



POST NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025



Post
Commander

Gerry States

MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY

POST

February 25th, 7 pm

COUNTY

February 18th, 7 pm
Midland Post 481

AUXILIARY

February 11th, 7 pm

SAL

February 11th, 6:30 pm

JUNIOR AUXILIARY

February 6th, 5:30 pm

HOME ASSOCIATION

February 17th, 7 pm

GOLD STAR RIDERS

No meeting

VVA

February 19th, 1 pm

IMPORTANT MILITARY DATES IN FEBRUARY

February 3

Four Chaplains
Day

February 17

President's Day

February 19

Coast Guard
Reserve Birthday



LT. GEORGE L. FOX
LT. ALEXANDER D. GOODE
LT. JOHN P. WASHINGTON
LT. CLARK V. POLING

The Four Chaplains

Four men whose paths led them to serving their country while honoring their faith. Four men who will never be forgotten, whose selfless acts have become a part of military history, men who were honored with a medal and a day dedicated to their memory.

LT. GEORGE L. FOX, Methodist

As soon as he learned of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Rev. George L. Fox knew what was to come. "I've got to go," Fox told his wife, Isadora. "I know from experience what those boys are about to face. They need me."

At age 17, the Lewistown, Pennsylvania, native had lied about his age during World War I to enlist in the Marines as a medical assistant and train as an ambulance driver.

Between the world wars, Fox finished high school, married and began his religious career.

"He later graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington and studied at the Boston University School of Theology, where he was ordained a Methodist minister on June 10, 1934," according to the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America.

After the outbreak of World War II, the 42-year-old Fox immediately enlisted for chaplain duty. He began active duty on Aug. 8, 1942.(1)

LT. JOHN P. WASHINGTON, Roman Catholic

John P. Washington was born to a large Irish family in New Jersey. As a child, he loved music, took piano lessons and sang in the church choir.

A graduate of Seton Hall, he later studied at Immaculate Conception Seminary in Darlington, New Jersey, before being ordained as a priest.

He served as assistant pastor of St. Stephen's Church in Kearny, New Jersey.

He joined the Army in May 1942 after the Navy rejected him due to his poor eyesight, according to the Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation.(1)

LT. ALEXANDER D. GOODE, Jewish

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Alexander Goode had been an outstanding athlete and scholar whose dream was to become a rabbi like his father, according to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

He displayed heroism from a young age, saving his family's home when he was a child by extinguishing flames from a kitchen fire before firefighters arrived, according to the National Museum of the United States Army.

After high school, he received rabbinical ordination from Hebrew Union College in New York in 1937; later served at Temple Beth Israel in York, Pennsylvania; and earned his Ph.D. in Middle Eastern languages from John Hopkins University.

After the Pearl Harbor attack, he joined the Army Air Forces as a chaplain and later lobbied to serve on the front lines.

Goode left behind his wife, Theresa, and 3-year-old daughter, Rosalie.

"He believed that life would not be worth living in a world under Axis domination, and he was prepared to sacrifice even life itself for the cause of human freedom," Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein of the National Jewish Welfare Board said a few weeks after the chaplains were lost. (1)

REV. DANIEL A. POLING, Dutch Reformed

The youngest of the four chaplains, Clark V. Poling "asked his father to pray for him when he left for the war," according to PACOM.

Poling, a seventh-generation Dutch Reformed minister, said: "Just that I shall do my duty and have the strength, courage, and understanding of men. Just pray that I shall be adequate."

Poling, who came from a long line of clergymen, was ordained to the Christian ministry in 1936 at age 26.

On the evening of the ceremony, his father, the Rev. Daniel A. Poling, told him: "I do not wish for you a life of ease nor do I desire to see you free from suffering and heartache. Rather do I desire for you a life of real conflict against the forces of evil. Be true to your calling," according to an article in The Day newspaper of New London, Connecticut.

Poling served at the First Dutch Reformed church of Schenectady, New York.(1)



Alexander D. Goode George L. Fox Clark V. Poling John P. Washington

It was the evening of Feb. 2, 1943, and the U.S.A.T. Dorchester was crowded to capacity, carrying 902 service men, merchant seamen and civilian workers. Once a luxury coastal liner, the 5,649-ton vessel had been converted into an Army transport ship. The Dorchester, one of three ships in the SG-19 convoy, was moving steadily across the icy waters from Newfoundland toward an American base in Greenland. SG-19 was escorted by Coast Guard Cutters Tampa, Escanaba and Comanche.

