

American Legion Post 65 Newsletter

September 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 September 11th, Post 65 meeting/supper. At 5:00 pm sign in and “Meet & Greet.” At 6:00 pm for supper there will be Pinto beans and Cornbread. 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 and their guests. For more information call 980-362-4948 and leave a message. We look forward to seeing you. We will be asking for a \$5.00 donation.

The entertainment will be Bud Fox and the Senior Jammers. Instrumental and vocal.

Commanders Corner:

Our E Board will meet on September 7th and our monthly Membership Meeting is on September 14th. We will be having Pinto Beans and Cornbread. Please remember to bring your favorite desserts to share. If you would like to help serve or cook, please join us at the Post at 5PM. We are trying to be more creative in ways to increase our membership. For our September Membership Meeting/Supper, IF one of our members brings a veteran guest, the member and their guest will eat free. The Membership Team will be available to explain the Legion and sign new applicants up. Our membership team continues to step up and supports our Post. Thank you so much. Please continue to renew your memberships. Remember our new year began July 1. 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. Thanks to everyone's participation in renewing your membership! We are now in a new year so please contact your Membership Team member to renew your membership. We are planning workdays in September and look forward to you participating with us. Remember that we have put our Bingo on hold until further notice. If you are interested in starting up Bingo in September or helping or participating in Bingo contact one of the E Board members or one of our Officers. The Boy Scouts Eagle Scout project is now complete. You may recall the project is creating a fire pit in our lower parking lot. Come check it out! A big shout to our Unit Auxiliary 65 as they continue to support our Veterans and Post. I look 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 or on the Post 65 landline 980- 362-4948.

September Events:

Sept 11 – Brad Borders spoke at Meeting on Veterans Treatment Court

Sept 13 – Brookedale Event

Sept 23 – Concealed Carry Class at Post 65

Chuck Harris
Commander
704-902-2901

Job Openings in Post 65:

1st Vice Commander – **immediately**

Chaplain – next election

Quarter Master- New Position

Thanks to everyone's participation in renewing your membership! We are now in a new year so please contact your Membership Team member to renew your membership. There will be NO scheduled workdays in August but look forward to participating in September. Remember that we have put our Bingo on hold until further notice. If you are interested in starting up Bingo in September or helping or participating in Bingo contact one of the E Board members or one of our Officers.

The Boy Scouts Eagle Scout project has really come a long way. You may recall the project is creating a fire pit in our lower parking lot. Come check it out!

Last call for anyone interested in attending the American Legion Convention on August 25th. We are lucky, this year the Convention is in Charlotte! Contact Don Carr @ 704-667-3196 if you are interested in joining us.

I look 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 or on the Post 65 landline 980-362-4948.

Chuck Harris
Commander
704-902-2901

Reminder: Membership dues are \$45.00.

July 1st is the beginning of 2024 dues year. You should receive your renewal notice in the mail for your 2024 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 2023.

Chuck Harris Commander and Membership TEAMMATE

Job Openings in Post 65:

1st Vice Commander – immediately
Quarter Master- New Position

Legion 2022/2023 Officers:

Commander: Chuck Harris

1st Vice Commander:

2nd Vice Commander: Bob Waters

Adjutant: Mark Armstrong

Finance Officer: Don Carr

Sgt.-at-Arms: George Taylor & Eddie Bowman

Judge Advocate: Mike Morris

Chaplain: Harold Smith
Service Officer: Tom Matisko Sr.
Historian: Bob Waters
Building Committee: Randy Fultz

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
 Mark Armstrong (704.654.8169): 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 Commander
 704-902-2901

Birthday List of Veterans and spouses. It is a work in process. Please email Gloria at g_benfield@yahoo.com to add your name and month/day for the list.

