



AMERICAN LEGION SUMMERS-WHITEHEAD POST 14

Quarterly Newsletter



The General



VOLUME 8 NUMBER 1

For God and Country

APRIL 2026

POST 14 OFFICERS

Commander, Chaplain.....Chris Dooley

Vice Commander.....Ray Mitchell

Adjutant.....Alan Syler

423-488-5445, asyler@epbfi.com

Service Officer.....Chuck Alsbrook

Membership Chair.....Vickie Putnam

Judge Advocate.....Jim Fields

Master-at-Arms.....Carl Poston

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FREEDOM SINGS AT THE POST

The post hosted *Freedom Sings* on 6 December. Post Vice Commander Ray Mitchell was the organizer. Ray did an outstanding job. Vickie Putnam assisted Ray with elements of the event organization. Several members of the post attended. Approximately 75 people attended.

Of the five veterans who met with the songwriters to write their lyrics regarding their lives and military service, three were Post 14 members. Vickie Putnam, Jerry White, and Scott Hardin were three of the five songs.

Also, one of our veterans in the Hamilton County Veteran Treatment Court, John Boughner, USMC, shared his story. The songwriters were all well-known in the country music genre. The lyrics they wrote based on the veterans' information were heartfelt and occasionally humorous.



Ray Mitchell

FREEDOM SINGS page 8

THE GENERAL EDITOR



Non Sibi Sed Patriae

We chose to change the layout of our newsletter. We hope everyone finds this change to be a good fit. We hope our membership and veterans will renew/join Post 14. As you can see, all the programs our post is involved in are which is serving our community and the youth of veterans. Additionally, the scholarship committee received 16 applications. Among these, several made the choices difficult. The scholarships will be awarded in early March. We are involved with two of the county's JROTC programs, Red Bank and Central. Several Post 14 members are mentors in the Hamilton County Veteran Treatment Court. We're always seeking veteran mentors for this program. You can contact me at the phone number or email address below for more information about the opportunity to serve your fellow veterans.

Alan Syler 423-488-5445, asyler@epbfi.com

POST 14 WEBSITE

"amlegion14.us"

**You can scan the QR code to go to our website.
We will keep our site up to date to ensure you are kept informed about post-meetings and events.**



POST 14 FACEBOOK PAGE

**Our page is
"American Legion Post 14 Chattanooga"**

POST MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- | | | | |
|----------------|---|----------------|--|
| 7 April | Post meeting | 2 June | Post meeting |
| 7 April | <i>Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed build</i> | 14 June | <i>Flag Day</i> |
| 1 May | Armed Forces Parade & Luncheon | 21 June | <i>Father's Day</i> |
| 5 May | Post meeting | July | <i>No Post meeting</i> |
| 10 May | <i>Mother's Day</i> | 4 July | <i>Independence Day, 250th</i> |
| 25 May | <i>Memorial Day, National Cemetery</i> | | |

DD-214 AUDIT REQUIRED

The American Legion Department of Tennessee has instructed Post 14 to audit each legionnaire's DD-214. If you haven't already submitted a copy to the Post 14 Adjutant. We would like to meet this requirement as soon as possible. When your DD-214 is verified, it will be shredded.

You can submit your DD-214 via snail mail or email to the post Adjutant.

**Mailing address: American Legion Post 14
1200 Mountain Creek Road
Suite 320
Chattanooga, TN 37405**

Email address: asyler@epbfi.com



POST COMMANDER

Post 14 continues its goals of impacting the community for good, helping our fellow veterans, and promoting patriotism.

This January 2026, we helped purchase and package food for needy families. Over 75,000 meals were packaged and enough ingredients were left over to prepare 25,000 more. This is a worthy cause we will continue to support each year.

Our two post scholarships honoring our Medal of Honor recipients have been selected. Anne Marie Dreyer and Dominic D'Atice are the winners. These are fine scholarships offering \$1000 per semester until graduation

from college or a trade school. They are for graduate students too.

