



**POST
NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2025**



Post
Commander

Gerry States

February was a short month; however, we did have the Gun Bash, which was a success.

I had some health issues and couldn't really contribute to anything, but I'm on the mend and getting better each day. Taking things slow though.

I'm proud of how everyone stepped up and helped make everything in February a success. We really are a Legion family. All the officers and members- you are the ones! We have the BEST Legion in Western Pa because of all of you.

March is going to be busy. Along with our fish fries, bingo and meetings, we also have the Legion birthday and Vietnam Veterans Day.

We have the best Auxiliary, S.A.L., Home Association and Post!

God Bless You All.

Gerry States
Commander

MARCH MEETINGS

POST

March 25th, 7 pm

COUNTY

March 18th, 7 pm
Baden Post 641

AUXILIARY

March 11th, 7 pm

SAL

March 11th, 6:30 pm

JUNIOR AUXILIARY

March 6th, 5:30 pm

HOME ASSOCIATION

March 17th, 7 pm

GOLD STAR RIDERS

No meeting

VVA

March 19th, 1 pm

**IMPORTANT
MILITARY DATES IN
MARCH**

- March 3, 1915
- March 5, 1942
- March 15, 1919*
- March 25
- March 29

- Navy Reserve Birthday
- Seabee's Birthday
- AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY*
- Medal of Honor Day
- National Vietnam War Veterans Day

The American Legion- 106 yrs working for Veterans

World War 1, known as the Great War. Over 4,355,000 US troops were mobilized, including men, women, US regular forces, National Guard forces and draft forces. 2,000,000 alone served in the American Expeditionary Force in France. (1)

And after the war most of these men and women came home. Some came back to new jobs; some were able to return to the jobs they held before the war. But many thousands came home to families and there was no way to support them. Or they came home to work, no family, no way to support themselves.

(1) World War 1 United States Military Records 1917-1918.

I decided we all need to remember what the American Legion is about, so here it is.



THE AMERICAN LEGION

A BRIEF HISTORY

The American Legion was founded March 15-17, 1919, by members of the American Expeditionary Forces still stationed in Europe awaiting passage home from World War I. Their experiences in what was called the "war to end all wars" would shape an enduring legacy for what has become the nation's largest organization of veterans.

Many of the Legion's founders had voluntarily drilled in civilian military camps before the United States entered the war. Trained in the "Preparedness Movement," several future Legion founders were commissioned as officers in the war and discovered firsthand the nation's deficiencies in defense, citizenship and education. Soon after the war's end, they

also realized how poorly prepared the United States was to assist a wave of disabled and unemployed veterans who faced uncertain futures in their communities, states and the nation.

The American Legion's emergence and rise to prominence was based on a mission to strengthen the nation through programs, services and advocacy that helped millions throughout the organization's first century.

The American Legion built its identity with a vision to make the nation prouder, stronger, smarter and more respectful of those who have sacrificed some, or all, in defense of the nation. Following are some The American Legion's achievements during its first century.

VETERANS



- Formed a network of service officers in 1919 that now exceeds 3,000 to help disabled veterans, free of charge, file for government benefits
- Campaigned to put all veterans services under one federal authority, which led to creation of the VA
- Assisted millions of veterans in pursuit of rewarding careers; by June 1922 had already placed more than 500,000 veterans in permanent jobs and 200,000 more in temporary positions

- Fought to protect veterans benefits, VA hospitals, training programs and services from federal budget cuts
- Developed programs and advanced research into what became post-traumatic stress disorder as early as 1921
- Produced studies that led to official diagnosis of PTSD in 1980 and proved that service-connected exposure to Agent Orange and radiation caused diseases
- Achieved Veterans Preference Hiring for federal jobs
- Drafted and pushed to passage the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, the GI Bill that transformed America; worked to improve subsequent renditions, including the 2017 Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act, the "Forever GI Bill"
- Led efforts to achieve VA recognition for veterans previously denied benefits and health care for conditions caused by exposure to toxic burn pits in the Global War on Terrorism, as well as others who suffered illnesses caused by atomic radiation and Agent Orange
- Led a nationwide "Be the One" initiative to reduce and prevent veteran suicide

