



The Legionnaire

Tidewater Post 327

705 Lesner Avenue

Norfolk, VA 23518

Service Officers: (757) 227-5296 (Fax) 961-5537

Club Room Phone: (757) 587-2641 Post Office: (757) 226-8607

WEBSITE: www.legion327.org

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AUGUST 2019

POST OFFICERS

Commander: Tony Moore
1st VCDR: Byron Pinalto
2nd VCDR: Roger Kelly
3rd VCDR: Richard McDonald
Adjutant: Sammi Louis
Finance: David Seate
Service Officer: Bob DeChamplain
Chaplain: Rickey Brown
Sgt-at-Arms: Jesse Walker
Historian: TBD

Exec Board

Gene Niedholdt
Tim Gonyea
Victor Howard

LEGION RIDERS

Director: Keith DeLucenay
Asst Dir: Derrick Johnson
Adjutant: Rob Buckhalter
Treasurer: David Seate
Safety Officer: Keith McCauley
Chaplain: Paul Murch
Sgt-at-Arms: Derrick Johnson
Road Captains:

Exec Board

Al R. Gnome

SAL SQUADRON

CDR: Fred Vaccarella
1st VCDR: Dave Samson
2nd VCDR Mike Schmidt
Adjutant: James Doty Jr.
Treasurer: Jeff Evans
Chaplain: Rocky English
1st Sgt-at-Arms: Mike Atkinson
2nd Sgt-at-Arms: Wayne Turner
Historian: Dan Schmidt

Exec Board

Steve Gower
Milo Cross
Kenneth O'Bryan

AUXILIARY

President: Nancy Bell
Vice President: Delia French
Secretary: Leona Forrest
Treasurer: Bonnie Kleinfelter
Chaplain: Marcia Brothers
Sgt-at-Arms: Donna McClelland
Historian: Crystal Cross

Exec Board

Sammi Louis
Sue Weber
Sherry Jandle

COMMANDER: I will be contacting committee chairs this month to work on a proposed budget for the coming year. Once we get the numbers, we will present the proposed budget to the Membership for a vote.

The Veterans Clubs pool tournament was held at our Post, July 13th and was a great success. VFW Post 392 from Virginia Beach took first place. The teams agreed to hold the tournament every 3 months. Next one will be Oct 19th. I hope everyone will come to out the Post and enjoy the activities. Hopefully there is something for everyone. For God and Country, Tony Moore

UPCOMING EVENTS: Bowling League Preseason Mtg Aug 18th @ 1PM; Arts & Craft Fair and Sale Aug 24th Noon to 5; Local artists will be set up in the meeting hall and is open to the public. Anyone interested in selling should contact Yvonne Thibault @ 407-5835. 10% of

sales will be donated to the American Legion Post 327 Charity Fund.

FIRST VICE COMMANDER: We are off to a good start with the renewals for 2020, so far over 350 new and renewed Members have renewed. I would like to thank everyone that renewed to date and hope that the rest will renew shortly. Members can still get your Early Bird stamp till the Labor Day Picnic. Post Members are able to renew for 2020 online at www.legion.org/renew website and pay with credit card, you can also check your personal information and make any corrections if necessary, if you make any changes please notify me at email address in the header of this newsletter so that I can keep my database up to date. For God and Country, Byron Pinalto

SECOND VICE COMMANDER: Thank you to all that came out to the 4th of July picnic, making it a huge success! I hope everyone enjoyed themselves, the food, music, games, and spending time with family and friends! A heartfelt thank you to all those that spent hours on a smoker or grill, in the kitchen, with set up or clean up, and helping serve the food. Thank you to those who brought wonderful side dishes and desserts too! Post events do not happen without you! There were so many that stepped up to help out that I can't list all their names here, what a showing by the entire Post family! I would like to, however, put a special thank you out there to Jake Bustos for running one heck of a cornhole tournament! Not thunder, nor lightening, nor huge downpours could keep those die-hard players from finishing! It was a great time for all that participated! Again, thank you for all who volunteered their time! Planning for the Labor Day picnic is already underway. I hope to see everyone there! For God and Country. Roger Kelly

ADJUTANT: Thank you for everyone who helped for the 4th of July picnic! If you volunteered, please log your hours! Once again thank you for your assistance in supporting our veterans and their families. Reminder, Leadership College is August 2-4 in Richmond. For God and Country, Sammi Louis.

