



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

November 2022
VOL. 35 NO. 11
CIR:288sm808em18pu

*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

We are now in November-Veterans Day is Friday the 11th, and there will be a ceremony in the Park next door at 0900. Thank you for your service. This also marks the end of our Early Bird period. You have until Veterans Day to pay your dues to qualify for the **Early Bird dinner which will be Saturday the 12th from 3—5 PM.** Come join us for a great meal. Don't forget we have steak/salmon night every Friday night and we are looking for volunteers to help out in the kitchen. If you can grill, we can form a team around you.

Election Day is Tuesday the 8th, let's get out and vote.

Elected Post Officer positions availability are still 2nd, 3rd and 4th Vice Commanders and Historian. Appointed positions open are Service Officer and Judge Advocate. Thank you Bill Knipper for accepting Adjutant. Please consider attending a meeting and stepping forward. Let me know if you are interested in an appointed position. We could use a **Service Officer and training is available at the Fall Conference on Friday and Saturday, Nov 18-19 in Orlando.** Your help and ideas are needed. This is your Post and needs your help, ideas and participation.

Plans are complete to replace the fence and gate that face Atlantic Blvd. Installation will be accomplished the first week in November. We will be moving the gates from in front of the dumpster to replace the gates at the rear of the property. **If you can help, let me or the House Committee Chairman, Jim Bright, know.**

Our annual Pearl Harbor Day Golf Tourney is fast approaching. We already have 6 teams entered and numerous hole sponsorships. Please consider sponsoring a hole for \$50, getting your company to sponsor a hole or make a donation, or forming a team and entering the tournament. Individual registration is \$70, teams are \$280. The base has upped our team allowance to 16 this year, and the cutoff is the 26th so don't get left out. Your fee includes breakfast, lunch and door prizes. **Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help out at the Post the last couple of months.** Your time and effort is what keeps us going.

Greg White

Executive Committee and General Assembly

- Approved \$10,954 to repair portions of the fence
- Approved \$600 for Department Holiday Raffle tickets
- Approved \$500 for hurricane relief
- Approved \$2,500 for rebuilding Posts after the hurricane

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

New: Crystal Kincade, Andrew Jagger, Robert Perreault, Wendell Porter, Madeline Ryan

Transfers: Timothy Robinson, Carl Snyder

Taps: Bill Crawford, Ed Spinner

Booster List

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| In Remembrance USS Stark 2/23 | Alison McCann 2/23 |
| Regan Askwith 4/23 | Clarence & Liz Hill 8/23 |
| Bob Shellenberger 10/23 | B. W. Pete Wait, III 10/23 |
| Lynn Murray 3/25 | Lance H. Davison 4/25 |
| Penny Swiebel 5/26 | Eddie George 1/27 |

Membership Cards

National has greatly revised the membership program this year. No roster was provided, so we had to make our own. There are a lot of issues with what was provided, but our procedure hasn't changed. You will note changes to the renewal notice you receive from National. **Please remember, the Post has no control over what National does.** Ignore the line that says "Member since 2022"-it is on every renewal notice no matter how long you have been a member. Note that the card they have put on the back of the renewal notice is a **sample card** so it also has a 1 for continuous years. They have also removed the blanks for updating/providing your email address and phone number. If you are mailing your dues to the Post, feel free to provide that info as well as your war era and birthday on the back of the renewal notice. The notice provides a procedure for paying online. **Two things are important when you pay online: make sure you are paying for 2023 unless you are behind and want to catch up your years and do not click on the \$23 option.** This is the new member option. **If you choose this option, the system will make you a new member starting with one year, a new membership number and put you in the headquarters post 400 in Orlando. Post 316 will lose you and get no credit for your renewal.**

