



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

October 2023
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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

Greetings! I hope everyone is having a great Summer. As we move into Fall, we want to say thank you to our volunteers. Halloween is rapidly approaching, be safe and remember, our children will be out trick-or-treating. **Florida-Georgia** game is the same weekend (Saturday the 28th @ 3:30) so come out and root for your team. The Riders Zombie ride is also the 28th and will have a bus available this year. The new cell phone booster system has been installed and is working well. Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

Bill Knipper

Executive Committee and General Assembly

Approved \$500 scholarship for Kadence Thigpen
Approved \$3,700 for new cash register control system

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

New: Donadl Bruning, Chris Richars

Transfers: Renato Aldano, Honorio Arce, Dave Ashmore, Tim Collins, John Delaney, Dave Dorn, James Drushal, Donald Franklin, Richard Gottlick, Lawrence Laymon, Wayne Lloyd, Robert Marceau, Norm Starks

Taps: Charles Cooper

Booster List

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

Bob Shellenberger 10/23

B. W. Pete Wait, III 10/23

David & April Tolbert 11/23

In Remembrance USS Stark 3/24

Clarence & Liz Hill 8/23

Lynn Murray 3/25

Lance H. Davison 4/25

Penny Swiebel 5/26

Eddie George 1/27

2024 Membership Renewal Notices

Once again, **National has changed the renewal notice** you receive from them. **Please remember, the Post has no control over what National does.** All of the issues on the 2023 notice like "Member since 2023" and the sample card they put on the back of the renewal notice, have been removed. The spots for updating/providing your information are now on the back of the notice. **If there are blanks on the back, please fill in the information and also provide your birthday** when you mail in your dues.

TOYS FOR TOTS

The Post has a Toys for Tots bin at the Atlantic Blvd entrance. The campaign runs from October 1st to December 11th. **Toys are for boys and girls ages 0-12 and must be new and unwrapped.** Gift cards may also be donated by giving them to Clarence, Liz or the bartender. Gift cards will be kept separate from the box and be turned in on the same date.

2024 Membership Cards

If you pay dues online, you will be charged our official dues rate of \$40. You can only get our senior dues rate of \$32 or early bird rate of \$35 by using the renewal notice and mailing your \$32/\$35 to the Post. **Two things are important when you pay online: make sure you are paying for 2024 unless you are behind and want to catch up your years; and do not click on the \$25 or \$30 options. If you**

click on one of them, the system will make you a new member starting with one year and a new membership number and put you in the headquarters Post which is Orlando 400. Post 316 will lose you as a member and get no credit for your renewal.

Department Raffle

The Department online raffle continues. A winner will be drawn on a Friday every two weeks beginning 7/28. An early bird winner of \$1,000 will be drawn every two weeks beginning 7/21. Every Friday will have a winner. Details can be found at www.floridalegion.org/raffles. So there are two ways to win on each cycle with a winner drawn every Friday. When you purchase your tickets, **you can select Post 316 from the "Support Your Local Post" dropdown menu** when submitting your tickets. On a quarterly basis, the Post will receive 10% of the amount spent by those designating the Post. If a member who has designated Post 316 wins the 50/50, the Post will receive a \$500 bonus. You do not have to be a member to play, but you have to be in Florida-the number won't work from outside the state. **Thank you to all who have supported Post 316.**

DUES INCREASE

At the National Convention in Charlotte at the end of August, a resolution came forward for a **\$5 increase in the National portion of the per-capita effective July 1, 2024** with the beginning of the 2025 membership campaign. It passed unanimously. The last time National raised dues was in 2017. The Department portion remains unchanged for now. The Post will be considering our dues at the beginning of the year with a likely \$5 increase in annual dues and an increase in the 3-year dues. **Those members who have years left on their 3-year payment will not be affected by the increase in dues until their 3-year period ends.** If you are interested in prolonging the impact of the dues increase, pay the 3-year rate this year.

