# EAMERICAN LEGION

Pickens Post 149 Meets the 2d Saturday each month at 10am in Veteran's Hall 339 W Church St, Jasper, GA Serving the needs of Veterans and Community throughout Pickens County

### Quarterly Newsletter

Preserving the Past by Securing the Future

3rd Quarter 2024

## Pickens Post 149 Secures new "Veterans Hall" Location

For the past four years, the Pickens Country Sheriff's Department has graciously allowed six local veterans organizations utilize a training room on the back side of the Mountain Education Charter School for meetings. Due to growth and the addition of a new VFW Post, more space was needed. "Post 149 member and former Jasper Mayor Steve Lawrence and SAL Commander Scott Riley led the effort to

coordinate with the local school board and we were able to secure a much larger room on the front side of the building" said Jay Misback Pickens Post 149 Commander. (cont'd)



The new location has the same 339 W. Church St address, but entry is now on the front side of Mountain Education Charter High School.

#### Post 149 Officers

Commander – Jay Misback Senior Vice-Commander – David Jones Junior Vice Commander – Don Wilson Finance Officer – John Phares Judge Advocate – Harford Field

#### Commander's Corner

During the Third Quarter of 2024 (Q3 '24), Pickens Post 149 installed new officers and continued to accomplish goals and plan for upcoming events. We started the quarter with a fantastic Independence Day Parade down Main Street



Jasper. The recently renovated American Legion float worked great carrying many veterans. Several members supported the DAV's color guard and we had members in the SAL Jeep Brigade and ALR motorcycles representing veterans from around the county. That said, I was a bit disappointed in the turn out of members to support the parade. These events are our opportunity to let the community know we are here and actively involved.

Our biggest news from Q3'24 is the move to the new location in the old High School library. The entry faces Hwy 53 (West Church Street) and will give us much greater visibility and is large enough to support all the local veterans organization. I want to personally thank former mayor Steve Lawrence for negotiating for this new space. We are excited to begin using it.

Looking ahead, we are fully committed to supporting the Marble Festival by providing shuttle drivers and traffic control. This is another way we can give back to a great community that supports us as we strive to meet the needs of local veterans. In November, we are already planning for a Veterans Day parade 11 November and the ceremony at the Pickens Veterans Memorial Park. We need ALL members participate in the parade either riding on the float, serving in the color guard or driving for our affiliate groups. We will have a comfortable place for you to ride and have made provisions to assist anyone with physical limitations. Some local businesses are sponsoring a Veterans Appreciation luncheon at Rocco's immediately following the ceremony.

We have great momentum and need to keep moving forward to grow the membership and contribute to our community and local veterans.

I wish the best of health and good fortune for you and your family. God Bless,

Commander Jay Misback

#### **New Veterans Hall (Cont'd)**

"The larger space will accommodate our recent growth in American Legion Membership and give us a front side entry facing West Church Street. With over 3,000 veterans, Pickens country has the highest veteran population of any Georgia county. Too often we hear veterans say 'I did not know there was an American Legion Post in Jasper. Where is it?' Now we will be seen."

The American Legion Post 149 serves Pickens county veterans side-by-side with Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Post 149, American Legion Riders (ALR) Post 149. Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 47, and the Marine Corps League Detachment 1280. A new Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post is being formed and should be chartered in November and the Pickens County Veterans Memorial Park organization also shares the same space. For this reason the signage will say "Veterans Hall" as each of these organizations will utilize the new space for meetings and events. On behalf of all the local veterans organization, Pickens Post 149 would like to thank Dr. Travis Thomas Superintendent, Pickens County Schools for entrusting us with this space and Jasper United Methodist Church for donating chairs for the facility.



#### REMINDER

Post meetings offer a pre-ordered breakfast biscuit and coffee. Pre-order biscuits with Donna Bonnett.

#### **Community Engagement**

#### 4 July 2024

Pickens Post 149 participated in the Independence Day parade enhancing our community visibility and recruiting efforts this quarter. Thank you to all who showed up to help and participate.







#### FROM THE ADJUTANT

We are accepting membership applications and renewals for the 2025 calendar year. So far we have received 70 renewals. Our goal is to have 100% by December 2024. See James Anderson, Post 149 Adjutant for your new membership card. They will be available at the Legion meetings.



#### DAV Honor Guard Presents Colors for Jasper Independence Day Parade

Ron Coulter, Don Wilson, Tiffany Green and Steve Lewis presented the colors for the Jasper Independence Day Parade 4 July 2024. Each is a member of Pickens Post 149 and/or the DAV Chapter 47.

#### **Looking Ahead**

#### 5-6 October -- Marble Festival

In exchange for providing transportation drivers, the veteran groups will have sponsorship status and a recruiting/information table space at the Georgia Marble Festival at Lee Newton Park Saturday & Sunday, October 5-6. Harford Field is the transportation supervisor and we need 12-18 people to provide 4-5 hours Saturday or Sunday driving various shuttle vehicles including SUVs, EV and gas powered golf carts, and possibly shuttle vans. Please call Harford to volunteer for a time slot assignment ASAP at 770-335-3553.

#### 12 October – Post 149 Monthly Meeting

The October meeting will be our first meeting in the new Veterans Hall location with plenty of room for everyone to attend. Breakfast begins at 9am and meeting starts at 10am. Quilts of Honor will be presented at this months meeting.

#### 19-20 October - Talking Rock Heritage Days

Talking Rock Heritage Days is an opportunity for Post 149 to show our presence and support by staffing a recruiting and information booth throughout the event. Several members will also participate with the DAV in providing Color Guard service.

#### 27 October - Sons of the American Legion Annual Donald Allen Picnic

Picnic to be held outside Sharp Mountain Graphics 111 Airport Business Ct, Jasper, GA Meat and picnic supplies will be provided. Please bring a covered side dish or desert and lawn chairs.

#### 9 November - Post 149 Monthly Meeting

The November meeting will be at Veterans Hall with plenty of room for everyone to attend. Breakfast sales begin at 9am and meeting starts at 10am.

#### 11 November – Veterans Day Parade

Line up for the Jasper parade will be behind Synovus Bank at 8am with parade start at 9am. We need all veterans to show up in uniform and ride on the Post 149 float. A short ceremony will follow at Pickens County Veterans Memorial Park. Applications are available online at: https://americanlegion149.com/community-engagement

#### 14 December – Veterans Hall Christmas Party

A Christmas party for all local veterans organizations will be held at Veterans Hall beginning at 4pm. Organizations will provide the entrees (Turkey & ham) and everyone is invited to bring a side dish or dessert. Please contact Donna Bonnett at 910-398-7792 to let her know what you will bring and how you can get involved.

#### Did You Know We Are On Facebook?

Search Facebook for PickensPostonefournine and join the page to stay up to date

with the latest Post 149 happenings.

Check Our Web
Page for Upcoming
Events and to
Schedule Use of
Veterans Hall



