

LEONARD C. BARNES

POST 450

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Veterans Day in Shreveport: A Week of Honor and Celebration

Shreveport and the surrounding communities came together this November to honor veterans with a series of moving events, tributes, and the annual Louisiana State Fair Veterans Parade. The celebrations reflected the region's enduring gratitude for military service and sacrifice.



Veterans Day Events Across Shreveport

- The Bricks of Honor Ceremony at American Legion Post 14 was held on November 11, where engraved bricks were placed to memorialize veterans. Families and fellow service members gathered to witness the solemn tribute.
- At LSU Shreveport, keynote speaker Russell Mathers, STRIKEWERX director and retired U.S. Air Force officer, addressed the audience with reflections on service and innovation.
- Centenary College's program featured Major General Jason R. Armagost, who spoke at the Hargrove Memorial Amphitheatre, inspiring students and community members alike.
- The Shreve Memorial Library's Freedom Tree lighting ceremony brought together residents for a symbolic act of remembrance, illuminating the tree in honor of veterans. These events provided opportunities for the community to express gratitude and to reflect on the sacrifices made by service members.

Veterans Celebration Committee & Honorees

Commissioner Ken Epperson, along with the Veterans Celebration Committee, community leaders, and veterans, gathered to proclaim November 3–11, 2025 as Veterans Celebration Week in Caddo Parish. This annual observance honored the service, sacrifice, and dedication of the men and women of the Armed Forces. Residents, businesses, and organizations were encouraged to participate in Operation Green Light and join in recognizing veterans across the parish. The Committee's 15th Annual Veterans Celebration Ceremony was held on Saturday, November 11, 2025 at 5 p.m. The event was described as a blessing, bringing together brave men and women whose service continues to inspire. Commissioner Epperson was praised for his leadership in facilitating this historical event. Volunteers from the Head Start program—including Erica Hill, Chelsea Smith, Billy Gully, Gloria Crew, Sherley King, Mr. Tolliver, and Ruben Oneal—helped make the weekend memorable. (*continue on page 4*)

Inside this issue

- Veterans Day in Shreveport
- Birthday Wishes
- Brain Teasers
- Calendar of Events
- Special Thanks
- Inspirational Quote
- Laugh Line
- Farewell Legionnaire
- Homeless Veteran Info
- VCC Sponsors
- Letters of Gratitude
- Homeless Hygiene Items
- Sponsors & Supporters
- Why Join Post 450
- New Transfers for 2026
- Letter to New Members
- Post 45 Information

BIRTHDAY WISHES

JANUARY

Johnny B Allem
Rogers Golston
Charles Neloms
Howard Warren

FEBRUARY

Robert F Conway, Jr.
William J. Nelson
James A. Thompson

MARCH

Brenda Epperson
Kenneth Epperson, Sr.
Kenneth Epperson, Jr.
Linda Jones



A Special Thank You to All Who Made This Year's Veterans Celebration Possible

This year's Veterans Celebration stands as a powerful reminder of what a united community can accomplish when we come together with purpose, gratitude, and love for those who served our nation. None of this would have been possible without the extraordinary individuals and organizations who gave their time, resources, and unwavering support.

To our sponsors—your generosity fuels every moment of this celebration. Your commitment ensures that our Veterans and their families are honored with the dignity, respect, and recognition they deserve. Thank you for investing in this mission and standing proudly with those who have stood for us.

To our volunteers—you are the heartbeat of this event. Your dedication, long hours, and joyful service make every detail shine. Whether directing traffic, coordinating logistics, greeting guests, or supporting our Veterans directly, you carried this celebration with grace and compassion.

To our committees and committee members—your leadership, planning, and tireless behind-the-scenes work shaped every ceremony, every parade detail, every tribute, and every moment of honor. Your commitment to excellence ensures that this tradition continues to grow stronger each year.

To the many organizations, agencies, military units, civic partners, churches, schools, and community groups—thank you for lending your voices, your presence, and your partnership. Your participation reflects the unity of our region and the deep respect we share for our Veterans. (cont. on page 3)

LAUGH LINE

What did one math book say to the other? "I've got so many problems."

