



# Dewitt B. Tilden Memorial American Legion Post 316

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CHARTERED 1974



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

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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,  
Wow it's August already! I suspect you have received a notification to renew your Legion membership. If you are like me, you will want to pay it as soon as possible otherwise I forget until I'm reminded it's overdue. Remember if you have not paid for a multiple year membership at our Post you can pay your membership dues in person at the Post or go online at: [www.floridalegion.org](http://www.floridalegion.org) to renew.

For those that attended Installation last July I want to thank you and say we looked sharp. With that being said, I have been asked by quite a few members what is The American Legion uniform? In accordance with the Officers Guide and Manual of Ceremonies, A Legionnaire is considered to be in uniform if wearing an official American Legion cap. It is also "recommended" that for ceremonies members wear dark blue or black coat, trousers, white shirt with a black tie or blouse, black shoes and socks. Many members forgo the jacket and tie, it is very warm in Florida and just wear a uniform cap, black pants, and a white shirt. If you attend meetings outside of our Post you may see many Legionnaires wearing 2 different styles of caps for men and 1 for women, with various pins attached. You will also see their shirts have patches sewn on the sleeves. I will try to address where you can obtain the uniform cap, proper wear, and the order of placing patches on your white shirt, if you so choose.

The Legion cap can be purchased from National Emblem Sales. To find them go online to: [www.Legion.org](http://www.Legion.org) in the upper right side of the screen you will see a shopping cart icon and the words "Shop Online". Click the icon, Flag & Emblem Sales website will pop up. On this page you will see Uniform Caps, click on it. Follow the on screen directions by selecting our Department "Florida" and then notice that we are required to have "mandatory insignia". Next select City and whether you want lined or unlined, lined is recommended, for men choose which style of cap you want, fill in the size and for lettering "Atlantic Beach, FL" and Post "316" hit the submit button, check out as a guest, or create an account. Then wait on your new Legion cover to arrive in about 8-10 weeks.

The proper wearing of your cover is contained in the above manual in Section 2. Basically nothing is to be attached to the left side of the cap which The American Legion emblem is on. On the right side of the cap you may place insignia or badges, membership stars and/or authorized American Legion or military service decorations. Names/Nicknames, fraternal or civil organization insignia is unauthorized. It is not proper to wear your cover during a meal or in a house of worship unless part of an Honor Guard. The cover shall be removed and placed over your heart during prayer and at graveside services or when approaching a casket, as well as during the Pledge of Allegiance. Female Legionnaires may leave their cap on during the Pledge of Allegiance, nation anthem, prayer and meals.

If you desire to place patches on your white shirt, they can also be purchased through Emblem Sales. The American flag should be centered on your upper left arm with the blue field to your heart. It is permissible to place the POW/MIA flag directly under the American flag. Place the Department of Florida patch on your right arm in the

same manner as the flag on your left. If you desire to place an ALR patch on your shirt it would be placed under the Department patch like the POW/MIA patch on your left arm. There are other recommendations and rules for dress which can be found in the Officers Guide however, above is the basics. The only authorized Legion cover for events is the one sold as "The Uniform Cap" and it should be worn at all official American Legion meetings and ceremonies. Your remaining dress should be respectful of the situation and in good taste.

Thanks for asking,  
**Denny Luke**

### Executive Committee and General Assembly

**Approved \$500 donation to Honor Flight**  
**Approved buying a new grill-no cost provided**

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

**New:** Charles Armstrong, Jesse Lee, Leslie Russell, Bobby Zacharias  
**Transfers:** Elizabeth Dipilato and Nick Minjarez  
**Taps:** None

### 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**                          **Penny Swiebel 5/22**  
**Bob Shellenberger 10/23**                      **Lance H. Davison 4/25**  
**Eddie George 1/27**

### Dart League

We'd like to try to start a dart league in September. A sign-up list has been posted. We need at least 24 people to sign up so we can have 6 teams and use all three dart boards on the dance floor. Sign on the left side if you'd like to be on a team, and sign on the right side if you'd like to be substitute. If you have any questions, please call Liz.

