



American Legion Post 74

Charlottesville & Albemarle, Inc.



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434-977-1050 Fax 434-977-1049

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

Commander's Report:

Welcome American Legion Family!

Thank you **Post 74 Judge Advocate, Pat Kelly**, for standing in, in my absence, at last month's general membership meeting.

Thank you goes out to the Food Committee and American Legion Riders for **preparing and serving** a great membership meal; Roberta and Bob Humphrey, Lowell Badgley, and Connie Critzer.

February is Black History month. Search the web for **The Doughboy Foundation**, under dispatch publications, to read on how African-American served during WWI and the impact they had. **National Salute Veteran Patients week is 12-18 February.** We are encouraged to set up a **visit to VA hospitals** or email mmwachur@vawarmemorial.org to receive more information on **sending letters or cards.**

We recognize **Curt Bean** for his outstanding job in teaching veterans how to play a guitar as part of the **Guitar for Vets Program.** The classes are held here at the Post on Mondays, 12-3pm.

On 24 January, The Red Cross held a **Community Service meeting** at the Post. Guest speakers from the **VA Crisis Center and Veteran Community Outreach** spoke on the policies and procedures available to Veterans in crises, free of charge. This is part of the **Veterans COMPACT Act of 2020.** This action is also key to the Legion's priority of "Be The One". Before the meeting concluded service agencies within our area shared what and how they can assist veterans and their families. Thank you **Patti Wilson** for coordinating this event. We hope to make it an annual event.

We will hold our annual **Four Chaplains Service on 5 February** at the Post. The service will start 5pm to give us time in converting the Bingo hall to a service-oriented setup. The public is welcome to attend.

On **10 February, 8-11pm**, the Legion Riders and SAL will be hosting a benefit dance with Mark Patterson and the Midnight Special Band. It is a BYOB (bottle) event with beer, soda, or water available for purchase. The Legion Auxiliary will be selling snacks and other goodies in effort to defray the cost in sending High School Juniors to Girl State. Tickets are **\$10 in advance or \$15 at the door** and purchased from the following people: Beverly at Sunday Bingo, Vicky at Tubby's restaurant, Sol or me at the Post. Come with your dancing boots/shoes and keep the good times tapping along.

In closing, please continue to make **"Buddy Checks"** not only to members but your families and friends.

For God and Country
Commander Bill Napier

 Condolences go out to friends and family of Post 74 members **Lindsay Dorrier, 14 continuous years Vietnam War Veteran.**



DINNER MENU RSVP: 6 Feb 2023

Chili, pulled pork with bun, baked beans, potato salad, Tea/lemonade/water to drink.

Red Velvet Love Cake or Cherry Pie

Sign-in roster, ticket required to receive meal.

Please RSVP, 434-977-1050. Presented by Legion 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.

Post 74 Officers

Commander: Bill Napier
804-512-5527
Email: btb866251@gmail.com
First Vice: Mary Sue Garrison

Second Vice: Roberta Humphrey

Chaplain: Wayne Snyder

Finance: David Drayer

Adjutant: VACANT

Historian: Robin Riddle
bbopnrobin@yahoo.com

Judge Advocate: Pat Kelly

Sgt. At Arms: Bob Humphrey

Athletic Officer: Solomon McCauley

Service Officer: Gary Hegemier

Rental Agent: Anita Hamric

At Large Officers:

Lowell Badgley
George Shadman
Werner Gstattenbauer

Legionnaire of the Year:

Robin Riddle

Post 74, 13th District, &
Department of Virginia

FOR THE GOOD OF THE
LEGION

Military Honors for Army Veteran
Harry VanTrees.

Randy Wood, Lowell Badgley, Robert
Humphrey, Hugh Underwood and
Phil Grimm.



As of Jan. 17, veterans in suicidal crisis can go to any VA or non-VA health-care facility free of charge. Eligible veterans include those discharged or released from active duty after more than 24 months **under conditions other than dishonorable**, members of the reserves who served more than 100 days under a combat exclusion or support of contingency operations. Victims of military sexual trauma/harassment incurred during their service time are eligible. Significantly, veterans need not be enrolled in the VA system to receive this benefit.

The American Legion shares the view that nothing is more important than saving the lives of the people who have defended our nation. It is why **Be the One** is The American Legion's top priority.

Under the new benefit, VA will provide, pay for or reimburse treatment and transportation costs for up to **30 days of inpatient or 90 days of outpatient care**. VA will also determine eligibility for other benefits and include referrals for follow-up treatments following the period of emergency suicide care.

Many incidents and issues contribute to a veteran experiencing a crisis. Access and affordability of treatment should not be among them.

If you are a veteran who may be struggling with suicidal thoughts, please call the 988 national crisis line.

ATTENTION: If you **renew for 2023** and are not able to make up for the years of missed payments, you will continue to receive the newsletter but will start the continuous years count at 1 year.

MEMBERSHIP THROUGH 27 JAN 2023

January is MEMBERSHIP Month! Renewals are trickling in, Thank you! We need only 20 new/renewals to meet next month's goal of 85% by 10 Feb. To help those less fortunate and to help with membership, donations are being accepted in increments of \$35.

Renewals	PUFLs	New Members	Transfers	Total Membership	Goal for the Year	Percent of Goal Met
368	137	5	1	511	624	81.89%

NEW MEMBERS

August marks the start of a new membership year, 2023. Your dues \$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

Meetings are held at Post Home, **2nd Tuesday of the month, at 7pm.** At our last meeting we discussed possible fundraisers. We would love to have your input. **We will be manning the concessions for the Legion's dance on February 10.** Please let us know if you can help out. **Girls State** is fast approaching and we need interviewers of the candidates, so advise us if you are interested. Our **next meeting is February 14** at the post home. Let me know if the date works. Please mail membership renewal of **\$40** to PO Box 364, Crozet, VA 22936.



