

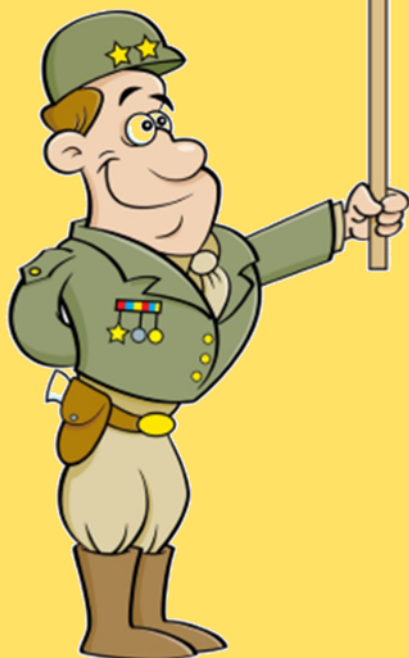


Volume 4, Issue 9

105 Sumter Ave. Summerville, SC

September, 2026

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, September
2nd, at 6:30 pm.



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Congratulations to Charlie
Giavelli! 50 years of continuous
service to the American Legion!



The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness.

Summerville Post 21



Position	Officer
Commander	Ken Thompson
First Vice Commander	Kim Shultz
Second Vice Commander	Bill Schmitz
Finance Officer	Brian Ponder
Chaplain	Karl Naugle
Sergeant at Arms	Bill Dutour
Historian	Dave Corvino
Post Adjutant	Bob Ticknor
Judge Advocate	Steve Smith
Webmaster	Ken Thompson
Honor Guard Captain	Alex Pavlenenko



Post Website: summervillepost21.org/

FaceBook: www.facebook.com/Post21SummervilleSC



MEMORABLE DATES AND MILITARY OBSERVANCES IN SEPTEMBER

September 2: V-J Day (Victory over Japan) marking the end of World War II in 1945.

September 11: Patriot Day, honoring victims of the 2001 terrorist attacks.

September 18: U.S. Air Force Birthday, celebrating the founding of the branch in 1947.

Third Friday of September: National POW/MIA Recognition Day, honoring missing or captive service members.

Last Sunday of September: Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day, supporting families who lost a loved one in service.



The official Air Force Birthday is recognized as Sept. 18, 1947, the date of the passage of the National Security Act of 1947.

Photos from August Meeting



August Meeting

We had 30 people in attendance at the August meeting. Great to see so many of you, including one of our longest tenured members Charlie Giavelli, who was presented with his 50 year Continuous Service Award. Congratulations Charlie! Great to have you with us.



We also paid tribute to another of our longest serving members who passed away quite recently. John Eagan was a 22 year Coast Guard veteran who regularly kept the Post and grounds in order. He was reliable, efficient and actually, indispensable! I am honored that I had the chance to get to know him during my time here at Post 21. Commander Thompson said "John's 47 years of faithful service to The American Legion speak volumes about the man he was. He

gave generously of his time, quietly serving our Post and caring for the place we call home. I was proud to serve alongside him and grateful for the friendship, dedication, and steady presence he brought to Post 21. He will be greatly missed, but his legacy will remain with us for years to come." Well said, Commander. One of the main points of discussion last month was Commander



Thompson's presentation his three resolutions for the TCVA bill, currently being discussed in congress. The resolutions were explained in detail and then voted on. All three resolutions passed and will be forwarded up to the Department level. Post Adjutant Bob Ticknor reminded us that the new Legion membership year is in full swing. Dues are \$50. He also said the Executive Board is paid up 100%. We also have nearly 40% of membership already paid. Let's get everyone completed before the end of the calendar year. Honor Guard Captain Alex Pavlenenko provided an update. They still need

