



THE DAMASCUS VETERAN

A Newsletter for Members & Friends of Damascus American Legion Post 171, Unit & Squadron

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2013

THE COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

The Post needs three volunteers to assist the SAL in the kitchen from 5PM – 9PM on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays during Bingo, with an occasional third evening for those months having five Thursdays. Please contact me.

Bingo season started on Sept 5th and was a great success. We had a couple of slow nights due to inclement weather, but as the word gets out on Facebook, the Web site, Newsletter, and other media, we're seeing a steady increase. We now accept credit cards, and we expect that segment to improve.



The Baker Middle School annual 9/11 Flag Raising Ceremony was held on Sept 11th. It was a very moving ceremony that continues to keep this event fresh in our minds and hearts so that we can continue to honor those whose lives were lost or forever changed. I was extremely disappointed with the low turnout by our Post. I realize that many still work full time, but with 400 members surely our Post can do better than nine! The Unit was well represented; their presence was recognized by the school principal and I thank them for their attendance.

Due to the escalating costs associated with obtaining permits, the extensive coordination work with Montgomery County, the architect, engineer, fire department, and various trades, the Pavilion project has been put on hold until the spring at the earliest.

The Shrimp Feast on Sept 5th, although a success, did not produce the revenue we expected due to the significant increase in the price of shrimp. In addition we purchased too much beer (yes that is possible!) and food. Adjustments have been made, and with an increase in ticket prices and ordering less food, I'm confident the Oyster Roast on Nov 23rd will be more successful.

Hero-Dogs, Inc. is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide independence and improved quality of life to veterans by raising, training, and placing service dogs with injured or disabled military veterans who have served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces. On November 10th from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM, Hero-Dogs will host a graduation ceremony at the Post home for their latest dog/veteran teams. All Post, Unit, SAL members and their guests are invited to attend.

God Bless our Troops and God Bless America
Anthony M. "Tony" De Shiro, Commander

CALL MULTIPLIER

Our Service Officer, Jim Serritella, has been working on a system to communicate sensitive information to our members. Only 20% of our membership have email addresses, consequently, it is difficult to reach everyone in a timely basis to make critical announcements; e.g. Post Everlasting. In August 2013 the Executive Committee authorized the Post to contract with CallMultiplier, a company whose service provides an automated phone messaging system that can be used to call the entire Post membership in approximately 15–20 minutes with a recorded message. We need to know how many members will participate. If the majority chose not to participate we will not implement the program. Keep in mind that if you opt-out of the program, and do not have an email address on file with the Post, you will have to make your own arrangements to receive critical information.

I need your answers by December 4th so we can tabulate them and present the results to the Executive Committee on December 9th, and make the final decision whether to use the program. Your response is important! Forms may be mailed to Jim Serritella, hand delivered to Jim or Tony DeShiro, or scanned and emailed to Jim at service@legionpost171.org or Tony DeShiro at commander@legionpost171.org. Because we cannot rely on telephone calls and voice mails, we will not accept those methods of reply.

_____ cut along the line, fill in your name and check the line best for yourself _____

Please fill in the form and mail it to: Jim Serritella
Post Service Officer
8004 Hilton Road
Laytonsville, MD 20882

Name: _____ DATE: _____

_____ I want to receive Post 171 recorded messages

_____ I DO NOT want to receive Post 171 recorded messages

Service Officer Report Chairman: Jim Serritella

When I accepted the position I wasn't really sure what the task included. You talk to folks who lost a loved one, you give assistance to fellow post members, or you talk with members recovering from an illness or hospitalization. It's a rewarding job but I cannot do it alone. Please notify me about those with medical or personal situations, who could use a comforting word, flowers, or just a phone call to let them know that we're here for them. This is a team effort, and I appreciate your help. A note of thanks to Bob Ray for all the help in transitioning me to this role. Email me at service@legionpost71.org or call me at 301-980-4500.

The following events occurred during September and October:

- Walter Cronin: Veteran Assistance
- Ray Luhn: Sent flowers, and time to talk.
- Gerald Kessell: Relocated to an assisted living facility in Frederick. Sent a "Welcome to your new home" card from the Post 171. Gerald would welcome visitors. Cards may be sent to:
Gerald Kessell
Sommerford House – Suite 5D
2100 Whittier Drive. Frederick, MD 21702
- Lucille Screen: Lucille had cardiac surgery to repair heart valves. She is now recovering at home. Welcome home Lucille!! Flowers were sent to her home.

