

The American Legion

Department of Maryland



Southern Maryland Region – District Six Council Helen Smith, Historian

TAKING TIME TO HONOR OUR VETERANS

During the month of November, Commander Hall participated in various activities around the Southern Maryland District that had programs to honor our veterans. On Thursday, November 9, 2023, Commander Hall attended the Town of Indian Veterans Day Ceremony which included the observance of the U.S. Marine Corps 248th birthday celebration, recognition of special guests, the Montford Point Marines. This event was co-sponsored by the Town of Indian Head, Maryland and American Legion Post 233, and included a luncheon hosted by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 233. The guest speakers were David Heredia, Sr. Vice Commander, American Legion Department of Maryland and 1st Sgt. Louis Quiones, U.S. Marine Corps, NSF Indian Head Naval Base

Saturday, November 11, 2023, Commander Hall attended the annual Veterans Day program at the Prince Frederick Court House hosted by Past National Executive Committee Person, Patricia McCoy of American Legion Post 206. The program featured a wreath laying by Calvert, Huntington, Patuxent, Northern NJROTC, the Calvert County Civil Air Patrol and designated veterans. The wreath laying was followed by 30 seconds of silent prayer and a gun salute in memory of George W. Owings III (USMC), Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs, 2004-2007, 2015-2023 and life member of American Legion Post 206. The Veterans Day speaker was Mike Benton (USMC) Mayor, Chesapeake Beach, Maryland.

On Sunday, November 12, 2023, Commander Hall was invited to Mt. Ennon Baptist Church. Mt. Ennon Baptist Church has a congregation of over 8,000 members of which a significant number are veterans. The church known to reach out to the community, wanted to invite someone who could engage its members with information of importance, and be able to address any concerns relating to veteran needs. Specifically, Commander Hall was asked to address:

- The PACT Act
- How to file a claim
- Where to go for Veteran assistance
- Other VA Benefits
- Veterans Day deals



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On hand to assist Commander Hall were District Six Service Officer David Privott, Judge Advocate Anthony Hinnant and Historian Helen Smith.

It has been acknowledged by Mt. Ennon Baptist Church that this event was an overwhelming success and that many veteran members benefited from the resources that Commander Hall and the District Six team provided.









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