



THE AMERICAN LEGION



Harry White Wilmer Post 82

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

November 2022

Alpost82.org

American.Legion4@verizon.net

301-934-8221



Commander's Message

American Legion Post 82 will once again be participating in the Town of La Plata's annual "Salute to Veterans" Parade on November 6, 2022. I invite you all to join me for this fun event. Showtime is 12:00 pm in the parking lot behind the Charles County Courthouse.

We will hold our annual Veteran's Program at Post 82 on Veteran's Day, Friday, November 11, 2022, starting at 11:00 AM.

There will be no steak night in November 2022.

I was very disappointed by the lack of attendance at our most recent Legion Membership meeting. With only 11 members in attendance, we were unable to meet our quorum of 13 and unable to discuss the business of our Post. I have been a member of this post for over ten (10) years, and, while attendance has been low for quite a while, this is the first time I have seen this happen. The discussions we have at this meeting help to bring finances and the community into the post

I would like to solicit your ideas to inspire a better attendance rate at meetings as well as more

participation in post events. Remember, this is our post, and you have a say in everything that happens. Please come out and attend. Get involved.

This is a personal plea from me to you to get involved and support your post, your fellow comrades and all veterans served by Post 82 and The American Legion nationwide. Call me at 240-367-6489 to discuss/provide feedback.

To provide everyone the opportunity to vote in the elections on Nov 8, our regularly scheduled Board of Directors & Executive Committee and General Membership meetings are cancelled for November. Our next scheduled meetings will be held on Tuesday, December 13 at 6:00 and 7:00pm respectively.

Honor to Serve,

**George Hawley
Commander**

Legion Membership Report

Our membership renewals have been slowing down quite a bit in the last few weeks. We have about 55% of our members who have renewed their membership for the 2023 year. We still need those of you who have not submitted your dues to please get them in. As an additional incentive the Post Commander has authorized an extension of the "Early Bird" stamp until November 15th to all who get their membership dues in by then. Remember, you can pay online directly at <https://www.legion.org> or you can mail in your payment to the post. If you have lost your renewal form don't worry. You can mail a check but please put your membership number on the check so we can locate your records.

Welcome to our newest members to the post:

Favre Donnelly, Active Duty, US Air Force

Jay Donnelly, Active Duty, US Air Force

Mathew Perez Jr, Veteran, US Army

William Vancleaf Jr, Veteran, US Army

When you see any of these new members at the Post, please introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.

Harry Tafe

1st Vice, Membership Chair



Sons of The American Legion

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



Forty-three productive units of blood were collected at the Squadron sponsored American Red Cross Blood Drive on September 26. The goal was 34 units. For every unit collected, the Red Cross can assist three patients. Thanks to those who donated. Your donations have helped boost the community blood supply and ensure hospital patients have the lifesaving blood they depend on. Thanks to Gale Willett and Gary Shupe who handled the registration and refreshment tables. Gale was also a donor. Well done, Gale. The next Blood Drive will be on Monday, November 28 from 1 – 6 PM. See the attached flyer for sign up information.

The Flag Retirement Ceremony scheduled for October 4, was cancelled due to the inclement weather. The ceremony will be rescheduled in the spring.

The Squadron held its regular monthly meeting on October 4.

First Vice Commander Gale Willett and I worked the Southern Maryland Region (SMR) bingo at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home on October 17. Twenty-five residents participated and \$200 in prizes were handed out to the winners.

Thanks to Alana Lentz, Gary Shupe, Gale Willett, Roy Yanosh, Cindy Moruzzi, Carol Karpiak, Lenny Lentz, and John Earle for volunteering their time at our baby back rib dinner on October 21.

As of the October 21 membership report, the Squadron is at 50.711% of its goal for the 2023 year. If you have paid your 2023 dues, thank you.

If not, please pay as soon as possible. Dues may be mailed in or dropped by the Post. Membership is the life blood of our organization. The American Legion uses membership figures when lobbying Congress for our veterans and those still serving in the military.

Congratulations to Squadron member Brian Miller Sr., and his wife Diane on the birth of their great grandson Rayne on September 21. Rayne is now our newest, and youngest, Squadron member.

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**](mailto:tatman_david@comcast.net)

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



Hello Emeralds!

Fall is here and the weather is great! Time to do activities and fund raisers to help our veterans!

