

## **Damascus American Legion Installs 2021-2022 Officers**

On Saturday evening, June 26th, Damascus Legion Post 171 held the annual installation of officers dinner at the Post Home.

Second Vice Commander Kevin O'Neill served as Master of Ceremonies. Following the opening prayer by Chaplain Larry Matthews and the Pledge of Allegiance, Past Post Commander George Bolling and Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Green conducted the POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony.

Paula Gill, the Post's Liaison to the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 171, installed Tom Kaufman as the First Vice Commander for the Squadron.

Honored guest William "Will" Trotter, Senior Vice Commander of the American Legion Department of Maryland, led the Installation Ceremony for the Post officers. Trotter, a Post 171 member, is expected to be elected as the Department Commander at the annual Maryland American Legion Convention in mid-July.

The new 2021-22 Post officers are pictured. Seated are Senior Department Vice Commander Trotter, left, and Post 171 Commander Frederick Mitchell.



Standing, left to right, Second Vice Commander Kevin O'Neill, Finance Officer Anita Trotter, First Vice Commander Tony DeShiro, Judge Advocate Dean Elliott, Adjutant Steve Monteiro, and Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Green.

Joining the officers on the Post's Executive Committee are Charles Bradsher, Paula Gill, Past Post Commander Bernie Moxley, and Steve O'Neil.

Both Commander Mitchell and Senior Vice Commander Trotter spoke briefly. Mitchell thanked the members that have kept the Post operating during the Covid pandemic, and Trotter about the Post's successes and what to expect in the coming year as the Department's new organizational structure is implemented.

Chaplain Matthews closed the event with prayer.

Story by: PPC George Bolling, COL U.S. Army (Retired)

Photo courtesy of: Legionnaire Sam LeHane