



Dewitt B. Tilden Memorial American Legion Post 316

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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, I would like to report that at the time of this writing we missed our February 85% membership goal of 743 by 29 members. We only need 74 members to renew, and we will meet our March goal of 90%. It would be outstanding if we hit our 100% goal of 874 during the month of March so please talk to your friends who have procrastinated on renewing their membership.

Department Convention will be held at the Hilton Orlando in Lake Buena Vista from 16 - 19 June. This is a great event to attend, please consider doing so. That said, because Convention is being held mid-June we will need to hold our Post elections no later than the weekend of 4 -5 June, more to follow.

What a great segue into talking about election of Post leadership. I hope to see a whole group of new faces running for office this year. Do you have an opinion of what is wrong or right with our Post? If so you should consider not just voting, but also running for an officer position. I must say that since I have been involved with Post leadership positions, I have seen basically the same faces sitting at the table every year. We just shift from position A to position B and the next year to position C. When you are nominated and win you have two choices. You can be an officer in "name only" or you can strive to fully fulfill the obligations and responsibilities of your newly elected position. I can truly say for me it has increased my workload however it has given me an immense sense of pride and satisfaction to serve you. All positions are open for nomination, from Commander to Executive Board members. Look in our Constitution and By-Laws (Can be found online at: <https://alpost316fl.org/>) for the duties of each position and if you think you can and more importantly "are willing" to fulfill the obligation please come to our meeting and make your desire known. I would think that out of our current 714 members we could get at least 14 new names on the ballot! We also have a lot of Post Program Chairmanship positions to fill, 19 to be exact. They are: Americanism, Baseball, Blood Donor, Boys State, Children & Youth, Disaster Preparedness, Employment, Historian, Law & Order, Oratorical, POW/MIA, Public Relations, Religious Emphasis, ROTC/ Shooting Sports, School Metals, Scouting, Social Media, Special Olympics & Youth Law Cadet.

We also have 18 Standing Committees that have not been filled in a very long time. They are: Americanism Committee, Children & Youth Committee, House Committee, Membership Committee, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee, Finance Committee, Election Committee, Economic Committee, Entertainment Committee, Visiting or VAVS Committee, Legislative Committee, Resolutions Committee, Veterans Holiday Committee, Legal Committee, Graves Registration & Memorial Committee, National Security Committee, The Sons of The American Legion Committee and Public Affairs Committee. Think how strong and effective our Post would be if we had all of the above positions filled by energetic personal who actually wanted and attempted to fulfill the duties, responsibilities and obligations of each Officer, Chairman and Committee to the fullest of their abilities! Something to think about heading into the 2022 election cycle, isn't it? Lastly, I do not know if you have noticed but we have been working to improve the condition of our Post home. The next time you attend a General Assembly meeting you will notice we have enclosed the A/C unit, which looks great. We have new curb stops and a new fire pit for the pavilion and many more small un-noticed repairs/improvements. My plan is to each month complete a small project. Again, if you have any specific talent and can help, please contact me or the House Committee and make your services known.

I also have been advised that a few members will be making a motion at our March General Assembly meeting to make our Post a "Smoke Free Post."

Remember if you do not attend our Post meeting your voice can not be

heard. So, my recommendation is to always attend the meetings and be active in charting the course for our future.

Denny Luke

Executive Committee and General Assembly

Approved new phone system-no cost given

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

New: **Jan:** Valentino Bautista, Alan Beatty, James Justice, Paul Kolick, Gregory Menard, Tim Murray, Michael Rapp, Larry Riffée **Feb:** Lisa Canez, Clint Hughes, Wendy Leffingwell, Henry Lewis, John Lynch, Kevin Kiely, Kolleen Ann Matthews, John McGovern III, Andrew Muir, Clarence Piper, Robert Pousland, Edmund Sugzdinis, Ross Wulf

Transfers: **Jan:** Jerry Binder, Jacob Bohn, Carlos Briceno, Robert Calhan II, Edwin Francisco, Angel Matos, John Scroggie, Ray Seckinger, James Strickland, Warren Wiker **Feb:** Chester Bailey, Raymond Breault, James Partin, Joseph Penzera, Lorie Porfeli

Taps: Jack Horvath

Booster List

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

Wallace Williams 3/22	Richard Goodman 3/22
Penny Swiebel 5/22	Clarence & Liz Hill 8/22
In Remembrance USS Stark 2/23	Alison McCann 2/23
Bob Shellenberger 10/23	B. W. Pete Wait, III 10/23
Lance H. Davison 4/25	Eddie George 1/27

Congratulations to Deb Van Patten for winning the chili cook-off

Smoking VS Smoke Free

This issue will be a major topic at the Post meeting at 8 PM on Monday the 14th. If you have an opinion you would like to share, please attend. Only Legionnaires can vote on any motions made.

Sunday Food

There is a sign-up list on the west wall to better organize Sunday food such that we are not overflowing on some days and have little on others. **Reimbursement of up to \$25 can be provided based on donations and receipts.**

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.