- Alton Westbrooks: Transferred to Post Everlasting. I spoke with his son and expressed our condolences. Alton is buried in All Souls Cemetery. Post 171 provided a donation to the National Kidney Foundation.
 - Marwood “Woody” Rupp: Transferred to Post Everlasting. Several Post members attended his memorial service on Sept 28th. Post 171 provided a donation to the Hyattstown Volunteer Fire Department
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The 2014 High School Oratorical Contest

Working closely with faculty members at Damascus, Clarksburg, Seneca Valley and Poolesville High Schools, we are recruiting contestants for our annual Oratorical Contest. Home-schooled high school-aged students are also eligible. The contest is scheduled for Saturday, January 11, 2014, at the Post Home, beginning at 10:00 AM. That’s also Pancake Breakfast day, so come join us for both breakfast and the contest.

Contestants speak about the United States Constitution, each delivering two orations. Cash prizes are awarded to the first, second and third-place winners, and our Post’s first-place winner competes at the Montgomery County contest on January 25, 2014, also at our Post Home.

The deadline for registering as a contestant is December 13th. Please help us get the word to all eligible students in our area.

We are planning an orientation for contestants on November 5th at 7 PM at the Post Home. Additional orientation sessions will be scheduled, if necessary.

As planning progresses, we’ll be asking some of you for help at this event. Any Legionnaire, Auxiliary member, or SAL member interested in helping is asked to contact one of the Oratorical Committee members: Jack Talamo, ShaWn Gill, Bob Ray or me. Thank you!

PPC George Bolling, Chairman

Post 171 WWII Veterans - A Continuing Series

Harold Talmage (Dick) Bennett

Dick was born on July 11, 1921 in Browningsville, MD. He volunteered for the U.S. Army at age 21 and served in World War II for 3 years and 1 month attaining the rank of Technical Sergeant Grade 2. He served with the 451st Bomber Group as Radio Operator and Waist Gunner on a B-24 bomber from Dec 1943 to July of 1944. His awards include: Air Force Gunnery School Wings, Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters, and Good Conduct Medal. Here is his story:

We were inducted into the Army at Ft. Meyer in VA, then sent to Biloxi, MI for basic training. All I can remember about our drill instructor was that he was very young and very loud! After basic training I went to radio school in Scottfield, Illinois, then to Laredo, Texas to aerial gunner’s school, then to Boise, Idaho where we were assigned to a B-24 aircraft crew. The crews were sent to Fairmont, Nebraska for two months of phase training. The scariest thing was one night during phase training in Nebraska. We flew a lot at night, coming back after midnight. The plane had “tricycle” landing gear; you land the plane on the two wheels in back, and as the plane slows down it settles onto the one wheel in the front. Well, when the plane slowed down and settled on the one wheel in front, the landing gear collapsed. There was a lot of noise and sparks, but the pilot was pretty cool-headed and he allowed the plane to slow on its own, and got it off the runway and onto the infield grass.

We deployed to Italy where we went over as the 451st Bomb Group, and flew missions dropping bombs on Rumania, Hungary, Yugoslavia, and France. We did not have any near escapes that I know of, but sometimes the anti-aircraft flak was very heavy; we were very lucky. I spent most of my free time going to town on days off, mostly didn't do much. We played cards, and I never lost a single dollar gambling! Payday came and some guys stayed up all night playing cards and drinking wine so they could hardly stand up in the morning. But as we breathed pure oxygen in the plane it helped sober people up. We didn't celebrate Christmas because we were flying over North Africa in Dec 1943 on our way to Italy.

Our plane was named "Three Feathers", by the crew who ferried the plane over to Italy, not us. On the way over the crew lost three engines, and had to "feather" them. Luckily they were over Trinidad and were able to land with one engine. So they had a lady painted on the plane with three feathers placed strategically over three places of her anatomy.