Be the One Campaign

The American Legion launched this campaign to encourage American Legion Family members, servicemembers and others **to take action when they believe a veteran is at risk of suicide.** The National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report indicates suicide is the No. 1 issue facing veterans and 17 veterans die by suicide daily, which is more than 6,000 each year. The rate of suicide for veterans is 50% higher than that of non-veteran adults. This campaign will: destigmatize asking for mental health support creating opportunity for those with mental health issues to speak freely and get the support they need; provide peer-to-peer support and resources in local communities; and deploy FDA-approved therapeutics for veterans to identify issues and find resources for support. Those who are not veterans may have family members or friends who are veterans and may be the first to recognize signs that help is needed. This campaign encourages you to Be the One to: ask veterans in your life how they are doing; listen when a veteran needs to talk; reach out when a veteran is struggling; pledge to Be the One at betheone.org by signing up for email updates. If you are a veteran and are feeling stressed, The American Legion encourages you to Be the One to: talk with others about how you are feeling; ask for help when you know you need it; know there are millions of people ready to help you; remember that your family and friends care. **A new and simpler number went into effect in July. You can access the VA resources that are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: call 988** and you will be connected to a counselor at one of the more than 200 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network crisis centers across the country.

TOYS FOR TOTS

The box is here to support this Marine Corps Reserve Program. Please bring a new unwrapped gift to donate. Bring a gift on a bingo day and get a free card for the first jackpot game.

POST 316 IS A FREE WiFi HOTSPOT.

Post Officers

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Commander | Greg White |
| 1st Vice Commander | Clarence Hill |
| 2nd Vice Commander | VACANT |
| 3rd Vice Commander | VACANT |
| 4th Vice Commander | VACANT |
| Finance Officer | Randy Casey |
| Adjutant | Bill Knipper |
| Chaplain | Joe Nolan |
| Service Officer | VACANT |
| Judge Advocate | VACANT |
| Historian | VACANT |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Al Yardley |

House Committee

Chairman: Jim Bright

SAL Officers

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Commander | David Keasler |
| Adjutant | Clarence Hill |
| 1st Vice | Tom Horn |
| 2nd Vice | Kevin Berton |
| Finance Officer | Clarence Hill |
| Chaplain | Will Oliphant |
| Historian | VACANT |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Tom Mari |

Executive Board

John Tinsley, Thomas Root
Jim Bright, Steve Bartelt
Les Saunders

Legion Riders

Director: John Tinsley

Auxiliary Officers

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| President | Virna Luke |
| 1st Vice President | Liz Hill |
| 2nd Vice President | VACANT |
| Secretary | Suzanne Lamonica |
| Treasurer | TracyLynn Jenkins |
| Chaplain | Diane Conrad |
| Historian | VACANT |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Kathy Deem |
| Asst. Sgt-at-Arms | Tammy Knowles |
| Membership | Suzanne Lamonica |

Auxiliary Executive Committee

Brenda Sahioun, Annie Anderson

Montana Jenkins

Club Manager Liz Hill

Legion First Vice Vibes

Please see the important note on page 1 concerning paying your dues online. The 2023 cards are available, so please pay your dues. **Please Note: We cannot accept credit card payments as Department will not process them for us.** Please pay your dues by check, money order or come in and pay cash.

National went to a new system on April 1st. 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.** See Page 3 for details on establishing an account.

Dues are \$40 for ages 59 and younger (\$35 for Early Bird 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 only get discounted rates by paying \$32 or \$35 utilizing the renewal notice.

Clarence Hill

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S PROSE

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers that helped with our steak nights in October: Denise, Mitch (Legion), Denny (Legion) and TracyLyn. We are always looking for help, so please text/call. Tick, tock, tick, tock...time is running out for you to be an early bird. Auxiliary dues are \$30 for under 60, but **Early Bird is \$28 if paid before November 11, 2022**, \$25 for over 60 and \$5 for Juniors. Dues can be mailed in or dropped off in the Auxiliary box at the post (next to the front door); for administrative purposes, please write your name, membership number, and call back number on the envelope. Contact Suzanne LaMonica (Membership Chairman) to pick up your card(s) and with any question you may have related to membership. Email to Suzanne at suzlamonica@comcast.net.

Auxiliary steak nights are Friday the 4th and 18th. Early Bird dinner is Nov 12. Fifth District Auxiliary meeting is at Post 202 (Keystone Heights) at 2pm Nov 13, all members are welcome. Our next Unit 316 General Meeting is Monday, Nov 14 at 8pm. Please attend, we had a poor showing on Oct 10 with only four members attending out of our 388 members on the books, so we were not able to process any donations, payments or membership applications. I look forward to seeing you at our general meeting. For God 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 Tap Trivia 7 PM
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-volunteers needed

If you know of any family needing help with food, please let Liz know. Thank you for all your support in 2022.

