

NEWSLETTER

SEPT2025

HUBERT M SMITH

AMERICAN LEGION POST 77

9/11 - **Patriots Day**

9/19 - **POW/MIA Recognition Day**

Military Birthday:

18 Sept - US Air Force
18 Sept - CIA

Remembering
Wayne Carringer's
Story:
Bataan Death March



Post 77 Honor Guard Leads Labor Day Parade 2025

The American Legion



Post 77
Hubert M. Smith
September Email
Briefing

September Meetings

September 4: Auxiliary Meeting
September 9: Executive Board Meeting
September 11: General Membership Meeting Upstairs Hall 1900
September 15: Marine Corps Leauge Meeting
September 20: Sons of the American Legion Meeting
September 25: American Legion Riders Meeting



Canteen Events

September 3, 10, 17, 24: Bingo Upstairs Hall 1900
September 5, 12, 19, 26: Karaoke
September 6: Shag Lessons Upstairs Hall
September 13: Republican Men's Buffet
September 18: Free Veteran's Breakfast Buffet
September 20: Texas Peat Upstairs Hall 1900-2300
September 27: American Legion Riders Chapter 77 Bike Night
September 28: Barnard Bingo

New American Legion National Commander

The American Legion installed it's new National Commander, Dan K. Wiley, on August 28th in Tampa, Florida during the 106th American Legion National Convention.



Honor Guard Leads Parade

The Henderson County Honor Guard led the annual Apple Festival Parade on Monday, September 1st.



Bingo Open to
Public
\$30 to Play
Starts 7pm

AMERICAN
LEGION
POST 77 BINGO

\$2500
IN GIVEAWAYS

HENDERSONVILLE
\$
WEDNESDAYS
\$
DOORS OPEN 5PM

American Legion
Post 77 *Hubert M. Smith*

NEWS SUMMARY

American Legion
Post 77 Hubert M. Smith



HONOR GUARD

AMERICAN LEGION POST 77

828-693-3922

Patriot Day: Honoring Resilience and Community in Western North Carolina

By Grok3

Every September 11th, Americans pause to observe Patriot Day, a solemn occasion dedicated to remembering the lives lost and the heroism displayed during the tragic events of 2001. It's a day that unites us in reflection, gratitude, and a renewed commitment to community and service. In Western North Carolina (WNC), Patriot Day 2025 carries an added layer of significance as the region continues to recover from the devastating impact of Hurricane Helene in 2024. Amid this rebuilding, American Legion Post 77 in Hendersonville, NC, stands as a beacon of fellowship, offering a space for celebration, support, and unity.

The Meaning of Patriot Day

Patriot Day is more than a memorial; it's a call to embody the values of courage, sacrifice, and togetherness that defined the response to 9/11. Across the nation, communities gather for moments of silence, flag ceremonies, and acts of service, honoring the nearly 3,000 lives lost and the first responders who risked everything. In WNC, where resilience is a way of life, this day resonates deeply as residents reflect on both national tragedies and local challenges, finding strength in shared purpose.



American Legion
Post 77
Canteen
Hendersonville, NC

ncwildlife.gov

visit to learn more on hunting & Fishing NC

Hurricane Helene and WNC's Road to Recovery

In late September 2024, Hurricane Helene swept through WNC, leaving a trail of destruction. Flooding and landslides claimed over 160 lives, displaced thousands, and damaged critical infrastructure, with Henderson County among the hardest hit. Homes, businesses, and roads were washed away, and power outages affected over a million people. Yet, the spirit of WNC shone through. Volunteers, local organizations, and veterans' groups rallied to provide food, water, and shelter. By April 2025, recovery efforts have made significant strides:

- **Infrastructure Restoration:** Power has been restored to over 600,000 customers, with 77% of Hendersonville's internet services back online.
- **Community Support:** Disaster Recovery Centers, like the one at 2111 Asheville Highway in Hendersonville, have assisted over 20,000 residents with FEMA applications and Small Business Administration relief. American Legion Post 77 was a critical supply hub for many Hendersonville Community members. Please support American Legion Emergency Fund.