One day our mission was to bomb submarine pens in Southern France. We were over the Aegean Sea and lost two engines. We pulled out of formation and landed on the island of Corsica where we stayed 10 days while our engines were replaced. The base was supposed to notify our bomber group that we were there. After they got the engines replaced we headed back to Italy and the control tower asked 1st Pilot Bill Slater: "Where have you been?" It seems that Corsica never notified our group that we were there, so our bomber group had us missing in action. I was actually home back in the states before word reached my family that I was no longer missing in action.

We were at a café in Constantine drinking wine and a little Arab kid came along with a puppy which we bought for 3 dollars. The puppy started to whine and someone said to give it a little wine. We poured some wine into one a little coaster. The dog took a few laps of the wine and then went right to sleep. So naturally we named her Vino. After we did our 50 missions they gave us an old, outdated, desert-painted B-24 to use to get back to the states. Vino came back to the states with us, and when we landed in Puerto Rico somebody there said we had better get that dog some shots or they won't let it into the country. We found somebody who gave the dog its shots and we came to Homestead, FL where they paid no attention to the dog whatsoever. The mother of one of our crew members from Missouri wanted the dog, so we took the dog home to her. We didn't know at that time but the dog was pregnant. How she got pregnant by those big Italian dogs we don't know because Vino was a little thing.

When leaving for the U.S. it was traditional to buzz the area on the last flight out. I wrote to the editor of "Ad Lib", the newsletter for the 451st Bomber Group, and mentioned that we buzzed the area as we were leaving Italy, and that I heard we blew somebody's antenna off his tent. Some guy at the reunion stood up and said: "So that's who it was!" It wasn't until 50 years later, after I wrote to the editor, that the guy realized who it was. He gave me the photos he took of the plane. And if you go to the museum at Wright Patterson in Dayton, OH there's a plane way over in the corner that has the name "Strawberry Bitch" painted on it. That was the plane that we brought back.

I heard that after you came back from Europe they may send you to the Pacific, so we decided to go to school because the Army wouldn't send you anywhere while you were in school. We signed up for pilot training at Lancaster, CA for primary flight training where the Army made a wise decision that they shouldn't trust me in an airplane by myself. I "washed out" solo because they found that when I came in for a landing I had a hard time figuring out how far above the ground I was!

I had to go to Randolph Field in San Antonio, TX to be discharged so a friend of mine who lived in Michigan hitchhiked home and got his father's car and drove back to Monroe, LA. We then drove to San Antonio and were discharged on Oct 20, 1945. After discharge, he and I went to Michigan and stayed overnight. The next day he took me down to Route 30 and I hitchhiked home. A little old lady stopped and picked me up. She said: "The first thing they tell us is that we shouldn't pick up boys like you." I said that that was probably good advice but she picked me up anyway.

.Additional Questions & Answers:

Q. What skills and lessons did you learn in the service?

A. I learned a lot about dealing with people because you're constantly around people. But the skill I learned as radio operator was never useful as an occupation

Q. In combat were there specific things that stick out in your mind?

A. The first time we ran into flack over Southern France. That was scary!!

Q. Who was your best buddy?

A. Didn't really have a best buddy. We simply relied on each other to be there.

Q. Did you have any heroes or someone in particular you looked up to?

A. I most admired our plane captain, 1st Pilot Bill Slater. We flew over Northern Italy, The Balkans, and Southern Europe. He was always very calm and competent. We never worried about him.

Q. What influence did the Army have on your life?

A. It's one of the best things that happened to me. Let's you know there's more to the world than what you've seen.

Q. Why did you join the American Legion? What do you think of being the last charter member?

A. I joined because it seemed like a good organization which it has proved to be over the years. It's hard to believe I'm the last charter member; it was not something you try to do; it just evolves.

Q. Did you leave a girl behind?

A. Yes I did, and I came back and married her. Referring of course to his lovely wife Carolyn.

Q. Did you use the GI Bill?

A. Yes. After I got home I made arrangements and enrolled at the University of MD, majoring in business and finance administration. I started night school in Feb 1946 and finished in May of 1949.

