



# 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

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### JANUARY 2023

#### POST OFFICERS

Commander: Roger Kelly  
1<sup>st</sup> VCDR: Byron Pianalto  
2<sup>nd</sup> VCDR: Linda Blaker  
3<sup>rd</sup> VCDR: (DJ) Derrick Johnson  
Adjutant: Evan Glendinning  
Finance: David Seate  
Service Officer: Bob DeChamplain  
Chaplain: Keith Palmer  
Sgt-at-Arms: Linda Blaker  
Historian: TBD

#### Exec Board

Ashley Wehrle  
Tim Gonyea  
Michael McCann  
Michael Encalade

#### LEGION RIDERS

Director: (DJ) Derrick Johnson  
Asst Dir: Keith Palmer  
Adjutant: TBD  
Treasurer: David Seate  
Safety Officer: Keith McCauley  
Chaplain: Mike Moranha  
Sgt-at-Arms: Vacant  
Road Captain: Keith McCauley

#### Exec Board

Al R. Gnome

#### SAL SQUADRON

CDR: Fred Vaccarella  
1<sup>st</sup> VCDR: Dave Samson / Wayne Turner  
2<sup>nd</sup> VCDR David "Benski" Vernon  
Adjutant: James Doty Jr  
Treasurer: Jeff Evans  
Chaplain: Rocky English / Frank White  
1<sup>st</sup> Sgt-at-Arms: Mike Schmidt  
Historian: Evan Glendinning  
Historian: Dan Schmidt

#### Exec Board

Steve Gower  
Milo Cross  
Kenneth O'Bryan

#### AUXILIARY

President: Mary Taggart  
Vice President: Helen Lynum  
Secretary: Jeanne Hartman  
Treasurer: Jan Dumstorff  
Chaplain: Marcia Brothers  
Sgt-at-Arms: Patty Hibner  
Historian: Jane Evans

#### Exec Board

Karen Stull  
Jan Dumstorff  
Crystal Cross

**COMMANDER:** Happy Holidays. We had a great end to the year with a Wonderful 75th Anniversary Party. Thank you, Mary Taggart and Helen Lynum, and, all their volunteers, for all they did planning and setting up the event. The entire Legion Family was well represented by Past Post 327 Commanders, Auxiliary Presidents, and Squadron Commanders. The Anniversary was also recognized by the attendance of District and Department heads from all three as well. Post 327 was also humbly honored by The SONs National Commander Chris Carlton being in attendance as well. We finished 2022 off with a bang, ringing in the New Year with our annual New Year's Eve Party. Thank you to 2nd Vice Linda Blaker and her crew for a great time! Keep renewing your memberships and recruiting new members. For God and Country, Roger Kelly

**FIRST VICE COMMANDER:** We are currently at 79% goal so please keep these renewals coming in. Starting Jan 1<sup>st</sup> everyone will be required to show their 2023 Membership card, remember

anytime you are at the Post you are required to have your card in your possession. Legion Post members can also use [mylegion.org](http://mylegion.org) to renew your Membership online. Anyone that has an honorable discharge after Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941, is able join. For God and Country, Byron Pianalto

**SECOND VICE COMMANDER:** Hello Everyone and Happy New Year!! As you all know I have stepped into Rick McDonald's huge shoes as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice and am so looking forward to working with all of you to make this 2023 year's events fabulous!

I hope all your holidays were bright and joyful, full of laughter and fun. Looking back at 2022 I realize that all the events went off so successfully with all the help our Legion Family gave us by stepping up and volunteering their time. I have to say a special thank you to Jane Evans, Debbie Norton, Mike McCann and Benski. I want all of you to know how grateful I am for everyone's help.

Our upcoming events are as follows.

