

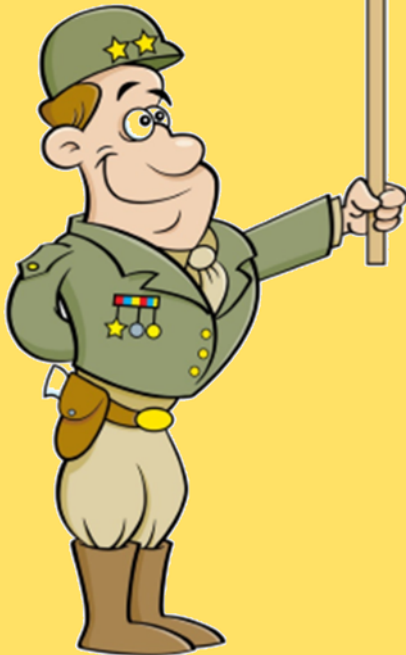


Volume 4, Issue 10

105 Sumter Ave. Summerville, SC

October, 2026

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, October
7th, at 6:30 pm.



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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 OCTOBER

October 1: Anniversary of the Dedication of the Military Women's Memorial. This day honors women who served in the armed forces.

October 12: Columbus Day

October 13: U.S. Navy Birthday. This date marks the founding of the U.S. Navy by the Continental Congress in 1775.

October 26: National Day of the Deployed. This day honors service members currently serving away from home and supports their families.

October 27: Navy Day. This observance celebrates the achievements and history of the U.S. Navy.

October 31: Halloween



September Meeting

The September Post meeting was our annual get-together with the attendees of Boy's State. Three of those attendees spoke at the meeting, and all were exceptionally impressed by the event. They are already encouraging others to attend next year! Bill Dutour and Kim Schultz provided the meal for our meeting. Plenty of hamburgers, salad, beans and chips! Plus enough desserts for an army! Some of the things we discussed during the meeting were:

- ⇒ Post Restoration/Renovation Committee plans for future projects.
- ⇒ Upcoming Rifle Raffle for 2027. Bill Dutour will once again lead this effort. He is looking for volunteers to assist him. In 2026 Post 21 earned \$3,960.00. The second highest total in the state of South Carolina! Congrats Bill and thanks to everyone who gave of their time to help.
- ⇒ Backpack Buddies & Back to School Supplies is ongoing. Please donate to these worthy causes.
- ⇒ Fall Conference/Convention Oct. 24, 2026. This will be a one day event.

We also received reports regarding the establishment of the SAL Chapter here at our Post, and the Honor Guard unit being assembled for the Post. These are discussed later in this newsletter.

Post Adjutant Bob Ticknor reported that our paid memberships are at 52% currently. He has also processed 6 transfers into our Post recently. We are gaining new members, which is great!

Steve Smith reported that the Coffee with a Vet on Sundays (8:30 to NOON) is going great. He said the get veterans walking in every week just looking for a fellow veteran to have a cup of coffee with. If you have time on Sunday morning, drop in and have a cup of coffee!

I hope to see everyone on October 7th.

