



THE AMERICAN LEGION



Harry White Wilmer Post 82

6630 Crain Highway, PO Box 441, La Plata, MD 20646

March 2023

Alpost82.org

American.Legion4@verizon.net

301-934-8221



Commander's Message

It is with sadness I report that Bob Huffman passed away on February 14 in Roaring Spring, PA. Many of you know and remember Bob and Nancy's faithful service at Post 82 helping with many fundraisers and events. Bob was also Cathy and Kevin Bryant's brother-in-law. Bob had 16 years continuous years of membership at Post 82. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era. Please keep Bob's wife Nancy and the rest of their family in your prayers.

<https://www.stonefuneralhomewoodbury.com/obituary/Robert-Huffman>

On a happier note, I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather we have had in February!

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome all members of the former Waldorf American Legion Post to Post 82. We are so very glad to have you as part of the Post 82 family. Please join us not only in the lounge but also at our monthly meetings and scheduled activities. We need your participation for our success as a Post.

The next major event at the Post is SoMD Region the Oyster Bowl on April 15, 2023. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Buddy Hindle, Oyster Bowl Coordinator, at 301-399-1240.

Please consider volunteering for all events, as I cannot do it alone. I will be asking for volunteers from the Sons of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and the Legion Riders to make every event a Post Family affair.

I am changing the Friday night dinner on March 3, 2023, instead of steak we will have Breaded Shrimp, Steamed Shrimp and Macaroni Salad for \$12.00.

Board of Directors and Executive Officers meeting is held the second Tuesday of each month at 1830 hrs.

Regular monthly meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 1900 hrs.

If you are able, try to attend the post regular meeting, on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm. Each meeting is less than an hour and it is only once a month. Your voice matters.

Honor to Serve,

**George Hawley
Commander**



**Hey you! Renew your 2023
membership today!**

Legion Membership Report

Membership renewals are still coming in albeit at a pretty slow rate. We are quickly approaching the end of the membership year. Please try to get your dues renewals in. Remember, if you let your dues lapse you will lose all of your years of membership and will no longer have access to the lounge or other Legion benefits including your monthly Legion magazine.

Several members have done a great job at recruiting new members for post 82 and that's a great thing and we thank you for your efforts. Along with that effort however we are experiencing some difficulties in a few areas. When you sign up a new member, we need to have that application accompanied by two things: a DD214/Proof of service and \$35 either in check (preferred) or cash. National regulations and the IRS require that we have the DD214 for all members. Additionally, please make sure the applicant has filled out the application legibly. We have had several applications where we could not read the address and emails because they are not clearly written. Thank you for your continued support of our recruiting efforts.

Harry Tafe

1st Vice, Membership Chair



Call a Buddy Today!

Sons of The American Legion S.A.L. Monthly Meetings are held The First Tuesday of Each Month at 1800hrs



At the Squadron sponsored American Red Cross Blood Drive on January 23, 45 units of blood were collected which exceeded our goal of 34. For every unit collected the Red Cross can assist 3 patients, which means, 135 patients in need could potentially be helped. The next blood drive will be held on March 27 from 1:00 to 6:30 PM.

Adjutant Shupe and I attended the S.A.L. Detachment of Maryland mid-Winter meeting in Ocean City on February 5. On the way down to Ocean City we passed the Polar Plunge which was being held at Sandy Point on the west end of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. The temperature was 32 degrees and the wind was howling. The American Legion Family plungers raised over \$24,000 for Special Olympics. Kudos to those who took the plunge.

The Squadron held its regular monthly meeting on February 7.

If you didn't have a ticket to the Super Bowl party at the Post On February 12, you missed a good party. Thanks to Joanie Roberts and her helpers for a great time.

Thanks to Alana Lentz, Gale Willett, Roy Yanosh, David Quade, Kathleen Quade, Cindy Moruzzi, Lenny Lentz, Jamie Zayas, and Kevin Bryant for volunteering their time at our baby back rib dinner on February 17. We had 7 residents and 3 staff from Charlotte Hall Veterans Home attend as guests of the Post 82 family.