Hans J. Danielsen, the ship's captain, was concerned and cautious..... German U-boats were constantly prowling these vital sea lanes, and several ships had already been blasted and sunk. The Dorchester was now only 150 miles from its destination, but the captain ordered the men to sleep in their clothing and keep life jackets on. Many soldiers sleeping deep in the ship's hold disregarded the order because of the engine's heat. Others ignored it because the life jackets were uncomfortable

On Feb. 3, at 12:55 a.m., a periscope broke the chilly Atlantic waters. Through the cross hairs, an officer aboard the German submarine U-223 spotted the Dorchester.

Three torpedos were fired from the U-boat, "the one that hit was decisive—and deadly—striking the starboard side, amid ship, far below the water line. Captain Danielsen, alerted that the Dorchester was taking water rapidly and sinking, gave the order to abandon ship. In less than 20 minutes, the Dorchester would slip beneath the Atlantic's icy waters."

The blast had killed scores of men, and many more were seriously wounded.

Others, stunned by the explosion were groping in the darkness. Those sleeping without clothing rushed topside where they were confronted first by a blast of icy Arctic air and then by the knowledge that death awaited. Men jumped from the ship into lifeboats, overcrowding them to the point of capsizing, according to eyewitnesses.

Through the pandemonium, according to those present, four Army chaplains brought hope in despair and light in darkness..

One of the survivors, Private William B. Bednar, found himself floating in oil-smeared water surrounded by dead bodies and debris. "I could hear men crying, pleading, praying," Bednar recalls. "I could also hear the chaplains preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going."

Another sailor, Petty Officer John J. Mahoney, tried to reenter his cabin but Rabbi Goode stopped him. Mahoney, concerned about the cold Arctic air, explained he had forgotten his gloves. "Never mind," Goode responded. "I have two pairs." The rabbi then gave the petty officer his own gloves. In retrospect, Mahoney realized that Rabbi Goode was not conveniently carrying two pairs of gloves, and that the rabbi had decided not to leave the Dorchester.

When there were no more lifejackets in the storage room, the chaplains removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men.

"It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven," said John Ladd, another survivor who saw the chaplains' selfless act.

Ladd's response is understandable. The altruistic action of the four chaplains constitutes one of the purest spiritual and ethical acts a person can make. When giving their life jackets, Rabbi Goode did not call out for a Jew; Father Washington did not call out for a Catholic; nor did the Reverends Fox and Poling call out for a Protestant. They simply gave their life jackets to the next man in line.

As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains—arms linked and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers.

Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, 672 died, leaving 230 survivors. When the news reached American shores, the nation was stunned by the magnitude of the tragedy and heroic conduct of the four chaplains.

"Valor is a gift," Carl Sandburg once said. "Those having it never know for sure whether they have it until the test comes."



Above article and photos reprinted from the website 'FOUR CHAPLAINS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION'

Happy Birthday 84th to the U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVE



There is hereby created and established a United States Coast Guard Reserve (there in after referred to as the "Reserve"), the purpose of which is to provide a trained force of officers and men which, added to regular personnel of the Coast Guard, will be adequate to enable that service to perform such extraordinary duties as may be necessitated by emergency conditions.

Coast Guard Auxiliary and Reserve Act Title II, Section 201 Passed Feb. 19, 1941, by 77th Congress of the United States (1)

The Coast Guard reserve was modeled after the Naval Reserve as a military component, composed of two broad classifications: Regular Reservists and Temporary Reservists. Regular Reservists and Temporary Reservists. Regular Reserve members served on active duty during World War II "for the duration," while Temporary Reserve members consisted of volunteers and former Auxiliary members whose paid and unpaid services were still needed in a military capacity for coastal patrols and port security work.(1)

More than 92% of the 214,000 personnel who served in the Coast Guard during World War II were Reservists, with an additional 125,000 personnel serving in the Temporary Reserve. They served in all Coast Guard mission areas.(1)

About the Seal

Seal of the Coast Guard Reserve, designed in 1991. The crossed anchors supporting the shield are adapted from the United States Coast Guard's symbol, and the colors dark blue, scarlet, and white are traditional with the organization. Gold is emblematic of achievement and excellence. The sword symbolizes defense and the organization's military heritage. The motto Professionalism, Patriotism, Preparedness embodies the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve's total mission to protect our national security. The round shape of the motto scroll alludes to a life preserver and represents the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve's peacetime mission to help others.(1)

Coast Guard motto

"Semper Paratus" Always ready.