How do you know when a bike is thinking? You can see their wheels turning.

How did the baby tell his mom he had a wet diaper? He sent her a pee-mail.

Why did the peanut get into a rocket? He wanted to be an astro-nut!

What's a snake's favorite subject in school? History.

How did the computer get sick? It caught a virus!

AMERICA FIELD TRIP CONTEST

America250 launches expanded 'America's Field Trip' student contest

For the 2025-2026 school year, 250 awardees will be selected – nearly double the 150 from last year. Now in its third year, "America's Field Trip" is expanding significantly as part of the lead-up to the nation's 250th birthday in 2026. The contest, according to the America250 website, "invites students in grades 3–12 to answer the question 'What does America mean to you?' through original writing or artwork."



For the 2025-2026 school year, 250 awardees will be selected – nearly double the 150 from last year – giving more students the opportunity to experience free trips to some of the country's most iconic historic and cultural sites in the summer of 2026. The 125 first-place awardees will enjoy an expanded slate of destinations.

The deadline for entry is March 30, 2026. Students, families and educators can find submission guidelines, contest rules, FAQs and classroom resources at america250.org/fieldtrip. A promotional flyer can be downloaded here. By National Executive Committee resolution, American Legion departments and posts are encouraged to connect with their state and local America250 commissions. An online directory is available to contact these commissions at america250.org/our-partners/state-and-territory-commissions. Share your stories of involvement on Legiontown.

From: https://www.legion.org/information-center/news/usa250/2025/october/america250-launches-expanded-americas-field-trip-student-contest?utm_campaign=Source+Code+Here&utm_content=America%27s%20field%20trip%20contest.&utm_term=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Adestra

FAREWELL LEGIONNAIRE

In Loving Memory of a Distinguished Air Force Veteran

Leonard C. Barnes American Legion Post 450 honors the life and legacy of one of our own, a devoted Air Force veteran who faithfully served his country for over 20 years. His career was marked by dedication, discipline, and an unwavering commitment to excellence as an Aerospace Ground Equipment Mechanic and Electronic Computer and Switching Systems Technician in the United States Air Force—REGAF.

Roger Clifford Mainor



Throughout his distinguished service, he earned numerous commendations reflecting his outstanding performance and devotion to duty, including the Commendation Medal with Device, Good Conduct Medal with 5 Devices, National Defense Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 3 Devices, Overseas Short Tour Ribbon, Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, Longevity Service Award Ribbon with 3 Devices, NCO Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon with Device, Training Ribbon, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Device.

His professional achievements were equally impressive. He graduated from the NCO Leadership School (May 1976) and NCO Academy (May 1983), and completed Advanced Technical And Leadership Training, including Worldwide Network Systems Evaluation (272 hours, February 1988), Communication Networks Evaluation (272 hours, December 1986), LATS System Maintenance (40 hours, November 1982), Digital Communications Processor Group (72 hours, August 1981), Teletype Maintenance Training (July 1981), Data Analysis Systems Maintenance Technician (August 1980), and High Value Soldering and Microelectronic Repair Techniques (September 1980).

After more than two decades of honorable and faithful service, he retired as a Master Sergeant (E-7)—a testament to his leadership, skill, and integrity. His lifelong dedication to his country continued beyond his military years through his active participation in Post 450, where he remained a steadfast supporter of veterans and community service.

We at Leonard C. Barnes Post 450 extend our deepest condolences to his family and loved ones. His legacy of honor, courage, and service will forever live on in the hearts of his fellow Legionnaires and all who had the privilege of knowing him.



Rest in peace, Master Sergeant. Your duty is done, your service complete, and your country stands forever grateful.

A Special Thank You to All Who Made This Year's Veterans Celebration Possible (cont. from page 2)

Together, you created more than an event—you created a legacy of gratitude.



