



"For God and Country"



Carroll Post 143 Family
1790 Stripling Chapel Rd
Carrollton, GA 30117
770-830-5979



"The Unaccounted"

AUGUST 2020

www.gapost143.org

NEWSLETTER

Cmdr. Ronnie Pate:



On 16 July 2020, I accepted the gavel from Commander Harrod to serve as the 2020-2021 Commander during the Post Officers installation ceremony presided over by Past Commander Levans. The following Legionnaires were installed: Sr. Vice Commander, Randy Purser, Adjutant, Kathy Katen, Finance Officer, Joe Harrod, Judge Advocate, Richard Guynn, and Jr. Vice Commanders, Tim Bass, Sam Pyle, Charles Stuckey, and Don Cowart. Please congratulate these members for stepping into leadership positions. Also, when one of these distinguished members calls on you to serve on a committee, please say I am proud to support the mission. We will make every effort to continue focusing on the four pillars that was established in 1919 to guide the American Legion.

The past Post 143 administration set a high bar in terms of achievements. I'll highlight a couple here; Bob Hilliard brought home the Department and National first place awards related to the Post Narrative History, Friend of Extension Award from the Carroll County UGA Extension Coordinator, Paula Burke, and Frank Joswick was recognized as the Post Legionnaire of the Year for his outstanding support of such things as; Junior Shooting Sports Committee Chair, Post Newsletter, Webmaster, and many other behind the scenes tasks. These are just a few examples of the dedication that Post 143 members exhibit.

Given the Pandemic situation it is a risk to hold the regular scheduled meetings. Consequently, the August meetings were officially cancelled by the Post Officers. We will be polling the Officers each month to determine if the majority wants to hold a meeting. Of course, we will practice the CDC Guidelines of wearing a mask and social distancing. The meeting status will be posted on the WEB Home page at www.gapost143.org, WEB calendar @ www.localendar.com/public/post143 and in the Times-Georgian Daybook section of the newspaper.

The 2021 Membership renewals are in progress. Thanks to those members who have already renewed their respective memberships and we look forward to achieving 100% renewal by December 21, 2020. Sr. Vice Cmdr. Randy Purser will describe the easy and convenient methods to renew your membership.

We will be proposing three 2020-2021 Goals to the Executive Committee as follows:

- 1.) Explore broadcasting Virtual meeting proceedings. (Lead, Frank Joswick)
- 2.) Formalize a "Buddy Check" system for contacting each member monthly. (Lead, Bill Maddox, Serv Cmte Chair)
- 3.) Amend the Constitution, By-Laws, and Standard Operating Practices. (Lead, Richard Guynn)

In closing, I am honored and excited to have been selected to serve as the Post 143 Commander for the period July 2020-June 2021. This China disease will slow our programs down, however, it will not stop our service to veterans and respective families. This determination is exemplified by continuing to provide financial support by the Service Officer and rendering Military Honors at veteran's funerals by the Post Honor Guard. We improvise, adapt, and overcome, Legionnaires! You may contact me by calling 404.406.4721 and/or email at commander@gapost143.org

THANKS TO EACH OF YOU FOR CONTINUING TO SERVE!

Adjutant Kathy Katen



Even though our August 2020 post meetings are officially cancelled, I would like to update everyone on the progress of our membership renewals. As of August, American Legion Post 143 has surpassed the 50% mark of membership dues returned for 2021. We are anticipating a 100% participation again this year. Earlier this month I completed the virtual **57th Annual National Membership Workshop**. It was extremely informative and will be a valuable reference in the future.



At the August 4, 2020 meeting of the Carroll County Board of Commissioners, it was declared that Carroll County is officially a Purple Heart County. The Proclamation was required for recognition by the Military Order of the Purple Heart organization to honor and remember those military personnel that were combat wounded and/or killed in action. Commander Pate (Left) suggested this action to long time Post member/4th District Commissioner Steve Fuller (Right). Carroll County, GA will be placed on the National Purple Heart Trail registry. Thanks to Steve and the entire Carroll County Commission for continuing to support all veterans.



Sr Vice Cmdr. Randy Purser



Congratulations Post 143 Membership! We are already at 50% Membership Renewal for 2021 in less than 7 weeks. We do need to work to achieve 100% as soon as possible. You will find below some options for Membership renewals.

