



Dewitt B. Tilden Memorial American Legion Post 316

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CHARTERED 1974



HOME POST OF FLORIDA'S FIRST AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL COMMANDER 2009-2010 - CLARENCE E. HILL

September 2020
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*Legion and Auxiliary meetings, second Monday of the month at 8pm.
Post Hours: 8am - midnight Mon - Thurs; 8am - 2am Fri - Sat; 1pm - midnight Sun*

Commander's Corner

Good day Everyone, I want to start out by saying, thank you, to the Department Judge Advocates, Bob Sussan and our very own Clarence Hill, the Department Commander, Rick Johnson and his team for talking some sense into the state regulatory bodies which have had us in a virtual lockdown since March. Job well done gentlemen! With that said I want to remind everyone to check our web site and Facebook page for updates, menus, memories and more. We have a lot of exciting activities planned for our future and I am sure you will not want to miss them.

We held a Post clean up and maintenance day the first weekend of August. A lot of good work was accomplished by our Legion family members. Yes, I said Legion family members because there were members present from The Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders all working together for the same purpose and objective, to clean and organize our Post home. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Maggie Beckerman, John Tinsley, Al Yardley, Annie Anderson, Virna Luke, TracyLyn Jenkins, David Keasler, Will Oliphant and anyone else I missed for their hard work during this most recent Post clean-up/maintenance day. In my July newsletter I mentioned a story of Anybody, Nobody, Somebody and Everybody. The above mentioned individuals stepped up and were Somebody. We need more Somebodies which hopefully becomes Everybody who will gladly step up. I would like to see a Post maintenance/clean-up day become a monthly activity, any volunteers? Our Post home has been neglected for too many years and it is up to us to turn the tide. If any of our members know how to make the outside lights turn off during the daytime and turn on during the nighttime or if you are good at painting please contact me. When it comes to our Post, we need to respect it, clean it, and repair it for all to enjoy it. I remember hearing time and time again the old saying, a clean ship, a well running ship is a happy ship, lets do what we can to keep our Post in ship shape condition.

I am sure some if not all of you have heard me say "we need to take care of home first". I honestly believe this. We need to ensure the home we live in is fully taken care of including the physical structure, the fiscal well being and the mental/emotional well being of all who reside within the structure. Secondly, we need to take care of our Post home as well. Unless you attend our monthly meetings, you may not be aware of how the Post family is taking care of home first. If you have attended a Friday Steak Night you probably ordered either a grilled steak or salmon dinner. What you may not realize is that the old grill was beyond repair. Prior to our temporary reopening in June, The Auxiliary under the leadership of Unit President Annie Anderson, bought a new gas grill for our Post. During the brief reopening one of the bar beer coolers became inoperative. The AC&R technician informed us it would be more cost effective to replace the cooler rather than repair it. Upon hearing this the Riders and the Sons elected to donate enough money to replace the defective cooler. Ladies and gentlemen those are examples of our Post family "taking care of home first". I want to publicly thank our Post family members for the support they have shown in "taking care of home first".

As you read this newsletter, I hope you will have a moment of introspective reflection and ask yourself, what can I do to make our Post home better? I know that age, physical limitations, financial restraints, and a myriad of other reasons limit all of us in some way. In some way except one, it takes extraordinarily little time, money, or exertion to attend a Legion family monthly meeting. This is our Post home, your voice and opinion should be heard with regards to its future and administration. Your attendance is the only way of hearing and being heard, again be Somebody and not Nobody. If you do that soon we will be Everybody and great things will start to happen within our Post home. Regards,

Denny Luke

Executive Committee and General Assembly

No quorum, no meeting, no money spent

We welcome these new members and thank them for choosing Post 316 as their Legion home:

New: None **Transfers:** None

Booster List

The booster list is for members and member's businesses only. **Gold boosters are \$25 annually.** Our Gold Boosters are:

Lance Davison 9/20	Robert Mary 9/20
David Tolbert 9/20	Alison McCann 10/20
Woody Wooten 1/21	In Remembrance USS Stark 2/21
Bob Averill 3/21	Clarence & Liz Hill 8/21
B. W. Pete Wait III 9/21	John Balch 9/21
Lynn Murray 2/22	Wallace Williams 3/22
Eddie George 1/23	Bob Shellenberger 10/23

POST DONATIONS

Our current closure status allows us to serve alcohol if we abide by all the rules: serve food, 50% capacity, social distancing, and wear masks when not eating or drinking, so our lunches, bingo and steak nights are on as are some of our evening activities. Thank you again to everyone who has donated via PayPal, check or cash, and donations are needed.