Photos from September Meeting

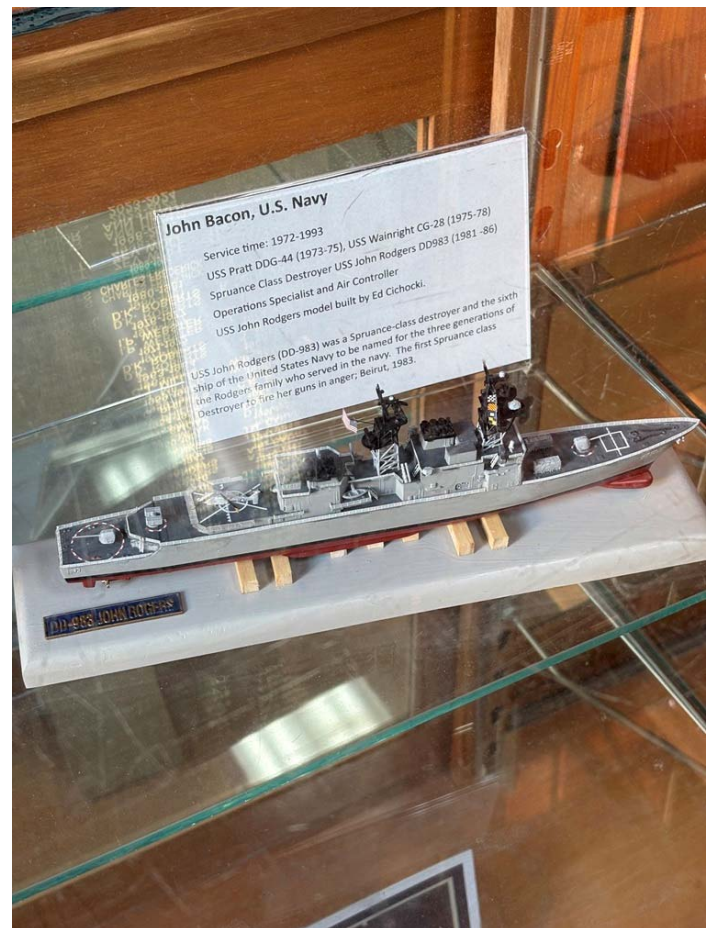


Photos from September Meeting



POST SCALE MODEL PROJECT

The Coastal Carolina Modelers are building scale models to honor our Post members. These models are of ships, aircraft, subs, helicopters, guns, or any other vehicle that our Post members served on. Each is made according to the member's actual service, so for example, if you served aboard the USS Enterprise, we will build the Enterprise ship according to how it was configured during the time you were assigned to it. Because of this we ask for each member to fill out an information sheet (See next page), so that we build accurate representations of your service. We have completed 5 models thus far, 4 more are in progress. We look forward to hearing from ALL of you!





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.

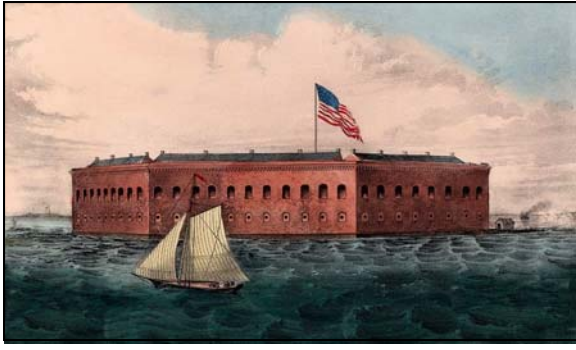
THE MILITARY WOMEN'S MEMORIAL



The Military Women's Memorial is a one-of-a-kind tribute to America's Servicewomen, past and present. The Memorial features an education center, interactive exhibits, and a world-class collection of military women's stories.

October 1 is the anniversary of the Dedication of the Military Women's Memorial. This day honors women who served in the armed forces.





History Lives Here

800 South Main Street

The building at 800 South Main Street in Summerville, was constructed around 1910 and has transitioned from an early 20th-century general store into a local frame shop, and finally to an attorney's office.

Early Origins (1910s–1940s) The freestanding structure was built around the 1910s. Margaret Limehouse Powers originally owned the property and successfully operated it as a general store for the local area. The Sasportas grocery store was the next tenant, owned by Charles Sasportas. The store was a prominent neighborhood fixture on Main Street, where his family resided and worked. In the 1950s, the property was purchased by the Beasley family



and continued to operate as a grocery store (often remembered as "Beasley's") until 1977. In 1977, the Sutton family bought the property and converted it into a custom framing business. It operates today as an attorney's office.