NATIONAL SECURITY

- Lobbied persistently for a better-funded and more efficient national system of defense
- Called for the establishment of a separate service branch for aeronautics as early as 1919, which helped give birth to the U.S. Air Force in 1947
- Pushed Congress for "universal military training" for decades, culminating in the Reserve Forces Act of 1955
- Conducted thousands of troop-support programs, including deployment ceremonies, welcome-home events and provision of needed items in theater
- Established and staffed thousands of local first-response units and civil patrols during World War II
- Provided financial and volunteer aid for military parents through American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance and Family Support Network programs established during the Gulf War
- Began The American Legion Blood Donor Program in 1942, and became the largest organizational blood donor to the Red Cross in the nation
- Re-established the Blue Star Banner program to recognize military families with deployed loved ones after 9/11
- Launched a program to provide comfort items for U.S. military personnel recovering from wounds in DoD hospitals or transition units, ultimately named Operation



Comfort Warriors in 2008, which has distributed millions of dollars of goods, games, books, music, recreational equipment and event passes for troops and their families

- Provided emergency grants for members of the U.S. Coast Guard who had pay delays due to the January 2019 federal government shutdown
- Fought to protect military retirement benefits and TRICARE insurance
- Stood as a national leader in the recovery and repatriation of all U.S. POWs and MIAs
- Passed and reaffirmed national resolutions, beginning in 2005, supporting the troops *and their mission* in the global war on terrorism

AMERICANISM



- Actively promoted responsible U.S. citizenship and patriotic awareness beginning in 1919
- By January 1920, began providing U.S. citizenship and naturalization programs for immigrants, with support from Congress
- Led flag conferences in 1923 and 1924 that established the first standard rules for treatment and respect of the U.S. flag, adopted in 1942 as U.S. Flag Code
- Established official retirement ceremonies for worn-out U.S. flags, often a joint activity with Boy Scouts of America units
- Began American Legion Boys State in Illinois in 1935 to counter communist-inspired youth camps in the United States and to teach the way government operates in a democracy, a program that went national in 1946 and ultimately became American Legion Boys Nation
- Strongly advocated for active participation in the voting process, conducting thousands of candidate forums and a national Get Out the Vote program
- Assembled the Citizens Flag Alliance after the controversial 1989 Supreme Court ruling defining deliberate flag desecration as free speech and began a campaign to seek a constitutional amendment to return to the states the right to pass laws to protect the flag

CHILDREN & YOUTH

- Urged American Legion support for Boy Scouts of America as the organization's first youth program backed by resolution, in November 1919
 - Established an enduring relationship in 1921 with the National Education Association "to cooperate in securing for America a program of education adequate to meet the needs of the 20th century ... which will make all, native or foreign-born, good American citizens"
 - Launched American Legion Baseball in 1925 to promote citizenship through sportsmanship, a program that would grow to field thousands of teams over the century
 - Developed and operated marksmanship competitions that became the national American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program in 1991
 - Sponsored thousands of Junior ROTC programs across the country and at American schools overseas
 - Created and operated a National Oratorical Contest beginning in 1938, continuing today, that requires high school-age orators to speak on the U.S. Constitution
 - Established a national network of child-support field representatives in the 1920s and operated orphanages throughout the country to assist kids who needed stable homes and mentorship
 - Formed the Child Welfare Foundation in 1954 to provide grants to support organizations and agencies that assist young people facing challenges not of their making
- Provided thousands of scholarships for high school students seeking college educations
 - Launched an ongoing program in 1926 that recognizes with School Award Medals young people for their character, service and citizenship.
 - Was chosen by Samsung Corp. in 1995 to administer a \$5 million fund to provide scholarships for Boys State or Girls State participants who are descendants of U.S. wartime veterans
 - Established an American Legion Legacy Scholarship in 2001 that provides college funds for children of military personnel killed or 50% or more disabled



COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Established civil defense as a function of The American Legion and began a century of support in communities wracked by disasters, including mining accidents, tornados, wildfires, earthquakes and hurricanes
- Launched a Community and Civic Betterment Bureau in 1923 to help municipalities build and improve parks, playgrounds, health-care facilities, swimming pools, schools and theaters throughout the United States
- Served meals, provided housing for refugees and searched for survivors of the massive Mississippi and Ohio River floods of 1927 and 1937
- Sponsored soup kitchens at American Legion posts to help destitute citizens during the Depression throughout the country
- Helped establish state highway patrols, and supported them, as they emerged across the country
- Established the National Emergency Fund in 1989 to formalize The American Legion's long program to provide disaster relief
- Delivered millions of dollars in National Emergency Fund grants for relief efforts after Hurricane Katrina, Wilma and Rita on the Gulf Coast, and the flooding that followed in New Orleans
- Conducted dozens of natural disaster relief efforts, following Superstorm Sandy, Hurricanes Irene, Michael, Maria, Ian and others, wildfires in California, devastating flooding in the Midwest and other crises

HONOR & REMEMBRANCE

- Took a lead role in 1920 to formally observe Memorial Day at the graves of U.S. military personnel laid to rest in some 2,400 temporary cemeteries in Europe
- Was actively involved in the development of the American Battle Monuments Commission in 1923
- Backed legislation in 1920 to install the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, dedicated Nov. 11, 1921
- Helped dedicate the towering Liberty Memorial in Kansas City during the third national convention, in 1921
- Raised funds in 1926 to help build the Ossuary at Verdun, France, to remember the cost of World War I
- Pushed for 24-hour guarding for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 1937 and purchased lights for the shrine in 1969
- Raised over \$1.2 million, most by any organization, to build the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, dedicated in a Legion-sponsored 1982 "Salute to Vietnam Veterans"
- Passed a resolution in 1985 to open every official American Legion meeting with a prayer for all American POW/MIAs
- Raised funds and provided marketing support for the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.
- Raised more than \$3 million for the construction of the National World War II Memorial, dedicated in 2004
- Served in a leadership role to build the National WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C., dedicated in 2021
- Conducted thousands of local memorial services a year at funerals, special events and ceremonies honoring those who served their country and lost their lives
- Argued in court, including a U.S. Supreme Court victory in 2019, to protect veterans and military memorials from removal due to religious symbolism in their design



THE AMERICAN LEGION

P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206
(317) 630-1200

www.legion.org

[www.legion.org/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/legion.org) twitter.com/AmericanLegion

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

So Happy Birthday to the American Legion, and thank you for all you've done for veterans in the past, what it stands for, our veterans, active duty military and the families.

The Seabee's March 5, 1942--83 yrs

HAPPY 83rd to the Navy's Fighting Construction Battalion, made famous through John Wayne's movie, "The Fighting Seabees".

When the US realized that WWII meant we were going to be fighting halfway around the world, the US Navy realized it was going to need infrastructure to provide support for its military. Before we entered WWII, civilian contractors were used but after we entered the war, they had to stop using these contractors. Because under international law, civilians are not "permitted to resist enemy military attacks", or they can be executed as guerillas.

On December 28, 1941, Rear Admiral Ben Moreell, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks (BUDOCKS), requested specific authority to activate, organize, and man a unique, very special organization that would support the Navy and Marines in remote locations and defend themselves if attacked—the Naval Construction Battalions. On January 5, 1942, he was given that authority, and the original battalions were formed at a new Naval base in Davisville, Rhode Island. (1)

The first naval construction unit to actually deploy from the United States left Davisville, Rhode Island, less than two weeks later, on January 17, 1942. It was designated the First Construction Detachment. The 296 men arrived at Bora Bora on February 17, 1942. (1)

On March 5, all Construction Battalion personnel were officially named Seabees by the Navy Department. Admiral Moreell personally furnished them with their motto *Construmus Batumius*, or *We Build, We Fight*. A logo, the Fighting Bee, was created by a Rhode Islander at Davisville. (1)

The Navy built their battalions with experienced, highly skilled craftsmen, electricians, carpenters, plumbers, and equipment operators—virtually any construction or building trade was welcome in the Seabees. Seabee units were quickly engaged in construction and combat. By July 1942, the first Naval Construction Battalion landed on Midway Island to begin work on the new airstrip on Sand Island and to start the massive clean-up of damage caused by the Japanese bombing. (1)

Since then, the Seabee's have been a fighting force in Korea, Vietnam and the Beirut.