### 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	Steve Bartelt
4th Vice Commander	Joey Perez
Finance Officer	Randy Casey
Adjutant	Claython McConico
Chaplain	Joe Nolan
Service Officer	Paul Rastatter
Judge Advocate	VACANT
Historian	Mitchel Lounsberry
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

Greg White, Mark Swinton  
Ron Wilhite, John Tinsley  
Les Saunders

### Legion Riders

Director: John Tinsley

### Auxiliary Officers

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

### Auxiliary Executive Committee

Fatima Bartelt, Nicole Thigpen  
Sharon Harville

Club Manager Liz Hill

## **Legion First Vice Vibes**

The 2022 cards are here and you can pay your dues now. Cards have been mailed to everyone with time left on their 3-year dues with a letter telling you your status. If you haven't gotten your 2022 card, you have no years left on your dues. Please check with me if you have any questions. [Please Note:](#) We cannot accept credit card payments as Department will not 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.**

**National went to a new system on April 1st.** I am not sure about this information about renewals and PUFL. If someone uses them, please let me know if they still work. You can renew online by visiting [www.legion.org/renew](http://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](http://legion.org), search for PUFL offer.

**2022 dues are \$40 for ages 59 and younger (\$35 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 \$32 utilizing the renewal notice.

## **Clarence Hill**

### **AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S PROSE**

Looking forward to another fantastic year. I appreciate the Officers that served last term, and glad they are continuing to support our Unit for another year. **Our 2022 Membership Cards are in,** please see Suzanne LaMonica (Membership Chairman) to pick up your card(s). If you have questions? Send an email to Suzanne at [suzlamonica@comcast.net](mailto:suzlamonica@comcast.net). We are doing a **school supply drive** for children in our community, your contribution of school supplies and personal hygiene items can make an impact on their health, happiness, and success. Please bring supplies to Post 316, we will have a "yellow bus" box for the collection. Show your support, Auxiliary steaks and salmon dinners will be served on Friday the 6th and 20th from 5-8pm. We continue to collect manufacturer coupons for overseas and military families. Collect pull pop tabs to help families at Ronald McDonald House. We're also collecting toiletries for those in need. **The first District meeting of the year is Sunday the 8th at our Post, starting at 2pm.** Please join us, it is a great opportunity to meet other Auxiliary members, listen to reports, and socialize. After the meeting, we will have food, bring a side dish to share. Our next Unit 316 **General Meeting is Monday the 9th at 8pm.** Please attend, we need your ideas for events and fundraising, so we can continue to support our Veterans, military & their families, community and our home post For God and Country,

**Virna Luke, Socialalr5thFl@gmail.com, 817-791-3583**

### *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

**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 is conducted every Friday night with the drawing held at 8:00 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 membership 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.**

**Monday Bingo** is at 6:30 and **has a progressive lucky ball jackpot. The Riders serve a variety of different items now,** so the price varies base on your order. 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 by the 40/8 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 July, the celebration of our independence and formation of this great nation. I want to thank everyone that participated in the escorts for our brothers that have passed in the previous month. Additionally thank you to those that volunteered to hold a Chapter office for the coming year, as a reminder the installation of Chapter and all Post officers will be on Saturday July 10th at 1 PM at the Post, please attend if you are in town. Make sure your hurricane plans and supplies are up to date, as hurricane season is once again in full swing. We do have a Riders Steak night this month on Friday the 30th, as always we will need a crew to cook, clean and serve. Our next meeting is Saturday the 3rd at 9 AM hope to see you there.

**John Tinsley**

## 2nd Vice Reverbs

Looking forward to a productive and entertaining 2021-2022.

**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

AC Unit was replaced in back room. Roof replacement project approved and should begin 19th or 20th of July. New shelving was put in back storage room for kitchen products. Working on starting to clean up other areas. A survey of main bar area for lighting and ceiling tiles is being done, along with looking at a new Bingo board. Please feel free to provide comments/concerns to us. Thanks

**Al Yardley**

## Service Officer

**Paul Rastatter**

## History Tidbit

On June 14, 1923, The American Legion's Americanism Commission led a conference in Washington, D. C. bringing together no less than 68 other organizations, military groups, educators and others for the first of two national flag conferences that would lay the groundwork for the U. S. Flag Code. President Warren G. Harding was the keynote speaker at the 1923 conference. By the time of the 1924 Flag Conference, 32 States had agreed to adopt the Code for their schools after some adjustments were made. The American Legion would lobby Congress for the next 18 years to adopt into law the U. S. Flag Code.

**Mitchell Lounsberry**

## Post 316 Social Media

Our Post 316 Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/alpost316>. Our website is online at [www.alpost316fl.org](http://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](http://www.projectvetrelief.org), 407-295-2631

## Sons of The American Legion

Congratulations on achieving 100% membership. The 2022 cards are available. Please pay your dues and be an Early Bird. Thank you to the July 9th steak team. Our steak night is the 13th 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 7th at 1030.** All are invited to attend. This is your SAL and can only be what you help make it to be.

