



# The Légionnaire

Tidewater Post 327

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Norfolk, VA 23518

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DECEMBER 2022

## POST OFFICERS

Commander: Roger Kelly  
1st VCDR: Byron Pianalto  
2nd VCDR: Rick McDonald  
3rd VCDR: TBD  
Adjutant: Evan Glendinning  
Finance: David Seate  
Service Officer: Bob DeChamplain  
Chaplain: Keith Palmer  
Sgt-at-Arms: Linda Blaker  
Historian: TBD

### Exec Board

Ashley Wehrle  
Tim Gonyea  
Michael McCann  
Michael Encalade

## LEGION RIDERS

Director: (DJ) Derrick Johnson  
Asst Dir: Keith Palmer  
Adjutant: TBD  
Treasurer: David Seate  
Safety Officer: Keith McCauley  
Chaplain: Mike Moranha  
Sgt-at-Arms: Vacant  
Road Captain: Keith McCauley

### Exec Board

Al R. Gnome

## SAL SQUADRON

CDR: Fred Vaccarella  
1st VCDR: Dave Samson / Wayne Turner  
2nd VCDR David "Benski" Vernon  
Adjutant: James Doty Jr  
Treasurer: Jeff Evans  
Chaplain: Rocky English / Frank White  
1st Sgt-at-Arms: Mike Schmidt  
Historian: Evan Glendinning  
Historian: Dan Schmidt

### Exec Board

Steve Gower  
Milo Cross  
Kenneth O'Bryan

## AUXILIARY

President: Mary Taggart  
Vice President: Helen Lynum  
Secretary: Jeanne Hartman  
Treasurer: Jan Dumstorff  
Chaplain: Marcia Brothers  
Sgt-at-Arms: Patty Hibner  
Historian: Jane Evans

### Exec Board

Karen Stull  
Jan Dumstorff  
Crystal Cross

**COMMANDER:** Seasons Greetings! I hope this newsletter finds everyone happy, healthy, and enjoying the holiday season. The Post enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner last month. We had new friends from Post 139 out of New Jersey come by and serve our family during the meal. Coming up this month will be our 75th Anniversary party and New Year's Eve Party. Please continue to renew your memberships. For God and Country, Roger Kelly  
**UPCOMING EVENTS:** 75th Anniversary party 17 December @ 6PM, New Year Eve's Party 31 December @ 8PM  
**FIRST VICE COMMANDER:** We are currently at 70% goal so please keep these renewals coming in. Legion Post members can also use [mylegion.org](http://mylegion.org) to renew your Membership online. Anyone that has an honorable discharge after Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941, is able join. For God and Country, Byron Pianalto  
**SECOND VICE COMMANDER:** Last Party of the year! New Year's Eve Party Saturday December 31, 2022, @ 8PM!!

Come on down and celebrate the New Year with us.... Lots of Food, drinks, entertainment, door prizes and more! For God and Country, Rick McDonald  
**ADJUTANT:** Seasons Greetings, I do hope that everyone had an amazing Thanksgiving and I hope everyone has an even better holiday season and New Year's! Speaking of New Years, if you haven't renewed your membership yet for 2023, make sure you do it as soon as you can. For legionnaires, there is three different ways that you can renew your membership. The first way is that you can come in person and talk to either myself or Byron. The second way is that you can renew online. Go to [legion.org](http://legion.org) and follow the prompts on the website. Or you can mail your dues in. Make sure if you mail your dues in, include your name and any updated contact information that you need to provide to the Post. Our mailing address is 705 Lesner Ave. Norfolk, VA 23518. I also want to give a HUGE shout out to our friends down at the FRA. Many of which are also members here at Post 327. The FRA helped

us raise almost \$2,600 to help end local veteran homelessness. Thank you to the FRA and to everyone that donated money. We still have the container at the bar. We are still raising money to help end local veterans' homelessness. If you have any fundraising ideas, would like to help fundraise or would like to donate, please see me and we can talk. I would also like to give a BIG shoutout to Benski, Mike, Jane, Mary and to everyone else that helped with our Thanksgiving Dinner. The dinner went very smooth, and the food was delicious. I hope everyone is well and has a great holiday season. For God and Country, Evan Glendinning

**SERVICE OFFICER:** During the Month of October service officers spoke with 190 veterans, spent 168 hours and logged 448 miles. I want to thank all the service officers for the hard work they do. The Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 – better known as the PACT Act, signed into law Aug. 10, 2022 – opens the door for certain individuals to file lawsuits and collect damages from the federal government due to their exposure to contaminated water on the Marine Corps base (also known as the Camp Lejeune Justice Act (CLJA)). Qualified claimants had to have served/lived at least 30 days at Camp Lejeune, N.C., between Aug. 1, 1953, and Dec. 31, 1987. Several law firms, through national ad campaigns, are urging veterans and families to sue the federal government for toxic water exposure at Camp Lejeune, N.C. What these law firms are NOT telling our veterans is that the CLJA includes an offset clause. These law firms appear to be ignoring the offset provision because they do not understand VA disability law and have no interest in protecting veterans. This is why veterans should make informed decisions on which “lane” to use in obtaining benefits. Any award made to an individual, or legal representative of an individual, under this section shall be offset by the amount of any disability award, payment, or benefit provided to the individual, or legal representative—