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	Teresa Frank
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

Please pay your 2022 dues now. The **2021 cards are expired**. [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.. Please see the Membership Update on page 3. You can create an account by visiting 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 go to your account in myLegion.org, search for PUFL offer.

2022 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 only get discounted rates by paying \$32 or \$35 utilizing the renewal notice.

Clarence Hill

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S PROSE

May you have a magnificent March and super Spring! Welcome to our new members and those that have renewed for 2022. If you have not renewed? Please place your \$30 (over 60 only \$25) cash or check in an envelope with your name and drop it inside the Auxiliary box near the main entrance, if you have questions/concerns regarding membership, contact Suzanne LaMonica (Membership Chairman) at suzlamonica@comcast.net. We had a delicious Valentine's prime rib dinner prepared by Liz, Kadence (AUX Junior) helped in the kitchen and served. Thank you to TracyLyn for leading the cake walk, Denise for taking charge of the 50/50. And our wonderful members that donated cakes. We appreciate the support of all that came out to partake in the fun! And then we had a Mardi Gras party, with Lester and Cajun Dave for entertainment, fun was had by all. On Feb 23, we delivered donations to Five Star Veterans Center. Our Volunteers are amazing, for steak teams, we had Annie, Bob (Legion), Patricia, Liz, Denny (Legion), Brenda and Kathy. Auxiliary steak nights are the first and third Friday of the month from 5-8pm. If you want to volunteer on the grill, fryer, take orders, plate, clean up? Contact Denise Strickland (2nd Vice) at dndfish-ing@aol.com. Also, as discussed in our Auxiliary meeting, if you want to have a special dinner on any Saturday, contact Denise. It's that time of year to start nominations for our leadership for the term of 2022-2023, you can find all the responsibilities of officers in our unit guide book, go to alafl.org under Quick-links, click Unit Guide, see pages 65-72.

UPCOMING: Auxiliary steak nights are Mar 4 and 18 at 5pm. Oyster Roast on Mar 5 at 1pm. St. Patrick's Dinner on Mar 12 at 5pm. District 5 meeting on Mar 13 at 2pm at Post 194 (St. Augustine). Unit 316 General Meeting is at 8pm on Mar 14. The Military Child Table Setting Ceremony is on Apr 2 at 11:30am. Please show your support. 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 awarded
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 6:15 PM by the 40 & 8
Friday-Queen of Hearts drawing 8:00 PM

Congratulations to Deb Van Patten for winning the chili cook-off

If you know of any family needing help with food, please let Liz know. Thank you for all your support in 2021.

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 2022 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 meal nights) are volunteers who depend on tips. Please remember to tip them.

Monday Bingo is at 6:30 with a progressive lucky ball jackpot. The Riders serve a variety of different items, so the price varies based 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 Sunday race day and get 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 by the 40/8 at 6:15 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 March, I remember hearing about some Roman talking about the 15th. Anyway we start off with an Oyster Roast after our March meeting. We need everyone's support to make it a success. The riding season is getting in full swing hope you are getting out there. As a reminder to all, if you have a favorite place or someplace in the local area you want to ride to, get with myself or Denise. If another Chapter is planning a fun run let us know so we can get out there and represent. Speaking of representing it's time to think about nominations for elections of Chapter officers and think about what position you would like to fill, something to think about. As always we need help in the Kitchen for Monday nights, so step up and sign up. Our March meeting will be on the 5th with an E board meeting at 08:30 and general membership at 09:00. See you there.

John Tinsley

2nd Vice Reverbs

Please remember those deployed service members and their families.

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

Al Yardley

Service Officer

Paul Rastatter 215-906-5168

History Tidbit

March 15-17, 1919, about 1,000 officers and enlisted men from the AEF attended the Paris Caucus. LCOL Teddy Roosevelt, Jr., proposed a veterans organization. The group adopted a temporary constitution and chose the name The American Legion (TAL). Thus The American Legion's birthday is March 15th, and it will be 103 years young.

Mitchell Lounsberry

Mortgage and Rental Relief Programs

Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP): "Eligible household" must include one or more individuals who are obligated to pay rent on a residential dwelling in Duval County and **must demonstrate all 3 of these criteria:** 1. one or more individuals has either a. qualified for unemployment benefits or b. experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs or experienced other financial hard-ship due, either directly or indirectly, to COVID-19 and can attest to such in writing. 2. One or more individuals can demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability, which may include a past due utility or rent notice or eviction notice, unsafe or unhealthy living conditions or any other evidence of such risk, as determined by the City. 3. The household has a household income that is not more than 80% of the area median income (AMI) for the household. Priority is provided to households that have incomes below 50% AMI or have one or more members who have been unemployed for at least 90 days. Residents can apply online with the application available at <https://www.coj.net/erap>.