In February, I visited all seven of our legislators from Chattanooga in Nashville. We talked about helping veterans with disability claims, depression, and drug abuse. Several bills have been introduced to help veterans, including one to increase the number of Veteran Service Officers in Tennessee. I spoke with the leaders of the Veteran Caucus as well, and they support increasing the number of VSOs. Additionally, all of the legislators I spoke with support the prevention of veteran suicide and the further establishment and the funding of veteran treatment courts in Tennessee.

For future events, we are planning to build beds for disadvantaged children with "Sleep in Heavenly Peace," a worthy nonprofit. The build will be on 11 April, beginning at 0900, 6135 Airways Blvd, Chattanooga, TN 37421. The last build was very organized and fun. Come out and help needy kids in the community.

Also come out for the Armed Forces Day celebration on 1 May. Post 14 will have a table for the luncheon. We will need flag bearers for follow-on veteran events. Memorial Day is on 25 May. This is a well-attended event that promotes community pride and Americanism.

The Carl Levi Assistance Fund is available for those veterans needing help. If you know of a veteran who needs help repairing their car or house, paying bills, or other assistance, the Post 14 executive board will evaluate and assist.

Finally, please come to our meetings and be a part of a motivated group of veterans helping fellow veterans and the local community. Help us ensure America continues to be the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Commander Chris Dooley

For God and Country



CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

Depression and mental health are big topics of late. Several of my friends are dealing with depression. One has lost her mother and is lonely. Others are facing severe health issues. My friends are struggling and searching for answers.

Depression turns us inward as if we are physically injured – the pain consumes us, and we feel trapped by it. It takes our attention away from positive daily living. Some try to fight it, but that does not solve the problem. So, they just try to survive another day.

But there are alternatives to just surviving. We can call out to the Lord. *Psalm 39:12* says, "Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry; Lord, listen to my cry for help; do not be deaf to my weeping...." We can pray and ask for guidance. Fashioning a plan to get better and putting it into motion helps.

God understands our pain and gives us the Bible to help us cry out to Him. *Psalm 34:18* says, "The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; And saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." The New Testament also has encouragement in *Hebrews 4:15* and says, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

Turning our thoughts away from ourselves and toward God will help straighten the trajectory of our lives. We can rely on God. *Psalm 22:24* says, "He has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one"

Just because we cannot see a solution to our problems does not mean we should give up. God is available at all times, even when we are down.

We can never exhaust God's depths – His comfort and direction are limitless. Remember, *Psalm 62:8*: "Trust in Him at all times"

Chaplain Chris Dooley

MEETING MINUTES

January:

Commander Dooley opened the Post 14 meeting.

Chaplain Dooley led us in the opening prayer.

Commander led the Pledge of Allegiance, with all reciting.

All observed a moment of silence.

Commander Dooley read the American Legion Opening Ceremony.

The Adjutant read the minutes of the last meeting held on 4 November 2025.

Jim Fields made a motion to accept the minutes; Scott Hardin seconded. The vote was unanimous.

The Adjutant also reviewed the December 2025 financial report.

The Commander reminded the membership that the executive board was a good steward of the post funds.

Membership numbers reported: 90 paid for the 2026-2028 period.

Correspondence: None

Commander Dooley welcomed a recently transferred member, Robert Helm, and Janet Meyer, a new member of American Legion Post 14.

The Commander discussed the contract with Tim Coleman of RE/MAX Commercial Real Estate regarding the sale of the property at 814 Lindsay Street.

Commander stated that Jim Fields is filing the post-sales tax-exemption status with the Tennessee Secretary of State.

AMERICAN LEGION SUMMERS-WHITEHEAD POST 14

Commander also discussed the use of the post by other organizations. He reminded everyone that it is available to any veteran group and to others who may qualify. He added that a Post 14 executive board member must be present during the meeting.

Jim Fields, Chairman of the MoH Memorial Scholarship Committee, had selected two (2) recipients and one (1) alternate. He stated Syler will contact each to procure their proof of the family member's honorable discharge. Commander also discussed the recent donation of \$5,000 from the Carl E. Levi Assistance Fund to the Brandon Skaggs family of Clinton, TN. He provided specific information regarding their hardship.