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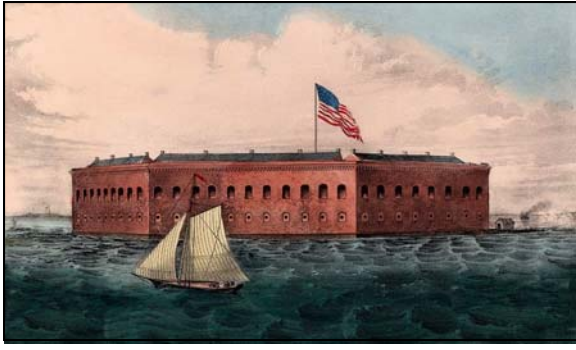
members, so if you are interested, please see Alex or the Commander. Money has been set aside for new uniforms. Rifles and ammunition are already on site in a new locked gun cabinet. Judge Advocate Steve Smith informed the group that we now have enough members to form a SAL Chapter. That project is ongoing and proceeding quite nicely. He also said the Sunday Coffee with a Vet has been great and has resulted in quite a few good discussions with locals who drop in to talk and have coffee. They also used the time to retire numerous boxes of old flags. Also, Reminder: Backpack Buddies is in full swing so don't forget to bring in the food items needed. New Committees and new projects are being discussed at our Post meetings so try to attend if at all possible. We definitely need all of you to help us be successful in our endeavors.





*The Post 21 booth at
Gahagan Park for the
Fourth of July Festivities.
6 Legion Members also
took part in the reading of
the Declaration of
Independence.*





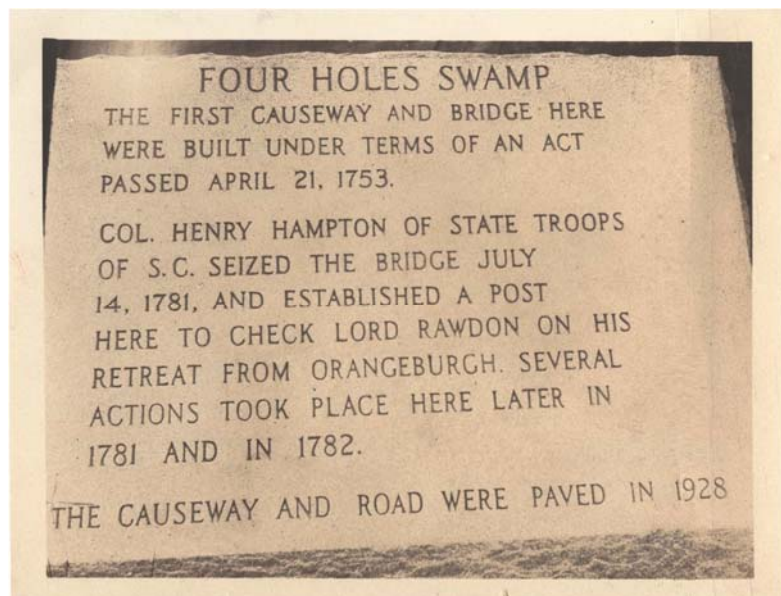
History Lives Here

William Henry Johnson

William Henry Johnson (1870–1949) was a South Carolina photographer and landowner who documented the Four Hole Swamp area, including nearby plantations like Gippy and Gravel Hill in the early 20th century, particularly around 1928, as seen in his scrapbooks held by the Lowcountry Digital Library. Johnson's scrapbooks, housed at the South Carolina Historical Society and accessible via the Lowcountry Digital Library, contain images of Four Hole Swamp, the old State Road, and surrounding plantations. His photographs document the rural environment in Dorchester and Berkeley Counties where Four Hole Swamp, a 62-mile-long blackwater stream—flows. His work captured the landscape adjacent to areas rich in Revolutionary War history, such as the Four Holes Swamp Bridge and local Lowcountry plantation scenes.



Pictured: Photos taken by William Henry Johnson of the cannon and plaque displayed on the Four Hole Swamp Bridge in 1928.





Clarence A. Dunning

American Legion Post 21

Summerville, South Carolina

Post Members Honorary Scale Model Display

In honor of our Post members, the IPMS Coastal Carolina Modelers Association has volunteered to build scale models that represent the vehicles, ships, aircraft or other equipment that we were part of the Post member's military service.

