



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

January 2021
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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

Welcome to 2021! Wow can you believe 2020 is over? I can honestly say I have never experienced a year quite like this last one. Furthermore, I hope we never do it again. When we look back on the year there were so many challenges we faced and overcame as a Legion Family. It is my belief that facing and then overcoming adversity makes us stronger as a Unit. Now we must build upon our comradery to continue to grow our Post home into the best within The Mighty 5th District.

I want to thank all those who this past year give the extra effort in making our Post home better. To those who helped in the kitchen or on the grill we thank you. To those who helped plan, decorate, and execute special meals and events at the Post, we thank you. To those who attend Post meetings I thank you. To those who attend Post maintenance/cleanup days, I especially thank you.

At this time, I want to offer a HUGE **Bravo Zulu** to: Al Yardley, Bill Knipper, John Tinsley, Travis Thompson, and Steve Bartelt who worked extremely hard installing a new floor in the walk-in beer cooler last month. Gentlemen you are a perfect example of the words in our Preamble, "to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness"!

When you see any of these gentlemen in our Post know they have quietly been working behind the scenes making our home better. Give them a pat on the back and a heartfelt thank you for what they have done, are doing and will continue to do, to make our Post home better. Remember in my first newsletter I told you a story of Somebody, Nobody, Everybody and Anybody? These gentlemen are definitely "Somebody", somebody who cares! You too can be that person. Remember, it takes surprisingly little effort from many to make a big difference for all. There are plenty of opportunities for you to step up, our needs are many, so consider what you can do-volunteer. Did you make any New Years Resolutions this year? If not, I would like to suggest one that is simple and extremely easy. I ask that your resolution be to visit our Post one day out of the month. Attend a Bingo game, a dinner function or just stop in and say high to those in attendance. I especially ask that you attend our monthly meeting. Make it a goal of 2021 to attend and become an active member in our Post leadership process. Remember it is your voice that must be heard for any desired change. If you are silent then by default you accept the status quo and should not complain because you feel your views and desires are not being met.

In closing I want to take a moment to reflect on the loss of two prominent individuals of our Post. It is with much sadness we realize we will not ever again be able to share a smile nor raise a toast with Comrade Phil Harville or Todd Bowling. To lose any member is sad, however it is especially sad when we are so used to looking across the Canteen, seeing their infectious smile and realizing it is but a memory.

Take care everyone and I hope to see you at our Post home, soon.
Regards,

Denny Luke

Executive Committee and General Assembly
Approved Christmas Bonuses for Employees

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

New: Kelley Caton, Charles Davis Jr., Ray Fox, Stephen Kolb, David Lanier, Donna Maddix, Will Price, Howard Rentschler

Transfers: John Erickson

Taps: James McFarland, Phil Harville, Todd Bowling

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 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.

Need Volunteers to sell Queen of Hearts tickets.

Bartenders will be conducting a 100% membership card check this month as the 2020 cards expired December 31. You must have a 2021 card to be served this month. February will be your last newsletter if you have not renewed for 2021.

Dart League: sign-up list is posted to see if there is enough interest in forming a dart league. Luck of the Draw tournaments will continue if there are too few people for a league.

Please remember, **you cannot pay your 2021 dues by credit card.** The Post does not process credit cards. There is an ATM available. In the past, we sent credit card information to Department for processing, but they have ceased processing credit cards for all posts. **The Post will return renewals with credit card information and ask for a check, or come to the Post and pay cash, or make your payment online.** Reminder, if you pay online, you will be charged the full \$40 dues payment as National only recognizes our official dues. You must either send your payment to the Post or come in person and pay at the Post to take advantage of any discount dues. When you use the renewal notice, your payment comes to the Post.

LUNCH SCHEDULE

We are struggling to provide lunches every day of the work week. Liz can no longer keep up with the current schedule. Lunches will have to be cut back to fewer days unless people come forward to help. For info, contact Liz at 904-234-2692.

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	VACANT
4th Vice Commander	VACANT
Finance Officer	Randy Casey
Adjutant	VACANT
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	Lester Verrette
Historian	Tom Mari
Sergeant-at-Arms	Kevin Berton

Executive Board

Steve Bartelt, Mark Swinton
Ron Wilhite, John Tinsley

VACANT

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 75%. 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

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

We did not have a meeting last month so there is no business to share. We donated 11 boxes of food, frozen turkeys and hams valued at \$1,300 to Atlantic Beach, and 2 bikes and toys valued at \$900 to Neptune Beach Elementary School to assist families in need. Approximately 30 families were helped. Thanks for your generous donations.

Membership cards have expired. To stay active, please renew. You will not be served in the bar without a 2021 card.

Thank you to all who took time out of their hectic schedule in December to volunteer for our functions and donate food for our memorials. Our dinners for January include **steak or salmon on the 15th** and a **Pot Roast dinner on Saturday the 9th**. As published, the prices of the dinners has increased.

Please continue to collect toiletries, books, coupons, etc. We need your tabs from cans to support Josh. We continue to need volunteers for dinners and lunches. If you can do 1 lunch a month, we would appreciate the help.

Our next Unit meeting is on Monday the 11th. Hope to see you there. The next District meeting is at Hilliard 401 on Sunday the 10th at 2 PM.

Thanks for all that you do.

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

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Dart League: sign-up list is posted to see if there is enough interest in forming a dart league. Luck of the Draw tournaments will continue if there are too few people for a league.

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 2021 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.

