



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

December 2020
VOL. 33 NO. 12
CIR:306sm718em19pu

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,

Where has this year gone? Halloween and then Thanksgiving has come and went. I hope everyone had a fantastic Thanksgiving sharing good food with family and friends alike. I also hope all took a moment to reflect on what they have to be thankful for. Remember, life is short and there is no re-do so make every moment count. We are now looking forward to Christmas in just a couple short weeks. News Year's Eve is basically a week later followed by New Year's Day. I sure hope you plan to spend your News Year's Eve with us at our Post. Our New Year's Eve Party is always the best at the beaches, so stop by the Post after December 7th and make your reservations early ensuring a table is reserved for you, your family and friends. Please check our Post Facebook Page: "alpost316" for updates, pic's/videos of Post happenings, and upcoming events.

I would like to thank all our Post members who have volunteered their time in some way to make our Post home a better place. To those that have attended our monthly meetings, which is held at 8:00 pm on the second Monday of the month, I thank you. It is always refreshing when we have a quorum of 10 in attendance out of our 800 plus members. Speaking of volunteers, I want to give a special thank you to John Tinsley, Mitch Harding, Thomas Root and Bill Caton who participated in our Post Maintenance Day last month. I find myself once again reminding everyone this is your Post Home. We need you to donate a small portion of your time to attend meetings, volunteer as Post Officers, support Legion Programs by volunteering as a Chairman and just plain "Getting Involved". Currently we have several vacant officer positions which requires filling. We have not had a House Committee for the past several years. This is an especially important element of our Post leadership and management team. Please review the Post By Laws and Regulations, which can be viewed online at: www.alpost316 under the Resources tab, for information on the duties and responsibilities of Post Officers and House Committee members. Then at our next General Assembly Meeting, attend, and make it known you want to be a part of the solution and not sit on the sidelines complaining.

As the month of December descends upon us, I ask what is the status of your membership? Take your Card out of your pocket and look at the expiration date. Will you be a member in good standing for the year 2021? I certainly hope so, however if you have not renewed your membership as of yet, you can do so by coming into the Post and renewing in person or you can go online at: www.legion.org/renew and renew. Both methods are fine and will keep you current however why not stop in for a great lunch Monday through Friday or for a Friday night steak dinner. We look forward to seeing you soon. Speaking of lunches and dinners, due to the cost increase of meat, produce, and incidentals we will be increasing the price. Lunches will normally cost \$5.00, Friday Night Steak will be \$12.00, Salmon \$9.00 and a combination will be \$19.00. Also, we can expect a small increase of bar prices as well. These price increases will take effect after the first of the year.

Regards,

Denny Luke

Executive Committee and General Assembly

Approved \$500 for a Korean War Memorial at JNC
Approved \$50 for the POW/MIA Freedom Car

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

New: Guy Baldauf, Raymond Bush, Robert Deering II, Gilberto Castro, Jim McClurg, Keith Mobley, Matthew Robinson

Transfers: David Rose

Taps: None

Booster List

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

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 STATUS

Our current open status allows us to serve alcohol if we abide by all the rules: 100% capacity, social distancing, and wear masks when not entering. We are trying to get all our activities restarted.

Meal prices will be increasing in January: Lunch-\$5, Steaks-\$12, Salmon-\$9, Combo-\$19. Some drink prices will also increase.

New Year's Eve party tickets will go on sale Tuesday the 8th for Post 316 members only. They will go on sale for others on Friday the 11th. Tickets are \$10. Entertainment is Doug Bracey. We ask that you bring a dish to share and the Post will furnish the main staple.

Basket of Cheer tickets are also available. Drawing will be during the party.

Thank you to Bill Van Patten and Jeff Gumbs for donating the delicious food for the Sunday Jaguars games. Much appreciated.

While the pool table is free, it needs to be recovered-need donations.

Need Volunteers to sell Queen of Hearts tickets.

Toys 4 Tots

Again this year, we have a **Toys 4 Tots bin** at the Post to support the Marine Corps program. Please bring **new and unwrapped gifts** and put them in the box. The Marines will pick up the box on December 13th.

Bartenders will be conducting a 100% membership card check this month as the 2020 cards expire December 31. You must have a 2021 card to be served January 1.

It is required that you wear a mask when entering.

POST 316 IS A FREE WiFi HOTSPOT.

Post Officers

Commander	Denny Luke
1st Vice Commander	Clarence Hill
2nd Vice Commander	Mitch Harding
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

Bartenders will be conducting a 100% card check this month. You must have a 2021 card to be served January 1st. We are at 68%. **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, \$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 \$32 to the Post utilizing the renewal notice.