He asked if anyone was aware of additional veterans in need of assistance.

Commander touted the success of the *Freedom Sings* event at the post in December. He discussed a future event to be held at the post.

Commander reminded the attendees of the retirement of wreaths at the Chattanooga National Cemetery on 17 January. Scott Hardin added that the start time is 0730 hours and that parking will be allowed inside the cemetery, with no parking on the grass.

Jim Fields reminded attendees about the meal packing at *Hope for the Intercity* on 17 January. Start time is 0900 hours. *Hope for the Intercity* is located at 1800 Roanoke Ave, Chattanooga.

Jim Fields stated the *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* bed build is scheduled for 11 April at 0900 hours. The building will be at 6135 Airways Blvd, Chattanooga. Airways Blvd is behind Sam's Club on Lee Highway.

Commander discussed the need for a new golf cart for the VA clinic. One of their carts is unserviceable. He indicated that once a price is obtained, the post will make an effort to raise funds to purchase a new cart.

Commander reminded attendees that the post continues to audit DD-214s and urged those who have not submitted theirs to do so as soon as possible. He also directed the Adjutant to contact those who have not submitted theirs.

Commander discussed the December graduation of the Veteran Treatment Court's (VTC) first veteran. He also discussed the VTC's success to date. The court is having a positive influence on the veterans' lives.

Alan Syler discussed the post-funding of six (6) boys for Boys State and two (2) girls for Girls State in 2026. This will be an increase from 2025, which was four (4) boys and one (1) girl.

Sheila Billings opened a discussion regarding recruiting new members for the post. She had several ideas to bring in younger veterans, such as video, board, and card games.

Commander stated that we have visited the UTC student veterans twice and intend to return soon. We also plan to visit Chattanooga State.

Jim Fields added that events, bed build, and meal packaging would be reasons for a veteran to associate him/herself with our post.

We decided to canvass our membership and nonmembers for ideas.

Commander Dooley asked the members if there were any other subjects they would like to discuss.

Commander Dooley read the American Legion Closing Ceremony.

Syler stated that the next post meeting will be on 3 February 2026 at 1830 hours.

Commander Dooley closed the meeting, and we adjourned.

February:

Commander Dooley opened the meeting.

Chaplain Dooley led us in the opening prayer.

Alan Syler led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance, with all reciting.

Commander Dooley read the American Legion Opening Ceremony.

Commander Dooley introduced William Barker, Post 190 Dunlap. William is running for the 3rd District commander.

Chris gave William the opportunity to address our members.

William outlined several items on his agenda if elected. He recounted the recent suicide of a fellow Legionnaire in Dunlap and the profound effect it had on him. William offered several suggestions to help veterans in distress.

He also discussed the need for recruiting younger members. He described a couple of posts in the 3rd District and their efforts to recruit younger members. William indicated that Post 100 in Dayton recently hosted an Autism awareness event as an example of how to reach out to veterans.

Chris added that our post has visited UTC twice, with the aim of recruiting student veterans. He stated that we plan to return to UTC and go to Chattanooga State.

The Adjutant read the minutes of the last meeting held on 4 November 2025.

Wes Billings moved to accept the minutes; Ray Mitchell seconded. The vote was unanimous.

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The Adjutant also reviewed the January 2026 financial report.

Membership numbers reported: 92 paid for the 2026-2028 period.

Correspondence: None

Chris reported that the Medal of Honor Memorial Scholarship committee had selected two recipients and one alternate.

Alan reported that he had contacted all three selectees to obtain their veteran family members' DD-214s or their full names and Social Security numbers. He has received two of the required documents. Alan will contact the selectee one more time to secure the DD-214.

Commander Dooley stated the scholarship will provide the assistance the students require.

Commander Dooley reminded everyone of the Lions-supported vision clinic at the *Hope for the Intercity* on 4 April.

The exams will be by appointment only by phone. The phone number will be provided on a later date.

Commander Dooley reminded everyone of the *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* bed build scheduled for 11 April at 0900 hours.

Alan stated the location is 6135 Airways Blvd, Chattanooga. The location is behind Sam's Club on Lee Highway.