The Squadron will be hosting two fish fries this year. The first will be on March 17 and the second, April 21. The cost will be \$15. Dinner will consist of 2 whiting filets, green beans, coleslaw, hush puppies, coffee, and tea.

Fish fries are a little more labor intensive than rib dinners, so we could use some additional help. If you have some time on March 17, come out and join us.

I attended the Southern Maryland Region meeting on February 19 at Cissel-Saxon Post 41 in Silver Spring.

First Vice Commander Gale Willett and I worked the SMR bingo at the CHVH on February 20. As usual, \$200 in prizes were handed out to the winners.

As of February 17, the Squadron is at 80.095% of its goal for the 2023 year. We still need 42 to reach our goal of 211. If you have paid your 2023 dues, thank you. If not, please pay as soon as possible. If your card has 2022 at the top, you are delinquent. Dues may be mailed in or dropped by the Post.

I hope to see you at the Post.

Yours in Service,
Dave Tatman
Commander, Squadron 82
301-645-1537 (h)
301-752-8273 (c)
tatman_david@comcast.net

Help for Post 82 Family Members

Veteran Service Assistance

Members, family, and friends of our Post 82 family in need of veteran support assistance can contact our Service Officer, George Hawley
Email: 82Postlaplata@gmail.com
Cell: 240-367-6489

Chaplain Assistance

If you or a family member experience illness or loss and need someone to talk to or other support, please contact our Post Chaplain, John Flatley
Email: johnflatleyjr@gmail.com
Cell: 301.848.7664

Email: American.legion4@verizon.net

American Legion Auxiliary

Auxiliary Monthly Meetings are the Second Tuesday of Each Month at 1800hrs



Hello Emeralds:

I hope everybody is doing well as the weather does not seem to know that it is winter!

Our Taco Dinner was sold out! I would like to thank Mary Shaffer, Rita Sexton, Amelia Leukhardt, Carolyn Moran, Maggie Larrick, Cindy Moruzzi, Linda Rollins, Janet Fogle, Cathy Grimm, Edna Caywood.

We will be having a loaded bake potato dinner on March 10, from 5pm to 7pm. Dinner includes salad, and choice of soup; clam chowder or vegetable all for just \$10.

I would like to thank the Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, Post and Riders members that have helped at all of our functions. Without your help we would never get things done. I really appreciate all you do.

Remember to turn your dues in. Our membership chairman Rita Sexton would really appreciate it along with our unit reaching goal this year!

We still have assorted nuts left to sell so if you would like to purchase a bag or two contact Linda Rollins at (301) 934-2648. Or purchase them at BINGO or one of our dinners.

Our March meeting will be on the 14th at 6pm. We would love to see new faces there. Remember to be kind to others and they will be kind to you!

For Service not Self,

Lesley Radcliff
Auxiliary President

What's in a Name?

Harry White Wilmer was born in La Plata Maryland Jan 27, 1890. After graduation from the University of Maryland in 1913, Harry began work for Fidelity and Investment Co, New York, NY.



In 1914 he joined the Canadian Army, 21st Battalion at Kingston Ontario and was assigned the rank of Lance Corporal when his unit landed in England and promoted to Corporal upon deployment to France.

Injured in the trenches in France, Harry received the British Military Medal, and was released from service due to his injuries.

The London Gazette

War Office,
11th October, 1916.

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to award the Military Medal for bravery in the field to the undermentioned:—

60077 Cpl. H. W. Wilmer, Inf.

MILITARY MEDAL.

For marked bravery and energy in taking part as a volunteer in the capture of a hostile trench, and then being left in charge in blocking and holding the position for twenty four hours and in encouraging and steadying his men by his personal example under most trying circumstances.

A.F.W.3121.

Not ready to give up the fight, Harry returned to the U.S. where he joined the U.S. Army as an Aviation Observer with the rank of Lieutenant. Harry was KIA October 10, 1918. He is buried in the Suresnes American Cemetery, Suresnes, France next to his Pilot, Lt WC Potter.



