



**The American Legion Post143  
Regular Monthly Membership Meeting  
Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Note: Due to COVID-19, No Social Hour/Combined Meeting Held**

1. Commander Harrod called the regular membership meeting to order at 7:04 PM (with one rap of the gavel).
2. Sgt. at Arms (Sam Pyle substituted) closed doors and secured the meeting room
3. **ALL STAND** to salute THE COLORS
4. Commander asked members to **UNCOVER**
5. Chaplain Larry Boswell offered a prayer.
6. **POW/MIA EMPTY CHAIR** (JV Sam Pyle) was remembered
7. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Cmdr. Harrod
8. **RECOVER**. The Preamble to the Legion Constitution was led by Cmdr. Harrod
9. (One rap of the gavel to seat members)
10. The meeting was declared regularly convened.

**WELCOME VISITORS & GUESTS:** by Commander Harrod

- **Department/5<sup>TH</sup> district guests:** Dept. Cmdr. Eddie Asberry, 5<sup>th</sup> District Cmdr. Walt Cusick
- **Guests:** Sandy Pate, Paul Adams, Gail Liggett
- **Prospective New Members: None**
- **Prospective Transferee's: None**

**RECOGNITION:**

- **Birthdays:** Wayne Driver
- **Anniversaries: None**

**SICK CALL: Robert Hilliard's wife, Dena, is critically ill. Please keep her in your prayers. Robert was our former Post Historian.**

**LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR AWARD:** Commander Harrod presented our JSSP Chairman Frank Joswick with the Legionnaire of the Year award for his dedicated service to the Post and the community throughout the 2019-2020 post year.

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- The Adjutant took a roll call of officers and it was determined that enough members in good standing were present to declare a quorum.
- A vote was taken and the minutes of February 20, 2020 General Meeting were accepted.
- Membership & Guest attendance rosters are attached to the minutes of each meeting. There were 17 Post Members in attendance as well as 5 Guests.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Copies of the 2020-2021 proposed **Post 143 Budget** were distributed to the attending members. Incoming Commander Ronnie Pate and Commander Harrod (incoming Finance Officer) reviewed the figures prior to the meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2020-21 Budget as presented followed by a unanimous vote for acceptance. Approved Budget is attached to the minutes.

**Heritage Days 2020:** The GA AG Extension suggested a possible virtual/digital presentation for Carroll County School students this September. The American Legion Post 143 Honor Guard has offered to perform a Flag Retirement Ceremony in that format for the groups.

**Social Hour/Meal:** For the foreseeable future these activities have been suspended.

## **POST REPORTS**

### **Finance Officer/Finance Committee Chair: By Commander Joe Harrod**

Former Commander Joe Harrod has filled the vacancy created by the recent resignation of Finance Officer Ronnie Martin. As a result of that change the June 2020 Financial Audit for Post 143 was incomplete. Documents are now available and the Audit Report will be completed by the Post Judge Advocate for approval at the next membership meeting.

### **Commander's Comments:**

Commander Harrod addressed the effects of the Covid-19 Virus on Post 143, and his hopes that normal proceedings will soon be back on track for the entire membership. Being awarded a 100% membership pendant (for 2019-2020) from 5<sup>th</sup> District Commander Walt Cusick could be an indication that things will be getting better in the near future. Joe commented that it had been an outstanding 2 years, and with the majority of the offices and appointments being retained for another year, the post should do well in 2020-2021.

### **Service Officer: Don Levans**

Service Officer Don Levans gave a status report of the activities he has had with local veterans in search of assistance from March to June of this year. He detailed the meetings and phone calls with 5 (five) individuals. After verification, he was only able to help 3 (three) of them. The total expenditures were \$1,194 which included rent, food, gas, auto insurance and a water bill.

SO Levans also informed the membership of the very serious illness of Dena Hilliard, wife of former Post 143 Historian Bob Hilliard. Chaplain Larry Boswell contacted Bob to offer his support and prayers.

### **Chaplain: Larry Boswell**

- Chaplain Larry Boswell remembered Chuck Feaselman who passed away earlier this year during the SHELTER IN PLACE and QUARANTINE directives. Larry promised to give the former Post 143 Finance Officer the full military honors he was due when the appropriate time was possible. Chuck was a veteran of both the War in Vietnam and the Korean Conflict. A retired Marine, he was a recipient of the Bronze Star Metal.

In addition, Chaplain Boswell stated that approximately 10 Veterans received Military Funeral Honors by the Post Honor Guard since the last Membership meeting in February. In addition, a number of Memorial Services are on hold by respective Families due to the pandemic.

A motion was made and seconded to suspend normal post business proceedings and move to the installation of 2020- 2021 Officers. A unanimous vote was taken and carried.