(A) under—

- (i) any program under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs;
- (ii) the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.); or
- (iii) the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.); and

(B) in connection with health care or a disability relating to exposure to the water at Camp Lejeune. For God & Country, Bob DeChamplain

**CHAPLAIN:** We have been blessed this year and thankful for all the many blessings that the Lord has poured out upon us. Let us remember your peace, joy, and unconditional love during this Season. We pray and hope that everyone continues to share your peace, joy, and unconditional love as

they comfort others during this season. "Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you." 2 Corinthians 13:11. Heavenly Father thank you, for God and Country, Amen. Keith Palmer

**LEGION RIDERS:** Greetings! As we prepare for the Holiday season take the time to check on loved ones and ones who are in need. The riders donated backpacks with gloves, hats, and scarfs to the Homeless shelter called The Center in Norfolk. They were very appreciative, and we are looking to make it a yearly event. There will be no Rider meeting in December, instead, we have our annual Potluck meal. This will be on Dec 15th at 1800. We appreciate all of your support! Any Legion family member can join the Riders; we have both Rider and Supporter memberships. Vehicles (cages) and Support Members are encouraged to ride with us! For those interested in joining the Chapter 327 Riders, please contact the Rider Officers for more information.

For GOD and Country, “DJ” Derrick Johnson, Riders Director

**ATHLETIC OFFICER:** Greetings to all, I want to send a shout out to the Flying Aces traveling softball team. They donated 6 turkeys and 4 hams for the thanksgiving dinner at our post. They will be pinch hitting for the SAL on Friday the 16th. They will be preparing and serving shepherd's pie with salad and dessert. Come enjoy and thank coach Mike Encalade for their support. I'm sure everyone is saying this, however, remember those who will not be home for the holidays. God be with them and their loved ones. On a brighter note, Jane and I wish all a healthy and joyous holiday season. Till next month...For God and Country, Jeff Evans, A.O.

**SQUADRON COMMANDER:** Happy Holidays and Seasons Greetings to our Legion family and Friends! Well, 2022 is about over, less than 30 days by the time this input is read by all. Your Sons hope all had a good Thanksgiving with relatives and friends. December 17th the Sons should have in attendance at the Post 75th Anniversary celebration the SAL National Commander, Chris Carlton along with our State Detachment Commander David Boggs and our Eastern Regional State Detachment Vice Commander Jarrod Vass. 1st Vice Commanders Dave Sampson and Wayne Turner want to remind you that 2023 dues are due by December 31st. Remember that you must present a 2023 membership card in January to be able to enter and stay. It is the bar manager's responsibility to check membership cards in January as required by the ABC board. The last thing we want to do is to not be compliant with the ABC regulations and lose our license. We are doing pretty good at membership. As of the membership report published 11/11/22 your squadron is at 48.77%. By the time you read this newsletter input we will be over 50%. We have 20 “new” SAL members and more to join. Our dinner night in November was southern style meatloaf which was prepared by 2nd Vice Commander Benski which was well received and successful. Benski is grateful for the

assistance of Jane Evans and Debbie Norton. I thank both of you ladies for your time and dedication to the Sons. December 16th the Sons are giving our dinner night to Coach Mike Encalade and his Flying Aces Baseball team. Please come and support our baseball team. Merry Christmas Team!!! Past SAL National Vice Commander Steve Gower presented a check in the amount of \$1000.00 from your squadron to the Fisher House in Portsmouth November 7th. This is only possible because of your support for the SAL dinners and fundraisers. We thank all of you!

**VAVS/CDCE:** I attended the Veterans Day Celebration held on the campus lawn November 10th.

I was asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. I presented a check for \$500.00 from the Post for the General Fund account. I attended the Zoom orientation for Representatives, Deputies and Volunteers on November 16th. The time is very near when volunteers will be able to give hours at the VA hospital. It looks very promising that we will start having stand downs soon for job fairs and homeless Veterans at the VA. In fact, it looks like our patient Veterans will perhaps be able to come to our Post for a fish fry and bingo in the Spring. There is no official word out yet concerning the Country Fair Day festivities at the VA.

**VE&E:** While I was at the Veterans Day celebration, I handed over a check in the amount of \$500.00 from the Post. This money went to homeless Veterans for clothing, hairdressers/barbers, hygiene items, ride fares for job interviews and money for apartment starts for household items. I thank all that annually donate calendars to be distributed at the hospital. They do not need any more magazines. Books are still ok to donate.

\*\*\*\*\* **Veterans Crisis Hotline is 988 #1** \*\*\*\*\*

Please keep all of those in your prayers that are having hard times medically or financially or both. Do a "Buddy Check" for those you may have not heard from in a while.

