



Dewitt B. Tilden Memorial American Legion Post 316

1127 Atlantic Boulevard, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-2516
Offices/Club (904) 249-0202 /Fax (904) 249-2058
E-Mail is alpost316@bellsouth.net
Web site: alpost316fl.org
CHARTERED 1974



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

October 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, It is sure nice to be back open and sharing in the comradery with our Post family members. Happily, I see our attendance growing to pre-COVID virus numbers for Steak Night, Bingo, etc. If you have not been back to our Post since the shut-down please consider stopping in. You can find an up-to-date calendar of events on our Facebook page: [alpost316](https://www.facebook.com/alpost316). Now for the bad news, while attendance at the Post is up, volunteerism in down. It seems that regardless of the Legion family team it is a struggle to find enough volunteers to man the kitchen. I want to thank all those who have stepped up to help out, whether it is Auxiliary members helping out the Legion team or Legionaries helping out the Auxiliary or Sons or Riders it does not matter, it is noticed and appreciated, thank you.

Speaking of attendance, we have not been able to conduct any Legion business for the past 2 months because we have not had enough members to make a quorum. We only need 10 out of our 800 plus members to show up for the General Assembly meeting and sadly we cannot get enough for a quorum. People let that sink in for a moment, we have over 800 members and not even 10 members will give an hour of their life to attend the Post monthly meeting! So why is it important for our members to attend the meeting? Because our Post is member controlled, it takes a vote from membership to approve all business, except for regularly scheduled payments i.e. bar staff compensation, utilities, insurance, bar, and kitchen supplies, etc. All other expenditures must be approved by the membership at our monthly meetings. Acceptance of new and transferring members requires a vote from membership. The election of new officers requires a vote. Basically, all new business requires a vote from membership prior to it being authorized except for funding for emergencies. An example of the most recent emergency repair would be the need of a plumber to fix urinal issues and the replacement of the two beer coolers behind the bar. Other than emergencies, everything else requires a vote from you before it can be approved. Remember, the Executive Board can only make a recommendation, it takes a vote from membership before a motion is approved or disapproved.

We need you to take an active role in the management of your Post. If you do not attend the meetings your voice is not heard and your vote is not counted. An example of an item that came before the assembly last month was whether to allow our Post to become a testing site for the COVID virus. There was not a quorum so there was not a vote. However there was discussion by those in attendance who supported allowing our post to be a testing site and there were those who opposed our Post to being a testing site for COVID, just as there were a few who were undecided.

We have new members and transferring members who have been waiting for a vote to accept them as members in good standing into our Post. Question, how would you feel if your membership was in limbo for 60 or possibly even 90 days because we continue to not have a quorum? Personally, I would probably look for another Post to join if it were me!!! We have a gentleman who has volunteered to step up to fill our vacant 2nd Vice position who has been waiting for 2 months. We have a gentleman who has applied for membership who wants to fill our vacant Service Officers position, again waiting on a quorum. We need members to attend the monthly meeting who will hear, discuss, and vote on Post business. Remember the story of everybody, nobody, somebody, and anybody.... who are you? Our next General Assembly meeting will be on Monday October 12th at 8:00 pm. I need you there, our Post needs you there and our members need you there so we can conduct the business of our Post. As stated above at our next meeting we will be voting on : New membership, nomination of officers, Post expenditures and whether to allow our Post to become a COVID virus testing site among other items, so please make plans to attend. Regards.

Denny Luke

Executive Committee and General Assembly

No quorum for Executive Committee or General Assembly

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

New: None

Transfers: None

By request, a **Taps** section has been added.

Since the new year started July 1st, the following have passed on: Marty Greenlaw, Gerry Eckhart, Al Tucker, Curtis Wooten, Joe Kiernan, Dan Doyle, Chuck Breedlove and Larry Chandler

Booster List

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

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	Bob Shellenberger 10/23
Eddie George 1/27	

POST DONATIONS

Our current open status allows us to serve alcohol if we abide by all the rules: 50% capacity, social distancing, and wear masks when not eating or drinking. We are trying to get all our activities restarted.

There will be a meeting at 6:30 on Thursday the 1st to decide whether or not to restart the dart league.

This is the 2nd consecutive month we have been unable to conduct business as we can't get 10 members to attend for a quorum (see the Commander's article). That means we can't take routine action on things like accepting new members and considering the action of the Executive Committee. Please make the effort to attend a Post meeting and make your voice heard.

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.](https://www.beacheshonorguard.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 October.

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	Will Oliphant
Chaplain	VACANT
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. The Post has made the Oct 55% goal. Please Note: 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

Membership Thanks to all who renewed and welcome to all our new members. Please join us at our meeting on Monday the 12th at 8 PM. If you have not renewed, please do so before Veterans Day that we can enter you in the drawing and you will get your Early Bird dinner.

