



THE AMERICAN LEGION



Harry White Wilmer Post 82

6630 Crain Highway, PO Box 441, La Plata, MD 20646

September 2024

www.Alpost82.org

301-934-8221

Commander's Message



Hello fellow Legion 82 members! We have spent August getting organized for the upcoming year. I am asking you, as members of our outstanding post, to step up and help when asked. Our next Steak and Shrimp Dinner is Friday, September 6 from 5:00 – 7:00pm. We need help with morning prep, dinner service and cleanup. Use the on-line signup [https://bit.ly/Post Dinner Sep 06 2024](https://bit.ly/Post_Dinner_Sep_06_2024) or call me at 301-399-1240.

Our next Post Membership Meeting has been moved to Wednesday, September 11 at 6:00pm. The change is due to our parking lot repairs, sealcoating and striping on Sept 9 & 10. With no access to the building, the Post and Lounge will be closed both days.

We will again have a booth at the Charles County Fair September 12-15. We are asking for volunteers to man the booth on Thursday from 4-9pm, Friday from 9am-9pm and Sunday from 9am – 6pm; the Riders will cover all shifts on Saturday. Shifts are 2 hours long. You can sign up for as many shifts as you would like. We will provide an entry pass for each volunteer. Use the on-line signup https://bit.ly/Post_82_Fair_Booth_2024 or call me at 301-399-1240.

We have had a good response by our membership in renewing their membership for 2025. If your card says 2024 on it, you need to renew for 2025. Mail or bring your check to the post including your membership number in the memo section or renew on-line at www.mylegion.org. Dues are \$45 for one year. If you renew on-line, you can renew for one, two or even three years at the current dues rate.

For those who enjoy football, bring your friends to the Lounge and watch them on the big screen. Our building provides our Legion Family with a place for the activities and fundraisers they have throughout the year. It's a place where you can meet comrades and make new friends. Please be sure to take advantage of it.

I hope to see a lot of old and new faces at the Post this year. Support your post, it needs you and will support you whenever you need it.

**In service for God and Country,
Buddy Hindle**

“At Your Service”

Post 82 Service Officer

If you know someone in need of assistance from the VA or other support, please don't hesitate to send them my way. As the Post Service Officer, I am here to offer resources to all veterans and their families. Please contact me at 240-267-6489 or ghawley83@gmail.com.

George Hawley
Service Officer

AMERICAN LEGION

Legion Membership Report



In last month's newsletter, I shared the remarkable efforts by you all for membership renewals. Much of that was accomplished because some of you are Paid up for Life (PUFL) members and several of you elected to pay in advance (up to 3 years) at the reduced rate. Others were quick to submit payment in July via personal check or online payment. Having done that, we have exceeded our September goal of 50% set by National. To date, Jamie Zayas and I have mailed out over 314 membership cards for 2025.

As a reminder, the renewal period for 2025 began on July 1st, 2024, and goes through Jun 30th,

2025. Some folks lean forward and pay their dues as early as possible while a few hold off until the last day. Unfortunately, some allow their membership to lapse and are placed in the expired category. What I would encourage people to do is establish July as their renewal date. That way it's over with and Post 82 continues to lead the way by exceeding our goals. You may be thinking, "July was 2 months ago." and, you'd be correct. Let me encourage you It's a big "ask" considering we have grown to over 800 members. But it's achievable as proven last year when Post 82 was NUMBER 1 for the entire state of Maryland in our category!

Currently, there are 35 members who neglected to renew in 2023 are now listed as expired. Jamie will be reaching out to each of you to connect and help renew your membership in Post 82. Hopefully, we can return them all to active status. If you're not sure of your status, please reach out to me, Jamie Zayas, Buddy Hindle, or John Flatley. To keep the momentum going for 2025, there are 383 legionnaires who can pull the trigger early and keep Post 82 at the top of the leader board. And you can still renew online for up to three years at the current rate of \$45.00.

Your membership counts. Together, we make a difference for all service members as well as current and future veterans and their families.

Still serving.

David D. Abildgaard, 1st Vice Commander
Membership Chair



Chaplains Corner

Lost and Found

I'm confident that everyone has at one time, or another, lost an inanimate object to which they were particularly attached. Perhaps it was a cherished piece of jewelry, a favorite travel mug, your wallet, or an old family Bible. When you noticed it was missing you would likely consider where you were when you lost it. If it was a public place such as a shopping center, your commuter bus, your workplace, and so on, your first thought would be to check to see if they had a Lost and Found location. If you were able to retrieve it, great! But if you couldn't, you would probably be saddened or frustrated with its loss, but you could readily move on.