\*\*\*\*\*

Past Commander Don Levans was our Master of Ceremonies and administered the oath of office to the 2020 - 2021 officers. Commander Levans entrusted them to assume their charges and duties. Chaplain Larry Boswell offered a prayer. Past Commander Harrod presented Commander Pate with the gavel. Don then introduced our 2020 - 2021 officers as well as the Adjutant Kathy Katen, Chaplain Larry Boswell, Service Officer Don Levans, and Sergeant at Arms Thomas Underwood to the membership. Photographs of the newly installed officers were taken immediately after the meeting was adjourned.

**2020-2021 OFFICER INSTALLATION CEREMONY**

**Installing Officer:  
Past Commander Carroll Post 143  
Don Levans**

**American Legion Carroll Post No. 143**

- Commander.....Ronnie Pate**
- Senior Vice Commander.....Randy Purser**
- Junior Vice Commander..... Tim Bass**
- Junior Vice Commander.....Sam Pyle**
- Junior Vice Commander..... Charles Stuckey**
- Junior Vice Commander.....Don Cowart**
- Judge Advocate.....Richard Guynn**
- Finance Officer.....Joe Harrod**
- Adjutant..... Kathy Katen**
- Chaplain.....Larry Boswell**
- Service Officer.....Donald Levans**
- Sergeant at Arms.....Thomas Underwood**

## CLOSING

### Post 143 Commander Ronnie Pate

A motion was made from the floor to resume the normal business of the Post. The motion was seconded and was carried by a unanimous vote.

#### Closing comments.

All the outgoing officers were thanked for their contributions to the success of the past year, and the new officers for 2020-2021 were introduced, welcomed and congratulated by Commander Pate. He anticipated another productive year ahead and would work to the best of his ability to accomplish that. It's the membership and the veterans that we thank for the success of Post 143. The Commander discussed one goal of formalizing the veteran's "Buddy Check" procedure. Cmdr. Pate then introduced Sandy, his wife of 57 years, to the membership. She presented her husband with his new commander's name tag and cap.

#### Dates to remember:

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### ANY NEW BUSINESS

After a discussion among the officers and the membership, a motion was made to postpone the annual Post 143 Fall BBQ fund raiser for 1 (one) year. The motion was seconded and passed by a unanimous vote.

#### BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION:

Department of Georgia Cmdr. Eddie Asberry congratulated the post for achieving 100% membership again this year. He also encouraged the membership to actively practice the "Buddy Check" system; more so now than ever before. Along with that, Commander Asberry announced that the **REMAIN IN PLACE** directive will remain in force until the 2021 Nation Convention in Arizona. As a reminder he pointed out that members should continually make use of the "TOOL BOX" provided by the American Legion.

5<sup>th</sup> District Commander Walt Cusick commended Post 143 with a "very high" for its teamwork and leadership. He encouraged the membership to continue sharing their ideas and be willing to volunteer when needed for the betterment of the post.

Carroll County 4<sup>th</sup> District Commissioner Steve Fuller announced that the Board of Commissioners at their August 4<sup>th</sup> Carroll County Commission Meeting will officially designate Carroll County as a **PURPLE HEART** COUNTY. Steve asked the membership to please attend and show support (wearing your American Legion hat) for this significant recognition of our veterans. Any and all Purple Heart recipients would be greatly appreciated, too. The meeting will be held on the first Tuesday of August at the Old Court House Building at 6:00 PM.

Past Commander Wayne Driver informed the members that on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 9:00 am. the bridge on Carrollton-Tyus Road would be dedicated to David Crawford, a local peace officer, who lost his life at that location while responding to a call.

JV Sam Pyle (as well as Steve Fuller) requested the membership to send cards to both Carlos Fuller, a survivor of Iwo Jima, and his wife, Ruth. Ruth is presently a resident of *The Oaks* facility in Carrollton. Carlos is "pretty down" about Ruth being away from home. Obviously, he can't visit her. Chaplain Larry Boswell will be sending out the information, but it also is listed below.

**Carlos Fuller:** 1701 Pleasant Ridge Road  
Carrollton GA 30117-6853

**Ruth Fuller:** THE OAKS  
Room 106B  
921 Old Newnan Road  
Carrollton GA 30116

- There was no further business to come before this meeting.
- THREE RAPS OF THE GAVEL
- **STAND AND UNCOVER**
- Chaplain Larry Boswell led us in a closing prayer
- **RECOVER**
- **COMMANDERS CHARGE:** "Till we meet again let us remember that our obligation to our Country can be fulfilled only by the faithful performance of all duties of citizenship. Let service to the community, state, and nation be ever a main objective of The American Legion and its members. Let us be ever watchful of the honor of our Country, our organization and ourselves, that nothing shall swerve us from the path of Justice, Freedom and Democracy."
- **The Flag of Our Country is in place for retirement. "HAND SALUTE": "TWO"**
- The Commander declared the July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Membership Meeting of Post 143, The American Legion, Department of GA adjourned at 8:05 PM with one gavel rap.

Approval Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commander Ronnie Pate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recorder Kathy Katen