



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) 937-3146

WEBSITE: www.legion327.com

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FEBRUARY 2024

POST OFFICERS

Commander: Roger Kelly
1st VCDR: Byron Pianalto
2nd VCDR: Linda P. Blaker
3rd VCDR: (DJ) Derrick Johnson
Adjutant: Evan Glendinning
Finance: David Seate
Service Officer: Bob DeChamplain
Chaplain: Keith Palmer
Sgt-at-Arms: Michael Encalade
Historian: Paulmichael Youngmills

Exec Board

Tim Gonyea
Michael McCann
Bryan Blaker

LEGION RIDERS

Director: Keith Palmer
Asst Dir: (DJ) Derrick Johnson
Secretary: Jackie Wilson
Treasurer: David Seate
Safety Officer: Keith McCauley
Chaplain: Mike Moranha
Sgt-at-Arms: Dennis Rosario
Road Captain: TBD

Exec Board

Al R. Gnome

SAL SQUADRON

CDR: Fred Vaccarella
1st VCDR: Wayne Turner
2nd VCDR David "Benski" Vernon
Adjutant: James Doty Jr
Treasurer: Jeff Evans
Chaplain: Rocky English / Frank White
1st Sgt-at-Arms: Gary Stull
Historian: Evan Glendinning

Exec Board

Steve Gower
Milo Cross
Kenneth O'Bryan

AUXILIARY

President: Kathy Morrison
Vice President: Helen Lynum
Secretary: Angie Hernandez
Treasurer: Martha Martin
Chaplain: Marcia Brothers
Sgt-at-Arms: Patty Hibner
Historian: Teresa Clay

Exec Board

Mary Taggart
Laquetta Joe
Jeanne Hartman

COMMANDER: Greetings Legionnaires and Post Family, I hope this finds everyone doing well. I can't believe it's February already. We had our Annual Law and Order Night. It's always such an honor to be able to recognize some of our community's finest First Responders. Thank you to Past Commander John Schenk for another great ceremony. Please continue the great job of recruiting new members and those that need to please renew your 2024 membership. For God and Country, Roger Kelly For God and Country, Roger Kelly

FIRST VICE COMMANDER: With new and renewed Members for 2024 we are currently just over 87% of our goal for 2024, let's keep those renewals coming in. All Membership cards with 2023 on them have expired.

Remember anytime you are at the Post you are required to have your Membership card in your possession. Post, Auxiliary and SAL Members can also use legion.org/renew to renew your Membership online,

there are links for the Auxiliary and Sons on this website. For God and Country, Byron Pianalto

SECOND VICE COMMANDER Happy February all! Huge month this month! We start with a Chili Cookoff & Bake Sale then that evening DJ is having "A Lovers Night" dance. The next week brings a Big Game party, Valentines Day dinner and Love Trivia. Third week of February starts with Flag disposal in the hall and the first ever Open Mic Night! We end this busy month by Hosting the National Commander in the hall for a Formal Dinner. Also, Warriors at Ease yoga is happening one day the last two weeks check the calendar for dates and times!! Be safe and hang on tight for this wild ride of February!! For God and Country, Linda P. Blaker

THIRD VICE COMMANDER: No input at this time. For God and Country, Derrick (DJ) Johnson
ADJUTANT: Hello everyone! I would like to give a big thank you to everyone that donated blood. With everyone's donations, we will be saving up to 63 lives,

here in the United States. I also would like to thank the volunteers and the Red Cross for helping make this past Blood Drive successful. It is greatly appreciated. Also, it is now 2024, if you haven't renewed yet, it is important that you renew ASAP. The money that you pay for your membership goes towards programs and events that helps active duty servicemembers, veterans, disabled veterans, children and our local community. There are multiple ways that you can renew your membership. For legionnaires, you can come to the Post and renew in person. The second way is that you can go to legion.org and click on the button that says renew. The final way is by mailing your dues in you can mail it to The American Legion 705 Lesner Ave Norfolk, VA 23518. Also, if you would like to get more involved, please let you know. We will work together to find something that you like to help give back to your community. If you have any comments, questions, concerns, need some type of help, etc. feel free to reach out. You can email me at AMLG327@YAHOO.COM . I do hope all is well. Stay safe. Live long and prosper! For God and Country, Evan Glendinning, Post Adjutant

SERVICE OFFICER: During December service officers spoke with 182 veterans, spent 500 hours, and logged 780 miles. I want to thank all the service officers for the hard work they do.

