



Dewitt B. Tilden Memorial American Legion Post 316

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HOME POST OF FLORIDA'S FIRST AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL COMMANDER 2009-2010 - CLARENCE E. HILL

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Legion and Auxiliary meetings, second Monday of the month at 8pm.
Post Hours: 8:30am - midnight Mon - Thurs; 8:30am - 2am Fri - Sat; 1pm - midnight

Commander's Corner

Hope everyone had an enjoyable month. We had a great turn-out for the Veterans Day Ceremony in the Park, and a beautiful day as well. We will be holding our 25th annual Pearl Harbor Day Wreath Laying Golf Tournament on the 7th of December. Should be a great day and a lot of fun. Next meeting will be the 9th of December at 8 PM, hope to see you there.

Jim Bright 904-776-9004

Executive Committee and General Assembly

No meeting-no money spent

We welcome these new members and thank them for choosing Post 316 as their Legion home:

New: Charles Avery Jr., Nycholas Green, Vernon Norris, Colton Gerold

Transfers: Michael Bonn, Donald Duffy, Donald Kerry

Taps: None

Booster List

The booster list is for members and member's businesses only. **Gold boosters are \$25 annually.** Thank you to these Gold Boosters:

Lynn Murray 3/25

Lance H. Davison 4/25

Clarence & Liz Hill 8/25

Ben & Shirleen Wait 8/25

Penny Swiebel 5/26

Eddie George 1/31

2025 Membership Renewal

If you pay dues online, you will be charged our official dues rate of \$45. You can only get our senior dues rate of \$37 or the Early Bird rate of \$40 by using the renewal notice and mailing your \$37/\$40 to the Post. If you pay 3-years online, you will be charged 3 X \$45 = \$135. You can only get the discount rates of \$105 for 60 and older/ \$115 for 59 and younger by paying at the Post. **Two things are important when you pay online: make sure you are paying for 2025 unless you are behind and want to catch up your years; and do not click on the \$25 or \$30 options.** If you click on one of them, the system will make you a new member starting with one year and a new membership number and put you in the headquarters Post which is Orlando 400. Post 316 will lose you as a member and get no credit for your renewal. **Please remember that you cannot pay your dues to the Post by credit card as we cannot process them.** Use the ATM next to the East side exit.

Post Officers

Since the installation, we have filled three of our vacant Post officer positions. There are still open offices and we hold an election at every Post meeting. Please attend a meeting-make your voice heard.

50th Anniversary Coins

The coins are in and can be **for \$10 each.** See Clarence or Liz to purchase your coins.

All 2024 membership cards expire the 31st. Please pay your 2025 dues prior to then. Reminder, you cannot be signed in as a guest once your card expires. Bartenders will be checking all cards in December and January.

Social Media Notice

The following notice was posted on the bulletin board, will be incorporated into the Post Regulations and is effective immediately. It reads: At a regular meeting of the General Assembly on Monday, October 14, 2024, **the membership ruled that any negativity toward the American Legion Post 316, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 316, Sons of The American Legion Squadron 316, Riders Chapter 316, their officers or their members on Facebook or any other social media platform would lead to consideration of disciplinary action by the House Committee.** It was also noted that used in a positive way, Facebook and other social media platforms can be tools to promote news, functions and activities going on at our Post. We want to build on a reputation of a Post that supports the Legion Family and a safe haven for our members as well as to promote new members that may want to join our Family Organization. Any concerns should be dealt with at your respective meetings.

Toys for Tots

The bin is under the guest sign in book for the annual Marine Corps Reserves' program. **Bring a toy and get a free card for the first jackpot bingo game.** The bins will be picked up on December 12th so please bring in a toy and get your free bingo card.

Pearl Harbor Day Golf Tournament

Our annual golf tournament will be held on Saturday, December 7th. **Hole sponsorships remain at \$50 per hole and donations are appreciated. We are limited to 14 foursomes by the base. Cost is \$90 per golfer or \$360 per foursome.** Forms are available at the Post. If you work for a business that makes donations, please take a form and ask them to consider sponsoring a hole or ten.

5th District Meeting

The next 5th District Meeting will be Sunday, December 8th at 2:00 PM at Jacksonville Beach Post 129. The 5th District ALR meeting will be held at 12:30 that day also at Post 129. Attendance is a good way to see what other Posts are doing and get ideas for our Post.

