

## American Legion Post 65 Newsletter

**May 2023**

**Veterans Crisis Line: 1-855-829-6636 US**

Department of Veterans Affairs:

Women Veterans Call Center: 855-829-6636

Non-VA Facility Emergency 704-638-9000 ext. 12022

(Call within 72 hours to let VA know when using a non-VA facility)

### **Meeting & Supper:**

Monday May 8th is Post 65 meeting/supper. At 5:00 pm sign in and "Meet & Greet." At 6:00 pm for supper there will be BBQ Pork on a bun with baked beans, slaw, and chips. Sweet and unsweet tea, coffee, and assorted drinks. We ask everyone to bring their favorite dessert. All Family Members of Post 65 are invited: Legionaries, Sons, Riders, and Auxiliary. Non-Member Veterans, and descendants & their guests. For more information call 980-3624948 and leave a message. We look forward to seeing you. We will be asking for a \$5.00 donation.

No entertainment.

Will be voting for new officers.

### **Commanders Corner:**

We are stepping into another new month, May 2023. Before we leave April let's remember Benny Wilhelm. I believe that we all believe that Benny was our friend, patriot, and our example to live up to. Benny's heart and soul were/is in Post 65. RIP brother.

May is the beginning of our Patriotic Months. We will participate in The Troutman Parade as well as posting outside of Walmart with poppies for donations. We'll be sending out event information as we receive them, Please continue to support Post 65 with your time and money.

We will be serving Old Bobs BBQ, slaw, and baked beans. As always please remember to bring your favorite deserts to share.

We will be voting for new Board members, We will have one last opportunity for nominations before we vote. This is your opportunity to give back and serve Post 65.

#### Membership Team

Our membership continues to step up and supports our Post. Thank you so much. Please continue to renew your memberships.

Chuck Harris  
Commander

#### **Membership**

We would especially like to thank each of you for choosing to join Post 65. Please take a minute to remember why you joined Post 65. We all have a story to tell. Share your stories with your Membership Team Member. Your stories will enhance our story when we are in conversations with perspective new members. Avoid the rush! Remember your membership renewals are due by June 30, 2023.

I am looking forward to serving on this dynamite and dynamic team of Post 65 whose mission is centered around Veteran support and well-being. The leadership of Post 65 is committed to keeping you informed, and we ask that you keep us informed as well. Please feel free to call me at Cell Phone [704-902-2901](tel:704-902-2901) or on the Post 65 landline 980362-4948.

Chuck Harris  
Post 65 Commander and TEAMMATE

**Job Openings in Post 65:**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander – immediately  
 Building Team Leader – next election  
 Chaplain – next election  
 Quarter Master- New Position

**Legion 2022/2023 Officers:****Commander: Chuck Harris****1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander:****2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander:** Bob Waters**Adjutant:** Mark Armstrong**Finance Officer:** Don Carr**Sgt.-at-Arms:** Chuck Spangler & Eddie Bowman**Judge Advocate:** Mike Morris**Chaplain:** Harold Smith**Service Officer:** Tom Matisko Sr.**Historian:** Randy Fultz**Membership:****Reminder: Membership dues will be going up \$5.00 in 2023.**

July 1<sup>st</sup> is the beginning of 2023 dues year. You should receive your renewal notice in the mail for your 2023 membership dues. If you have any questions about your membership or need help with your dues contact your membership committee person. Thanks to all our members that paid their dues in 2022.

**Your Post 65 Membership Committee is as follows:**

Each of the following team members are your contacts if you need help with anything from the Post 65. These teams are in groups by the first letter of your last name.

**Committee Chairman:** Chuck Harris

Eddie Bowman (704.252.0325): A through C  
 George Taylor (704.402.2224): D through G  
 Chuck Spangler (704.881.2039): H through K  
 David Benfield (980.223.1265): L through M  
 David Benfield (980.223.1265): N through R  
 Randy Fultz (704.798.8328): S  
 Mark Armstrong (704.654.8469): T through Z

**Note for members:** If you have not renewed your membership, you can do that at the meeting on Monday.

Chuck Harris  
 704-902-2901

**March Birthday List of Veterans and spouses. It is a work in process. Please email Gloria at [g\\_benfield@yahoo.com](mailto:g_benfield@yahoo.com) to add your name and month/day for the list.**