They were instrumental in helping to build scientific bases in Antarctica in the 1950's and the construction of a 6,000 ft "ice" runway at the start of Operation Deep Freeze. (1)

Two-thirds of today's Seabees are reservists. Active duty Seabees serve in six active Battalions, two Amphibious Construction Battalions (ACBs), and two Underwater Construction Teams (UCTs).

If you want to know more about The Fighting Seabees, go to seabeesmuseum.com.

(1) Reprinted from the website 'SEABEE MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL PARK' RI.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
to the US NAVY
RESERVES--110 YRS



March 3, 1915

The Naval Reserve is born.

Congress passes legislation to create the Federal Navy Reserve

2005 A Change of Name

The U.S. Naval Reserve Force becomes the Navy Reserve

At the beginning of World War I, a young Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Franklin D. Roosevelt, anticipated the need for a federal maritime reserve force and began to urge Congress to enact legislation to accomplish this goal. On March 3, 1915 the United States Naval Reserve was officially established, and by the war's end, over 250,000 Reserve Sailors were serving. During World War II, 84% of the 3.4 million Sailors serving on active duty came from the Navy Reserve — including five future U.S. Presidents.(1)

Formed in 1915 in response to the outbreak of World War I, the Navy Reserve made up almost 84 percent of the Navy's fighting force during the war. Among its ranks were five future U.S. Presidents and 15 recipients of the Medal of Honor. The Navy Reserve has since had reservists serve in every major war in which the United States has fought.

On any particular day, 25 percent of the Navy Reserve is delivering global operational support to the fleet and combat forces. The Reserve has seen over 70,000 mobilizations of Selected Reservists since September 11, 2001, and more than 4,500 deployments by reservists serving on Full-Time Support.(2)

A quote from Former President of the United States, and Navy Reserve Lieutenant, John F. Kennedy stated that: "Today we need a nation of minute men; citizens who are not only prepared to take up arms, but citizens who regard the preservation of freedom as a basic purpose of their daily life, and who are willing to consciously work and sacrifice for that freedom."

(1) Reprinted from an article written by Lt. Russell Chilcoat, "History of the Navy Reserve", May 10, 2019.

(2) Reprinted from an article written by Justin Sloan, published on the website MILITARY.com, on March 4, 2017



A Reminder of What It Means



The rays of the sun form the background of our proud emblem and suggests the Legion's principles will dispel the darkness of violence and evil.



The wreath forms the center, in loving memory of those brave comrades who gave their lives in the service of the United States that liberty might endure.



The star, victory symbol of World War I, also symbolizes honor, glory and constancy. The letters "U.S." leave no doubt as to the brightest star in the Legion's star.



The larger of two outer rings stands for the rehabilitation of our sick and disabled comrades. The smaller inside ring denotes the welfare of America's children



The smaller of two inner rings set upon the star represents service to our communities, states and the nation. The larger outer ring pledges loyalty to Americanism

The words American Legion tie the whole together for truth, remembrance, constancy, honor, service, veterans affairs and rehabilitation, children and youth, loyalty, and Americanism.



"Veterans' Health Benefits" area (across from kitchen) has been established and will be maintained by the Post Service Officer. This information area will be a resource to assist all veterans needing help and support. If you have issues or a VA problem, contact Randy Gleason.



**Your Service Officer is
Randy Gleason**

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



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

MEDAL OF HONOR DAY

March 25, 2025

"The Medal of Honor is the United States' highest award for valor in combat. Fewer than 3600 men and women have been honored to wear the Medal for their actions above and beyond the call of duty. It embodies the sacrifices of all our service members and the values that have shaped America."

from the website "The Congressional Medal of Honor Society"



Air Force



Navy
Marine Corps
Coast Guard



Army

Number of Medals of Honor awarded 3547

Number of living Medal of Honor recipients living 61

Number of double Medal of Honor recipients 19

All four of the U.S. Unknown Soldiers have been presented a Medal of Honor in recognition of their sacrifice and the sacrifices of all those who serve our county.