For God and Country, Fred Vaccarella

**ALA PRESIDENT:** Welcome to the Holiday season, Thank you to everyone that came out to support the Trunk or Treat this year. Happy belated birthday to the American Legion Auxiliary, celebrating 103 years on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you Jackie, Jan, and Carol for all the hours you have dedicated to making this year's Turkey Bowl and Basket Raffle a success. Thank you to all the individuals and companies that made donation to this event. The continued support that many volunteers give is truly appreciated. Unit members along with our Juniors participated in a community service project at St. Mary's Cemetery. During the Junior meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>, members joined by young Sons of the American Legion made door decorations and Christmas cards for VAMC Hampton. They are very talented and creative group. The Angel tree tradition continues again this year. Angels will be on

the Christmas tree in the Social quarters. All Angel gifts must be returned to the Post no later than Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for blessing these Angels.

Mark your calendar

**12/2** Unit Dinner 6-8 :Baked Ziti, salad, garlic bread and dessert Volunteers are needed to take orders, serve and clean up. Please arrive at 5:30pm

**12/6** Unit Meeting 7pm

**12/15** Deadline to return Angel tree gifts

**12/16** Angel Tree gifts pick- day

**12/17** Auxiliary and Legion 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration 6pm

Remember our membership drive continues, please pay your dues and encourage eligible friends and family to join. Your membership, along with your involvement and support is what helps the American Legion Auxiliary fulfill our mission to enhance the lives of veterans, military and their families. Dues are \$40.00, and \$10 for juniors (birth -18) Service, Not Self, For God and Country, Mary Taggart Unit 327 President

**HONOR GUARDS CORNER.** The Honor Guard was very busy last month. We were invited by the IBPOE to their Veterans Day event at Crowne Point Plaza in Virginia Beach. We have celebrated the Coast Guard, Air Force and Navy birthday. Along with presenting colors for both the Marine Corp and America Legion Auxiliary birthday at the Post on November 10th. We attended the Hamptons Roads Council of Veterans Organizations lunch on the 11th. The Honor Guard helped with the annual welcome home to Veterans on Nov. 12. We closed out Veterans Day weekend by being part of Olive Grove Baptist Church Veterans Day Service. The Honor Guard will be helping the Post and Auxiliary celebrate their 75th Anniversary in December. The Honor Guard continues serving our community. Some of the ways we serve are funeral and burial honors, Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies and parades and civic functions. Along with providing lessons to children about flag etiquette and flag folding. Contact Otha Newton if you are in need of our services. For God and Country, Gene Niedholdt

**CLUBROOM MANAGER:** Hello everyone! As 2022 comes to an end I hope you can reflect on at least part of this year with happiness. The Christmas season isn't easy for everyone so please try to have a smile and a kind word for the less fortunate and those who are alone. Reminder: Locker fees are due no later than Saturday, 31 December 2022. Also, there are a number of new laws governing the E-machines and paper tickets so if a Bar manager asks you to do something please know there is a reason and just do as they ask. I would like to take this time to wish each of you and your families a joyous holiday season and a very happy and healthy New Year. For God and Country, Sandi Wright



# December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Fish Sandwich 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<b>2</b> 6:00 PM ALA Dinner - Baked Ziti	<b>3</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open
<b>4</b> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast 1:00 PM Legion Bowling Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?	<b>5</b> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special 6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open 7:30 PM Legion Darts	<b>6</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 6:30 PM ALA Exec Mtg 7:00 PM ALA Regular Mtg	<b>7</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 7:00 PM 40/8 Promenade @ Post 327	<b>8</b> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Ham w/ Hashbrown Casserole 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<b>9</b> 6:00 PM Dinner by Patty - Pork Chops	<b>10</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 7:30 PM Karaoke - Ricky Still
<b>11</b> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast 1:00 PM Legion Bowling Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?	<b>12</b> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special 6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open 7:00 PM Son's Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Legion Darts 7:30 PM Son's Regular Mtg	<b>13</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 7:00 PM Post Executive Mtg 7:30 PM Post Reg Mtg	<b>14</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<b>15</b> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Baked Spaghetti 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 6:30 PM Legion Riders Mtg	<b>16</b> 6:00 PM Softball Team Dinner - Shepherds Pie	<b>17</b> <div>Post 327 75th Anniversary Celebration</div>
<b>18</b> 9:00 AM -11:00 AM Breakfast 1:00 PM Legion Bowling Kitchen Open - 4:00 PM til ?	<b>19</b> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special 6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open 7:00 PM Honor Guard Mtg 7:30 PM Legion Darts	<b>20</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<b>21</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open 6:30 PM V V A Chapter 48 Reg Board Mtg	<b>22</b> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Taco Casserole 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<b>23</b> 6:00 PM Dinner by Patty - Swiss Steak	<b>24</b> <div>Social Quarters closes at 6:00 PM</div>
<b>25</b> <div>MERRY CHRISTMAS</div> <div>Social Quarters open @ 2 PM</div>	<b>26</b> 1:00 PM -4:00 PM Hot Dog Special 6:00 PM til ? Kitchen Open	<b>27</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<b>28</b> 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<b>29</b> 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Lunch Special - Black Eyed Peas & Collards 6:00 PM -10:00 PM Kitchen Open	<b>30</b> 6:00 PM Dinner by Patty - Beef Stew	<b>31</b> <div>8:00 PM NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY</div>