



American Legion Post 74 Charlottesville & Albemarle, Inc.



3025 Louisa Road, Keswick, VA 22947-2155

434-977-1050 Fax 434-977-1049

Website: <http://www.legionpost74.com> E-mail: legionpost74@legionpost74.com

Commander's Report:

Welcome American Legion Family. I remind everyone that 7 December is Pearl Harbor Day.

I would like to thank Pat Kelly and all who made the Veterans Day event possible. It was an outstanding memorial event. The Ceremonial Unit performed at the memorial and conducted 2 additional events that day.

A warm thanks to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 74 for the great dinner at our Post home. They also had guests from Team Red White and Blue, UVA students from Veterans Across America, and Tonya King of Living Free attend and give short speeches on what their affiliated programs do for veterans.

On 8 December our meal will have a Christmas theme. Dinner is served at 6pm, meeting followed at 7pm. Please RSVP by Dec 3 to legionpost74@legionpost74.com or leave a message at 434-977-1050 with Christmas dinner in the introduction. Upcoming events for children include, Middle school Essay Contest, essays due to the post by 17 Dec 2021, and High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest. Dates for competition are Post level-22 Jan 2022, District level- 29 Jan 2022, and regional level- 19 Feb 2022, at the Post home. Department level will be held 6 March 2022, during Spring Conference. More information can be found at the National or Department websites under drop down menu for "Programs" or contact Robin Riddle at bbopnrobin@yahoo.com, subject line essay/oratorical contest.

Auxiliary Unit 74 is again hosting the Toys for Tots at the Post home on 11 Dec. 2021, 10am -2pm. Members of the Legion and Marine Corps League are encouraged to participate. Items should be new and unwrapped. Monetary donations will be accepted and turned directly over to the Piedmont Toys for Tots location.

Connie Critzer is sponsoring wreaths to be placed at Quantico Memorial Cemetery as part of the Wreaths Across America, on 18 Dec 2021. If you wish to help and attend, please contact Connie at CLC6KK@gmail.com

We will also be having a **New Years Eve Dance** at the post sponsored by Bill Napier. Its BYOB (Bottle). Tickets are **\$ 25/single** and **\$ 35/couple**, 8pm-1230am, snack bar, beer and ice setup and available.

Lastly and most importantly, conduct "Buddy Checks". Ensure their welfare are health are in good standing. If you think they could use some help, reach out to an executive member for guidance.



For God and Country

Commander Bill Napier



Condolences go out to friends and family of Post 74 members Eugene Fletcher, Eugene Beck, and Charles Mott who have passed over to Post Everlasting

DINNER MENU \$12.00 RSVP: 3 Dec 2021

Turkey breast with sage & cranberry stuffing or Chicken breast cordon blue, cranberry sauce, whipped potatoes, peas with mint, rolls and assorted desserts.
Tea/lemonade to drink.

Sign-in roster, ticket required to receive meal.

First time members eat free!

Please RSVP, 434-977-1050. Presented by Post 74 Ceremonial Unit and Legion Riders

If you would prefer to receive the Newsletter by e-mail, please contact us by phone or at legionpost74@legionpost74.com with a current e-mail address. Also, please keep us apprised of any changes in your e-mail address to prevent interruptions in receipt of newsletters.



American Legion Post 74
 Charlottesville & Albemarle, Inc.
 P.O. Box 6566
 Charlottesville, VA 22906-6566
 Electronic Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage PAID
 Charlottesville, VA
 Permit No. 6

December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3- CVILLE Grand Illumination 11-17 National Legion College 11- ARMY/NAVY Game 3pm	4		1 Civil Air Patrol Established 1941	2	3 the 81st Annual Christmas Concert	
5 Somalia Campaign Began 1992	6	7 Auxiliary dinner 6pm Wood Grill Pearl Harbor 1941	8 Dinner 6pm Gen Membership 7pm	9	10	11 Toys for Tots drop off - post home 10am-2pm
12	13	14	15 Bill of Rights Day	16 Battle of the Bulge	17	18 Wreaths Across America
19	20 Operation Just Cause 1989	21	22	23	24	25 
26	27	28	29	30	31 	WWII ended 1946 Kosovo Campaign ended 2013

How Does Wreaths Across America Work?