No official recognition was given to the Coast Guard motto until it appeared on the Captain-Commandant's official stationery* in 1910 on the ensign. Captain Van Boskerck hoped to give it as much recognition as "Semper Fidelis" of the Marines and "Anchors Aweigh" of the Navy.(1)

(1) Reprinted from the website "UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE" website.

Information from your Service Officer

Randy sends me information that he receives as our Post Service Officer that he feels should be put out there. Here are some things for you to review.

For those who are caregivers of disabled veterans or feel a medical alert device would be of benefit, check out this information.

Liberty by Honor Alert Life Saving System...
Phone: 888-581-4440
Support@honoralert.com

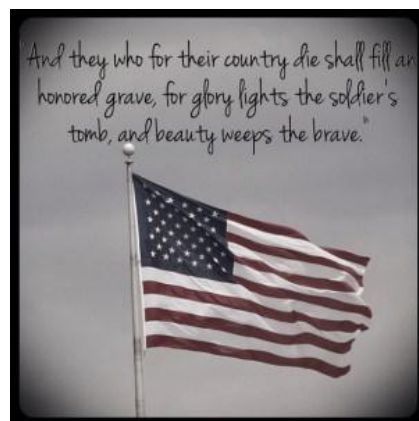
Features include GPS tracking (you don't have to be at home)
No monthly fee
Added feature available is fall protection
24/7 monitoring
Free to all veterans, no fee
Start with your PCP at VA

If you use the online health care portal for the VA and didn't get a chance to sign up according to the new guidelines, use this link to get yourself signed up.

<https://www.va.gov/sign-in/?oauth=false>

**Your Service Officer is
Randy Gleason**

**You can contact Randy at 724-987-0497 or
by email: gleason241@comcast.net**



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System

Let's

**TAKE A MENTAL
HEALTH DAY**



with the ymca



**MARCH
22ND, 2025
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

SCAN TO REGISTER FOR
A FREE EVENT
INCLUDING
RELAXATION
ACTIVITIES, ICE CREAM,
CRAFTS, FITNESS
CLASSES, AND MORE!



2236 3RD AVE, NEW BRIGHTON, PA 15066



GOLFERS!!



Registration is open for the 26th annual Veterans Classic, taking place in beautiful Myrtle Beach, South Carolina! The tournament will take place May 19-21, 2025.

This year, we're expecting hundreds of veterans to join us for this exciting two-person team golf tournament, where camaraderie and competition go hand in hand. Whether you're an experienced golfer or just enjoy being out on the course with friends, this event is a fantastic opportunity to honor and celebrate our nation's veterans while enjoying some awesome Myrtle Beach area golf courses.

The event is flighted into groups based on combined team handicap. Each flight will play a different course each of the three days. Teams must consist of at least one veteran.

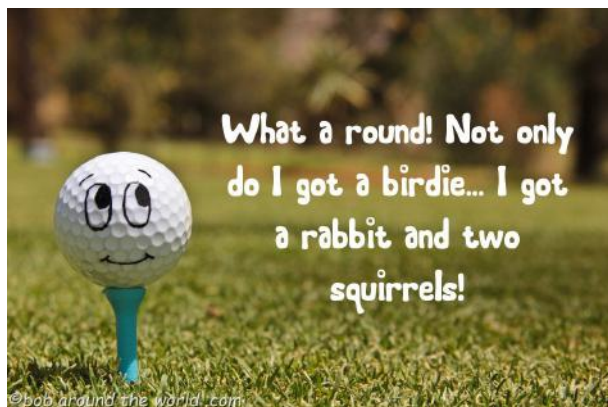
This 54-hole competition consists of three rounds of tournament golf, welcome gifts, prizes & much more. Also, back again this year is the Welcome Party and Award's Ceremony at The Hangout at Broadway at the Beach!

Visit our website using the link below or give us a call in the office at 1-800-506-8588!



PA LEGION GOLF WILL BE JUNE 20-22, INFO WILL BE ON THE LEGION WEBSITE.

Registration form is on the next page for those interested.



From the V.A.



Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, Survivors, and Caregivers

2025 Edition

As part of our commitment to provide world-class care and benefits to those who have served our nation, VA is pleased to present the "2025 VA Federal Benefits Guide for Veterans, Dependents, Survivors, and Caregivers."