- Big Football Bash February 12, 2023, Superbowl Kick off is at 6:30 PM
- Memorial Day May 29, 2023, Party on Sunday!
- Army's 248<sup>th</sup> Birthday June 13, 2023

Thank you all in advance for your help and support. For God and Country, Linda P. Blaker

**ADJUTANT:** Happy New Year! I hope everyone had happy holiday season and will have an even better new year's! I hope everyone made Santa's nice list! Ha-ha. January 25th from 1 PM to 6 PM will be our first blood drive of 2023. We do need a volunteer to be at the check in table. We also need people to donate blood. You can call 1-800-RedCross to talk to a Red Cross representative to schedule an appointment or to ask any questions. You can download their app and schedule an appointment through their app. You can also talk to me, and I can put you in the schedule. Also, we do have a significant number of legionnaires that haven't renewed their membership yet. Renew your membership by December to keep your membership active and not have any issues in the new year's. If your membership is not renewed by January 1st, key fobs will not work and access to the social quarters will be restricted until your membership is renewed. Money received from our membership funds a lot of programs that assists veterans, children's programs and much more. It also helps the post reach our membership goals. So, please renew as soon as possible. If you have any questions about the blood drive or about your membership, feel free to reach out and we will be able to help you out best we can. Live long and prosper! For God and Country, Evan Glendinning

**SERVICE OFFICER:** During the Month of November service officers spoke with 178 veterans, spent 212 hours, and logged 612 miles. I want to thank all the service officers for the hard work they do.

#### **Veterans Of Camp Lejeune**

All veterans That have spent time in Camp Lejeune and are eligible for benefits are urged to speak to a Veterans Service Officer before signing up with one of the Law Firms advertising the class action lawsuit. Know what you may be giving away! For God & Country, Bob DeChamplain

**CHAPLAIN:** Wishing you all a Happy New Year! My brothers and sisters as we enter the Year 2023 always remember you are not alone. "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" Isaiah 41:10 ; (DUET 31:8; PSALM 147:3; 2COR 1:4 & REV 12:11); Please, you have no reason to fear; you are not alone. For God and Country. Keith "Klutch" Palmer, Chaplain.

#### **LEGION RIDERS:** Happy Holidays!!

As we are well into the holiday season, please remember to check on loved ones!!

The Riders enjoyed their annual Christmas Potluck with an exciting White Elephant gift exchange. They were also able to

bless a few veteran families with gifts and food vouchers that will provide a little help this year.

Be on the lookout for the Valentines Box for our annual Valentine, Virginia Pony Express!!

Ride safe!! For God and Country, "DJ" Derrick Johnson, Riders Director

#### **ATHLETIC OFFICER:** Greetings to all,

I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy 2023. There's not much to report. Monday night darts have a month left. Travel softball team stepped up for a family during the holidays allowing a happy holiday. Bravo team. Till next month....For God and Country, Jeff Evans, A.O.

**SQUADRON COMMANDER:** Greetings and Happy New Year to the Legion Family and Friends. The Sons wish all a Happy New Year filled with joy, health, and prosperity.

I want to start off discussing our Post 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for those that could not join us. The elegant decorations, the endless food and drink, the welcoming atmosphere can only be attributed to the hard-working volunteers, mainly the Auxiliary headed up by our Unit President **Mary Taggart** and cohorts. This was an amazing task accomplished through selfless planning and logistics. The quintessential MC was **John Schenk**. **John Schenk** introduced the dignitaries, their guests and conducted the program of celebration. A job well done!

On the Social quarters side, the house rocked with the Rider's Director **Derrick Johnson** aka "DJ" and his repertoire of music. There were a lot of happy dancing feet.

**Wayne Turner** told me "*Something*" was on fire not realizing that DJ had the fog machine working. False Alarm!

Most impressive was the hospitality. Our Squadron had our National Commander **Chris Carlton**, Detachment Commander **David Boggs**, Detachment Vice Commander **Jarrod Vass**, Detachment Chaplain **Robert Wilson**, and Detachment Sgt-at-Arms **Mark Young III** in attendance. They were astounded by the friendly atmosphere. Our Post made Virginia look good for our SAL National Commander. Commander **Carlton** says he definitely will be back in the Spring for our Conference in Portsmouth. Our other Detachment officers said they'll come back anytime they are invited.

A shining moment and a first for our Squadron was when Commander **Carlton** swore in a new SAL member **Paul "Doobie" Evans** in the SAL office. Commander **Carlton** also insisted on paying **Paul's** dues for 2023. What an impression for our newest member. I also will mention that Commander **Kelly** paid **Paul's** father's dues for him. **Paul's** dad is a retired NPD officer, retired from the Norfolk Sheriff's Office (NSO) and a Vietnam Veteran.

