



The Legionnaire

Tidewater Post 327

705 Lesner Avenue

Norfolk, VA 23518

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JUNE 2022

POST OFFICERS

Commander: Roger Kelly
1st VCDR: Byron Pianalto
2nd VCDR: Rick McDonald
3rd VCDR: Tony Moore
Adjutant: Evan Glendinning
Finance: David Seate
Service Officer: Bob DeChamplain
Chaplain: Rickey Brown
Sgt-at-Arms: Ian Gorman
Historian: Alex Bascom

Exec Board

Gene Niedholdt
Tim Gonyea
Fred Knall
John (JB) Richardson

LEGION RIDERS

Director: Derrick Johnson
Asst Dir: Shane Kelly
Adjutant: Rob Buckhalter
Treasurer: David Seate
Safety Officer: Keith McCauley
Chaplain: Mike Moranha
Sgt-at-Arms: Vacant
Road Captains: Keith Palmer

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: Wayne Turner
2nd Sgt-at-Arms: Frank White
Historian: Dan Schmidt

Exec Board

Steve Gower
Milo Cross
Kenneth O'Bryan

AUXILIARY

President: Crystal Cross
Vice President: Yvonne Thibeault
Secretary: Salina Kiel
Treasurer: Jan Dumstorff
Chaplain: Marcia Brothers
Sgt-at-Arms: Kellee McCarty
Historian: Jane Evans

Exec Board

Karen Stull
Patty Hibner
Linda Woody

COMMANDER: Greetings, Last month we celebrated Memorial Day with a wonderful Picnic put on by our 2nd Vice Rick McDonald and his group. Thank you to all who volunteered. We also represented Post 327 in the Memorial Day Parade. Thank you to our Auxiliary for the invitation to the French Day of the Sailor memorial and reception. They did an outstanding job this year! The ceiling and ventilation project is in the works. Materials are being procured by the contractors, which isn't the easiest task these days, but I'm told work should begin the second week of July. Flag Day ceremony is at 6 pm followed by our next Post meeting Tuesday June 14th and will include Post Everlasting for the Post members that we have lost. Tuesday June 28th is the installment of this year's new Post Officers. Congratulations to all newly elected board members. And finally, Sunday June 5th at 1pm is the 2nd District Convention at Post 60. For God and Country, Roger Kelly

UPCOMING EVENTS: , 2nd District Convention June 5th @ 1 pm at Post 60, Bowling Banquet June 11th @ 6 pm, Flag Day Ceremony June 14th @ 6 pm, Tom McNabb June 18th @ 7:30 pm, Installation of Post Officers June 28th @ 7 pm.

FIRST VICE COMMANDER: Congratulations to all Members of Post 327 for working on recruiting new Members and all that have renewed we have exceeded the goal and are currently at 950 Members, 110% of our goal for 2022. You may use MyLegion.org to renew your Membership online. Anyone that has an **honorable** discharge after Dec 7th, 1941, is able join. For God and Country, Byron Pianalto

SECOND VICE COMMANDER: .No input. For God and Country. Rick McDonald

ADJUTANT: No input. For God and Country, Evan Glendinning Post Adjutant

SERVICE OFFICER: During the Month of April service officers spoke with 141 veterans, spent 210 hours and logged 404 miles. I want to thank all the service officers for the hard work they do.

Protection from Predatory Claims Practices

America's wounded veterans have earned their benefits through their sacrifice and service. Sadly, some non-accredited businesses seek to prey on our most vulnerable veterans and take advantage of this complicated process to make a quick buck. Some firms charge excessively for assistance in filing VA claims, even promising to increase disability ratings or to get veterans disability in the first place. This is especially bad if warriors are tricked into signing a contract.

Veterans should look out for some of the following tactics:

- ☐ Promises or guarantees to increase disability ratings and secure "X" amount percentage increases.
- ☐ Companies advertising services that are done faster or better than a veteran's service organization or accredited agents.
- ☐ Requesting sensitive login credentials to access the veteran's info through secure VA websites like eBenefits or VA.gov.
- ☐ Using confusing tactics or ambiguous language in contracts designed to mislead the veteran.
- ☐ Offering health consultation within their own network of doctors and telling veterans to forego VA exams for a faster decision.

The service officers at this Post are accredited by the Veterans Administration to help any veteran or family member file a claim for benefits at NO CHARGE. We are available Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM (except holidays). For God and Country, Bob DeChamplain

CHAPLAIN: Greetings to all, This will be my last newsletter because there is a new chaplain, for the post, and I wish him all of the success.

God has done, and is doing, a GREAT thing(s) in my life and I love Him! The more I humble myself, to His Word, my life has become better. I do enjoy reading His Word and listening to the Holy Spirit. I recall my Grandmother would talk about the promises of the Holy Bible and read the Holy Bible daily. I didn't understand it then and nor did I wanted to put that much time into reading a book. But today(Smile)!

