



# The Howler

Cary American Legion Post 67, (June 2023)



## Commander's Corner:

Welcome to the June 2023 edition of The Howler.

The General Meeting will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June at the Post Home. We will be serving Lasagna from Salvio's, salad, bread and cake for dinner. The dinner will cost \$8.00/person. The dinner will start at 6:00pm and the meeting will start at 7:00pm. Please join us for fellowship with your fellow Legionnaires.

The Officer's for the next fiscal year, 2023-2024, will be installed at the General Meeting. Thanks to all the Legionnaires that volunteered to take on this important role for our Post. Please come and watch your new Post Officers be installed by Past Department Commander and Past Post 67 Commander Frank Stancil.

The Finance Committee has created a Budget for the next fiscal year and the PEC has voted to approve that budget. Thank you to the members of the Finance Committee and the PEC for working to get this budget created and passed. A special thank you to

Elizabeth Russell, our Finance Officer and Finance Committee Chairperson, on the tireless work she has accomplished to get our accounting system moved to the new accounting software.

I want to thank everyone that attended and volunteered to work on the Memorial Day Program at Hillcrest Cemetery last month. I believe it was a huge success. We hosted several government officials at the event. Attendees included Duggy Johnson, Wake County VSO, Don Frantz, Cary Council District B Representative & Mayor Pro Tem, TJ Cawley, Morrisville Mayor, Harold Weibrect, Cary Mayor, Ya Liu, NC House District 21 Representative, Maria Cervania, NC House District 41 Representative, and Wiley Nickel US Congressman. The keynote speaker was Paul Berry, USMC Command Sergeant Major (Retired). Ken George played Taps for the event. We also paid our respects and thank you to the 13 Veterans buried in the Cary First Christian Church Cemetery. There are 135 Veterans buried in Hillcrest Cemetery,

We will start planning for Lazy Days soon. Parking at the Post Home for Lazy Days is our largest fundraiser of the year. We will need quite a few volunteers for this event. This event occurs on 26 & 27 August. More to come.

A special thank you to Frank Stancil for mowing the Post Home grass. I also thank Bruce and Jill Dale for pruning our bushes. The Post Home looks great. We will need to perform some clean up of the inside of the Post Home soon. Painting and a deep cleaning is in order.

Flag Day is June 14<sup>th</sup>. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day.

June 14 is also the Birthday of the U.S. Army. Congress adopted “the American Continental Army” in 1775.

Thank you for letting me be your Commander!

Dennis

## Adjutants Call

June 2023

**Membership:** The post membership renewal started off with a fast start, then slowed to a trickle and then almost stopped. As of May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Post 67 is sitting at 89.76%. Our goal as set by the Department is 254. Currently 228 have renewed their memberships or were new members or transfers. This leaves us with 26 legionaries that have not renewed their membership.

I would hate to see these Legionaries be dropped from the rolls just because they forgot to send it in.

There is still time, you can renew online at myLegion.org or mail your dues of \$45.00 payable to.

Cary American Legion Post 67

PO Box 67

Cary, North Carolina 27512

For those who renewed their membership, thank you. The year 2024 membership drive will start sometime in August or September from the National Headquarters.

Our new First Vice Commander Wayne Leazer will be taking over some of the duties of Membership for the post.

Your Adjutant

Richard Spyrison



## AMERICANISM

From the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander, David Christiansen:

The Cary High School NJROTC Change of Command/Spring Awards Ceremony occurred on 17 May 2023 at the football stadium. This NJROTC Unit has accomplished the following:

- *Area Six Champions:* 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010

- *North Carolina State Champions:* 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2012
- Navy Distinguished Unit: 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.
- Five Graduating cadets are joining the military, while ten cadets will be attending a university or community college- many with ROTC programs.

On June 1, 2023 Bass Pro Shops (National) has notified the Post 67 Americanism Chairman that an application for a grant/support benefiting the Cary HS NJROTC shooting program (air rifles) is under review.

## **VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION**

From the Post Service Officer, Gene Meyle:

The Summary of Veterans Benefits can be found at this link:

[Summary of VA Benefits](#)

#VetResources is a weekly newsletter for Veterans, their Families, Caregivers, and Survivors.

[Buy a Home, No Money Down | 10% Off YETI | Discounts on Summer Gear \(govdelivery.com\)](#)



## **2023 Poppy Report**

On Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Legion Auxiliary Unit 67 held their annual Poppy Day distribution at Bass Pro Shops. Even with all the rain and running out of poppies the event turned out to be very successful.

So far to date we have collected \$1473.74, and we are expecting more funds to come in.

Thank you to all our volunteers for braving the storm. I especially want to thank all the Legionaries who assisted us. Their presence contributed to our success.

Jo Spyrison, Poppy Chairman

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

From the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander, Curtis Leary:

### **Cary Veterans Coffee July**

The Veterans Bridge Home will sponsor a Veteran Coffee on July 18 beginning at 8:30 am to 10:00 am at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse, 5707 Dillard Dr. These Veteran Coffee events will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every other month, July

18 & September 19. Starbucks Coffee and Panera bagels will be provided. Join us for Camaraderie, Resource information and a little fun. You do not have to register to attend this event.

## AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL

### “BE THE ONE” CAMPAIGN

The American Legion has activated a national platform to reduce the rate of veteran suicide. The Be the One campaign will:

- Destigmatize asking for mental health support, creating opportunity for those with mental health issues to speak freely and get the support they need.
- Provide peer-to-peer support and resources in local communities.
- Deploy FDA-approved therapeutics for veterans to identify issues and find resources for support.

The American Legion encourages you to Be the One to:

- Ask veterans in your life how they are doing.
- Listen when a veteran needs to talk.
- Reach out when a veteran is struggling

For more information, please visit <https://www.legion.org/betheone/about>

## INFORMATION FOR NEW POST MEMBERS

To all new Post 67 members, thank you for joining. We encourage you to purchase Legion hats and shirts from Emblem Sales so when we are at Legion meetings or taking part in a community activity, you will be in uniform. For Color Guard, Rifle Detail, funerals, and other more formal activities, the uniform will be your Legion hat, gray pants, white shirt, and blue jacket with tie, black shoes, and socks. At other times the Legion hat, a polo or golf type shirt with the Legion emblem is usually worn by most Legionnaires. This may be called Business Casual dress. **Emblem Sales:** <https://www.legion.org/promos/230360/sh-op-online> If you need help, contact a PEC member.

### POST 67 MEETINGS

We hold the monthly meeting the second Tuesday of each month starting at 7:00 pm at the Post. Usually, we have dinner at 6:00 pm before the monthly meeting.

The Post Executive Committee (PEC) meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Post Home. We encourage members to come and speak of any concerns or recommendations concerning Post business at that time.

We may need to hold Post meetings using virtual meet from time to time, due to the viruses and guidelines, so be on the lookout for announcements via email. If you need assistance in setting up your computer

or tablet for Zoom meetings, please contact a PEC member.

## **POST 67 HOME INFORMATION**

8523 Chapel Hill Rd., Cary, NC 27513

Post Home Phone: 919-481-4811

Post Home Web & Facebook Page:

<https://www.alncpost67.org> Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/alncpost67.org>

### **Veterans Bridge Home Event**

Richard Childress has invited the Veterans Bridge Home team to join the Richard Childress Racing (RCR) team in hosting the monthly Veterans Coffee events at RCR!! This is a great opportunity for us to gather for coffee & donuts, spend time together with fellow Veterans, family members and Veteran supporters and learn about benefits we earned while serving our country. As always, there will be occasional recognition events, special entertainment and a surprise or two along the way.

THIS Wednesday morning, June 14, at RCR, beginning at 9:00 am. Join us for our Veterans Coffee reboot at Richard Childress Racing, RCR Headquarters building 425 Industrial Dr., Welcome, NC 27295 (Follow the "Veteran Event" signs).

Veterans Bridge Home will be there to host, along with the Richard Childress Racing, a very special Veterans Coffee event. Just like we started over 9 years ago, we will have coffee, donuts and a good time together. The RCR team will be unveiling Austin Dillon's #3 "Dow Salutes Veterans" car that will racing at Atlanta Motor Speedway

on July 9. We will also be recognizing the 248<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States Army. Our guest speaker will be (the always interesting and informative) Brigadier General James Gorham, retired, NC National Guard! Our singing and dancing friend, Erin Dearth, will be with us just off of from the Letters From Home 50 state tour. You do not have to register to attend this event.

RCR Vets Coffee 2023 schedule: June 14, NO RCR EVENT IN JULY, August 9 (Special Guest, US Army Retired, John Melton, Executive Director Salisbury VA Health Care System), September 13, October 11, November 8, December 13.

### **HISTORY WITH JOSH**

Josh Quackenbush, SAL member, has volunteered to provide us with a brief article on military history each month. This month Josh has chosen to write about his grandfather, Delmer F Quackenbush.

Shortly after my wife and I moved to Cary my neighbor asked me if I had a relative who served on the USS North Carolina. I was surprised to find out that my Grandfather Delmer F Quackenbush had and that his name was among those found on its officer's plaque. During my Grandfather's long naval career he served on many ships and at our nation's capital. All the years I knew him, he kept silent about his

service during WWII. All I knew is what my father told me, that he had survived the bombing of Pearl Harbor and that he never talked about it.

I cherish the memories that I do have of my Grandfather who lived in Anaheim, California not far from the original Disneyland. His discipline and devotion to duty always made a strong impression on me. I remember when recycling first became a thing back in the 70's, he was among the first to jump on board. He played the trumpet and was a member of the Anaheim Symphonic Orchestra and other prestigious bands. He later directed his own dance band called Del and His Pals. They played for social and civic events and even came out to Joshua Tree where I lived to perform for a large crowd. I remember another time when he came to visit our family in Lake Tahoe. He was in his 70's and I was absolutely amazed to see him bravely dive off a pier into the cold lake.

