

## American Legion Post 65 Newsletter

**June 2024**

**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 @844-724-7842)

### **Meeting & Supper:**

Monday June 10th, Post 65 meeting/supper. At 5:00 pm sign in and "Meet & Greet." At 6:00 pm for supper there will be Pasta Salad. 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 Jason Woods and his Father. They will be playing Bluegrass.

### **Commanders Corner: June 2024 Newsletter Notes**

June is when we honor and remember veterans who served during WWII and Korea. These brave men and women answered their call to duty that provided for our freedom. Thank you!

Our meal will be Pasta Salad . Please plan to bring your favorite dessert to share.

We will be taking \$5 donations for the meal. As always if you bring a dish to share you do not have to donate the \$5.

We certainly appreciate our Unit 65 Auxiliary as they continue to support our Veterans. If you are interested in becoming a member of our Auxiliary, please contact the President Gloria Benfield at 704-682-2546 or Vice President Betty Davis at 704-677-3845 or one of the Auxiliary's members.

The Riders continue to support our Post and community and make us proud. If you or and of your friends would like to join the Riders, please feel to contact a Rider or the Riders President Randy Fultz at 704-798-8328.

The Sons continue to support our Post and community and make us proud. If you are interested in joining the Sons and are a family member who served contact a Sons member or Commander Don Carr at 704-677-3196.

Our Honor Guard continues to Honor memorials throughout the county. They bring recognition to our Post and the team receives to many accolades to count. We continue to receive more requests than we can support! This team is all volunteers. Their mission is to take care of our own. We are expanding our training and shortly will begin serving our Post funerals and other honors. Thanks to everyone on the team.

#### Up and Coming Events You May Be Interested In

June 4 – Woman Veterans Recognition Day Proclamation acceptance ceremony

June 6 – D Day 80-year anniversary

June 6 – E Board Meeting

June 10 – Membership meeting/meal

June 10 – M-1 raffle drawing.

June 10 – Officer nominations last call

June 12 – Military Woman Veterans Recognition Day

June 14 – Flag Day

June 14 – Army's Anniversary

June 18 – Veterans Coffee

June 27 – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

June 23 - Auxiliary Meeting

June 24 - Sons Meeting

June 22 - Riders Poker Run

### **Post Renovation**

Thanks to everyone who continues to donate their time and talents for this project. Thank you, Purple Heart Homes, for your formidable support with this project!

**WORKDAY SATURDAY JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup> STARTING AT 9:00**

### **Election**

Remember our officers' elections are coming up. If you are interested in running for office or would like to nominate someone, please submit your name or their names. There is a new drop box on the wall beside the office door. Place your names in that box. We would like to have names by the end of **May. Elections are on the first of July.**

### **Man of the Year!**

**We are still accepting American Legion Post 65 nominations for 2024 man of the year. There is certainly many deserving!!! Contact an E Board Member or your Membership Team!**

I look forward to continuing serving on this dynamite and dynamic team 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 call me on my Cell Phone 704-902-2901 or on the landline 980- 362-4948.

Chuck Harris  
Commander  
704-902-2901

### **Job Openings in Post 65:**

Chaplain – next election  
Quarter Master- New Position

### **Legion 2023/2024 Officers:**

**Commander: Chuck Harris**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander:** George Taylor  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander:** Bob Waters  
**Adjutant:** Mark Armstrong  
**Finance Officer:** Don Carr  
**Sgt.-at-Arms:** Johnny Etheridge & Eddie Bowman  
**Judge Advocate:** Mike Morris  
**Chaplain:** Harold Smith  
**Service Officer:** Tom Matisko Sr.  
**Historian:** Bob Waters  
**Building Committee:** Randy Fultz

**Membership:**

Welcome Geoge Taylor as our new First Vice Commander. One of his major responsibilities is to be the Chairperson of our Membership Team. Please direct your Membership questions to George or your Membership Team person. Welcome George!

**If you are interested in joining the Membership Team, contact George at 704-402-2224.**

**Reminder: Membership dues will be going up \$5.00 in 2024.**

**Thank you to everyone who has renewed their 2024 membership!! We certainly appreciate your support!** July 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**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:** George Taylor

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.

**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 birthday for the list.**

**June Birthday's:**

|                    |           |                   |           |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| Raymond Froehilch  | 6/17/1951 | Douglas Ginn      | 6/12/1956 |
| Jerry Harris       | 6/28/1948 | Jimmie Holland    | 6/23/1930 |
| Sean Moore         | 6/9/1983  | Kenneth Robertson | 6/21/1990 |
| Phillip Strickland | 6/26/1953 | Joseph Thomas     | 6/16/1949 |

**Auxiliary:**

Our next meeting will be Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3 pm at the Post. Please bring a snack to share.

Gloria Benfield  
 President

**Officers:** Gloria Benfield President, Betty Davis as Vice President, Donna Arnett 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.

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

### **Post 65 Honor Guard**

#### **Honor Guard:**

Elections were held and the posts are as follows:

Commander-Bob Waters

1st Vice Commander--Dave Belcher

2nd Vice Commander--Johnny Etheridge

The Honor Guard has been busy during the month of May with four practices and two major ceremonies. The first was at FOP Lodge 10 doing their memorial ceremony and dedicating their new flag followed by a 21-gun salute and taps as their memorial was unveiled for 12 fallen officers who have died in the line of duty, four of whom were veterans. The second ceremony was on Memorial Day at the Walk of Heroes in Troutman where your Honor Guard honored the placing of the colors by South Iredell JROTC, we then closed the ceremony with a 21-gun salute and taps to remember and honor all those who have given their lives to serve and protect this great nation and the freedoms we enjoy. In the first part of June, we will do a flag retirement and a dedication at the request of a veteran.