Post members are encouraged to add personal mementos to the displays, such as photos of yourself from your military career, medals, documents, artifacts, Rank Insignia, etc. These will be placed next to the model honoring the Post member.

We have a display case located in the back of the Post along the wooden wall on the left side. If you would like us to build a model representing your service, please fill out this form and send it to Dave Corvino, Post Historian (dcorvino@sc.rr.com), or bring it to the next Post meeting.

Post Member's Name: _____

Military Service Unit/Date/Location: _____

Information relative to the display: _____

The Model you want built: _____

Details about when and where you served, vehicle or aircraft information, etc: _____

This will be done at no cost to the Post or the member.

CLARENCE A. DUNNING AMERICAN LEGION POST 21

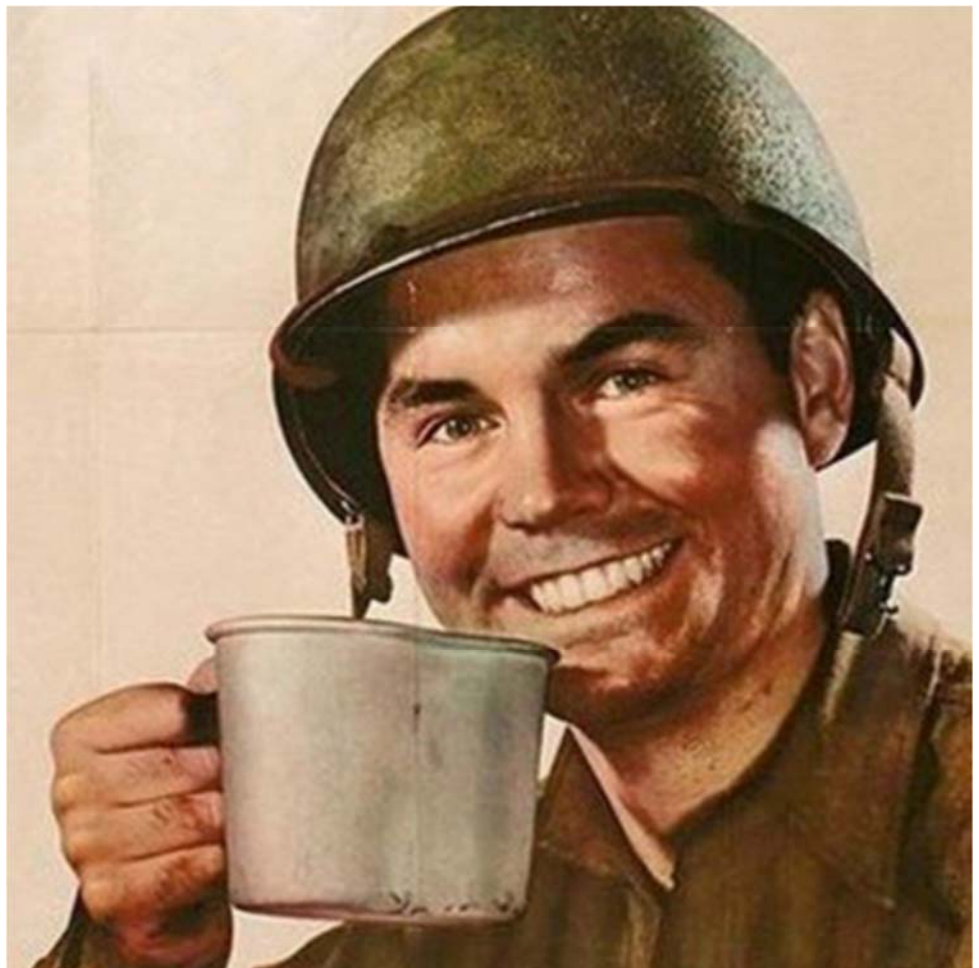
COFFEE WITH A VET



SUNDAY MORNINGS, 8:30 TO 12:00

AT POST 21

Come to Post
21 between
8:30 am and
12:00 Noon
every Sunday
and enjoy a cup
of coffee and
camaraderie!