I want to thank all of the readers for your time, and please enjoy yourselves.

John, ch.1-1," In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God".

For God and Country, Rickey Brown

LEGION RIDERS: Finally, the weather seems to be getting better!! The riders had a successful Pony Express run in

which we never had to ride a single mile for the event!! We thank Post 327 and Post 88 for their generous donation.

IT'S FOR THE KIDS

The American Legion Riders' Legacy Run is coming June 23rd, 24th, and 25th. Riders from across the state, along with several of our own Riders, will be participating. We will start from Post 146 in Hopewell, making several stops and end at Post 16 in Lynchburg

Due to the change in our web hosting provider, we are shuffling to find another way to inform and notify riders. This is a challenge especially since everyone does not have Facebook. We are however looking to include Zoom to our meetings for remote meeting access!!

We have several rides brewing on the horizon as well as a few new rider chapters being commissioned! We look forward to getting them a great start. Stay tuned for upcoming waves our Riders are making!! For GOD and Country, "DJ" Rider Director

ATHLETIC OFFICER: Greetings to all. Our traveling softball is having a great season. In April they were CHAMPIONS in the Maryland Classic tournament. They are representing the American Legion very well. A big thank you to the team's coach, Mike Encalade. Mike and other players came to the elections in May and Mike was elected to serve on the Executive board. Congratulations and thanks for stepping up. Till next month...

For God and Country, Jeff Evans, AO

SQUADRON COMMANDER: Greetings to All

Wow we are at the halfway point of 2022!

Our 2022 Legion fiscal year ends in June and begins the "new" fiscal year in July.

1st VC **Dave Samson** says our 2022 membership is at 93.37% and that we are #1 in District #2 and District #2 is #2 overall in the Detachment. 1st VC **Dave** says we need our 100% pennant for our Squadron flag so please help us get 13 more members to reach our 2022 goal of 196 members.

We held our elections at our May meeting and here are the results:

Cdr: **Fred Vaccarella** 1st VC: **Dave Samson & CO** 1st VC: **Wayne Turner**, 2nd VC: **David Vernon** aka "Benski", Adjutant: **James Doty** Finance: **Jeff Evans**, Historians: **Dan Schmidt & Evan Glendinning**, Sgt at Arms: **Mike Schmidt**, Chaplains: **Rocky English & Frank White**.

Congratulations to the officers elect. Our SAL installation will be held at our June 13th meeting.

Detachment Vice Cdr. **Jarrod Vass** will conduct the installation of officers. The Squadron also congratulates all the newly elected Legionnaire and Auxiliary officers for 2023. Together as a family we will reach even higher plateaus for the upcoming year.

PNVCs **Steve Gower**, **Jeff Evans** Auxiliary **Ginny Gower** and

I traveled down to Nags Head to attend the **OBX Dare2Care Shred Fest**. The Post Cdr. **Roger Kelly** accepted my Cdr. challenge of matching \$500.00. We were able to present the **OBX Dare2Care Shred Fest** a check for \$1000.00. Funds help our vets suffering from PTSD, TBI and other physical disablements particularly those who suffer from loss of limb(s). The event was May 21st.

Thanks to all of you who donated to our SAL charity fund on our SAL dinner night. Benski knocked it out of the park with his Beef Tips on Noodles dinner. Club Mgr. **Sandi's** delightfully refreshing Watergate salad dessert was raved on by all.

Our next dinner night will be June 17th. Chef **Benski** will be serving his Southern Style Red Sauced Meatloaf with Garlic and Herb Fluffy Mashed Potatoes, Savory Sauteed Vegetables and roll. If you have any room left over for dessert, then SAL **Frank White** and Auxiliary **Maureen White** will have their totally decadent Ghirardelli's Double Fudge Brownies.

VAVS/CDCE: No report

VE&E: No report

Please pray for those suffering from mental anguish. We lose military across the nation almost every day due to suicide. Remember also to check in periodically with those who have medical issues. They may simply need an errand run for them. For God and Country, Fred Vaccarella

