



Dewitt B. Tilden Memorial American Legion Post 316

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CHARTERED AUGUST 1974



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

November 2025
VOL. 38 NO. 11
CIR:219sm751em16pu

*Legion meeting, second Monday of the month at 7 pm.
Auxiliary meeting, second Monday of the month at 8 pm.
Post Hours: 8:30am - midnight Mon - Thurs; 8:30am - 2am Fri - Sat; 1pm - midnight Sun*



Commander's Corner

Hope everyone had a great October. I'm sure hoping that the attendance for the general assembly meetings of Post 316 will increase. Still have the same 8 to 10 people attending, but would like to see a lot more. I am also **looking to get a House Committee together to take care of the canteen/hall maintenance and administrative details.** If you are interested, please contact me by leaving a message in my office inbox (give it to the bartender or Post Officer and have them put it in my box). Enjoy your November and remember **the clocks will be set back one hour on the 2nd of November.**

Jim Bright 904-776-9004

Executive Committee and General Assembly

**Approved not to exceed \$800 for a new grill
Approved \$4950 for 10 Boys State Delegates**

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

New: William Edlin, Christopher Pascoe

Transfers: Gene Markerink

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:

Penny Swiebel 5/26

Clarence & Liz Hill 8/26

Eddie George 1/31

2026 Membership Renewal

Our new dues on January 1, 2026 will be \$50, \$40 for 60 and older and \$45 for Early Birds; the 3-year rate will be \$130 for 59 and younger, \$120 for 60 and older. Currently, 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 by using the renewal notice and mailing your \$37 to the Post. The same is true for the Early Bird rate for 59 and younger. 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 2026 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.

Steak Night

Due to the continuing increase in cost of steak and salmon, prices increased in June. Steak dinners are now \$14, salmon dinners are \$11 and a combo is \$22.

Veterans Day Service

This year's Veterans Day Service will be hosted by Jax Beach VFW Post 3270. It will be held at 0900 in the Beaches Veterans Memorial

Park next door to Post 316.

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.

2026 Membership Cards

SAL membership cards are available and dues may be paid now. Renewals have been slow and we are currently at 30%. Help us reach 100% membership again this year.

Pearl Harbor Day Golf Tournament

The Tournament will be Saturday, Dec. 6. The base has increased our authorized foursomes to 18 this year, and we already **have 11 teams signed up. Cost is \$90/golfer, \$360/foursome. Hole sponsors remains at \$50 per hole.** We ask for your assistance at getting hole sponsors and donations. A number of companies and individuals donated last year and donations are tax deductible. Forms are available at the Post.

American Legion Media

The American Legion Magazine ranked first in male readership loyalty among all US periodicals according to independent research. The E-news-letter program audience open rates have risen in 2025. The average open rate rose from 18.37% in 2021 to 28.635% in 2025. The 3-newsletter audience has grown in members from 861,000 in 2021 to 1.04 million in 2025. All American Legion social media platforms are continuously gaining followers. As of Oct. 1st, the national Facebook followers stood at 190,193; the national X-followers was at 121,276, the national Linked-In followers was at 54,178 and the national Instagram followers was at 38,919. All of these channels have had consistent and continuous growth.

EARLY BIRD DINNER

The Early Bird dinner will be served from 4-7 PM on Saturday the 15th. The Early Bird period ends on Veterans Day, Tuesday the 11th. You must show your membership card and it must have an Early Bird stamp on it.

.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	Jerry Lee
Finance Officer	Randy Casey
Adjutant	Greg White
Chaplain	VACANT
Service Officer	VACANT
Judge Advocate	VACANT
Historian	VACANT
Sergeant-at-Arms	VACANT

House Committee

Chairman: Bill Knipper

SAL Officers

Commander	Denny Luke
Adjutant	Clarence Hill
1st Vice	Tom Mari
2nd Vice	Glenn LaForm
Finance Officer	Clarence Hill
Chaplain	Lester Verrette
Historian	Tom Horn
Sergeant-at-Arms	Kevin Berton

Executive Board

Steve Bartelt Bill Knipper

VACANT VACANT

VACANT

Legion Riders

Director: Denise Strickland

Auxiliary Officers

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

Auxiliary Executive Committee

TracyLynn Jenkins Bonnie Buchmeier

VACANT, VACANT

Club Manager Liz Hill

Legion First Vice Vibes

You can still pay 2025 dues, and the 2026 cards available. Dues remain the same as 2025 until January 1st when our dues will be as indicated on page 1. The renewal notice you receive has areas on the back to provide info on email address, phone number, date of birth, etc. 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/ 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.**

2026 Dues are \$45 for 59 and younger (\$40 during the Early Bird period until Veterans Day), \$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 \$115/\$105 the Post 3-year rates to the Post.

