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**

September and October 2026
VETERANS SERVING VETERANS

LEADERSHIP

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

1st Vice Commander (Membership)
Kelly L. Schips
(804) 519-9932

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

Adjutant
George Navas
(804) 368-0100

Building & Grounds
Anthony (Tony) Nelson
(804) 295-2673

Chaplain
Arthur (Art) Aumock
(631) 807-2979

Finance Officer
Lyn M. Spencer
(804) 334-9036

Historian
Doug Snell
(804) 441-4114

Judge Advocate
Warren Rice
(804) 852-8108

Legion Riders (ALR)
Jack Barbour
(804) 690-1863

Sergeant-at-Arms
Thomas Bynum
(804) 982-0044

Service Officer (VSO)
Andre Hunt
(804) 655-0376

Sons of The American Legion (SAL)
Jim Oliver
(804) 754-5860

Legion Family News:

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION (SAL)

Happy fall y'all, as one of our house decorations proclaim. The Sons hope everyone has enjoyed their summer and all are doing well. We have resumed our Junior Shooting Sports Program and are adding air pistol to our air rifle teams. This program helps our post fulfill the youth development mission of the Legion. Please feel free to visit us at the post on one of our Sunday afternoon practice sessions.

We hope to again be invited to present our flag education materials and program to first grade classes here in Hanover county this year. If you would like to participate in this fun and important program, please let me know. I will again post a signup sheet in the member area of the post; or you can send me an e-mail. It is more important than ever that we encourage Americanism in our youth.

As you know, we hold a **fish fry** about every four months. These are the major source of revenue to support these two programs. Our next fry will be on **Friday, November 13th** at the post. You can pickup your dinner between 5 and 6:30 and take it home or join others at the post while you enjoy your meal for a pleasant evening of conversation and fellowship. Additional details for the dinner can be found on the post website or on flyers posted in the member area bulletin board. Tickets can be purchased from several of our Sons members.

Nadia Maxfield, one of our graduating air rifle team members has been awarded a $3000 scholarship from the Civilian Marksmanship Program. Congratulations to her and we wish her all the best as she pursues her education and future military service.

Junior Shooting Sports Program (JSSP) in ‘action’.

And… this year we have added air pistols to our program !

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Hope everyone is doing well during these spurts of hot temperatures! Not a lot going on with the riders right now. We supported our Legion Family at Hanover Sheriff’s National Night Out kickoff at Green Top on Saturday, August 1st. Thanks to Bob Culley for bringing his “Deuce and A Half Military Vehicle” along with a great turnout of motorcycles to display.

OLD DOMINION HONOR FLIGHT

Click to visit ODHF website

Coming up, members are preparing for Virginia State Rally, Honor Flight and also a ride to Louisville to present the funds raised from the Virginia Legacy Run.

Mortgage Reduction Fund

Greetings Members and Supporters:

The American Legion Post 175 has launched a dedicated campaign to fully retire our remaining mortgage balance of $100,000, an important step toward securing the long-term future of our Post and everything it represents. With 312 members in our ranks, a suggested contribution of $335 per member would be sufficient to eliminate this debt entirely and close this chapter with pride.

That said, every contribution — of any size — is received with deep gratitude and makes a genuine, meaningful difference to our mission. Once our Post is debt-free, every dollar of Post resources can be directed where it matters most: supporting veteran services, strengthening community programs, and investing in the improvements our home deserves.

For God and Country,
The American Legion Post 175 Leadership

TAX DEDUCTIBILITY NOTICE ✦ Important Tax Information ✦

The American Legion Post 175 is a **federally recognized 501(c)(19) veterans' organization**. Contributions to this campaign may be tax-deductible to the extent permitted by applicable law. Donors are encouraged to consult a qualified tax advisor to confirm deductibility based on their individual circumstances. A written receipt will be provided upon request for use in tax filings.

Can't wait to donate? You can now donate directly today with online donation site "zeffy".

Donate Now zeffy DONATE TODAY!

Note: Credit card transaction fees may apply.

Did you know? **Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs)** are the smallest amounts you must legally withdraw each year from most tax-deferred retirement accounts, starting at age 73. These mandatory withdrawals apply to Traditional, SEP, and SIMPLE IRAs, as well as 401(k) and 403(b) plans, and are taxed as ordinary income.

