

Arlington-Fairfax 2188 Hosts Veterans Day Program November 6



Pictured here are PER Laurie Fearis (Welcoming Remarks), PER Rose Thiebaut (Prayer/Pledge), James Pierce (Guest Speaker), and PER Patti Graves (Opening Remarks).



Arlington-Fairfax 2188 held our Veterans Day Program on Sunday, November 6, 2016 to honor our veterans and active military, and to recognize our Lodge members who are veterans or military. The event included forty-five minutes of rousing musical scores performed by the Kings Park Concert Band. The songs had many members and guests tapping



their toes or singing along to the well-known military and patriotic songs.



The guest speaker, James Pierce, told



stories of his life as an Army Staff Sergeant, his suffering serious wounds after a suicide bomber and losing friends and fellow soldiers in that same incident. His courage and words of wisdom on how he was able to move forward after such devastating events had the members and guests near tears and inspired at the same time.



Lodge 2188 was also honored to have veterans from the Martinsburg VA Hospital in attendance. These guests have been attending Lodge 2188's Veterans Day programs for many years. We actually try to schedule our program to ensure their participation.



Following the scheduled program, a complimentary meal of fried chicken, pulled pork, mashed potatoes, corn, rolls, and desserts was served to all in attendance.



The food prepared by Chef Jay and his staff was excellent, and Club Manager Tom Lotfabadi made sure the food trays were never empty, encouraging many Martinsburg guests to prepare a “to-go box” to enjoy later (or maybe snack on during the long ride home).



Thank you Arlington-Fairfax 2188 Veterans Committee for your planning and organization to make this another successful event. It is estimated that 125 people attended this event – with compliments



ranging from “What a dynamite speaker!”, “The Kings Park Band was better than ever!” to “The food was great!”



Submitted by Tim Knotts

Send comments to webmaster@virginiaelks.org

