



# THE DAMASCUS VETERAN

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

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**MARCH - APRIL 2014**

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## THE COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

The Post 171 Membership Dinner was held on January 25<sup>th</sup>, and was enjoyed by all. Please read the article below for a description of this year's enjoyable annual Post event.

The Damascus High School Chambers Singers are one of four groups selected to perform at Carnegie Hall in March of this year. To help defray the costs of the trip, which are funded solely by contributions and fundraisers, I'm pleased to report that Damascus Post 171 raised \$1,550 in donations from our members. A check was presented to Brian Isaac, Director of Choirs, on January 24th.



On March 8<sup>th</sup>, following the Pancake Breakfast, Tracie Reaver, Maryland Relay Outreach Coordinator, will deliver a presentation on the Maryland Accessible Telecommunications Service (MAT) in the downstairs meeting room. MAT provides free assistive telephone equipment and services to qualified Maryland residents who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, late-deafened, or speech disabled, or who use a TTY (Text Telephone). This is an extremely worthwhile program for those who are unable to use standard telephone equipment. Tracie will have a limited number of applications, and a few of the devices available for you to see. A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

The Montgomery County Oratorical Contest was held at Post 171 on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Post 171 candidate Caitlin Augerson was defeated by Sareana Kimia from Post 86. It was the closest contest in everyone's collective memory. Sareana represented the county in the SMD event on February 8th, and came in second to the winner from Calvert Post 85.

Although we had to raise our prices due to the increase in oyster costs, the Oyster Roast on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> was a great success! We had a full house with plenty of food, beverages, and great music. Be sure to come out for the Shrimp Feast on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Post will hold a "Basket, Bags, and Bucks" bingo on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Games include regular bingo, King Tut, 50/50 raffle, and door prizes. Good food will be available at our snack bar. Ticket prices are \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door. Doors open at 5:00 PM, Bingo starts at 7:00 PM. For tickets, contact Ching-Yao Yu via email at [ching@cyu.com](mailto:ching@cyu.com) or telephone at 240-668-4080.

Notable Awards: **Police Officer 3 Jeremy Wojdan**, Montgomery County Police, District 5 was selected as both the Post 171 Law Officer of the Year and Montgomery County Law Officer of the Year. It was

subsequently announced that Officer Wojdan had been selected as the Department of Maryland Law Officer of the Year (from a field of 5) and will be submitted as the National Candidate for Maryland. **Ching-Yao Yu**, Post 171 Legionnaire of the Year, was also selected as Montgomery County Legionnaire of the Year. Awards will be presented on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Montgomery County breakfast meeting at Cissel-Saxon Post 41 in Silver Spring. Let's make a real effort to attend this meeting and recognize these outstanding candidates representing Post 171.

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

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## **POST 171 Legionnaires Honored**

On Saturday evening, January 25<sup>th</sup>, Damascus American Legion Post 171 honored five of its members at the annual Membership Dinner. Post Commander Anthony (Tony) DeShiro and Membership Chairman Keith Midberry orchestrated the program.

Guests included Department Commander Gary Vogt, Southern Maryland District Commander Gary Gifford, Montgomery County Commander Colleen Mulrone, American Legion Auxiliary Department of Maryland President Anselma Obremski, and American Legion Auxiliary Southern Maryland District President Linda Green.

During the program, Post member Army Colonel Bernard Moxley, Junior, now stationed in Texas, was recognized as the honored guest. Colonel Moxley is planning retirement in October after more than thirty years of distinguished service, including a combat tour in Iraq, and is planning on returning to Damascus. We look forward to his active participation in our Post (and his retirement party!).

Army veteran Ching-Yao Yu, now serving as Post Finance Officer, was recognized as Legionnaire of the Year, for his extraordinary service in and for the Post, its members, and its programs.

Two members were recognized as Distinguished Members, an honor bestowed on very few Post members after being an active member for ten years during which they have participated in and supported the Post's myriad activities. World War II era Army veteran William R. (Bobby) Mullinix, a Post member for 46 years was recognized for his untiring and consistent participation in all the Post's activities. Known widely as "The Voice of Legion Bingo," Bobby is a true servant of the Damascus Post and community.