1. Renew Online (Preferred Methods)
 - A. Receive email from American Legion > Renew Early
 - B. Post Website Link > www.gapost143.org > membership application
 - C. American Legion Website > www.legion.org > renew
 - D. Post 143 Facebook > American Legion Georgia Post 143 Carrollton, Georgia > Sign Up
 - E. Print your own Membership Card
 - F. Make it easier on your Post Officers
2. In Person (Next Best)
 - A. Give your \$30 Membership to any Post 143 Officer
 - B. Cash or Check
 - C. Post 143 will process your fees through MyLegion.org/post
 - D. Post 143 will send your 2021 Membership Card at Meetings or by Mail
3. By Mail (Snail Mail)
 - A. Receive form in mail
 - B. Send fees by mail
 - C. Wait for receipt in mail
 - D. When Post 143 is notified of payment, will give your Membership card at Meetings or by Mail

Honor Guard Chairman: Dale Robinson



The Honor Guard is slowly getting back to business of providing Veterans' Final Military Honors. There are still restrictions in place, but we can operate within those boundaries. There is another factor to consider, and that is the large number of veterans who have died between the sudden stop and the rules in place today who did not receive their proper Final Honors. Our intention is to correct this wrong-doing due to the restrictions of the shut down as soon as possible. Chaplain Boswell has been working with the local funeral homes, and hopefully they have kept records of those who wanted a proper service so that we can provide when conditions allow. Our service is only a several minutes long, but it means everything to honor a veteran for his or her service at the end of their life. The Flag that is presented in honor of the veteran is our Nation's "Thank you for your service" to the veterans and their families.

AG Center Heritage Days Coordinator: Don Levans



One of the most meaningful endeavors is participating in the annual Heritage Days Event. By doing so, we interface with approximately 1,400 grammar school children each year. Our Children and Youth Committee furnishes guides while the Honor Guard performs a wonderful Flag Retirement Service for all the attendee's. This year the event could not be held due to the China Virus. But the Ag Center Staff has chosen 10 of the usual participants to be filmed and then a digital package will be provided to the subscribing teachers, so there will be no need for the Post Family to furnish guides. The Honor Guard will also tape the service at the Carroll County Veterans Memorial Park on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2020 and the schools will administer it along with the other 9 programs in early October. (Auxiliary Unit 143 will furnish a small US Flag for each student)

Post 143 Service Officer: Don Leavens

The ongoing Pandemic has placed a negative pall over all veteran's Assistance programs. We have interfaced with only 12 needy Veterans since March and provided a total of \$1,724 in financial to 5 of those veterans. I still arrange to meet with some for paperwork completions and handle many phone calls in which I can refer them for assistance.

All post members should be advised that the Georgia Department of Veterans Service is working but they are not seeing veterans in their offices. **You can reach them by calling: 404-321-6111 ext. 1-202589**

The have become very efficient in handling matters by phone and when necessary they meet you outside the Trink Davis Clinic. (We are still not permitted to enter the facility **except for appointments and tests** scheduled by the doctor.

NOTE: If any post member is having difficulty with FORMS or involvement with the VA please call me at 679-245-8446

Jr. Shooting Sports Chair: Frank Joswick



Registration for the 2020-2021 National Air-Rifle Tournament begins September 1, 2020 and runs through December 31, 2020. Carrollton High School Air Rifle Coach Mike Lewis has been notified of the registration dates. To recap, Morgan Frank placed 1st in the State, and the Team placed 3rd. No medals or certificates were awarded to the Rifle team by the Post due to the cancellation of said event because of China virus.

Webmaster/Newsletter/Daybook:

As a reminder, copies of the Post meeting minutes, e-newsletter, and calendar are all available to view online at www.gapost143.org

Beginning in August, the post will resume publishing post information in the Times-Georgian Daybook section.

The August Newsletter has been snail-mailed to Legionnaires who do not have an email address or access to the internet.

Finance Officer Joe Harrod



Due to response to the COVID-19, Post 143 Executive Committee has decided, (reluctantly), to call off our major fundraising effort for the current year. Large gathering for food preparation and social distancing just do not go together. Post financial position is sufficient to carry us thru until next year, mostly due to greatly reduced expenses and reduced events in the community. The Post will need to look at fund raising in the coming year to meet the needs of an expected return to a more normal mode of operations. If anyone wishes to make donations to the current year's needs, feel free to do so. Carroll Post 143, P.O. Box 647, Carrollton GA. 30112.



