

THE AMERICAN LEGION – October 2022 Meeting
SSgt Robert C. Melberg Virginia Beach Post 110
P.O. Box 62384
Virginia Beach, VA 23466

Call to Order: The October 26, 2022 meeting of American Legion Post 110 was called to order by Commander, Rick Jones at 1900.

Officer's Roll Call: A roll call of Post 110's Officers was conducted, and having a quorum, business was discussed. 10 members were present.

Reading of Minutes: The meeting minutes are posted on the vapost110.org website.

Committee Reports:

- **Service Officer:** Eric Bell presented info on PACT and encouraged all Vets to work with the VA in the many programs they offer. He fielded one service call.

Adjutant Ron Basso: Presently we are at **201** or 65% of our goal. The Membership Challenge goal for November 2 is 201 (65%) which we have met. Contact your military friends and get them on board because our overall goal is 310 members.

Mailing: In reviewing Members in all zip codes in Va Beach there are 310 more possible post members. Of those, 101 have already registered for 2023, not with our Post but with 141. 55 emails were sent to Post 141 members in our district. To date, 6 have requested a transfer to our post. Calling for the remaining 49 started will commence Thursday.

Volunteer Hours: As of October 26 YTD, 567 volunteer hours and 1,851 miles driven. All were reminded to continue to report their volunteer hours to the Adjutant

Veterans Day Parade: Virginia Beach has been designated as the only Regional Site for Veterans Day observances by US Department of Veterans Affairs. We are one in 33 nationwide sites to receive this designation. This is 14 years in a row and speaks well of the organizational abilities of the HRVCouncil. Other cities in Va will have Observances/Proclamations but nothing like ours.

There are 111 units marching in the parade this year. Positioning of Post 110 will be between 14 St and the Virginia Legions Park no later than 8:30 am. We are number #65, however this may change due to the lack of VB Police to man and close intersections. More by Monday, Nov 7.

Parade Luncheon tickets are on sale until October 30 at \$25 each. 250+ have been sold to date. No tickets sold at the door this year. We need 4 more to have a Post 110 table. First come, first seated.

Tonya has graciously offered to make a 'TEA BASKET' for the HR Council's Silent Raffle held in the Hotel Foyer. Our basket will be 1 of 10 for sale. HRVCO shouts a big thank you to her as does this Post. \$1 Raffle tickets will be sold at Luncheon, place your ticket in the basket you want to win.

Regarding the Oratorical Contest, I'm disappointed in the snubs from the Landstown HS and Cox HS JR ROTC units, Catholic HS, Dr. Wendall Parks and Ocean Lakes HS Debate team. After a month of leaving messages about the Oratorical/Shooting contest, there has not even been the courtesy of a return call to say 'NO.' Interesting enough, I know where the leaders of these JR ROTC units will soon be. They'll be #49 marching in the Veterans Parade, mustering a block up from us. I plan to speak to their leadership about participation in both the Oratorical and Shooting Programs.

Oratorical Contest. To date, we do have two candidates. One from the Atlantic Speech and Debate Team and possibly one from Cox HS. Fred will be prepping them. December 3, 1-3 at Memorial United Methodist Church. Post 280 is doing a look on Dec 17. We would like 1+ candidates this year.

Shooting Contest. We're beating the bushes at the Superior Gun Range, the Va Beach 4HTopShooters, the Va Beach Rifle and Pistol Club and the Civilian Marksmanship Program.

Surprisingly, the American Legion runs two Shooting Contests a year. The first is a Postal Shooting Contest that runs from Sept 1 to the Spring. The 4HTopShooters have 8-10 interested HS students. I will be meeting with their organizer Fletcher Duncan on Thursday as he has another 10-20 HS students interested that we could possibly pass onto other Posts. These students specialize in the required 3 Position Air Rifle Competition. I contacted Kirk Jeffries, the 2nd District Chairperson for more info.

The second Competition starts in the Spring and involves Local, District and State competitions. The 4HTopshooters and hopefully the JR ROTCs will both be involved. I hope to have 10-15 families actively involved in our Shooting Program by then.

Kenny Golden offered a Contact with the Boys Scouts Marksmanship program. Ron will follow-up.

Ron stated we could have a big Spring Picnic and we need to hand out awards to these kids.

- Finance Officer Bob Russell: Financial status was: \$19,508.15 in building fund savings account; \$4,504.80 in Post Checking account.
- Chaplain Dave Smith: NTR
- Historian Bert Wendell: NTR
- Auxiliary Tonya Jones: NTR

Major Topics/Upcoming Events Discussed

1. Veterans Day Parade, 11/11
2. Four Chaplin's, 5/2/2023

Long Range Goals: Not discussed

Building Fund 50/50 Raffle: Tonya conducted the raffle.

Upcoming Events:

November 11 – Veteran's Day Parade, 9:00 am

December Party? - No Meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, Nov 23 at VFW 392 Post located at 2408 Bowland Parkway, Virginia Beach.
START TIME 7PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 2000 hrs.

Submitted by:

Ron Basso

Post Adjutant

American Legion Post 110