The second Distinguished Member honor went to Army veteran George Richon, a very active leader in the Post who passed away less than a year ago. The Post members voted to waive the ten-year requirement because of George's extraordinary service over his seven years as a member of Post 171. George's widow Linda and son James expressed gratitude for this well-deserved recognition.

Member Shawn Gill, an Air Force veteran, was awarded the Honorary Life Membership, the highest honor that a Legionnaire can receive. A Legionnaire for nineteen years, Shawn presently serves the Damascus Post as Chaplain. Shawn received this honor because of his exceptionally devoted service to and support of the Post since he joined in 2006.

Near the end of the program, Department Commander Vogt presented his "challenge coin" to four Post members: Army veteran Willie Ruffin, Air Force veteran Sam Baughman, Marine Corps veteran Bill Green and Coast Guard veteran Keith Midberry, for their exceptional work in recruiting new members.

Following the program, the more than one hundred who attended enjoyed music and dancing by Four of a Kind Plus.

PPC George Bolling



**Ching-Yao Yu Legionnaire of the Year**



**Col. Bernard Moxley Jr.**

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### **Shawn Gill becomes 64<sup>th</sup> Honorary Life Member!**

Remarks by: Committee Chairman Keith Midberry

This award is the highest honor the Post can bestow on a fellow Legionnaire. Per the Post by-laws, every member is considered for this award although there is no requirement that a yearly selection be made. Selection is not based on any specific criteria such as age, years in the Legion, the number of Post offices held, committees participated in, or number of meetings and functions attended. Instead, the qualifications can best be summed up as someone who best exemplifies and demonstrates consistent and exceptional devoted service to the Post and the American Legion above and beyond that of many other dedicated Post members. It is interesting to note that recipients of this honor routinely say how surprised they are to receive it, yet to the rest of the membership, it is rarely a surprise.

In the 68 year history of the Post, only 63 Life Memberships have been awarded, an average of less than one per year. The names and war era of our Life Members are on a plaque mounted in the rear next to the one of past Post Commanders. Sadly, more than two thirds have gone on to Post Everlasting including one very special member since this time last year – Ormie Rippeon, our oldest member and a combat veteran wounded twice at the Battle of the Bulge in WWII.

Our newest and 64<sup>th</sup> Life Member was born in Mankato, MN though as a child, he lived in Ethiopia, the Philippines and Afghanistan as his father was in the Foreign Service. He has been a Legionnaire for 19 years. A Grenada-Lebanon era veteran, he served in the Air Force from 1979-1999, retiring as MSG. His duty stations included Goodfellow AFB in TX, Crete, Turkey and his final duty station was Ft. Meade, MD. Upon transferring from a Post in Castroville, TX to Post 171 in 2006 he made it clear that he planned to be active in his new Post home. He then recruited his wife Paula, another Grenada era Air Force Veteran and his father Harold, a Korean War era veteran into the Post.

He quickly became involved with the oyster and shrimp feasts and became a familiar face at Post events and is part of the Wednesday night set up and Thursday night bingo crew. He is always willing to put on his Legion cap for an event or roll-up his sleeves to get something done! However, as was noted by all on the committee, it has been his service as Post Chaplain since 2009 that deserves special recognition. He stepped

up to fill the position, vacated by his wife due to her overseas posting by the federal government. While serving as Chaplain, the Post has experienced an unprecedented loss of members to Post Everlasting. I don't know exactly how many Post Everlasting services he has spoken at the past few years but many of us here tonight remember each very well and know there have just been too many. As Chaplain, he opens and closes each Post meeting with a short story about a member of the armed forces from Maryland who has given the supreme sacrifice in Iraq or Afghanistan. These personalized moments, when you could hear a pin drop, serve as a constant reminder to those at the meeting of why the American Legion exists.

He exemplifies the qualities of patriotism, volunteerism, and compassion to his country, family and fellow Legionnaires. By now, you all know who I am talking about, and he becomes the fourth Air Force Veteran in a row to receive this highest honor – Shawn Gill



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**Paula Gill, Shawn Gill, Commander DeShiro, Keith Midberry**

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### **2014 Membership - Still need the 10%!**

It has baffled me for 15 years why some folks don't pay their dues when they receive their renewal form. Fortunately, more each year are paying via the internet in just a few clicks. We are now at 90% of our goal of 402, but still have 56 members that need to renew so we can reach our goal before the end of the 2014 membership year which is only four months away (June 30<sup>th</sup>). Sadly, I know some of them will not renew. Most will have less than 5 years in the Legion while others will have many. I just can't find a single reason for a veteran to not want to belong to the American Legion! If a member is having financial difficulties just let us know and another member will gladly pay their dues! Each year several members give me checks to pay for others. Letters to over 50 delinquent members have been sent, costing the Post 49 cents for each stamp!