Commander Dooley reported on the post property at 814 Lindsay Street. The party that filed the zoning request for the 12-story building on the north side of Patten Parkway was denied. This development has put the sale of our property in limbo. The post has entered into a contract with RE/MAX Commercial Realty to sell the property.

Commander also discussed the use of the post by other veteran organizations, civic groups, and the Commander's HOA. Alan will meet with Post 291 on Monday, 9 February, for a tour of our post and to discuss using it as a meeting place.

Commander opened a discussion about the revelation that the post has a safe deposit box, which was discovered when an automatic withdrawal was on the December checking account statement.

Alan has contacted Truist Bank to determine the box's location. He discovered the box is at the downtown branch, located at the corner of 8th and Market Streets.

Since no one at Post 14 has the keys for the box. The Executive Committee has authorized Alan to have the lock drilled and to report to the committee the contents of the box.

Alan stated that he would be interested in seeing the contents.

Commander Dooley discussed the donation made to Brandon Skaggs' family, a veteran. He indicated that the family had raised sufficient funds to prevent foreclosure on their home and that Brandon had recently secured employment.

Commander discussed the Super Bowl party scheduled for Sunday, 8 February, at 1800 hours. Alan asked the members to inform him as to how many people each plans to invite, since Alan needs a headcount to ensure he orders the correct amount of food for the event.

Commander shared a letter from Post 95 that was received at our post. Since their post was shut down for an extended period, their available funds are sparse. Chris indicated the funds are to be used for building repairs.

Chris indicated he would contact Bill Norton to determine the amount of assistance Post 14 should supply.

He also stated that Post 95 is making an ongoing effort to reconstitute its Honor Guard. Post 95 is working closely with VVA 203 to ensure veteran funerals are supported by an Honor Guard.

Alan stated Post 95 had supported 284 funerals in 2025. He didn't know the number for VVA203.

Commander indicated Post 14 will support Post 95. He is to discuss their specific needs with the post representatives.

The Commander discussed the playground to be built in Spring City and their request for support. He has attempted to get more information but has not been able to learn more.

Commander reported on the new golf cart needed for the VA Clinic. Our post plans to seek support from additional veteran organizations to purchase a new cart. The Clinic will need to provide the specifications required for a cart.

The Commander reminded those present of the required audit of DD-214s and that the Adjutant must obtain theirs.

Alan reminded everyone to redact their SSN on their DD-214.

The Executive Committee voted to fund six (6) boys to Boys State and two (2) girls to Girls State.

Alan stated that our post will be sent to two boys and one girl from Central High School. We will also send two boys and one girl from Red Bank High School. He continued that the remaining two boys could potentially come from a private school in the county, since last year we sent one from McCallie and one from CSALS.

Commander stated that these applicants applying for one of the service academies are noted.

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Commander Dooley reported and thanked Janet Meyer for setting up a Facebook page for the post. She informed the members that the page is "American Legion Post 14 Chattanooga."

Alan stated he would link our website to the Facebook page. We had no information regarding traffic on the page. Commander reported on the *Hope for the Intercity Meals of Hope* single-serve meals packaged on the 17 January event. He stated 73,785 medals were packaged. He also indicated there is enough of the ingredients remaining to pack at least 20,000 more meals.

Chris indicated 14 organizations, totaling 128 people, participated.

He continued that it is an excellent effort for community support.

Commander reminded everyone that the Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed build is scheduled for 11 April at 0900 hours. Alan stated the location is 6135 Airways Blvd, Chattanooga. The location is behind Sam's Club on Lee Highway. Alan has produced a flyer that he will distribute to members and other organizations.

Sheila Billings stated that a recently divorced veteran in our area needs furniture. Vickie Putnam indicated she may have furniture available for the young man. Vickie and Sheila are to work together.

Sheila Billings asked if anyone from our post plans to attend the American Legion Washington, DC Conference.

Commander Dooley indicated he is not, and to his knowledge, no one else from Post 14 was either.

Sheila also asked if Post 14 is planning a celebration for the American Legion birthday on 15 March. Commander indicated it will be discussed at the 3 March Executive Committee meeting.