<https://www.legion.org/get-involved/community-programs/national-emergency-fund>

- **Economic Recovery:** Initiatives like the LoveHendo Business Recovery Fund are helping local businesses rebuild, ensuring the economic heartbeat of Henderson County continues. This resilience mirrors the unity seen on 9/11, as neighbors support neighbors, proving that adversity strengthens community bonds.

American Legion Post 77: A Hub for Healing and Celebration

Located at **216 4TH AVE W, HENDERSONVILLE, NC**, American Legion Post 77 (legion77.org) is more than a veterans' organization—it's a cornerstone of community life. Founded on the principles of service, patriotism, and mutual support, Post 77 has been a vital resource during Helene's aftermath, contributing to relief efforts and offering a space for connection. As WNC rebuilds, Post 77 Canteen is an ideal venue for Patriot Day gatherings, fostering fellowship and hope.

Moving Forward Together

As WNC continues to heal, **Patriot Day 2025** offers a chance to reflect on the past while looking to the future. American Legion Post 77 honors the sacrifices of 9/11 and the strength of a community rebuilding after disaster. Places like Post 77, we reaffirm that no challenge—be it a national tragedy or a natural disaster—can break the American spirit of togetherness.

Let's mark Patriot Day not just with remembrance, but with action: support local recovery efforts, join the Legion family, or simply share a meal at Post 77's canteen. Together, we can honor the past and build a stronger future for WNC.

Works Cited

- "Live Updates: Hurricane Helene Recovery Continues." Blue Ridge Public Radio, 25 Nov. 2024, www.bpr.org.
- "Legion Family Leading Relief Efforts in Aftermath of Hurricane Helene." The American Legion, 1 Oct. 2024, www.legion.org.
- "Rescue, Relief and Recovery Operations Continue in Western North Carolina." NC Governor, 30 Sept. 2024, governor.nc.gov.
- "Helene Business Recovery Resources & Updates." City of Hendersonville, NC, 31 Oct. 2024, www.hendersonvillenc.gov.
- American Legion Post 77, legion77.org. Accessed 13 Apr. 2025.



216 4th Ave W
Hendersonville, NC 28739

American Legion
Post 77

Canteen

Hendersonville, NC

CANTEEN OPEN DAILY

Kitchen: Breakfast- Lunch- Dinner: Monday through Saturday
Daily Specials

Limited Food Options: Sundays

LUNCH & DINNER

Served Monday-Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Dinner Served Monday-Thursday & Saturday 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

APPETIZERS

Pork Rinds.....	\$7.00
House Wings (8) w/ Celery & Blue Cheese.....	\$15.00
Chicken Tenders Basket w/ 1 Side.....	\$11.00
Basket of Fries.....	\$8.00
Basket of Tater Tots.....	\$8.00
Basket of Seasoned Fries.....	\$8.00
Basket of Fried Mushrooms.....	\$9.00
Basket of Corn Nuggets.....	\$9.00
Basket of Onion Rings.....	\$9.00
Basket of Fried Okra.....	\$9.00
Cheese Quesadilla...\$8.50...Add Chicken.....	\$3.50
Jalapeno Poppers (6).....	\$8.50

HOMEMADE SOUPS DAILY

SALADS

House Salad	\$10.50
(Iceberg Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumbers, Shredded Cheddar Cheese & Red Onion)	
Chef Salad	\$13.00
(Mixed Greens, Hard Boiled Egg, Ham, Turkey, Tomato, Cucumbers, Shredded Cheddar Cheese, Shredded Carrots, Peppers & Red Onion)	