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

General Meeting, 3rd Tuesday of the month, dinner at 6pm, meeting at 5pm. A sincere thank to Legionnaire Col James O'Kelley, US Marine Corps (Ret) for donating a collection of "Vietnam Experience" books and videos as part of the designated Vietnam era in the Post library. Starting 1 June dues for the 22-23 year are increased to \$20.00 per member.



American Legion Riders Chapter 74

Website: www.al74riders.com Email: info@al74riders.com
Director: Bob Humphrey, rhwrench58@gmail.com

Hello Post 74 ALR. Sure hope everyone is doing well and staying safe. Our next ALR meeting is for 2/11/23 @ 1000 hrs. We have official business to discuss. Please keep in mind annual dues for 2023 are due.

Our ALR Post 74 will once again be sponsoring and assisting with the community dance scheduled for 2/10/23 from 8Pm to 11Pm. Your presence and assistance is requested and appreciated. Wear your dancing shoes and plan to have a good time and fun.

Thank you for your time, interest and support For God and Country, Post 74 and the USA. Bob Humphrey, Director, Post 74 ALR



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

Once again we are collecting Valentines for the Troops to be included in our 15 February packout. If you would like to create or write any Valentines for our troops, please drop them off at Post 74 by the morning of Wednesday, 15 Feb. You are also most welcome to join us that evening for our meeting and packout.

If you know of anyone deployed at this time, PLEASE let us know so they can be included in the February shipment of CARE packages.



Disabled American Veterans Chapter 33

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

DAV Commander: Lee Everton

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

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

DAVA Commander : Jane Ferneyhough



ATTENTION LEGIONAIRES!

We need volunteers to help with Sunday BINGO ...

We need an additional person for BINGO manager..

We are looking for a member to take Adjutant position as Phil has given his all and stepping down at the end of January 2023, regardless of replacement.



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 P.O. Box 6566
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 Electronic Service Requested

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February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BINGO —Sundays, Door opens 12pm, Game starts 1:30 pm	Black History Month National Salute to Veteran Patients 12-18		1 Exec mtg	2 	3 Women's Physicians Day 	4 Thank a mail carrier 
5 Four Chaplains' 5pm	6 Frozen Yogurt 	7 Men's Letter to a friend 	8 Dinner 6pm, Gen. mem 7pm	9 Women's 	10 Legion Dance 8-10	11 ALR mtg 10am Men's 
12 DAVA mtg 2pm Women's 	13 Clean Computer Day 	14 ALA mtg 7pm 	15 Blue Stars Pack out	16 Marine Corps League	17 	18
19 Coast Guard B-day Woman's 	20 Presidents Day 	21 SAL mtg 5pm	22 	23 Chili Day 	24 Carrie Underwood concert JPJ	25 Oratorical North Region Post 290
26 Letter to Elders 	27 Polar Bear 	28 Sleeping day Men's 	2- BINGO Fundraiser at Jack's Kitchen Shop, Ruckersville, 7pm 2-5 Mar– Department Conference, Portsmouth			

Chaplain's Corner: Just a reminder, the annual **Four Chaplains Service** is being held at the Post Home on Sunday, 5 February 2023, at 5:00 PM. American Legion Posts all over the country will be holding their own version of this ceremony, honoring the service and sacrifice of four Army Chaplains who died at sea during the early days of World War II. If you have the opportunity, I encourage you to attend the ceremony; it is a moving story.

It was February 3rd, 1943, and the U.S. Army Transport Dorchester was one of three ships in a convoy, moving across the Atlantic from Newfoundland to an American base in Greenland. A converted luxury liner, the Dorchester was crowded to capacity, carrying 902 servicemen, merchant seamen and civilian workers. It was only 150 miles from its destination when shortly after midnight, the ship was hit by a German torpedo, far below the water line. The initial blast killed scores of men and seriously wounded many more.

Through the pandemonium, four men spread out among the Soldiers, calming the frightened, tending to the wounded and guiding the disoriented toward safety. They were four Army chaplains: **Lt. George Fox, a Methodist; Lt. Alexander Goode, a Jewish Rabbi; Lt. John Washington, a Roman Catholic Priest; and Lt. Clark Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister.**

Once topside, the Chaplains opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. It was then that Engineer Grady Clark witnessed an astonishing sight. **When there were no more lifejackets in the storage room, the chaplains simultaneously removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men.** When giving their life jackets, Rabbi Goode did not call out for a Jew; Father Washington did not call out for a Catholic; nor did Fox or Poling call out for a Protestant. They simply gave their life jackets to the next man in line. One survivor would later say, "It was the finest thing I have seen, or hope to see, this side of heaven."

As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the Four Chaplains -- arms linked and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers and singing hymns.

Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, **only 230 survived.** Before boarding the Dorchester back in January, Chaplain Poling had asked his father to pray for him, "Not for my safe return, that wouldn't be fair. Just pray that I shall do my duty...never be a coward...and have the strength, courage and understanding of men. Just pray that I shall be adequate."

For God and Country, Wayne Snyder Chaplain

If you know of someone, or you yourself are ill or in the hospital, feel free to contact us at 434-977-1050. If this is an emergency or you are in crises, please call 911. Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, Chat, or Text 838255, or dial "988" press 1.