Clarence Hill

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S PROSE

Thank you Volunteers who stepped up in October. We need more just like you. Our dinners for Nov are on the 7th and 21st. We will serve steak and salmon. If you can help, let us know.

November is Membership Month. Our membership is at 41%. Renew now and be an early bird. **The Early Bird dinner will be on Saturday the 15th from 4—7 PM. We are having a rummage sale on Saturday the 8th at 8 AM.** If you would like to reserve a space, call me. There are spaces inside and outside.

If you know of a family that could use some help for Thanksgiving, let us know. We have a box at the front door for donations to support families. If you want to make a monetary donation or a gift card, contact me.

The Auxiliary does bingo 3-times a week. If you would like to volunteer for 2 hours, we could use your help.

We continue to collect toiletries, books, etc., for the VA Clinic and our members.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING and thank you to all Veterans for your service.

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 6 PM-**players needed**
Wednesday-**Ladies Night**-7 PM-\$.50 off drinks
Wednesday-Pass the Trash 7:30 PM-**volunteers/players needed**
Thursday-Bingo 2-4 PM-**volunteers needed**
Friday-**Steak Bingo** at 6:30 PM by the 40 & 8

We will try to form a dart league to start in November-please sign up if interested. Our bar stool seats have been refurbished and look great. Thanks to Patti Harrison and Brian Knauss for pass the trash. Tuesday TAP TV trivia is at 7PM. Monday bingo 6:30, Tuesday/Thursday bingo 2:00.

Please note: on June 1st, prices on alcohol increased. It has been years since they have increased and our cost has gone up annually.

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 is back in action on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM. Thank you Patti Harrison. 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 NASCAR shirts or official NFL shirts on Sunday and get the special.**

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.

Liz Hill

Legion Riders

Well, it is that time of year when we break out the jackets the leathers and light the fires!

I want to thank everyone who came out and supported us on our annual **Zombie Ride** – it was a thrilling event and sorry you missed it!

Monday Night Bingo & Riders' Food

Come out for a fun evening of **Bingo every Monday night!**

Enjoy delicious food prepared by the Riders—bring your friends and support our post!

Paws for a Cause Poker Run – November 8

Hosted at **Baymeadows Adamec Harley-Davidson**, this event supports animal welfare and brings riders together for a great cause.

Kickstands up—don't miss it!

Veterans Day Flag Line – November 11 at 8:00 AM

Join us as we stand proudly in a flag line to honor our veterans. Your presence makes a difference—let's show our respect and gratitude together.

Fall Conference – November 21–23

Held at **Caribe Royale Orlando**, this is a great opportunity to connect, learn, and represent our chapter.

Make sure to register and book your stay early!

Thanksgiving – November 27

Wishing all our members and families a warm and joyful Thanksgiving.

We're grateful for your service, support, and camaraderie.

Next Riders Meeting – November 1 at 9:00 AM

Mark your calendar! We'll discuss upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and more.

Your voice matters—see you there! Oh and don't forget the 50/50 drawing!

Denise Strickland

VACANT 2nd Vice Reverbs

VACANT Chaplain's Corner

Bill Knipper House Committee

VACANT Service Officer

VACANT History Tidbit

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.](#)

VA Home Loan Program

The VA Home Loan Program Reform Act authorizes the VA to create a "permanent partial claims program" that gives Veterans a second chance to stay in their homes. [Thousands of financially distressed Veterans using the VA Home Loan Guaranty Program who are at risk of foreclosure will become eligible for federal assistance to cover their mortgage under this new program](#) signed into law in July by President Trump that allows them to defer monthly mortgage payments temporarily without losing their homes. Under the program, the VA buys a portion of the Veteran's debt and secures a lien on the property. The legislation is intended for homeowners struggling to rebound from financial setbacks, such as a job loss or high medical bills. The Veteran does not have to pay off the claim until the home is sold or refinanced. The legislation passed unanimously in the House and Senate. [The bill also enables the VA to continue funding not-for-profit community agencies that run homeless prevention programs that provide transitional housing and services for Veterans experiencing homelessness through the Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program.](#) The American Legion supported this bill. "This critical legislation represents a profound commitment to safeguarding the financial security and dignity of Veteran homeowners" said James LaCoursiere, National Commander of The American Legion.

