

**Constitution of the
Howard L. Turner
Post 276
American Legion
Department of Maryland**

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together 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 per cent Americanism; To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; To make right the master of might; To promote peace and good-will on earth. 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.

ARTICLE 1: NAME

The name of this organization shall be Howard L. Turner Post 276, Inc. of The American Legion, Department of Maryland (the Post), located at 8068 Quarterfield Road, Severn, Maryland 21144.

ARTICLE 2: OBJECTS

SECTION 1: The objects and purposes of this Post shall be to promote the principles set forth in the foregoing preamble and the policies contained in the National and Departmental Constitutions of The American Legion.

ARTICLE 3: NATURE

SECTION 1: This Post shall not be used to disseminate partisan principles nor to promote the candidacy of anyone seeking public office.

SECTION 2: Rank does not exist in The American Legion. No member shall be addressed by his/her military or naval rank in any meeting of this Post.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: Charter Members. The following persons were members when the Post Charter was issued on the 17th of October 1956,

JACK AFTUNG	ALBERT HOOD	JOHN LAWN
RALPH PERDUE	SUART STEELE JR.	BUFORD HANSBURGER
BURTON HOOD	CLARENCE LAWSONED	WARD PUNDT
EARL STINCHCOMB	LESTER HOOD	DONALD MORGAN
ALBERT RESUING	ROBERT WARD	MAHLON HOOD
HOWARD J. HOEFLER JR		

SECTION 2: Membership eligibility in this Post shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of The American Legion.

Constitution Approved 10 January 2002

SECTION 3: Application for membership shall be made in writing under such regulations as may from time to time be prescribed by The American Legion Department of Maryland.

SECTION 4: The Post membership can accept, reject, or refer any application back to the Membership Committee for further action.

SECTION 5: Membership expulsion, suspension and reinstatement policies shall be in accordance with the Post By-Laws.

ARTICLE 5: OFFICERS

SECTION 1: The administrative affairs of the Post shall, except where otherwise provided by the By-Laws, be under the supervision of the Executive Committee. The term of office of the members of the Executive Committee shall be one year. The Post, in its By-Laws, may provide for such other standing committees as the business of the organization may require.

SECTION 2: The officers of this Post shall be a Commander, a First Vice Commander, a Second Vice Commander, a Third Vice Commander, an Adjutant, a Finance Officer, a Judge Advocate, a Post Historian, a Post Chaplain, a Post Service Officer, a Sergeant-at-Arms and the other members elected by the Post.

SECTION 3: All officers, except the Judge Advocate, Adjutant, Service Officer, and Chaplain shall be elected annually and they shall hold office until their successors are duly installed or as otherwise provided. The Judge Advocate, Adjutant, Service Officer and Chaplain are appointed by the Commander and shall hold office until their successors are duly installed or as otherwise provided. Any officer may be removed by the Executive Committee for inefficiency, malfeasance in office, or involvement in activities which bring disrepute to The American Legion; a 2/3 vote being necessary for removal.

SECTION 4: Every member of the Post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in this Post.

SECTION 5: The duties of the officers shall be defined in the Post By-Laws.

ARTICLE 6: FINANCE

SECTION 1: The revenue of this Post shall be derived from membership or initiation fees, from annual membership dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the Post Executive Committee.

SECTION 2: The amount of such membership or initiation fees and the amount of annual Post dues shall be fixed and determined by this Post.

SECTION 3: The Post shall forward the National and Departmental portion of membership dues to Departmental Headquarters after such dues are paid.

ARTICLE 7: AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

SECTION 1: This Post recognizes an Auxiliary organization to be known as the Auxiliary Unit of Howard L. Turner Post 276, Inc. of The American Legion.

SECTION 2: Membership in the Auxiliary shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of The American Legion Auxiliary.

ARTICLE 8: SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

SECTION 1: This Post recognizes a Squadron organization to be known as the Sons of The American Legion, Squadron of Howard L. Turner Post 276, Inc. of The American Legion.

SECTION 2: Membership in the Squadron shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion.

ARTICLE 9: AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: This Constitution is adopted subject to the provision of the National Constitution of The American Legion and of the Department Constitution of the Department of Maryland, The American Legion. Any amendment to the National or Department Constitutions, which is in conflict with any provisions of this constitution, shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 2: This Constitution may be amended at any regular Post meeting by vote of 2/3 of the members present at such regular meeting, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the preceding regular Post meeting, and that written notice shall have been given to all members at least 45 days in advance of the date when the amendment is to be voted upon, notifying all members that at such meeting a proposal to amend the Constitution is to be voted upon.