Q. What was your most happy moment other than the end of the war?

A. Getting back to the USA.

Q. How were you treated at home after the war?

A. In a word, Great!

Q. Did the government treat you fairly after the war?

A. Yes, they paid for my education

Q. What is your most vivid memory? Why?

A. During Gunnery School training we shot machine guns at a target sleeve that was pulled by another plane. For some reason the memory of the pilot pulling away from my first target sleeve after I shot my guns stands out.

Q. Did you see any buddies after the war?

A. We had never met up after the war. We went on for 50 years and none of us ever heard from anyone. I was curious about our navigator Dick Herron, so I did a name search on the computer and found Dick living in PA, so I called and spoke to his son who gave me Dick's phone number. We met up after that. I also saw Leone Stone our bombardier, a scrawny kind of guy. Over the years I've been in touch

with Bill Slater and Bill Green. I also met with Joe Capelca who I accused of being a henchman of Al Capone because he came from Cicero, IL

Q. Sum up military service and what it means to you today.

A. It means a lot to me, and it did a lot for me. I never would have gone to college without the GI Bill. I have two sons and am sorry they missed military service because the world doesn't revolve just around you. There's a whole lot more about the world.

2014 Membership Update – History Repeating....

Having been the membership chairman for over a decade, I continue to be amazed at how *little* things change from year to year! At the beginning of each new membership year approximately 50% of members pay their dues when the first renewal notification arrives. Then they start trickling in, first in groups of 5-10 and then after a couple months just 1-2 a week. We are now at 68% with 274 paid which is just a few *behind* where we were this time last year. 128 members have still not paid their 2014 dues and I will spend a lot of time and effort between now and end of year trying to get them to pay, most eventually will but usually 15-20 won't for reasons I will never understand!

PLEASE renew or better yet, contact me about a Paid-Up-for-Life Membership (PUFL - amount based on your age) and never have to worry about dues again! You can pay in full or over a 12 month period. Annual dues can also be paid on-line at www.legion.org/renew. This site allows you print out a temporary membership card. You can also renew at the Department of MD website - <http://www.mdlegion.org>. Paying on-line saves us stamps, envelopes and *time!*

We still need to recruit at least 15-20 new members to remain a 400 member Post. Kudos to members like Bill Green, Sam Baughman and Willie Ruffin who have each recruited several new members. There are many, many potential new members waiting to be asked to join the American Legion! However, please confirm that the veteran served during a valid war era (dates are on application) as there is a 5 year gap between the end of Korean era and start of Viet-Nam era and a gap between end of Viet-Nam and Lebanon/Grenada. A Veteran must have at least one day of active duty service during one of the war eras. The Persian Gulf era started in August 1990 and is still open so any veteran who has served on active duty since then is eligible to join.

- Keith Midberry, Membership Chairman, kmidberry@yahoo.com or (301) 916-7929

Deployed Members

Lucas Weeks and Adam Alexander are both deployed to Afghanistan. Please consider dropping them a line or card to show your appreciation for their service!

Lucas Weeks
A/2-4 IN 4/10 MTN
FOB Tagab
APO AE 09354

Adam R. Alexander
HHT, 3-71 CAV, 3/10 MTN
AP Rushmore
APO, AE 09364

BASEBALL REPORT

By: Chairman Bob Bellison



This year is soon coming to an end and “WOW” what a year 2013 has been for Post 171 Baseball. League Champions, Runner-up in the State Tournament, a no-hitter by Grant Pascoe in the State Tournament, every player stepping up to the plate and coming thru in the clutch, and making better defensive plays than I’ve seen in the Major League play-offs.

However, even more astounding than the achievements on the field are the young men that we have representing Post 171 off the field. I remember writing in the Mar-Feb newsletter “pack your bags and we’re headed for the State Tournament in Cumberland.” So be it, once we were there it was like one big family including players, parents, coaches, and post members. The young men representing us on the field made us feel so proud to say: “We’re from the Damascus American Legion Post 171”

A special thanks to Coach Tommy Davis, his coaching staff, parents and Post members for your support in Cumberland and the entire season.

I realize that everyone cannot make it to the games, your support thru the Booster Club is gratefully appreciated. Also, 2013 was a Banner Year for the Booster Club. Thanks to all! Some have already asked about joining for next year. The baseball program runs on the calendar year (Jan-Dec); therefore, donations for the 2014 season will begin January 1st. However, if you need the deduction for 2013 your donation will be gladly accepted before the end of the year.