Thanks also to all who volunteered and donated their time and dishes. You are greatly appreciated. Our dinners are: steak or salmon on the 2nd and 16th. **Saturday the 3rd, there will be an Oktoberfest dinner from 5-7 PM.** On **Saturday the 17th, we have a fundraiser** planned for a member's Mother who suffered damage to her home and is still displaced. It will be a **Ragin Cajun Party.** Dinner starts at 4:30, music at 6:30 and we will have raffles. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, give me a call. Please join us for a fun night. **Oct 31st, we will have a Halloween Party with a Witches Brew Dinner at 5 PM followed by a cake walk and music.** Dishes and cakes are needed. All proceeds benefit our children and youth programs.

We serve food on Tuesday nights during Trivia. We are still collecting coupons, books, toiletries and pop tops. We need volunteers for our programs. 2nd Vice President is open. If you can help, please let me know. Help us meet our membership goals by paying your dues early. Dues are \$30, \$28 if paid by Veterans Day, \$25 for over 60 and \$5 for Juniors.

Congratulations to Kadence Thigpen, one of our Junior Girls, for being selected as Student Athlete of the Week by WJXT Channel 4. Our next meeting is Monday the 12th at 8 PM. Hope to see you there.

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 open status allows us to serve alcohol if we abide by the rules:

50% capacity, social distancing, wear masks when not eating or drinking. We are trying to get all of our activities restarted.

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 on you, & 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 a variety of different items now. 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 15th.

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 and NFL gear during NFL 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

Welcome to hopefully better riding weather now that summer is fast disappearing, hope it takes the rain with it. Speaking of Autumn, the end of this month is our Zombie Fun Run on the 31st, the route is Post 316 to 88, then to 233 in Palm Valley, then up to 129 at the beach, should be a good time as always, and yes a shorter route, let's see how it goes. We do have a steak night this month on the 30th. Our next meeting is on Saturday October 3rd at 09:00 with an E Board at 08:30, hope to see you all there, let's plan on riding to lunch after the meeting.

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

Anyone interested in serving on the House Committee or being it's Chairman, please see the Commander.

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.

Jennifer Cooper, Project Vet Relief Coordinator

www.projectvetrelief.org, 407-295-2631

Sons of The American Legion

The 2021 cards are in, and available, and we are at about 34% 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 September 14th steak team. Our steak night is the 9th 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 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 3rd at 1030. This is your SAL and can only be what you help make it to be. **There is quite a bit of business to discuss,** so please make an effort to attend.

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 pre-existing 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



October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
TEQUILA		Lunch is served 1100—1300 Mon—Fri		1 Hamburger Steak Bingo 2:00-4:00 Dart League Queen of Hearts	2 Clam Chowder Egg or Tuna Salad Sandwich Aux Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo	3 Riders Mtg 0900 SAL Mtg 1030 OKTOBERFEST Dinner 4:30 PM
4 WINE @ Bengals 1 PM	5 Meatloaf Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food	6 Chicken Marsala Bingo 2:00-4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	7 Burgers & FF Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	8 Stuffed Chicken Breast Bingo 2:00-4:00 Dart League Queen of Hearts	9 Tomato Floren- tine Soup Grilled Cheese SAL Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo	10
11 BEER 5th District 2 PM Arlington 283 @ Texans 1 PM	12 Columbus Day Fried Chicken Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food Mtg Night 8 PM	13 Navy B-Day Philly Cheesesteak Bingo 2:00-4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	14 Meatball Subs Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	15 Spaghetti Bingo 2:00-4:00 Riders Wing Night Dart League Queen of Hearts	16 Beef Barley Soup Sandwich Aux Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo	17 SUBVETS 1100 Ragin Cajun Party Dinner 4:30 PM Music 6:30 PM Raffles
18 RUM Lions 1 PM	19 Chicken Fried Steak Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food	20 Spaghetti w/ Meatballs or Italian Sausage Bingo 2:00-4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	21 Fish or Shrimp Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	22 BLT & FF Bingo 2:00-4:00 Dart League Queen of Hearts	23 Fish or Chick- en Sandwich Legion Steaks Steak Bingo	24
25 VODKA Bye Week	26 Stuffed Pork Chop Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food	27 Navy Day Lasagna Bingo 2:00-4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	28 Shepherd's Pie Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	29 Patty Melt Bingo 2:00-4:00 Dart League Queen of Hearts	30 Club Sandwich Riders Steaks Steak Bingo	31 Halloween Zombie Ride Halloween Party Witches Brew Cake Walk