ALA PRESIDENT: Happy June to all! First, I would like to introduce our Unit 327 2022-2023 Unit Officers: President-Mary Taggart, Vice President-Helen Lynum, Secretary-Jeanne Hartman, Treasurer-LaQuetta Joe, Chaplain-Marcia Brothers, Sgt. At Arms-Patty Hibner, Historian-Jane Evans and our Executive Board-Karen Stull, Jan Dumstorff, and Crystal Cross. Our Installation of Officers will take place at our ALA meeting on June 7th, with transition to take place in June. Madam President Elect, I know you will have a very successful year! I would also like to congratulate the Post, Son's, and Legion Riders on their elections and Officers for the coming year! The new year promises to continue to build on the Legion Family relationship and will bring great things! In May the ALA was able to send out 5 boxes of care packages to the USS Kearsarge supporting our own Post 327 members currently deployed. The ALA along with the Post and 2nd District Honor Guard participated in the French Day of the Sailor Ceremony at St. Mary's Cemetery and held a reception at the Post on the 18th. This year's event was another success, and it was great to see many more of our Legion Family at the Cemetery for this event. Our ALA President Elect, Mary Taggart, gave a great presentation, which allowed me to represent the ALA 1st and 2nd District. French Admiral Ducellier and his Sailors were very appreciative and send their Thanks to the Post and Unit for

the great event. We would also like to thank the Legion's 2nd District Historian, Frog, for taking the pictures again this year. Also, thanks to everyone that helped with the event including Roger, Byron, Patty, Jane, Debbie, Colleen, Jan, Mary, and of course Otha and all the Honor Guard and those I have missed that also helped! This was truly another great Legion Family event! The Arts and Crafts fair was held on May 21st and Yvonne did a great job organizing this event! Special thanks go out to everyone that helped with this including Byron, Patty, Jackie, Dave, Evan, TJ, and of course, Yvonne. Our June dinner on the 3rd will be Milo's Club Subs which are always a hit when the temperatures start to rise. As this will be my last newsletter input, I would like to take a moment and thank everyone in the ALA, Post, Son's, and Riders for making these last 2 years a wonderful success. It takes a team and a family to fulfill our ALA mission. I'd like to thank all of the ALA Officers and Executive Board, everyone has performed their duties above and beyond. This year brought a lot of learning experiences and our Officers stepped up and took on the challenges without any hesitation! I'd also like to thank every single Unit 327 member-your membership makes it all possible! Finally, I would like to thank all of those that volunteered to help the Unit—you make it all happen! Our volunteers include not only our Unit members, they include the entire 327 family: Post members, Son's, and Riders, and there are so very many of you that have helped over the last 2 years. I know you will all be there to continue to support the ALA this year and every year to come. Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve. It has been such an honor to represent this wonderful Unit. For God and Country, Crystal Cross, Unit 327 President

HONOR GUARDS CORNER: May was a busy month for the Honor Guard's firing detail, posting colors for many events, being part of the French Sailors ceremonies, but as usual the Guard was ready and honored to do it. Summer is here so stay cool and safe and enjoy, see everyone at the 4th of July picnic. For God and County, Gene Niedholdt

CLUBROOM MANAGER: Hello everyone! Well summer weather has finally arrived! Be sure to stay hydrated. I was asked to pass on a bit of information due to the continual increase in the cost of food and supplies we are being forced to go up on the price of dinners at the Legion. Please remember dinners are done to raise money for our different charities. As we go into the summer months, please watch for children playing and riding bikes. Please refer to the newsletter calendar for upcoming events and entertainment. Please remember why we celebrate Memorial Day - let us never forget those who gave it all. Have a safe and enjoyable summer. For God and Country, Sandi Wright

June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<i>1</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 7:00 PM 40/8 Promenade @ Post 327	<i>2</i> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Cold Plate 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<i>3</i> 6:00 PM ALA Dinner - Milo's Club Subs	<i>4</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open
<i>5</i> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">1:00 PM 2nd District Convention @ Post 60</div> Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?	<i>6</i> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special 6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open	<i>7</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 7:00 PM ALA Exec Mtg 7:30 PM ALA Regular Mtg	<i>8</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<i>9</i> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Taco Casserole 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<i>10</i> 6:00 PM Dinner by Patty - Chicken Parmesan	<i>11</i> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Mu Beta Phi Fraternity <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">6:00 PM Bowling Banquet</div> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still
<i>12</i> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?	<i>13</i> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special 6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open 7:00 PM Son's Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Son's Regular Mtg	<i>14</i> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">6:00 PM Flag Day Ceremony</div> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 7:00 PM Post Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Post Reg Mtg	<i>15</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 6:30 PM VVA Chapter 48 Reg Board Mtg	<i>16</i> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Turkey Rubeen 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 6:30 PM Legion Riders Mtg	<i>17</i> 6:00 PM SAL Dinner - Southern Red Sauced Meatloaf	<i>18</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">7:30 PM -10:30 PM Tom McNabb</div>
<i>19</i> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?	<i>20</i> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special 6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open 7:00 PM Honor Guard Mtg	<i>21</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<i>22</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<i>23</i> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Subs 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<i>24</i> 6:00 PM Dinner by Softball Team - Lasagna	<i>25</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still
<i>26</i> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?	<i>27</i> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special 6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open	<i>28</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">7:00 PM Installation of Officers</div>	<i>29</i> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<i>30</i> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Pulled Pork 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open		