Veterans may be eligible for one more year of G.I. Bill benefits

On January 3rd, 2025, the VA announced that it has updated its process for awarding G.I. Bill benefits. This means that many Veterans who served multiple periods of military service (for example, Veterans who reenlisted) may be eligible for additional benefits for themselves or their beneficiaries.

Specifically, under the previous policy, eligible Veterans who served at least two periods of service were forced to choose between the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post-9/11 GI Bill for a maximum of 36 months of G.I. Bill benefits. Under the updated policy, Veterans will no longer have to make that choice when they apply for benefits, meaning that they can qualify for up to 48 months of G.I. Bill benefits.



Pennsylvania American Legion 78th Annual Golf Tournament June 20 – June 22, 2025

Where: Whispering Woods Golf Club
7214 Grubb Rd
Erie, Pa 16506
(814) 838-9942-9116

Host: Carl Neff Post 571 Wesleyville
1917 Eastern Ave
Erie, PA 16510
(814) 898-1015

SOFT SPIKES ARE MANDATORY!!

Trophies Awarded To: Champion & Runner-up
Medalist
Flight Winners & Runner-up

Gift Certificates:	State Champion	-- \$100
	Runner-up	-- \$ 75
	3 rd Place	-- \$ 35
	4 th Place	-- \$ 25
	Flight Champions	-- \$ 50
	Runners-up	-- \$ 25
	Medalist	-- \$ 25

Entry Fee: \$200 (includes green fees, cart, Thursday evening June 19th 5-6 PM reception and Friday June 20th - Buffet-style dinner 4 pm to 8 PM at Carl Neff Post 571)

ENTRIES CLOSE June 10, 2025 – REFUND CUTOFF June 15, 2025

RULES:

- Practice round Thursday will be \$60.00. (PAY AT PRO SHOP!) *Practice round is not included in entrance fee.
- Call the Pro Shop for practice round tee times any time.
- Any entries received over the limited amount will be put on a waiting list.
- Dress Code – shirts must have collars (**NO Tank Tops**) (**NO Blue Jeans**). This will be enforced.
- Everyone must use a cart (carts are included in entry fee).
- All golfers will be pre-flighted according to their average of the first and second day scores of the 2022, 2023 and 2024 tournaments.
- New entrants (those who played only one day or did not play in the 2024 tournament) must submit by the deadline date and have their 2024 golf average approved by their Post Commander, or Golf Committee Chairman.

Make Check Payable to: *American Legion Golf Tournament*
Mail to: *Lewis Jones, Activities Director, The Pennsylvania American Legion
PO Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Email: _____

My 2025 Membership ID # _____ Please circle: SAL LGN AUX Post # _____

Did you participate in the 2022, 2023 or 2024 tournament? Yes No

If no, please complete the following: My Handicap is _____

Handicap verified by _____

(Circle one) Signature of: _____ Post Commander/Golf Chairman

I will need _____ extra dinner tickets @ \$15.00 each (check must accompany order).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Western Sectional
Oratorical Contest
February 15th 1 pm
Zelionople
Post 474

Legacy Riders

No events to my
knowledge

Gun Bash

February 22nd
Open to the Public

Legion Baseball is
coming.
Sign-ups
have started

Western Section
Meeting
February 16th, 1 pm
New Castle Post 343

American Legion
Family Day
May 24th
Pirates vs Brewers
\$52 per ticket
All you can eat
and drink
(NO ALCOHOL)

Baden American Legion
Stand down
April 26th
1 pm to 3 pm

Baden American Legion
honors our
Vietnam Veterans
March 29th

FYI

The January blood drive was a success. Despite it falling on one of the coldest days of the year, there were 36 units donated. The goal for that day was 35 units.

Thank you to all who donated that day!

The next blood drive will be on March 18th, noon to 5:30pm

The American Legion Auxiliary is collecting mailing addresses of military members that you would like to have receive a care package.

New Members: James Onuska, USMC
Doug Scott, USN

This year's essay contest has 3 applicants, 2 from Quaker Valley and 1 from Ambridge, thanks to Jim Janicki. Let's wish them luck.

On January 18th, members of the Baden American Legion Post 641 were present at the Western District American Legion Homeless Veterans Dinner, held in Moon Township. Commander Gerry States presented a large donation from the Baden American Legion, Auxiliary and Home Association. The donation included funds raised by the spaghetti dinner held at the Baden Legion in December 2024. The SAL made a separate donation to the homeless veterans.