Sons of The American Legion

First, [let me wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!](#) There's nothing more heartwarming than sharing a good meal with family and friends. As you gather around the table, please consider inviting a military member, veteran, or neighbor who may not have family nearby. A small gesture can make a big difference.

There are a couple items I would like to address in this newsletter. Recently, [a ruling at the National level stated that disaster relief will not be provided to Sons of The American Legion \(SAL\) members.](#) [The American Legion Department of Florida, however, has assured us that the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida will never be forgotten.](#) If a disaster occurs in Florida, the SAL will be able to receive assistance from the [Florida Disaster Relief Fund](#). If you would like to contribute, donations can be made by:

- **Check:** Payable and mailed to *The American Legion, Department of Florida*

○ Memo line: **Attn: Disaster Relief**

Online: <https://give.floridalegion.org/campaign/622447/donate>

The Office of the National Judge Advocate recently shared an opinion outlining the *Four Rules* governing all American Legion programs — including the Sons of The American Legion. Here's how **Squadron 316** meets each rule:

Rule #1, Leadership – All elected and appointed leaders must be confirmed by the parent organization after each selection, or as needed. *After each election our new officers are installed by the District Installation Team*

Rule #2, Rules – All bylaws, amendments and/or standing rules must be presented to the parent organization for confirmation and approved prior to use. *Squadron 316 Constitution and Bylaws were approved and signed by Department Commander Clarence Hill 14 April 2003*

Rule #3, Reports – The program will provide to the parent organization: (a) monthly activities reports; (b) quarterly financial reports; (c) an annual financial statement; and (d) any additional report(s) requested by the parent organization. *As Squadron Commander I fill out a monthly report covering those items and present it to the Post Commander via the Executive Board.*

Rule #4, Controls – The parent organization may provide the program with the EIN and tax-exemption status, with the necessary financial controls over their usage. All program financial accounts must have a minimum of two signatories appointed by the parent organization. *Squadron 316 Finance Officer is a dual member of both the Legion and the Squadron. The Post Commander has full access to the Squadron financial accounts. Post 316 has extended their EIN to cover the Squadron financial accounts.*

In Summary: In my opinion, **Squadron 316 is fully in compliance** with all Four Rules of an American Legion Program. Until notified otherwise, **we will continue to operate as we currently do — proudly and properly.**

Denny Luke

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; **Membership Account** (top right corner icon) with membership card, personal contact information, branch of service, service era, post and department 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.

Veterans Service Officers

Jacksonville's Military Affairs and Veterans Department (MAVD) is offering services for Veterans at the Pablo Creek Regional Library at 13295 Beach Blvd on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 10 AM to 2 PM. Veterans Service Officers will be available to assist with claims and questions. More info, call 904-255-5550.



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



November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 BE THE ONE Day ALR Mtg 0900
2 DST Ends BOURBON	3 Chicken & Dumplings Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM	4 Election Day Lasagna Bingo 2:00—4:00 TAP TV Trivia 6PM SAL Mtg 6 PM	5 Fried Fish Tacos Ladies Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7:30	6 Swedish Meatballs Bingo 2:00—4:00	7 Chili-Grilled Cheese Sandwich Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30	8 Rummage Sale 8AM
9 SCOTCH 5th District Mtg Keystone Hgts 202	10 USMC B-Day ALA B-Day Beef Stew Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Wings Men's Night 7PM Legion Mtg 7 PM Aux Mtg 8 PM	11 Veterans Day Chicken Enchilada Bingo 2:00—4:00 TAP TV Trivia 6PM 0900 Veterans Day Service in Park	12 Hamburger Stroganoff Ladies Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7:30	13 BLT & FF Bingo 2:00—4:00	14 Nachos Supreme SAL Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30	15 SUBVETS 1100 Early Bird Din- ner 4:00—7:00 PM
16 WHISKEY	17 Turkey Dinner Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM	18 Philly Cheesesteak Bingo 2:00—4:00 TAP TV Trivia 6PM	19 Baked Ziti Ladies Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7:30	20 Grilled Ham & Cheese Mac Salad Bingo 2:00—4:00	21 Smoked Sausage Dogs Aux Steaks 5—8 Steak Bingo 6:30	22
23 WINE	24 Shepherd's Pie Bingo 6:30—8:30 Riders Food Men's Night 7PM	25 Stuffed Shells Bingo 2:00—4:00 TAP TV Trivia 6PM	26 Crispy Beef Tacos Ladies Night 7PM Pass the Trash 7:30	27 Thanksgiving NO LUNCH Bingo 2:00—4:00	28 NO LUNCH Legion Steaks 5-8 Steak Bingo 6:30	29
30 BEER						