Lunch	
Friday	
SANDWICHES (Served with Choice of 1 Side)	
Bread Choices:	
White, Wheat, Rye, Sourdough	
Side Items: Fries, Seasoned Fries, Tater Tots, Fried Okra, Cup of Soup, Veggie of the Day, Cole Slaw, Cottage Cheese	
Patty Melt	\$12.00
(Hot Patty on Rye Bread with Swiss, Grilled Onion)	
Legion Club	\$11.50
(Egg, Turkey, Bacon, American Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato & Mayo)	
Good ol' BLT	\$9.00
(Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato & Mayo)	
Grilled Cheese	\$7.50
(Choice of American, Swiss, Cheddar or Provolone)	
Grilled Ham & Cheese	\$9.50
(Choice of American, Swiss, Cheddar or Provolone)	
Grilled or Fried Chicken	\$11.00
(Lettuce, Tomato, Red Onion, Mayo)	
Philly Cheesesteak or Chicken Cheesesteak	\$13.50
(Grilled Onions, Peppers & Provolone Cheese on a Toasted Hoagie Roll)	
Tuna Salad	\$9.50
(Homemade Tuna Salad, Lettuce, Tomato & Mayo)	
Tuna Melt	\$9.50
(Homemade Tuna Salad on Grilled Wheat w/ Swiss Cheese)	
Legion Dawg	\$9.00
(Mustard, Onion, Chili & Slaw)	
Catfish Hoagie	\$13.50
(Fried Catfish, American Cheese, Tartar, Lettuce & Tomato)	

DRINKS

Juice...\$1.05...Lg...\$2.20 - Soda...\$1.50 - Can Soda...\$1.50
Sweet Tea, Unsweet Tea & 1/2 & 1/2...\$1.50 - Coffee...\$1.75 cents...Lg...\$1.50 - Hot Tea...\$1.75 cents...Lg...\$1.50

BURGERS

100% ALL BEEF PATTY

(Served on a Bun with Choice of 1 Side)
Side Items: Fries, Seasoned Fries, Tater Tots, Fried Okra, Cup of Soup, Veggie of the Day, Cole Slaw, Cottage Cheese

Hamburger	\$12.00
(Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Sliced Dill Pickle, Mayo, Ketchup & Mustard)	
Cheesburger	\$13.00
(Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Sliced Dill Pickle, Mayo, Ketchup & Mashed Choice of American, Swiss, Cheddar or Provolone)	
Bacon Cheesburger	\$14.00
(Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Sliced Dill Pickle, Mayo, Ketchup & Mashed Choice of American, Swiss, Cheddar or Provolone)	
Chili Cheesburger	\$13.00
(Chili, Choice of American, Swiss, Cheddar or Provolone)	

EXTRAS

Any "Side Item".....	\$4.00
Any Premium Side.....	\$4.50
-Corn Nuggets, Fried Mushrooms, Onion Rings, Macaroni Salad, Potato Salad, Side Salad	

EXTRA TOPPINGS and DRESSINGS

Brown Gravy.....	\$1.50
Cheese.....	\$1.00
(American, Swiss, White Cheddar, or Provolone)	
Grilled Onions, Peppers, or Mushrooms, or	
Tomatoes.....	\$1.00
Salad Dressing.....	\$1.50
Bacon (3 Strips).....	\$2.50

ENTREES

(Served with Choice of 2 Sides)

Side Items: Fries, Seasoned Fries, Tater Tots, Fried Okra, Cup of Soup, Veggie of the Day, Cole Slaw, Cottage Cheese

Hamburger Steak	\$17.00
(Grilled 1lb., 100% All Beef Patty, Grilled Onions & Brown Gravy)	

1 lb. Ribeye	\$21.50
(Seasoned and Grilled to Taste)	

2 Piece Grilled or Fried Chicken Breasts	\$14.00
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Fried Catfish	\$15.00
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WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIALS

Served 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Wings (Served in Groups of 8).....
\$12.50
Choice of Sauces: Buffalo, Mild Buffalo, Teriyaki, Hot Teriyaki, BBQ, Honey BBQ, Garlic Parmesan, Honey Garlic

Dry Rub Chicken: Ranch, Cajun, Cilantro Lime, Lemon Pepper

FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIALS

Served 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
(Served with Choice of 2 Sides & Solid Bar)

1 lb. Prime Rib	\$27.00
(Slow Cooked served with Au Jus Sauce)	

1 lb. Ribeye	\$27.00
(Seasoned and Grilled to Taste)	

Salad Bar only	\$9.50
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Add Salad Bar to any Dinner Item	\$ 5.50
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20% Gratuity will be added to parties of 6 or more

*Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness.

*Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness.

828-693-3922

Honoring the Brave on National POW/MIA Recognition Day: Remembering Wayne Carringer

Each year, on the third Friday of September, the United States pauses to observe National POW/MIA Recognition Day—a solemn occasion dedicated to honoring the sacrifices of prisoners of war (POWs) and those still missing in action (MIA). This day serves as a reminder of the courage, resilience, and unyielding spirit of service members who endured unimaginable hardships or never returned home. In 2025, as we reflect on their legacy, we also pay tribute to a remarkable local hero from American Legion Post 77, Wayne Carringer, a World War II POW and survivor of the infamous Bataan Death March.

The Significance of National POW/MIA Recognition Day

Established to honor those who suffered captivity or remain unaccounted for, National POW/MIA Recognition Day is rooted in the nation's commitment to never forget its heroes. The observance, officially recognized since 1979, is particularly tied to the Vietnam War era, when the POW/MIA flag became a powerful symbol of hope and remembrance. However, it extends to all conflicts, including World War II, where thousands of Americans faced brutal conditions as POWs. Ceremonies across the country, from wreath-layings to vigils, underscore the promise to account for the missing and support veterans and their families.

Wayne Carringer: A Life of Valor

Among those we honor is Wayne Carringer, a proud member of American Legion Post 77 in North Carolina, who passed away after a life marked by extraordinary bravery. Born in 1921, Carringer enlisted in the U.S. Army at just 17, lying about his age to serve his country. By 1939, he was stationed in the Philippines, a decision that would place him at the heart of one of World War II's most grueling episodes. When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and invaded the Philippines shortly after, Carringer found himself on the Bataan Peninsula. Outgunned and undersupplied, American and Filipino forces held out for three months against relentless Japanese assaults. On April 9, 1942, Bataan fell, and Carringer became one of approximately 76,000 POWs forced into the Bataan Death March—a 65-mile trek under scorching heat, marked by starvation, disease, and brutal treatment. Thousands perished, but Carringer's determination carried him through.

Surviving the march, he endured a year at Camp O'Donnell, which he later described as a "death factory" due to its horrific conditions. Malnutrition, dysentery, and abuse claimed countless lives, yet Carringer persevered, later transferred to other camps until his liberation in 1945. His survival was a testament to his strength and will to live, qualities that defined his postwar life.

Back home, Carringer settled in North Carolina, becoming a dedicated member of Post 77. He shared his story sparingly but powerfully, ensuring the sacrifices of his comrades were not forgotten. In 2017, on the 75th anniversary of the Bataan Death March, the Charles George VA Medical Center in Asheville honored him with a ceremony, recognizing his service and the prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine award from the state. Though he has since passed, his legacy endures within the Post 77 community and beyond.

Wayne Passed away

01 July 2018

98 years young

*"We've got the greatest Country
in the world, and we got to keep
it."*

-Wayne Carringer



A Call to Remember

National POW/MIA Recognition Day urges us to reflect on the cost of freedom. For every Wayne Carringer who returned, thousands did not. Over 80,000 service members from World War II alone remain unaccounted for, their fates unresolved. Organizations like the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency work tirelessly to bring closure, while veterans' groups, including the American Legion, keep their memory alive through advocacy and storytelling.

As we honor these heroes, let us recommit to their motto: "You Are Not Forgotten." Whether through attending a local ceremony, supporting veterans' organizations, or simply sharing stories like Carringer's, we ensure their sacrifices endure. For Post 77, Wayne Carringer remains a beacon of resilience—a reminder of the strength found in service and survival.