You can completely eliminate the taxable event of a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). This strategy allows you to transfer up to $105,000 annually directly from a retirement account to an eligible charity without the withdrawal counting toward your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). Check with your tax advisor.

Membership

Membership Update

Thank you to everyone who has already renewed for the 2027 membership year. We are currently at about 45% of our membership goal, with our first milestone of 50% by September 9.

Our overall goal is to reach 100% by December, and every renewal helps keep Post 175 strong. If you haven't renewed yet, you don't have to wait. You can **renew online** (just 'click' on the image below) or bring a check to the Post. If you need any help with your renewal, please feel free to contact me.

Membership is about more than numbers. It's about staying connected, supporting one another, and being part of our Post community. You do not have to take on a major role to make a difference. Attend a meeting, join us for Tuesday Coffee & Donuts, or come out for a Community Breakfast.

Let's keep the momentum going, reach 50% by September 9, and work together toward 100% by December!

Kelly

The American Legion History

- Support for Boy Scouts of America, passed by resolution at the First American Legion National Convention in 1919, was the initial youth program officially sanctioned by the organization, which would go on to become the nation's largest non-denominational sponsor of Scouting units.
- American Legion Baseball was started in 1925 in South Dakota.
- American Legion Boys State was founded in 1935 in Illinois to counter a rising tide of subversive anti-American youth camps popping up across the country.
- In 1938, the National High School Oratorical Contest debuted as an American Legion program to instill leadership and knowledge of the U.S. Constitution.

March 1919 Paris Caucus

When you study history, you're not memorizing facts, you're decoding the choices that shaped civilizations.

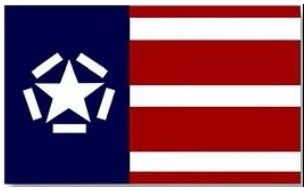
American Legion Auxiliary

From the Unit President:

We began in July under new leadership. Thank you to all who stepped up to serve—and special thanks to Fayth Heath for her energetic two years as Unit President. She launched meaningful projects honoring veterans and supporting our community; we're glad she's continuing as secretary and remains a vital part of our Unit.

At the Virginia Department convention our unit earned several awards. We've already been active at the Hanover Tomato Festival and Hanover County's Night Out, sharing brochures and applications.

In July members completed a questionnaire to guide this year's projects. Our first effort, school supplies brought donations and gift cards to Mechanicsville and Washington Henry Elementary, Bell Creek Middle, and Mechanicsville High; items were delivered August 19.



With the Post family we'll mark September 11 with a brief ceremony on September 8, raising the Freedom Flag the Auxiliary donated. On 9/11 itself we'll deliver goodies to area first responders (details pending). Our combined Girls State/Boys State reception is set for September 20, 3–5 p.m. at the Post—everyone is welcome.

We'll keep the bake sales at Community Breakfasts, the Honorable Veteran Program, first-grade flag education with the SAL, and full support for the Legion Family, while exploring new veteran projects.

President
Janice White
(xxx) xxx-xxxx

Vice President
Gail Ellis
(xxx) xxx-xxxx

Chaplain
Patsy Lassiter
(xxx) xxx-xxxx

Historian
Patricia Edmunds
(804) 401-3423

Membership
Linda Bohannon
(xxx) xxx-xxxx

Secretary
Fayth Heath
(540) 809-2454

Sergeant-at-Arms
Doris Sydnor
(804) 221-4224

Janet Williamson
(xxx) xxx-xxxx

Treasurer
Elizabeth Navas
(717) 586-1074

IN THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE, NOT SELF

Looking forward to another productive year.

Thank you for your support.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS:

SEPTEMBER 2026

07 (Monday) - Labor Day Holiday
08 (Tuesday) - 11 September 2001 Commemoration, 8:46 am, Post flagpole.
09 (Wednesday) - Pot Luck Dinner, 5:00 pm social, 6:00 pm dinner. Member Quarters.
11 (Friday) - 9-11 Commemoration Service, Walnut Grove Baptist Grove, 7:00 pm.
16 (Wednesday) - The American Legion Day
20 (Sunday) - Boys and Girls State Recognitions, 3:00 pm. Post Social Quarters. ALL are invited.
22 (Tuesday) - **Membership Meeting**, 7:00 pm. Post Main Hall.
24 (Thursday) - Honor Flight Guardian Training, 6:00 pm. Post Main Hall.
26 (Saturday) - **Community Breakfast**, 7:30 am to 10:00 am, Main Hall, Public Welcome $
26 (Saturday) - ALR and S.A.L. Meetings, @ 11:00 am (Following the Community Breakfast)
27 (Sunday) - Gold Star Mother's Day