The donation of wreaths from the Worcester Wreath Co. began as a personal tribute from the Worcester family to military veterans who gave their lives for this country. The family quietly made these wreath donations to Arlington National Cemetery for nearly 15 years before a photo set them on a path they hadn't dreamed about. The photo of the company's wreaths at Arlington covered in snow went viral in 2006. Shortly after, the Worcester Wreath Co. began receiving unsolicited money from people who were touched by the wreaths and what they represented. They also wanted to participate by sponsoring wreaths themselves. This money was returned to donors because there was no mechanism in place for the family to accept the donations at that time.

In 2006, the family continued to give and at the requests made to them through thousands of emails, sent wreaths to well over 100 locations, this included seven ceremonial wreaths, one for each branch of the military plus POW/MIA. The Worcester family still donates those ceremonial wreaths to any location that wants to hold a Wreaths Across America ceremony. There is no requirement by the Worcester's or the WAA organization to sponsor wreaths to participate.

In 2007, spurred by thousands of requests to help with wreath donations, the family along with those who had been involved at Arlington National Cemetery set up a 501(c)3, Wreaths Across America. After forming WAA as a 501c3, Worcester Wreath continued its tradition of donating wreaths (and remains one of the largest donors to the organization to date) and producing the sponsored wreaths at a discounted market price.

Symbolically, wreaths represent everlasting life. These seemingly simple evergreens are so much more than a decoration placed on a grave. Wreaths Across America exists because hundreds of thousands of people across the United States and abroad responded to the emotional power of these wreaths and their simple ability to honor military members and their families. The outpouring of donations from thankful Americans continues to humble the Worcester family and makes them proud to be a part of something they never foresaw or intended.

Wishing you your family and friends Peace, Joy and Blessings this Christmas Season. Please continue to remember our service men and women at home and abroad who will not be home this holiday season. God Bless America! Mike James Chaplain

If you know of someone, or you yourself are ill or in the hospital, feel free to contact Chaplain Mike James at 309-825-2851.

Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, Chat, or Text 838255

Post 74 Officers

Commander: Bill Napier

Email: btb866251@gmail.com

First Vice: Vacant

Second Vice: Roberta Humphrey

Third Vice: Randy Wood

Chaplain: Mike James

Finance: David Drayer

Adjutant: Phil Grimm

Historian: Al Underwood

Judge Advocate: Pat Kelly

Sgt. At Arms: Mary Sue Garrison

Athletic Officer: Solomon McCauley

Service Officer: Gary Hegemier

Rental Agent: Anita Hamric

At Large Officers:

Lowell Badgley

George Shadman

Bellamy Brown

Boyd Knott

W. Bruce Eades

Legionnaire of the Year:

Gary Hegemier



Ceremonial Guard on Veterans Day at Commonwealth Senior Living
Bill Napier, Bob Humphrey, Roberta Humphrey, Mary Garrison, Randy Wood, Lowell Badgley

HELP WANTED & NEEDED

One of the goals Commander Bill Napier would like to establish is Legion members and our affiliates volunteering in maintaining the Post Home and Activities. Some things have to be contracted, i.e. electrical, sewer, and IT security. No one currently working at the Post is on our payroll, we are all volunteering our time and skills. Listed below are things we currently need help with:

1. Basic building maintenance— light bulbs, sweep of porches, clean hand rails, windows, shovel the walkways and deck when it snows.
2. Help with our food service in the kitchen— monthly dinner meals, taking out the trash after meetings ended.
3. Cleaning the post home monthly/twice a month— bathrooms, sweep/mop/toilets/sinks, vacuum rugs, dust sweep upstairs floor, sanitize tables and chairs.
4. Assist the Ceremonial Guard, flag folding/rifle squad, for local veteran funerals.
5. BINGO— Manager, needs to be present for all games, callers, at least 2 in order to have a back up.

