



LEADERSHIP

Commander
Warren Rice
(804) 852-8108

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

2nd Vice Commander
Vacant
(804) 402-6636
(Rental Line)

Adjutant
Bert Butterfield
(804) 746-2514

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 POST 175

8700 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116-3867

Phone: (804) 789-8667 Web: www.post175.org E-Mail: info@post175.org

August and September 2023

VETERANS SERVING VETERANS



Post Everlasting: **Charles B. Farnsworth II** on August 2nd, 2023



Commander:

Membership elected a new Post Commander in May. Congratulations to Warren Rice, who assumed his duties on July 1st. Warren's goals: To provide improved consistent leadership, guidance, and oversight of Post operations. To serve as an example for members to follow as we strengthen our Legion Family and share our resources in support of our four pillars: Americanism, Children and Youth, National Security, and Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation. When asked for a comment, Warren stated: "Thank you for your support."

News Highlights:

Please note: We are **still seeking a Second Vice Commander** (to handle Rentals) and an **Adjutant**. Contact Post Commander Rice for more information.

The Sons of the American Legion (S.A.L.) will be having a **FISH FRY on Friday, September 1st** in support of the Flag Education Program in elementary schools and Junior Shooting Program. You must pre-purchase tickets. Contact Jim Oliver for complete details.

Doug Snell was appointed as Chair of the Post Americanism Committee Effective July 1st.

George Navas, a Past Post Commander, was installed as Commander of the 13th District at our Department Convention in Dulles on July 16th. He will concurrently serve as a member of the Department of Virginia Executive Committee (DEC). Additionally, he is Chair of our Post and 13th District Communications and Media Committees.

Post members Bob White, Ed Baggett, and Colin Williamson, who also serve on the Hanover County Veterans Committee, manned the Committee booth at the Tomato Festival. Bob and Ed were joined by their spouses, Janice and Judy (both Auxiliary Unit 175 members) for the event. Kelly Schips, Committee member and Legionnaire from Post 90, provided a POW/MIA display table.

'Marty' Martin, 1st Vice Commander and Chair, Membership Committee accepted eight (8) membership awards on the Post's behalf. Post completed the membership year with 287 paid members at 96.31% of our goal.

Post 175 brass belt buckles are available for \$20.00. Some branch specific buckles are also available. See our Finance Officer, Ray Lewter, to purchase.



Large, detailed buckle picture, available on Post website: www.post175.org

American Legion Riders: Seven 175 Riders endured rain, hail and hot sun in the Virginia In-State Legacy Run (ISLR) on the Eastern Shore on June 23-24. ISLR Director Randy “BB” Gunn accepted a donation from the Riders’ Director, Jack Barbour, during the ride. The ride raised over \$34,000 state-wide for the National American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. Donations are still being accepted and very much appreciated.

Americanism Committee: The Post sponsored four juniors (from Hanover, Mechanicsville, and Orange High Schools) for Boys State, held at Radford University on June 18-24. We wish to thank United Bank and the Lions Club (Mechanicsville), Woody Funeral Home, Monaghan Funeral Home, Charlie’s Barbershop, and Virginia National Bank for their financial support.

Post members manned a booth at the Hanover Sheriff’s Youth and Family festival at Hanover Vegetable Farm on June 24, providing information to the community on our Children and Youth (C&Y) programs.

Chaplain / Service Officer: Word for today. You will begin to take your first steps into the new era. What has felt sometimes like a log jam in your life will give way to the moving of the river. It will be slow at first, but will gain momentum as you go. The frustrations of the past will start to fade, and you will see things from a renewed perspective. Hold on to hope. John 7:38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

Historian: Doug Snell took first place in the Post History and Post Scrapbook categories at our Department Convention. Both documents were forwarded to the National Convention for their competition.

Honor Guard / Color Guard: A seven member detail of our Color Guard performed the “13 Folds” flag ceremony at Shady Grove Church on July 10th. Pictured below (L-R): Doug Stansbury, Colin Williamson, Ray Lewter, and Bob White.

Sons of The American Legion (SAL): Our “Mechanicville Marksmen” 4-H Junior Shooting Sports education program (JSSP) will resume training on Sunday, August 20. They train every other Sunday at 3:00 pm in the Main Hall. This program is open to all youth 10 to 18 years of age. Stop by and see how it’s done! For more information, contact: Jim Oliver.

There will be a **FISH FRY on Friday, September 1st** (includes trimmings.) Take-out or Eat-in from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Must pre-purchase tickets. Proceeds support our JSSP and our Flag Education Program in the elementary schools. (Donations always accepted in support of any C&Y program.) For more information and tickets contact: Jim Oliver.



