LEADERSHIP

Commander
Warren Rice
(804) 852-8108

1st Vice Commander (Membership)
Marty Martin
(804) 445-4709

2nd Vice Commander (Hall Rentals)
William (Bill) Todd
(804) 402-6636
(Rental Line)

Adjutant
Robert (Bob) White
(804) 240-4220

Building & Grounds
Tom Livsie
(804) 937-6953

Chaplain
Thomas Bynum
(804) 982-0044

Finance Officer
Raymond Lewter
(804) 441-4114

Judge Advocate
Robert Marsland
(804) 337-3633

Legion Riders
Jack Barbour
(804) 690-1863

Sergeant-at-Arms
Myrtle Starling
(540) 809-2861

Service Officer
Thomas Bynum
(804) 982-0044

Sons of The American Legion (S.A.L.)
Jim Oliver
(804) 754-5860

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 175

8700 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116-3867
Phone: (804) 789-8667 Web: www.post175.org E-Mail: info@post175.org
March and April 2024

VETERANS SERVING VETERANS

News Highlights:

At the February 27th Membership meeting, in response to National raising dues on Posts nationwide, our Post had no recourse but to increase dues for the membership years 2025 and beyond. The new Post dues amount will be $49.00 (forty-nine) dollars per year. However...

Three-year memberships are now available. You can renew online (at current dues rate) by visiting: **www.legion.org/renew**. (National dues increase begins July 1st). Selecting "Renew Today" will take you to the renewal page for The American Legion, which also provides links to the Sons of The American Legion (SAL) and The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) online renewals. (If you avail yourself of the online three year membership offer you will be paid through December 2027.)

As we continue to grow and develop our capabilities for keeping you informed via electronic means, we will soon start using new messaging accounts. Their 'suffix' will be: "**@Post175.org**". This should make it even easier for you to recognize the messages from our Post.

If you have a "myLegion" account, you can update your contact information (address, telephone, email) yourself, and view you Legion membership record, and even print a membership card. You can also designate Emergency Contacts, and more. Check it out: **www.MyLegion.org**.

A company by the name of **Publishing Concepts, Inc. (PCI)** has been sending e-mail and postcards to Legionnaires across the Department of Virginia. Our Department Adjutant, Dave Stein, has released a statement on this venture: "The American Legion has partnered with PCI to do a Yearbook type production of the Department of Virginia membership. It is of no cost to you unless you decide to purchase the book. The Department ventured into this field a few years ago." So… these messages and postcards requesting your participation are legitimate. You are not required to participate if you do not wish to do so.

The American Legion **Legacy Scholarship** application **deadline is April 15**, 2024. The applicant must be a high school senior or high school graduate to apply. Scholarship is for undergraduate study at an accredited institution of higher education within the United States. Scholarship recipients may re-apply for the award.

Coming soon: Firearms Raffle. Stay tuned for details...

In Memoriam

Army Staff Sergeant Nicholas A. Rockefeller ("Rock"), **grandson of Post 175 member Don Mooney**, passed away on February 1, 2024 from cancer at age 38. During his 17 years in the Army, he made two Middle East deployments. He and his bride, Catie (Walker) Rockefeller were married in November 2022. The family requests condolences be expressed by donations to The American Cancer Society in his name.

American Legion Riders:

Hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy. We would like to thank everyone that supported our Valentines Dinner and Dance on February 16th. On Wednesday, February 28th, the ALR175 Riders had the pleasure of escorting American Legion National Commander Daniel Seehafer to Portsmouth for the Spring Conference. He had stopped at our Post for a comfort stop. Although the weather wasn't great, we completed the mission safely. Several Post members were present and received a "Be The One" pin from Commander Seehafer. District 13 Commander George Navas presented our National Commander with a Hanover County (Veterans) Commemorative Coin.

Members of Post 175 American Legion Riders (ALR) escort National Commander Daniel Seehafer to the Department Spring Conference in Portsmouth.

Post members present for National Commander Seehafer's visit received a "Be the One" pin from the Commander.

The **Seventh Annual Virginia Legacy Run** will be held from 13 to 15 June 2024. This year, the "Run" supports the The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation. The Foundation feeds and houses children of military personnel and veterans facing urgent, unexpected hardships. It prevents eviction, keeps the power on and fulfills basic needs to hold a family together through difficult times.

The Foundation also **covers** rigorous **training and accreditation costs** for Legion claims experts who provide free representation for veterans and families applying for disability benefits, survivor assistance, and more.

Sons of The American Legion (SAL):

Our next **Fish Fry Fundraiser** will be **Friday, April 5th**. Pickup for take-out or eat-in will be from 5-6:30 pm at the Post. The meal includes fish, potato salad, coleslaw, and corn bread. Tickets can be purchased from SAL members. Prices are $12 for catfish and $10 for whiting. Proceeds benefit the elementary school flag education and junior shooting sports programs.