**May Birthdays:**

Barber	William	5/15
Bennett	William	5/21
Cass	Adrian	5/29
Clark	John	5/7
Cline	Tony	5/14
Elder	James	5/24
Eller	Jay	5/22
Estes	Joe	5/6
Harmon	Virgil	5/31
Harwell	Avery	5/18
Hefner	Bobby	5/3
Hooker	Reginald	5/17
Hucke	William	5/12

Lindler	Charlton	5/31
Loveday	Rodney	5/31
Patrick	Karlene	5/13
Rankin	Walter	5/28
Reid	Paul	5/14
Rucker	David	5/29
Taylor	George	5/26
Vuchak	Joseph	5/1
Wilson	Diane	5/3

### **Auxiliary:**

**Meeting:** Our next meeting will be **Thursday May 25, 2023, at 5:30 pm.** There is a lot to discuss. Bring a snack to share and I hope to see you there.

**Membership Dues:** National and State are increased the amount of dues for 2023-2024. We have raised our dues to \$40.

### **FUNDS / SPECIAL RAFFLE**

Like any organization, the American Legion Post 65 Auxiliary needs funds to operate and to complete projects. We have completed a couple of projects (gifts to the VA and to Brookdale Village nursing home) but we have more to do. We are working on sending two girls to Girls State and gifts to the local home for veterans. We need funds – any “donations” would help! We have a great cookbook for a “donation” of \$40.

We are also fortunate that a beautiful patriotic quilt has been donated by Dianne Wilson to help support our projects. Please consider donating!

Tickets for the Patriotic Quilt - 1 for \$5 and 3 for \$10

**Officer's:** Gloria Benfield President, Barbara Waters is Vice President Donna Arnette as Treasurer, Ruth Groff as Chaplain, and Sgt-at-Arms is Heather Gessler. If anyone is

interested in the positions, still open is Historian, Secretary please let Gloria or Barbara know.

**Bricks for Past Presidents:** The bricks for Cheryl (Cooky) Fanner, Linda Wilhelm, and Amy Wilhelm have come in.

**Coats for coat closet:** Please bring gently used coats. Men's, women's, and children, given to those in need.

**Questions:** For more info contact Gloria Benfield, Statesville ALA Unit 65 President at [auxiliary@ncpost65.org](mailto:auxiliary@ncpost65.org) or (980) 362-4948.

### **Information for Veterans:**

#### **Veterans Coffee & Benefits Meeting (Third Tuesday of each month):**

**May 16th at 9:00 am.**

Our will be someone from Iredell County Sheriffs office to talk about Senior safety and Scams. Hope to see you there.

Want to know where you as a Veteran can get the same information I get from the VA. All you do is click on this link and sign up to receive these same emails I receive on Veterans Benefits Newsletters - [veteransbenefits@va.gov](mailto:veteransbenefits@va.gov).

You can also go on YouTube and type VA SITREP and watch Paul Corbett. You can pick a benefit you would like to know more about.

Also check out [veteransaffairs@messages.va.gov](mailto:veteransaffairs@messages.va.gov)

#### **Increase in VA Disability Compensation.**

Good luck and hope this helps you with your benefits issues.

Tom Matisko Sr.  
Service Officer

**Claims and Benefits:**

If you need any help or have a question about your claims or benefits, please let me know. If you use the Salisbury VA and get Travel Pay you may have to start putting your claim in electronically or go to building three, first floor to get help with your claim. The kiosk machines had already changed. If you have a desk to computer, laptop, or a smart phone then you can file your claim electronically. If you need help with setting up your electronic claims on your device or filing a claim let me know and or Don Carr, we will be glad to set up a time to help you one on one.

**Honor Guard and Burial Detail:**

The Post Burial Detail had 1 funerals in March.

**Needed:** Honor Guard Members

Taps: 1

**From Harold Smith Chaplain****April:**

I did a pinning ceremony for a 85 year old US Air Force veteran at Journeys in Statesville. The Veterans Heart Group needs men and women volunteers. If anyone would like to be on the list of VHG volunteers, please contact Robert Phillips. I don't have any more bibles to give away. If anyone can get 1 or more giant print Bibles, it will be greatly appreciated.