Lost & Found. If you are missing any item, like jackets, 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 or official NFL clothing on Sunday game 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. Seats at the games are for player only. Players are restricted to playing one game at a time.**

Liz Hill

Legion Riders

First I want to thank ALL who participated in our ZOMBIE ride. I hope everyone had a good ride. October was a great month for getting out there to support the Chapters hosting events. I hope you participated. Remember, our Chapter is nothing without the participation of our members, thank you to those that do. Additionally, we have been asked to man the flag line for the Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11th at Beaches Veterans Memorial Park, yes the one outside the Post's doors, be there at 8:30 am, the ceremony starts at 9 am.

Hope to see you all at our next meeting on November 5th at 9 am.

John Tinsley

2nd Vice Reverbs

Please remember those deployed service members and their families.
VACANT

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

Next House Committee meeting will be held on November 1st at 1800. The new south side fence will be installed at the beginning of the month. We are going to reuse the gates at the dumpster for the north side fence gates. We are making good progress on hall maintenance. Let's keep up the good work. We can always use more help. If interested, please contact Jim Bright or Commander Greg White. We will be doing inside maintenance on Sunday the 20th. Plan on cleaning the last 3 smoke eaters and the filters in a couple of the ceiling vents. If we have time, we'd like to level the legs on the tables in the Canteen area. Don't forget Election Day is the 8th. Have a great month.

Jim Bright

Service Officer

VACANT

History Tidbit

1990-1994: 8/2/90, files suit against the federal government for failure to conduct a Congressionally-mandated study on the effects of Agent Orange on veterans who served in Vietnam. 10/11/90, creates the Family Support Network to assist families of servicemembers deployed for operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Middle East. Through local Posts, the network offers a wide range of assistance, including financial assistance, mowing lawns, baby-sitting and more. It continues to this day for those deployed. 6/15/91, hosts its first Junior Shooting Sports National Air Rifle Championship at the Olympic Training Facility in Colorado Springs. More than 2,000 high school students compete annually. 8/24/94, creates the Citizens Flag Alliance, a coalition of organizations and individuals united to work for a constitutional amendment to protect the US Flag from desecration. It has passed in the House 6 times, but the closest it has come in the Senate is 1 vote short in 2006. 9/24/94, announced a partnership with the Smithsonian Institute's Air and Space Museum to develop an exhibit for the bomber Enola Gay, which dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. Previous museum plans had drawn intense criticism from veterans, scholars and the public.

VACANT

Online Legion Account

To register in MyLegion.org, you must have your email attached to your name in the online National roster. If it is not in your profile, the account you establish will be a non-Legion account. See 1st Vice Clarence Hill if you are not sure. To establish the account, go to mylegion.org and select "Register." Enter the email in the Register window and click next. Then follow the prompts. After you create your password, the email must be verified. The system will send you a one time password (OTP) to verify it. Once your account is established, click on "My Account" and your information will be displayed to you and you can make additions or corrections as needed. With this system, you can print your own replacement cards if you lose yours.

Sons of The American Legion

Please pay your 2023 membership dues. It's been a slow start and the 50% goal is coming fast. Thank you to the October 14th 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. This is your SAL, so please attend the meeting. Please consider joining the team. We are still looking for a Historian. New faces and new ideas are needed, so please attend the meeting. We'll be discussing our annual donations for Boys and Girls State as well as hurricane assistance.

David Keasler

PACT Act

The bipartisan Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act was signed into law 8/14/22 by President Biden. The law will allow vets to obtain disability compensation for their exposure related injuries without having to prove respiratory illnesses or cancer diagnoses were related to their service-related exposure to open-air burn pits. In the past, the VA stuck to strict scientific evidence before granting presumptive status for illnesses linked to military service, and some 70% of claims were rejected due to lack of evidence. The law will allow the VA to provide benefits and care to vets suffering from some 23 toxic exposure-related respiratory illnesses and cancers to be phased in over the next 3 years. Vets will also see their VA medical coverage on discharge increase from 5 years to 10 years. 2017 discharged Vets will automatically be increased, while those discharged between 2014 and 2017 may apply for the increase. Vietnam Vets exposed to Agent Orange, presumptive status for monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) goes into effect immediately, while high blood pressure benefits won't go into effect until late 2026. There is also funding for the VA to hire more people to process the increase in claims. Info is available at VA.gov/PACT or by calling 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411).