For those that haven't, PLEASE renew your membership by sending a check for \$25 to the Post, or pay on-line at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew). This site allows you to print out a temporary membership card. You can also renew at the Department of MD website - <http://www.mdlegion.org>.

One member of the Post and the son of member J.B. Weeks are currently deployed to Afghanistan. Their addresses are listed below. Please consider dropping them a line or card to show your appreciation for their service! On a personal note my son (also a Post member) Major Chris Midberry, deploys to Afghanistan with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne later this month. It will be his second deployment to Afghanistan following two to Iraq.

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

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

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

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## Post 171 Veterans - A Continuing Series

### Orman (Ormie) Zachariah Rippeon

August 10, 1919 - November 10, 2013



Orman Zachariah Rippeon, or “Ormie” as he was affectionately known to everyone, was born on August 10, 1919 in Frederick, MD. He was a dedicated member of American Legion Post 171, working as a Bingo volunteer. He loved to dance with his wife Alda Rippeon, and together they participated in many other Legion activities. He also faithfully attended Post meetings and functions such as dinners and outings. He was a member of the American Legion for over 62 years, a Life Member of Post 171 in Damascus, MD, a member of VFW Post 10076 in Mt. Airy, MD, and Past President of the Hyattstown Volunteer Fire Department. In partnership with his brother Dick, they owned and operated Rippeon’s Service Center in Damascus, MD, for many years. Ormie passed away before we could interview him for this article, so what you read here is based on a recorded interview conducted

several years ago by a Unit 171 Member. He will be sorely missed, and we hope this article does justice to a member of the Greatest Generation.

Ormie enlisted in the Army during World War II, serving as a Sergeant with the 99<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, and was twice wounded during the Battle of the Bulge. His injuries plagued him throughout the remainder of his life, and they would eventually contribute to his death on November 10, 2013. His military decorations include two Purple Hearts, Bronze Star Medal, American Theatre Campaign Medal, and European–African–Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with Battle Star, WWII Victory Medal, and Good conduct Medal. Ormie was also nominated for the Silver Star.

Upon enlisting, Ormie’s first day was spent at Ft. Meade, MD where he went through the usual indoctrination. He got shots “from the start of the day to the end of the day”, and was issued clothing that “was just about 10 sizes too big for me”. It was a hectic day because he had to keep all the clothes until he could get some free time to change them for something that fit.

After completing indoctrination at Ft. Meade, Ormie was sent to Camp Van Dorn, MS, to complete training. From there he went to Paris, TX for additional training, then on to Boston, MA where he left for Europe on a ship which was part of the biggest convoy that ever crossed the ocean. Ormie said: “They had every kind of ship you could imagine.” Upon arriving in Southampton, England they had to take training to deal with “those buzz bombs that came at us from Germany”.

His infantry division landed at Le Havre, France where there was nothing standing, It was totally bombed out, no buildings standing, nothing. From Le Havre they went through Belgium and on into Germany. Ormie tells the following story on his taped interview: “We were in Belgium, and it was raining, cold, everybody’s feet were wet. Some of the boys got their feet frozen so when we were in Belgium we was gonna camp one night and all the noncom’s – there was 4 of us – got everybody to get their pup tents up and we dug trenches around the tents so the water would run around the tents instead of underneath. While we were doing this the noncoms saw this farmhouse down in the valley. So after we got everybody settled us noncoms decided to go down to the farmhouse and see who was there. When we got to the farmhouse I could hear voices, so I knocked, and it was a little while before they answered the door. The cow stables were right on the side of the kitchen so this woman opened the door and she screamed “Americana!” She told me she thought it was Germans at the door coming for her husband to put him in the army, and that her husband was hiding up in the cow stable. He came out after she yelled “Americana!” She saw that our boots were wet and muddy, and took our shoes off, washed our socks, and put our shoes by the fireplace. One of the noncoms was a mess sergeant.