Works Cited

- "Bataan Death March Veteran Survivor Honored." VAntage Point, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 6 Apr. 2017, www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/36431/bataan-death-march-veteransurvivor-honored/.[](<https://news.va.gov/36836/bataan-deathmarch-veteran-survivor-honored/>)
- "National POW/MIA Recognition Day." Defense.gov, U.S. Department of Defense, 21 Feb. 2025, www.defense.gov/Spotlights/National-POW-MIA-Recognition-Day/.[](<https://www.defense.gov/Spotlights/National-Pow-Mia-Recognition-Day/>)
- "Bataan Death March." Britannica, 1 Apr. 2025, www.britannica.com/event/Bataan-Death-March.[](<https://www.britannica.com/event/Bataan-Death-March>)
- Norman, Elizabeth M., and Michael Norman. Tears in the Darkness: The Story of the Bataan Death March and Its Aftermath. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009.





★ THANK YOU ★
VETERANS

Message from: Squadron 77/Detachment NC

SONS OF THE

AMERICAN
LEGION

American Legion Post 77 Newsletter Honoring the U.S. Air Force's 78th Birthday

*Bonus photos Legion77 Family:
USAF Family #AirPower

By Grok3

18 September 2025

Happy 78th Birthday to the U.S. Air Force from Legion77.org!

On September 18, 2025, the United States Air Force celebrates 78 years of soaring to new heights, defending our nation, and securing our skies, space, and cyberspace. American Legion Post 77 proudly salutes the Airmen who embody the motto "Aim High... Fly, Fight, Win." Join us in reflecting on the Air Force's storied history, its recent expansion with the U.S. Space Force, and its unwavering commitment to excellence.

A Brief History of the U.S. Air Force

The Air Force's origins date back to 1907, when the U.S. Army Signal Corps formed an Aeronautical Division to explore military aviation, just four years after the Wright Brothers' first flight. This evolved into the Army Air Forces during World War II, which played a critical role in global conflicts. On September 18, 1947, the National Security Act, signed by President Harry S. Truman, established the Air Force as an independent branch. Stuart Symington became the first Secretary of the Air Force, and General Carl A. Spaatz was appointed the first Chief of Staff.

Since its founding, the Air Force has been a cornerstone of national defense, providing air superiority, global strike capabilities, rapid mobility, and advanced intelligence. From the Cold War to modern operations, Airmen have driven innovation and protected freedom worldwide.



P77 Assistant Adjutant Scruggs
USAF Veteran



Major Bert Ogus, USAF Pilot (RIP)
Laid to rest Arlington National Cemetery
Father SAL Squadron 77 member Mike Ogus



Sherman Hemsley - USAF Veteran (RIP)
Andrew Clark
- USAF Veteran
- Post 77 Legislative Dir



822nd SFS

The U.S. Space Force: Extending the Air Force Legacy

The Air Force's mission has expanded into the stars with the U.S. Space Force, established on December 20, 2019, under the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act. As the sixth branch of the U.S. Armed Forces, the Space Force operates within the Department of the Air Force, building on its predecessor's expertise.

The Space Force consolidated 23 Air Force units to focus on space operations, with General John W. "Jay" Raymond as its first Chief of Space Operations, followed by General B. Chance Saltzman in 2022. It safeguards critical systems like satellites, GPS, and communications, ensuring U.S. dominance in space. In 2024, the Space Force marked its fifth anniversary, and by 2025, it continues to grow, addressing emerging threats in this vital domain.

Celebrating 78 Years of Service

In 2025, the Air Force faces challenges like aircraft readiness concerns and budget constraints, yet it continues to innovate with projects like the sixth-generation fighter jet. Events at bases like Vandenberg Space Force Base highlight the Air Force's enduring spirit, with community celebrations honoring Airmen's sacrifices. The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and American Gold Star Mothers join us in recognizing 78 years of excellence.

American Legion Post 77 extends our deepest gratitude to all Airmen, past and present, for their service. Your dedication strengthens our nation and inspires our community.