OCTOBER 2026

12 (Monday) - Columbus Day Holiday
14 (Wednesday) - Pot Luck Dinner, 5:00 pm social, 6:00 pm dinner. Member Quarters.
17 (Saturday) - Honor Flight (Mission 11), 8:00 am Departure and @ 8:00 pm Return.
23 (Friday) - Last Day to register to vote in general election.
27 (Tuesday) - **Membership Meeting**, 7:00 pm. Post Main Hall.
31 (Saturday) - **Community Breakfast,** 7:30 am to 10:00 am, Main Hall, Public Welcome $
(Note: Last breakfast for the calendar year. Breakfasts resume on 30 January 2027.)
31 (Saturday) - ALR and S.A.L. Meetings, @ 11:00 am (Following the Community Breakfast)

LOOK AHEAD

11 November - Oak Knoll Middle School (OKMS) Veterans Day event, 9:00 am. ALL are invited.
13 November - **Fish Fry Fundraiser**, 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Dine-in or Take-out. Tickets required. $
14 November - Honor Flight Ice Cream Social, 2:00 pm. Post Main Hall.
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- Coffee and Doughnuts Social: Every Tuesday morning, holidays and weather permitting, in our member quarters from 9 am to 11 am.
- Executive Committee Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of every month, 7:00 pm.
- Pot Luck Dinner: 2nd Wednesday of every month, 6:00 pm
- General Membership Meeting: 4th Tuesday of every month, 7:00 pm.

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Wish to be more active in our Post, or our community? Wish to support one or more of our Four Pillars? (Veterans, Defense, Americanism, Youth - VDAY)

Looking for volunteers to serve in a wide variety of programs, projects and initiatives. A partial list on what we do as a "Legion Family" is on the next page. Check it out !

Volunteers

The American Legion Post 175

8700 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116

Community Programs and Activities

Backpack Program – Providing school supplies to children in need
Blood Drives – In coordination with the American Red Cross
Boys State Leadership Program - Summer In-Residence program for High School Juniors
Color Guard – Participating in Ceremonial (Public) Events (Parades, etc.)
Community Breakfasts - Monthly Public Breakfast (Fundraiser)
Community Food Banks – Providing non-perishable food to local non-profits
First Responder Awards Program – Recognizing top Fire/EMT and Sheriff Deputies
Fisher House – Supporting military families in-need of temporary housing
Flag Education Program – Providing information to all First Grade students (In-school visits)
Flag Retirement Program – In conjunction with Scouts
Girls State Leadership Program - Summer In-Residence program for High School Juniors
Hanover County Veterans Committee - Honoring all Hanover veterans (Ceremonial events)
High School Oratorical Contest - Providing college scholarship money
Honor Flights - Honoring veterans with trips to D.C. to visit memorials
Honor Guard - Honoring veterans at funerals (Flag presentations to next-of-kin, etc.)
Hospital Support - Providing hospitalized veterans with needed supplies
Liberation Veteran Services – Providing meals and housing while undergoing treatment for addictions and homelessness (In cooperation with VFW Post 9808)
Lonesome Dove – Supporting physical therapy for wounded warriors
Middle School Essay Contest – Provides prize money to students, teachers, and schools
Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) – Sponsor all county High School units
Junior Shooting Sports Program (JSSP) – Air rifle training and competitions (ages 12 to 18)
Poppies – Funding veteran needs (Rehabilitation, etc.)
Scouts USA - Sponsor for Troop 553
Service Dogs – Supplementing the purchase and training costs of service dogs for veterans
Troopster Program - Providing “care packages” for deployed (overseas) U.S. service members (In cooperation with VFW Post 9808)
United Service Organizations (USO) – Volunteer in support of service members with countless acts of caring, comfort, and connection
Wreaths Across America – Honoring our fallen with graveside wreaths during the holidays
Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Academy (YCLEA) - Summer In-Residence program for High School Juniors

Note: The above are only highlights of programs (past and present) provided or supported by The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), The Sons of The American Legion (S.A.L.), and The American Legion Riders (ALR) at our Post.