



American Legion Post 74 Charlottesville & Albemarle, Inc.



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Commander's Report:

Commander Bruce Eades

Two hundred fifty-nine weeks I have served as your Post 74 Commander, with one week to go...I might be a **Redneck Shortimer** :) ! It has been my **Honor to serve** our members of Post 74 these past five years. During the Memorial Service for our comrade, Ron Fischer, I had privilege of presenting the flag to his surviving spouse as part of Post 74's Honor Guard. After the memorial, **A. B. Brown, Past Department of Virginia Commander**, pulled me aside to mention that he thought I had been voted into the Commander position longer than anyone in Post 74 history.

While being Post Commander is often a challenging job, especially during a pandemic, it is a status that has had personal rewards also. The rewards come most often from one of our many active Past Post 74 Commanders, in the form of "compliments on a particular job well done!" I believe in just the satisfaction of us all volunteering our time and resources, with no prospect of compensation. That thought is what keeps the American Legion alive and well in our community!

I am encouraging our members to continue supporting our new **Commander (elect) Bill Napier**, his appointed **Adjutant, Phil Grimm** and our new **Post 74 Officers**, with all programs that make the **American Legion Shine!** Per Post By-Laws, as immediate Past Commander, I will remain an "At-Large Officer" for one year to assist **Commander Napier** with the transition. He has asked me to remain a member of the various committees delegated to keeping Post programs on track. We all look forward to opening our Post home as post-pandemic activities commence. What a wonderful time we had gathering for our June regular Post meeting. For our July meeting, Commander Napier has scheduled a power point presentation, **American Legion Post 74 Memorial**, presented by Post **Historian Al Underwood**, "Pre-Historian and photographer extraordinaire **Harv Ayers**", and myself.

I will appropriately close out my last "Commander's Report" with the latest words of retired NASCAR legend Jimmie Johnson, who now drives the American Legion INDYCAR; "We are reflecting back in some ways and trying to re-create ourselves, just because we've finished one chapter doesn't mean that's it. We are honoring and respecting the journey we have been on, but at the same time trying to look forward and create our new self". That sure sounds like the **New American Legion** to me!

For God and Country, a New Year...Be HAPPY!

We would like to extend condolences to the families and friends of American Legion Members, Herb Winsett and Ron Fischer in their passing away recently.

Welcome Back

DINNER MENU \$10.00 **RSVP: 5 July 2021**

Sirloin Hamburger/All beef Hotdogs with Fixn's
Potato salad, Baked Beans, Coleslaw
Ice tea, Lemonade, Water, Dessert

Sign-in roster, ticket required to receive meal
First time New Members eat free! RSVP please

434-977-1050

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 news-



American Legion Post 74
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Non-Profit Organization
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July 2021

Taps: Service Officer Rich Severin



Tech. Sgt. Frank Peregory by the Peregory family escorted by **CSM Charles Jones (USA Ret.)**



Introduction of Laying of the Wreathes:
 American Legion Post 74 Commander **Bruce Eades**



As we gear up to celebrate July 4th we reflect on how our nation began. It all leads back to our Founding Fathers. Here is a short recap of the events and individuals who formed the United States or American.

The military leaders, rebels, politicians and writers varied in personality, status and background, but all played a part in forming a new nation and hammering out the framework for the young democracy. Without them, there would have been no *United States of America*. The Founding Fathers, a group of predominantly wealthy plantation owners and businessmen, united 13 uniquely different colonies, fought for independence from Britain and wrote a series of important governing documents that guide the country to this day. All the Founding Fathers, including the first four U.S. presidents, at one point considered themselves British subjects. But they revolted against the restrictive rule of King George III. They outlined their grievances in the Declaration of Independence, a powerful call for freedom and equality. And won a spectacular military victory over what was then the world's foremost superpower. There is no official consensus who should be considered a Founding Father. Generally, it's applied to those leaders who initiated the Revolutionary War and framed the Constitution. Here are eight of the most influential characters in America's origin story: *George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Samuel Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and John Jay.*

May we celebrate the birth of our great nation, remember our forefathers and thank God for their courage and determination to bring a new freedom and the birth of a new country.