**David Keasler**

## Blue Water Navy Update

VA announced it will re-adjudicate claims for Veterans who served in the offshore waters of Vietnam during the Vietnam War. This review is part of the VBA's implementation of the 11/5/2020 US District Court of the Northern District of California decision to re-adjudicate previously denied claims as applied in Nehmer vs. US Department of Veterans Affairs. Veterans who were previously denied service connection for an herbicide related presumptive condition due to lack of in-country Vietnam service will automatically have their claims re-adjudicated.

Re-adjudication means VA will review the evidence of record and provide replacement decisions in the cases of Veterans who were previously denied service connection for one or more herbicide related conditions on the basis that military service was not performed on the landmass of Vietnam or on its inland waterways. This review will also apply to eligible survivors of deceased Vietnam era Veterans. VA is dedicated to ensuring all Veterans receive the benefits they have earned. Visit [VA.gov](http://VA.gov) for more information.

## New Wave of Scammers

The VA and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) are warning consumers of a new scam targeting Vets with VA guaranteed home loans. The scammers usually pretend to be affiliated with the government or a mortgage company and attempt to scam Veterans out of money by some new and novel methods, along with some techniques that have been around for years, albeit with either a new COVID-19 related twist or new technology that makes it easier for scammers to conceal their identity. The scammers try to get Vets to refinance their homes, agree to loan modifications, start sending their mortgage payments to a new address, try to convince Vets that their homes are facing foreclosure or that they owe late fees. Vets have reported phone calls that appear to come from the local VA office, with the caller telling the Vet their mortgage has been transferred to a new servicer. As a result of this supposed transfer, the Vet now owes months worth of mortgage payments. To avoid foreclosure, the Vet is told they must make several hundreds or thousands of dollars worth of back payments to the new mortgage holder at a new address usually through money orders or gift cards. These methods of payment cannot be traced. Other calls or letters promise unusually low interest rates for refinancing a mortgage, but require the Vet to pay several fees upfront before receiving any services. Once the Vet pays the fees, the "mortgage company" either denies the application or ceases communications with the Vet. Other new scams cite existing federal mortgage assistance programs related to COVID-19 financial relief initiatives. The scammers tell the homeowners that the Vet either must turn over the title of their property or sign confusing paperwork without reviewing it, claiming the relief programs are about to end and things must be done quickly. As usual, the scammers play upon fear and confusion and rapidly disappear once they get what they seek—your money. The CFPB warns that if you suspect a scam, you should first contact the VA or your mortgage lender to determine whether the offer is real. If it is not, you should cease all communications with the scammer and contact your State Attorney General's Office and the Federal Trade Commission so they can bring the bad actors to justice.



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## August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>RUM</b>	2 Chicken & Dumplings Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night 7PM House Com Mtg Riders Food	3 Spaghetti w/meat balls or Italian Sausage Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night	4 Patti Melts Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	5 Hamburger Steaks Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7	6 Purple Heart Day Chicken Salad Wrap or Sandwich Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:00 Queen of Hearts 8	7 Riders Mtg 0900 SAL Mtg 1030
8 <b>VODKA</b> 5th District 2 PM Atlantic Bch 316	9 Baked Ham Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night 7PM Mtg Night 8 PM Riders Food	10 Chicken Bruschetta Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night	11 Hot Dog Bar Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	12 Porkloin Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7	13 Ham or Turkey Wrap SAL Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:00 Queen of Hearts 8	14 Browns 1 PM
15 <b>GIN</b>	16 Chicken Fried Steak Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night 7PM Riders Food	17 Philly Cheesesteak Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night	18 Baked Ziti Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	19 BLT Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7	20 Bean Soup Ham or Egg Salad Sandwich Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:00 Queen of Hearts 8	21 SUBVETS 1100
22 <b>BOURBON</b>	23 Lasagna Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night 7PM Riders Food @Saints 8 PM	24 Meatloaf Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night	25 Smothered Pork Chop Ladies' Night Pass the Trash	26 Meatball Sub Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7	27 Chef Salad Legion Steaks Steak Bingo 6:00 Queen of Hearts 8	28 @Cowboys 1 PM
29 <b>SCOTCH</b>	30 BBQ Chicken Bingo 6:30—8:30 Men's Night 7PM Riders Food	31 Chicken Enchilada Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night		Lunch is served 11:00—1:00 Mon—Fri		<b>NEED LUNCH WORKERS</b>