The farmers brought out eggs, which we hadn't had in a long time other than powdered eggs. They said they didn't have any meat, so our mess sergeant went back and got a big tin of Spam, and they cooked us some nice Spam and eggs. It was a whole lot better than the C-Rations we were eating all the time! Then they put straw down for beds, and that's where we slept there that night. The next morning our boots and socks were all clean and dry, and we had to get back to our camp before the other guys woke up so they wouldn't know we were down there. When we got back everybody was wondering how we came to have dry shoes! We never did tell them about the farm house! That was a real nice day."

After walking all through Belgium we came to Germany. We didn't know exactly what was going to happen in Germany, but we knew something big was up. They didn't have us walking all day and half the night through Belgium and into Germany for nothing. And that's when we ran into the war at the Battle of the Bulge. I got wounded in the back of the leg on Dec 17, 1944. When the guys were carrying me back on the litter and the Germans started shelling us again, the guys who were carrying me put me down and jumped in a foxhole. I got wounded again from the shelling and got a piece of shrapnel in my shoulder, which is still in there today. I spent Christmas Day 1945 in a hospital in Paris, France. When they sent us back to England they didn't have any room for us. All the rooms were filled so they pitched a great big tent about 100' x 40' and put saw horses in there and put our litters on the saw horses, and put in 4 or 5 kerosene burners for heat. The smell of the kerosene burners was terrible! After spending a few months in England they flew us back to New York. Many of us were in body casts and racked up in bunks along the inside of the airplane walls. The plane hit turbulence and knocked a bunch of the guys, including me, out of our racks and onto the floor of the plane. It was good thing I had a body cast on because the guy in the rack above me fell on top of me!

While on the plane they had us fill out a paper asking where the closest hospital was to our home. I put down Walter Reed. The guy came back and said: "You don't think we're going to stop at Walter Reed just to drop you off do you." I said: "I don't want to call you what I think you are, but why did you ask us where the closest hospital was when you knew all along you wasn't going to take us there?" He wasn't happy, and they finally took us to Camp Pickett, VA where I stayed for over a year. A transfer finally came through and I went to Walter Reed, where I stayed another year. I was in hospitals for over two years altogether – four years in the service and two years in the hospital. I was discharged from the Army at Walter Reed and went to a rehab at Silver Spring, MD. After discharge my brother picked me up, and that was all I wanted to see about the Army. After I got home I was a mechanic for a good while. There was a Sinclair service station in Damascus. I was good friends with the man that could hire someone. I asked for the job and he gave it to me.

One thing that happened was when I was in that hospital tent in England. There was a kid in there that had both feet frozen and he was in the bed beside me. The doctors were going to take his feet off and he wouldn't sign the papers to let them. His feet looked huge, gray, swollen and all. I told him that he was going to get blood poisoning, and they'd have to take his legs off above the knee. I said that getting legs cut off below the knee was a whole lot better than above the knee. I kept talking with him and asked him: "What would your mama say?" I said your mother will still love you whether you have feet or not so you should sign those papers. I finally talked him into signing. He went for the operation and I never saw him again.

Ormie's best buddy was his First Sergeant. They were exactly the same age; born the same day, the same year. Ormie said he never kept in touch with his Army buddies, and never went to any reunions. He said the war was over with and he just wanted to get back to his life. I guess that could be the epitaph of most WWII veterans: I did my duty and now I just want to get back to my life.

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## **AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE 2014**

Boys State will be held Sunday June 15 through Saturday June 21, at McDaniel College in Westminster Maryland. Local area high school boys who will be completing their junior year and be at least age 16 by June 2014 are eligible for the program. High school counselors can provide applications which are due back to

them not later than March 21, 2014. Questions about the Boys State program may be directed to Post 171 chairman, Roger Pisha, email at "Roger\_Pisha@mcpsmd.org", or call (301) 253-4276.

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## DAMASCUS AMERICAN LEGION POST 171 SHRIMP FEAST

The Shrimp dinner is scheduled for **Saturday, May 17, 2014**. We serve fried and steamed shrimp, fried chicken, coleslaw, potato salad, baked beans, a cheese platter, a veggie platter, and rolls and butter. 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 **\$30 per person in advance and \$35 at the door**.