100 Miles for Hope

National Commander Bill Oxford kicked off this campaign to benefit the Legion's Veterans and Children Foundation (V&CF) on Aug. 3rd. The campaign not only raises donations, but also provides a means to stay active in this time of social distancing. Participants have until Veterans Day to run, walk or ride a bike or their motor-cycle, or some combination of these activities, for 100 miles. Participants must register at Emblem Sales (emblem.legion.org) for \$30 for which they receive a slick tech shirt, a finishing sign and a link to download a certificate of accomplishment when completed. Use social media hashtag #100MilesforHope and tag The American Legion. V&CF funds training our Service Officers and funds our Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) grants to military families.

Beaches Honor Guard

As you know, American Legions Post 129 and Post 316, VFW Post 3270 and FRA Branch 290 do not have honor guards. We all depend on the Beaches Honor Guard, which is a separate non-profit organization. It's members belong to one of the above organizations. They are DOD certified to conduct memorial services at the Jacksonville National Cemetery. Their membership has been slowly getting to be less. If you have the time and would like to help with this vital service to our veterans who answer the final roll call, [please volunteer to join then by calling 904-294-4949](http://pleasevolunteer.com).

It is required that you bring a mask and wear it when not eating a meal or drinking. Barring another shutdown, our evening activities will fully return in September.

There will be a meeting at 6:30 on Thursday the 3rd to decide whether to restart a dart league.

No Bingo on Friday afternoons.

POST 316 IS A FREE WiFi HOTSPOT.

Post Officers

Commander	Denny Luke
1st Vice Commander	Clarence Hill
2nd Vice Commander	VACANT
3rd Vice Commander	Maggie Beckerman
4th Vice Commander	VACANT
Finance Officer	Randy Casey
Adjutant	Kevin Robbs
Chaplain	Joe Nolan
Service Officer	VACANT
Judge Advocate	VACANT
Historian	VACANT
Sergeant-at-Arms	Al Yardley

House Committee

Chairman: VACANT

SAL Officers

Commander	David Keasler
Adjutant	Clarence Hill
1st Vice	Tom Horn
2nd Vice	Ray Hinson
Finance Officer	Lloyd Clark
Chaplain	Will Oliphant
Historian	Tom Mari
Sergeant-at-Arms	Kevin Berton

Executive Board

Steve Bartelt, Mark Swinton
Phil Harville, Ron Wilhite
John Tinsley

Legion Riders

Director: John Tinsley

Auxiliary Officers

President	Liz Hill
1st Vice President	Annie Anderson
2nd Vice President	VACANT
Secretary	Suzanne Lamonica
Treasurer	Alison McCann
Chaplain	Diane Conrad
Historian	Virna Luke
Sergeant-at-Arms	TracyLyn Jenkins
Asst. Sgt-at-Arms	Kathy Deem
Membership	Suzanne Lamonica

Auxiliary Executive Committee

Fatima Bartelt, Sam Gilbert
Kathy Robbs, Sharon Harville

Club Manager Liz Hill

Legion First Vice Vibes

The 2021 membership year is off and running. We cannot accept credit card payments as Department will no longer process them for us. Please pay your dues by check or come in and pay cash.

Please include your branch of service with your renewal payment.

You can renew online by visiting www.legion.org/renew. You can also register for the Automatic Annual Renewal Program.

You can only Pay Up For Life online and the \$100 discount is still in effect. Just visit legion.org, search for PUFL offer.

2021 dues are \$40 for ages 59 and younger (\$35 Early Bird until Veterans Day), \$32 for 60 and older (year-round). Our 3-year renewals are \$100 for 59 and younger and \$90 for 60 and older. **If you pay online to national, you will be charged \$40-national only recognizes our official dues.** You can only get discounted rates by paying \$35/\$32 to the Post utilizing the renewal notice.

Clarence Hill

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S PROSE

Let's start by thanking all who volunteered and donated in August. Our District meeting was well attended. September dinners will be steak or salmon on the 4th and 18th. On Saturday the 12th, we will have a Mexican Dinner served from 4:30-7:30 PM. Come on out and support us, enjoy dinner and the entertainment. On Saturday the 26th, there will be a Pork Chop Dinner from 4-7 PM. We will serve sandwich nights on Tuesdays starting on the 1st.