These players are attending the following colleges:

MC-G: John Hanley, Daniel Johnson, Colin McMahon, Tyler Rodriguez. **U of Md:** Emory McMinn, Mike Zerafa, Eric Magas. **U of Maine:** Grant Dickey. **Franklin&Marshall:** Casey Bulik **UNC of Charlotte:** Grant Pascoe, **Towson:** Tyler Pickrel, **Mt. St. Marys:** Tyler Post, **Bucknell:** Alex Salem, **U of S.Car:** Eric Manzi, **St. Marys College of MD:** Anthony Cangelosi.

BOOSTER CLUB

*GRANDSLAM (\$100 Donation *+ \$100)*

**June Gebicke *Michael & Lynda Papio *Jay Abrahams *John & Sandy Walter *Buzz & Eileen Burroughs *Bob & Ruby Bellison *Ray Mullican *Ernie Clifford *John Wayne + In memory of Debbie *J.D. Morris *Judy Moore *Keith & Mary Gene Martin, *Jay Abrahams, George & Mary Bolling, Ron & Peggy Scott, Bob & Cindy Ray, Madalean Darby, Mark & Betty Jeffers, Mickey Day, Bob Moxley, Brownie & Ginny Chichester, Dee Dee Myers, Donald & Betty Nicholson, Bill Hauptman, Linda Richon, Ron Bowers, Sandy Seipp, John Seipp, Bob & Louise Mullinix, Reva Pearce, Delores Neal, Rosalyn Bowman, Pat, Rice, Bill McMinn, Daniel & Wendy Abramson, Andy & Judy Knapp, Bill Plunkett, Skip Duvall, Hazel Hoyle, ShaWn & Paula Gill, Tony DeShiro, Gene Wilson, Fran Burlas*

DOUBLEHITTER (\$50 Donation)

Danny & Debby Moxley, Lynn & Steve Norwood, Jim Serritella, Pat & Paula Moxley, Jack Talamo, Harry & June Pearce, Ray & Martha Luhn, Lenny Senseney, Mae Senseney, Bill Green, Harold Meicklejohn Mary Robinson, Lloyd Young, Grace Burch, Ernie Screen, Sam Baughman, George Johnson, Hank Hartley, Ray Schwalm, Liz & Lou Popowsky, Willie Ruffin

IN MEMORY: Gene Hoyle, Ken Diggs, Marvin Myers, Orville Martin, Roscoe Pearce, Bill Rice, George Richon, Jim Moore, Debbie Duvall, Woody Rupp

DAMASCUS AMERICAN LEGION POST 171 OYSTER ROAST

The Oyster dinner is scheduled for **Saturday, November 23, 2013**. We serve oysters fried, steamed, raw, and oyster stew. There's also fried chicken, cole slaw, potato salad, and pork and beans. This is one of our Post's major fund-raisers, and we need the membership's help talking it up and selling tickets. We also need help before, during, and after the dinner.

This is a great evening for food and dancing. Yes-- we have the Second Chance Band to play dance music from 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Price for this fun evening is **\$35 per person in advance and \$40 at the door.**

Please contact me about questions or tickets.
Dinner Chairman, Kevin Mook, 301-204-9722

OYSTER ROAST
November 23, 2013
DINNER 6 PM

Advance Tickets at \$35/ea. _____, \$ _____
Tickets at the door are \$40/ea.
Contact Kevin Mook or any Post 171
Member for tickets,
Tel. # for Kevin: 301-204-9722



American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 171
A Newsletter for Members & Friends of Damascus Unit 171

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2013

The brisk air this morning made me realize that fall is really here. The past few days were too much for October but everyone enjoyed them. That brings us to where the unit is standing in its projects and other activities.

A special thank you to Delores Neal, Roslyn Bowman, Margaret Nicholson, Mickey Day, Mary Bolling, Mary Beth Talamo, Joanne Kessler, Liz Popowsky and Mary Robinson for their help with the Post Shrimp and Chicken Feast on Saturday, October 5th. Kevin Mook came down as we were cleaning up to thank us for the support given him on his first duty as Second Vice Commander. Thank you Kevin.

