

LARRY A. HOFF ePOST 2100



Issue #108 APRIL, 2022

COMMUNICATION IS POWER

TO OPT OUT OF OUR NEWSLETTERS, E-MAIL MARIA KLENHARD

OUR NEXT MEETING

April 21st, at 7:30 PM, is slated for our next tele-meeting, by invitation, using GoToMeeting. E-mail me if you want an invitation:

commander@epost2100.org.

Our tele-meetings are provided for you to learn about and have input regarding your cyber Post. BTW, have you visited <u>Our Web site</u>, lately?

OUR HELP DESK STANDS READY TO ASSIST US VETERANS WITH FREE COMPUTER-RELATED AID.

Commander

770-786-8702

DEPARTMENT MEETING DATE

Sugar Hill, GA Post 127 - May 7th

VA SURVEY

Help Reshape VA's Mission Statement



VA is seeking our input as to how its mission statement may evolve to be more inclusive and representative of the changing needs of all Veterans.

Click <u>Survey (va.gov)</u> to learn more and share your voice.

TOUR CIBER POST O	FFICERS
Post Commander <u>ROBERT GREEN</u>	770-786-8702
Senior Vice Commander MARIA KLENHARD	916-952-7691
Junior Vice Commander <u>ERIC PARSONS</u>	706 325-4047
Adjutant MARIA KLENHARD	916-952-7691
Finance Officer MAC MCMILLAN	404-277-4280
Judge Advocate <u>TED RICHARDS</u>	404-754-0415
Exec. Committee <u>ED MCMILLAN</u>	770-757-6136
Sergeant-at-ArmsDAVID GREEN	
Service Officer <u>ED MCMILLAN</u>	770-757-6136
Chaplain <u>ROBERT TEETER</u>	918-781-9328

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

As veterans, most of us probably are paying attention to the Russian aggression on and in Ukraine. Did we ever think we would see another war in Europe? The war might spread to other nations and possibly involve nuclear munitions, which is ironic,



as our country and others guaranteed Ukraine that if they would give up their nuclear arms, we would have their backs.

Our nation now faces the increasing dangers to our infrastructure due to cyber Internet hacking, which goes on all the time.

This is a different type of warfare than most of us have been accustomed to, as there are no front lines, uniformed enemies and there will be more civilian casualties.

I recall my CBR (Chemical, Biological, Radiological) training sixty years ago and contrast it to what we are facing, today. Ours is a more dangerous world, now.

Your years of service have helped keep America relatively safe and secure, but our current armed forces face challenging times, so I hope each of us, in our own way, support their efforts. This is not a time for complacency, but for our doing what we can, besides voting, to actively seek ways to help defend America.

-**Bol** Email

Chaplain's letter

In keeping with this clause of the preamble, there are a great many things that we as members of the American Legion can do to build upon. One such idea is our Annual 911 Memorial Bike ride hosted by the Muskogee Veterans Cycling Club which is open to the public and all ages. In the month of April, we have **children and youth month**, and **holy month**. As for how we go about making a difference being a cyber post, this will take a little bit of thought and we are also spread out a bit more.

TO INCULCATE A SENSE OF INDIVIDUAL OBLI-GATION TO THE COMMUNITY, STATE AND NA-TION...Always interested in building a better nation, the founders of The American Legion believed that such building must start first with the individual in his own community. So, they made it one of the cardinal principles of The American Legion to inculcate that sense of personal obligation to the community, state and nation into the individual citizen. That means educating the citizen--young, old and future--in his and her responsibility to be active in making the hometown a better place in which to live, in discharging the duty of voting in elections, in paying taxes promptly, in contributing to community chest funds and to blood banks. The word "inculcate" means "to impress by frequent admonitions" and "to enforce by frequent repetitions." Like the duties themselves, the reminders that they remain to be carried forward, are never finished.

If registered for 100 Miles of Hope, I would be halfway through my second 100 hundred miles this month. I did not register yet and should get myself going as for registration for the 100 Miles for Hope, as I'm finally back busy pedaling away and getting ready for outdoor riding once the smoke from fires calms down.