Just a reminder that as the newsletter is put together, events and dates are based on the most current information I'm given. Events and dates may change after this is "published". Any questions, concerns, complaints about info in this newsletter can be forwarded on to me via any of the post officers. Thank you. Linda Davis McGown

PHOTOS FROM THE 2025 HOMELESS VETERANS DINNER



HONORING THE FALLEN

All information regarding POW/MIA recovery efforts is from the website "Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

Donald W. Downing, Col, USAF

Press Release
January 21, 2025

Defense Dept POW/MIA
Accounting Agency
As of February 4, 2025.

World War II 71,983
Korean War 7,443
Vietnam War 1,573
Cold War 126
Gulf War 5
Libya 1



The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Donald W. Downing, 33, of Columbus, Wisconsin, killed during the Vietnam War, was accounted for Dec. 20, 2024

POW/MIA NEWS

POW/MIA SERVICEMEMBERS THAT WERE RECENTLY ACCOUNTED FOR

In the month of January and February of 2025, there were 20 servicemembers that were officially accounted for.

The breakdown is as follows: WWII (11), Korea (7) and Vietnam (2).

if you are searching for someone who is/was MIA, check this website:

<https://www.dpaa.mil/>



*WE WAIT
WE HOPE
WE PRAY
UNTIL YOU ARE
HOME AGAIN....*

Downing's family recently received their full briefing on his identification, therefore, additional details on his identification can be shared.

In September 1967, Downing was assigned to 557th Tactical Fighter Squadron, 12th Tactical Fighter Wing, 7th Air Force. On Sept. 5, he was piloting an F-4C Phantom II aircraft as the second in a flight of two aircraft conducting a nighttime armed reconnaissance mission over the then-Democratic Republic of Vietnam. While on a run to their target, the first aircraft witnessed a large, bright fireball in the air, and Downing's aircraft did not respond to any radio calls. Search and rescue efforts began at daylight, but electronic and visual searches didn't find anything. On April 28, 1978, the Air Force reported Capt. Downing as Killed in Action. He was later posthumously promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

After decades of investigation into the incident yielding no results, a recovery team with Joint Field Activity 24-3VN recovered life support equipment, possible material evidence, aircraft wreckage, unexploded ordnance and possible osseous material at a site in Quang Binh Province in May and June 2024. Evidence from the mission was accessioned into the DPAA laboratory in June 2024.

To identify Downing's remains, scientists from DPAA used anthropological analysis, as well as material and circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA and autosomal DNA analysis.

Downing's name is recorded on the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the American Battle Monuments Commission's Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, along with others who are unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Downing's funeral will be held in Arlington National Cemetery on a date yet to be determined.

For family and funeral information, contact the Air Force Casualty Office at 800-531-5803.

Reprinted in full from the DPAA website

ATTENTION--PLEASE READ!!

I felt this is important enough to leave this in the newsletter for now.

Important.....The Pennsylvania Senate has unanimously approved Senate Bill 194, which aims to expand property tax relief for 100% disabled veterans. Authored by Senator Tracy Pennycuick of Red Hill, the bill proposes excluding federal veterans' disability benefits from income calculations for state property tax exemptions. (Disability pay benefits no longer count towards earned income, if you are % disabled, now the limits on income become easier for the veteran to apply for this tax exemption)

The property tax exemption for disabled veterans in Pennsylvania is a program that provides financial relief for qualifying veterans by exempting a portion or the entire property tax on their primary residence. This program aims to recognize and support the sacrifices made by disabled veterans who have service-connected disabilities.

To be eligible for the property tax exemption, veterans must meet certain criteria. Firstly, they need to have a disability rating of 100% from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Secondly, the disability must be deemed service-connected, meaning it is a result of their military service. Additionally, the veteran must be a qualified resident of Pennsylvania and own a primary residence in the state.

The benefits of this program are significant. By qualifying for the property tax exemption, disabled veterans can substantially reduce their financial burden in terms of real estate taxes. This exemption enables them to allocate their limited resources towards other necessary expenses, such as healthcare or daily living costs.

In order to obtain this valuable property tax relief, disabled veterans need to fill out an application with the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The application process requires providing necessary documentation, including proof of disability rating and income information. It is important for eligible veterans to be aware of the specific eligibility requirements and gather all the required documentation to support their application.