Sheila Billings questioned why the lighting in the post was so bright. Wes Billings recommended a dimmer for the lighting.

Alan is to investigate the possibility of installing a dimmer.

Commander reminded everyone of the CAVC Awards Banquet on 13 March. The social hour is to start at 1800 hours and the dinner at 1900 hours. He stated the post has purchased one table, and Alan stated all eight seats were spoken for.

Commander Dooley asked whether there were any additional items to discuss; there were none.

All observed a moment of silence.

Commander Dooley read the American Legion Closing Ceremony.

Syler stated that the next post meeting will be on 3 March 2026 at 1830 hours.

Commander Dooley closed the meeting, and we adjourned.

March:

Vice Commander Ray Mitchell opened the meeting.

Scott Hardin led us in the opening prayer.

Vice Commander Mitchell led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance, with all reciting.

Vice Commander Mitchell read the American Legion Opening Ceremony.

All observed a moment of silence.

Vice Commander welcomed four visitors to Post 14.

The Adjutant read the minutes of the last meeting held on 3 February 2026.

Vice Commander Mitchell asked for a motion to approve the minutes as read.

Jim Fields moved to accept the minutes; Scott Hardin seconded. The vote was unanimous.

The Adjutant also reviewed the February 2026 financial report.

Membership numbers reported: 96 paid for the 2026-2028 period.

Correspondence: None

Vice Commander stated the post will donate \$2,700 to fund four (4) and two (2) girls to attend Boys State and Girls State, respectively.

Ray Mitchell discussed the two post-scholarship recipients who were announced. Syler stated he would contact the recipients, Anne Marie Dreyer and Dominic D'Apice. We plan to make the presentations at the 7 April meeting.

Ray discussed the Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed build on 11 April at 0900 hours. Syler indicated that the flyer includes a link to pre-register for the event and recommended that all do so.

Ray stated the post plans to purchase a new golf cart for the VA Clinic. The car will be used to transport handicapped and older veterans from the parking lot to the clinic's front door.

Ray and Scott Hardin reported on the America 250 event, sponsored by the Chattanooga Area Veterans Council, for veterans on 30 June, at 1700 hours. Food will be served, and the event will be held at the First Tennessee Pavilion.

Ray reminded all of the Chattanooga Area Veterans Council Awards Banquet on Friday, 13 March at 1900 hours. Vickie Putnam reported on the VA Clinic Expo on 22 April from 1200-1500 hours. We plan to set up a table at this event.

Jim Fields reminded all that there is a free Eye Clinic, sponsored by the Lions Club, at the Hope for the Intercity on 4 April from 0900-1430 hours. He continued, appointments must be made by phone at 423-698-3178.

Syler discussed the recently installed dimmer in the post. The electrical company that installed the dimmer put it in the conference room instead of the meeting room. Jim Fields indicated he will contact the electrical company to install a dimmer in the meeting room.

Ray reminded all of the Armed Forces parade and luncheon on 1 May. Syler stated that he will have a trailer donated by Trucks N Trailers USA in the parade. He discussed the post needed to be in the parade to celebrate America 250. He also plans to invite the submarine veterans and Veteran Treatment Court veterans to join us.

Vice Commander Mitchell asked whether there were any additional items to discuss; there were none.

Vice Commander Mitchell read the American Legion Closing Ceremony.

Syler stated that the next post meeting will be on 7 April 2026 at 1830 hours.

Vice Commander Mitchell closed the meeting, and we adjourned.

ARMY-NAVY GAME AT THE POST



On Saturday, 13 December, we gathered at the post to enjoy camaraderie and the Army-Navy game. Our post JAG, Jim Fields, prepared a delicious low-country boil for us. Kudos to Jim for an excellent meal. Ray Mitchell's wife made the most delicious banana pudding I have ever eaten. As expected, there was an ample amount of ribbing before and during the game. Since your Adjutant is a Navy vet, he placed several posters on his office window touting the Navy football team. He was razed by the Army faithful.