There is a great deal going on in the world and the country, and just when one feels there is a chance to actually take a breather, something else breaks loose. How are we supposed to react to all of this? So many of us suffer from PTSD already and now a new war is breaking out that we do not know how it may affect our men and women in uniform now, with some of them being children of those who have previously served. We may not have an immediate family member on active duty, in the Guard, or deployed, but let me assure you there has been an uptick in the training tempo with the Guard members flying overhead to the training grounds to the south of my house.



I knit to keep my mind quiet with everything going on and all the schoolwork. With school it takes longer to knit anything so projects are smaller than this blanket.

My prayer for the moment: Father, thank you for the time you have granted us to be here; thank you for each and every breath and waking moment given. Oh God, let us not take for granted what You give, from the smallest drop of dew in the morning to the beauty of a clear blue sky. We know not how long the days will be for each of us so help us to make the most of each one, Lord. Help us to make a difference in our community, and the lives of those around us. I pray for those who are being affected by this war and are injured or killed. May those killed find ever lasting peace. Please keep our military personnel who are deployed safe to return home to their loved ones. In this I pray, Amen.

Grace And Peace, Bob Teeter

You can also text me at 918-781-9328

Grace And Peace, Bob Teeter

A LIVING HISTORY

INCREASED SERVICES

Ninety-nine percent of our citizenry have not had the many experiences which we veterans have had, and some are still having.

Consider sharing your experiences with school children and/or civic groups. The young often need to know about what has been done to ensure their safety and standard of living and to build appreciation for service members. Some might even think about enlisting.

Public speaking is often near or at the top of the list that many folks fear doing, but that should not deter some of us.

Maybe make your presentations include a show-and-tell option which can enhance the story.

If you make or have handouts, be sure you get approval from the school administrator...usually a formality.

You need not be a one-person presenter. Perhaps bring along another veteran or someone who can add to what you are telling.

Our Post's annual report includes such presentations, so be sure to let our adjutant, Maria, know what you have done so it can be included and credited to our Post.

BURN PIT COMPENSATION

From Ed (our former Commander):

VA Proposes New Presumptive Conditions for Burn Pits:

VA is proposing a rule to add nine rare respiratory cancers to the list of presumptive conditions for particulate matter exposure from service in Southwest Asia.

The VFW sees this as a step in the right direction to help veterans exposed to burn pits, but remains committed to passing legislation such as the *Honoring our PACT Act* and the *COST of War Ac* to codify VA's presumptive process.

Read more.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced plans to expand three of its home- and community-based caregiving services to its 171 medical centers by the end of 2026.

"These evidence-based programs allow veterans to age in place, avoid or delay nursing home placement and choose the care environment that aligns most with their care needs, preferences and goals," said Scott Hartronft, a physician and the executive director of the VA's Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care.

"Veterans using these programs have experienced fewer hospitalizations and emergency department visits, reduced hospital and nursing home days, and fewer nursing home readmissions and inpatient complications."

Which three services are expanding?

Services are expanding to areas with the highest unmet needs and will include the addition of 58 medical foster homes, 70 veteran-directed care programs and 75 home-based primary care teams within these programs:

Home-Based Primary Care:

This program is for service members who need inhome support for ongoing diseases and illnesses that affect their daily lives. A VA physician oversees a team that provides health care services to veterans in their own homes. It is designed for veterans facing isolation and veterans whose caregivers need extra help.

<u>Medical Foster Home</u>: A trained caregiver provides services to a few people in a private home. Some, but not all, residents are veterans. The VA inspects and approves all Medical Foster Homes, which serve as alternatives to nursing homes.

Veteran-Directed Care: Veterans of any age may be eligible to receive personal care services for help with daily living activities such as bathing, dressing and preparing meals. Veterans are given a budget for services that are managed by service members themselves or their representatives.

LEGAL MATTERS FROM NATIONAL— LEGION EMBLEM

American Legion National Judge Advocate Mark Seavey spoke about the use of the Legion emblem, and other important legal matters, during the February American Legion Training Tuesday session. Here are the highlights:

Legion emblem. The use of the emblem or brand mark by an individual Legionnaire is limited to the wearing of the official insignia and to the possession of authorized jewelry or merchandise bearing the insignia. Posts are confined to using the emblem or brand mark, or reproduction of the emblem or brand mark, on stationery, post publications, notices, posters or place cards, or matters of similar character used in the ordinary routine and conduct of legitimate post business. Any other use of the name "The American Legion" or the emblem/brand mark shall be subject to the approval of the national adjutant.