On behalf of the Veterans Celebration Committee, and on behalf of every Veteran and family touched by this year's events, thank you for your service, your support, and your unwavering dedication. Your contributions ensure that our heroes are never forgotten and always celebrated.

**Veterans, America's First Heroes.
Every day should be Veterans Day in America.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

01 JANUARY 2026

- ♦ Be the ONE Day

JANUARY 2026

- ♦ Fall Meetings—Members of The American Legion's National Executive Committee (NEC), along with American Legion commission and committee members, will convene in Indianapolis

13 OCTOBER 2025

- ♦ Navy Birthday

20 OCTOBER 2025

- ♦ Notification of 2024 Child Welfare Foundation Grant Recipients

21 OCTOBER 2025

- ♦ Department of Service Officer School

01 NOVEMBER 2025

- ♦ Be the ONE Day

04 NOVEMBER 2025

- ♦ Election Day

10 NOVEMBER 2025

- ♦ Marine Corps Birthday
- ♦ American Legion Auxiliary Birthday
- ♦ Buddy Check Week

11 NOVEMBER 2025

- ♦ Veterans Day

17-22 NOVEMBER 2025

- ♦ American Education Week

24 NOVEMBER 2025

- ♦ National Family Week: Promote & Celebrate healthy families and communities

28 NOVEMBER —

25 DECEMBER 2025

- ♦ Holiday Donor Blood Drive

01 DECEMBER 2025

- ♦ Be the ONE Day

07 DECEMBER 2025

- ♦ Pearl Harbor Day (1941)

13 DECEMBER 2025

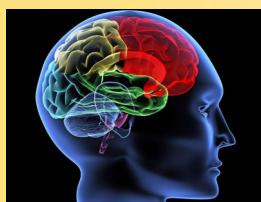
- ♦ Army-Navy Football Game

Continue on Page 5.

BRAIN TEASERS

A. I am taken from a mine, and shut up in a wooden case, from which I am never released, and yet I am used by everybody. What am I?

B. A man stands on one side of a river, his dog on the other. The man calls his dog, who immediately crosses the river without getting wet and without using a bridge or a boat. How did the dog do it?



Veterans Day in Shreveport: A Week of Honor and Celebration (cont.)

Epperson and the Committee for ensuring veterans are never forgotten.

Honorees /Award Recipients included:

- ◆ **Ben Cothran** (U.S. Army Veteran), recognized as the Steven dePyssler Award Winner.
- ◆ **Teddy & Dee Washington**, honored for their military and community service, making history as the first husband and wife team to receive this recognition.
- ◆ **Patricia Raphael Brown** (U.S. Air Force) Technical Sergeant
- ◆ **Niccole C. Robinson** (U.S. Air Force Veteran), recognized for her dedication and service.
- ◆ **Robert E. Bullard, Jr.** (U.S. Army—Retired) Master Sergeant
- ◆ **James D. Council** (U.S. Army—Retired) Sergeant First Class
- ◆ **David P. Killeen** (U.S. Coast Guard) Petty Officer First Class
- ◆ **Brandon Lee** (Army Reserve National Guard—Retired) Master Sergeant
- ◆ **Sam Archie Mattox, 2025 Special Honoree** (U.S. Army—WWII) Corporal E-4 The oldest known living veteran in Louisiana 106 years young as of 27 September 2025
- ◆ **Eula McDowell** (U.S. Army Reserve) Drill Sergeant
- ◆ **Ashley Owens** (Air Force Reserve ES) Technical Sergeant
- ◆ **Robert "Bob" Robertson** (U.S. Navy—WWII Veteran) Motor Machinist Mate Second Class
- ◆ **Niccole C. Robinson** (U.S. Air Force—Retired) Master Sergeant
- ◆ **Dameatrice B-L Washington** (U.S. Army—Retired) Sergeant First Class
- Theodore P. Washington** (U.S. Army—Retired) First Sergeant/Master Sergeant

These recognitions uplifted individual stories of courage and sacrifice, ensuring that veterans were celebrated with dignity and pride. The ceremony was described as beautiful, with heartfelt thanks to Commissioner Epperson and the Committee for ensuring veterans are never forgotten.