SERVICE OFFICER: : In the month of June we submitted 42 claims, spoke to 133 veterans, drove 841 miles and logged 281 hours. Thank you to all of our volunteers that spend so much of their time doing good for our veterans and family. **Agent Orange exposure on Navy or Coast Guard ships** Did you serve on a Blue Water Navy vessel offshore of the Republic of Vietnam, or on another U.S. Navy or Coast Guard ship operating in the coastal waterways of Vietnam, between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975? If yes, you may have had contact with Agent Orange, an herbicide used to clear trees and plants during the war. We refer to this as a presumption of contact. Blue Water Navy Veterans are now entitled to a presumption of service connection for illnesses related to Agent Orange exposure. This is a result of Public Law 116-23, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019. The law was signed on June 25, 2019 and **takes effect on January 1, 2020.**
What if I'm a Blue Water Navy Veteran, and VA denied my claim in the past? If the VA denied your claim because they determined that your disability wasn't

caused—or made worse—by your active-duty service, you can file a new claim based on the change in law. In certain cases, if they approve your claim, they'll pay you back to the date when you submitted your original claim. Referred to as retroactive payment. For God and Country, Bob DeChamplain

CHAPLAIN: Heavenly FATHER, thank YOU, for all that, YOU are doing in and through our lives. May YOUR peace continue to be on each of us. For God and Country, Rickey Brown

LEGION RIDERS: I would like to thank Derrick (DJ) Johnson for jumping in to be our Assistant Riders Director. We have a few rides planned for August, Sons of Poseidon Poker Run, MCPON Walker Legacy Run, a memorial ride for a veteran's wife that is in need of assistance. For God and Country, Keith (Cowboy) Director

ATHLETIC OFFICER: Greetings to all, Our Legion baseball team will begin playoffs next week as I write this. This will determine who represents the District at the Department tournament. Our Softball team wrapped up their season last night falling in the playoffs 11-5. This was a tough season, but they battled. Thanks to our Legion family members who took time to come watch and support the players. Corn hole continues to fill the house. It's on the 3rd and 4th Tuesday nights. Registration is 6:30 and the games begin at 7:00. Mark your calendar and put in your I want a Friday off for Sept 13th. We will host the second annual James P. Norton Memorial scholarship golf tournament. The tournament will be a four-man Florida best ball format. It will be held at Ocean View Golf Course. If you are interested in sponsoring a hole or being one of the tournament sponsors or would like to play give me a call @893-2609. The winner of the 2019 scholarship will be introduced at the August Post meeting. This baseball player will attend Norfolk State and a check has been sent to the school to assist with his tuition. Till next month... For God and Country, Jeff Evans, AO 327

SQUADRON COMMANDER: Greetings to All the Legion Family: I Hope everybody had a good 4th of July. I know the Legion picnic was a great success because of the turnout. It was a refreshing sight to see all the younger Legion members in attendance particularly with their children. I think that all enjoyed the food, games and

camaraderie. Membership is important and the Sons had a very successful day during membership renewals and new sign ups during the 4th of July picnic. Remember SALs it isn't too late to get your "Early Bird" stamp on your 2020 Membership card for your free Labor Day picnic. Squadron #327 won two awards at the State Convention in Richmond. Squadron #327 took the pennant for 100 % membership (we accomplished 108.86 %) and we also won the 2019 VA&R award for large category. Congratulation to **SAL NVC Steve Gower** who is the Detachment Judge Advocate for 2019-2020 and to **SAL PNVC Jeff Evans** who is the Detachment Finance Officer for 2019-2020. **NVC Gower** installed me as the 2019-2020 Detachment Commander. **Mr. Ross Gower** won a Scholarship check for \$1500.00 for his educational achievements while his proud parents looked on. Not to be upstaged by his son, **Steve Gower** won Detachment Son of The Year. The Sons also wish to congratulate **Legionnaire John Schenk** who is the new Department Vice Commander for the East. Not to be outdone, we must congratulate **Past President Colleen Gravitt** and Unit #327 for taking home State awards for Unit #327's 2019 performance year. Sons try to go to Leadership College August 3rd in Richmond which will be held at the Doubletree Midlothian. Keep your registration fee receipt and the Squadron will refund your fee. Later in August **Steve Gower, Jeff Evans** and I will be attending the National Convention in Indianapolis as delegates. The SAL dinner in July was a hit. Everyone that dined enjoyed their dinner. Cold plate salad dinners are always good in hot weather. August the Sons will be serving BBQ platter dinners. **Legionnaire Rick Hartman**, out of the kindness of his heart, will be making the BBQ. Rick made the BBQ that we so enjoyed at the 4th of July picnic. You don't want to miss this dinner on August 16th. I know it is early but in September the Sons are serving Lasagna made by a Son who is from Italian heritage. **SAL Joe Neist** knows how to cook. This dinner night is the same night that the Auxiliary will hold POW/MIA night which the Post hasn't had for several years. September 20th is the date.