Habitat for Humanity

The Beaches Habitat has received a generous donation from Lowes this year that they have set aside for Veterans in the Beaches area that have emergent repair need or need to add a wheelchair ramp. This is only for the Beaches Area which extends to San Pablo Road and includes Ponte Vedra. For information or assistance, contact their CEO, Steve Gilbert, at sgilbert@beacheshabitat.org or by phone at 904-241-4310.

Camp Lejeune Justice Act

From August 1953 to December 1987, servicemembers and their families were exposed to contaminated drinking water at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and Marine Corps Air Station New River. Congress passed a law that established presumptive conditions for those exposed to include the following cancers: esophageal, lung, breast, bladder and kidney, as well as leukemia, multiple myeloma, myelodysplastic syndromes, renal toxicity, hepatic steatosis, female infertility, miscarriage, scleroderma, neurobehavioral effects and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Presumptive conditions shift the burden of proof away from the veteran, which streamlined and simplified the disability claims process. Predatory law firms charging exorbitant fees have engaged in aggressive marketing campaigns to include television advertisements and social media digital marketing campaigns targeting veterans. Some take 2/3 or more of the settlement. This is why the Legion has service officers to help with the claims process. While Post 316 is currently without one, the service officers for both Post 129 in Jax Beach and Post 283 in Arlington assist our members. If you intend to file a lawsuit and hire a lawyer, be sure to understand exactly what the relationship is. At the National Fall Conference in Indianapolis last month, the NEC passed a resolution calling on Congress to provide the necessary oversight during the implementation of this act to ensure veterans receive fair consideration of their lawsuits and protections against predatory law firms.



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



November 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| VODKA | Lunch is Served 11:00—1:00 Mon—Fri | 1 All Saints Day Chicken Marsala Bingo 2:00—4:00 House Com Mtg 6 Tap Trivia 7 PM | 2 Ham & Broccoli Mac & Cheese Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7 PM | 3 Brauts Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7 | 4 Taco Soup Sandwich Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30 Queen of Hearts 8 | 5 Guy Fawkes Day Riders' Mtg 0900 SAL Mtg 1030 |
| 6 DST Ends GIN Raiders 1 PM | 7 Fried Chicken Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM | 8 Election Day Lasagna Bingo 2:00—4:00 Tap Trivia 7 PM | 9 Smothered Pork Chops Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7 PM | 10 USMC B-Day ALA B-Day Shepherd's Pie Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7 | 11 Veterans Day NO LUNCH SAL Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30 Queen of Hearts 8 | 12 Early Bird Dinner 3—5 PM |
| 13 BOURBON 5th District 2 PM Keystone Hts 202 @ Chiefs 1200 | 14 Meatloaf Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM Mtg Night 8 PM | 15 Spaghetti w/Meat or Clam Sauce Bingo 2:00—4:00 Tap Trivia 7 PM | 16 Chicken Fajitas Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7 PM | 17 Taco Salad Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7 | 18 Clam Chowder Egg or Tuna Salad Sandwich Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30 Queen of Hearts 8 | 19 SUBVETS 1100 |
| 20 SCOTCH Maintenance Day Inside 10 AM Bye Week | 21 Turkey Dinner Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM | 22 Philly Cheesesteak Bingo 2:00—4:00 Tap Trivia 7 PM | 23 Tomato Florentine Soup & Sandwich Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7 PM | 24 Thanksgiving NO LUNCH Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7 | 25 Black Friday Vegetable Beef Barley Soup & Sandwich Legion Steaks Steak Bingo 6:30 Queen of Hearts 8 | 26 |
| 27 WHISKEY Ravens 1 PM | 28 Beef Tips Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM | 29 Giving Tuesday Italian Wedding Soup Chicken or Steak Caesar Salad Bingo 2:00—4:00 Tap Trivia 7 PM | 30 Chili & Grilled Cheese Sandwich Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7 PM | | | |