Information for this article was culled from the "Tributes to the Men of the 21st Battalion CEF"

<http://21stbattalion.ca/men-of.html>

The 21st CEF Historian/Webmaster, Al Lloyd, is searching for information regarding Harry's U.S.A. Service. If you have any artifacts or knowledge of Harry White Wilmer, please contact Al at 21stbattalion@kos.net.

American Legion Riders
ALR Meetings are held the Second Thursday
of Each Month at 1800hrs



The latest scoop from the Steel Pony Corral:

On Saturday Feb. 11 the Riders held a Sweetheart Ride to the Killarney House restaurant in Davidsonville MD. 9 bikes, 1 cage and 15 total people enjoyed a delicious lunch. The Irish can be just as romantic as the Italians when it comes to Valentine's Day. The ride started out with temps in the low 40's and partly sunny. The ride paid huge dividends because our sweethearts needed to be warmed up once we reached home.

On Monday Feb. 20 we met up with our fellow Riders from Post 176 Springfield VA to ride in the GW Birthday Parade in Alexandria VA. 7 bikes and 8 people made their way over the river to ride in the parade. We have always been invited by the Riders of Post 176 and we can never thank them enough for continuing to invite us year after year to participate in this large-scale event.

It is with a great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of longtime Post 82 Legionnaire Robert (Bob) Huffman. Bob was a consistent supporter of the Riders since we organized in 2015. He could always be found at our dinners and was a huge help with the Riders breakfast at Rolling Thunder 2019. To honor Bob Director James (Jamie Z) Zayas and Road Captain John (Flatrock) Flatley rode their bikes to Roaring Spring, PA on Feb 20. They participated in presenting Legion honors at the funeral and then led the procession from the church to Bob's final resting place in Woodbury PA. This is why we ride; to honor our comrades and support the patriotic men and women of our mighty military.

ALR Post 82 Gun Raffle tickets will be ready for distribution and purchase soon. We will be raising money for the Gold Star Legacy Scholarship Fund. Only 500 tickets will be sold with the winner getting their choice of one a Henry Rifle, Winchester Semi-Auto 12-gauge shotgun, S&W 9mm pistol or \$750 cash. Tickets will be available soon and sold until they are all gone or the drawing is held on May 27.

On Sunday Feb. 19th the Riders throttled back on the exhaust to hit the lanes on Indian Head Naval Base. Steve (Scuba) Meade reserved the entire bowling alley for the Riders and spouses to roll their hearts out for 2 hours.

Chris (Bingo) LaQuay joined Bruce (RoboCop) Gentile for a Patriot Guard mission on Monday Feb. 20. Thank you, Bingo and RoboCop for representing the Riders. You are both great Legion ambassadors.

The 8th annual MD Gold Star Legacy Ride will be held Friday June 9-11 with the ride coming to LaPlata for the last stop Saturday afternoon, June 11. The Riders will be hosting the dinner that evening at the Holiday Inn Express, LaPlata. We will be leaving out of the Post on Sunday June 11 at 0830

We would like to encourage all our Post Family members, Legion, SAL & Auxiliary, to volunteer your time to help with events, fundraisers & dinners as promoted by our Post. These events are vital to the livelihood and strength of our Post within the community. You can serve at what works best with your schedule and it can be as short as an hour or two.

Upcoming Rides:

March 16 Dinner Ride to Brudergarten Restaurant, Leonardtown, MD – Twink

March 25 Day weekday ride to Reedville, VA and G. Washington home – Animal and Hotrod

Presented On behalf of The Director
Jamie (Jamie Z) Zayas,
By Kevin (Big Sexy) Bryant
"We ride In HONOR of those who have served"

Post Everlasting



Robert Steven Huffman
April 24, 1937 ~ February 14, 2023

Robert (Bob) Steven Huffman, 85, of Roaring Spring, formerly of La Plata, MD, passed away on February 14, 2023 at UPMC Altoona Hospital. He was born on April 24, 1937 in Washington, DC; son of the late Raleigh and Reta (Johnson) Huffman. On November 2, 1963 he was united in marriage to Nancy Carole (Hall) Huffman at the Bowie United Methodist Church.