Volunteers and Donors

The success of Shreveport's Veterans Day events and celebrations was made possible through the dedicated efforts of countless volunteers and generous donors. Volunteers from various community organizations, including the Head Start program and local veterans groups, contributed their time and energy to ensure every event ran smoothly and respectfully. Their commitment exemplified the spirit of service that Veterans Day honors. Donors, both individuals and businesses, provided crucial support through financial contributions, in-kind donations, and sponsorships. Their generosity helped fund ceremonies, parades, and community outreach, amplifying the impact of the celebrations and ensuring veterans received the recognition they deserve.

Together, volunteers and donors formed the backbone of the Veterans Day commemorations, embodying the community's gratitude and dedication to honoring those who served.

Louisiana State Fair Veterans Day Parade

On Sunday, November 16, 2025 at 2 p.m., the community gathered at the Louisiana State Fairgrounds for the Annual Veterans & Military Appreciation Day Parade along with the American Legion Leonard C. Barnes Post 450.

- ◆ Veterans rode in jeeps, cars, and floats, while high school marching bands performed patriotic music.
- ◆ The Caddo Community Action Agency Head Start program participated, with students riding in the parade alongside floats from various organizations.
- ◆ The Police Jury Association of Louisiana proudly honored our veterans for their service.
- ◆ The parade offered free admission to veterans, active-duty military, and their families, making the day inclusive and celebratory.

The parade was described as a vibrant display of gratitude, with Buffalo Soldiers in Shreveport also recognized as part of the blessings of the day. Together, these events created a powerful week of remembrance and celebration. Shreveport's Veterans Day commemorations, the Veterans Celebration Committee's honoree program, and the Louisiana State Fair parade demonstrated the community's deep respect for those who served. On behalf of all veterans, we give thanks to everyone whom made these events possible.

- ◆ Alexandra Meachum—Veterans Celebration Honor Ceremony Emcee
- ◆ William Alan Rock—Veterans Celebration Guest Speaker
- ◆ Robert "Bob" Robertson—Veterans Celebration 2025 Parade Grand Marshall
- ◆ Dan & Jacque Jovic—Veterans Celebration Parade Announcers

This year's Veterans Day in Shreveport was not just observed—it was lived, remembered, and celebrated with pride.



Robert "Bob" Robertson

2025 Veterans Celebration and Parade Sponsors

Primary Event Sponsors & Supporters

- * Caddo Parish Commission
- * City of Shreveport
- * Bossier City
- * Bossier Parish Police Jury
- * Desoto Parish Police Jury
- * Louisiana State Fair / State Fair of Louisiana
- * Shreveport Municipal Auditorium
- * Trail Lizards Jeep Club
- * Live! Casino & Hotel Louisiana
- * Music Mountain Water Company
- * Overton Brooks VA Medical Center
- * Barksdale Air Force Base

Dottie Bell



Corporate & Business Sponsors

- * Chesapeake Energy / Southwestern Energy ("expand")
- * Barksdale Federal Credit Union
- * Landers Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram
- * LSUS – Louisiana State University Shreveport
- * ACE Digital, LLC
- * Buffalo Soldiers – Local Independent Chapter (advertiser/supporter)
- * State Fair of Louisiana (also listed above)
- * Shreveport City Marshal's Office
- * Advance Awards & Gifts
- * It's A Beautiful Mind Consultants, LLC
- * Timberline Homeowners Association
- * Caddo Community Action Agency, Inc.
- * Women Veterans of the Ark-La-Tex
- * Pines Road Area Business Association (PRABA)
- * Music Mountain Water Company (also listed above)
- * Big Nate's BBQ
- * SingleSource Business Solutions
- * Purple Snowflake Graphics & Designs
- * The Agora Borealis
- * Independence Bowl / Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl
- * Veterans Advocacy Services (VAS)
- * Deep South Equipment
- * Todd M. Johnson, Esq. – Personal Injury Attorney
- * KABE Cleaning Services, LLC
- * Who's Next Barbershop
- * St. Rest Baptist Church (supporter/advertiser)
- * Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Shreveport Alumnae Chapter
- * Brookshire Grocery Company (Brookshire's, Super 1 Foods, Fresh by Brookshire's, Spring Market, Reasor's)
- * American Legion Post 14 (Lowe McFarlane)
- * National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers M/C – Shreveport Chapter
- * S.O.W. and R.E.A.P. Physical Therapy
- * New Boggy Baptist Church
- * Leonard C. Barnes American Legion Post 450