Short Central Pavilion

The Short Central Pavilion is part of Summerville DREAM's broader revitalization and beautification effort along Short Central and East and West Richardson avenues. It will be a public gathering and performance space located at Short Central Avenue and West 2nd North Street. Inspired by Summerville's identity as "Flowertown," the pavilion is conceived as an abstracted flower. A semicircular seat wall forms what designers describe as an open "flower basket," while splayed wooden supports rise like stems. Above, a gently curved roof acts as a protective leaf, and sculpted ceiling canopies extend outward like oversized petals, helping project sound toward the downtown streetscape. The pavilion also serves as a focal point for Phase 1 of DREAM's Short Central improvements, which include plantings, streetscape upgrades and placemaking elements intended to encourage visitors to linger downtown.



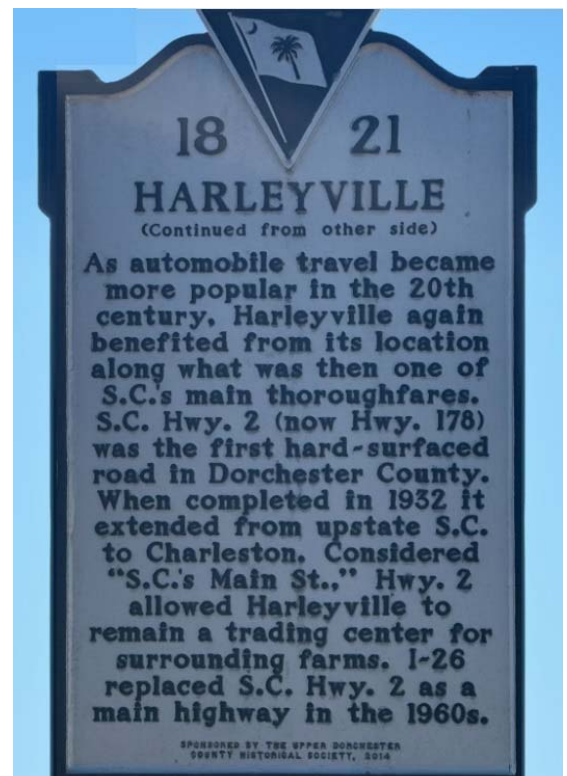
Left: Summerville Mayor Russ Touchberry speaks during the Short Central Pavilion ground-breaking ceremony in downtown Summerville this past February.



Did You Know?

Harleyville

Harleyville is named for the Harley family who owned much of the land that comprises the present town. William "Cow Bill" Harley owned substantial property in this vicinity and raised cattle for the Charleston market. In 1885 he sold a right of way across his land to the Eutawville Railroad, which built a road between Pregnall's and Eutaw Springs with Harleyville a regular stop. The railroad spurred development of the lumber industry and the town was incorporated in 1893. As automobile travel became more popular in the 20th century, Harleyville again benefitted from its location along what was then one of S.C.'s main thoroughfares. S.C. Hwy. 2 (now Hwy. 178) was the first hard-surfaced road in Dorchester County. When completed in 1932 it extended from upstate S.C. to Charleston. Considered "S.C.'s Main St.," Hwy. 2 allowed Harleyville to remain a trading center for surrounding farms. I-26 replaced S.C. Hwy. 2 as a main highway in the 1960s.





Harley's Tavern

The first Post Office in what is now Dorchester County was opened in 1803 by William Harley at his tavern, a frequent stop for travelers on the Columbia Road. It stood near the present site of the Department of Public Works. Harley's son James (1801-1867) is buried just north of the site on Highway 178. The town of Harleyville was named for William's grandson William W. (1825-1906).