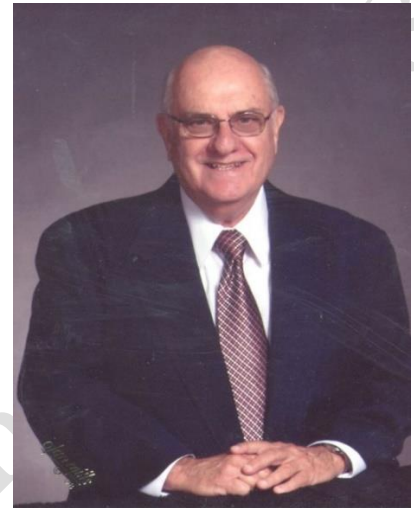
Bob loved his country and was a true patriot. He served his country in Germany, as a member of the United States Army. He was employed by The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, retiring as supervisor after 32 years of service.

Bob was a member of the Roaring Spring Trinity United Methodist Church, faithful member of American Legion Post 82, La Plata, MD for over 16 years, the La Plata 2 & 1 Club, and the Bowie Volunteer Fire Company. Bob and Nancy enjoyed time together volunteering throughout the community.

Bob was preceded in death by his brother, John Huffman. Surviving is his wife, Nancy; sister, Veda of Crofton, MD; and a large extended family.

A funeral Service was held at Trinity United Methodist Church in Roaring Spring, PA on February 20; Reverend Evelyn Madison officiated. Interment is in Dry Hill Cemetery, Roaring Spring, PA.

Post Everlasting



Michael Patrick Higgins
August 10, 1936 – December 4, 2021



Renew your American Legion Membership quickly and easily online! Simply visit www.legion.org/renew, and follow the easy instructions.

You can **renew your membership** with a quick and secure credit card payment and even print out a temporary membership card. You can also **sign up for renewal notices** sent by email rather than postal mail by visiting www.legion.org/renew.

Tired of Renewal Notices? - Sign up for **Automatic Annual Renewal** to easily set up automatic payment with your credit card by visiting www.legion.org/renew.



The men and women of American Legion Riders Chapter 82 (ALR 82) have chosen the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund (Fund) as our charity of choice because we believe one sure way to demonstrate care for veterans is to care for their family members. Scholarships from the fund are available for children of post 9/11 veterans killed on active duty or designated 50% or more disabled. Scholarships are needs based rather than merit based and designed to close the gap between the cost of education and federal, state or school offered financial assistance.

In 2022 the Fund disbursed \$705,938.00 in scholarships to 71 students!

Hear the story of Claudia Maynard, the daughter of an Air Force veteran and a first-year medical student at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine with a career focus in public and global health.
<https://youtu.be/o4dUBLFpK4>

Or this story of Ohio State freshman Emma Furlan, using her American Legion Legacy Scholarship to honor her father's service and memory of the stepmother who helped shape her career choice.
<https://youtu.be/IUKqA9usnbE>

Last year, with the support of our Post 82 Family, local businesses, and community members, ALR 82 raised nearly \$20,000.00 at the inaugural Southern Maryland Gold Star Legacy Ride (SoMD GSLR). Added to the generous donations from the Post 82 family, our post contributed over \$32,000.00, a significant contribution to the Department of Maryland ALR's more than \$141,000 contribution and the American Legion Riders national collection of over \$1.32 million!

Our goal this year is to raise \$40,000.00 in the SoMD GSLR. Last year, in the rain, we had nearly 40 bikes and over 50 participants. This year we are joining forces with the Maryland Veterans Museum at Patriot Park's Red White and Blue Music Festival and expect well over 1,000 attendees between the two events!

We invite all motorcycle riders in SoMD to join us for a leisurely 2.5 – 3 hour self-paced poker run through all three counties with an amazing finale filled with music, vendors, food, beverages, raffles, cash prizes for best and worst hands and more! Don't ride a bike? Join us in your car or meet us at the ride finale at the Red, White and Blue Music Festival at the Maryland Veterans Museum in Newburg, MD.

We invite local businesses, families, and individuals to publicly demonstrate their support of veterans and their families by sponsoring the event. You can help by giving personally or purchasing a sponsorship for your business or asking your favorite local business to be a sponsor. Contact any American Legion Rider or Randy "Gray Dog" Markley for additional information or to make a referral.

