



**American Legion Post 74
Charlottesville & Albemarle, Inc.**

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Commander's Report:

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Commander Bruce Eades

I began one of my last reports to our members with a quote from the American Legion Chaplain's handbook.

"For God and Country... Like our nation's founders, the veterans who started the American Legion over 100 years ago acknowledged God as the source of all our rights and freedoms. Our mission of **Service to God and Country** is an American Legion Program, yes, but the saying describes just as well our member's attitude and our way of living life. Nondenominational and nonsectarian, the Legion's support for religion in the public square has always been basic to Americanism. Rather than acting independently of religious groups, the legion has joined in with all of them to remind the American people with one voice that God is the author and architect of our beloved **land of the free**. Without God, there is no Americanism".

As we all know, Americanism is one of the four basic Pillars of the Legion Programs, the others being Veteran's Affairs and Rehabilitation, Children and Youth, and National Security. I would add a fifth pillar of the American Legion, friendship and camaraderie. This has proven especially true at Post 74 in sharing, planning and commemorating over the past five years. **I am honored to have been your commander!** I must admit getting through this past year with Covid-19 restrictions was the toughest. Fortunately, I am pleased to report that our post has remained financially sound, with all our CD's intact and growing, as we weathered this storm together, without Bingo income, using only funding from the Wineshop rental to pay our greatly reduced monthly bills. We are thankful that we have reserves to continue with many of our Legion programs such as our Veteran and Community donations, Oratorical, Scholarships, Baseball and Boys State. At times, even though begrudgingly, it required using the now infamous ZOOM meetings to get-r-done!

As we open back up, our EXCOM officers voted unanimously on May 5th for a staged re-entry of our Post home...June membership meeting, July return of our Legion family, August return of outside groups meetings and finally Bingo on Sundays beginning in September, OOHRAH! Please follow current CDC guidelines (respectfully wearing mask and distance if you have not been fully vaccinated) Please let us know if you can join us at **6:00 p.m. June 9th** for our Regular Membership meeting. An RSVP is needed to insure the appropriate amount of dinners (\$8) are ordered. If not partaking of meal, please still join us for the meeting as we have lots to discuss and motions to vote on. We will be taking temperatures at the door with a questionnaire as we all do our best to keep everyone safe.

Let's all Call a Buddy to check on them and remind them to join us as we break bread (Chicken) together once again...Semper Fi.

For God and Country

We would like to extend condolences to the family and friends of WWII Veteran and Legionnaire of many years, Jim Beck. He recently passed away. Memorial services have yet to be scheduled.

DINNER MENU BOXED MEAL \$8.00
3 Pieces of Chicken, Green Beans, Mac-n-Cheese, Roll.
Bottled water and selection of canned soda.
RSVP by 4 June 2021, email or call post

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



June 2021

Post 74 Honor Guard accepted an invitation to render full military honors at the memorial ceremony for Thomas Moore, a 20-year continuous member of the American Legion, on 27 March at Grace Church at Red Hill in Albemarle County. Thanks to Robert and Roberta Humphrey, Randy Wood, Bill Napier, Lowell

Badgley, Doug Caron, Hugh Underwood, Post Chaplain Mike James, Lee Everton, Mary Garrison, and Phil Grimm for their participation.



Many thanks to Post 74, Paid Up For Life Member, Elbert Dale who graciously fabricated metal flag supports for our ceremonial events. Elbert's time and dedication to this project is most appreciated!

As we approach Flag Day this June 14th I thought a review of our flag's colorful past would be a nice reminder of our flag's great history.

At the time of the Declaration of Independence in July 1776, the Continental Congress would not legally adopt flags with stars and a blue field for another year. The flag was known as "*The Continental Colors*" and has been historically referred to as the first national flag.

It is noted that Ross received a visit in May/June of 1776 from three men: General George Washington, financier of the Revolutionary War Robert Morris and Colonel George Ross, a relative. During this meeting, she was allegedly presented with a sketch of a flag that featured 13 red and white stripes and 13 six-pointed stars and was asked if she could create a flag to match the proposed design. Ross agreed, but suggested a couple of changes, including arranging the stars in a circle and reducing the points on each star to five instead of six.

On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress passed the Flag Resolution which stated: "*That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.*" Tradition holds that the new flag was first hoisted in June 1777 by the Continental Army at the Middlebrook encampment.

The first official U.S. flag flown during battle was on August 3, 1777, at Fort Mifflin (Fort Stanwix) during the Siege of Fort Stanwix. Massachusetts reinforcements brought news of the adoption by Congress of the official flag to Fort Mifflin. Soldiers cut up their shirts to make the white stripes; scarlet material to form the red was secured from red flannel petticoats of officers' wives, while material for the blue union was secured from Capt. Abraham Swartwout's blue cloth coat.

