

AMERICAN LEGION
BICENTENNIAL POST 1976
4206 Daniels Avenue
Annandale, VA 22003
Post Info Line: 703-941-9608
Email: rpcomm6759@aol.com
Website: www.post1976.org



If you wish to receive the newsletter, please send your email address to rpcomm6759@aol.com and we will email it.

American Legion Post 1976

Summer 2024

NEWSLETTER



AMERICAN LEGION BICENTENNIAL POST 1976

ANNANDALE VIRGINIA



VOLUME XLIV ISSUE #2

Summer 2024

Post 1976 Officers

POST 1976 LEGION OFFICERS 2024–2025

Commander: Dorothy Hennessey Viganò
703-898-6627; dorothyvigano@yahoo.com

1st Vice Cdr. (Membership): Diane Ramsey
703-941-9608; rpcomm6759@aol.com

2nd Vice Cdr. (Events): Lance Kent; lancekent17@aol.com

3rd Vice Cdr. (House Comm): Tommy Kemp;
tomar1025warren@hotmail.com

Finance Officer: Bill Walters; walters_bill@hotmail.com

Chaplain: Paul McComb; pmccomb98@gmail.com

Historian: Amanda Fowler; asf1158@aol.com

Service Officer: Carl Menge,
amlgn1976vetservices@gmail.com

Sgt. At Arms: Allison Hoopes; adlhoopes@yahoo.com

Adjutant: Dan Viganò; daniel.vigano@gmail.com

MEETINGS:

Executive Board: 1st Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m.
General Membership: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.
House Committee: 1st Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 1976

Commander: Tom Uglietta; tomug@verizon.net

1st Vice (Membership): Mike Trujillo
mrt.mike@verizon.net

Treasurer: Mike “Red” Lowe

Adjutant: Gary A. Indre

MEETINGS: 1st Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 1976

Director: Mike Trujillo; mrt.mike@verizon.net

Adjutant: Joyce Landry; catnaper520@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Dick George; hndymndick@aol.com

MEETINGS: 3rd Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 1976

President: Pam McCarthy; pmccarthy@new-age-inc.com

1st Vice President, Membership: Gretchen Trujillo;
thegretch61@verizon.net

2nd Vice President: Joyce Landry; catnaper520@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sharon Ogle; share2520@gmail.com

Treasurer: Patti George; georgpjw@aol.com

Chaplain: Susan Dudding; susan.dudding@yahoo.com

Historian: Suzanne Weeden; weeden.suzanne@gmail.com

Sgt. At Arms: Vacant

MEETINGS: 2nd Monday of the month, 7 p.m., except June, July (no meeting)

Club Manager: Diane Ramsey
703-941-9608; rpcomm6759@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Stephanie Kern; slk04@hotmail.com

Website Manager: Dan Viganò; daniel.vigano@gmail.com

Want to get the newsletter emailed to you? Email Diane Ramsey at rpcomm6759@aol.com.

Commander's Corner

We were incredibly excited to present a donation to Luke's Wings at the family breakfast in July. In addition, our volunteer waitresses donated their tips—putting a \$396 cherry on top of the post's donation. You ladies ROCK! Our "GSD" Breakfast Bunch cranked out 126 meals in record time—so a huge shout-out to the crew.



Luke's Wings is an organization that provides complimentary airfare to wounded, ill, and injured service members' families. This allows the service member or veteran to stay connected to their loved ones and supports their mental and physical recovery.



Luke's Wings joined us for breakfast with eight of their team to include our own James Pierce (second from the right). He was a beneficiary of the organization after an IED explosion resulted in the loss of his leg, multiple surgeries, and lengthy recovery time. James is a member of our post (PUFL) and a park ranger, and serves as the chairman of the board for Luke's Wings.

Legion election results for the post gave us a new finance officer and historian. Thank you to Bill

Walters and Amanda Fowler for stepping up to fill these roles.

As always, please consider volunteering here at the post whenever you can, with the talent you have.

For God and Country,

Dorothy Hennessey Vigano, Commander

1st Vice's Report

No report this quarter.

Diane Ramsey, 1st Vice Commander

2nd Vice's Report

No report this quarter.

Lance Kent, 2nd Vice Commander

3rd Vice's Report

The outdoor refreshment area is open! Come and check it out.