It's an honor serving with each of you,

Jamie Zayas
Director
ALR Chapter 82

What's Going on at the Post This Month?

Bingo

Thursdays: Doors open at 5:30pm.

First game begins at 7:00pm

Open to the public.

Friday, March 3

Legion Shrimp Dinner 5 – 7:pm

Fried or Steamed Shrimp and Macaroni Salad

\$12

Open to the public

Friday, March 10

Auxiliary Baked Potato Dinner 5 – 7:pm

Loaded Baked Potato, Side Salad, Soup

\$10

Open to the public

Friday, March 17

S.A.L Fish Fry Dinner 5 – 7:pm

Fried Whiting, green beans, cole slaw & hush puppies

\$15

Open to the public.

Friday, March 24

Members Shrimp in the Bar from 6 – 7:pm

Members only

Friday, March 31

ALR Spaghetti Dinner 5 – 7:pm

Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Bread

\$12

Open to the Public



Board of Directors & Executive Officers Meeting is held the Second Tuesday of Each Month at 1830 hrs.

General Membership Meeting is held the Second Tuesday of Each Month at 1900 hrs.

Post 82 Executive Committee

Elected Officers

Commander - George Hawley

1st Vice Commander - Harry Tafe

2nd Vice Commander - Chris Laquay

Judge Advocate - Bob Striegel

Adjutant - Dave Black

Finance Officer - Bill Rees

Sergeant-At-Arms - Jerry Higdon

At Large Elected Officers

Buddy Hindle

Norm Shelton

David Quade

Donna Baker

Appointed Officers

Service Officer - George Hawley

Chaplain - John Flatley

Historian - Cheryl Wedding



Are you a current 2023 Charles County HS Junior
interested in Leadership, Government, Politics?

Maryland Boys State

June 18-24, 2023, at McDaniel College



Sponsored and conducted by The American Legion,
Department of Maryland, Inc. Veteran led, and Government
Leader taught for the future generation of leaders.

Application Deadline May 1, 2023

Apply Online Today at mdlegion.org/boysstate

For local questions, help, or sponsorship, contact:

Harry White Wilmer American Legion Post 82, La Plata, MD
82postlaplata@gmail.com

Tuition is free to the student and family.
American Legion Post 82 will sponsor your
application.

If you are interested in Government, Politics,
Leadership, attendance at a Military Academy,
College ROTC, or just a challenging **Academic
program** this is the experience for you!



MD Boys State is a week-long practical exercise in Government
that will have a positive influence on your life!



2022 American Legion Legacy Scholarship Information

Total number of scholarships awarded in 2022: 71

Total amount of scholarship funds awarded in 2022: \$705,938*

Total number of scholarships awarded since inception: 433

Total amount of scholarship funds awarded since inception: \$4,056,793*

*Subject to final audit

Legacy 2022 Annual Report to be posted in spring, 2023.

Frequently Asked Questions and More Information

This information may be updated throughout the year to reflect any changes or to add additional information.

Frequently Asked Questions

<https://www.legion.org/scholarships/legacy/faq>

Scholarship Resources

https://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/scholarship_resources.pdf

The American Legion's Legacy Scholarship provides college funding to children of post-9/11 veterans who died on active duty, or those who have a combined VA disability rating of 50 percent or greater. Apply January 1 to April 1.

[APPLY](#)

The American Legion Legacy Scholarship is a needs-based scholarship designed to fulfill a financial gap remaining after all federal and state educational grants/scholarships available to an eligible applicant have been utilized.

WHO

Children of U.S. military members who died while on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001.

Children of post-9/11 veterans having been assigned a combined disability rating of 50 percent or greater by the Department of Veterans Affairs also qualify.

WHAT

Each needs-based scholarship provides up to \$20,000 for children of the fallen, and up to \$5,000 for children of the disabled for undergraduate or post-graduate college. Recipients may reapply for additional annual awards up to six times.

WHEN

The application deadline is April 1st. Scholarship awards must be used within one year. Winners are announced each May.

Access the online Legacy Scholarship application [HERE](#)