In November Delores Neal, Roslyn Bowman and Maureen Appleby will man the kitchen for the Veteran's Day luncheon following the 11:00 a.m. program. Please volunteer to help them as they prepare for a nice luncheon.

November 18-23, 2013 is American Education Week. This is a time for us to remember the teachers in our schools. Perhaps we could send each school a flower arrangement or some other item to show our appreciation for their dedication and service to the students.

I just received notice from the Department Community Service Chairman that one of the projects being promoted this year is to collect sweatshirts for the homeless. If you send a sweatshirt to one of the shelters

please keep track of how many you send and to which shelter. This information is needed for our yearly report.

On the get well list is Frances Vaughan, Charter Member, she fell on September 7th and not only broke her hip but crushed the thigh bone as well. She is recuperating at Shady Grove Rehab. On Friday, October 1st Roslyn Bowman fell and broke her left wrist. She is recuperating at Delores Neal's home. Please remember these ladies in your thoughts and prayers. I am happy to report that Lucille Screen is now home and feeling much better after her heart surgery. I am sure she would appreciate cards of encouragement.

I have spoken with Pat Rice and she is still with her Dad in West Virginia. Both are doing well and she sends hello to everyone here.

We are fast approaching the holiday season; please remember our troops and their families this Thanksgiving as well as our veterans in a facility other than their home. Best wishes to all Unit and Post members for a Happy Thanksgiving.

God Bless America, God bless our troops and families wherever they may be, and God bless you.

Yours in service,
Cindy Ray

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

We are currently at 68 paid members leaving 78 still out in the fields somewhere. Please check your membership card to see if it is 2014. If not, send your check payable to Damascus American Legion Auxiliary in the amount of \$20.00 and mailed to Cynthia Ray, 19421 Gardner Pace, Germantown, MD 20876-1709 as soon as possible.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours. Please remember our troops wherever they may be and their families at this special holiday time. If possible, visit a veteran during the holiday.

Yours in service,
Cindy Ray

POCKET FLAG PROJECT

Liz Popowsky, Chairman

1,315 Pocket Flags presented - what an awesome number; what a heartfelt project. It is almost the one-year anniversary since the Unit began its support of the Pocket Flag Project. Unit members are again scheduled to participate with the USO in a troop deployment from BWI on October 28. We also have several additional leads on deserving troops to receive pocket flags, including Post Member, Adam Alexander, pending contact information. Please contact Liz Popowsky, 301-371-6648/rayliz53@yahoo.com with troop information.

God Bess our Troops everywhere!



Sons of the American Legion Squadron, 171

A Newsletter for Members & Friends of Damascus Squadron 171

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2013

Greetings,

This past meeting was a huge step in the right direction for the SAL. First we received a large check for our part of September's bingo. Then we were honored to have a special guest visitor in SAL SMD Historian and SAL Commander of 295 Jeff Thorne. We followed that up by bringing five new members, our largest addition in many years. A special thanks to past post Commander Sam Baughman on recruiting.

Now we need to focus on renewing membership. Please submit renewals to the post P.O. Box 171 attention SAL. Dues are still \$15 or \$10 for dual members.

We still need assistance with the snack bar on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 5-9 pm.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and remember those unable to be with loved ones this holiday season.

God Bless,
John W. Duvall, SAL Commander.

Post Commander's Note: If you have email capability and are not on my Legion electronic distribution list, please send your **telephone number and email address to me at commander@legionpost171.org** If you have moved and changed your address, please call the Post, 301-253-0769, and leave a message with your new address. The Post Office will not forward bulk mail, and we have to pay \$.45 for each returned Newsletter to get them back and find out which addresses are no longer valid.