By accessing the property tax exemption for disabled veterans, eligible veterans can receive financial support that honors their service and the sacrifices they have made for their country. This program aims to alleviate the financial burden associated with property taxes, allowing disabled veterans to maintain their primary residence and enjoy a better quality of life.

If you have further questions, see Randy J Gleason for details.

BE THE ONE

**TO ASK VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING
TO LISTEN WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK
TO REACH OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING**

Go to: <https://www.legion.org/betheone> to find out more about BE THE ONE

TRIVIA NIGHT

FEBRUARY 16th

Kitchen
open

MARCH 9th

7 pm to 9 pm

BAR BINGO

Thursday
evenings 7 pm



A MOMENT OF SILENCE WILL BE
OBSERVED BEFORE BINGO FOR OUR
DEPARTED SERVICEMEN AND
SERVICEWOMEN AND THOSE NON-
MILITARY WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR
THE PROTECTION OF OUR NATION

Pool League

Wednesdays

7 pm



CANTEEN FOOD OFFERINGS

**WING NIGHT
WEDNESDAYS
AT THE LEGION!
6 pm to 9 pm**



**1/2 dozen for \$8.00
1 dozen for \$14.00**



**Basket of fries
for \$5.00**



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Deep Fried Fish	\$15.00
Oven Baked Fish	\$15.00
Jumbo Shrimp (5)	\$16.00
Crab Cake Dinner (3)	\$16.00
Above Dinners includes dinner roll and 2 of the following options: Fries, Mac N' Cheese, Applesauce, Cottage Cheese, or Cole Slaw	
Fish Sandwich with Bun	\$13.50
Fish Nuggets with Fries	\$13.50
Combo Platter	\$15.00
Includes 1 piece of Fish; 2 Jumbo Shrimp; 2 Cheese Sticks; Fries, Onion Rings and Dinner Roll	
Shrimp Basket	\$ 7.00
Shrimp Basket with Fries	\$ 8.00
Chicken Planks (3)	\$ 6.00
Chicken Planks (3) with Fries	\$ 7.00
Crab Cakes (2)	\$ 6.00
Jumbo Shrimp (2)	\$ 5.00
French fries	\$ 4.00
Onion Rings	\$ 5.00
Mac N' Cheese	\$ 2.50
Cottage Cheese	\$ 1.50
Cole Slaw	\$ 2.00
Applesauce	\$ 1.50
Breaded Zucchini Planks (3)	\$ 5.00
Mozzarella Cheese Sticks (3)	\$ 5.00
Breaded Cauliflower	\$ 5.00
Hot Cheese Balls	\$ 5.00

**11 am
to
6:30 pm
or
SOLD
OUT**

Extra Dinner Roll	\$.50 each
Extra Bun	\$.75 each
Gravy	\$.50
Marinara, Ranch Dressing, BBQ Sauce and Parmesan Cheese available upon request	



BUDDY CHECK

BUDDY CHECK

BUDDY CHECK

IN MEMORIAM

Samuel Gagliardi
passed away January 26, 2025
Air Force National Guard



Raymond Brychik
9/19/48 - 1/20/25
veteran U.S. Army



"My final salute
I render today
I'm still a soldier
I'm just on my way"

final verse from the poem "I'm Still A Soldier" by Timothy Emmons

VETERAN AFFAIRS CONTACT INFORMATION

VA health benefits hotline

[877-222-8387](tel:877-222-8387)

Hours: Monday through
Friday,
8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET

My HealtheVet help desk

[877-327-0022](tel:877-327-0022)

Hours: Monday through
Friday,
8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET

MyVA411 main information line

[800-698-2411](tel:800-698-2411)

Hours: 24/7

Veterans Crisis Line

988, Select 1
Hours: 24/7

VA benefits hotline

[800-827-1000](tel:800-827-1000)

Hours: Monday through Friday,
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET

Special issue hotline (Blue Water Navy Act,
Gulf War, Agent Orange, and other information)

[800-749-8387](tel:800-749-8387)

Hours: Monday through Friday,
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET

EMAIL AND WEBSITES

www.badenpost641.org District 26 FB <https://www.facebook.com/PALegionDistrict26>
Women Vets of Beaver County <https://www.facebook.com/SisterhoodVets>
Email: legionbaden@comcast.net
AMERICAN LEGION website: mylegion.org
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FB PAGE <https://www.facebook.com/Baden641auxiliary>