Post 21 Judge Advocate Steve Smith is forming a new chapter of the Sons of the American Legion here at our Post. If you are interested in joining, please see Steve. The Sons of The American Legion was created in 1932 as an organization within The American Legion. The SAL is made up of boys and men of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the United States military and became eligible for membership in The American Legion. Together, members of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion make up what is known as the Legion Family. All three organizations place high importance on preserving our American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nation's children, caring for veterans and their families, and perhaps most importantly, teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship.

The SAL has study programs recommended for younger members. One such program, called "The Ten Ideals," teaches the elements of patriotism, health, knowledge, training, honor, faith, helpfulness, courtesy, reverence and comradeship. If a member completes the Ten Ideals program, he is eligible to continue with another program called the "Five-Point Program of Service." This program covers patriotism, citizenship, discipline, leadership and legionism.

The Sons of The American Legion is divided into detachments at the state level and squadrons at the local level. A squadron pairs with a local American Legion post; a squadron's charter is contingent upon its parent post's charter. SAL's mission is to strengthen the four pillars of The American Legion. Therefore, squadrons' campaigns place an emphasis on preserving American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nation's children, caring for veterans and their families, and teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship.

John Eagan



Service Dates: Nov. 26, 1956 to May 31, 1977.

John's first ship assignment was aboard the USCG Cutter Woodrush (WAGL-407). It was aboard this ship that he initially re-enlisted.

At one point John served on the Five Fathom Lightship off Cape May, NJ.



His was one of the initial crew of the newly commissioned USCG Cutter Alert (WMEC-630), which makes him a plank owner!

His final vessel (Nov. 19, 1974 to May 31, 1977) was the USCGC Papaw (WLB-308) as Auxiliary Chief and Main Propulsion Chief.

In between vessel assignments, John served at numerous duty stations:

- ⇒ **CG Station Eatons Neck**
Northport, New York
- ⇒ **CG Light Station Iwo Jima**
Iwo Jima, Japan
- ⇒ **Coast Guard Base Gloucester**
Gloucester City, NJ
- ⇒ **Two Harbors Light Station**
Agate Bay, Lake Superior, Minnesota



- John's service record indicates that he enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard on 26 November 1956, and served on active duty from 26 November 1956 to 31 May 1977.
- After serving 22 consecutive years of active service, and being stationed at various Coast Guard units throughout the United States, he retired as a Chief Machinery Technician.
- Throughout his 22.5 years of service it was noted in a Letter of Appreciation that he conducted himself, his work and assiduous knowledge in such a manner to benefit the Coast Guard.

MKC John L. Eagan, USCG

John earned the following awards and medals:

- * 4 Good Conduct Medals
- * National Defense Service Medal



USCGC Woodrush (WAGL-407)



Five Fathom Lightship



USCGC Alert (WMEC-630)



USCGC Papaw (WLB-308)



John is a Plank Member of the USCG Cutter Alert

A "plank owner" is an individual who was a member of the crew of a ship when that ship was placed in commission.

This term applied to crewmembers present at the ship's first commissioning.



Summerville

FARMERS MARKET

MAKE IT A SUMMERVILLE DAY

Shop the market, visit unique shops and pick-up lunch all within a few square blocks. There is something great happening in Historic Downtown Summerville. There is plenty of FREE parking throughout the downtown including the town garage behind Town Hall.

All vendors are selected based on uniqueness, past participation and facility footprint. If you have questions about being a vendor please contact us at info@summervilledream.org.



- **First Citizens Bank 218 South Main Street behind Summerville Town Hall**
- **Every Saturday: April – Mid-November**
8:00am- 1:00pm
- **Historic Downtown Summerville**

Shop Local and KEEP IT SUMMERVILLE

The Market aims to offer a venue where Farmers, Growers, Specialty Foods, and Artisans can actively showcase and sell their handcrafted goods. We've established rules and regulations to create a fair sales environment that strongly promotes and honors local entrepreneurs and small business owners. Embracing the ethos of "I am because we are," we collaborate for collective success. Participants must adhere to these rules and regulations, as failure to do so may result in dismissal from the market.