We continue to visit elementary schools to distribute the Pledge of Allegiance activity books and flags to help the first graders learn more about our flag and our American experience. So far this year, we have visited three schools reaching almost 200 children and have five more schools scheduled later this spring. Thank you to all the members of the Post and Auxiliary for helping and supporting this important program.

We have great news about our junior shooting program. The **NRA foundation has again awarded our program with a grant** of $3100 worth of shooting equipment. Included this year are three more rifles and assorted shooting equipment. Many thanks to the generosity of the NRA foundation. The 4-H air rifle club, which we support for our junior shooting sports program continues to meet and compete in virtual competitions. We currently have nine members, so we have almost a full program.

Americanism: A student from Chickahominy Middle School took first place in the first round of the Department of Virginia Middle School Essay Contest held at Post 175. The essay theme is "I like living in America because..."

Boys State, **Girls State**, and **Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program** selections are fast approaching. Boys State and Girls State participants are eligible to apply for the **Samsung Scholarship**. Usually, the application is submitted to program staff upon participants' arrival at Boys State or Girls State. For details on The American Legion scholarships available, visit the Department website at: https://**valegion.org/**programs/scholarships.

President
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Joanne Meek
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Chaplain
Janice White
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Historian
Patricia Edmunds
(804) 401-3423

Membership
Fayth Heath
(540) 809-2454

Secretary
Fayth Heath
(540) 809-2454

Sergeant-at-Arms
Carolyn Nicholas
(804) 382-2552

Treasurer
Jeannie Rummel
(804) 310-7200

IN THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE, NOT SELF

President's Message:

We've had a very interesting beginning to 2024. Little Miss Sophia Vivian Thomas was born to Loren and Samwell Thomas on January 29. Sophia was a little early but she arrived exactly as desired. We are thrilled to welcome Sophia to the American Legion family.

During the January meeting we made a long overdue award to Betty Flippo in thanks for her years of service . Betty was instrumental in sending 88 young ladies to Girls State and honored Unit 175 with many years of exemplary service.

February was full of love with Valentine's Day cards to Veterans in residence at Hunter Holmes McGuire Veterans Medical Center. 145 beautifully and personally addressed cards were donated.

Cards for Veterans
Christmas,
Valentine's Day,
ODHF,
Soldier Buddies,
Operation We Care…
Caring is our mission.

Currently we are gathering hygiene products, playing cards, and other small items for shipping to Poland helping Operation We Care. Cards are being signed for Soldier Buddies Program giving a simple message from those who care. A little piece of home is always appreciated. This project is in conjunction with Christie Johnson owner of Portrait Reflections . We are proud to work with the community in the support of our troops.

PORTRAIT REFLECTIONS
where photography comes to life

What's coming up?

At the March Community Breakfast we will be having a Bake Sale. We are having so much fun and we are getting such good reviews on the culinary talents of our ladies. Join us for breakfast and some yummy treats. Reasonably priced and a great way to support the Auxiliary programs.

Welcome one and all

As always, join us for the Commander's Coffee each Tuesday and enjoy the fellowship of family and friends.

American Legion Post 175
8700 Bell Creek Rd.
Mechanicsville, VA 23116

Serving Our Community,
State and Nation

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS:

March 2024:

12 - Tuesday: Post Executive Committee (ExCom) Meeting, 7:00 pm. Member Social Quarters.
13 - Wednesday: Pot Luck Dinner, 5:00 pm social, 6:00 pm dinner. Member Social Quarters.
26 - Tuesday: **Membership Meeting**, 7:00 pm. Post Main Hall.
30 - Saturday: **Community Breakfast** (Public Welcome), 7:30 am to 10:00 am. Post Main Hall.
30– Saturday: Auxiliary Bake Sale (Public Welcome), 7:30 am to 10:00 am. Post Main Hall.
30 - Saturday: ALR and SAL Meetings, @11:00 am (Following Community Breakfast).

April 2024:

05 - Friday: **Fish Fry Dinner**, 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm, Dine-in or Take-out. (Pre-purchase tickets by 29 March.)
09 - Tuesday: Post Executive Committee (ExCom) Meeting, 7:00 pm. Member Social Quarters.
10 - Wednesday: Pot Luck Dinner, 5:00 pm social, 6:00 pm dinner. Member Social Quarters.
23 - Tuesday: **Membership Meeting**, 7:00 pm. Post Main Hall.
27 - Saturday: **Community Breakfast** (Public Welcome), 7:30 am to 10:00 am. Post Main Hall.
27 - Saturday: ALR and SAL Meetings, @11:00 am (Following Community Breakfast).

Look Ahead:

27 May - Monday: Memorial Day (10:00 am, Hanover County Veterans Memorial Ceremony)
28 May - Tuesday: Post 175 Officer Elections (for Fiscal Year 2024-2025)
25 June - Tuesday: Post Officer Installations (Legion, ALA and S.A.L.)

Other Legion Events of Interest::

09 March - Saturday: 13th District Spring Conference, Post 157, Madison, VA (Web: www.vaalpost157.org)
01 June - Saturday: 13th District Convention and Elections, Post 156, Orange, VA (Web: www.alpost156.com)