Pearl Harbor Day Golf Tournament

Our 24th annual tournament will be held on Saturday, Dec 2nd. **Entry fee is \$75 pre player/\$300 per foursome. Hole sponsor is \$50.** Please consider sponsoring a hole, encouraging your friends and relatives to sponsor a hole and check to see if your company will sponsor a hole. Forms are at the Post.

Post 9/11 GI Bill Transfer of Entitlement (TOE)

VA has improved the **Digital GI Bill** initiative to streamline the application now available on VA.gov. Once logged in with an account verified by ID.me or Login.gov, TOE applicants save time with: pre-filled sponsor details; transferee direct deposit info; shorter application with fewer questions; and easier navigation. Having the sponsor's military service history, current address, contact information and applicant's direct deposit info handy during the application process to verify the accuracy of the info results in fewer mistakes. Apply at VA.gov to determine eligibility.

POST 316 IS A FREE WiFi HOTSPOT.

Post Officers

Commander	Bill Knipper
1st Vice Commander	Clarence Hill
2nd Vice Commander	Bryan Canto
3rd Vice Commander	VACANT
4th Vice Commander	VACANT
Finance Officer	Randy Casey
Adjutant	Greg White
Chaplain	Joe Nolan
Service Officer	VACANT
Judge Advocate	VACANT
Historian	Shane Adcox
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Tinsley

House Committee

Chairman: Jim Bright

SAL Officers

Commander	David Keasler
Adjutant	Clarence Hill
1st Vice	Tom Horn
2nd Vice	Cody Dyal
Finance Officer	Clarence Hill
Chaplain	Will Oliphant
Historian	VACANT
Sergeant-at-Arms	Tom Mari, Jr.

Executive Board

Jim Bright, Steve Bartelt

VACANT VACANT

VACANT

Legion Riders

Director: Denise Strickland

Auxiliary Officers

President	Liz Hill
1st Vice President	Annie Anderson
2nd Vice President	VACANT
Secretary	Sharon Harville
Treasurer	TracyLynn Jenkins
Chaplain	Diane Conrad
Historian	Cathy White
Sergeant-at-Arms	Kathy Deem
Asst. Sgt-at-Arms	Suzanne Lamonica
Membership	Nicole Thigpen

Auxiliary Executive Committee

Brenda Sahioun, **VACANT**

VACANT

Club Manager Liz Hill

Legion First Vice Vibes

The 2024 cards are at the Post and are being processed. Our dues have not changed this year and are as noted below. **Expect a dues increase next year as the note on the front page indicates.** 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 1, 2021. You can create an account by visiting legion.org/renew and follow the steps. 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. Page 3 has details on establishing an account.

Dues are \$40 (\$35 Early Bird dues until Veterans Day) for 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

Thanks to all volunteers who supported our Unit with functions in September. We had 1 Legionnaire, 2 SAL, 5 Aux and 1 Junior help us. **We need more volunteers Ladies to support our functions.** Thanks for all the dishes that were brought in for the Memorial.

Our steak nights are on the 6th and 20th. Our **Halloween Party will be on the 28th with our Witches Brew dinner, cake walk and costume party.** Please bring a dish to share for dinner and a cake for the walk.

Membership renewals have been mailed. Please renew and be an early bird. Dues are \$40, \$38 for Early Bird (until Nov 11th), \$35 for seniors 60 and older, and \$5 for Juniors. If you would like to plan a Saturday dinner, call me. We need help with our Facebook Page. If interested, let me know. We continue to collect books, toiletries, etc. to help our Veterans. We have vacancies on our Executive Committee and several program chairmanships. If interested, please attend our meeting on Monday the 9th at 8 PM or call me. Our meeting takes approx. 35 minutes. Hope to see you there. **HAPPY HALLOWEEN.**

For God and Country.