The 2021 membership cards are here; renew now and receive a free entry for our Veterans Day basket-only Early Birds are eligible to win. Dues are \$25 for over 60, \$30 for under 60 (\$28 for Early Bird). We are continuing to collect books, coupons and toiletries, but cannot accept anything else as there is no storage space as the Commander wants a tidy Post home that has no clutter. If you have clothes or larger items, please call me at 904-234-2692 or lizardlassie@aol.com as I will continue to meet the needs of our Veterans.

Congratulations to Virna Luke for receiving the Billy Award from District Commander Troy Horsely for her outstanding work during the 2019-2020 year. Great job, Virna.

We need volunteers to continue to support our programs, for several chairmanships and 2nd Vice President. If interested, let me know. We also need suggestions for fundraisers and functions. If you want on our snail mail or email list, let me know. We will celebrate Octoberfest on Oct 3rd. Please attend our next meeting on Monday the 14th at 8 PM.

For God and Country,

Liz Hill

From the Bar:

Monday-Men's Night-7 PM-\$.50 off drinks

Monday-Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders food-volunteers needed

Tuesday Bingo 2-4 PM-volunteers needed

Tuesday Trivia 7 PM. Prizes-Auxiliary serving food-volunteers needed

Wednesday-Ladies Night-7 PM-\$.50 off drinks

Wednesday-Pass the Trash 7 PM-volunteers needed

Thursday Bingo 2-4 PM-Volunteers needed

Thursday-Queen of Hearts drawing 8 PM

Friday Bingo 2-4 PM-volunteers needed

Friday-Steak Bingo at 6 PM by the 40 & 8—6 PM

Our current closure status allows us to serve alcohol if we abide by the rules: 50% capacity, social distancing, wear masks when not eating or

Drinking and serve food, so our lunches, bingo and steak nights are on as are some of our evening activities. Thank you again to everyone who has donated via PayPal, check or cash, and donations are needed.

Lost & Found. If you are missing any item, like cell phones, car keys, etc., please see Liz.

Customer Consideration: Please do not move other customer's drinks, money or property at the bar as this causes issues and accusations. If you want their seat, please ask them or ask the bartender to ask them.

We hold a **Queen of Hearts** contest every Thursday. Drawing is at 8 PM. **You must be present, be a 2020 regular member of a VSO (no associate members can play and no signed-in guests can play) have your card, & pick the Queen of Hearts to win.**

DO NOT USE Handicap parking spaces for overnight parking.

All kitchen workers (lunches, Friday steak crews, Saturday dinners, Monday/Tuesday sandwich nights) are volunteers who depend on tips. Please remember to tip the kitchen workers.

Bingo is on Monday nights at 6:30 and has a progressive lucky ball jackpot. The Riders serve burgers, hot dogs, French fries and specials. Tuesday and Thursday Bingo is at 2 PM with a progressive lucky ball jackpot and Friday Bingo is at 2 PM with a progressive lucky ball jackpot. **Riders Wing Night is Thursday the 17th.**

Pass the Trash is Wednesday night at 7 PM. Come early to get a seat at the bar. **If you would like to deal, please let Liz know.**

Red shirt Friday drink specials are served every Friday. You must be wearing a RED shirt to get the special. **Wear NASCAR clothes during NASCAR season for drink specials.**

We ask your cooperation in not bringing in or ordering outside food during times someone is serving food. Remember, they are donating their time and effort to prepare, serve and clean up. The meals are fund raisers for our various programs. If you do not wish to buy the meal, please eat before you come to the Post or wait until the meal is done. Please do not bring in your own snacks, sodas, water, or any item we sell at the bar at any time. When ordering food from outside the Post, please be sure to order plates and cutlery if needed. We will be locking the storage room at 6:00 PM nightly and on the weekends.

When you sign in a guest, that guest must leave when you leave.

Steak Bingo is conducted at 6 PM every Friday steak night. Eight games are conducted-7 for steaks and 1 for road kill (ribs).

As a reminder, **the bartenders' priority is serving drinks to customers at the bar and in the line. If you wish to be served, use the waitress station-do not stand at the end of the bar or between people sitting at the bar.** If you want to **redeem or buy a ticket for any machine, you will have to wait until the bartender finishes with drinks. The Post has 72 hours to pay out on the machines and the bartenders cannot pay tickets of \$500 or more, or prior day tickets. You are limited to redeeming \$1,000 a day. If the bartender runs out of money, you may have to return later. The Manager will only redeem tickets Monday through Friday during normal business hours.**

We serve lunch Monday—Friday from 11 AM to 1 PM.