New Years Eve Tickets

Tickets are \$10 each and will go on sale for Post 316 members only on **Monday Dec. 2nd.** They will go on sale for all others on Monday Dec 9th. There will also be a basket of cheer raffle with tickets being \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Fallen Heroes Monument

The Beaches Veterans Memorial Park, Inc., is raising money to install a **Fallen Heroes Monument in the Park next door. The names of all residents of Atlantic/Neptune/Jacksonville Beach who gave their all during every war will have their names etched on the monument.** Total cost is more than \$42,500, and a reinforced concrete base to hold it will be about \$10,000. Atlantic Beach has contributed \$25,000 and Neptune Beach has contributed \$5,000. Money raised is just over \$46,000. We are about \$6,000 short of our goal. Donations can be made to Beaches Veterans Memorial Park, Inc., with Fallen Heroes Monument in the memo line.

.POST 316 IS A FREE WiFi HOTSPOT.

Post Officers

Commander	Jim Bright
1st Vice Commander	Clarence Hill
2nd Vice Commander	VACANT
3rd Vice Commander	Tom Stephens
4th Vice Commander	VACANT
Finance Officer	Randy Casey
Adjutant	Greg White
Chaplain	Pete Wait
Service Officer	VACANT
Judge Advocate	VACANT
Historian	VACANT
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Tinsley

House Committee

Chairman: Bill Knipper

SAL Officers

Commander	David Keasler
Adjutant	Clarence Hill
1st Vice	Tom Mari, Jr.
2nd Vice	VACANT
Finance Officer	Clarence Hill
Chaplain	Lester Verrette
Historian	Brian Knauss
Sergeant-at-Arms	Aaron Klaser.

Executive Board

Joe Bruce, Steve Bartelt

Bill Knipper **VACANT**

VACANT

Legion Riders

Director: Denise Strickland

Auxiliary Officers

President	Liz Hill
1st Vice President	VACANT
2nd Vice President	VACANT
Secretary	Denise Strickland
Treasurer	Cathy White
Chaplain	Annie Anderson
Historian	Brenda Sahioun
Sergeant-at-Arms	Kathy Deem
Asst. Sgt-at-Arms	Linda LaForm
Membership	Nicole Thigpen

Auxiliary Executive Committee

Diane Conrad, TracyLynn Jenkins

VACANT, VACANT

Club Manager Liz Hill

Legion First Vice Vibes

The 2024 membership cards expire on the 31st. Please pay your 2025 dues before then. The renewal notice you receive has room on the back to provide info on email address, phone number, date of birth, etc. We really need to work hard to get 100% in 2025 Please Note: We cannot accept credit card payments as Department will not process them for us. Pay by check, money order or come in and pay cash.

You can create your own national membership account by visiting legion.org/ renew and follow the steps. You can also register for the Automatic Annual Renewal Program. You can only Pay Up For Life online and the \$100 discount is still in effect.

Dues are \$45 for 59 and younger (\$40 Early Bird until November 10th), \$37 for 60 and older (year-round). Our 3-year renewals are \$115 for 59 and younger and \$105 for 60 and older. If you pay online to national, you will be charged \$45-national only recognizes our official dues. If you pay 3-years online, you will be charged \$135. You can only get discounted rates by paying \$40/\$37 or the Post 3-year rates to the Post.

Clarence Hill

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S PROSE

Thanks to all who volunteered in Nov. for steak nights and bingo. You all are great. Dec. dinners are steak or salmon on the 6th and 20th. We need some new volunteers. If you can, please call and let me know.

Our Toys 4 Tots Box will be picked up on the 12th. If you can, please drop a toy off before then. 2024 membership cards expire the 31st. If you have not renewed, please do so now. All cards will be checked starting Jan. 1st. You cannot be served if your card is not current, and you cannot be signed in.

The 5th District meeting is at Jax Beach Post 129 on the 8th at 2 PM. Our meeting is on the 9th at 8 PM-hope to see you there. We would like to plan a visit to the VA to support our veterans. If you would like to participate, contact me at my number below. The golf Tourn. is on Dec. 7th-Pearl Harbor Day. It's not too late to sponsor a hole for \$50.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HANUKKAH and HAPPY NEW YEAR. Do not forget to RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!!!