Of course, we need to nurture and develop our membership. 1st Vice Commanders Samson and Turner want to remind you that 2023 dues are due. If your key fob doesn't work, then this means that there is no record that you have paid for 2023. We are at approximately 58% as of December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Each of our bartenders will be checking everybody's membership

cards to make sure that we are following the "Big Brother's" ABC laws. So, make sure to carry your membership card with you. We gave 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander **Benski** December and January off. **Benski** is in training for the Bowling Banquet steak night marathon. **Benski** will be cooking probably 100 steaks for the bowlers in the State Bowling Tournament. So, this will be the Sons Dinner night for February.

In January Aunt **Jane Evans** will be in the kitchen kindly preparing and serving her Beef Style Stroganoff along with Salad, Roll and Dessert. Dinner night is January 20<sup>th</sup> from 6pm until 8pm or until we sell out. We usually sell out quickly with this Aunt **Jane's** deliciously lip-smackin' Dinner!

By the way, The Smokin' Aces Shepherd's Pie dinner the 17<sup>th</sup> was a homerun! Cmdrs. **Carlton** and **Boggs** loved it.

**VAVS/CDCE:** There hasn't been too much activity at HVAMC but they can still use some more calendars for distribution throughout the facility. They do not need any more puzzles, magazines, or board games.

Books are always welcome. As of now there are no standdowns. We can still use clothing and personal hygiene items for our vets. Feel free to contact **Anne Stark**, **Mary Taggart**, or me if you have questions about items needed.

**VE&E:** We have a big event scheduled in March 2023 for veterans' employment and education. See VE&E squadron committee chair **Evan Glendinning** for details.

Here are items we need for our homeless vets. We are working with HUD/VASDH to provide Winter Weather Preparedness Kits for Veterans in the program. HUD/VASH is currently serving approximately 100 Veterans in the community. The following items are needed in each kit to support this effort: backpacks with water, non-perishable food, battery-powered radio, flashlight, extra batteries, first aid kit, blanket, whistle (to signal for help), masks, moist towelettes, garbage bags & ties and a manual can opener.

Please keep all that are sick, shut-in or just generally having tough times in your prayers. Remember "Buddy Check" and investigate someone who you may not have seen for a while.

**"BE THE ONE"!! CRISIS HOTLINE ---> 988 # 1**

For God and Country, Fred Vaccarella

**ALA PRESIDENT:** Happy Year's to everyone, I hope you all enjoyed the Holiday season. The Auxiliary closed out a very busy year. Celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary jointly with the Legion. Department President Pamela Elam- Lipscombe come to help us celebrate. Along with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> District President and Past Unit Crystal Cross, Past Presidents Anne Starke, Dawn Thomas, and Collene Gravitt, Helen Lynum and I would like to thank all the Auxiliary, Juniors, Young Sons, Legion, and Honor Guard members that helped make this event sparkle and shine. Because of the generosity of Legion family and community members, we were able to help 75 children of homeless veterans have a brighter Christmas. The Unit added Christmas stocking for each child. Thank you, Anne for making them. Thank you to

all the elves that help prepare gifts for pick up and stuff stocking. Shout out to Legion sponsored softball team Smokin Aces for helping a family in needing help with Christmas for their kids at Willoughby Early Education Center. The 2022 year has been full very successful one. Unit 327 has supported our veterans, active duty, their families, and community. Donating school supplies to 7 local schools, sponsoring a food drive for active- duty families to support Holiday Joy, hosting an Easter Egg Hunt, and Trunk or Treat. Members have donated blankets, hats, scarves and volunteered many hours. We had a year of delicious monthly dinners thanks to Jane Evans, she committee and Legion Family support. Please contact Jane or email [talaunit327@yahoo.com](mailto:talaunit327@yahoo.com). If you are interested in helping with this project in 2023. We are looking forward to a great 2023. Members of the Juniors and Young Sons participated in community service projects, made Holiday wreaths, cards for VA patients and helped decorate the Post for the Holidays. Please contact Crystal Cross or email [talaunit327@yahoo.com](mailto:talaunit327@yahoo.com) for more information about our Junior program.