Army came out of the gate on fire, running the ball at will. The Army led throughout the

game, which ratcheted up the ribbing of the five Navy veterans. The Navy pulled out a win, 17-16, with only a couple of minutes left in the game.

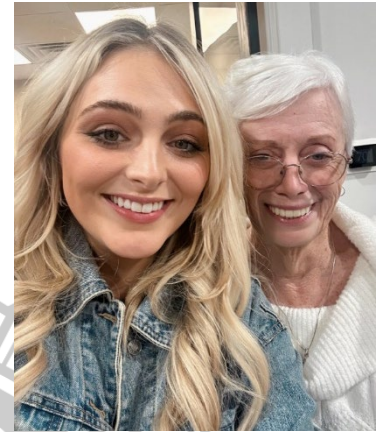
The most important part of the day was spending it with our brother and sister veterans.

FREEDOM SINGS, *continued:*

We were pleased with the turnout for the event. It's obvious that Freedom Sings events are well attended. The organization asked if they could return for a return engagement. Of course, we welcomed them to return.

Hunter Girl wrote and performed Vickie Putnam's song. Scott Hardin recounted his experiences in the Middle East during the wars.

Also, post member Jerry White had his song performed.



L-R: Hunter Girl, Vickie Putnam



On stage: John Bougher center, flanked by songwriters.

Foreground: Pam and Jim Fields, Chris and Cindy Dooley

ALAN SYLER SPEAKS AT NOLAN



L-R: Wally McMahan, Alan Syler

MENTOR I had another engagement on the Friday before Veterans Day, so Alan was asked to stand in for me as a speaker at Nolan Elementary. It was an enjoyable experience since I had never spoken to little people. The teacher in charge contacted me and asked about the nature of my military experience. After I informed her that my service was aboard submarines, she was excited for me to speak with the children. When I was invited, I thought I was among several veterans who were invited to speak. Before the start, I was informed that I was the only speaker. The first group I spoke to was the third-, fourth-, and fifth graders. I was pleasantly surprised at the attentiveness and questions.

DONATION TO FOUNDING FORWARD



Jim Fields presents a Post 14 donation check to Valerie Copeland Rutledge

Post 14 voted to fund two students for the *Founding Forward* program. The \$2,000 donation will enable two students to attend this worthwhile event.

Founding Forward is a non-profit civic education organization, formed from the merger of The Union League Legacy Foundation and Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, dedicated to increasing civic literacy and leadership by teaching American history, founding principles (like those in the Declaration of Independence and Constitution), and fostering constructive discourse for students, teachers, and citizens. They provide immersive programs, workshops, and scholarships to promote understanding and practice of American citizenship, ensuring an informed future generation of leaders.

"Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants. We know more about war than about peace, more about killing than we know about living."

General Omar Bradley

HAMILTON COUNTY COURT OFFICER REENLISTS

Following the Veteran Treatment Court on 18 December, one of the court officers, Emilio San Miguel, reenlisted in the Air Force Reserves. The speaker at the event was our Chris Dooley. Since Chris is an Air Force veteran, he was the obvious choice for Emilio to invite. His remarks were sincere in describing veterans in general and specific veterans and their sacrifice for our country. He stated that only 6% of the population can claim veteran status. He added that veterans become citizens committed to their community and fellow veterans.



L-R: Chris Dooley, Emilio San Miguel



L-R: Nicole Carrera, Emilio San Miguel



L-R: Emilio San Miguel, Chris Dooley, Nicole Carrera

CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL CEMETERY WREATHS

The elegance of our National Cemetery is always highlighted by the wreaths placed on the graves during the Christmas season. Mickey McCamish and his team of volunteers, some of whom are Post 14 members, do a fantastic job raising the funds to purchase the wreaths. Food City provides tractor-trailers and funds to help ensure the effort is a success. The efforts of everyone who makes this possible are a poignant reminder of the sacrifice veterans make to keep our country free.



VETERAN TREATMENT COURT

We include news about the Veteran Treatment Court, since seven Post 14 members serve as mentors to veterans navigating their recovery.

The mentors are a key component of the court, and each provides constant support to their assigned veteran. The efforts of these mentors cannot be understated; they are the backbone of the court.

