



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

May 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

Good day Everyone,

Normally I like to start this newsletter with an upbeat tone. Today however, I am extremely disappointed in our membership! We had to go out into the Canteen and beg individuals to come into the back room in order for us to have a quorum for our required monthly General Assembly meeting. I find it very troubling and quite frankly sad that out of our 818 Legionnaires we cannot get 10 members to attend YOUR monthly meeting!

Post elections are coming up and as always, it is the same people accepting nominations for the same office they have held for years. Why? Why do you not want to participate? Why do you continue to be a member of our organization if you do not care enough about its future to attend Post meetings? Why do you feel like you have the right to complain about anything within our Post if you will not attend meetings and have your voice heard? Why do you not want to become involved in Post leadership?

For the election, we need to establish an Election Committee during our next meeting. We need 3 Legionaries who are not running for an office to fill this requirement. Normally at our General Assembly meetings the members in attendance are office holders. This is sad on so many levels but in this case it prevents us from establishing an Election Committee. If you have not been nominated for an office and have no intention of running for an office, show up at our May 10th meeting at 8:00 pm and volunteer!

Speaking of Elections, currently 2021 Nominated are:

Commander – Denny Luke, 1st Vice Commander – Clarence Hill, 2nd Vice Commander – Mitch Harding, 3rd Vice Commander – None Received, 4th Vice Commander – Joey Perez, Finance Officer – Randy Casey, Historian – Mitch Lounsberry, Chaplain – None Received, Sergeant-at-Arms – Al Yardley, Executive Board (5 total) – Lester Saunders, Steve Bartelt, John Tinsley, Ron Wilhite, None Received. We need your assistance in filling these open officer positions. Please be at the Monday General Assembly meeting to be nominated and to accept the nomination.

We have a plethora of open positions which are not elected but rather "Appointed". We desperately need an Adjutant, Service Officer and Judge Advocate. We also need Program Chairmen and/or Chairwomen. Let me list all the Program Chairmanship positions we need to fill each year: Americanism, Baseball, Blood Donor, Boys State, Children & Youth, Disaster Preparedness, Employment, Historian, Law & Order, Legion Rider Director, Oratorical, POW/MIA, Public Relations, Religious Emphasis, ROTC/Shooting Sports, School Meetings, Scouting, Social Media, Special Olympics, Youth Law Cadet.

We have been blessed with a few individuals who have repeatedly stepped up to fill a few of the above positions. By stepped up I mean they have not only volunteered to assume the position but also have worked diligently in the execution of their office. I thank Clarence Hill, John Tinsley and Mitchell Lounsberry who have and are offering their service as Program Chairmen. Whose name can we add to this list?

[There is more to being a Legion Member than just showing up and drinking beer with your friends.](#)

Denny Luke

Executive Committee and General Assembly

No money spent

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

New: Dale Masters, Duncan McNabb, Richard Tomlinson, Shawn Williams

Transfers: Jason Baker, Antonio Baluyot, Steve Belsky, Arturo Confiado, Maurice Edmonds, George Hall, John Haynes, Shawn Heighton, Robert Hines, Eric Hinton, John Lynch, David Martineau, Wayne McLellan, Ken Mullis, Steve Starke, Jim Victor

Taps: Leland Whalen

Booster List

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

Clarence & Liz Hill 8/21	B. W. Pete Wait III 9/21
John Balch 9/21	Lynn Murray 2/22
In Remembrance USS Stark 2/21	Wallace Williams 3/22
Richard Goodman 3/22	Bob Shellenberger 10/23
Lance H. Davison 4/25	Eddie George 1/27

Need Volunteers to sell Queen of Hearts tickets.

VA COVID-19 Vaccinations

The VA offers this vaccine to Veterans already receiving care from the VA, based on CDC and VA risk criteria. If you're eligible to get a vaccine, your health care team will contact you. Vaccinations are by appointment only; call 352-548-6000 XT 103755 to schedule an appointment.

Homebound Veterans of WW II and Korea

Gov. DeSantis has directed the FDVA to identify veterans of WW II and the Korean War who are unable to travel to receive a vaccine. If you are in these categories, call 850-487-1533 XT 9 for details, or visit <https://www.floridavets.org/homebound-veteran/> to register.

Susan Kummerness donated four of the book she wrote titled [Come Now the Angels: Five Marines in Vietnam](#) with a trailer that says: [A Woman's Story of War, Death, Love & Hope](#). The book is available for anyone who'd like to read it. The author asks that when you finish reading it, you post your thoughts and a review of the book on Amazon review. Please see Clarence to get a copy of the book.

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	Joey Perez
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: Al Yardley

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
Les Saunders

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

You must have a 2021 card to be served. We are at 97%. 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

Thanks to all who helped in April. Volunteers are the best and you ladies are appreciated. Dinners for May are steak and salmon on Friday the 7th and 21st. We will serve a traditional English dinner of fish & chips at 5 PM on Saturday the 15th cooked by Ken. We had a good turnout for our pot roast dinner. Thank you Kadence for your help serving and being a hard working Junior Girl. We need donations of cakes for our cake walk for Cinco de Mayo on the 1st. The cake walk will start at 6:30.

Our membership is at 100%, thanks to all who renewed and to our new members who joined us.

At our April meeting, we had our first nominations: President-Virna Luke, 1st Vice-Liz Hill & Sharon Harville, 2nd Vice-Open, Secretary-Suzanne Lamonica, Treasurer-Alison McCann, Chaplain-Diane Conrad, Historian-Annie Anderson, Sgt-at-Arms-Kathy Deem, Asst Sgt-at-Arms-TracyLyn Jenkins, Executive Committee-no nominations. **If you would like to hold an office, please attend our May meeting when we will have final nominations and the election.** We need new faces in our leadership.