Individual & Family Sponsors / Tribute Pages

- * New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church
- * Birdie B. Byrd – Mary Kay Cosmetics
- * Rev. Clarence Byrd, Jr. (Memorial Tribute)
- * The Epperson Family (Veteran Tribute Page)
- * Mrs. Gisele Proby-Bryant & Family
- * The Cherry Family of Veterans
- * St. Rest Baptist Church (tribute to Sam Archie Mattox)
- * Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
- * Tony T. Williams, Ed.S., PhD (h.c.) – Veteran Tribute
- * Richard G. Stewart, Sr. Family Tribute

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

continues

20 DECEMBER 2025

- ♦ Space Force Birthday

31 DECEMBER 2025

- ♦ Post All-Time High Award
- ♦ Post Honor Ribbon

Are you a Veteran who is homeless or experiencing housing instability?

If you are a Veteran who is homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness, we strongly encourage you to contact the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at (877) 4AID-VET (877-424-3838) for assistance.

VA is committed to ending homelessness among Veterans. Our focus is threefold:

- ♦ Conducting coordinated outreach to proactively seek out Veterans in need of assistance.
- ♦ Connecting homeless and at-risk Veterans with housing solutions, health care, community employment services and other required supports.
- ♦ Collaborating with federal, state and local agencies; employers; housing providers, faith-based and community nonprofits; and others to expand employment and affordable housing options for Veterans exiting homelessness.

If you are a Veteran who is homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at (877) 4AID-VET (877-424-3838) for assistance.

Explore

www.va.gov/homeless/ to learn about VA programs for Veterans who are homeless and share that information with others.

From: https://www.va.gov/homeless/?utm_source=footer&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=VetResources

B. The river was frozen

A. Pencil Leads

BRAIN TEASER'S ANSWERS

(continue on page 6)

INSPIRATIONAL

Enjoy yourself. Do something positive. Project some love. Make someone happy. Laugh a little bit. Appreciate the moment. And do your work. ~ Naval Ravikant

2025 Veterans Celebration and Parade Sponsors *(continued from page 5)*

Veteran Organizations & Military Support Groups

- * Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 30
- * American Legion Post 14
- * American Legion Riders
- * Sons of the American Legion
- * American Legion Auxiliary
- * Forty and Eight Society (Voiture Locale 137)
- * Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA)
- * Patriot Guard Riders (Northwest Louisiana & East Texas)
- * Women Veterans of the Ark-La-Tex
- * Buffalo Soldiers – Local Independent Chapter
- * National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers M/C



Community, Civic, and Government Sponsors

- * Parish of Caddo Administration
- * Shreveport City Council
- * Bossier Parish Police Jury
- * Bossier City Council
- * Police Jury Association of Louisiana
- * Shreveport City Marshal's Office
- * Caddo Community Action Agency
- * Pines Road Area Business Association (PRABA)
- * Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home
- * Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs



PATRICIA RAPHIEL-BROWN
US AIR FORCE E-6 TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Ben Cothran
Commander of the Lowe McFarlane
American Legion Post 14

