

CONSTITUTION

American Legion Department of Arkansas

Maurice L. Britt Post 0123

P.O. Box 8012 Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

PREAMBLE

For God and country we associate ourselves for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses; to promote peace and good will on earth; to make right the master of might; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness

VISION

The Maurice L. Britt Post 0123 helps to strengthen America by adhering to the Creed of the American Legion

MISSION

The mission of Maurice L. Britt Post 0123 is to enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness

CREED

Members of the Maurice L. Britt Post 0123 adhere to the following Creed

I am an American Veteran
I proudly served my country
I live the values I learned in the military
I continue to serve my community, my country and my fellow
veterans

I maintain my physical and mental discipline
I continue to lead and improve
I make a difference
I honor and remember my fallen comrades

Article I

Name

Section 1. The name of this organization is Maurice L. Britt, Post 0123, Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, Department of Arkansas

Article II

Objectives

Section 1. Maurice L. Britt, Post 0123 shall uphold the declared principles of The American Legion as stated in the preamble.

Section 2. The Post shall conform to and abide by the regulations and decisions of the Department of Arkansas and of the Department Executive Committee.

Article III

Nature

Section 1. The Maurice L. Britt, Post 0123, is a civilian organization, membership therein does not affect nor increase liability for military or police service.

Section 2. Rank does not exist in the American Legion, and no member shall be addressed by their military or naval title nor wear such rank at any convention or meeting of the American Legion

Section 3. The Post shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Article IV

Membership

Section 1. Eligibility

An individual is eligible for membership in Maurice L. Britt, Post 0123 only if the individual-

1. Has served in the Armed Forces of—
 - (A)The United States at any time during-
 - (i) the period from April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918; or
 - (ii) any time after December 7, 1941;
 - (B) a government associated with the United States of America during a period or time referred to in subclause (A) of this clause and was a citizen of the United States when the individual entered that service, and
2. was honorably discharged or separated from that service or continues to serve honorably during or after that time period

Section 2. The Post may suspend or expel a Post member from the American Legion by a two-thirds vote of the Post Executive Committee only after providing the member

with due process and a proper showing of cause. Charges may be based on disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty, and/or conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion. All charges must be made under oath in writing by the accusers, and no member shall lose their membership until given a fair trial by the Post Executive Committee.

Section 3. Any member who has been suspended or expelled has the right to appeal to Arkansas Department Executive Committee, or to the Department Convention, according to the provisions in the By-Laws of the Department of Arkansas.

Section 4. A member, whose dues for the current year have not been paid by January first, shall be classified as delinquent. If their dues are paid on or before February first, the member shall be automatically reinstated. If the member is still delinquent after February first, the member shall be suspended from all privileges.

Article V

Legislative Body

Section 1. The legislative body of Maurice L. Britt, Post 0123 shall be the general member meeting, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2. The time and place of meetings shall be determined by the Post Executive Committee, which shall have the authority to change such time and place for sufficient reasons to it appearing.

Section 3. Each duly eligible member of Post 0123 shall be entitled to one vote

Section 4. A quorum shall exist at a general member meeting when five percent (05%) of the Post's current membership is present

Article VI

Post Executive Committee

Section 1. Between general membership meetings, the administrative power of Maurice L. Britt, Post 0123, shall be vested in the Post Executive Committee which shall be composed of all of the Post officers both elected and appointed and up to three (3) non-officer members of the post

Section 2. The term of office of the Post Executive Committeemen, who are Post officers, will coincide with the member's term as a Post officer, with the exception of the past Post commanders who have lifetime membership. Elected members of the Post Executive Committee members' term will be two years.

Section 3. Members of the Post Executive Committee shall be delegates to the Department Convention with vote, which vote will be exercised for the post.

Article VII

Officers

Section 1. A nominating committee, selected by the Post Executive Committee, shall submit a slate of candidates for officer positions at the second general meeting prior to the annual Department of Arkansas Convention

Section 2. Twenty (20) days but no more than ninety (90) days preceding the Arkansas Department Convention, the general membership shall elect a Post Commander, 1st Vice Commander, 2nd Vice Commander, Historian and up to three Post Executive Committeemen. The incoming Post Commander will appoint an Adjutant, Finance Officer, Service Officer, Judge Advocate, and Sgt-at-Arms. The incoming commander shall also have the option of appointing up to two (2) additional officers, who will be assigned duties by the commander.

Section 3. All elections of officers shall be by voice, written ballot, video conference, or any means which are available, if conditions prohibit meeting in person

Section 4. All officers shall be elected annually, and they shall hold office until their successors are duly installed. Any officer or executive committeeman may be removed for inefficiency by the Post Executive Committee, a two-thirds vote of said committee being necessary to effect such removal.

Section 5. Every member of this Post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in this post

Article VIII

Finance

Section 1. The revenue of the Maurice L. Britt Post 0123 shall be derived from annual membership dues and from such other sources as may be determined by the Post Executive Committee

Section 2. The amount of annual membership dues shall be determined by the post

Section 3. The Post shall pay Departmental and National dues for every member of the Post.

Article IX

Auxiliary

Section 1. Maurice L. Britt Post 0123 recognizes an auxiliary organization, known as Maurice L. Britt Auxiliary Unit 0123

Section 2. Membership in the Maurice L. Britt Auxiliary Unit 0123 shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary

Section 3. The Maurice L. Britt Auxiliary Unit 0123 shall be governed in the American Legion Department of Arkansas by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the National Executive Committee and there after approved by such Department of Arkansas Executive Committee

Article X

Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution is adopted subject to the provisions of the national Constitution of The American Legion and of the Department of Arkansas, The American Legion. Any amendment to said National Constitution or Department Constitution which is in conflict with any provisions hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution to the extent of such conflict.

Section 2. The Constitution may be amended at any general meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the total authorized representation thereat, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted through the Post adjutant to the members of the Post Executive Committee by mailing either via USPS mail service or electronic mail, at least twenty (20) days prior to the convening of the next general meeting

Article XI

Section 1. If the Congress of the United States shall amend their eligibility section of the Act creating The American Legion, this constitution shall be automatically amended in conformance therewith, but subject to all consistent limitations and restrictions in this constitution.