Happy 78th Birthday, U.S. Air Force, from Legion77.org! Fly High!
Join Us in Honoring Our Airmen

American Legion Post 77 invites you to share stories of Air Force veterans or active-duty members in our community. Contact us at info@legion77.org to feature their service in our newsletter. Together, let's support our veterans and their families through fellowship and advocacy.

Works Cited

- "Happy 77th Birthday to the United States Air Force." Council on Foreign Relations, 18 Sept. 2024, www.cfr.org.
- "Happy Birthday to the U.S. Space Force!" Council on Foreign Relations, 20 Dec. 2024, www.cfr.org.
- "VFW Wishes the US Air Force a Happy 77th Birthday." Veterans of Foreign Wars, 18 Sept. 2024, www.vfw.org.
- "Happy Birthday US Air Force!" American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., 17 Sept. 2024, www.americangoldstarmothers.org.
- "U.S. Air Force's 77th Birthday Celebration at VSBFB." Vandenberg Space Force Base, 19 Sept. 2024, www.vandenberg.spaceforce.mil.
- "United States Space Force." Wikipedia, 11 Apr. 2025, en.wikipedia.org.
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- "Air Force Aircraft Readiness Plunges to New Low, Alarming Chief." Defense News, 6 Mar. 2025, www.defensenews.com.
- Post by @aliciaparr, 21 Apr. 2025, X, www.x.com.



CIA's 78th Birthday: Honoring a Legacy of Intelligence and Service

By Grok3

On September 18, 2025, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) will celebrate its 78th anniversary, marking nearly eight decades of unwavering commitment to U.S. national security. Founded in 1947 through the National Security Act under President Harry S. Truman, the CIA has been a cornerstone of the nation's defense, adapting to global challenges from the Cold War to modern threats like cyber warfare and terrorism. For this Post 77, we extend a warm "Happy 78th Birthday" to the Agency, recognizing its vital role in safeguarding the nation.

The CIA's origins trace back to the need for a unified intelligence organization post-World War II, succeeding the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). Headquartered in Langley, Virginia, at the George Bush Center for Intelligence, the Agency operates under the Director of National Intelligence, with John Ratcliffe as its current Director, confirmed in January 2025. Its mission—to collect, analyze, and disseminate foreign intelligence—remains as critical today as ever, with a workforce known for its diversity and dedication.

This milestone honors the CIA's unsung heroes, including the 137 stars on the Memorial Wall, each representing an agent who made the ultimate sacrifice. Their courage and the Agency's ongoing efforts to innovate in a complex world inspire us all. As we celebrate 78 years, we salute the CIA's legacy and its future in protecting freedom.