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

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
Thursday-SAL Pizza Night
Friday-Steak Bingo at 6:30 PM by the 40 & 8
Friday-Queen of Hearts drawing 7:45 PM-volunteers needed

The kitchen and storage room are off-limits and closed when meals are not being served. **No one is authorized** to go in the kitchen or storage room and help themselves to anything after meal hours or to use any of the equipment. Once again, thanks to all our volunteers. **We need help repairing bar stools if anyone can volunteer.** Thank you to our bingo callers, card sellers, winner checking. There is a sign-up list for Sunday football game food. With receipts, up to \$50 can be reimbursed.

Trivia is in full swing on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM-join the fun.

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

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 7:45 PM. **You must be present, be a 2023 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.** We need volunteers to sell the tickets. Please see Liz if you can help.

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 logo shirts on race day Sundays or official NFL logo shirts on NFL Sundays to 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 6:30 PM every Friday steak night. Eight games are conducted-7 for steaks and 1 for road kill.

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. Please note: 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

WOW, what a busy month September was. Every weekend was something exciting to do, from poker/chip runs, the POW/MIA 7 Bridges ride, and our ride to Cedar Key. So many miles I think I lost count! Thank you to everyone who came out to support us on Monday nights and for our steak night on the 29th. Welcoming in October with the fall colors and cooler weather. I know most are happy about that, well most. With that being said, I want to remind everyone about the Zombie Ride on Saturday the 28th. We will have a new company doing our face painting – Bryce Brushworks 10 am – 1 pm and so excited! If you would like your face painted, please email me at dndfishing@aol.com or text / call me at 904-699-5914 the cost is still \$20. We will also have a bus for anyone that would like to participate and not drive or ride. Space is limited so hurry up and get your name on the list...currently have 40 spaces remaining!! The cost is \$15 per person. You can bring a cooler if you like or use ours.

When we return from the ride the Auxiliary will have their annual Witches Brew so come out and help support! I hear there will be food, a cakewalk and much more!

Also, the month of October starts our Merry Go-Round. An opportunity for us to win/keep the district plaque! Would like to plan a ride so be thinking of places to go!

A few upcoming events:

Saturday, October 7 is Lake City's Toys 4 Tots

Sunday, October 8 is our district meeting at Post 283

Saturday, October 21 is Post 202 Ride

Saturday, October 28 is our Zombie Ride

Don't forget our next meeting is **Saturday, October 7 at 9 am**. Come on out fill the meeting hall and win the jackpot of the 50/!

Denise Strickland

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

Hope everyone has enjoyed the great weather. The next outside work day is scheduled for August 19th starting at 1000. Hope to see you there.

Jim Bright

Service Officer

VACANT

History Tidbit

2019-July 30, President Trump signs the Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service—the LEGION Act—which extends recognized wartime service to cover previously unrecognized periods of U. S. military conflicts, back to World War II. More than 1,600 Americans were killed or wounded in armed hostilities during periods not previously recognized as wartime. The Act allows veterans who served outside of the previously designated war eras to join The American Legion.

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.](#)

Legitimate Charity Donations

When donating money, keep a few things in mind:

- Be suspicious of unsolicited contacting
- Use the IRS Tax Exempt Organization Search tool to verify tax deductible
- Research the charity to be sure it is real and always get a receipt
- Legitimate charities do not ask for gift cards, cash or wire transfers
- Scammers can change caller ID to appear to be from legitimate charity
- Beware of vague or sentimental claims on how the money will be used

Sons of The American Legion

Please renew now and be an Early Bird. **SAL members may now renew online through MyLegion.org**. Thank you to the September 8th 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 be handed to you or be in the box behind the bar.

Our meeting is the 7th at 1030. This is your SAL, so please attend the meeting. **Squadron Office open is Historian.** New faces and new ideas are needed, so please attend the meeting and consider taking an office. **Thursday pizza night is going well**, come out and try one and even lend a hand.