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

**SHRIMP FEAST**  
**May 17, 2014**  
**DINNER 6 PM**

**Advance Tickets at \$30/ea. \_\_\_\_\_, \$\_\_\_\_\_**

**Tickets at the door are \$35/ea.**

**Contact Kevin Mook or any Post 171 Member for tickets,**

**Tel. # for Kevin: 301-204-9722**

**Email: 2ndvice@legionpost171.org**

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### American Legion Scholarships

Scholarship Chairman: Lou Popowsky

The Damascus American Legion Post 171 will be awarding four scholarships from the Post, with a fifth scholarship to be awarded by the SAL, in the amounts of \$1,500 each for the scholastic year of 2014-2015. Detailed requirements are listed on the scholarship application forms which are available for pickup at the career centers in Damascus HS, Clarksburg HS, Seneca Valley HS, the Post Home, or from our website at: <http://www.legionpost171.org/>. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2014.

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### *American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 171*

*A Newsletter for Members & Friends of Damascus Unit 171*

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**MARCH - APRIL 2014**

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Happy Spring! Hopefully the snow and ice are nearly done and we will see the blue birds, robins and spring flowers very soon.

Welcome new member Carly Cook, who was brought in by Betty Peck. Our membership is currently at 126. We are 13 from Goal and 15 from Goal Plus. Come on ladies, find those stray kittens and bring them in. Remember the theme of the Department President is "Members Embracing Our Warriors."



Our Chaplin has been busy sending cards to members celebrating birthdays, as well as Rena Harrington, who is now home and Lynn Burdette, who is recovering from a broken hip at the Homewood Rehab Center.

Kevin Mook joins me in thanking the Unit and Post members who volunteered to pat oysters, mix the salads and served the February oyster roast. It made for a long night but your help was very much appreciated.

Scholarship applications have been distributed to Seneca Valley, Damascus and Clarksburg high schools. There are additional applications in designated envelopes in the Post office. I also have a few left at home.

Congratulations to Liz Popowsky with her Pocket Flag Project. The Department Chairman referred to her work at the last DEC meeting at Chesapeake Beach.

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

Yours in service,  
*Cindy Ray*

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### **Soups for Troops Dinner Fundraiser**

The Auxiliary will be hosting a Soup, Salad, Bread, & Dessert dinner on Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Post (downstairs). There will be a variety of different homemade soups to sample. The Auxiliary will donate half of the proceeds to Fisher House. Fisher House Foundation is best known for a network of homes where military and veterans' families can stay at no cost while the injured military member receives treatment. The cost will be \$10 per person, children under 10 - \$2. Complimentary coffee and tea will be provided. We will sell remaining soup in quart containers for a nominal fee.

Please RSVP to: Linda Richon at (301) 253-5466 or Jennifer Shaffer at (301) 829-8487.

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### **POCKET FLAG PROJECT** Liz Popowsky, Chairman

The Unit continued its dedication to the Pocket Flag Project with the folding of 300 additional flags in January-February 2014. We are awaiting deployment information of a Post member's son and stand ready to provide flags to those troops. Thus far, winter weather has prevented a return to BWI to present flags to deploying troops. We have learned that troops at Camp Marmal that the Unit has presented flags to will be deploying HOME during 2014! Please contact Liz Popowsky (rayliz53@yahoo.com, 301-371-6648) with information on deployed troops.

God Bless our troops everywhere

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### **Americanism Essay Contest** Mary Beth Talamo, Committee Chairman

This year Unit 171 had 116 Americanism Essay Contest entrants. On Sunday April 6 the Unit will host an awards ceremony for the contest winners from 2 to 4 PM. All first, second and third place winners will read their essays and receive a certificate and a monetary award. Refreshments will be served with plenty of time for conversation and photos. Unit members are cordially invited to attend.

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## Sons of the American Legion Squadron, 171

*A Newsletter for Members & Friends of Damascus Squadron 171*

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**MARCH - APRIL 2014**

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Greetings from the SAL

Hopefully everyone is recovering from this harsh winter, as we plan to spring forward with lots of activity within the Legion family. The Sons are going to be pretty active in the upcoming months. Starting in March we will be having a return of our Chili cook off, tentative date March 29, 2014, with more details to be sent in the coming weeks. We will also again be sponsoring our second scholarship award, again presented through the Post. On June 14<sup>th</sup> (Flag Day), we will host our second annual flag retirement ceremony, at 6:00 PM.