Liz Hill, lizardlassie@aol.com, 904-234-2692

From the Bar:

Monday-Men's Night-7 PM-\$50 off drinks

Monday-Bingo 6:30—8:30 **Riders serving food-volunteers needed**

Tuesday Bingo 2-4 PM-volunteers needed

Tuesday Tap Trivia 7 PM-players needed

Wednesday-Ladies Night-7 PM-\$50 off drinks

Wednesday-Pass the Trash 7 PM-volunteers/players needed

Thursday-Bingo 2-4 PM-volunteers needed

Thursday-Luck of the Draw Darts-7 PM-players needed

Friday-Steak Bingo at 6:30 PM by the 40 & 8

A Tap TV Trivia Contest was started at 6 PM Tuesday nights. Turnout is great. Prizes will be awarded so come join the fun and camaraderie. Pass the Trash on Wed. is up and running again, and is also doing well Come out and join the fun.

The kitchen and storage room are off-limits and closed when meals are not being served. No one is authorized to go in the kitchen or storage room and help themselves to anything or to use any of the equipment. Once again, thanks to all our volunteers. We need help repairing bar stools if anyone can volunteer. Thank you to our bingo callers, card sellers, winner checking. There is a sign-up list for Sunday food. With receipts, up to \$50 can be reimbursed.

If you know of any family needing help with food, please let Liz know.

Thank you for all your support.

Lost & Found. If you are missing any item, like jackets, cell phones, car keys, etc., please see Liz.

Customer Consideration: Please do not move other customer's drinks, money or property at the bar as this causes issues and accusations. If you want their seat, please ask them or ask the bartender to ask them.

The **Queen of Hearts** contest needs volunteers on Friday nights for the drawing to be held at 8:00 PM. You must be present, be a 2024/25 regular member of a VSO (no associate members can play and no signed-in guests can play), have your membership card on you, & pick the **Queen of Hearts to win.** We need volunteers to sell the tickets and get the program back on track. Please see Liz if you can help.

DO NOT USE Handicap parking spaces for overnight parking.

All kitchen workers (lunches, Friday steak crews, Saturday dinners, Monday meal nights) are volunteers who depend on tips. Please remember to tip them.

Monday Bingo is at 6:30 with a progressive lucky ball jackpot. The Riders serve a variety of different items, so the price varies based on your order. Tuesday and Thursday Bingo is at 2 PM with a progressive lucky ball jackpot.

Pass the Trash will start on Wednesday Nov 6th at 7 PM. If you would like to deal, please let Liz know.

Red shirt Friday drink specials are served every Friday. You must be wearing a **RED** shirt to get the special. Wear official NFL logo shirts on NFL Sundays to get drink specials.

We ask your cooperation in **NOT bringing in or ordering outside food during times someone is serving food.** Remember, they are donating their time and effort to prepare, serve and clean up. The meals are fund raisers for our various programs. If you do not wish to buy the meal, please eat before you come to the Post or wait until the meal is done. Please do not bring in your own snacks, sodas, water, or any item whether we sell them or not at the bar at any time. When ordering food from outside the Post, please be sure to order plates and cutlery if needed. We will be locking the storage room at 6:00 PM nightly and on the weekends.

When you sign in a guest, that guest must leave when you leave. **Guests eligible to be members may only be signed in 4 times a month.**

Steak Bingo is conducted by the 40/8 at 6:30 PM every Friday steak night. Eight games are conducted-7 for steaks and 1 for road kill.

As a reminder, the bartenders' priority is serving drinks to customers at the bar and in the line. If you wish to be served, use the waitress station-do not stand at the end of the bar or between people sitting at the bar. If you want to redeem or buy a ticket for any machine, you will have to wait until drinks are finished. The Post has 72 hours to pay out on the machines and the bartenders cannot pay tickets of \$599 or more, or prior day tickets. You are limited to redeeming \$1,000 a day. If the bartender runs out of money, you will have to return later. Please note: The Manager will only redeem tickets Monday through Friday during normal business hours. Seats at the games are for player only. Players are restricted to playing one game at a time.