Color Guard “13 Folds” ceremony, Shady Grove Church



Jack Barbour provides donation to Randy “BB” Gunn



George Navas installation as 13th District Commander and Dept. Executive Committee (DEC) member



Post members at the Hanover County Veterans Committee Tomato Festival booth

Post Riders participating in the Virginia In-State Legacy Run (ISLR)



President: The Auxiliary wishes to congratulate the new Legion, Sons of the American Legion (SAL) and Legion Riders (ALR) leadership team. We expect continuity of established programs and to build on our 2022/2023 initiatives. Welcome Janice White to the Auxiliary leadership team as Chaplain for 2023-2024.

Your generosity provided over \$500 in food to the Norfolk food bank. This inspired us to do the same for our community. We made a donation to Ashland Emergency Services (ACE) (<https://aceshanover.org/donations>). We expect to donate to other pantries to do the most good in the Mechanicsville/Ashland/Hanover County Community.

Once again, we will work to assist children with backpacks for the new school year and will continue supporting our S.A.L. with the Flag Education Program in our elementary schools.

Our Girls State Program was a huge success. Five young ladies learned more about our government and how to make a positive difference in the future. Our donations to the Verna Vance Scholarship and the Frances B. Updike Nursing Scholarship are a staple supporting higher education for our deserving youth.

Veterans and the Veteran Community are always a priority as we support the Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center and McGuire VA Medical Center, Liberation Veteran Services, and more. To help us fund these efforts, we will have quarterly Bake Sales and Quilt raffles, to mention a couple of initiatives.

We will continue the Monthly Pot Luck Dinners and weekly Commander Coffee and Doughnut get-togethers as a family. Our Membership meetings will continue: in the summer - in the evenings; and in winter - during morning hours (if requested) to accommodate our older members.

If there are initiatives you would like to champion, please feel free to bring them up at a meeting. Thank you.



Bake Sale: We had so much fun in May that we're doing it again! A Bake Sale will be held by the Auxiliary during the Community Breakfast on **August 26 between 8 and 10 am**. Please make and bring your favorite goodies and we will add them to the fundraiser. Cookies, Brownies, Pies, Cakes (non-iced), Muffins, and other delicious offerings will be available. Priced accordingly! For more information, contact Maria Koenig (Chair, Bake Sales). Proceeds support our community programs.

Chaplain: Please keep Charlie Farnsworth and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Children and Youth (C&Y):

We were honored to send five talented young ladies to Girls State this year. A Graduation Cord and Certificate ceremony is in the works. Stay tuned to the Post web page for details. Meet the Girls and their families and show the program Sponsors our gratitude for their support at an upcoming event. For more information, contact Jeannie Rummel (Chair, Girls State).

- Sarah Bland** - Atlee High School (AHS)
- Lindsey Gholson** - Patrick Henry High School (PHHS) JROTC
- Vivian Sarych** - Patrick Henry High School (PHHS)
- Ansleigh Toone** - Patrick Henry High School (PHHS)
- Valerie Tumlin** - Hanover High School, Mechanicsville JROTC

Veterans Assistance and Rehabilitation (VA&R): Our Unit donated ten caps, two caps for each branch of service, to the Sitter-Barfoot Home as prizes for their residents at monthly Bingo Nights. Pictured with the donation: Shirley Smith and Diane Lewter (Chair, VA&R).



**IN
THE
SPIRIT
OF
SERVICE,
NOT
SELF**

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



Serving Our Community,
State and Nation

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS:

August 2023:

- 08 - Tuesday: Executive Committee (ExCom) Meeting, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- 09 - Wednesday: Monthly **Pot Luck Dinner**, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm (Member Lounge)
- 22 - Tuesday: The American Legion General Membership Meeting, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm [**Purchase Fish Fry tickets**]
Special Topic: What should be the future of our pool table in the member's lounge?
- 26 - Saturday: **Community Breakfast** 7:30 am to 10:00 am (**Public Event**) [**Bake Sale**]

September 2023:

- 01 - Friday: S.A.L. Fish Fry, with trimmings! Take-out or Eat-in. 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Must pre-purchase tickets.
- 12 - Tuesday: Executive Committee (ExCom) Meeting, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- 13 - Wednesday: Monthly **Pot Luck Dinner**, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm (Member Lounge)
- 26 - Tuesday: The American Legion General Membership Meeting, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- 30 - Saturday: **Community Breakfast** 7:30 am to 10:00 am (**Public Event**)

Look Ahead - October 2023:

- 14 - Saturday: 13th District Fall Conference, Post 90, Beaverdam
- 27-29 - Friday to Sunday: Department Fall Conference, DoubleTree Hotel, Williamsburg

Every Tuesday 9:00 am to 11:00 am, Coffee & Doughnuts Social - Invite a Friend. (Member Lounge)

Seeking: Second Vice Commander and Adjutant. Contact Post Commander Warren Rice for details.

For a FULL calendar of events and more information, visit our home page at: **www.Post175.org**.