**The American Legion Post143
Regular Monthly Membership Meeting
Thursday, July 16th, 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/5TH district guests:** Dept. Cmdr. Eddie Asberry, 5th 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 5th District Commander Walt Cusick could be an indication that things will be getting better soon. 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.

Levans also informed the membership of the profoundly 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 died 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, several 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 is 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.

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.

5th 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 4th District Commissioner Steve Fuller announced that the Board of Commissioners at their August 4th 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. 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 17th, 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 cannot 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 30116**

**Ruth Fuller: THE OAKS
Room 106B
921 Old Newnan Road
Carrollton GA 30117-6853**

- 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 16th, 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

Resolution

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God, The Great Commander, to summon to the immortal legions our beloved comrades

Whereas we humbly bow to the will of Divine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts their memory of distinguished service to our country and outstanding contributions to American Legion comradeship; now, therefore,

*be it Resolved that Carroll Post No. 143,
The American Legion, does mourn the passing of our comrades*

That we commend to all the works and to God the spirit; and be it further Resolved, that in token of our common grief, this resolution is hereby transferring

To the American Legion Post Everlasting, where they will now join all departed comrades who have gone before them



*Hugh W. Barrow
Henry L. Bedford
Beryl L. Chadwick
Charles H. Feaselman*

DATES TO REMEMBER

Aug 04.....	CANCELED-- EC meeting @ 5:00pm
Aug 20.....	CANCELED-- Regular Membership Business Meeting @ 7pm)
Sep 07.....	EC Meeting will be held Tuesday, Sep 1 @ 5pm
Sep 17.....	CANCELED.... Regular Membership Business Meeting

Member Profile Update

First Name:		Last Name:	
Street Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Phone:	Email:	Deceased:	

***NOTE:** Please give this CORRECTION FORM to the Adjutant during the next Regular Membership meeting or call 770-830-5979 & leave a message

POST COVID-19 GUIDANCE

Because of the China virus, the Executive Committee has implemented several changes for conducting **future** Post meetings once it is deemed safe to return:

1. The social hour with Dinner meal is canceled until further notice.
2. When the regular Post membership meetings resume:



*All attending members must wear some type of facial covering

*Attending members will be seated in chairs only, spaced 6 feet apart

*Social distancing when interacting with other members will apply where possible.



*Additionally, a deep cleaning of the restrooms, hallway, office, and main meeting room will be accomplished prior to each meeting to ensure the safety and well-being of attending members.



➤ **If you want to purchase either of the above masks, they can be ordered on-line at www.emblem.legion.org**



Thank you for your patience and understanding during these uncertain times.

American Legion Carroll Post 143 Elects new officers



American Legion Carroll Post 143 installed its 2020-2021 officers during a ceremony on July 16, 2020. Back row, from left, are Commander Ronnie Pate, Service Officer Don Levans, and Finance Officer Joe Harrod. Front row, left, are Wayne Driver for Senior Vice Commander Randy Purser, Junior Vice Commander Tim Bass, Junior Vice Commander Sam Pyle, Junior Vice Commander Don Cowart, Adjutant Kathy

Katen, Judge Advocate Richard Guynn, and Chaplain Larry Boswell. Not pictured are Senior Vice Commander Randy Purser, Junior Vice Commander Charles Stuckey, and Sargent-At-Arms Thomas Underwood. The installing officer was Past Post Commander Don Levans. Visiting Dignitaries included American Legion Department of Georgia Commander Eddie Asberry and 5th District Commander Walt Cusick.



Commander Ronnie Pate, left, presents out- going Commander Joe Harrod with a parting gift in recognition for his many years of outstanding Leadership and Service to the Post, Community, State, and Nation.



Commander Joe Harrod, right, presents JSSP Chairman Frank Joswick with the Post's "Legionnaire of the Year" award for his dedicated service to the Post and the community throughout the 2019-2020 post year.



Sandy Pate pins a new "Commander" name badge on her husband Ronnie Pate, the newly elected Commander of American Legion Carroll Post 143.