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Sons of the Legion

Jim Oliver
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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 Email: info@post175.org

APRIL-MAY 2023

VETERANS SERVING VETERANS

And here it is, time for another newsletter. And believe it or not, there have been some noteworthy events and activities in and around the Post.

The turnout, although much smaller than anticipated, was enthusiastic and eager to participate in the inaugural **Game Night** on February 24. Those present were educated by Ray Lewter on the dice game Left-Right-Pot (or Left-Center-Right?). It involves a little chance and a great deal of laughter. Our second attempt will be March 24. We are short of board games and cards, so bring what you like to play and let's roll.

Participation in the Tuesday morning coffee and donuts is increasing, and the comradeship and conversations are friendly and lively. There have also been a few opportunities for Community leaders to present both individual and business programs to our members.

The Community Breakfast in February was well received and attended by Post and Community members. Thank you for your support. Please bring your neighbors to the next **Community Breakfast** on March 25. It is a very good breakfast. The price has only gone up \$2 dollars from last year (now \$10 per adult).

Upcoming Events: **Game Night** on March 24. **District 13 Conference** at Post 156 (Orange VA) on March 25. **Community Breakfast** on March 25. **SAL Fish Fry** on March 31 (whitefish - \$10, catfish - \$12). Old Dominion **Honor Flight** (honor spaces still available for Vietnam Veterans) departing VFW Post 9808 on April 22. **Community Breakfast** on April 29 and May 27.

We achieved 90% of our **membership goal** on March 9. As good as this sounds, the Post will not thrive without the assistance and participation of all of our members. Not just the bare brass tacks stuff but the talking up of our Post to strangers, neighbors, and friends. Let them know that you are an American Legion member and that your Post has something to offer and is working to increase its community presence. Volunteer to carry Post 175 flyers for events to local businesses and ask them to consider making a **financial contribution** to the Post. Mention our **rental facility** when you hear someone say they are looking for a place to hold an event.

Daniel W. Ossa

Commander

Chaplain:

As far as I know we have not lost any members and no one is in the hospital. **Mel Huffman** is improving and anxious to come back to the post. His address and phone number are posted above the donut table (he would like you to call and visit).

Please keep my phone number (804-277-3133) posted where family members can find it and can notify me if they need to. I will try to help you and your family, if needed. Now more than ever, we need to remember our service members. May God's blessings be on everyone. Art Aumock, Chaplain

Americanism:

A student from Bell Creek Middle School won the 2022-23 Post 175 **Essay Contest** of "I like Living in America"

Post 175 is looking for high school junior nominees to attend **Boys State** at Radford University in June 18-24. Students develop leadership skills and experience the functions of state government. Post 175 is also looking for high school junior nominees to attend the **Virginia Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Academy** in Richmond on June 18-24. Contact Doug Snell for information/application. Applications and funding due May 15.

Please donate to Boys State (make your check payable to Post 175). Please solicit your local businesses. Please say **Thank You** and visit the following businesses that support our Youth Programs in 2022-23: **Bass Pro Shops** (Ashland), **Charlie's Barbershop**, **Mechanicsville Lions Club**, **Monaghan Funeral Home**, National Rifle Association, **Virginia National Bank**, **United Bank**, **VFW Post 9808**, and **Woody Funeral Home** (Richmond). See the Post 175 Youth Programs webpage at www.post175.org for the list of previous year sponsors.

Eighteen Post and ALA members conducted **flag education** at Cool Spring Elementary School on March 7, 2023:



Sons of The American Legion (SAL):

The Sons of the American Legion continue to conduct the **Junior Shooting Sports Program** with our support of the Mechanicsville Marksmen 4-H shooting club. The club meets at the Post every other Sunday afternoon. In January we competed in our first American Legion postal match and in February we competed in our first Civilian Marksmanship Program postal match.

Flag Education: We also, so far, have been invited to visit four of our county elementary schools to present the Pledge of Allegiance activity books and personal flags to their first-grade students. Six of our members and one ALA member presented flag education to South Anna Elementary School on February 7th. Any post or auxiliary member that would like to participate can sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board in the member area near the coffee station.