DR. MARY WALKER ONLY FEMALE MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER

Dr. Mary Walker was lucky enough to be born to parents who encouraged her to get an education, unusual for the time she was born, 1832. She graduated from medical school in 1855 and went on to open a small private practice, which ultimately failed after the public couldn't accept a female doctor. After the Civil War broke out, she wanted to join the Army and serve her country as a surgeon. They refused to allow her to join because she was a woman. Instead, she chose to volunteer for the Union Army and spent her time initially at a hospital that had been set up in Washington D.C, unfortunately only being allowed to work as a nurse.

"In 1862, she moved to Virginia and spent her time working in field hospitals throughout the state, using her medical and surgical skills to save as many lives as she could. In 1863, her medical credentials were finally accepted, so she moved to Tennessee, where she was appointed as a War Department surgeon. Her position was paid, and it was the equivalent of a lieutenant or captain." (1)

During her work as a surgeon in the war, Walker often crossed battle lines to care for soldiers and civilians. In April of 1864, Walker was captured by Confederate troops as a spy. She was held as a prisoner of war for four months at the notorious Castle Thunder prison near Richmond, the Confederate capital. While imprisoned, she refused to wear the women's clothes provided to her. She wore men's clothes her entire life because she felt they were more comfortable and hygienic and made her job as a surgeon easier. She had even wore pants under her skirt at her wedding. Walker was released from prison in August of 1864 as part of a prisoner exchange with other medical doctors. In September 1864, she was contracted as the assistant surgeon of the Ohio 52nd Infantry. (2)

In 1865, after the end of the civil war, Dr. Walker was awarded the Medal of Honor for "meritorious service", by President Andrew Johnson. The citation reads "Whereas it appears from official reports that Dr. Mary E. Walker, a graduate of medicine, has rendered valuable service to the government, and her efforts have been earnest and untiring in a variety of ways, and that she was assigned to duty and served as an assistant surgeon in charge of female prisoners at Louisville, KY., under the recommendation of Major-Generals Sherman and Thomas, and faithfully served as contract surgeon in the service of the United states, and has devoted herself with much patriotic zeal to the sick and wounded soldiers, both in the field and hospitals, to the detriment of her own health, and has endured hardships as a prisoner of war four months in a southern prison while acting as contract surgeon....(3)

In 1917 her medal (along with 910 others) was rescinded by Congress because she was "a civilian and a non-combatant". In 1977 President Jimmy Carter restored the honor in her name.

(1)Reprinted from "Meet Dr. Mary Walker: The only female Medal of Honor recipient", By Katie Lange, DoD News, Defense Media Activity March 7, 2017

(2)Reprinted from a biography "Mary Edwards Walker", By Kerri Lee Alexander, NWHM Fellow | 2018-2019 | Updated by Emma Z. Rothberg, Associate Educator, Digital Learning & Innovation, 2023

(3) Reprinted in full from a website "Women Medal Recipients-Military and Civilian", compiled by Captain Barbara A. Wilson, USAF (Ret), 1996.

NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY - March 29

This country has fought in too many wars, both here and abroad. And in every war, those who fought came home to family, friends, a country who supported them in their service to their country. But one. Vietnam.

According to the Vietnam Veterans Project," 2,709, 918 Americans served in uniform in Vietnam. Between 1 – 1.6 million either fought in combat, provided close support or were at least fairly regularly exposed to enemy attack. 7,484 women served in Vietnam (6,250 were nurses). 648,000 (25%) of the total forces in country were draftees. At the time of the Vietnam War, 66% of the U.S. armed forces were drafted during WWII.

How many of those that returned home, came back to a hero's welcome, like so many before them? How many of you know someone who fought over there and came back to a level of disrespect, dislike and sometimes hatred that returning military before them never experienced. How many of you know a veteran who's been disrespected by another veteran for serving in Vietnam. Not only should this never happen again, but it should never have happened.

On March 29, 2012, President Obama declared March 29 "Vietnam War Veterans Day. As he said, "Eleven years of combat left their imprint on a generation. Thousands returned home bearing shrapnel and scars; still more were burdened by the invisible wounds of post-traumatic stress, of Agent Orange, of memories that would never fade. More than 58,000 laid down their lives in service to our Nation.....Our veterans answered our country's call and served with honor, and on March 29, 1973, the last of our troops left Vietnam. Yet, in one of the war's most profound tragedies, many of these men and women came home to be shunned or neglected -- to face treatment unbecoming their courage and a welcome unworthy of their example. We must never let this happen again.