Mortgage Relief Program (MRP): Individuals requesting assistance must be the owner and occupant of the property. Up to 6 months of delinquent mortgage payments or \$7,500, whichever is less will be provided. Payments will be made directly to the mortgage company. Federal Guidelines require qualifying families and individuals to have an income that falls below 80% of the AMI. Those interested must create a MyJax account at myjax.custhelp.com. Applicants must submit a completed application and all required documentation through their MyJax account.

AMI 80% requirements are:

Household size	Total Income
One person	\$41,900
Two people	\$47,900
Three people	\$53,900

Sons of The American Legion

The 2022 cards are available. Please pay your dues We have just reached 90% so renew now. Renew now and help us get to 100%. Thank you to the February 11th steak team. Our steak night is the 11th 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 5th at 1030. All are invited to attend. This is your SAL, so please attend the meeting and help make this year the best it can be.

David Keasler

Four people	\$59,850
Five people	\$64,650
Six people	\$69,450
Seven people	\$74,250
Eight people	\$79,050

VA is processing claims for six new presumptive conditions related to environmental exposures during military service. They are: bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, Parkinsonism associated with Agent Orange exposure, asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis (to include rhinosinusitis) associated with particulate matter exposure during military service in SW Asia/certain other areas.

VA has also extended the presumptive period for qualifying chronic disabilities resulting from undiagnosed illnesses in Persian Gulf War Veterans to Dec 31, 2026. VA presumes certain medically unexplained illnesses are related to Gulf War service without regard to cause. These include: chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, functional gastrointestinal disorders, and undiagnosed illnesses with symptoms that may include but are not limited to: abnormal weight loss, cardiovascular disease, muscle and joint pain, headache, menstrual disorders, neurological and psychological problems, skin conditions, respiratory disorders, and sleep disturbances. A wide variety of symptoms can qualify a Gulf War Veteran for presumptive service-connection. Veterans who are experiencing unexplained medical issues are encouraged to file a claim

2021 Membership Update

The National Commander has announced a **new membership engagement initiative** for members who last paid in 2020 to give them the ability to continue their continuous years. Example: if an expired 2020 member had 5 continuous years prior to letting their membership lapse, and they pay for 2022, their continuous years would be 6. If dues are paid for both 2021 and 2022, their continuous years would be 7.

Renewing online: Legion members can register a MyLegion account at MyLegion.org with the email address on your membership record at National. **It is important that you have provided an email address to National prior to registering this account.** When your renewal is due and you have an account, a "Renew Now" button appears at the top right-hand page. Click on this button and the amount due is displayed in "My Order Balance." Select "Pay Now" or "Renew Now" to proceed and renew by credit card. You can also **save your credit card for auto renewals** which will be charged by the second week in July annually as the membership year runs July 1 to June 30. To set up auto renewal: 1. Click Membership Details under the MEMBERSHIP tab on the left-hand side of the page. 2. Click the box that says "I want to auto renew my membership each year" under your current membership status. 3. Enter credit card information and click "Add new card." 4. Click "Save" to save your future renewals. The system also gives you an option to receive your renewal notice by email. **Legion members with dues paid can print their current membership card** found under the MEMBERSHIP tab. If a dual member, the SAL card can also be printed if SAL dues are current. **Your MyLegion account allows you to manage your Legion information, and if a dual member, manage your SAL information.**



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



March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WINE	Lunch is served 11:00—1:00 Mon—Fri	1 Spaghetti w/ meatballs or Sausage Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night 7PM	2 Ash Wednesday Fish or Shrimp Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7PM	3 BBQ Baked Chicken Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	4 Shrimp Po Boy Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:15 Queen of Hearts 8	5 Riders Mtg 0900 SAL Mtg 1030 Oyster Roast 1PM
6 BEER	7 Fried Chicken Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food House Com 6:30 Men's Night 7PM	8 Lasagne Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night 7PM	9 Potato Soup and Salad Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7PM	10 Tater Tot Casserole Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	11 BLT SAL Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:15 Queen of Hearts 8	12 St. Patrick's Dinner 5 PM
13 Daylight Savings Time Begins RUM 5th District 2PM St. Augustine 194	14 Meatloaf Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM Mtg Night 8PM	15 Legion B-Day Chicken Marsala Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night 7PM	16 Ham & Broccoli Mac & Cheese Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7PM	17 St Patrick's Day Reuben Sandwich Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	18 Egg Salad Turkey Wrap Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:15 Queen of Hearts 8	19 SUBVETS 1100
20 Spring Begins VODKA Maintenance Day 1000	21 Philly Cheesesteak Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM	22 Stuffed Peppers Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night 7PM	23 Smothered Pork Chops Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7PM	24 Chicken Soup Chicken Salad Croissant Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	25 Clam Chowder Egg or Tuna Salad Sandwich Legion Steaks Steak Bingo 6:15 Queen of Hearts 8	26
27 GIN	28 Ribs Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM	29 Vietnam Vets Day Chicken Enchilada Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia Night 7PM	30 Pepper Steak Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7PM	31 Hamburger Steak Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts	NEED LUNCH WORKERS	Military Child Table Setting Ceremony 11:30