CLARENCE A. DUNNING AMERICAN LEGION POST 21

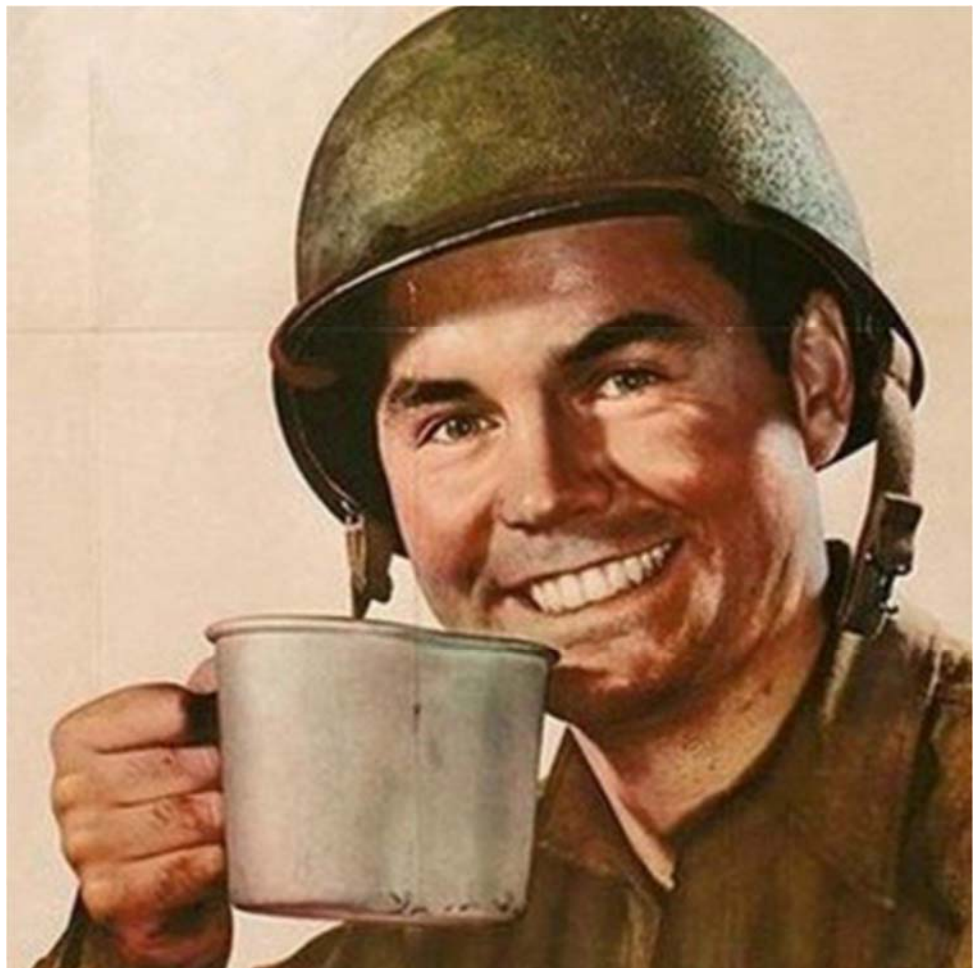
COFFEE WITH A VET



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!





Summerville Art Center expands into historic Cauthen's Building

The Public Works Art Center has purchased the neighboring Cauthen's building at 129 W. Richardson Ave. and is transforming the space into an expanded hub for artists, students and community programs. The project will add artisan studios, a music room, more summer camp opportunities and serve as the Lowcountry's first South Carolina Arts Commission arts hub.

And for longtime fans of People, Places and Quilts, don't worry. Owner Diane Frankenberger will continue operating the beloved business from a smaller space inside the historic building.



Thanks to the Summerville Journal Scene for this article



Did You Know?

Clarence A. Dunning Post 21—105 Years Old!

Post 21 was chartered as an official post two years after the American Legion formed in 1919. The original log cabin building stood from 1922 to 1945. During World War II, the post was very active with the community. We published a newsletter and sent it to Summerville veterans in France, Germany, or wherever they happened to be. The Post kept track of where each of the Summerville servicemen were, and they put that information in the newsletter so friends could find friends. That newsletter let them know what was going on, even when they were overseas. In addition, the Post hosted dances and get-togethers on a weekly basis for veterans, their significant others, and their friends! Last month we celebrated our 105th anniversary! On to the next 105 years!



AMERICAN LEGION HUT, SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA



Summerville Speedway on July 4th weekend, 1981. Summerville Speedway/Provided

Summerville Speedway

Summerville Speedway operated as a vibrant 39-year short-track racing fixture in the South Carolina Lowcountry from 1965 until its closure in 2004. The track opened on August 26, 1965, initially built and operated by Clyde Hill as the Dorchester County Speedway (later also referred to as Dorchester Speedway). It began as a banked dirt oval (evolving through 3/8-mile and 4/10-mile configurations) located off Central Avenue in the Knightsville area of Summerville. Local legends and families—such as the Powells (Charlie, Charles, and Robert) and local car builders—cemented the speedway as a Saturday-night staple. The speedway operated under a NASCAR sanction for roughly two decades, hosting prominent weekly and regional series events under the NASCAR Winston Racing Series banner. Lowcountry racing history was made on its dirt and later asphalt surfaces by regional greats and national stars, including Tiny Lund (who won notable memorial and late-model events here in the 1970s), Dale Earnhardt, Davey Allison, and other Winston Cup drivers who visited for special and exhibition events. As local growth expanded, the track eventually paved its surface to run late models, but financial pressures and suburban development closed in. The final day of racing at Summerville Speedway took place October 24, 2004, capped off by Pro 4 modifieds and local fan farewells. Today the property has been transformed into the Myers Mill subdivision along Central Avenue, leaving behind only memories of the roaring Saturday nights.



Summerville SC Speedway 44 JB Burbage 1977



Former track champion in the Limited Sportsman division. Passed away a few days ago.





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.

Steve reported at the last meeting that we now have the required number of members to charter a new SAL Squadron. He is submitting the paperwork and following the required procedures to form the new chapter.

Great work, Steve!



Honor Guard Captain Alex Pavlenenko has ordered uniforms for the Post Honor Guard members. Alex informed the Post that they are planning practices and are happy to invite new members to join. The more the merrier! The American Legion Honor Guard is a dedicated team of veteran volunteers who provide respectful military funeral and graveside services. If you are interested in joining this fantastic group of volunteers, please contact Alex, or the Commander.



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