Barbara Goble had a fall and is doing physical therapy. She is still recovering. Jerry Goble is going to take her to the doctor to see what is causing her foot pain and numbness.

Talked with George Hoover's wife. He had a Trac operation done and he can talk some, but his wife wants him to get speech therapy. He still has some cancer. On the 24<sup>th</sup> George Started Chemo. He can't talk right now. His wife said they had an awesome time when the Post 65 Riders came to his house. He wants 4 or 5 people to move stuff out of his carport. If anyone sees something they want, take it. He only wants to save the bed in the carport.

Don Fultz Slipped on a hardwood floor and fell and broke his hip. He had a hip operation. He had A Fib. He is to go to skilled nursing at IMH until he gets strong enough to go home. Prayers for Don and family.

David Benfield is slowly getting better. He is still doing Physical Therapy every week. When he is done with PT, then he will start Cardiac Rehab.

On April 15,2023 we lost a dear friend Benny Wilhelm. Even though he was sick he always checked on others. He never met a stranger and always smiled. We will miss him very much. There is link under the Sons, Celebration of Life for Benny, for those who couldn't attend (page 9). Continued Prayers for the family.

April 24th -Harold Smith our Chaplain, is still recovering from his fall. Swelling is going down and the bruises are starting to fade.

### **Upcoming Veteran & Community Events:**

**Bingo:** Bingo will be on May 18th at 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm. (The 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month) Please bring a snack to share. Hope to see you there.

### **Riders:**

May 9<sup>th</sup> – Fun ride! Meet at Tilly's @ 5:30 ride to dinner @ Hillbilly Grill.

May 11<sup>th</sup> – Deliver meals to Veterans.

May 20<sup>th</sup> – Rider's Meeting at 10:00 am., at Post 65 (Complete Elections)

Thanks,  
Randy



## **Sons of the American Legion:**

### **SAL SQUADRON 65 OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2023!**

Our next meeting is **Monday, May 22, 2023, at 5:30 PM** at American Legion Post 65. Get the latest information on what is happening at Hurst Turner Post 65. This is an especially important meeting as we will be selecting officers for the coming year. **ALL SAL SQUADRON 65 MEMBERS NEED TO BE PRESENT.** Please bring a treat to share!

### **MOWING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

We need help taking care of the lawn and landscaping at the Post. Richard Cimbricz has been working tirelessly keeping it in shape but needs help. Thanks to Gerald Wyatt who has stepped up to help mow.

Let us know if you can help so we can put you in the rotation!

Monday, May 8, 2023, is Hurst Turner Monthly meeting at 5:00PM. We will be selecting officers for next year.

Tuesday, May 16, Legion Coffee at American Legion Post 65 at 9:00AM,

Thursday, May 18, 2023, Bingo at Post 65 from 6:00PM – 8:30PM

Please keep Benny Wilhelm's family in your prayers as they cope with Benny's passing.

Use this link to view the Celebration of Life held Sunday, April 23, 2023, at New Salem UMC

<https://www.facebook.com/newsalemmethodist/videos/1273161103274196>



For more information contact Commander Carr by phone at 704-677-3196, or email [commandersons@ncpost65.org](mailto:commandersons@ncpost65.org) or [dcarr@att.net](mailto:dcarr@att.net).

Thanks!

Don Carr

**Funding:** As with any Organization your Post needs funds to operate. Members have donated hundreds of dollars and hours of work to improve the building and to support programs. The generosity of our members to support the Post, the building, the dinners, and programs. Since we are a 501 (c) (19) nonprofit your donations may be tax deductible under States and Federal law. Consider leaving a legacy to Post 65. Contact the Post or view information at [legion.org/donate/](http://legion.org/donate/) to explore your planned giving options.

**Technology Classes:** Post 65 members, Don Carr can help you set up the VA's My HealthVet and Electronic entry for travel pay, as well as give one-on-one help with our computer or Smart Phone. Contact Don at 704-677-3196.

**Historical Page:** [Centennial/mylegion.org](http://Centennial/mylegion.org) – Randy Fultz

**Editor's Note:** Thank you all for your support. Gloria Benfield email: [g\\_benfield@yahoo.com](mailto:g_benfield@yahoo.com).