September Birthdays:

Jordan	Billy	9/5
Lippard	Kevin	9/9
Luttrell	Suellen	9/14
Plyler	Richard	9/3
Spangler	Charles	9/27

Stonestreet	David	9/14
Turner	Frank	9/15
Waters	Robert	9/15
Matisko	Tom	9/30

Auxiliary:

September 16th: Division III Meeting in Cherokee at unit 143. Registration is at 12:00 and the meeting is at 12:30. Great opportunity for a girl's weekend away from home.

September 25th: Christmas in September, packing bags for Salisbury VA veterans.

September 27th: Visiting Salisbury Va Residents- Meet at 9:30 at Post and leave for Salisbury at 10:00 am.

September 28th: Auxiliary Meeting at 5:30. Bring a snack to share.

Membership Renewal Time:

Take care of your 2024 membership in four easy ways:

By phone, online, or mail.

Go to www.ALAforVeterans.org,

Calling National HQ (317) 569-4570

Or mail directly to our Post or pay at our next meeting.

Let's strive to have 100% membership status by this Fall Convention. If we achieve this, there will be a surprise presented by the Department and District! We can do it! Thanks to everyone that has already renewed.

Officer's: Gloria Benfield President, Betty Davis as Vice President, Donna Arnette as Treasurer, Emma Ward as Chaplain, and Sgt-at-Arms is Heather Gessler, Susan Free as Secretary, Auxiliary group as Historian.

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 or (980) 362-4948.

Information for Veterans:**Veterans Coffee & Benefits Meeting (Third Tuesday of each month):**
September 19th at 9:00 am.

Our guest speaker will be announced later.

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.

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

Increase in VA Disability Compensation.

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

Tom Matisko Sr.
Service Officer
630-632-0011

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 August.

Needed: Honor Guard Members

Taps: 1

From Harold Smith Chaplain:

George Gunny Hoover passed away on August 18, 2023. He was a member of the legion and a member of the riders. Burial followed in Oakwood Cemetery with full Military Rites.

Talked to Jerry Goble today. Jerry and Barbara are going to the doctor tomorrow to see about surgery for Barbara's jaw to take away the pain.

Mike Morris is going for a high dose of chemo this Thursday.

Randy Hill's girlfriend Michele Broll is at Maple Leaf in room 103. She is in Hospice Care.

Upcoming Veteran & Community Events:

Bingo: Because of lack of attendance, we are suspending Bingo until further notice.

Riders:

September 9th – 9/11 memorial @ Trinity Fire Department, 10:00 am.

September 14th – Deliver meals to Veterans.

September 16th – Rider's ride to Myrtle Beach.

September 17th – Rider's return from Myrtle Beach.

September 23rd – Rider's deliver meals.

Thanks,
Randy

Sons of the American Legion:

SAL SQUADRON 65 OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2023!
Veterans Coffee & Benefits Meeting (Third Tuesday of each month):

September 19th at 9:00 AM.

We hope to see you there! There will be coffee and donuts!

Concealed Carry Handgun Class

September 23 at 8:00 AM at Post 65

https://ncpost65.org/files/Sept_23rd_class.pdf

SAL SQUADRON 65

Our next meeting is **Monday, September 25, 2023, at 5:30 PM** at Post 65. Come and get the latest information from The American Legion National Convention in Charlotte. We have a new SAL National Commander:

<https://www.legion.org/sons/259953/new-sal-national-commander-hall-%E2%80%98representing-more-me%E2%80%99>



Sons of The American Legion National Commander Donald Hall Jr. speaks during the Sons of The American Legion National Convention at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, N.C., on Sunday, August 27. Photo by Jeric Wilhelmsen/The American Legion

New SAL National Commander Hall: 'Representing more than me'

Friendly Reminder: 2024 Dues are now due. Please pay at your earliest convenience. You can also mail a check for \$20 to SAL Squadron 65, 2446 Salisbury Hwy, Statesville, NC 28677.

For more information contact Commander Carr by phone at 704-677-3196, or email commandersons@ncpost65.org or 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/ 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 – Bob Waters

Editor's Note: Thank you all for your support. Gloria Benfield email: g_benfield@yahoo.com.