

THE AMERICAN LEGION – March 2023 Meeting
SSgt Robert C. Melberg Virginia Beach Post 110
P.O. Box 6238445
Virginia Beach, VA 23466

Call to Order: The March 22, 2023 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.

Commander's Topics:

- **Boys State:** 4 young men from Catholic HS were selected to be interviewed. Only 2 showed up. The other two asked to be interviewed after interviews were over. It was decided to only send the two young men who showed up. They will be presented at the May meeting.
- **Spring Picnic:** Will be held May 6, at Redwing Park from 11-3. Good turnout last year, expect the same or more. RSVP by 29 April. \$5 per person.
- **ROTC medals are ready.** May 17 for Landstown HS.. Ron Basso will award at Landstown, Fred Kinkin will award at First Colonial/Cox HS once date is confirmed. A request to include Green Run HS JROTC program was noted and moved to next years budget/planning
- **Executive Board Election:** Anyone wishing to volunteer for positions please contact the Commander.
- **FLAME OF HOPE:** Kenny Golden reported that repairs have finely begun and hopefully will be completed by the end of the summer. AVA is also keeping tabs.
- **There is NO Military Liaison Contact** for Va Beach AL Post. Fred has made contact with Rep Keegan to figure out how we can work it all out. Names are being submitted to her. Kenny Golden has a couple of names.
- **WEBSITE/FB Update:** A name change to both as the SSGT Robert C. Melberg (USA) American Legion Post 110 Virginia Beach was made so as to comply with the November 16, 2016 Name Change Approval from American Legion National. Rawl Gelinias. Steve Wild and Bert Wendell are working together to rewrite the Post History and add much needed pictures to both sites. Sample of changes will be ready by April Meeting.
- **American Legion Forms:** March thru June begins completing the myriad of forms submitted to the national body. Annual Post Data form was signed and will be submitted.
- **Veteran Appreciation Day** begins March 29 at Mission BBQ. Also, they will offer free sandwiches during Armed Forces Week from April 15 -20

Committee Reports:

- **Service Officer Eric Bell:** No Service Calls at this time

- Adjutant Ron Basso: As of March 21 YTD, we are at 279 and meet the Legionnaires Birthday Milestone of 90%. Contact your military friends and get them on board because our overall goal is 310 members. Ron noted that a great effort to recruit new members should be our next priority.

Volunteer Hours: As of March 24 YTD, 1144.5 volunteer hours and 3,878 miles driven. All were reminded to continue to report their volunteer hours to the Adjutant

Shooting Contest: The AL's 2nd District Shooting Contest will be conducted on April 29 in Poquoson by Post 273, the current State and National Youth Shooting Champions. People are encouraged to attend and watch the program unfold. Ron will attend. To get involved with AL Youth Shooting and do it right is like starting a Youth Soccer League. It is a huge undertaking that is very rewarding. We would need a lot of volunteers, help, fundraising, certified teachers, insurance, the whole gamut. I am looking for volunteer help over at Dam Neck. There is financial help within the National program but Volunteer help will be the deciding factor in making this program a success next year. Baby steps first with Spring Contest.

Youth Cadet Law Enforcement. I'm working with Lt. Kevin Lokey of the VBPD to find 2 rising Seniors who could attend June 14-19. I've explained the rigorousness of the program and sent him 2 videos of past classes. Our first preference are children of VBP officers. The second is the grandchildren of retired VBP. I'll have a couple of names by April 17. I've asked the candidates and their parents to be introduced at our May meeting and for them to discuss their experiences in the July meeting. If the VBPD finds this is a good program and there's interest among the Officers, they'd like to roll over candidates every year, if possible.

Rawl Gelinis and Steve Wild are revamping our Web site and FB page. Take a look at Vapost110.org. You can access our FB page by CLICKing the FB icon on our Home Page. It is still a work in progress and your input is valuable.

JROTC Awards night for Landstown HS will be May 17

Vietnam Vets Day – March 29, all day at Mission BBQ, get a free sandwich

Mission BBQ Celebrates Armed Forces Week the week of May 15: Every day a different branch of the military is recognized: Monday, May 15-Army, Tuesday, May 16-Marines, Wednesday, May 17-Navy, Thursday, May 18, Air Force/Space Force and Friday, May 19-Coast Guard, Come get a Free Sandwich. On Saturday, May 20, 11-2 LUNCH WITH HEROES, free sandwich

The 2023 Oratorical Finals will be held April 21-23 in Indianapolis. Our candidate, Caylee Norris, is at home hopefully preparing for the 2024 contest. Dates should be announced by September.

- Finance Officer Bob Russell: Checking: \$1,828.83, Savings \$4,584.64 with \$15,024.08 in 15 mth CD..
- Chaplain Dave Smith: NR
- Historian Bert Wendell: NR
- Auxiliary Tonya Jones: Linens for Vets is going strong.

Recently Completed Events

- Four Chaplains
- Revitalization Phone Calls/Wellness Checks
- District Spring Conference: 12 Feb 2023 @Post 37

- Department Conference: 3 March 2023, Portsmouth

Upcoming Events

- NJROTC Medal Presentation
- Shooting Contest (April 29 – Observer Only)
- 2nd Annual Spring BBQ May 6th.
- Memorial Day
- Flag Day June 14
- Boys State at Radford U, June 18-24
- Youth Law Enforcement Week June 14-19
- Night At The Ball Park – Tides Game TBD
- Veterans Day Parade – Saturday, Nov 11

Unfinished Business NR

Major Topics/Upcoming Events Discussed NR

Long Range Goals: NR

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

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 26 at VFW 392 Post located at 2408 Bowland Parkway, Virginia Beach.
START TIME 7PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 2010 hrs.

Submitted by:

Ron Basso

Post Adjutant

American Legion Post 110