BRANDON LEE
US ARMY E-8 MASTER SERGEANT



ROBERT E. BULLARD, JR.
US ARMY E-8 MASTER SERGEANT

JAMES D. COUNCIL
US ARMY E-7 SERGEANT FIRST CLASS



OLDEST KNOWN LIVING VETERAN IN LOUISIANA
106 YEARS OLD AS OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

DAVID P. KILLEEN
US COAST GUARD E-6



ROBERT "BOB" ROBERTSON
US NAVY MOTOR MACHINIST MATE SECOND CLASS

NICCOLE C. ROBINSON
US AIR FORCE E-7 MASTER SERGEANT



LETTERS OF GRATITUDE

To the Veterans Celebration Committee, Sponsors, Volunteers, and Supporters,

As a veteran who has proudly called Louisiana home for many years, I want to express my deepest and most sincere gratitude for the extraordinary events you organized in honor of veterans across our great state. Though my name is not important, please know that my appreciation is heartfelt and shared by countless others who have worn the uniform.

This year's Honor Ceremony and Veterans Parade were more than celebrations—they were reminders that our service is remembered, our sacrifices are valued, and our stories still matter. The care, planning, and dedication poured into every detail did not go unnoticed. From the warm smiles of volunteers to the generosity of sponsors, from the leadership of the committees to the support of civic and community partners, each of you played a part in creating moments that touched the hearts of veterans and their families.

For many of us, recognition is not something we seek. Yet when a community comes together with such sincerity and respect, it reaches places within us that words rarely touch. You reminded us that we are not forgotten—that our service continues to live on in the gratitude of those we served to protect.

Thank you for honoring not just our past, but our dignity, our families, and our continued place in this community. Thank you for standing with us, celebrating us, and ensuring that Veterans Day in Louisiana is not just a date on the calendar, but a living expression of appreciation.

With deep respect and gratitude,
A Grateful Louisiana Veteran (writer unknown)

Dear Veterans Celebration Committee, Sponsors, and Volunteers, & Leonard C. Barnes Post 450

As a veteran spouse, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the beautiful events you created to honor our Veterans and their families. Behind every service member and veteran stands a network of loved ones who share in the sacrifices of military life, and your celebration made us feel seen, valued, and embraced.

The parade is more than community event—it is a reminder that our families are supported, that our service members are appreciated, and that the sacrifices made at home are recognized with compassion and respect. Thank you for honoring our Veterans with such dignity, and thank you for including their families in that circle of appreciation. Your kindness strengthens us, encourages us, and reminds us that this community stands with us through every season of service.

With warmest gratitude,
Rev. Danny Davis, Sr., Pastor & Thankful Veteran Spouse
Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Hwy 1 Grand Bayou, LA



To All Who Made This Year's Veterans Celebration Possible,

As an active-duty service member currently serving our nation, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the incredible events you organized in honor of Veterans across Louisiana. Though many of us could not be there in person, the impact of your efforts reaches far beyond the parade route and ceremony hall.

Knowing that our families, our fellow service members, and our Veterans are supported and celebrated back home means more than words can express. Your dedication reminds us why we serve—that our communities value freedom, honor sacrifice, and stand united behind those who wear the uniform. Thank you for lifting up our Veterans, supporting our families, and showing such genuine respect for the men and women who continue to serve. Your efforts strengthen our resolve and remind us that we are never serving alone.

With respect and gratitude,
Pvt. Jarrad Mack, U.S. Air Force
A Proud Active-Duty Service Member

FUNDRAISERS' WINNERS

November: Spirit Baskets

1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
David Williams	Riley Young, Jr.	W.J. Nelson



December: Technology (Television, etc.)

1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Trina Singleton	K. Buster	Sherrie M Allen



IN SIGNIA



Projector



Power

Hygiene Items to Homeless Veterans Program

Leonard C. Barnes Post 450 has donated roughly 1,000 individual hygiene products, including highly needed feminine care items, to support homeless veterans in the Shreveport area. The collection, valued at more than \$500, was delivered directly to the Homeless Veterans Program at Overton Brooks Veterans Administration Medical Center and will be distributed to veterans as needs arise.