The house committee has established the following rules:

1. Do not leave the area with alcoholic beverages.

2. Glass and bottles ARE permitted.
3. Bring all trash back into the post.
4. Smoking is permitted.
5. Dispose of butts in the can provided.
6. Place all chairs or tables back when leaving the area.
7. The bartender will pour all alcoholic beverages at the bar.
8. The bartender will close the area at her/his discretion.

See the bartender for the combination to unlock the security cables.

Final note: I want to thank all of the House Committee members for staying on for another year. You all are so important in keeping the wheels moving forward at Post 1976.

Tommy Kemp, 3rd Vice Commander

Finance Officer's Report

No report this quarter.

Bill Walters, Finance Officer

Chaplain's Report

On September 11, Patriot Day gives all of us time to reflect on the devastating terror attacks that took nearly 3,000 lives. We commemorate those who we lost and give thanks to the brave first responders who put their lives on the line. Let us take a moment on September 11 to consider what we stand for as a nation and how we can work together to make the world a better place for all.

A prayer for the anniversary of 9/11:

“O God, our hope and refuge, in our distress we come quickly to you. We come remembering those who lost their lives. We are mindful of the sacrifice of public servants who demonstrated the greatest love of all by laying down their lives for friends. We commit their souls to your eternal care and celebrate their gifts to a fallen humanity.”

“We come remembering and we come in hope, not in ourselves, but in you. In commemorating this tragedy, we give you thanks for your presence in our time of need and we seek to worship you in Spirit and in truth, our guide and our guardian. Amen.”

Take care of each other. May the Lord provide you encouragement and comfort always, but especially if you are enduring difficult times. May the Lord be a constant companion to us all.

Prayer credit:

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/a-prayer-for-the-anniversary-of-911>.

Blessings,

Paul McComb, District 17 Chaplain

Historian's Report

No report this quarter.

Amanda Fowler, Historian

Service Officer's Report

No report this quarter.

Carl Menge, Service Officer

Sargeant-at-Arms Report

No report this quarter.

Allison Hoopes, Sargeant-at-Arms

Club Manager's Report

Tuesdays and Wednesdays are lunch days. I usually tell everyone what the specials are on Monday in an email.

We have many volunteers here and I would like to thank you all for everything you do.

If you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you instead of receiving it by mail, please email me at rpcomm6759@aol.com. The post phone number is 703-941-9608. My office number is 703-941-9460.

Please do not bring your yard/garage sale merchandise to the post. Goodwill will be glad to take it and they are right here in Annandale.

Diane Ramsey, Club Manager

American Legion Auxiliary Report

Hello dear members—I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer thus far.

As most of you know, we slow down just a bit in June and July every year, so I don't have too much to report in this edition of our newsletter. Having said that, I am pleased to share the following:

Our elections were held, and the following officers were installed in June:

President – Pam McCarthy
First Vice – Gretchen Trujillo
Second Vice – Joyce Landry
Secretary – Sharon Ogle
Treasurer – Patti George
Chaplain – Susan Dudding
Historian – Suzanne Weeden
Sgt At Arms - Vacant

It was a wonderful night. We were so thankful that Della Lockett and Betty Harderman could attend and assist us in our installation. We recognized two of our members: Susan Bodnar and Vicki Indre. They volunteer a great deal of their time to the post as well as assist individual members of

our post and were very deserving of a little recognition and appreciation. We also recognized all the efforts of Suzanne Weeden. She has given so much to the Auxiliary and the post over the past few years that we felt it was time to give her all the credit and recognition as our Unit 1976 Member of the Year! Congratulations and thank you, Susan, Vicki, and Suzanne.

We were also fortunate enough to have our former Commander, Gretchen Trujillo, offer to step in and volunteer as first vice. As you know, this is an important role within our unit, so this is a huge relief. Thank you, Gretchen!! As her first official act, she informed me that our membership renewals were at 99%. I encourage all our members to introduce our unit to an acquaintance or friend for membership. As a unit and a post, we need to continue to grow membership.

Speaking of membership, dues have increased to \$40 this year. We held off last year, but the increase is necessary to pay our obligations and dues to the Department and National Organizations.

I'd also like to take a moment to thank Deb McComb. She repeatedly represents us at various meetings and events, and she did so again at the Department of Virginia Convention. Thank you very much, Deb.