We have a beautiful POW/MIA Quilt that was donated by one of our members. We are selling tickets for the drawing which will be held on Memorial Day. Tickets are \$2 each or 8 for \$10. Proceeds will benefit a Veterans' Program. Please support our fundraiser.

We are still collecting books, toiletries, coupons and tabs. We need your input for fundraisers.

Next **District Meeting** is the Constitutional Conference on the 8th at 9 AM at Jax Post 137. Our **Unit will meet** on Monday the 10th at 8 PM. Hope to see you there. If you have questions, please contact me.

Happy Mother's Day

For God and Country,

Liz Hill 904-234-2692; lizardlassie@aol.com

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

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

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

Friday-Queen of Hearts drawing 8:00

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

100% capacity, social distancing, wear masks when entering. 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.

The **Queen of Hearts** contest has moved to Friday night. DRAWING HAS BEEN MOVED TO 8:00. **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 official NASCAR clothing on Sundays and get drink specials during the season.

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 \$501 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. We need help to continue this schedule.

Liz Hill

Legion Riders

Welcome to May, I want to thank everyone who has contributed their time and effort to recent activities the Chapter has participated in. It's good to see activities returning to a sense of normalcy. **Again elections are upon us, and will be held in June for Chapter officers**, come on out and get involved. **Cinco De Mayo will be celebrated on 1 May** at the Post. Chapter 9's Boots on the Ground is back and will be on the 8th of May, too many routes to lay out here. We are looking at a **drawing in late July for a Lottery Brick and tickets will be available after the May meeting** which will be on May 1, at 0900 for the general assembly with the E Board meeting at 0830. Hope to see you there.

John Tinsley

2nd Vice Reverbs

Looking forward to a productive and entertaining 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

Good day everyone. **We will be doing a maintenance day on Sunday May 2nd at 10 AM.** We will be replacing dimmer switches, hall light going to lady's restroom, and repair concrete slab behind outside cooler. Please come out and help get these jobs done, all hands are appreciated. We are addressing the immediate needs first and plan to continue to make changes needed as we can. Please feel free to provide suggestions. **Our next meeting will be Monday, May 3rd at 7 PM.**

Al Yardley

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.**

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 sustain-ability-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

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

Sons of The American Legion

The 2021 cards are in, and available, and we are at about 99% membership. Please pay your dues and help us reach 100%. Thank you to the April 9th steak team. Our steak night is the 14th this month.

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.

David Keasler

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 Evictions/Foreclosures Update

The VA's extended its ban on evictions and foreclosures until June 30. The ban is for federally backed mortgages including all properties secured by VA guaranteed loans. VA also extended its timeline for accepting requests from veterans for mortgage forbearance, which would allow veterans to pause their mortgage payments or pay their mortgages at a lower rate. Borrowers who are experiencing financial hardships because of the coronavirus pandemic can call 877-827-3702 for more information.

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 their 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.

2021 Legacy Scholarship Applications

Children whose parents lost their lives while honorably serving on active duty on or after 9/11, as well as children of post 9/11 veterans with a combined VA disability rating of 50 percent or higher, are eligible to apply for The American Legion Legacy Scholarship. It provides financial aid for graduate or post-graduate tuition, books, room and board, meal plans and other supplies needed to achieve higher education. It's a needs-based scholarship-the grant amount each scholarship recipient will receive will be based on his/her financial need after all federal and state aid is exhausted. Recipients have a year to use the grant and may reapply up to six times. The number of scholarships awarded and the amount of financial aid granted to each awardee (including returning applicants) will be determined on donations to the scholarship fund and one's financial needs. Legacy scholarships are made possible from donations to The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. Applications are online at legion.org/scholarships/legacy. **Deadline to apply is April 15th.** Recipients will be selected by the Committee on Youth Education at the National Spring Meetings in May, with notifications to follow.



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



May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Lunch is served 11:00—1:00 Mon—Fri		NEED LUNCH WORKERS		1 Riders Mtg 0900 SAL Mtg 1030 Cinco de Mayo
2 BOURBON Maintenance Day 10:00 AM	3 Liver or Meatloaf Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night Riders Food	4 Chicken or Veal Parmesan Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night	5 Chicken Fajita Bake Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	6 Patty Melt Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	7 Clam Chowder Tuna or Egg Salad Sandwich Aux Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:00 Queen of Hearts 8	8 5th District 8:30 Post Everlasting 9:00 Constitutional Conference Jax Post 137
9 Mothers' Day SCOTCH	10 Shepherd's Pie Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night Mtg Night 8 PM Riders Food	11 Chicken Bruschetta Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night	12 Meatball Sub Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	13 Pork Chops Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	14 Hot Dog Bar SAL Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:00 Queen of Hearts 8 Birds of Fire	15 Armed Forces Day SUBVETS 1100 Fish & Chips by Ken at 5 PM
16 WHISKEY	17 Fried Chicken Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night Riders Food	18 Philly Cheesesteak Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night	19 Stir Fry Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	20 Stuffed Chicken Breast Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	21 Meatball Soup Grilled Cheese Aux Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:00 Queen of Hearts 8 Doug Bracey	22 Doug Bracey
23 WINE	24 BBQ Ribs Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night Riders Food	25 Chicken Enchilada Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night	26 Pork Loin Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	27 Stuffed Peppers Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	28 Chicken Salad Sandwich Legion Steaks Steak Bingo 6:00 Queen of Hearts 8 DJ Mitch	29
30 BEER	31 Memorial Day No Lunch Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night Riders Food					