**Historical Page:** Centennial/mylegion.org – Bob Waters

We are still compiling the scrapbooks with the help (the one who has done the most) of the awesome Donna Arnette, they will be on the website in the not-so-distant future.

The Clarence King project is dead due to no response from his family and lack of support from officials.

### **Information for Veterans:**

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

**June 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.**

Our guest will be Ranae from the Iredell County Title and Deeds. She will tell us about the features of her department. I encourage everyone to attend.

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

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 0 Funerals                      Taps: 0

**From Harold Smith Chaplain:**

May:

I saw Audra, the finance officer for DAV. She is getting around good since her back surgery. She should get released at that time form the doctor.

An anonymous person came by my house and gave \$200 for bibles for veterans. I will use this for DAV and Post 65. Thank God for providing. I bought some bibles today with big print. If you or other veterans need one let me know.

Talked to Maria Ebner and gave her Chuck Harris, Don Carr, and my telephone numbers in case the family has questions about the Brick Fund.

Bruce Steadman said he had x-rays after a fall. Thinks the doctor will put him on therapy. He thanks everyone for their prayers.

Mack Little had a tune up in May, for his shaking. May God give him a good tune up.

Talked to Jerry Goble and his wife Barbara has gotten the boot off her foot. She still has support for her knee. She is to see the doctor about the feeding tube.

William Robert Inscore passed on May 18<sup>th</sup>. He was a 94-year-old Korean War United States Army Vet. He was buried in Wilkesboro. He was a member of the DAV Chapter 68. I took a Bible and a sympathy card to Nicholson.

Doug Price is still at Maple Leaf Memory Center.

I received a call from Roy Little's wife concerning a Purple Heart license tag for a motor vehicle. Gave her the email and phone number of the VSO. Advised her to see VSO about what Roy is eligible for.



Mike Morris is still being treated and being scanned.

David Crosby says Chemo is a bear. There is some improvement. He gives thanks for all the prayers from Post 65 and the DAV.

Jay's wife Maureen had back surgery at IMH. Jay talked like the operation was a success. Praise God for what he has done for Maureen.

Donna's Mom can get in and out of bed by herself. She can get around the house with the help of a walker. Not as much pain.

Drema Byrd, the wife of Richard Byrd passed recently. Richard is a member of Post 65 and DAV Chapter 68.

### **Event Dates & Upcoming Dates:**

### **Important Military Holidays and Observances in June**

#### JUNE 2024 DATES TO HONOR

June 6                      D-Day: Allied invasion in Normandy, France. It was the largest amphibious invasion ever assembled, before or since, landed 156,000 Allied troops by sea and air on five beachheads in Normandy, France. D-Day was the start of Allied operations which would liberate Western Europe, defeat Nazi Germany, and end the Second World War.

June 12                     Women Veterans Day: This day recognizes and honors the service and sacrifices of women veterans.

June 14                     Flag Day: A day to celebrate the adoption of the U.S. Flag and a day to fly "Old Glory" proudly.

June 14                     Army Birthday: Our first branch of the military was established.

June 16                      Father's Day: This is a day honoring our fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society.

June 25                      Anniversary of the Start of the Korean War: The Korean War began in 1950 when North Korea decided to "unify" the country under communism and attacked South Korea.

June 27                      Korean War Veterans Day: This is a national day of recognition to commemorate the more than 35,000 U.S. Service members who lost their lives during the Korean War.

June 27                      National PTSD Awareness Day: A day to bring awareness about issues of PTSD.

R.E.D. Friday: Remember Everyone Deployed. Wear RED every Friday to remember everyone deployed. As of September 2023, there were over 168,000 active-duty U.S. troops serving overseas.

The month of June is packed with many military dates we should honor, and I encourage everyone to mark these important dates in American history. The above dates are important in our American history and many Americans especially young citizens do not know about these dates. Do you really know about D-Day - take a few minutes and research it; I am sure you will learn something new.

The Iredell County Commissioners are proclaiming June 12, 2024 "Women Veterans Day" in Iredell County. On Tuesday evening, June 4, 2024, at 1800 (6:00 pm) the presentation of the Proclamation will be given at the Old County Court House at 200 South Center Street in Statesville. Please plan to attend to support our 2,500 women veterans of Iredell County.

Thursday evening, June 6, 2024, the Post 65 Honor Guard will be honoring D-Day at the Iredell County Hall of Justice located at 226 Stockton Street, Statesville, NC. at 1800 (6:00 pm). This will be a short ceremony for the community with a speaker and a 21-gun salute. Come and support your Honor Guard.

**Riders:**

June 4th – Fun Ride! Meet at Tilly’s at 5:30.

June 6th – Deliver Meals to Veterans

June 8<sup>th</sup> – Pre ride route for poker run.

June 21<sup>st</sup> – Prep for the poker run@ post at 5:00 pm.

June - Post 65 Riders Poker Run!

Thanks,  
Randy

**Sons of the American Legion:****SAL SQUADRON 65 OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2024!****SAL SQUADRON 65**

Our next meeting is **Monday, June 24, 2024, at 5:30 PM** at Post 65. We will also be talking about Memorial Day, The 2024 Department Convention, Boys’ State, and Legion College.

View our Honor Guard at the ESC Memorial Day Celebration

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Q83wtIAfs0>

Find out more at this link: [https://ncpost65.org/files/June24\\_Bulletin.pdf](https://ncpost65.org/files/June24_Bulletin.pdf)

Please bring a treat to share.

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.

**Editor's Note:** Those wanting to receive the newsletter contact Gloria Benfield @ email: [g\\_benfield@yahoo.com](mailto:g_benfield@yahoo.com) or call @ 704-682-2546, leave a message. The newsletter is sent out the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month. If you do not see it check your spam folder. Thank You for all your support.