As always, we continue to ask our post and auxiliary members to encourage any male members of their families to **join the Sons**. We need more members that will be active in these programs. Thank you. Jim Oliver, SAL

American Legion Riders (ALR):

We had our first game gathering on the "Friday Night B4 Breakfast" on February 25. We are planning a **Blessing of the Bikes** and a **Battlefield Poker Run** on May 13. There is a 50/50 raffle to support donations to the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. There is a raffle on June 20 for the "Patriot Eagle Biker" quilt (see picture at right) made by the very talented Fayth Heath (tickets are \$5). The Virginia In State Legacy Run (**ISLR**) is on June 22-25.





AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 175

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Fayth Heath
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Jeannie Rummel
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By all indications, Spring is on the way. Flowers are blooming and days are getting longer. We have moved back to our evening meeting schedule and getting ready for Spring Events. Poppy is coming on May 26th and volunteers are encouraged from both the Auxiliary and the Legion Post members. We have had great success with husband-and-wife teams in the past and would love to see the family working together to remember those who served by Those Who Served.

Girls State kicked off in March and we've had the good fortune to have some generous donations allowing us to fully fund this year's candidates. I'm looking forward to reading some of the applications.

Our good works do not go unnoticed. We've received Thank You notes from the Frances B. Updike Nursing Scholarship and a lovely card for the monetary donation to the Community Service Project to benefit the Food Bank in Southeast Virginia and the Eastern Shore. This donation during the Spring Conference was a spur of the moment collection and topped \$225 in gift cards. Your generosity is appreciated by those with food insecurities. We are supporting some great causes including the MK9S Service Dogs for Veterans, the USO, Chaplain's Fund and a local Rescue Squad who have been a tremendous and consistent help to one of our members facing current health concerns. Our Community is part of our Family and we stand by them as they support us.

I want to thank the Ladies of the Unit who attended the Elementary School Flag program with the SAL. There is a fun picture above. We had a great turnout of seven ladies and enjoyed seeing and interacting with the children. Some wonderful kids and entertaining questions.

The District Meeting will be held on March 25th in Orange Virginia and will be well attended. There will be an out brief at the next membership meeting.

Please note the Game Night on March 24th. We have talked about this for some time and I am looking forward to this becoming a regular Post Family Event. Please come out and support the Post.

Leadership elections will be held in May and nominations will be accepted for all positions.

If you have any announcements you would like to see in the next Newsletter, please feel free to email me and we will let all know about your wonderful news. If you have a Veterans Story from your family, we would love to hear about it. Our Veterans Welfare and Remembrance is our mission.

For God and Country, Service not Self, Elizabeth Navas, President

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:

April 2023:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 04 – Tuesday | 9:00 am to 11:00 am: Coffee Social |
| 11 - Tuesday: | 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm: Executive Committee Meeting |
| 12 - Wednesday: | 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm: Monthly Pot Luck Dinner, (Member Lounge) |
| 18 - Tuesday: | 9:00 am to 11:00 am: Coffee Social |
| 25 - Tuesday: | 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm: Social Hour |
| 25 - Tuesday: | 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm: The American Legion Auxiliary General Meeting |
| 25 - Tuesday: | 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm: The American Legion General Membership Meeting |
| 29 - Saturday: | 7:30 am to 10:00 am: Community Breakfast (Public Welcome) |
| 29 - Saturday: | ALR and SAL Meetings after breakfast clean-up |

May 2023:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 02 – Tuesday: | 9:00 am to 11:00 am: Coffee Social |
| 09 - Tuesday: | 9:00 am to 11:00 am: Coffee Social |
| 09 - Tuesday: | 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm: Executive Committee Meeting |
| 10 - Wednesday: | 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm: Monthly Pot Luck Dinner, (Member Lounge) |
| 16 - Tuesday: | 9:00 am to 11:00 am: Coffee Social |
| 23 - Tuesday | 9:00 am to 11:00 am: Coffee Social |
| 23 - Tuesday: | 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm: Social Hour |
| 23 - Tuesday: | 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm: The American Legion Auxiliary General Meeting |
| 23 - Tuesday: | 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm: The American Legion General Membership Meeting |
| 27 - Saturday: | 7:30 am to 10:00 am: Community Breakfast (Public Welcome) |
| 27 - Saturday: | ALR and SAL Meetings after breakfast clean-up |