God Bless America! Mike James Chaplin

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](tel:1-800-273-8255) and press 1, Chat, or Text 838255

Post 74 Officers

Commander: W. Bruce Eades

434-978-1419

Email: opaeades@aol.com

First Vice: Bill Napier

804-512-5527

Second Vice: Randy Wood

434-760-1041

Third Vice: Roberta Humphrey

434-591-0927

Chaplain: Mike James

309-825-2851

Finance: David Drayer

434-409-1643

Adjutant: Phil Grimm

434-960-4402

Historian: Al Underwood

434-996-1704

Judge Advocate: Pat Kelly

434-989-7815

Sgt. At Arms: Mary Sue Garrison

434-305-9314

Athletic Officer: Solomon

McCauley

434-760-0855

Service Officer: Gary Hegemier

434-962-4076

Rental Agent: vacant

434-977-1050

At Large Officers:

Lowell Badgley 434-825-5759

Richard Severin 434-295-6218

George Shadman 434-806-4443

Andy Meade 434-953-8651

Boyd Knott 434-295-7037

Legionnaire of the Year:

Gary Hegemier



Pat Kelly

On Friday, 6/18/2021, Robert Humphrey graduated from the Guitars for Veterans.

He received the certificate of completion and the new guitar plus accessories.

FLAG DAY 14 JUNE

A. B. and Ruthann Brown



Dave Stein



Charlie Munk



Lowell Badgley



If it is **one thing I learned** these past five years as Commander, it is we were fortunate to learn a lot from the generations that served before us. Their pride of defending our homeland and protecting our freedoms was ever-present in our Post 74 meetings. Even more so when we look back at Post 74 history. Especially, their building of the Charlottesville and Albemarle County Veterans Memorial Seventy-five years ago, when they returned from WWII and joined the American Legion. They inspire us to continue to serve in our communities, and we learned it takes a village! This is the reason we appreciate the many volunteers that make the Legion Tic! I was able to form many new Post 74 committees including Finance, R&R (Rehabilitation and Rentals), JROTC, Honor Guard, and (as a result of a pandemic) our Post Re-Entry Team; working with them to delegate responsibilities to all those legionnaires willing to volunteer their time and energy. In addition, all the support we receive from our Post Adjutant, Dual Members, Excom Officers and our Past Post Commanders. Please attend the July regular meeting to learn more about these true heroes of our past.

Yes, we are truly blessed at American Legion Post 74!

To help those less fortunate and to help with membership, donations are being accepted in increments of \$35. To achieve the current goal of 100%, we need 109 additional renewals or new members. Our membership team is currently contacting those who have yet to renew.

MEMBERSHIP THROUGH June 2021

Renewals	PUFLs	New Members	Transfers	Total Membership	Goal for the Year	Percent of Goal Met
522	148	12		682	791	86.2%

For those who have not renewed for 2021, 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 434-978-1863
rsk8mom@aol.com

Meetings are held at the Post Home, 2nd Tuesday of the month, at 6PM.

"100 Years of Honoring Service"

Bring "bag Meal/snack" and join us for our July meeting. Agenda will be status updates, feedback, suggestions/ideas for fund raising and upcoming events. Dept conference is, via zoom, on Sunday July 11th at 2pm. **We have reached 100%**. Thank you for your support. Please mail membership renewal to PO Box 364, Crozet, VA 22936.



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

Commander Lowell Badgley 434-825-5759

Meeting not being held in July

Don't forget to submit your renewal of \$15 for membership. If possible, submit an email address in order to receive the newsletter faster upon publication. Thank you



American Legion Riders Chapter 74

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

Director: Bob Humphrey 434-591-0927, wrench58@embarqmail.com

GREAT NEWS! We held our official monthly ALR Post 74 mtg on 6/21/21.

Attendance was good. Suggestions/feedback were offered and planning for future rides/activities were reviewed. Next mtg is 7/14/21 at 1000hrs, at Don and Karen Cerselys home. Directions will be forwarded to members on current roster. Meeting agenda; PMCS, the usual fun, laughter, and camaraderie.

Drive safely and responsibly. **RIDE ON MY FRIEND, RIDE ON!!**



Blue Star Families of Central Virginia

Martha Horsfall, 434-806-3387, horsfalljm@comcast.net

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

Charlottesville, VA 22905-5182

Website: www.bsfcv.avenue.org

Despite COVID restrictions we have continued our mission to support our deployed service members with CARE packages. Please let us know if you know of anyone who will be deployed at that time. It would be our honor to include them in the shipment.



Disabled American Veterans Chapter 33

DAV Commander: Bob Clouser Robertclouser@msn.com

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

DAVA Commander: Amanda Schaad 434-296-9650



The Standing Rules for Post 74 is under review and will be voted on at our July general membership meeting. Therefore, pages 1-3 and Attachment #1, have been included in the newsletter mailings. An additional attachment, with pages 1-3 and all attachments, will be included newsletter emails and on the Post website. If you have suggestions, questions or want changes considered, let your voice be heard when attending the July general membership meeting.