COMING EVENTS
Post, Unit & Squadron 171 Calendar

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <i>Post Meetings</i> | <i>Unit Meetings</i> | <i>Squadron Meetings</i> |
| 2 nd Monday of the month, 7:30pm | 2 nd Monday of the month, 7:30pm | 2 nd Monday of the month, 7:00pm |

November 2013

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| 4 th | Executive Committee Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| 5 th | Oratorical Contest orientation | 7:00 PM |
| 7 th | Post Bingo | 7:00 PM |
| 8 th | School Flag Raising Programs: | |
| | Rockwell Elementary School | 9:00 AM |
| | Gibbs Elementary School | 9:45 AM |
| | Windsor Knolls Middle School | Pending |
| 9 th | Pancake Breakfast | 7:30 AM |
| 9 th | Montgomery County Meeting Post 86: | |
| | Breakfast | 7:30 AM |
| | Meeting | 9:00 AM |
| 10 th | Hero-Dogs, Graduation Ceremony | 3:00 PM |
| 11 th | Veterans Day Program At Post 171 | 10:30 AM |
| 11 th | School Veterans Day Programs: | |
| | Rocky Hill Middle School | 8:00 AM |
| | Clearspring Elementary School | 9:00 AM |
| | Damascus Elementary School | 9:45 AM |
| 11 th | Post, Unit and SAL Member Meetings | 7:00 PM |
| 14 th | Post Bingo | 7:00 PM |
| 21 st | Post Bingo | 7:00 PM |
| 23 rd | Oyster Roast | 6:00 PM |
| 28 th | Thanksgiving – No Post Bingo | |

December 2013

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| 2 nd | Executive Committee Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| 5 th | Post Bingo | 7:00 PM |
| 9 th | Pot Luck Dinner | 6:00 PM |
| 9 th | Post. Unit and SAL Member Meetings | 7:00 PM |
| 12 th | Post Bingo | 7:00 PM |
| 14 th | Pancake Breakfast | 7:30 AM |
| 19 th | Post Bingo | 7:00 PM |
| 25 th | Christmas Day | |
| 26 th | Post Bingo | 7:00 PM |

Looking Ahead

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Jan 6 th | Executive Committee Meeting | 7:00 PM |
| Jan 13 th | Post, Unit, and SAL Member Meetings | 7:30 PM |

Damascus American Legion, Post 171
P.O. Box 171
Damascus, MD 20872



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U.S. Postage

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Return Service Requested

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<http://www.legionpost171.org> and <https://www.facebook.com/DamascusPost171>

American Legion Post 171

2012 – 2013 Officers

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| Commander | Tony DeShiro | 843 855-9353 | Historian | Ed Williams | 301 865-4250 |
| 1 st V. Cmdr. | Willie Ruffin | 301 972-5798 | Chaplain | Shawn Gill | 301 253-6239 |
| 2 nd V. Cmdr. | Kevin Mook | 301-204-9722 | Sgt-at-Arms | Bill Green | 301 253-5420 |
| Judge Advocate | Dean Elliott | 240 793-6868 | Ex. Comm.: | Sam Baughman | 301 831-3216 |
| Adjutant | Will Trotter | 301 661-6902 | | Ernie Screen | 301 253-3560 |
| Treasurer | Ching-Yao Yu | 240 668-4080 | | Buzz Burroughs | 301 253-2741 |
| Serv. Officer | Jim Serritella | 301 253-3971 | | Ronald Scott | 301 831-7974 |

Auxiliary, Unit 171

2012 – 2013 Officers

| | | | | | |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| President | Cynthia Ray | 301 972-1978 | Color Bearers: | Open | |
| V. President | Open | | | Open | |
| Secretary | Rosalyn Bowman | 301-253-4473 | Exec. Comm.: | Mary Bolling | 301 898-7119 |
| Treasurer | Linda Richon | 301 253-5466 | | Betty Nicholson | 301 865-1638 |
| Chaplain | Jennifer Shaffer | 301 829-8487 | | Barbara Raab | 301 330-5447 |
| Historian | Mary Beth Talamo | 301 253-4457 | | | |
| Sgt-at-Arms | Virginia Myers | 301 831-9188 | | | |

SAL Squadron, 171

2012 – 2013 Officers

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Commander | John Duvall | 301 787-4480 | Chaplain | Drew Shaffer | 301 412-3443 |
| 1 st V. Cmdr. | Tony Koontz | 240 439-9501 | Sgt-at-Arms | George Shaffer | 301 831-535 |
| 2 nd V. Cmdr. | Josh Shaffer | 301 412-3443 | Historian | OPEN | |
| Adjutant | Adam Young | 240 422-1765 | Post Liaison | George Bolling | 301 980-8917 |
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