Donation Details

The donation package includes a wide range of personal-care essentials, with a special emphasis on feminine hygiene products that are often in short supply for people experiencing homelessness. The items were handed over to staff at the Overton Brooks VA Medical Center Homeless Veterans Program for immediate distribution. Past Post Commander David Williams, Historian Margaret Mims, and Chaplain Richard Thomas delivered the items personally.

Expected Impact

These supplies will help meet day-to-day needs for veterans who are transitioning out of homelessness or who are receiving services through the VA. Access to basic hygiene products improves dignity, health, and the ability to participate in job searches, medical appointments, and other steps toward stability.

Community Significance

Donations like this address gaps in services that are not always covered by existing programs. By focusing on both general hygiene items and feminine products, Leonard C. Barnes Post 450 is helping ensure that all veterans—regardless of gender—have access to essential personal-care supplies.

How Others Can Help

Community members who want to support homeless veterans can contact local VA programs, Leonard C. Barnes Post 450, Overton Brooks VA Hospital or veterans service organizations to learn about current needs and donation guidelines. Small, targeted contributions of hygiene items, clothing, or gift cards can make a meaningful difference for veterans working to rebuild their lives.



Veterans Celebration Committee members

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Veronica Bell
Caroline Chartier
Linda Cosby
Wilma Davis
Freda Edmond
Chris Epperson
Gwen Hampton

Kimberley Jones
Jennifer Kirnop
Joyce Lars
Joseph LeBlanc
Michelle Nations
Calvin Presley
Patricia Presley

Eric Reedy
Earlene Thompson
James Thompson
LaTasha Washington
Julia Wilson
Kevin Wolfe
Willie Wynn

VOLUNTEERS

Gloria Crew
Billy Gully
Ashlei Jones

Carmella Lafitte
Patricia Player
Chelsea Smith

Paulette Stephens
Pam Taylor
Evelyn Thomas

**Veterans, America's First Heroes.
Every Day Should Be Veterans Day in America.**

2025 Post 450 & Veteran Celebration Committee Sponsors & Supporters

Union High School

expand



Douglass

Office of The Mayor Shreveport, Louisiana

Caddo Parish Commission Proudly Supports our Active Military, Veterans and Their Families

Shreveport City Council Proudly Supports our Active Military, Veterans and Their Families

Bossier Parish Police Jury Proudly Supports our Active Military, Veterans and Their Families

Bossier City Council Proudly Supports our Active Military, Veterans and Their Families



DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Chapter 30

Shreveport—Bossier City



THE PARISH OF CADDO ADMINISTRATION



NEW BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
3300 Greenwood Road
Shreveport, LA 71109
Reverend A. B. Kimble, Interim Pastor

Office of the Mayor BOSSIER CITY, LOUISIANA



THE POLICE JURY ASSOCIATION OF LOUISIANA PROUDLY HONORS OUR VETERANS FOR THEIR SERVICE

Birdie B. Byrd

Independent Beauty Consultant

Mary Kay Cosmetics

318-465-0923

www.marykay.com/bbyrd1

bbirdie@bellsouth.net



Mental Health Clinic

MARY KAY COSMETICS
www.marykay/jbell3492
jaschandria@gmail.com

ADVANCE AWARDS & GIFTS
PATRICIA DRIVE & AIRLINE DRIVE, BOSSIER CITY



JAMES JEFFERSON
WOMEN VETERANS
OF THE ARK LA TEX



Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

"The church that's in business for God and God's business is people."

THE EPPERSONS

MUSIC MOUNTAIN
Water Company
The Reliable Source



PRABA

PINES ROAD
AREA
BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION,
INC.

MRS. GISELE PROBY-BRYANT AND FAMILY
Veterans Celebration Committee, Member
American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Unit 14, Member

Timberline Subdivision
Home is Where the Heart is!

Tony T. Williams, Ed.S., PhD (h.c.)