Clarence Hill

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S PROSE

Would like to recognize all who donated and volunteered in November. Ladies you are the best. Also thanks to all for a great Halloween Party and cake walk. **December Steak Nights are the 4th and 18th.** Please come out and support us. **On Friday the 4th, we have planned an ugly sweater contest. Judging at 7:30 PM.** Let's have some fun with this event. Our Christmas Party is Saturday the 19th at 6:30. Ladies please bring a dish to share and we will exchange gifts. If you want to participate, bring a gift around \$20. Hope to see some new faces at these events. **Membership-your cards expire Dec 31st.** Renew now and help us meet our goals. We are at 64% so let's get that 100%.

We continue to collect books, toiletries, coupons, etc. We also have a box for food donations for the less fortunate. There is a box for Toys 4 Tots until the 11th. Bingo players get a free card for the first jackpot for each toy they bring. **Our meal prices will increase in January: lunch-\$5, steaks-\$12, salmon-\$9, combo-\$19.** Do you have a Junior girl? You can sign them up for \$5 and help us increase our membership. We need 134 to reach 100%.

We need volunteers as our Unit will only be as successful as we make it. We all need to work together. We need more of you to attend our meetings and give us your input and ideas. We need suggestions for fundraisers. December's District Meeting is at Post 129 at 2 PM on the 6th. Unit meeting is on Monday the 14th at 8 PM. Thank you for all your support. Hope you all have a **MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR.** 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 serving 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-Luck of the Draw Darts-7 PM
Thursday-Queen of Hearts drawing 8 PM
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: 100% capacity, social distancing, wear masks when entering.

Meal prices will be increasing in January: Lunch-\$5, Steaks-\$12, Salmon-\$9, Combo-\$19. Some drink prices will also increase.

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.

Monday Bingo is 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. **Riders Wing Night is cancelled.**

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 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

Congratulations to the winner of the Black Friday Pay Off Raffle, hope you found a couple of good scratch off's. The Riders Christmas Party has been scheduled for Saturday the 12th, a pot luck supper is planned, turkey and ham platters will be provided by the Riders, a White Elephant gift exchange is planned so come on out and have a good time with your friends. I want to thank those that have participated in the Monday night Bingo meals, thank you for your time and effort, it does not go unnoticed. Be extra vigilant and safe on the roads as drivers will be more distracted with the approaching holidays.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday the 5th at 0900 with the E-Board at 8:30, hope to see you there.

John Tinsley

2nd Vice Reverbs

New Year's Eve party tickets will go on sale Tuesday the 8th for Post 316 members only and for others on Friday the 11th. Tickets are \$10. Entertainment is Doug Bracey. We ask that you bring a dish to share and the Post will furnish the main staple.

Mitch Harding

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

Sons of The American Legion

The 2021 cards are in, and available, and we are at about 50% membership thus far. Please pay your dues early and help us reach 100%. The bartenders will be checking all cards this month for 2021 cards. The 2020 cards expire December 31st.

Thank you to the November 13th 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 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

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

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



December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WINE	Lunch is served 1100—1300 Mon—Fri	1 Giving Tuesday Spaghetti w/Meat-balls or Italian Sausage Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	2 Pork Loin Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	3 BBQ Chicken Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts Queen of Hearts	4 Beef Barley Soup Sandwich Aux Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:00 Ugly Sweater Doug Bracey	5 Riders Mtg 9:00 SAL Mtg 10:30 Doug Bracey
6 BEER 5th District 2 PM Jax Bch Post 129 @ Vikings 1 PM	7 Pearl Harbor Day Meatloaf Men's Night Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food	8 Lasagna Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	9 Meatball Subs Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	10 Chicken Noodle Soup/Chicken Salad Croissant Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	11 Hanukkah Chef Salad SAL Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:00	12 Riders Christmas Party
13 384th National Guard B-Day RUM Titans 1 PM	14 Fried Chicken Men's Night Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Mtg Night 8 PM	15 Veal or Chick- en Parmesan Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	16 Patty Melt Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	17 Hot Turkey Sandwich Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts Queen of Hearts	18 Clam Chowder Egg or Tuna Salad Sandwich Aux Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:00 Doug Bracey	19 SUBVETS 11:00 Auxiliary Christ- mas Party Doug Bracey
20 VODKA @ Ravens 1 PM	21 Winter Begins Philly Cheesesteak Men's Night Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food	22 Chicken Marsala Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	23 BLT Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	24 No Lunch Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts Queen of Hearts	25 Christmas Merry Christmas POST CLOSED	26 Kwanzaa Begins
27 GIN Bears 1 PM	28 Shepherd's Pie Men's Night Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food	29 Stuffed Peppers Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	30 Stuffed Chicken Breast Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	31 New Year's Eve No Lunch New Year's Eve Party Doug Bracey	1 Doug Bracey	2 Doug Bracey