How would things work out for you if it was a loved one, a child or spouse, a friend or another loved one that you lost to an illness, accident, assault, or even suicide? How readily would you be able to move on? Likely, you would experience heart wrenching, classic multistage grief. At this point where would you look for your lost loved one? Where would you turn for solace? As Christians, we can look to heaven for our lost loved ones who are saved by the blood of Christ. If we have family members and other loved ones who are not saved, we should encourage them to believe in Christ and seek their salvation in Him. With knowledge of their salvation comes the comfort of knowing where they will live eternally, and that when our day comes to leave our earthly domain, we will meet them again.

We are further and more immediately blessed with the comfort found in God's word, an awesome source of solace in our time of grief. I

offer the following Bible verses for your consideration.

John 3:16 ESV

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

Psalms 34:18 ESV

"The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."

Matthew 5:4 ESV

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Revelation 21:4 ESV

"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

As always, if you or your family have any needs with which I can assist, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Christ,
Paul Stockman Chaplain
301.768.2514

papastockman@yahoo.com



When's the last time you made a Buddy Check on a fellow veteran or Post 82 Family member? The American Legion established Buddy Checks as a program in 2019 <https://bit.ly/albuddycheck24>. However, we don't need a program to reach out to our buddies, do we? With suicide attempts on the rise, it's critical that we all take responsibility to help each other out. Take time this week to reach out to a fellow veteran and check in on them. Your Post 82 Family stands ready to assist when needed.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Auxiliary Monthly Meetings are held the
Second Tuesday of Each Month at 1800hrs.



Hello Horses!

We are starting a new year and that means we need to get started on helping our Veterans! That is why we are here is to help the Veterans, not ourselves.

The Fall Conference in Ocean City this year at the Ashore Resort and Beach Club. The rooms are \$99 per night plus tax. The date is October 26, 25, 27th. To get a room you can call 410-524-3535. You need to mention the American Legion Auxiliary to get the block rate of \$99.

We will be starting up our dinners in October. The first dinner is October 11th from 5-7. The menu is meat loaf, mashed potatoes, peas, stewed tomatoes, brown gravy and rolls. The cost is \$15.00 per person. If you wish to help with the dinner, please contact me, Lesley Radcliff at 301-934-3512.

Hope to see everyone at the Wednesday, September 11th meeting at 6pm. (Post Closed September 10)

For God and Country

Lesley Radcliff

Email: American.legion4@verizon.net

Wreaths Across America



Orders are now being taken for the Wreaths Across America wreath laying at Cheltenham Maryland Veterans Cemetery on December 14, 2024. Volunteers from Post 82 will once again participate in laying wreaths for those Post 82 members who have gone before us, as we have done for many years. Auxiliary Unit 82 is once again leading our Post efforts and participating in the "3 for 2" program. For every two wreaths purchased using our account, a third wreath will be donated by WAA. Our goal is to place a wreath on all our Post Everlasting interred at Cheltenham (over 100 at last count). The wreaths are available for a 100% tax deductible donation of just \$17 each (2 for \$34).

Order online at

www.wreathscrossamerica.org/MD0136

or by check made out to

Wreaths Across America and mailed to:

WAA, L. Rollins, Group Leader

114 Dulles St

La Plata, MD 20646

Thank you in advance for supporting our efforts to be sure all our Post Everlasting members are remembered and recognized this year.

Linda

Linda Rollins

WAA Group Leader Auxiliary Unit 82

Website: <https://www.alpost82.org/>

SONS OF THE

AMERICAN LEGION

S.A.L. Monthly Meetings are held the First Tuesday of Each Month at 1800hrs

It was great to see the turnout for the Installation on July 28. It was a night to recognize the hard work of the Post 82 family members. Squadron 82 members installed for the 2024-25 administrative year included me, 1st Vice Commander Gale Willett, 2nd Vice Commander Kevin Bryant, Adjutant Gary Shupe, Chaplain Roy Yanosh, Historian Lennie Hanson, and Finance Officer Kevin Earle. Congratulations to all. During the ceremonies Gary Shupe received the Squadron 82 Member of the Year Award.



At the Squadron meeting on August 6, Squadron members Discussed plans for future dinners and donations for the current administrative year.

I represented the Squadron at the Detachment Executive Committee meeting at Laurel Post 60 on August 10. Detachment Commander Mike Obremski's project is "Sons Having Fun, Getting Things Done." Donations to the Commander's project will go towards upgrades to the Southern

Maryland Region Youth Camp in Cheltenham, including a playground.

The Squadron hosted a baby back rib dinner on August 16. Thanks to Gale Willett, Gary Shupe, Alana Lentz, David Quade, Kathleen Quade, Roy Yanosh, Carol Karpiak, Lennie Lentz, and Cathy Bryant who volunteered their time. As always, thanks to those who turned out to support the dinner. We sold out by 6:30, so come early next month and don't miss out on a great meal. Our next baby back rib dinner will be on September 20. Check the flyer on the website www.alpost82.org.