Flag Etiquette Minute: When wearing a Legion cap, is it proper to render the military hand salute while reciting the Pledge of Allegiance?

No. If a person in uniform (wearing a Legion cap) renders a military salute during the pledge, he or she should remain silent.

To help those less fortunate and to help with membership, donations are being accepted in increments of \$35. We need 9 renewals/new to reach current goal of 75% by Dec 1st . A letter went out to all members who were in good standing but did not pay their 2021 membership dues. These members qualify for the National Commanders **New Membership Engagement Initiative.**

MEMBERSHIP THROUGH Nov 2021

Renewals	PUFLs	New Members	Transfers	Total Membership	Goal for the Year	Percent of Goal Met
356	139	6	2	501	678	73.89%

For those who have not renewed for 2022, please consider remitting your dues now of \$35.

Your membership is the life blood of American Legion Post 74



The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 74
 Unit President Ruthann Brown
 rsk8mom@aol.com

December meeting will be at the Wood Grill Buffett, Tuesday, 7 December 2021, at 6pm.
 Please, RSVP by 3 Dec, to Ruthann.

Thank you for all who helped in last months Thanksgiving meal at the post. This could not have happened without the help. With the leftovers, we delivered 5 meals to shut-ins who could not attend the dinner. Don't forget we are holding the **Toys for Tots** drive thru, Drop-off on **11 Dec . 10am-2pm**, at the post home. If you aren't able to make it, feel free to drop them off downstairs, Tues, Wed, Thurs after 1pm.



Robin should be there .



Please mail membership renewal to PO Box 364, Crozet, VA 22936.



S.A.L. (Sons of American Legion) Squadron 74
Commander Lowell Badgley

There will not be a business meeting for Dec 2021. You are invited to attend the Legion Christmas dinner at 6pm on 8 Dec. Please RSVP by 3 Dec.

Membership cards for 21-22 are in. Dues are \$15.00 per member.



American Legion Riders Chapter 74

Website: www.al74riders.com Email: info@al74riders.com

Director: Bob Humphrey wrench58@embarqmail.com

Hello Post ALR members. I sure hope everyone remains healthy and safe especially during this holiday season. Many riders lose their key fob, usually on a trip and cannot disarm their bikes security system. Do yourself a favor and READ THE MANUAL. Practice the sequence until you are familiar and perhaps you will not need to call for assistance.

For God and Country, RIDE ON MY FRIEND, RIDE ON!!



Blue Star Families of Central Virginia

Martha Horsfall, , horsfalljm@comcast.net

Mailing Address: Blue Star Families Of Central VA, PO BOX 5182

Charlottesville, VA 22905-5182 **Website:** www.bsfcv.avenue.org

DON'T FORGET, IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE DEPLOYED AT THIS TIME, PLEASE GET THAT INFORMATION TO MARTHA SO THEY CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE PACKOUT. We also want to thank Post 74 for their support throughout 2021 and look forward to working together in 2022. Have a wonderful holiday season.



Disabled American Veterans Chapter 33

Meets 2nd Wed. of the month 5:30pm

DAV Commander: Bob Clouser

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

Meets 2nd Sun. of the month at 2:00pm

DAVA Commander Steve Durad



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA. Once again our chapter is sponsoring holiday wreaths at **Culpeper National Cemetery**. If you would like to sponsor a wreath at Culpeper, please contact **Martha of Blue Star Families**. You can order online or use a printed form. Printed forms will be available at Post 74 office as well as available from Martha. The cost is \$15.00 per wreath. If you order through our chapter, \$5.00 of the cost is returned to our chapter to help support the CARE package program. All support is greatly appreciated.