Post Service Officers are available Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 1000-1500. Closed holidays.
For God & Country, Bob DeChamplain

CHAPLAIN: The days and weeks have so many distractions that may bring on challenges to stay focused on the important things in life, i.e., wife, children and/or family. Let us not continue to allow ourselves to be distracted by those things of little importance. Please remember to check on loved ones and friends! John 14:17

Peace I leave you: my peace I give you, I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. For God and Country. Keith "Klutch" Palmer, Chaplain.

HISTORIAN: No input at this time. For God and Country, Paulmichael Youngmills

LEGION RIDERS: The American Legion Virginia Riders kicked off our first meeting held 20 January 2024 at Post 146 Hopewell, Virginia to organize and plan the Virginia Legacy Ride for 2024, more will follow. The American Legion Riders will be taking our annual ride to deliver the Valentines cards to the Post Office in Valentines Virginia on Saturday, February 3, 2024. Your cards will be Post

Marked from Valentines Virginia with their special Valentines Seal and Stamp. The Valentines Box is out at the Post 327. Address your Valentine Cards "DO NOT PUT A STAMP or USE RED ENVELOPE," and drop your cards in the BOX at the Lounge Bar. Paper clip money to the card, \$1.00 regular card and \$2.00 for an oversize card. Ride safe! For God and Country, Keith "Klutch" Palmer, Riders Director

ATHLETIC OFFICER: Greetings to all, While some are thinking snowballs, I'm thinking baseballs and softballs. I am in the planning stages of opening days. Next month is little league. April brings softball. As I write this it's 70 degrees. I'm ready for winter to be over. Till next month... For God and country, Jeff Evans, A. O.

SQUADRON COMMANDER: Greetings and Salutations to the Legion Family

February and cold weather, at least we don't live where it is constantly in the teens in the day and single digit temps in the night.

Let me discuss membership. We were at 75.9% at the time of this input, so by February we will be over projection. Great job! We are number #1 in District II for the large category and hold an overall position of #2 in all categories in District 2. We only need 52 more to hit 100 % by May.

Benski's Pork Chop dinner was a huge success and I thank each and all of you for your loyal support.

So, Chef Benski is going all out for February. Benski is serving a Chicken Fajita Dinner. It will include: 2 Tortilla Shells, Chicken, Peppers, Onions, Lettuce, Cheese, and Sour Cream along with Cilantro Lime Rice, Chips, Salsa, and Cinnamon Covered Churros for Dessert. Son's dinner night is February 16th.

It is time to consider running for an officer position. 1st notice will be in March, 2nd notice in April, May 3rd notice and elections in June with installation to follow. I have been a member for 17 years and in my position for 12 years as Squadron Commander and it is time to "pass the torch" especially while we are number #1 and have accomplished so much on Detachment and National levels. I encourage all of you to think about stepping up and consider running for an office or committee chairman position.

VAVS/CDCE: The Post donated \$500.00 that was spread out across 5 accounts closely associated with VA&R.

VE&E: The Post donated \$500.00 that was spread out across 5 accounts closely associated with VE&E.

Please remember to wear red on Fridays showing support for our deployed Military, especially in these frenetic times of danger throughout the world.

Keep all our members who are sickly in your prayers. Pray for our community and the safety of our families and their health. For God and Country, Fred Vaccarella

ALA PRESIDENT: January was a quiet month for a change now that the holiday season is over, we are looking forward to our next big event the Chili cookoff which will take place on February 3rd from 12-4 p.m. This is the 18th year that the Chili cookoff has taken place. Dust off your recipes and enter the award-winning Chili recipe for bragging rights and your name on our plaque. There will also be a bake sale during the Chili cook-off if anybody would like to donate baked goods. Our dinner for February will be Chicken Marsala, mashed potatoes, Italian style green beans and dessert. This has been a fan favorite cooked by our own Cathy Conte. Come early so you don't miss out on this dinner. It's that time of year to think about who you would like to nominate for Auxiliary member of the year. Please submit your nominee with a letter stating why you think they deserve the honor of being Auxiliary member of the year to any officer by March.