**January 2023**

3<sup>rd</sup> Unit meeting 7pm

6<sup>th</sup> Unit Dinner 6-8pm or until all gone 1 hard & 1soft taco, taco soup, Mexican corn, rice, chips, salsa with white sauce and fried ice cream

7<sup>th</sup> Juniors meeting 10am

Service, Not Self, For God and Country, Mary Taggart, Unit 327 President

**HONOR GUARDS CORNER.** The Guard assisted both the Legion and Auxiliary celebrate their 75th anniversary on December 17<sup>th</sup>. We were Happy to close our very busy year on a high note. The Honor Guard volunteered over 3000 hours and 10,000 miles to veteran, active duty, and their families this year. Along with 50 hours dedicated to children's activities. As 2023 rings in the Honor guard will proudly continue to serve our community, veterans, active duty, and their families. Thanks to our past and current members, we have become a very well-known and requested group in the area. Thank you to Tidewater Post 327, Auxiliary Unit 327, the Virginia American Legion 2ndDistrict and the many others that have supported us. I would also like to say thank you to our extremely dedicated Colonel of the Guard, Mr. Otha Newton for always going above and beyond. For God and Country, Gene Niedholdt

**CLUBROOM MANAGER:** Hello everyone! Well, 2022 is gone and now we have a new year to look forward to. I hope each of you enjoyed the holiday season and was able to spend time with your loved ones. As we go into the New Year I would like to wish each of you a happy, healthy and prosperous new year. If you have any suggestions for entertainment, I would be happy to hear them. We do have plans to vary the entertainment providing something for everyone. Remember our shut-ins and give them a call. Looking forward to an exciting year at the Post. Happy New Year! For God and Country, Sandi Wright

# January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>1</i></p> <p>Club room opens at Noon</p> <p><b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b></p> <p>No Breakfast</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special</p> <p>6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p> <p>6:30 PM ALA Exec Mtg</p> <p>7:00 PM ALA Regular Mtg</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p> <p>7:00 PM 40/8 Promenade @ Post 327</p>	<p><i>5</i></p> <p>12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Chicken Pot Pie</p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p>6:00 PM ALA Dinner - Mexican Dinner</p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p> <p>8:00 PM DJ / KJ - Elvis tribute Harold Witham</p>
<p><i>8</i></p> <p>9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast</p> <p>1:00 PM Legion Bowling</p> <p>Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special</p> <p>6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open</p> <p>7:00 PM Son's Executive Mtg</p> <p>7:30 PM Legion Darts</p> <p>7:30 PM Son's Regular Mtg</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p> <p>7:00 PM Post Executive Mtg</p> <p>7:30 PM Post Reg Mtg</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Chili</p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p>6:00 PM Dinner by Patty- Baked Chicken Breasts</p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p> <p>7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still</p>
<p><i>15</i></p> <p>9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast</p> <p>1:00 PM Legion Bowling</p> <p>Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?</p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special</p> <p>6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open</p> <p>7:30 PM Legion Darts</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p> <p>6:30 PM VVA Chapter 48 Reg Board Mtg</p>	<p><i>19</i></p> <p>12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Reuben</p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p> <p>6:30 PM Legion Riders Mtg</p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>6:00 PM SAL Dinner - Beef Stroganoff</p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p> <p>8:00 PM "DJ" the DJ tonight: Motown - Disco - RnB</p>
<p><i>22</i></p> <p>9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast</p> <p>1:00 PM Legion Bowling</p> <p>Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?</p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special</p> <p>6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open</p> <p>7:30 PM Legion Darts</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>1:00 PM -6:00 PM Blood Drive</p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p>	<p><i>26</i></p> <p>12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Wrap w/ Fries</p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p>	<p><i>27</i></p> <p>6:00 PM Dinner by Patty- Tortellini Pasta w/ Italian Sausage</p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p> <p>7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still</p>
<p><i>29</i></p> <p>9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast</p> <p>1:00 PM Legion Bowling</p> <p>Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?</p>	<p><i>30</i></p> <p>1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special</p> <p>6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open</p> <p>7:30 PM Legion Darts</p>	<p><i>31</i></p> <p>6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open</p>				