For frequently asked questions about the emblem, please visit <u>www.legion.org/</u> <u>emblem.</u>

If you have something specially made with The American Legion emblem that wasn't made through Emblem Sales and wasn't approved by the national adjutant, there are some legal ramifications, Seavey said.

The name, brand mark and emblems of The American Legion are registered service marks in the U.S. Trademark Office and protected by criminal and civil provisions of federal law (18 U.S.C.S 705 and 36 U.S.C.SS 21704 and 21705).

"What this says is that it's illegal to manufacture the emblem of a veteran service organization without the written consent of that organization," Seavey said.

For example, if you have 500 T-shirts made by a local company for your post to sell (without national consent), "that manufacturer isn't going to probably know that what they're doing is violating criminal law," Seavey added. "Because they're manufacturing something with the trademark of The American Legion on it. This is serious and we don't want that to happen."

American Legion Emblem Sales will work with you to produce the product that you are requesting. That way, the use of the Legion emblem complies. However, to request limited licensed use of the name, brand mark and/or emblem(s) of The American Legion for merchandise, please complete the form at <u>www.legion.org/emblem/</u>request.

American Legion structure. National, department and post are separate and autonomous. An example Seavey shared is that if a department held an event where members went skydiving and someone was injured, that is not the fault of national.

Military Uniform Rules For Retirees And Veterans

Rules For Former Military Member In Uniform

By <u>Stewart Smith</u> dated on June 25, 2019

Many veterans are still involved in some way in their local communities and offer to attend veteran functions throughout the municipality. Often these events honor military service in some way and having active duty members and veterans attend is a special occasion for many Americans. In fact, every Fourth of July, Veteran's Day, and <u>Memorial Day</u> parade you will encounter many proud former military members wearing their uniforms. You may also see retirees and veterans wearing the uniform at retirement ceremonies of military members, funerals, and weddings of close family members.

There are specific guidelines for when military retirees and veterans can wear their uniforms. Here's a look at when they can and can't wear their uniforms.

Military Retiree and Veteran Differences

The rules state that retirees can wear their uniforms. To be considered a retired veteran, one must have served 20 years or more. However, there are <u>medically retired service members</u> who were injured in the line of duty who also rate the uniform as a retired military member once a civilian.

Veterans are members who served but did not accumulate 20 years of service, however, they may also wear the uniform but only in special occasions that are typically centered around military service and family events (military wedding / funeral, etc.).

Uniform Rules for Veterans and Retirees

The rules for wearing military uniforms as a retired military member or a discharged veteran are similar for all the services. There are certain rules for those seeking to wear the uniform for formal functions, national holidays, parades, military funerals and weddings and other military occasions. Only the Service Dress Uniform may be worn; no work, battle dress or PT uniforms are permitted to be worn at formal events. For non-formal events, veterans are allowed to wear other working uniforms as deemed appropriate for the occasion.

Grooming standards are obviously not enforced when a veteran wears any of the uniforms, but it is common courtesy to wear the uniform as if you were still in the military conforming to all the hair, facial hair, finger nail, and other grooming standards of the military branch you represent. All veterans and retired members will conform with the same standards of appearance, military customs, practices, and conduct in uniform prescribed for active-duty.

Prohibited Places and Events for Military Uniforms

There are some places and events where the uniform is prohibited to be worn by discharged and retired members of the military. These include:

- At any meeting or demonstration which is anti-government in nature.
- During political activities, private employment or commercial interests, when an inference of official sponsorship for the activity could be drawn.

When appearing in civil or criminal court

Uniform Rules for Each Branch of Service

Retired military members and honorably discharged veterans may wear the rank and insignia currently in use, or the rank and <u>insignia</u> in use at the time of their discharge/retirement, but cannot combine the two. Each branch have similar rules for their veterans to wear the uniform and for what occasions. Check out the official military branch website for the many details that can be different from one branch to the other.

