



**The American Legion Post143
Combined Regular Monthly Membership Meeting
Thursday, November 16, 2017**

Commander Merriss called the combined meeting to order at 6:00PM. All stood for a salute to the Colors. The meeting was declared regularly convened.

WELCOME GUESTS: by Commander Merriss:

- **Department/5TH district guests:** 5th District Jr Vice Reginald Jordan
- **Guests:** Sheriff Terry Langley, Holly Gotfredson, Helen Gray, Karen Barnwell, and Ginny Price
- **Prospective New Members:** Thomas Macduffie
- **Prospective Transferee's:** Cecil Cook

COMMANDERS COMMENTS:

- **Birthdays:**
Mary Nelson
- **Anniversaries:** None

GENERAL BUSINESS:

SICK CALL/SURGERY: By the Commander

- Debra Robinson, Frank & Edna Scott, John Bassett, Roy Johnson, Robert Billingsley and Nancy Montalto

SPECIAL MENTION: No one

TAPS: By the Commander
John Marlow

PRAYER: by Chaplain Billy Bryant

ABBREVIATED MEETING REPORT

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A roll call was taken and it was determined that enough members in good standing were present to declare a quorum.
- Membership & Guest attendance rosters are attached to the minutes of this meeting. (55 members and 5 Guests attended)
- There were no additional guests or Dept/Dist Officers to be recognized.

ADJUTANT REPORT:

Approve Meeting Minutes: Members present and in good standing, approved by voice vote to accept the October 19, 2017 Combined Membership meeting as written.

MEMBERSHIP: by Sr. Vice Steve Fuller

Post Renewal Membership is at 58.6 %. Need to call members that are behind in paying their dues

Steve also displayed the Post Banner that was used during the Little League Football Bowl.

FINANCE OFFICER/FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR: by Chuck Feaselman:

October Finance Report:

Total Revenue as of 1 Oct, 2017 was: \$ 35143.37

Total Expenses were: **\$ 6444.70**

Total Revenue as of 30 Oct. 2017 was: \$ 30754.67

2nd Qtr. Community Investment Fund: \$169,877.66

Reserve Funds:

Trinka Davis (Veterans) \$ 2241.03

Carroll EMC \$ 3000.00

Service Officer \$ 745.00

*Commander accepts budget statement as presented and is to be filed with the October 19, 2017 Regular Membership Minutes.

AWARDS PRESENTATION:

- Sr. Vice Steve Fuller, along with Commander Ted Merriss presented Sheriff Terry Langley with a Plaque for outstanding support associated with the Post's sponsorship of the Boys State program from 2014 through 2017.
- Sheriff Langley thanked the Post Family for their support to the men and women in the armed services as well the various programs that the Post provides to the veterans, their families and to the children and youth throughout the community.

Sheriff Langley then proceeded to present \$500 Checks to:

- American Legion Post 143 Commander Ted Merriss
- Carroll County Veterans Park President Don Levans
- Wayne Driver, Accepting on behalf of the Marine Corp League,

5th DISTRICT COMMENTS:

- Jr Vice Reginald Jordan thanked the post family for their support to the American Legion; Addressed the 2018 membership renewal rates; Caravan Audit; The new Veterans ID card application On-Line filing; Service Officer Training to assist veterans filing disability claims; Congress's new GI Bill-for-life.

COMMANDERS CLOSING COMMENTS:

- Thanked Sheriff Langley for his generous \$500 donation to the Post; Stated that the Post's 2018 membership renewal is on track but encouraged those that have not paid yet to do so before December 31st. The Veterans ID program has been delayed from the original implementation date of 1 November, 2017. Went on to say this card is not a medical ID card nor will it allow you access a military Post or Base, rather it is to be used for discount purposes only; The 5th District Jr. Vice Reginald Jordan mentioned that the Post Service Officers will be offered training assisting veterans filing their disability claims, fortunately, both our Service Officer and I are already certified through the State of Georgia to process such claims; Thanked Holly Gotferdson for donating winter clothing & blankets to the veterans at the Trinka Davis Village and also offering to provide the background music during the Thanksgiving Dinner; Thanked SAL for furnishing the ham and thanked everyone who brought in covered dishes and desserts. Wished all a Happy Thanksgiving and reminded everyone that the **December 21, 2017 Combined Membership meeting has been cancelled.**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE THANKSGIVING DINNER: By the Commander

- a. Thanked the SAL members for providing the Hams and the Post family for preparing the covered dishes
- b. **Guests, First Time Post 143 Attendees** & those members requiring extra time & the Trinka Davis Veterans will be first in line.
- c. The ***FAR LEFT (facing podium)*** room tables will follow.
- d. Form a food line in the hall way, please.
- e. Please remember to uncover while eating.
- f. Any food remaining will be donated to those in need.

CLOSING CEREMONY

- There was no further business brought forth at this meeting.

The Commander rapped the gavel three times for all to raise and uncover for the closing prayer by Chaplain Billy Bryant. All recovered and performed a Hand Salute to the flag. The November 16, 2017 General Membership Meeting of Post 143, Dept. of GA adjourned at 6:40PM with one gavel rap.

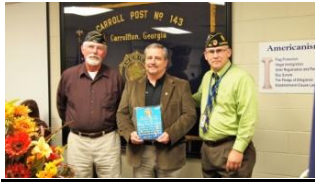
Approval Date: _____

Original to be signed

Commander Ted Merriss

Recorder Frank Joswick (Adjutant Position Un-Filled)

PICTURES OF AWARDS PRESENTATION AND THANKSGIVING DINNER



Sheriff Langley Receiving Plaque of Appreciation for Supporting Boys State from 2014-2017



Sheriff Langley Presents \$500 checks to Cmdr Merriss, CCVMP Pres. Levans and Wayne Driver on behalf of the Marine Corps League.



Post Family preparing for Thanksgiving Dinner



Holly Gotferdson provided background music while the Post Family enjoys their Thanksgiving Dinner



Lets Eat!

PICTURES OF THE POST FAMILY TAKING PART IN THE COUNCIL-ON-AGING THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON



LT to RT: Ronnie Pate, Jeanette & Warren Henson, Joe Harrod And Wayne Driver



LT to RT: Color Guard members Ron Knowles, Chuck Bass, Jimmy Sanders and Richard Guynn



Are these ladies bickering over who gets to dance with Howard Scarborough?



Senior's visiting various tables to see What give-a-ways they can get

NOTE: Ronnie Pate and Joe Harrod both won door prizes, while Wayne Driver won a Patio Set from a raffle drawing!