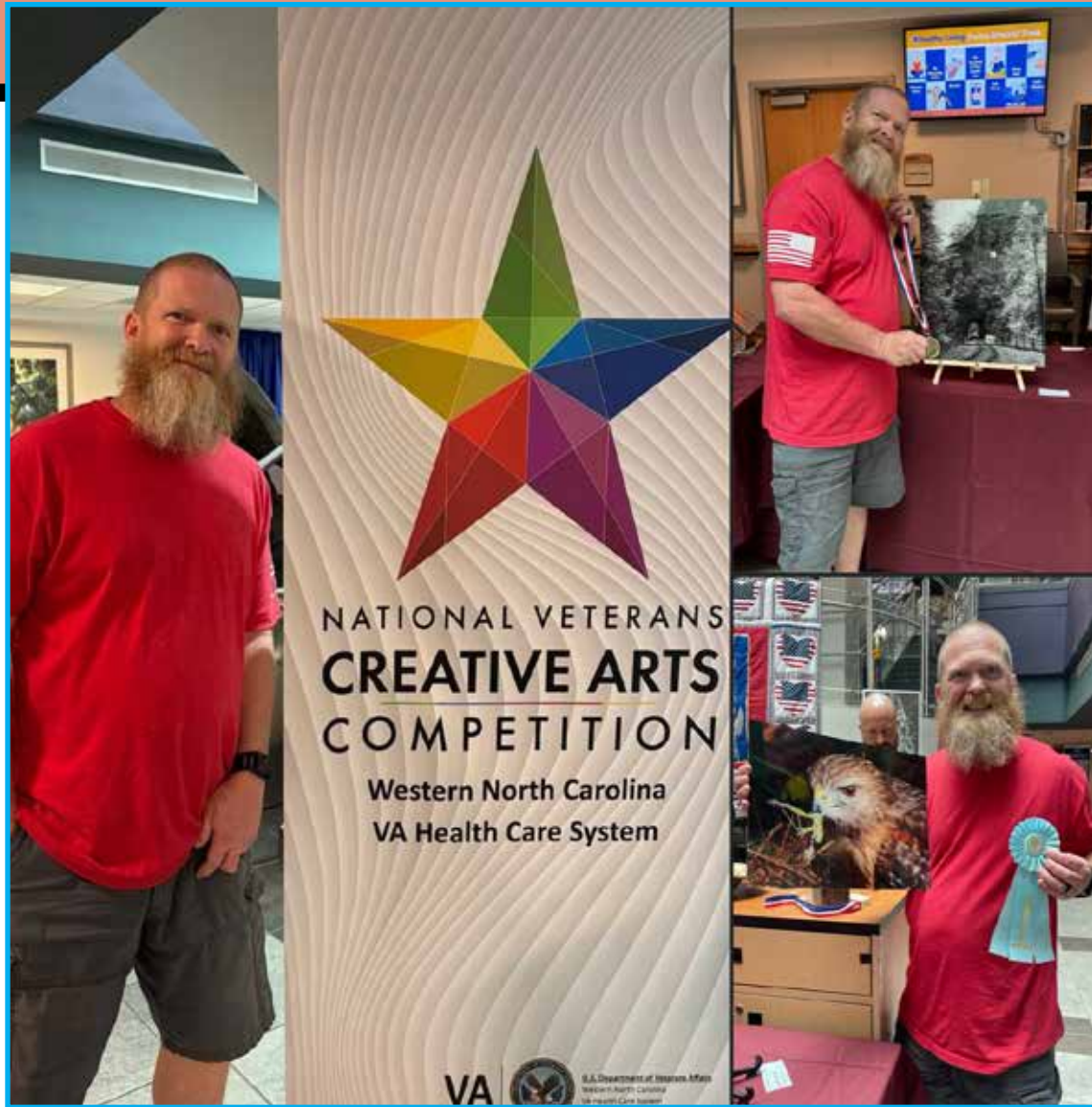
Happy 78th Birthday, CIA!

Works Cited

"Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) | History, Organization, Responsibilities, Activities, & Criticism." Britannica, 10 Apr. 2025, www.britannica.com/topic/Central-Intelligence-Agency.
"History of the Central Intelligence Agency." Wikipedia, 18 Feb. 2025, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Central_Intelligence_Agency.
"We Are the Nation's First Line of Defense." CIA, 28 May 2023, www.cia.gov/about/.

Greg Wins 1st (2nd consecutive year) @WNC_VA Regional Round

2025





The American Legion National Headquarters

6d · 🌐

...

"(This year) The Legion Family was in action not because of obligation. Not because of a desire. It was because of compassion and heart. They were here for their brothers and sisters. They were there for their neighbors."

National Commander James LaCoursiere Jr. has high praise for the [#LegionFamily](#) during his [#ALCon25](#) address.

Read more: <https://www.legion.org/.../a-heartfelt-thank-you-from-the...>

[#USA250Challenge](#) [#BeTheOne](#)



The American Legion National Headquarters

5d · 🌐

PARK

"It's both our opportunity, our challenge and our responsibility to carry that oath that every one of us took, that we swore when we enlisted in the military, to continue that mission for as long as we live."

Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard urges Legionnaires to continue service during [#ALCon25](#) remarks. <https://www.legion.org/.../us-intelligence-head-thanks...> via Office of the Director of National Intelligence



Tampa
Convention Cent



The American Legion National Headquarters

5d · 🌐

...