SOME WAYS TO HELP UKRAINE

https://umcmission.org/umcor/how-to-assist-the-ukrainian-people/

<u>CARE</u>. The international humanitarian group is providing food, water and other items to families fleeing violence in Ukraine. Contribute <u>here</u>.

Doctors Without Borders. Staffers with the medical relief organization remain in Ukraine and are "seeking ways to respond to the medical and humanitarian needs as the conflict evolves." Offer support <u>here</u>.

International Committee of the Red Cross. The Swiss-based organization is supporting the work of the Ukrainian Red Cross in helping those impacted by the war. Donate to the ICRC.

<u>"Keep Ukraine's media going"</u> is a GoFundMe campaign for journalists around Ukraine that also aims to help reporters relocate and continue their work from neighboring countries. Donations can be made <u>here</u>.

Kyiv Independent. The English-language news site has launched a GoFundMe campaign asking for support.

The <u>762 Project</u>. Volunteers have been collecting, analyzing and posting information about Russia's troop buildup along Ukraine's border for much of the past year. Support the project <u>here</u>.

Samaritan's Purse

Red Cross

Membership Renewals - Explained

Membership in The American Legion is based on a calendar-year from *January 1st to December 31st*. When a member pays their dues, they are paid up for that membership year.

They will also receive twelve monthly subscriptions to The American Legion Magazine.

The renewal process begins in July for the upcoming membership year. Renewal notices are sent out in July, October, January, March and May.

When a member renews, they are removed from future renewal notices for that year.

There are times when a member pays their dues, but they still receive a renewal notice.

If dues are paid to the post, it takes a little longer for national to be notified about the renewal and the member may receive another renewal notice.

If this occurs, please check with your post to ensure they have received your dues.

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	(Mailing Address)		(Phone Number)				
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Demographics of Cyber Post 2100

Fort Gibson, Oklahoma

Muskogee, Oklahoma

Gray, Indiana

Elba, Alabama

Orangeburg, So. Carolina

East Alton, Illinois

Jefferson, Indiana

Alexandria, Virginia



American Legion Programs

National Emergency Fund(NEF)

The National Emergency Fund

provides direct, immediate cash

grants for veterans in the after-

such as tornadoes, floods, wild-

math of major catastrophes,

Donate Now (mylegion.org)

fires or hurricanes.



TANGO ALPHA LIMA Podcasts

Episode 98: Tango Alpha Lima: "Jungle Combat" with retired U.S. Marine Corps Col. John "Ace" Astle

March 29th, 2022 | Season 3 | 53 mins 48 secs

100 miles for hope, American Legion, Annapolis, Boston marathon, commentary, community, community service, GWOT memorial, helicopter, hypersonic missile, Jared Lyon, John Ripley, marine one, Maryland, memories, military, napalm, non-profit, oral history, post-9/11, reserves, Rod Rodriguez, ruck march, sva, taliban, tet offensive, time capsule, topical, transcription, Ukraine, Ukrainian let it go girl, veteran, veterans service, Vietnam, Washington DC.

National Poppy Day May 22, 2022

The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms. Wear a poppy to honor those who have worn our nation's uniform.

https://www.legion.org/ poppyday/toolkit





DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY Fulfilling Our Nation's Promise

CONFLICT	SERVICE	UNIT	LOSS LOCATION	IDENTIFICATION DATE	NOTIFICATION DATE
WORLD WAR II	UNITED STATES ARMY	157 INFANTRY 45 DIVISION	France		03/21/2022
WORLD WAR II	UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES	354 FIGHTER SQUADRON 355 FIGHTER GROUP	Germany		03/07/2022
WORLD WAR II	UNITED STATES NAVY	USS Oklahoma; UNITED STATES NAVY	United States		03/07/2022
WORLD WAR II	UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES	95 SQUADRON 440 TROOP CARRIER GROUP	Belgium		03/03/2022
WORLD WAR II	UNITED STATES ARMY	11 INFANTRY 5 DIVISION	France		03/03/2022
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To respect the next-of-kin for listed individuals, individuals in the table are only considered "Accounted For" when

- (1) DPAA considers the individual as Accounted For, and
- (2) The next-of-kin has been notified.