Bartenders will be doing a 100% membership card check at the end of this month and into January. If you do not have a 2025 card, you cannot be served and you cannot be signed in.

Liz Hill

Legion Riders

Wow hard to believe how quickly this year has gone by! I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends or volunteering! I know I ate way too much, and now time for all those New Year's resolutions (wink-wink)! With that being said, [I want to challenge everyone to bring forward an idea for fundraising to our next meeting](#). Nothing is too small or too big so put on your thinking caps and get creative!

Don't forget the district meeting is on December 8 at 12:30 pm Post 129. Legionnaires and Auxiliary to follow. Everyone is welcome to attend!

[December 14 is the escort for Wreaths Across America](#). Staging will be at the AMC parking lot 96012 Lofton Square Ct., Yulee.

Mandatory safety is at 8:15 am with KSU at 9 am. I hope everyone will come out and help lay a wreath – I know I will be there!

[Our Annual Christmas Party is also December 14 at 6 pm in the back hall at the post](#). Check your email for the sign-up sheet to bring something to share! We will also be doing our gift exchange!

Don't forget our next meeting is **Saturday, December 7 at 9 am**.

Come on out fill the meeting hall and win the jackpot of the 50/50!

[Don't forget the Post New Year's Eve party](#) – sign up with Liz!

However you celebrate, whether it is Christmas, Hanukkah, or Kwanzaa I hope you and yours have the best holiday ever! Stay safe and keep the rubber to the road! Looking forward to a fresh start with 2025 God knows we need it!

Denise Strickland

2nd Vice Reverbs

VACANT

Chaplain's Corner

I sought the LORD and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. Psalm 34:4.

Pete Wait

House Committee

Bill Knipper

Service Officer

VACANT

History Tidbit

VACANT

Online Legion Account

To register in MyLegion.org, [you must have your email attached to your name in the online National roster](#). If it is not in your profile, the account you establish will be a non-Legion account. See 1st Vice Clarence Hill if you are not sure. To establish the account, go to [mylegion.org](#) and select "Register." Enter the email in the [Register window](#) and click next. Then follow the prompts. After you create your password, the email must be verified. The system will send you a one time password (OTP) to verify it. Once your account is established, click on "My Account" and your information will be displayed to you and you can make additions or corrections as needed. [With this system, you can print your own replacement cards if you lose yours](#).

NEW VA Character of Discharge Regulation

The VA is implementing a new regulation pertaining to character of discharge determinations that will allow more former service members to qualify for VA benefits regardless of discharge type. Generally, a [former service member must have a discharge under honorable conditions](#). Though VA cannot change the status of a DOD military discharge, it will review less than honorable discharges for benefits eligibility. [VA encourages former service members to whom it previously issued a negative character of discharge determination to reapply under the new regulations using a VA Form 21-0995](#) (<https://www.va.gov/find-forms/?q=VA+21-0995>), Decision Review Request: Supplemental Claim. Contact an accredited service representative for more information.

PACT Act

The bipartisan Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins (PACT) Act was signed into law 8/10/22 by President Biden. The law will allow Vets to obtain disability compensation for their exposure related injuries without

Sons of The American Legion

The 2024 cards expire Dec. 31st. The 2025 cards are here and you may renew now. [SAL members may now renew online through MyLegion.org](#). Thank you to the November 8th steak team. **Our steak night is the 13th this month.**

Dues have not changed and are **\$15 for 20-years and younger and dual members, \$20 for 21 and older**. We offer 3-years at **\$40 for 20 and younger and dual members, \$50 for 21 and older**. If you pay by mail, your card is mailed out the next day. If you pay in person, it will be handed to you or be in the box behind the bar.

PLEASE NOTE: At the August meeting, the membership voted to change our meetings to the FIRST TUESDAY of the month, so our December meeting is the 3rd at 6 PM. It is hoped that this will help with meeting attendance. New faces and new ideas are needed so give us your ideas.