"I am firmly convinced that if we as a society and we as a government, do not care, then the rest of the world will not give a damn about us. Everywhere you go, you've got to take the accountability for each other because if we don't, then we'll continue to lose them."

VA Secretary Doug Collins called for veterans to join the fight to prevent suicide, provided updates to claims backlog and hit on other high-profile issues during his remarks to [#ALCon25](#). More from his address: <https://www.legion.org/.../august/a-challenge-to-be-the-one>. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs [#BeTheOne](#) [#BuddyChecks](#) [#SuicidePrevention](#) [#MentalHealth](#)



Bayshore Blvd

E Davis Bl



The American Legion National Headquarters

5d · 🌐

Your 2025-2026 American [#LegionFamily](#) leadership team: [Sons of The American Legion](#) National Commander William "Bill" Clancy III, American Legion National Commander Dan Wiley and [American Legion Auxiliary National President](#) Pam Ray. [American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters](#)



The American Legion National Headquarters

3d · 🌐

American Legion National Legislative Commission Chairman Matthew Shuman wanted to do something a little different with the commission's national convention meeting for 2025. To build on a year of successes based in good part on [#LegionFamily](#) members' personal advocacy on Capitol Hill, he decided to use the gathering of commission members and guests to refine and popularize that process and "prepare them to have a really positive meeting with their representative."

More from the Legislative Commission's [#ALCon25](#) meeting:
<https://www.legion.org/.../practice-makes-perfect-on...>



NC Dept
Cmdr Durham
National Convention





Beth Whitaker
 Admin Top contributor · August 7 at 9:53 PM · 🌐

Post 77 American Legion Family and DAV donated \$2750.00 to my President's Project tonight **Canines for Service**. I am blessed with a great Legion Family.



American Legion National Commander

ABOUT

An Air Force veteran, Wiley is a retired state district court judge who raises cattle in Leavenworth, Kan. Following his Air Force service, Wiley obtained a bachelor's degree in business at the College of Great Falls in Montana. He returned to his hometown of Lawrence, Kan., and earned a law degree at the University of Kansas.

Wiley has held many leadership positions at The American Legion post, department (state) and national levels. He is a paid-up-for-life member of Byron H. Mehl American Legion Post 23 in Leavenworth and is a past department commander of Kansas. He also represented the state as a member of The American Legion's National Executive Committee.

Appointed by the Kansas governor as a district court judge in 2008, Wiley helped establish and preside over the Leavenworth County Veterans Treatment Court. He has been active in his community and is a past president of the Leavenworth / Lansing Chamber of Commerce, a past chairman of the Leavenworth County Veterans Day Parade Committee and a former member of the Unified School District 453 School Board.

As national commander, Wiley is a strong advocate for The American Legion's **Be the One** mission to prevent veteran suicide. He emphasizes inclusivity in the American Legion Family through the theme, Better Together!

Wiley and his wife, Sonia, have two children, Austin and Christy, and one grandson.



USAF VETERAN

Greg's Photos:





Give Kids The World Village:

ISAIAH RETURNS



Give Kids the World Village Attractions:

Greg' son experienced
his make a wish trip
back in 2009. Alum-
ni are allowed to visit
annually. Bias' recent
visit Aug2025

*Greg Bias is Post 77
photojournalist, OIF
Veteran, son born with
heart issues. now 3rd
year college!











Credits:
Co-Editor: Ash
Co-Editor: Andrew
Photography: Greg
Contributor: Bob
Bar Manager: Amanda

[x.com](#) (Grok 3)
Google (Gemini)
vavs+ (content licenses)
Adobe (Generative ai)

Contact Public Relations Committee:

Post77PublicRelations@gmail.com

General inquiry:

info@legion77.org

Canteen Bar Manager:

alfvbarmanager@gmail.com



828-693-3922



Hurbert M Smith American Legion Post 77
Hendersonville, NC

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