Our BINGO's have been doing great! I would like to thank the following people that helped on the floor or in the kitchen for BINGO – Mary Shaffer, Edna Caywood, Rita Sexton, Darlene Willett, Linda Gimmel, Linda Rollins, Janet Fogle, Kathleen Quade (our BINGO caller) David Quade, Becky LaQuay, Chris LaQuay, Joe Martinas, Lynn Shaffer, Harry Tafe, BJ

Fitzpatrick, Tom Rowe, Ann Taylor, Carolyn Shelton, Maggie Larrick, Jamie Zayas, and John Flatley. Sorry if I missed anyone, I do appreciate your help.

We held our meat loaf dinner on October 14th and sold 57 dinners. It was nice to start up our dinners again. The members that helped to prepare the meat loaf were Rita Sexton, Mary Shaffer, Linda Rollins, Maggie Larrick, and Janet Fogle. The kitchen help for the dinner was, Mary Shaffer, Cindy Moruzzi, Sid Grimes, Darlene Willett, Carolyn Maron, Edan Caywood, Linda Rollins, Maggie Larrick, and Amelia Leukhardt.

We will be opening the kitchen on October 16th for the Children's Aide Society Purse Bingo.

Please remember to pay your dues so we can reach goal this year. Please send your dues to
Ms. Rita Sexton
7400 Retreat Place
Port Tobacco, MD 20677

Remember Veterans Day is November 11th. Please thank a veteran for their service and remember the fallen heroes.

For Service not Self,

Lesley Radcliff
Unit 82 President

Post 82 Family Members in the Community

Doug Clark

Governor Larry Hogan toured the Maryland Veterans Museum at Patriot Park (Newburg) and presented a citation to thank the founding committee and volunteers for their dedication to recognizing our nation's veterans. Post 82 members, Larry Able and Doug Clark are among those who founded the museum. Doug is a past First Vice Commander of Post 82. The museum's exhibits feature hundreds of artifacts and educational displays.



Governor Larry Hogan presents a certificate of appreciation to the Founding Members of the Maryland Veterans Museum at Patriot Park.



Governor Hogan with Post 82, Past First Vice Commander, Doug Clark and his family at The Maryland Veterans Museum at Patriot Park in Newburg.

Rick Maron



Post 82 Legionnaire and Rider, Rick Maron has been serving in Ukraine with Transform a Street Dog since September 21. Rick has been helping transport and care for displaced animals as the organization medically treats and prepares them for adoption in Ukraine and other countries. Rick is a consummate volunteer. When he's not helping care for dogs he volunteers as a supervisor/coordinator for disaster relief cleanup efforts in the U.S.

To read more about Rick's service in Ukraine visit <https://bit.ly/TransformAStreetDog>

Post Everlasting



Randy Prather
Vietnam Veteran
13 Year Legion Member

Randolph Bennett "Randy" Prather of La Plata, Maryland, passed away on Friday, September 16, 2022 at his home.

Born on August 21, 1948 in Washington, DC, he was the son of the late Frank Prather and Jane Prather. Randy served in the U.S. Air Force before being Honorably Discharged at the rank of Sergeant in 1970. He then worked for A & P, later becoming Super Fresh, as the Produce Manager for many years. After retiring, Randy was a math tutor with Huntington Learning Center for 20 years and would substitute teach for the Charles County Public Schools for 25 years. Randy was a Scout Leader for Troop 1776. He is known for making writing pens in wood and acrylic. Randy enjoyed playing golf, Ten Pin bowling in leagues in Waldorf and working in his yard.

In addition to his parents, Randy was preceded in death by his sister Pamela Christian and father-in-law Bill Ogden.

He is survived by his wife Mary Anne Prather; children Kimberly Prather and Christopher Prather; grandchildren Kayla and her husband Cody, Cassie, Devyn and her fiancé Kyle, Becca and her fiancé Cody, and Tre; great grandchildren Gavin, Grayson, Gannon, and Gabriella; brothers Dennis Prather and Keith Prather; mother-in-law Keets Ogden.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at Raymond Funeral Service, La Plata, Maryland.

Interment followed at Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, Maryland 20623

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The American Heart Association or Wounded Warrior Project.

**POST 82 FAMILY –
NEED ASSISTANCE?
CONTACT**

**POST COMMANDER\SERVICE OFFICER
GEORGE HAWLEY**

Email: 82Postlaplata@gmail.com

Email: ghawley83@gmail.com

Mobile Phone: 240-367-6489

CHAPLAIN

JOHN FLATLEY

Email: johnflatleyjr@gmail.com

Mobile Phone: 301-848-76642

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



Good Afternoon, Riders and Legion Family,

The latest scoop from the Steel Pony Corral:

I'm going to start with some very good news, Rider Mike (Twink) Hanks is recovering very well from his illness and is back to work! His recovery is due to the great care & love from his wife Kim and the new treatment called TWINCAMSALUTE which is available over the counter at your nearest ALR Chapter.