David Keasler

having to prove respiratory illnesses or cancer diagnoses were related to their service-related exposure to open-air burn pits. In the past, the VA stuck to strict scientific evidence before granting presumptive status for illnesses linked to military service, and some 70% of claims were rejected due to lack of evidence. The law will [allow the VA to provide benefits and care to vets suffering from some 23 toxic exposure-related respiratory illnesses and cancers](#) to be phased in over the next 3 years. Vets will also see their VA medical coverage on discharge increase from 5 years to 10 years. 2017 discharged Vets will automatically be increased, while those discharged between 2014 and 2017 may apply for the increase. Vietnam Vets exposed to Agent Orange, presumptive status for monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) goes into effect immediately, while high blood pressure benefits won't go into effect until late 2026. There is also funding for the VA to hire more people to process the increase in claims. Info is available at [VA.gov/PACT](#) or by calling 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411).

BE THE ONE Campaign

At the Spring NEC meetings this past May, the NEC passed Resolution 13: Be the One Days to provide a new method for raising awareness of the Legion's "Be the One" veteran suicide-prevention initiative. The Resolution [urges American Legion Family members and American Legion posts to set aside the first day of each month as an opportunity to reduce the stigma around mental health issues](#). Legion Family members are urged to wear a "Be the One" item to signal their commitment to the initiative. This can be a great way to keep awareness high about this important issue all year long. Resolution 7 passed at the same Conference establishes the last Saturday in April as "American Legion Family Day" and encourages posts to open their doors to their community with the intent to educate, recruit, recognize and give back to those members who support the post and to place special emphasis on "Be the One."

New American Legion App

The American Legion has launched a new mobile membership app—Legion+ which can be downloaded through Apple iTunes and the [Google Play](#) store. Legion+ provides a direct route for members to access their digital membership card, manage membership information, recruit new members, help a suicidal veteran and get the latest news on [legion.org](#). The new app includes these channels: **Home and News**: A list of the latest American Legion news head-lines; **Recruit**: A QR code appears that takes potential members to [legion.org/join](#); **Be the One**: Features the ability to call the 988 Veteran's Crisis Line, follow QPR (question, persuade, refer) suicidal training and listen to Be the One podcast episodes. Other key features include: **A digital membership card** (top left corner icon) with current status and number of consecutive years; **Member-ship Account** (top right corner icon) with membership card, personal contact information, branch of service, service era, post and depart-ment contact information and more. More features will be added in the future such as the ability to send Post notifications to members, approve new members, and access Buddy Check rosters, Post Data Reports and Consolidated Post Reports.



Dewitt B. Tilden Memorial
American Legion Post 316
1127 Atlantic Boulevard
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-2516



December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 BOURBON Texans 1 PM	2 Cyber Monday Chicken & Dump- lings Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food	3 Giving Tuesday Goulash Bingo 2:00—4:00 TAP TV Trivia 6-8 SAL Mtg 6:00PM	4 Pork Asian Noodles Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7 PM	5 BLTs Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7PM	6 Shepherd's Pie Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30	7 Pearl Harbor Day Golf Tournery ALR Mtg 0900
8 SCOTCH 5th District 2 PM Jax Bch 129 @ Titans 1 PM	9 Baked Ham Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night Mtg Night	10 Spaghetti w/ Italian Sausage or Meatballs Bingo 2:00—4:00 TAP TV Trivia 6-8	11 Crispy Beef Tacos Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7 PM	12 Hot Roast Beef Sandwich Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7PM	13 Bean Soup Ham or Egg Salad Sandwich SAL Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30	14 Navy-Army Game
15 WHISKEY Jets 1 PM	16 Liver or Meatloaf Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night	17 Philly Cheesesteak Bingo 2:00—4:00 TAP TV Trivia 6-8	18 Fish Tacos Ladies' Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7 PM	19 Pork Chops Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7PM	20 Space Force B-Day Meatball Hoagie Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30	21 Winter Begins SUBVETS 1100
22 WINE Raiders 4:25 PM	23 Chicken or Veal Parmesan Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night	24 Lasagna Bingo 2:00—4:00 TAP TV Trivia 6-8	25 CHRISTMAS Hanukkah POST CLOSED	26 Kwanzaa Soup and Salad Bingo 2:00—4:00 Luck of Draw Darts 7PM	27 Shrimp Po Boy Legion Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:30	28
29 BEER Titans 1 PM	30 Baked Chicken Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night	31 New Year's Eve NO LUNCH NO BINGO NO TRIVIA New Year's Eve Party		Lunch is served 11:00—1:00 Mon—Fri		