Gale Willett, Gary Shupe, and Lennie Hanson worked the floor at the Southern Maryland Region bingo at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home on August 19. Thirty-five residents participated and \$220 in prizes was handed out.

The Squadron 2025 membership cards are available. Dues are still just \$20 for members 21 or over and \$15 for dual members and those under 21. Membership dues can be paid at the Post, by mail to the Post, or on-line at Myegion.org/renew. Because on-line renewal is only set up for the \$20 rate, it should not be used by dual or under 21-year-old members.

Yours in Service, Dave



David Tatman
Commander, Squadron 82
tatman_david@comcast.net



**ALR Meetings are held the
Second Thursday of Each Month at 1800hrs**

Hello Riders, wow the last year just flew by. Summer is winding down and it is already membership renewal time for 2025. Please Riders renew your current memberships in the Legion, SAL and The Auxiliary because this is mandatory for membership in the Riders. So with that out of the way it is also time to renew your Riders membership for a very reasonable \$15 after 12/31 it will go up to \$20. I'm proud to announce the first renewal for 2025 was Rider Dan Ion, so be like Dan and renew your plan for 2025 before 12/31

On Sunday August 18 the National Legacy Run rode out of Independence MO heading to the American Legion National Convention in New Orleans LA. ALR 82 was represented by Steve Meade, riding in his third NLR. Thank You Steve. So far, I've heard MD & VA ALR have presented the National Commander with more than 270K. The Run concluded on Thursday August 22 in New Orleans, and we want to wish everyone safe travels home and thanks for a job well done.

On Saturday Aug. 17, Six Riders participated in the 11th Annual Healing Heroes Ride to raise money for The Boulder Crest Foundation. The entire ride was approx. 250 miles through scenic Northern Virginia which concluded with food, live music, raffles, and a silent auction at Boulder Crest in Bluemont Virginia. Boulder Crest is a nationally recognized organization serving active military, veterans, first responders and their families. Their mission is to build a world where all people can thrive in the aftermath of trauma.

I would like to encourage all our members as well as our Post Family members (Legion, SAL & Auxiliary) to please volunteer some time to help with events, fundraisers & dinners as promoted

by our Post. These events are vital to the livelihood and strength of our Post within the community. You can volunteer at what works best with your schedule and it can be as short as an hour or two. Thank you to all who have been stepping up to help, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Riders have volunteered to cover the Post 82 booth at the Charles County Fair on Saturday, Sept 14. Let me know if you are available for a shift or two that day. This is a great opportunity for us to connect with the community, share our mission

Upcoming Rides:

9/11 Patriots Ride Darlington MD Sept. 7 @ 0900
Ride for Blue Timonium MD Sept. 21 @ 0900
Cruisin Southern Maryland Sept. 28 @ TBD

Next ALR meeting is Thursday Sept. 12, 2024 @ 1800

Our next ALR meeting is Thursday Sept. 12, 2024 @ 1800

Respectfully Submitted,

**Kevin "Big Sexy" Bryant
Director
ALR Chapter 82, MD**

What's Going on at Post 82?

Friday, August 30

ALR Spaghetti Dinner
5 – 6:30 PM
Public Invited

Tuesday, September 3

S.A.L. Meeting – 6 PM
Legion Exec Mtg – 7 PM

Friday, September 6

Steak & Fried Shrimp Dinner
5 – 7pm
Public Invited

Monday & Tuesday, September 9&10 Post Closed for Parking Lot Repairs

*****Wednesday, September 11*****

Legion Membership Meeting – 6PM
Auxiliary Meeting – 6 pm

Thursday, September 12

American Legion Riders Meeting – 6 PM

Friday, September 13

Auxiliary Meatloaf Dinner 5 – 7 PM
Open to the Public

Friday, September 20

S.A.L. BBQ Rib Dinner – 5 PM
Open to the Public

Friday, September 27

Members Shrimp in the Bar
6 – 7 PM Members Only

S.A.L. Queen of Hearts every Wednesday

Drawing in the Lounge at 7pm

Auxiliary BINGO every Thursday.

Doors open at 4:30 PM

Wednesday, October 2

Honor Flight Charles County Registration and
Departure for Washington, DC



Post 82 at the Charles County Fair

We will once again have a booth at the Charles County Fair September 12 – 15, 2024. The Fair is celebrating the 100 year anniversary of the fair and I'll bet Post 82 has been there for most of them. Our booth, located in the very busy Commercial Building A, is donated to the Post by the Fair Board each year. The past few years, we have made new friends who've become members of our Post Family.

Sign up to serve for a shift or two at https://bit.ly/Post_82_Fair_Booth_2024