Let us never forget all the sacrifices that have been made over the years for Old Glory and our country; that freedom is not free!

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](https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/) and press 1, [Chat](#), or Text 838255

Post 74 Officers

Commander: W. Bruce Eades

First Vice: Bill Napier

Second Vice: Randy Wood

Third Vice: Roberta Humphrey

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: vacant

At Large Officers:

Lowell Badgley
Richard Severin
George Shadman
Andy Meade
Boyd Knott

Legionnaire of the Year:
Randy Wood

American Legion Post 74 Flag Day Ceremony on June 14th, 2021

Flag Day, Monday, June 14th, 2021 (two ceremonies) will be one of our first “normal gatherings” since Covid-19 threw us all off our A-Game over a year ago! At 1800 hours, our Post 74 Color Guard will conduct our annual “Changing of the Flags” ceremony in front of our Post home. Our guest speaker is our own Honor Guard Commander, Bill Napier. Following that ceremony, our tradition these past few years has been to hold a formal Dignified Flag Disposal Ceremony with our Post 74 officers including Post 74 Sgt. At Arms Mary Sue Garrison, our three Post 74 Vice Commanders Bill Napier, Randy Wood and Roberta Humphrey and our Post 74 Chaplain Mike James assisting Post 74 Commander Bruce Eades. Leading the way will be retired honor guardsman Extraordinaire Elbert Dale who will be manning the fire barrels as usual.

Sam’s Club asked if they could furnish cupcakes to help us celebrate “Flag Day’ and of course we graciously accepted their gesture of appreciation. It is what us Veterans do....

”For God and Country”

Nationwide, fewer than 9% of eligible veterans are members the Legion. Whereas just over 9% of veterans are members of Post 74. And yet, our organization, thanks in a large measure to the greatest Generation, which is passing from our midst, is credited with bringing into existence the modern VA, the GI Bill, upgraded health benefits and is the National Leader in military to civilian transmission assistance and hoe front support for our troops.

- This Post is doing everything we can to encourage retention of our members. Consider the following offers o members in good standing:
- A no-cost \$100,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Policy.
 - Our Post pays a dues for deployed active duty, resides in a nursing home, WWII veterans with 5+ years continuous membership and those facing financial difficulty.
 - Access to “members only” TV/bar lounge. WIFI, pool table, military library.
 - Room Rental discount ; upstairs room nonmembers rate up to \$1600, Downstairs up to \$400
 - Reimbursement for hotel room when attending Legion College.
 - Post scholarships eligibility for children and grandchildren.

Help us to surpass 100% of our membership goal of 787 and jump start our 2021-2022 membership year! Renewal/New members only \$35.00

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 113 additional renewals. Our membership team is currently contacting those who have yet to renew.

MEMBERSHIP THROUGH May 2021

Renewals	PUFLs	New Members	Transfers	Total Membership	Goal for the Year	Percent of Goal Met
518	148	12		678	791	85.7%

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

"100 Years of Honoring Service"

We have 8 young ladies signed up to participate (virtually) in Girl State, June 25-28. A memorial is planned for Dottie Stephenson at Madison Post, on 5 June, at 3pm. As of 27 May, membership is 92%. We need 6 renewals to reach 100%. 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

Don't forget to submit your renewal of \$15 for membership. Wearing of facial mask/shield and social distancing are required.



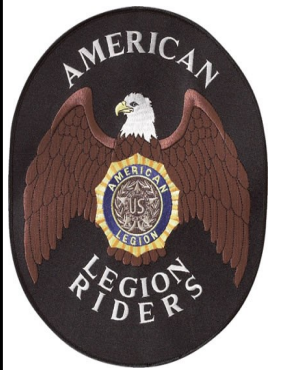
American Legion Riders Chapter 74

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

Director: Bob Humphrey 434-591-0927, wrench58@embarqmail.com
 HORAH! We are almost there regarding easing of the COVID-19 restrictions.

Continue to follow CDC guidelines. We will begin our monthly meeting on 6/12/21 at 10 am, on the back porch. Meeting inside is a possibility. Agenda will be status updates, feedback, suggestions for upcoming events. Continue to practice routine PMCS maintenance and safety. 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 mark your calendar for Saturday, June 5, 2021 for the **"4 Our Freedom 5K"** that will benefit 8 local veteran/military organizations (BSFCV is one of them). You can run/walk the 5K in person or virtually. Just go to runsignup.com and enter the name **"4 Our Freedom 5K"** for more information. We would appreciate your support and hope to see you there. Our next pack-out is the middle of June. 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



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 NATIONAL POPPY DAY™

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