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 on Sundays 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 the New Year, new world. I hope we have all come through the last one, some a little battle scarred, but here. Thank you all for the things you have done for our Chapter and Post during the past year, the challenges of the next year will be the same, but be ready for the change up. Looking forward to seeing you all again. And as things have it, our first Steak Night of the year is January 29.

Our next meeting is on January 2nd at 0900 general assembly with the E-Board at 8:30, hope to see you there.

John Tinsley

2nd Vice Reverbs

Hope everyone enjoyed the New Year's Eve party and look forward to seeing you in 2021.

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.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2020 has added 3 new presumptive illnesses: Parkinson life tremors, bladder cancer and hyperthyroidism with an effective date TBD. If you have filed in the past for these illnesses, the VA will NOT automatically reopen your case. You will need to file one of the following: VA Form 20-0995 (supplemental claim if previously filed); VA Form 20-0996 (seeking reestablishing a denied appeal); VA Form 21-526ez (a new claim for disability if you've never filed)

VACANT

Post 316 Social Media

Our **Post 316 Facebook Page** at <https://www.facebook.com/alpost316>.

Our website is online at www.alpost316fl.org.

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 61% 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 expired December 31st.

Thank you to the December 11th steak team. Our steak night is the 8th 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 2nd at 1030. This is your SAL and can only be what you help make it to be.

David Keasler

Florida Amendment 6

Amendment 6 ballot summary reads as follows: "Provides that the homestead property tax discount for certain veterans with permanent combat-related disabilities carries over to such veteran's surviving spouse who hold legal or beneficial title to, and who permanently resides on, the homestead property, until he or she remarries or sells or otherwise disposes of the property. The discount may be transferred to a new homestead property of the surviving spouse under certain conditions." Amendment 6 helps spouses of combat veterans with service connected disabilities to retain their earned property tax discount upon the passing of the veteran. It passed with nearly 90 % of the vote. More than nine million voters approved the state constitutional amendment which takes effect January 1, 2021.

VA Debt Relief Update

The VA's extended debt relief to Veterans adversely affected by COVID-19 expired December 31. The VA Debt Management Center (DMC) is sending a letter this month to Veterans with benefit debts advising that due process notification letters will resume after January 1, 2021. Those having an outstanding VA debt should have received a letter in November making them aware of actions the VA will take after January 1 and their options. If the debt was established after April 3, 2020, DMC will issue debt notification letters starting in January. For debts incurred prior to April 3, 2020, where collections have been suspended due to COVID-19, your suspension will end January 1, and the DMC will resume withholding from your VA benefits to pay the debt effective with your February 1, 2021, benefit payment. If you do not receive VA benefits, your payment will be due to DMC by February 1. If you expect difficulties making payments, review the information found at <https://www.va.gov/debtman> or contact the VA DMC at 800-827-0648. VA can work options with you to include: establishing a repayment plan; requesting a waiver; disputing the debt; submitting a compromise offer; requesting a temporary hardship suspension. For health care debts, contact the Health Resource Center at 866-400-1238. Online, go to <https://www.pay.gov> for payments.

Taxpayer Relief Initiative

The IRS reviewed its collection activities and is expanding taxpayer options for making payments and other ways to resolve tax debts due to the pandemic. The revised COVID related collection procedures include: taxpayers who qualify for a short-term payment plan may now have up to 180 days to resolved their tax liabilities instead of 120 days; the IRS is offering flexibility for some taxpayers who are temporarily unable to meet the payment terms of an accepted Offer of Compromise; taxpayers can request a temporary delay of the collection process until the taxpayer's financial condition improves; taxpayers may qualify to settle there tax bill for less than the amount they owe by submitting an Offer of Compromise; relief from penalty through reasonable cause assistance is available for taxpayers with failure to file, pay and deposit penalties; taxpayers requesting payment plans, including Installment Agreements, can apply through IRS.gov. These **types of relief are not automatic**. Taxpayers need to request payment relief by contacting the number on their balance due notice or responding in writing.



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



January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
GIN		Lunch is served 1100—1300 Mon—Fri	NEED LUNCH WORKERS		1 New Year's Day Doug Bracey	2 Riders Mtg 9:00 SAL Mtg 10:30 Doug Bracey
3 BOURBON Colts 1 PM	4 Hamburger Steak Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food	5 Veal or Chicken Parmesan Bingo 2:00—4:-00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	6 BBQ Chicken Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	7 Meatball Sub Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	8 Tomato Florentine Soup Sandwich SAL Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:00	9 Aux Pot Roast Dinner 4:00 PM
10 SCOTCH 5th District 2 PM Hilliard 401	11 Liver or Meatloaf Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food Mtg Night 8 PM	12 Chicken Enchilada Bingo 2:00—4:-00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	13 Baked Ham Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	14 Pork Loin Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	15 Taco Soup Sandwich Aux Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:00	16 SUBVETS 1100
17 WHISKEY	18 Martin Luther King Day Fried Chicken Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food	19 Lasagna Bingo 2:00—4:-00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	20 Shepherd's Pie Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	21 Chicken Alfredo Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	22 Bean Soup Ham or Egg Salad Sandwich Legion Steaks Steak Bingo 6:00	23
24 TEQUILA	25 Chicken & Dumplings Men's Night Bingo 6:30-8:30 Riders Food	26 Philly Cheesesteak Bingo 2:00—4:-00 Trivia Night Auxiliary Food	27 Baked Fish Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	28 Patty Melts Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	29 Italian Wed- ding Soup Sandwich Riders Steaks Steak Bingo 6:00	30
31 WINE						