(1) From the website "Vietnam Veterans Project"
<https://vietnamveteranproject.org/>

(2) Excerpt from President Obama's Proclamation regarding the establishment of Vietnam War Veterans Day



WOMEN VETERANS OF VIETNAM

American military leaders were reluctant to send women abroad during the Vietnam War due to the unpredictable nature of guerilla warfare. There were no battle lines and no one knew when or where the next attack would strike. Yet many American women wanted to serve their country by supporting deployed troops and making a difference where they could. By the end of the war approximately 11,000 military women had served in Southeast Asia along with an unknown number of American civilian women. All of the women who participated in the Vietnam War were volunteers.(1)

Though members of the Army Nurse Corps were in Vietnam as early as 1956 to train Vietnamese women in nursing skills, larger numbers of American women didn't begin to serve in Vietnam until 1963. At this time the Army Nurse Corps launched Operation Nightingale, which was an intensive effort to find volunteers. Once abroad, enlisted women worked in all branches of the military. 90% of them became nurses, while others worked as communications specialists, intelligence officers and support personnel in military headquarter. (1)

The women who volunteered to go to Vietnam ranged in age from their early 20s to their 40s. According to the Vietnam Women's Memorial, the average age of a female volunteer was 23.6 years old and only 35% of them had more than two years of nursing experience. Many of them were fresh out college and were among the youngest medical personnel ever to serve in a war. Yet these women would treat thousands of injured soldiers, endure repeated exposure to wartime violence and work tirelessly to meet the ever-increasing demand for medical care. Their bravery and dedication did much to change social stereotypes about women and their capacity to serve in the military arena.(1)

Women received injuries during battle both visible and invisible. Air Force nurses participated in air evacuation missions. Navy women served on hospital ships such as USS *Repose* and USS *Sanctuary* off the coast of Vietnam.(2)

Upon returning to the U.S., women faced hostile treatment like their male counterparts. Women rarely spoke about their service. Limited information about American women in Vietnam complicates knowledge regarding health issues. Additionally, many suffered complications from Agent Orange and post-traumatic stress disorder.(2)

8 Nurses died in the conflict.

(1) Reprinted in full from the website, "New York City Vietnam Veterans Memorial Plaza" information resourced from: Heikkila, Kim. "Sisterhood of War: Minnesota Women in Vietnam." Minnesota Historical Press Society: St. Paul, 2011.

Norman, Elizabeth. "Women at War: The Story of Fifty Military Nurses Who Served in Vietnam." University of Pennsylvania Press: Philadelphia, 1990. Zeinert, Karen. "The Valiant Women of the Vietnam War. " Twenty-First Century Books: Minneapolis, 2000.

(2) Reprinted from an article on the VA website, titled "Women Veterans bravely served during Vietnam War", written March 14, 2021 by Vantage Point Contributor.



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.



Veterans get more time to transition to new online login system

For immediate release
January 31, 2025
10:43 am

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs today announced it will provide Veterans additional time to transition to a new online login system that lets them more quickly and securely access information about their VA health care and benefits.

In July, VA announced a phase out of My HealtheVet and DS Logon sign-in options, in favor of two new options, Login.gov and ID.me, which will help the department offer stronger protections for Veterans, families and caregivers.

With today's announcement, VA is extending the final deadline by which veterans and beneficiaries can log in to VA.gov, VA mobile applications and other VA online services using their My HealtheVet username and password from Jan. 31, 2025, to March 4, 2025. The deadline to switch from DS Logon to ID.me or Login.gov remains Sept. 30, 2025.

Most VA beneficiaries are already using Login.gov and ID.me to access My HealtheVet and other VA digital services, but VA will use this additional time to ensure as many Veterans and beneficiaries as possible make the switch before the old My HealtheVet username and password system is retired March 4. In addition, VA is increasing outreach to Veterans who have yet to make the switch and will provide in-person assistance at VA Medical Centers across the nation.

All VA beneficiaries are encouraged to visit Prepare For VA's Secure Sign-In Changes | Veterans Affairs to learn more.

With everything going on today, I wanted to share a few facts about your fellow veterans. And remember, just because you don't know what their job involves, doesn't mean their job isn't valuable or important.