On 4 December, the VTC held its first graduation ceremony. It was a proud day, as the lady had met numerous requirements to succeed.

The lady was hesitant to have her photo published for personal reasons.



Judge Boyd Patterson, Judge Gary Starnes, and the veterans who attended the graduation. Several Post 14 members are pictured: Chris Dooley, Janet Meyer, Ray Mitchell, Scott Hardin, Alan Syler, Tony Crowder, Chuck Alsobrook, Vickie Putnam, and Jerry White

AMERICAN LEGION SUMMERS-WHITEHEAD POST 14

The VTC process has two tracks: one for those in the General Sessions Court, Judge Starnes, which is a 12-month program with four phases. The Criminal Court Judge Patterson program is an 18-month program with five phases.

On 8 January, the court celebrated the phasing up of three veterans. John Boughner (USMC) and Wyatt Jordan (USAF) achieved Phase 4, and John Colbaugh (USMC) achieved Phase 3.



**L-R: Judge Patterson, John Boughner,
Jant Meyer (Post 14)**



L-R: Judge Patterson, Wyatt Jordan



L-R: Judge Starnes, John Colbaugh, Heman McDade

We applaud the efforts of these veterans and their mentors to reach this point in their recovery.

*If you would like to know more about being a mentor,
contact Chris Dooley at ruffian19@gmail.com or Alan Syler at asyler@epbfi.com.*

MEALS OF HOPE

Post 14 continued to support our community on Saturday, 17 January. Four post members and two wives went to *Hope for the Intercity* to pack single-serve meals. The initiative is called *Meals of Hope*.

We were disappointed that this event fell on the same day as the wreath retirement at the Chattanooga National Cemetery.

Several groups of participants drove for two hours to get the job done. We applaud them for their effort.

Our post provided monetary support to purchase the components that make up the meals.

The most important aspects are helping our community and meeting interesting people. This time we noted more teens and college students than at the previous event. It gives one hope for our future.

We look forward to supporting this worthy event in the future.

We packaged 73,587 meals, which is excellent for four hours' work. We look forward to supporting this worthy cause in the future.



Jim Fields, Post 14 and Signal Mountain Lions Club
Jim was the event organizer.



Chris and Cindy came after retiring wreaths at the Chattanooga National Cemetery



Vickie Putnam stayed busy distributing boxes and maintaining an accounting of the types of meals packaged



One of the ten assembly lines shows the number of people required to package the single-serve meals



There were ten assembly lines. Henry Ford would be proud.

SUPER BOWL WATCH PARTY

We gathered at the post to watch Super Bowl XL. We had hoped for more members who did not join us.

The food was catered by McAlister's Deli.

A good time was had by all.

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE BED BUILDING

Date: 11 April 2026

Time: 0900 hours

Location: 6135 Airways Blvd, Chattanooga

Link to pre-register:

<https://x.gldn.io/e/Id9Y3Rple0b>



This event is an excellent opportunity for Post 14 to serve our community. The last event we attended was both rewarding and enjoyable. We hope you will attend.



THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Name _____
First Initial Last Date of Birth

Address _____
Street City State ZIP

Membership ID# former member _____ Post # **14** Phone # _____ Email _____ Gender Male Female

Please check war era and branch of service below:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Panama | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Space Force |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Korea | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WWII | <input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (WWII only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts | |

I certify that I have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces since December 7, 1941, and have been honorably discharged or I am still serving.

Signed by applicant _____ Date _____ Name of recruiter _____

If you are a new member, send this completed application with annual dues to The American Legion, Attn: Membership, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206 (check www.legion.org/join for dues amount), or take it to a local post. To locate a post near you, click on "Find a Post" at www.legion.org.

017010

DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date _____
 Received From _____
\$ 40.00 for 20 _____ Dues
 Recruiter's Name _____
 Recruiter's Signature _____
 Recruiter's Phone # _____

*Please share this application with your
veteran contacts.*

*Post 14 is involved in service to our veterans,
community, and youth in our area.*

*We need more Legionnaires to support
these initiatives.*