As I stated in the last newsletter, it was truly an exciting year for Girls State. For the 2nd year in a row, one of our girls was selected as a Girls Nation Senator. This year it was Alyson Granchi from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. Furthermore, another of our girls, Ella Ridgway, was selected to receive the Samsung Scholarship. Ella attends Lake Braddock Secondary School and is an Auxiliary junior member at Unit 141, where she has previously served as vice president of the American Legion Auxiliary of Virginia's Junior Committee.

I hope those members that do not come regularly to the post consider coming to our monthly meetings. They are held on the 2nd Monday of each month. We are planning a social for members and those that are thinking of becoming members

in the Fall. We will update you as soon as possible with the date and time—I'd love to see you there.

If there is anything you believe we should be doing as an Auxiliary, I urge you to come to our meetings and assist us in our efforts on behalf of our veterans, active military, and community.

Stay safe and enjoy August in Virginia.

Pam McCarthy, Auxiliary President

Sons of the American Legion Report

Summer is in full swing—and it's hot out!

The 2024 membership year is over for SAL renewals. Our squadron had a total renewal count of 122 members for the 2024 membership year. That's under our 2024 Dept. goal of 128 members for our Post 1976 SAL squadron, though that was quite a jump from last year's Dept. goal of 117. So, we did a good job, and increased this year's membership by 5 members over last year. Any new members we pick up now will be applied to our 2025 membership drive, which we have now started. The renewal cost is still \$30 for SAL members. Dual members pay only the State Membership cost of \$15 for their dual SAL membership. You can place your renewal request in an envelope addressed to Mike T, with the \$30 renewal fee. The bartender on duty will provide the waiting renewals to me when I come into the post home for meetings or just to visit, which I will then process and provide a 2024 membership card for the member renewing; it will be mailed to you unless you are a frequent member that I can hand it to.

The post continues with the monthly Trivia Contests, on the third Tuesday of the month. SAL also cooks chicken wings and hot dogs on the day of the Trivia Contest, with service beginning about 6 p.m. So, come out to the post and enjoy a great wing or hot dog snack, and also participate in the humorous Trivia Contest at 7 p.m. and have lots of fun answering some of the questions Lance comes up with to throw out to the participants. This year Lance has made a change to the Trivia Contest; the answers are now multiple choice—so, you

have a better chance of guessing the correct answer if you don't actually know the correct answer. It is a great game to participate.

SAL also participates in the monthly Legion Breakfast, held on the third Sunday of the month. SAL members do most of the cooking and are assisted by other Legion and Auxiliary members to distribute the breakfast plates and clean up after the breakfast is over. This is a very fun occasion we can be proud of in our post/squadron, and the number of folks who come out for the Legion Breakfast is very significant. Our post is proud to turn out this breakfast each month.

SAL participates with other post functions in donations to veterans' events and supports many veterans' activities. Recently SAL has provided a donation of \$500 to the VA Legacy Run, which is a State American Legion Riders function prior to the National American Legion Riders Legacy Run.

The SAL meeting is scheduled for the first Thursday of each month, at 7 p.m. We would like to hear any recommendations for events or any other worthwhile endeavors that we can undertake during the year which would benefit the post.

The squadron now has a substantial number of members who participate in person at the monthly meetings; but we also understand that some folks would rather participate remotely, so participation in the SAL meetings can be accessed using Zoom connectivity on your home computer. If you desire to join us in the monthly meeting through Zoom, please respond to a message we will be sending out to all squadron SAL members a day or so before the meeting, and we will send you a Zoom invite to the meeting.

So please place the SAL meetings in your calendar, and hopefully you will join us for the next meeting.

Remember to be careful and stay safe.

For God and Country,

Mike Trujillo, SAL 1st Vice

American Legion Riders Report

It's hot outside now—time to get our bikes out and get on some rides!

As far as the events our chapter has been involved in, here are current efforts we have been or are scheduling to be involved in this Summer:

Several riders and supporters from our chapter were in the Virginia Legacy Run in June, which is a local run prior to the National American Legion Riders Legacy run. Our chapter started the VA Legacy Run in the Northern Region portion of this run. We rode out to Winchester, VA, on June 13, and joined a group of Northern Region VA riders on June 14 for a trip throughout the Northern VA area, arriving in Richmond that evening. June 15 consisted of several official functions in conjunction with the entire group of VA Legacy Run riders.