Liz Hill

Legion Riders

Well I hope September brings cooler drier weather than what we just had. Want to thank everyone who rode to Astor on Saturday the 15th, we managed to stay mostly dry, well except for the sweat but a good time all in all. Thank you to those that volunteered to do the Monday Bingo meals and wing night. Thanks to Denny for scheduling the previous Post cleanup, definitely needed and appreciated by the members, looking good. With the approaching cooler month's don't let your guard down, the height of Hurricane formation is still to come, so keep your supplies up and evacuation plans current. Our next meeting will be on Saturday September 5th with E board at 08:30 and General membership at 09:00. Plan on a lunch ride afterwards, destination ? Hope to see you all there.

John Tinsley

2nd Vice Reverbs

If you would like to serve as the 2nd Vice, please attend a meeting and volunteer.

Vacant

Chaplain's Corner

If you know of any sick or distressed Legionnaires please feel free to contact me at anytime 223-8053.

Joe Nolan

From the House Committee

VACANT

Service Officer

The **Post needs someone to be trained as the new service officer.** If you'd like to serve, please let the Commander know.

If you need help with your claim, please contact Post 129's service officer, Danny Rodriguez at 904-806-6231.

VACANT

Post 316 Social Media

Our **Post 316 Facebook Page** at <https://www.facebook.com/alpost316>.
Our website is online at www.alpost316fl.org.

COVID-19

FYI, **symptoms of COVID-19** are fever, cough and shortness of breath. Symptoms may appear in as few as 2 days or as many as 14 days following exposure. It spreads from person to person through small droplets from the nose or mouth, including when an individual coughs or sneezes. These droplets may land on objects and surfaces. Other people may contract it by touching these objects and surfaces, then touching their eyes, nose or mouth. Most people recover from it without needing special treatment. The elderly and those with underlying medical problems like high blood pressure, heart problems and diabetes are more likely to develop serious illness. There is currently no vaccine to prevent it. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to it.

Project Vet Relief (PVR)

An emergency program between PVR and the Florida Veterans Foundation has been established to address critical needs of Florida Veterans that face a crisis due to COVID-19. A team of PVR staff will take requests and have Service Officers or PVR advocates conduct interviews of applicants. The Florida Veterans Foundation will establish a statewide donation plat-form and forward funds as they are received to PVR. A condensed application form is available on their websites.

Existing guidelines: 1. Be a Veteran, Active Duty, or Immediate Family Member (spouse, legal guardian, child). 2. Acceptable discharges: Honorable or General under Honorable conditions. 3. Florida resident for a minimum of 120 days. 4. Show sustainability-balance of income and expenses. 5. Experiencing an unforeseeable emergency. 6. Provided for necessities: shelter, utilities, food (in the form of a gift card), and some transportation and medical expenses. 7. Funds are granted one-time annually per household.

Additional process for COVID-19: 1. Applicants are experiencing loss of income-must show proof via pay stubs or letter from employer. 2. Phone interview with local Vet Relief Advocate will be accepted for the safety of our volunteers. 3. To avoid depletion of funds, a monthly cap of financial assistance will be put in place.

Sons of The American Legion

The 2021 cards are in, and available, and we are at about 25% membership thus far. Please pay your dues early and enjoy the Early Bird dinner around Veterans Day. **The new dues fees are listed below.**

Thank you to the August 14th steak team. Our steak night is the 11th this month.

New dues fees: National has raised their per capita fee, thus our dues had to be raised. The new dues are \$15 for 20-years and younger and dual members, \$20 for 21 and older. We offer 3-years at \$35 for 20 and younger and dual members, \$50 for 21 and older. If you pay your dues by mail, your card is mailed out the next day. If you pay in person, it will either be handed to you or be in the box behind the bar. **Our meeting is the 5th at 1030.** This is your SAL and can only be what you help make it to be.

