

American Legion
Fred Y McConnell Post 51
Concord N.C.

Fellow Legionnaires,

It is with a great deal of pride in our organization that I share a few thoughts with you for the New Year. I hope the Holiday Season was pleasant and rewarding to each of you and your families. Shared time with family and friends is so important, each day is a gift. I extend good wishes to all for a healthy, happy New Year to each of you and your loved ones. May the New Year bring many blessings to you and yours.

Our post had a successful year, we met many challenges, met some of our goals, and look forward to continued success in 2014.

I thank all our post Officers and volunteers who give so much of their time and efforts to make our Post possible, a "Well Done" to all. Some may not know, but all involved are volunteers, who serve without and compensation except for the satisfaction that comes with the knowledge of a job well done, in service to a good cause, and service to others, our community and our Nation, Veterans still serving.

We continue to be a positive force in our community for our Veterans, our youth programs, and achieving our goals as outlined in our charter. The biggest challenge we face is membership, retention and recruitment. As the years go by, we all yield to the limitations of time and life, and we lose the fellowship of passing members. We are charged with replacing past members and growing the Post through recruiting new Veterans to retain and expand our membership. We are all charged with this goal. If each one of us brought one new member to the American Legion, we would double the size of Post membership. We have a whole year to recruit ONE Veteran, most of whom are waiting to be asked.

The Post Canteen continues to be our primary source of funding, supplemented by hall rentals. The Canteen continues to be a friendly, comfortable gathering place for our members, their families and guests. Our Canteen is a success thanks in great measure to our two Legion Brothers Ike and James, who continue to go the limit every day to provide a comfortable, pleasant Canteen for all of us. Some say...but I don't drink.... that is fine, no one has to imbibe, however we have soft drinks, coffee, tea, snacks, TV, pool, darts, and military reading. It is your Post, help keep it successful. The Canteen is your Club, it is there for you, stop by, bring a guest and enjoy the fellowship of your fellow Veterans, remember to have a friend, you have to be one.

The Post has established internet access and a web site open to all. We will be communicating with you about your concerns and your E Mail address.

Post meetings are held on the fourth (4th) Monday of the month at 7:00PM.

The Post is starting a Legion Riders group. The initial meeting will be February 3 at 6:30 PM in the Canteen.

An informal Valentine's Day Dance/Party will be held in the Canteen Saturday, February 15 at 7:00 PM.

An expanded members newsletter with a members feedback will be in the Mail soon, please complete the Questionnaire, and return it promptly so we can continue to serve you and address your needs and concerns. For God and Country.

Fraternally Yours
Ronald A. Frawley
Commander
Fred Y McConnell Post 51