More than 2 million people work in federal government jobs. Veterans make up roughly 30% of that workforce. The percentage is higher at the VA. About 360,000 people in the VA's workforce of 470,000 are veterans, said Cole T. Lyle, national director of veterans affairs and rehabilitation at the American

Read more at: <https://www.stripes.com/veterans/2025-02-26/veterans-jobs-trump-firings-16963479.html>

Source - Stars and Stripes



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
3rd Place -- \$ 35
4th 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 Section

Commander's Dinner
March 19
American Legion Post 344
Jeannette

Gold Star Riders

No events

Legion Baseball

season is almost here!
Sign-ups have started

Children's Military Table Ceremony

April--watch for date and time

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

Baden American Legion honors our Vietnam Veterans
March 29th

American Legion

Family Day

May 24th

Pirates vs Brewers

\$52 per ticket

All you can eat

and drink

(NO ALCOHOL)



Love baseball and love to support our kids??
We can always use your help with American Legion baseball.
Give Jeff Olsen a call!



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

Contact an auxiliary member with the name, address including APO, FPO information.

DEADLINE FOR ADDRESSES IS MARCH 15

FYI

The junior auxiliary raised 1009 lbs of plastic in less than 6 months for the veterans bench. It's on order!!



The stuffed pork chop dinner held to raise funds for Homeless Veterans was a SOLD OUT success thanks to everyone's support!



And another successful event with the gun bash, thanks to great post and community support.



The auxiliary will not be having a monthly dinner for March or April but will be having one in May.

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



POW/MIA NEWS

POW/MIA SERVICEMEMBERS THAT WERE RECENTLY ACCOUNTED FOR

In the month of February of 2025, there were 22 servicemembers that were officially accounted for.

The breakdown is as follows: WWII (17) and Korea (5).

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....*

MIA-Recovered..

U.S. Army Cpl. Ernest H. Ulrich

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced today that U.S. Army Cpl. Ernest H. Ulrich, 26, of China, Texas, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Oct. 9, 2024.

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

In late 1941, Ulrich was a member of Medical Department, 200th Coast Artillery Regiment in the Philippines during World War II, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December. Intense fighting continued until the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942, and of Corregidor Island on May 6, 1942.

Thousands of U.S. and Filipino service members were captured and interned at POW camps. Ulrich was among those reported captured when U.S. forces in Bataan surrendered to the Japanese. They were subjected to the 65-mile Bataan Death March and then held at the Cabanatuan POW camp. More than 2,500 POWs perished in this camp during the war.

According to prison camp and other historical records, Ulrich died Nov. 22, 1942, and was buried along with other deceased prisoners in the local Cabanatuan Camp Cemetery in Common Grave 807.

Following the war, American Graves Registration Service (AGRS) personnel exhumed those buried at the Cabanatuan cemetery and relocated the remains to a temporary U.S. military mausoleum near Manila. In 1947, the AGRS examined the remains in an attempt to identify them. Three sets of remains from Common Grave 807 were identified, but the rest were declared unidentifiable. The unidentified remains were buried at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial (MACM) as Unknowns.

In late 2018, DPAA exhumed the remains of nine Unknowns associated with Common Grave 807 and sent them to the DPAA laboratory for analysis. Thanks to advanced DNA technology, Cpl Ulrich was officially identified.

Although interred as an Unknown in MACM, Ulrich's grave was meticulously cared for over the past 70 years by the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC)

Ulrich will be buried in Palo Alto, California, on a date to be determined

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

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**



BLOOD DRIVE
MARCH 18, 2025
NOON TO 5 PM

Baden American Legion


*Your Blood Donation Can Be the Miracle
Someone Is Praying For – A Patient
in Surgery, A Child Battling Illness, Or
an Accident Victim in Urgent Need.*

**REGISTER TODAY AND
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

March 2
March 16
March 30

TRIVIA NIGHT



7 PM to 9 PM



Pool League
Wednesdays
7 pm

BBAR BINGO



Thursday
evenings 7 pm

ASH WEDNESDAY



FISH FRY
11 - 6:30 PM OR
UNTIL SOLD OUT

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



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



"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>