VAVS/VSO: I attended the VAVS quarterly meeting at the HVAMC. The Mission Act went live June 6th and the HVAMC trained over 2000 staff members in May. The CBOC in Virginia Beach has completed expansion. This expansion has added two more Primary Care teams that can attend to 1000-1400 more veterans. The CBOC in Chesapeake has been approved for expansion and it will

be complete and open in early 2020. The expansion will add 5 Primary Care teams. A future CBOC is in the planning and will be built between Portsmouth and Suffolk. The scheduled opening date is 2022. The Southside Health Care facility will be centrally located in Virginia Beach and Chesapeake. This building will be 155000 sq. ft. This will add 30 more Primary Care teams. The center is targeted to be open 2024. 60 % of Veterans live in Southside Hampton Roads. Hampton will notify contractors, volunteers, patients, and other visitors visiting the facility. The campus will be smoke free for staff members. This also includes vaping. All smoking shelters will be removed from the campus. I presented a \$400.00 check on behalf of the Post to Mrs. Judith Curtis, VAVS Chairman to be applied to the Christmas Ditty Bag account. Please keep all of our Legion family that are ill or suffering in our prayers. For God and Country, Fred Vaccarella

ALA PRESIDENT: Hello Ladies, Well, we just got back from the convention in Richmond. Had a wonderful time. The unit worked hard and received the Meritorious Citation for reaching our goals for the year. Also, we receive a certificate for 100% membership. Great Job Ladies. Our dinner on August 2nd is Sloppy Joes, fries, baked beans and dessert. August 6th, our meeting will be @ 7:30pm-new time. Please don't forget breakfast days have changed. The ALA is the 1st Sunday of the month and 40/8 is the 3rd Sunday. So, our breakfast will be August 4th. For God and Country, Nancy Bell

HONOR GUARDS CORNER: July is over it was another busy month for the Guard. 327 legion member memorial service at the post with firing detail, color's presentation for different organizations and colors posting at the very HOT 4th of July picnic. The guard thanks to all that supported the colors presentation even though it was HOT. For God & Country, Gene Niedholdt

BOWLING LEAGUE SECRETARY: The preseason meeting for the upcoming Bowling season will be held Aug 18th @ 1 PM. All returning bowlers must attend the meeting for the League to pay for the upcoming years USBC sanction dues. You may be excused for a legitimate reason and I must be notified that you are not able to attend. Please send me an email (pianalto2@cox.net) if you are not able to attend and the reason. For God & Country, Byron Pianalto

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<i>1</i> 7:30 PM Legion Darts 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post Kitchen Open 6 to 10 PM	<i>2</i> 6:00 PM AUX Dinner - Sloppy Joes	<i>3</i> 7:30 PM Karaoke - Mike Kitchen Open 5:30 to 9:30 PM
<i>4</i> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast - ALA	<i>5</i> 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post	<i>6</i> 7:30 PM ALA Regular Mtg 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post	<i>7</i> Kitchen Open 6 to 10 PM	<i>8</i> 7:00 PM Outside Volunteer Mtg 7:30 PM Legion Darts 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post Kitchen Open 6 to 10 PM	<i>9</i> 6:00 PM Dinner - Pork Chops by Patty	<i>10</i> 7:30 PM Karaoke - Laddie Harrell Kitchen Open 5:30 to 9:30 PM
<i>11</i> No Breakfast	<i>12</i> 7:00 PM Son's Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Son's Regular Mtg 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post	<i>13</i> 7:00 PM Post Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Post Reg Mtg 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post	<i>14</i> 6:30 PM ALA Social & Crafts Kitchen Open 6 to 10 PM	<i>15</i> 6:30 PM Legion Riders Mtg 7:30 PM Legion Darts 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post Kitchen Open 6 to 10 PM	<i>16</i> 6:00 PM SAL Dinner - BBQ Platter	<i>17</i> 7:30 PM Karaoke - Mike Kitchen Open 5:30 to 9:30 PM
<i>18</i> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast - 40/8 1:00 PM Bowling League Preseason Mtg	<i>19</i> 8:00 PM Honor Guard Mtg 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post	<i>20</i> 6:30 PM Com Hole Tournament 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post	<i>21</i> 6:30 PM VVA Chapter 48 Reg Board Mtg Kitchen Open 6 to 10 PM	<i>22</i> 7:30 PM Legion Darts 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post Kitchen Open 6 to 10 PM	<i>23</i> 6:00 PM Dinner - Salisbury Steak by Patty	<i>24</i> 12:00 PM -5:00 PM Arts & Crafts Fair and Sale 7:30 PM Karaoke - Laddie Harrell Kitchen Open 5:30 to 9:30 PM
<i>25</i> No Breakfast	<i>26</i> 6:30 PM Bingo at VA Hospital 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post	<i>27</i> 6:30 PM Com Hole Tournament 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post	<i>28</i> Kitchen Open 6 to 10 PM	<i>29</i> 7:30 PM Legion Darts 10 AM-4:30 PM Service Officer at Post Kitchen Open 6 to 10 PM	<i>30</i> 6:00 PM Dinner - Spaghetti & Meatballs by Patty	<i>31</i> 7:30 PM Karaoke - Walt DeGraaf Kitchen Open 5:30 to 9:30 PM