The first stop was at the VA Dept Riders Headquarters, where each chapter in the state gave out donations to the VA Legacy Run, whose donations are set up for providing scholarships for veterans' children. We provided the Post 1976 total contribution of \$2,500 (of which the Chapter 1976 Riders provided \$500 toward).

Next was a ride to the Virginia Capitol in Richmond, where the riders toured the Capitol.

The next stop was at the Virginia War Memorial, where we participated in the Vietnam Veterans Pinning Ceremony. It was reported that the total of donations collected in the VA Legacy Run was about \$108,000—which is a significant contribution to the National Legacy Run, which sets up the scholarships for veterans' children. We stayed in Richmond Saturday night and returned to Annandale Post on Sunday. It was a great ride.

Members of Chapter 1976 also rode out to Culpepper Post 330 on June 29 to celebrate at the Culpepper Post with bands all day and great food. It was a nice visit.

We will be looking into things to do at the Post as additional fundraisers. In addition, with this warm

weather hanging around, let's set up some local rides and get out together on our bikes.

RIDE SAFE!

For God and Country,

Mike Trujillo, ALR Director



Karaoke Night








**Come and Join the
American Legion Post 1976
for Karaoke, 1st Saturday of
Every Month—Starts at 7pm**

Food is served at 6:30 pm





Food, raffles, Jello shooters, and more.



~ August 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1  Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	2 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	3 Karaoke 7 p.m.
4 Coast Guard Birthday	5	6 House Committee Meeting 6:30 Executive Board Meeting 7 pm	7 Lunch Purple Heart Day	8 SAL Meeting 7 pm  Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	9 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	10 Movie Night 7 p.m.
11	12 Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm Victory Day	13 General Membership Meeting 7 pm	14 Lunch	15 ALR Meeting 7:00 pm  Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	16 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	17
18 Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	19	20 Lunch Trivia Night 7 p.m. (with food starting at 6 p.m.)	21 Lunch	22  Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	23 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	24
25	26 Women's Equality Day	27 Lunch	28 Lunch	29  Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	30 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	31

~ September 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Labor Day	3 House Committee Meeting 6:30 Executive Board Meeting 7 pm Lunch	4 Lunch	5  SAL Meeting 7 pm Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	6 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	7 DAR Meeting 9-12:30 Karaoke 7 p.m.
8	9 Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	10 General Membership Meeting 7 pm Lunch	11 Lunch 9/11 Patriot Day	12  D-Day Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	13 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	14 Auxiliary Party 2-5 p.m. Movie Night 7 p.m.
15 Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	16	17 Lunch Trivia Night 7 p.m. (with food starting at 6 p.m.)	18 Lunch Air Force Birthday	19  ALR Meeting 7:00 pm Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	20 National POW/MIA Recognition Day Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	21 Taste of Annandale 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
22 Equinox	23	24 Lunch	25 Lunch	26  Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	27 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	28 Poker Quarterly Tournament 7 p.m.
29	30					

~ October 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 10px; padding: 5px; background-color: #e0f0ff; margin-bottom: 5px;">House Committee Meeting 6:30</div> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 10px; padding: 5px; background-color: #e0f0ff;">Executive Board Meeting 7 pm</div> Lunch	2 Lunch	3 Rosh Hashana  <div style="border: 1px solid gray; border-radius: 10px; padding: 5px; background-color: #d3d3d3; margin-left: 20px;">SAL Meeting 7 pm</div> Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	4 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	5 DAR Meeting 9-12:30 Karaoke 7 p.m.
6	7	8 <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 10px; padding: 5px; background-color: #e0f0ff; margin-bottom: 5px;">General Membership Meeting 7 pm</div> Lunch	9 Lunch	10  Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	11 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	12 Yom Kippur
13 Navy Birthday	14 <div style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 10px; padding: 5px; background-color: #ffe0e0; margin-bottom: 5px;">Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm</div> Columbus Day	15 Lunch Trivia Night 7 p.m. (with food starting at 6 p.m.)	16 Lunch	17  <div style="border: 1px solid gray; border-radius: 10px; padding: 5px; background-color: #d3d3d3; margin-left: 20px;">ALR Meeting 7:00 pm</div> Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	18 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	19 Movie Night 7 p.m.
20 Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m.	21	22 Lunch	23 Lunch	24  Queen of Hearts Food 6-8 p.m.	25 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.	26 Annandale Parade 10-12 Live Band 6-10:30 p.m.
27	28	29 Lunch	30 Lunch	31 		