

DISCUSSION POINTS

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1 in DC

Date | Time Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 6:37pm | *Discussion started by* Unit President Victoria Pridemore

In Attendance

Victoria Pridemore (President), Debbie Chen (Vice President) and Sharon Riegsecker (Secretary/Treasurer)

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Membership: Unit 1 has 16 current members.

Finance Report: The general fund currently has \$170 cash. We are still unable to open a checking account (pending paperwork from National Headquarters). Once we get the account, we have \$270 in checks to deposit and can begin paying expenses. The poppy fund has \$10.

Communications: Email from Post 1 Chaplain Larry Provost was read thanking us for our kind words of sympathy.

Unfinished Business

Status of Charter Application: Department President Barbara Rich delivered the charter to Sharon Riegsecker. The department president and department secretary still need to sign the charter.

Constitution & Bylaws Changes: We will bring up the proposed changes to the constitution & bylaws at the next meeting where a quorum is present.

Future Location of Meetings: We're still looking for a location to hold our meetings. Caribou Coffee will serve as our backup, but we will try meeting at Washington Square (17 & Connecticut) for the next meeting.

Member Initiation: Due to time constraints, we will not plan to hold member initiation in conjunction with the Washington DC Conference.

Auction with Post 1: Post 1 has moved from the idea of having an auction with an auctioneer. The thought currently is to sell items on eBay and/or Craigslist and have a yard sale for other items. Debbie Chen suggested having the yard sale portion in conjunction with a high school's yard sale and the silent auction could be hosted on a site dedicated to silent auctions for non-profits. Debbie Chen has also secured some additional leads on items.

National's Washington DC Conference: At the Auxiliary's annual Washington DC Conference, the opening session is open to all members of the Legion Family. Registration is not required, free and all members are encouraged to attend. It is Sunday, February 24 from 7:30pm - 9:30pm at the Washington Hilton Hotel (near Dupont Circle).

Website Update: Sharon Riegsecker thinks the website will be done by Monday, February 18. Then she will contact the web provider.

Service Projects: Michelle Vaughn was unable to make it with the Operation Honor Cards for members to take and review. As soon as Sharon Riegsecker gets them, she will work to pass them out. Victoria Pridemore collected items for the care packages and will continue to collect items from our Legion family members throughout the month. We will then hold a stuffing party sometime in March.

New Business

Upcoming Service Projects: In March, we will (1) greet an Honor Flight. Debbie is looking into March 23, the only Saturday available in March. There will be a poster making party at some point. There were no ideas for a second project, but we will keep our eyes open. In April, we will (1) greet an Honor Flight. Debbie Chen is looking into Saturday, April 27. (2)

There is a Wounded Warrior Project Salute the Troops auction event on Saturday, April 13. Our members would be asked to ensure auction items do not walk off with the wrong owners. We discussed how participating in this auction will effect participation in the Post's.

Possible Upcoming Fundraisers: Some potential fundraising ideas that we will be investigating further are a Burgers for Benefits event at Fuddruckers and receipt returns for Glory Days.

Servicewoman of the Year National Award: We have a candidate for Army and Air Force in mind. Members will do further research for candidates in the Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy.

"Where Are They Now" Research: in conjunction with the Cavalcade of Memories and National Historian Plans of Auction, we will look at our members to submit information to the National Historian on Auxiliary members "who did something exciting, new or different in America outside of their membership." So far, we will submit: (1) Denyse Gordon as the first Ms. Veteran America, (2) Barbara Riegsecker as the first female ROTC cadet to graduate from Mercer University and (3) Sharon Riegsecker as a member of both the first and second class of the American Legion Auxiliary Call to Service Corps.

Announcements

Musical VETStravaganza: On Sunday, February 17 at 3pm, a free concert will be hosted at the GW Lisner Auditorium. Participating acts include country music stars Mark Wills and David Kroll; the West Point Cadet Glee Club; the West Point Alumni Glee Club; 4TROOPS, a veterans quartet; and HOMEFIRE, a military wives' choir. While the concert is free, anyone interested in attending should reserve their seat online.

Reception to Honor Women Veterans: On Tuesday, March 19 from 6pm-8pm, the Business and Professional Women's Foundation, veterans, current military members and business leaders will be holding a reception honoring women veterans who, by their many achievements, dedication to duty and patriotism, shaped our history and inspire our future. This event will be at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at Washington Square (downstairs in the seating area)

The discussion adjourned at 7:50pm.