Why Join Post 450

Joining Leonard C. Barnes Post 450 connects you with a community that puts service into action. Members work together on meaningful projects—like recent donations of essential hygiene items to the Homeless Veterans Program at Overton Brooks VA Hospital—so your time and skills translate directly into measurable help for veterans in need. Beyond volunteer work, Post 450 offers camaraderie, mentorship, and access to local and national veteran resources that make it easier to navigate benefits, find employment support, and rebuild civilian life with dignity.

Membership also gives you a chance to lead and grow. Whether you want to organize drives, serve in leadership roles, or simply build friendships with fellow veterans and community supporters, Post 450 provides training, networking, and opportunities to develop practical skills. The Post's activities strengthen neighborhoods, amplify veteran voices, and create a reliable support network—so joining is both a way to give back and a way to gain lasting personal and professional benefits.

Post 450 Membership Application

Please print clearly. Return form with annual membership dues of \$55.00 and unaltered DD-214. All new and transferer veteran must provide a DD-214 to process for membership.

Full Name: _____ **New Member** _____ **Transfer** _____

If transfer, please provide your existing membership number: _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Cap Size:** _____ **Shirt Size:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip :** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Military Service

Branch of Service: _____ **War Era:** _____

Type of Discharge: _____

Emergency Contact

Name: _____ **Relationship:** _____

Phone: _____

Volunteer Interests

Preferred Activities: community outreach; fundraising; event planning; mentorship; other: _____

Monthly Meetings are held every 3rd Saturday of the Month
717 Crockett Street ~ Shreveport, LA 71104

Make all checks and money orders payable to and include your member number:

American Legion Post 450

Mail to: PO Box 5063 ~ Shreveport, LA 71135

Consent and Authorization

I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I authorize Post 450 to verify my military service. I agree to abide by the Post's bylaws and participate in activities in a respectful and constructive manner.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Office Use Only

Application Received By: _____ Date: _____

Membership Approved: Yes No Membership Number: _____

NEW TRANSFERS

- ♦ **Jerald Lewis**
- ♦ **Louie Sardenga**
- ♦ **John Richie**
- ♦ **Fredrick Colbert**
- ♦ **Robert Arnold**
- ♦ **Felton Downing**
- ♦ **Andrew R. Houston**



Introduction Letter for Transfer to Post 450

Dear New Transfers

Welcome to Leonard C. Barnes Post 450. To complete your transfer, please fill out and return the enclosed membership application and provide an unaltered DD-214 verifying your service. These documents are required to process your transfer and confirm eligibility for membership.

If you have not already paid your Annual Membership Dues of \$55.00 for 2026 to your previous post, please include payment with your application. Mail or deliver your materials to: Leonard C. Barnes Post 450, PO Box 5063, Shreveport, LA 71135, or contact Adjutant Wilma Draughn-Davis at Email: lcbpost450@gmail.com for alternative submission options. We look forward to welcoming you to Post 450 and will notify you once your transfer is complete.

Sincerely,

Wilma Draughn Davis

Leonard C. Barnes Post 450
Wilma Draughn-Davis, Adjutant



To Locate Post 450 Information

To find American Legion Leonard C. Barnes Post 450: Visit our official website <https://lcbpost450.org> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61585268025211> for news, membership forms, officers, and events. Visit in person if possible: the website lists meeting times and locations so you can meet officers and pick up materials directly.

For additional information, visit the various sections: :

- ♦ Membership and Forms: Download membership applications and renewal forms directly from the website's membership or forms sections; these documents include instructions for submitting an unaltered DD-214 and paying dues. The website is updated with the latest forms and procedural guidance.
- ♦ Post Officers: If you need help with a transfer, dues, or event participation, consult the Post Officers page to find the appropriate officer or committee contact and reach out by the method listed there.
- ♦ About US and News: to see recent projects, such as community outreach and veteran support programs, so you can align volunteer interests with ongoing efforts.

Follow the Post's Facebook activity for real-time photos, event reminders, and community acknowledgments; social posts often include volunteer opportunities and local partnerships.

You've Earned
The Right
To Belong...
Join Us!

LEONARD C. BARNES POST 450

PO BOX 5063
SHREVEPORT, LA 71135

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

