

# MINUTES

## American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1 in DC

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*Date | Time* Tuesday, December 10, 2013 at 6:30pm | *Meeting called to order by* Unit President Victoria Pridemore

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### In Attendance

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Courtney Brooks, Lauren Lloyd, Victoria Pridemore (President), Barbara Riegsecker and Sharon Riegsecker (Secretary/Treasurer). All members joined by Google+ Hangout; the meetings was moved online due to severe weather.

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### Secretary/Treasurer's Report

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**Membership:** We were unable to handover membership at the department meeting as it was cancelled. We will be processing the 2 new members and 1 renewal at the next department meeting.

**Finance Report:** The general fund account balance is \$623.05. At our November meeting, the general fund balance was \$627.00. Expenses included web hosting for \$3.95, a donation to the national AEF of \$15 (\$1/member) and a donation to the National President's Scholarship Fund of \$15 (\$1/member). Expenses totaled \$33.95. General deposits included dues of \$30. The poppy fund balances was \$102.17, but following donations from the poppy drive, this fund is now \$1247.17. We have one outstanding check for \$60 for the reimbursement of membership we're unable to process.

**Service Hour Reporting:** Members are strongly encouraged to report their service hours monthly. Since April, Unit 1 averages 4.33 members reporting each month and collectively average 42.44 hours per month.

**Mid-Year Reporting:** Unit 1 filed mid-year reports for work we have done in the Americanism, community service, legislative, national security, public relations and veterans affairs and rehabilitation committees. **WAY TO GO LADIES!**

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### Unfinished Business

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#### **Upcoming Service Projects:**

1. Holiday Mail for Heroes—Member reported pulling their family, friends and co-workers together to send 160 cards to the Holiday Mail for Heroes program!
2. VAMC Holiday Gift Shop—The date has moved to December 14. We decided to participate in this all-department event instead of Wreaths Across America placement.
3. Wreaths Across America Clean-Up—No new information. We still believe it will be on January 25.
4. Point-In-Time Count—Sharon Riegsecker is working to make contact with the lead organization. We still believe it will be on January 29.
5. MLK Day of Service—The project with Team RWB now looks like it will be lunch at the Fisher House in Bethesda on January 20. Victoria Pridemore is still working with them on the details.

#### **Upcoming Social Events:**

1. Post 1 Family Social—The social will be in early February. No other update at this time.

**Unit 1 T-Shirts:** No update.

**Winterhaven Stand Down/Poppy Fundraiser:** The poppy fundraiser is off to a GREAT start; we're currently at \$1,247.17! We are working to make contact with the VA to find out what they need most. We understand that they are now looking for volunteers. The Stand Down is January 25; this is the same day as the Wreaths Across America Clean-Up. Given that the volunteer list is so difficult to get on, members felt we should volunteer at the Stand Down.

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## New Business

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**Upcoming Service Projects:** Members were asked to keep their eyes open for upcoming service events and email President Victoria Pridemore and Vice President Debbie Chen if they knew of any.

### ***Do You Have Any Nominations?***

1. Operation Homefront's Military Child of the Year
2. ALA's Servicewoman of the Year—We're looking for one servicewoman from each branch that exemplifies service both in and out of uniform.
3. ALA's Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship—Nominees need to be DC high school seniors that are decedents of veterans. We can nominate one student. Selections need to be made by the first of March. Anyone interested in more information should contact Sharon Riegsecker for more information.

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## Announcements

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President Victoria Pridemore was happy to report that Unit 1 has served as a connector in our area again! We learned of a veteran that was finding yoga beneficial to deal with their depression, but couldn't afford it nor could he attend yoga during the time offered by the VA due to work. We connected him with Team RWB, which agreed to sponsor the veteran's yoga sessions with a local studio for awhile and work to establish a discounted rate for the future.

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## Next Meeting

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Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at the National Veterans Center.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.