The 2024 Department Spring Conference will be held from March 1-3 in Portsmouth, VA. Everyone can attend. The cost to attend the meetings for Auxiliary members is \$15 prior to 1/29/24. After that it will be \$25.00 so if you are thinking about going get your registration in before the 29th of January. I realize that the newsletter comes out after the 29th so will also post this on the Auxiliary Facebook page.

Provided Covid and winter respiratory illnesses don't spike before April we will be having our Veterans from Hampton on 4/5/24 for the fish fry and bingo. Put this event on your calendar as we will need volunteers again. This time there will be a sign-up sheet for everyone to sign up so we know how many volunteers to expect. For God and Country, Kathy Morrison

HONOR GUARDS CORNER: Happy New Year's from the Honor Guard. We hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season with family and friends. The year closed out with us participating in the Post birthday celebration for the National Guard. We were invited to take part in the Wreaths Across America ceremony at St. Mary's Cemetery. During 2023, it was our honor to provide final

burial honors to over 100 veterans. In April, Military Child Month members took part in several programs to honor these children. We taught proper flag folding and flag etiquette to several youth groups. Several organizations requested we present colors at their events. The Honor Guard helped several service members close out their military career at their retirement ceremonies. We have marched in the Memorial Day, Veteran's Day, St. Patrick's Day and Driver Day parades. The Honor Guard has been active in the 2nd District supporting district meetings, district prayer breakfast, Law Order Nights, Post Everlasting, and many other events. For God and Country, Mary Taggart

CLUBROOM MANAGER: Hello everyone! Happy Valentine's Day! A quick reminder each member is allowed two (2) bottles behind the bar, only one name can be on each bottle with the exception of husband and wife; bartender can only serve if owner of the bottle is in the Clubroom. Locker fee has been increased to \$10/year ~ this is the first ever increase for a locker. Due to rising costs, we have been forced to increase our bar prices. Thank you for understanding. Hope to see you at the Post! Refer to the calendar for all upcoming events, meetings, etc.

For God and Country, Sandi Wright!

Greetings from the Kitchen!! Chef Benski will be having a Valentines Dinner on February 14th and it will be a prepaid event \$20 per Person and must be paid by Monday the 11th of February. The dinner will be a 4 course Meal and it will include:

- 1) Shrimp Cocktail
- 2) Salad
- 3) Your choice entree- Lasagna or Pan Seared Fish over Rice both served with Roasted Vegetables and Garlic Bread
- 4) New York Style Cheesecake and Chocolate Covered Strawberries

To pay, see Chef Benski, the best times to catch him are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday nights after 6pm or leave an envelope with your name and number with **cash** inside for reservation with the bartender addressed to Chef Benski. Once received Chef Benski will call you to confirm your selections. We hope you come enjoy a delicious Valentines dinner with us at the post!

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					6:00 PM ALA Dinner - Chicken Marsala	12:00 PM -4:30 PM ALA Chili Cookoff and & Bake Sale 8:30 PM "A Lovers Night" DJ the 'DJ'
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:00 AM Breakfast 1:00 PM Four Chaplains Service @ Post 310 1:00 PM Legion Bowling		7:00 PM ALA Regular Mtg	7:00 PM 40/8 Promenade @ Post 327		6:00 PM Dinner - Meatloaf	10:00 AM Regional Oratorical @ Post 25 7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:00 AM Breakfast 1:00 PM Legion Bowling 6:00 PM Big Game Party	7:00 PM Son's Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Son's Regular Mtg	6:30 PM Post Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Post Reg Mtg	6:00 PM Valentine's Day Dinner - Pan Seared Fish or Lasagna	6:30 PM Legion Riders Mtg	6:00 PM SAL Dinner - Chicken Fajita Dinner 7:00 PM "Love" Trivia Night	8:30 PM Karaoke - Harold Witham 2 - 3 PM Warrior-at-Ease Yoga
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00 AM Breakfast 1:00 PM Flag Disposal in Hall 1:00 PM Legion Bowling	7:00 PM Honor Guard Mtg		6:30 PM VVA Chapter 48 Reg Board Mtg		6:00 PM Dinner - Beef Tips 8:00 PM Open Mic Night by DJ 2 - 3 PM Warrior-at-Ease Yoga	7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still
25	26	27	28	29		
9:00 AM Breakfast 1:00 PM Legion Bowling				6:00 PM National Commander Formal Dinner		