David Keasler

HONOR FLIGHTS

First Coast Honor Flight is one of the newest Honor Flight Hubs serving Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam and Saint Johns counties. **They are seeking Veterans, Guardians, Volunteers and Donors** as well as help spreading the word in the community. Their 131 hubs honor men and women who served during WW II, Korea and Vietnam as well as terminally ill Veterans from all wars. They provide an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to visit the various war memorials including the WW II, Korean and Vietnam Memorials. Each Veteran will have a Guardian escort assigned who will travel with them to help make their visit more memorable and ensure their needs are met. There is a fee for Guardians (airline ticket, meals, bus, etc.). Guardians must be 70 years old or younger. Their website is www.firstcoasthonorflight.org which has all the information, applications for Veterans making the trip, Guardians and Volunteers as well as a Donation form. All of these forms are also available at the Post. They also have a Facebook Page which can be found by searching First Coast Honor Flight. Completed Veterans applications will be entered into a database in priority order based on the postmark. Veterans will receive a phone call when a seat is available for them. Questions can be directed as follows: on Charitable Donations-to the Fundraiser Chairman, Candace Mabry at 904-708-2445 or candace.mabry@bellsouth.net; on Guardians-to the Guardian Coordinator, Robbin Walker at 904-704-0308; on Veterans desiring to make the trip to the Veteran Coordinator, Lena Heredia-Perez at 904-449-6318. Veteran, Guardian and Volunteer applications as well as Donations should be mailed to: First Coast Honor Flight, P. O. Box 600785, Saint Johns, FL 32260. The Honor Flight staff is available to provide a presentation on the program to any group desiring one. Contact them at info@firstcoasthonorflight.org.

VA Debt Relief

The VA announced it's commitment to extend debt relief to Veterans adversely affected by COVID-19 to the end of 2020 by suspending certain debt collection actions. VA is suspending all actions on Veteran debts under the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department. This includes suspension of collection action or extending repayment terms on preexisting VA debts, whichever the Veteran prefers. For benefit debts, contact the VA Debt Management Center at 800-827-0648. For health care debts, contact the Health Resource Center at 866-400-1238. Online, go to <https://www.pay.gov> for payments.

COVID-19 TRACING TEXT MESSAGE SCAM

Contact tracing is a powerful tool that helps stop the further spread of COVID-19, thus scammers abound. The process identifies those who have come in contact with someone who has tested positive and via text message, instructs them to quarantine and monitor their symptoms daily. Contact tracers work with an infected person to get the names and phone numbers for everyone they came in close contact with while possibly infectious. The first text message will be from the health department telling them they will get a call from a specific number. **Scam tracers claiming to be affiliated with a state health department will call and ask for personal information like SSN, bank account information or a credit card numbers.** Scammers may also include a link that redirects you to a fraudulent site. Clicking on the link may download software onto your device, giving scammers access to an array of your personal and financial information. Do not take the bait—ignore and delete these scam messages. **Visit FloridaConsumerHelp.com or call 1-800-HELP-FLA (1-800-435-7352) to file a complaint.**



Dewitt B. Tilden Memorial
 American Legion Post 316
 1127 Atlantic Boulevard
 Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-2516



September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WHISKEY	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Mon-Fri	1 Chicken or Veal Parmesan Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	2 Baked Ham Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	3 BLT & FF Bingo 2:00—4:00 Queen of Hearts Darts League	4 Bean Soup Ham or Egg Salad Sandwich Aux Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo	5 Riders Mtg 0900 SAL Mtg 1030
6 WINE	7 Labor Day NO LUNCH Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food	8 Spaghetti w/ Meat or Clam Sauce Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	9 Baked Chicken Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	10 Hamburger Steak Bingo 2:00—4:00 Queen of Hearts Darts League	11 Patriot Day 1st Responder Day Chicken Noodle Soup/Chicken Salad Croissant SAL Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo	12 Mexican Dinner 4:30-7:30 PM
13 Grandparent's Day BEER 5th District 2 PM Jax Post 88 Colts 1 PM	14 Chicken & Dumplings Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food Mtg Night 8 PM	15 Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	16 The American Legion Day Baked Fish Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	17 Patty Melts Bingo 2:00—4:00 Riders Wing Night Queen of Hearts Darts League	18 Air Force B-day POW/MIA Day Chili & Grilled Cheese Sandwich Aux Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo	19 Rosh Hashanah SUBVETS 1100
20 RUM @ Titans 1 PM	21 Meatloaf or Liver Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food	22 Fall Begins Chicken Enchilada Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	23 Pork Loin Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	24 Primavera Pasta Bingo 2:00—4:00 Queen of Hearts Darts League Dolphins 8:20PM	25 Chef Salad Legion Steaks Steak Bingo	26 Pork Chop Dinner 4-7 PM
27 Gold Star Mother's Day VODKA	28 Yom Kippur Shepherd's Pie Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food	29 Chicken Bruschetta Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	30 Taco Salad Ladies' Night Pass the Trash		Octoberfest October 3rd	