veterans who need help with various needs concerning the Veterans Administration. The waiting times will probably not be any shorter, but the help is available.

Again, the number of veterans in need of varying degrees of assistance was addressed by the Service Committee. In several cases a monetary need was met for payment of utilities, rent, food or funeral services. But, in one situation documentation was needed by a patient before he could go to his next physician's appointment. On the other end of the spectrum an individual needed verification from the committee to receive benefits from a local business. It still remains to be an ongoing challenge for the Service Committee to determine the validity of an individual for benefits and privileges, and to make the resources available for them. PLEASE make sure you know the location of your DD214. It's the most important document a veteran can possess!

U. S. Army Pvt. 1st Class Hewlett A. Thompson, 23, of Haralson County was once listed as a WWII MIA, but now KIA, will be reinterred on November 30th at the Clem United Methodist Church Cemetery with full military honors. Chaplain Boswell contacted the funeral home and offered the services of the Honor Guard from Post 143. In his honor, the CCVMP is anticipating the placement of Pvt. Thompson's wall plaque from MIA to KIA. A (free) plaque with the pertinent information about Army veteran H. A. Hewlett's wartime service and sacrifice information will also be installed. At the present time at least 50 of his family members have agreed to attend the ceremony.

19. Service Committee Chair: Bill Maddox **NO REPORT**

20. Honor Guard Chair: Dale Robinson **ABSENT**

The next anticipated event for the Honor Guard is the **Veterans Day** program at the CCVMP on November 9th.

REMINDER: Any member of Post 143 is entitled to full military honors at their funeral. Please inform your families that this benefit is available, and to convey those wishes to the funeral director at the time the arrangements are being made.

21. Cyber Chair: Randy Purser **ABSENT**

22. Public Relations Committee Chair: Bill Hearnburg **ABSENT**

23. Jr. Shooting Sports Chair: Frank Joswick

The Carroll County Shooting Team will resume competition in January 2020.

24. SAL Commander: George Wheeless

Cmdr. Wheeless informed the membership that the SAL would be providing ham for the November 21st Dinner. (The accompanying sides and desserts will be furnished by spouses and the Unit 143 Auxiliary.)

25. Historian: Bob Hilliard

PLEASE NOTE: Due to Bob's relocation to the Augusta area soon, he will no longer be able to fulfill his position of Post 143 Historian. If any member of the Post is able to fill the position of **photographer** please step forward and contact one of the Executive Committee members by email, phone or in person at any meeting (Executive Committee or Combined Membership).

A big thank you to Bob Hilliard (and also Jim Leek) for all the time and energy that was put into the Post History. You certainly made Post 143 distinguished throughout the state of Georgia. We're so proud!

26. Chaplain: Larry Boswell

Chaplain Boswell reported that he had assisted with two (2) funeral since the last meeting.

U. S. Army Pvt. 1st Class Hewlett A. Thompson will be reinterred at the Clem United Methodist Church Cemetery on November 30th. He was a WWII MIA from Haralson County, but recently has been reclassified as KIA. His extended family (approximately 50 members from across the U. S.) will be attending. They have graciously included our Post 143 Chaplain and our Honor Guard in the ceremony.

Pvt. Thompson' remains will be escorted by representatives of the Dept. of the Army and the Dept. of GA American Legion. Everyone is encouraged to attend this rare event, and honor a local veteran who will finally be coming home. Updates will be distributed as they are received.

27. Were any reports missed?

Service Committee Chair Bill Maddox pointed out that members of the Knights of Columbus from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church will be visiting 15 local nursing homes on November 11th and recognizing the veteran residents with certificates of appreciation for their service.

28. Unfinished Business: **NONE**

29. Any New Business: **NONE**

REMINDER: Post 148 will be sponsoring the **MOVING WALL** later this year, and would like any assistance our members can offer. Anyone that is interested in volunteering their time, please contact Durell Langley at Post 148 for further information.

At the present time the Squad 143 is **still** in need of a Chaplain. Anyone interested in filling that position please contact a SAL member.

28. Dates to remember:

- Oct 19th _____ Holland Memorial Service, City Cemetery @ 11:00 am.
- Oct 18th-20th _____ Dept. Fall Conference, Duluth Sonesta Gwinnett Place Atlanta
- Oct 29th _____ Trunk or Treat at Pioneer Ford
- Oct 31 _____ Halloween at 1st Baptist Church of Temple
- Nov 5th _____ EC Meeting @ 5:00 pm.
- Nov 9th _____ Veterans Day Ceremony, Carroll County Memorial Park @ 10:30 am.
- Nov 21st _____ Council on Aging's Senior Citizens' Thanksgiving Festival @ 9:30 am.
- Nov 21st _____ Combined Membership Meeting @ 6:00 pm. (Thanksgiving Meal)

30. BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION:

REMINDER: Cmdr. Harrod has some very worthwhile information concerning the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry. If you have the time to spend with travel and appointments, the school offers quality dental care, about 1/3 of the cost at a local dental office and it's all supervised by the faculty. Speak with Cmdr. Harrod If you are interested.

Cmdr. Harrod announced that a "safe haven" for 500-600 trick or treaters" this Halloween will be available at the Roopville Road Baptist Church on October 30th.

From 5:30 pm. to 8:00 pm on Thursday, November 7th, a fundraiser to benefit the homeless veterans in the area will take place at **VENUE 1626**, 1625 Bankhead Highway, Carrollton. The tickets are \$10 each. **Mama June's Fried Chicken Jubilee** will be served and entertainment will be provided by the **Whooping Creek Jam Band**. All proceeds benefit **The Holy Spirit Homeless Shelter**.

Legionnaire Joe Morgan reminded all members in need of a name badge or an American Legion cap to speak with him for assistance in ordering either item.

LOST & FOUND

If anyone has found an American Legion Post 143 hat at an event or one of the post meetings in the last 2 or 3 months please turn it in to one of the officers at a meeting.

- There was no further business to come before this meeting.
- **STAND AND UNCOVER**
- Chaplain Larry Boswell led us in a closing prayer.
- **RECOVER**
- **COMMANDERS CHARGE:** "Till we meet again let us remember that our obligation to our Country can be fulfilled only by the faithful performance of all duties of citizenship. Let service to the community, state, and nation be ever a main objective of The American Legion and its members. Let us be ever watchful of the honor of our Country, our organization and ourselves, that nothing shall swerve us from the path of Justice, Freedom and Democracy."
- **The Flag of Our Country is in place for retirement. "HAND SALUTE": "TWO"**
- **THREE RAPS OF THE GAVEL**
- The Commander declared the September 19th, 2019 Regular Membership Meeting of Post 143, The American Legion, Department of GA adjourned at 7:35 PM with one gavel rap.

Approval Date:

Commander Joe Harrod

Recorder Kathy Katen