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](#)

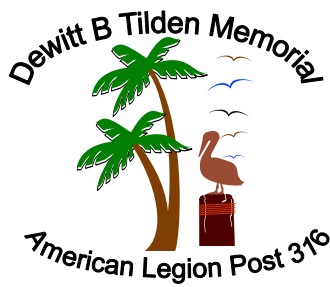
to be phased in over the next 3 years. Vets will also see their VA medical coverage on discharge increase from 5 years to 10 years. 2017 discharged Vets will automatically be increased, while those discharged between 2014 and 2017 may apply for the increase. Vietnam Vets exposed to Agent Orange, presumptive 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).

BE THE ONE Campaign

At the Spring NEC meetings this past May, the NEC passed Resolution 13: Be the One Days to provide a new method for raising awareness of the Legion's "Be the One" veteran suicide-prevention initiative. The Resolution [urges American Legion Family members and American Legion posts to set aside the first day of each month as an opportunity to reduce the stigma around mental health issues.](#) Legion Family members are urged to wear a "Be the One" item to signal their commitment to the initiative. This can be a great way to keep awareness high about this important issue all year long. Resolution 7 passed at the same Conference establishes the last Saturday in April as "American Legion Family Day" and encourages posts to open their doors to their community with the intent to educate, recruit, recognize and give back to those members that support the post and to place special emphasis on "Be the One."

Scammers Posing as the IRS

A letter or notice is usually the first way the IRS will contact a taxpayer. If you receive one, you can verify its authenticity by logging into your secure IRS online account if you have one to see if the letter is in your file; review common IRS letters at the Understanding Your IRS Notice or Letter page; contact the IRS customer service directly; and verify a private collection agency letter has the correct taxpayer authentication number as the Notice CO40 you receive has. Scammers may call and leave pre-recorded, urgent or threatening messages like arrest warrants. The IRS makes no threatening calls. The IRS doesn't first contact taxpayers by email or social media channels to request personal information. Scammers may send phishing emails; pose as an IRS social media account to contact a taxpayer about a fake bill or refund; text taxpayers about fake "tax credits" of "stimulus payments." The IRS never contacts a taxpayer by social media or text messages.



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



October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 WINE Falcons 9:30 AM	2 Chicken Fried Steak Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7 PM	3 Chicken Enchilada Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia 7 PM	4 Smothered Pork Chop Ladies Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7PM	5 Mexican Beef Tips Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts SAL Pizza Night	6 Clam Chowder Egg or Tuna Salad Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30 Queen of Hearts 8	7 Riders Mtg 0900 SAL Mtg 1030
8 BEER 5th District 2 PM Arlington 283 @ Bills 9:30 AM	9 Columbus Day Hamburger Steak Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7 PM Mtg Night 8 PM	10 Baked Chicken Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia 7 PM	11 Lasagna Ladies Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7PM	12 Ham or Turkey Wrap Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7 SAL Pizza Night	13 Navy B-Day BLTs SAL Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30 Queen of Hearts 8	14
15 RUM Colts 1 PM	16 Liver or Meatloaf Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7 PM	17 Chicken Bruschetta Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia 7 PM	18 Patty Melts Ladies Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7PM	19 Pulled Pork Taco Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7 SAL Pizza Night @ Saints 8:15 PM	20 Potato Soup Grilled Cheese Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30 Queen of Hearts 8	21 SUBVETS 1100
22 VODKA	23 Rib Dinner Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7 PM	24 World Polio Day Philly Cheesesteak Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia 7 PM	25 Shepherd's Pie Ladies Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7PM	26 Brats Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7 SAL Pizza Night	27 Navy Day Italian Hoagies Legion Steaks Steak Bingo 6:30 Queen of Hearts 8	28 Halloween Party Witches Brew Cake Walk Costume Contest
29 GIN @ Steelers 1 PM	30 Chicken & Dumplings Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night	31 Halloween Witches Stew Bingo 2:00—4:00 Trivia 7 PM		Lunch is served 11:00—1:00 Mon—Fri		