After my Grandfather died I inherited his naval officer's sword that has his name engraved on it. This was kind of a big deal considering he had a large family of ten children and 22 grandchildren. Later I recovered the archival documents showing that he had served on board the USS Sumner,

not far from Battleship Row. He wrote the after action report for the USS Sumner on December 7, 1941. One of his crew mates had shot down a Japanese zero that attempted a torpedo attack on the USS California which was the southernmost ship along Battleship Row.

In 2009, I realized the number of World War II veterans were dwindling quickly and a strong sense of urgency propelled me to travel throughout the United States to collect the oral histories of those who served for posterity. In the comfort of their homes, the veterans spoke candidly, opening their lives and sharing their fears. With amazement, I heard their experiences of facing elite German units, escaping from blown out tanks, surviving sinking ships, parachuting out of burning planes, and being captured and sent to POW camps. Those who fought on the front lines fostered within me a deeper understanding of the extreme efforts it took to free the world of Nazism. To mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of some of the major campaigns fought in WWII, I will be posting some of the interviews I conducted with veterans.



**IN MEMORY OF  
DELMER F. QUACKENBUSH, JR.**

Above: Delmer F. Quackenbush, Jr.'s Naval Officer Sword. Right top: Delmer F. Quackenbush Jr. Right bottom: The Quackenbush family in Hawaii.



## CARY AMERICAN LEGION POST 67 OFFICERS 2023-2024

POSITION	NAME	PHONE#	EMAIL
Commander	Dennis Tackett	703-340-9941	<a href="mailto:commander.alncpost67@gmail.com">commander.alncpost67@gmail.com</a>
Adjutant	Richard Spyrison	919-441-8295	<a href="mailto:adjutant.alncpost67@gmail.com">adjutant.alncpost67@gmail.com</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Wayne Leazer	919-319-9062	<a href="mailto:mleazer32@gmail.com">mleazer32@gmail.com</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	David Christiansen	919-650-3848	<a href="mailto:dchristi7@gmail.com">dchristi7@gmail.com</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander	Curtis Leary	919-270-2136	<a href="mailto:gssi36@earthlink.net">gssi36@earthlink.net</a>
Finance Officer	Elizabeth Russell	919-302-2518	<a href="mailto:finance.alncpost67@gmail.com">finance.alncpost67@gmail.com</a>
Service Officer			
Chaplain	Marie Faulkner	919-851-9838	<a href="mailto:calebfaulkner@bellsouth.net">calebfaulkner@bellsouth.net</a>
Judge Advocate	John Ferdinando	919-469-5214	<a href="mailto:anna81mill@yahoo.com">anna81mill@yahoo.com</a>
Sgt-At-Arms	Bruce Dale		<a href="mailto:advracin@hotmail.com">advracin@hotmail.com</a>
Historian	Dennis Tackett	703-340-9941	<a href="mailto:historian.alncpost67@gmail.com">historian.alncpost67@gmail.com</a>
At-Large	Joe Veilleux		<a href="mailto:joeveilleux@gmail.com">joeveilleux@gmail.com</a>
At-Large	Ray Martin	919-630-7052	<a href="mailto:Remldm02@gmail.com">Remldm02@gmail.com</a>

**We still need a Service Officer**





Pizzeria

**Lasagna, Salad, Bread & Cake**

**\$8.00/person**

**June 13, 2023, 6:00PM**

**Dinner &**

**General Meeting**

## Pictures of Memorial Day Program May 29, 2023



Flags set-up for Memorial Day Program



Post 67 Legionnaires talking with Rep. Cervania



Boy Scouts from Troop 213 Posting the Colors



The Pledge of Allegiance. From Left to Right: Cary Mayor Weinbrecht, Cary Council Rep. Frantz, Post 67 CDR Tackett, Morrisville Mayor Cawley, NC House Rep Cervania, NC House Rep Liu



Boy Scouts from Troop 213 Posting the Colors



Post 67 Commander Tackett



NC House Rep. Ya Liu



NC House Rep. Maria Cervania



US Congressman Wiley Nickel

## More Pictures of Memorial Day Program May 29, 2023



Keynote Speaker Paul Berry, USMC  
Command Sergeant Major (Retired)



Memorial Day Program, Rifle Team in the background center.



Post 67 Chaplain Marie Faulkner (center),

Wreaths presented by Sheryll Pope Albert, Governor of the NC  
Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence  
and Carla Michaels, Regent Daughters of the American  
Revolution, Asbury Station Chapter Cary

## Important Dates

**Jun 13, 6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm General Meeting – Installation of Officers**

**Jun 14, Flag Day**

**Jul 4, Independence Day**

**Jul 6, 6:30pm PEC Meeting**

**Jul 11, 6:00pm Dinner, 7:00pm General Meeting**

**Jul 18, 8:30am-10:00am, Veterans' Coffee, BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse**

## **Purpose and Mission of The American Legion**

**As the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, the American Legion is devoted to mutual helpfulness, and is committed to:**

- **mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities,**
- **advocating patriotism and honor,**
- **promoting strong national security,**
- **continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans.**

## Mission

**"To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."**

## **Vision**

**Veterans Strengthening America**