Business Booth Opportunities

If your company is interested in supporting the Farmers Market you may apply to be a business vendor. Business vendors are provided with a 10x10 booth to display/demonstrate goods and services. Space is limited, fee is \$100 per week.

8:00 AM-1:00 PM | Rain or Shine

Summerville Farmers Market hosts local farmers, growers, artisans and specialty food vendors.

If interested in being a Market Vendor please fill out the application in full and submit all supporting documentation. Applications are reviewed by the Market Committee and assignments are made based on selection criteria.



THIRD THURSDAYS

 5:30p-8:30p (unless otherwise listed)

EVERY Third Thursday of the Month

 Hutchinson Square, W. Richardson &
Short Central



- EVERY Third Thursday of the month
- 5:30 PM-8:30 PM – Rain or shine (unless otherwise listed)
- Hutchinson Square, W. Richardson & Short Central

On the third Thursday of each month, Historic Downtown Summerville transforms into a special marketplace featuring local entertainment, craft vendors and artisans, to complement the extended hours of our eclectic shops, boutiques and restaurants.

Third Thursday traffic is rerouted from 4:00 PM until 9:00 PM from the following streets; Little Main Street, W Richardson to Central (closed for traffic). There is plenty of FREE parking throughout the downtown including the town garage behind Town Hall.



Dorchester County Veterans Affairs



Summerville

500 N. Main St.
Summerville, SC 29483

Please use the Main St.
Entrance.

Office Hours:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Monday - Friday

Phone: (843) 832-0050

The Dorchester County Veterans Affairs Office assists veterans and their families who reside in Dorchester County in all matters that pertain to veterans and Veteran Benefits. You can contact the Veterans Affairs office at (843) 832-0050 to schedule an in-person or virtual appointment.

The Veterans Affairs office assists all ex-service personnel with financial compensation claims including but not limited to:

- Hospitalization
- Training
- Insurance Benefits

These services are extended to eligible dependents, including parents, widows, children and orphans of ex-service personnel.

If you need support for a specific mental health problem - or if you're having problems sleeping, controlling your anger, or readjusting to civilian life - you are not alone. You don't need to be enrolled in VA health care to get care. To access free VA mental health services right away:

- Call or walk-in to any VA Medical Center - anytime, day or night
- Call or walk-in to any Vet Center during clinic hours

If you have questions about enrolling in VA health care, please contact the VA via phone at 1-877-222-VETS (1-877-222-8387) Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM EST. Veterans with hearing loss are asked to use the TTY phone number 1-800-877-8339.

Newly separated service members can expect three calls from qualified VA Solid Start representatives over the first year of separation. VA will attempt to contact you several times around 90, 180 and 365 days post-separation, so make sure your contact information is up to date in eBenefits.

VA Solid Start representatives will not ask you for financial information and will only discuss topics you are comfortable with. Remember that phone scammers often target Veterans, so always be vigilant and protect your financial information when talking to someone you don't know over the phone.

For questions about VA Solid Start, call 1-800-827-0611, Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM EST.

St. George

201 Johnston Street
St. George, SC 29477

The St. George office is
located on the Raysor St.
side of the building, behind
DSS.

Office Hours:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tuesday

Phone: (843) 563-0116

VA Clinics

Trident VA Clinic

9237 University Boulevard
North Charleston, SC 29406-8908
Phone: 843-574-1010

North Charleston VA Clinic

6450 Rivers Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29406-4882
Phone: 843-818-5100

Charleston VA Clinic

2424 City Hall Lane
Community Resource & Referral Center
Suite B
North Charleston, SC 29406-6538
Phone: 843-789-6804
Mental health: 843-577-5011

Goose Creek VA Clinic

2418 NNPTC Circle
Goose Creek, SC 29445-6314
Phone: 843-818-6999, ext. 343100
Mental health: 843-577-5011

Ralph H. Johnson Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center

109 Bee Street
Charleston, SC 29401-5799
Phone: 843-577-5011

Beaufort VA Clinic

1 Pinckney Boulevard
Beaufort, SC 29902-6122
Phone: 843-770-0444