The Squadron is also planning to try again with a golf tournament in September. We are also working on creating a Legion family event at a future Frederick keys game, the date will be announced as soon available.

We are still in need of membership renewals, \$15 a member, \$10 dual member (post and squadron). They can be sent in to the post, attention SAL. We are also looking to bring in many more new members, if you know of anyone eligible, please send them our way.

Hoping for a bright and warm, fun spring!

Yours,  
John Wayne Duvall

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**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](mailto: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 \$.49 for each returned Newsletter to get them back and find out which addresses are no longer valid.

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**COMING EVENTS**  
**Post, Unit & Squadron 171 Calendar**

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

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**March 2014**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oratorical State Finals Towson University	1:00 PM
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Post Executive Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
6 <sup>th</sup>	Post Bingo	7:00 PM
8 <sup>th</sup>	Pancake Breakfast & Maryland Relay Outreach at Post 171	7:30 AM
9 <sup>th</sup>	Set clocks to Eastern Daylight Time	2:00 AM
9 <sup>th</sup>	SMD Lunch & Meeting: Lusby Post 274	12:00 & 1:00 PM
10 <sup>th</sup>	Pot Luck Dinner	6:00 PM
10 <sup>th</sup>	SAL, Post & Unit Member Meetings	7:00 & 7:30 PM
13 <sup>th</sup>	Post Bingo	7:00 PM
15 <sup>th</sup>	National Commander's Banquet Post 11, Frederick MD	5:30 PM
20 <sup>th</sup>	Post Bingo	7:00 PM
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mont. County. Breakfast Cissel-Saxon, Silver Spring	7:30 AM
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mont. County, Meeting - Post 41 (Annual Awards)	9:00 AM
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Basket, Bags, and Bucks Bingo	7:00 PM
27 <sup>th</sup>	Post Bingo	7:00 PM
28 <sup>th</sup>	Unit "Soups for the Troops" Dinner	5:00 – 7:00 PM

**April 2014**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Post Bingo	7:00 PM
4 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup>	National Oratorical Finals - Indianapolis	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Unit - Americanism Awards Ceremony	2:00 - 4:00 PM
7 <sup>th</sup>	Post Executive Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
10 <sup>th</sup>	Post Bingo	7:00 PM
12 <sup>th</sup>	Pancake Breakfast	7:30 AM
14 <sup>th</sup>	SAL, Post & Unit Member Meetings	7:00 & 7:30 PM
17 <sup>th</sup>	Post Bingo	7:00 PM
24 <sup>th</sup>	Post Bingo	7:00 PM

**Upcoming Events**

4 <sup>th</sup> May	SMD Lunch and Meeting Hughesville	12:00 PM
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Post 238 District Public Safety Awards	1:00 PM
10 <sup>th</sup> May	SMD Reception Honoring Department Officers – LaPlata Post 82	5:00 PM
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Shrimp Feast	6:00 PM
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Post 71 Memorial Day Observation	1:30 PM

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



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## American Legion Post 171

### 2013– 2014 Officers

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

## Auxiliary, Unit 171

### 2012 – 2013 Officers

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

## SAL Squadron, 171

### 2012 – 2013 Officers

<b>Commander</b>	<b>John Duvall</b>	<b>301 787-4480</b>	<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>Drew Shaffer</b>	<b>301 412-3443</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> V. Cmdr.</b>	<b>Tony Koontz</b>	<b>240 439-9501</b>	<b>Sgt-at-Arms</b>	<b>George Shaffer</b>	<b>301 831-535</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> V. Cmdr.</b>	<b>Josh Shaffer</b>	<b>301 412-3443</b>	<b>Historian</b>	<b>DJ Mook</b>	<b>301-204-9722</b>
<b>Adjutant</b>	<b>Adam Young</b>	<b>240 422-1765</b>	<b>Post Liaison</b>	<b>George Bolling</b>	<b>301 980-8917</b>
<b>Finance</b>	<b>Tony Koontz</b>	<b>240 439-9501</b>			

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