On Sunday October 16, The Riders enjoyed a ride planned by Vivian (Mama G) Gedeon to Luray VA. The ride was led by Victor (Hot Rod) Guillot with a total of 5 bikes and 6 people. Along the way they enjoyed riding through the Blue Ridge Mountains and enjoyed the beautiful fall colors and great fellowship with fellow Riders and family.

On Saturday October 29, the Riders are having a fall clean-up of the Leaders Cabin at Camp Merrick in Nanjemoy. The clean-up starts at 0900 and all are welcome to join. You can bring any light yard tools and an appetite because lunch will be provided by the Lions Club. Contact Randy (Graydog) Markley for more details.

The Riders would like to wish all members a safe and joyous Thanksgiving celebration with your families and friends. If you will be traveling, we hope the highways and bi-ways are open and safe so that you get home just the way you left; except maybe just a few pounds heavier.

The Riders are gearing up for our 3rd Annual Toys for Tots Ride which will take place on Saturday November 26 which coincides with Small Business Saturday in LaPlata. Be looking for our toy collection box to donate an unwrapped new toy for this vital endeavor to bring smiles to the children on Christmas Day. If you would like to donate cash, please make your check out to ALR Post 82 and place it behind the bar in our box or give it to any Rider. We will gladly shop for you.

We would like to encourage all our members as well as our Post Families (Legion, SAL & Auxiliary) to please volunteer some 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 volunteer at what works best with your schedule and it can be as short as an hour or two.

The Riders would like to extend a huge welcome to our newest members Mike DeAngelis and Jay Donnelly!

Upcoming Rides:

Nov. 6 - LaPlata Salute to Veterans Parade
Meet - 1200 Parking lot behind Charles County Courthouse
KSU – 1300
Ride to lunch immediately following parade

Nov 26 – ALR 82 3rd Annual Toys for Tots Run
Registration 0900 – 1000 at Post 82
KSU 1015
See flyer below and our Facebook event for details.

Next ALR meeting is Thursday November 10, at 1800

We ride In HONOR of those who have served.

Submitted On behalf of Director Jamie Zayas (Jamie Z)
By Kevin Bryant, (Big Sexy)

What's Going on at the Post This Month?

Sunday, Nov 6

La Plata Salute to Veterans Parade 1:00pm

Parade route from the County Courthouse parking lot to Town Hall via Charles Street and LaGrange Ave.

Friday, Nov 11

Veterans Day Ceremony 11:00 am

Post 82 parking lot in front of the flags (Indoors if weather requires)

Friday, Nov 18

S.A.L. Baby Back Rib Dinner

5-7pm Bring a friend!

Friday, Nov 25

Members Shrimp in the Bar

6-7pm

Saturday, Nov 26

ALR 82 Annual Toys for Tots Toy Run

9:00am – 12:00pm

Richard R. Clark Senior Center Presents Veterans Day Celebration

Join us as we thank our Veterans for the sacrifices they have made for our great nation!

Entertainment provided by the
LaPlata HS Band.

Wednesday, November 9, 2022
10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

FREE admission for Charles County
Veterans, \$5 - non-veterans
(60 years of age and older)
Seating is limited

Sign Up Early in the program office

Richard R. Clark Senior Center • UIO
Charles Street • La Plata, MD 20646 • 301-
934-5423 • 301-870-201S



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 82
6330 N. CRAIN HWY, LA PLATA, MARYLAND

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2022

REGISTRATION @ 9-10 am

KICK STANDS UP @ 10:15 am

\$10 PER VEHICLE AND 1 UNWRAPPED TOY

PUBLIC INVITED

ALL VEHICLES WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE





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

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



MARYLAND GIRLS STATE
JUNE 18-23, 2023
Salisbury University

It is once again the time for the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) to focus its attention on our Girls State Program. As in the past, we are asking for our Post 82 family's assistance in the selection of girls to attend 2023 ALA Maryland Girls State.

Girls State 2023 is a training program for high school juniors and seniors. The objective is to provide "firsthand" training in the management of a democratic government at city, county, and state levels. It helps develop civic leadership and pride in American citizenship. It arouses a keen interest in the detailed study of our government. It develops in the participants a determination to maintain our form of government, primarily by bringing them to the realization of how great it is to be and American.

This Unit 82 will be sponsoring girls with good scholastic ability and leadership qualities. The candidates must now be in the 11th or 12th grade. Those that are interested will go to www.facebook.com/alamdgs and fill out an Interest Form and an Application. (As they fill out the Interest Form and the Application, they will be asked about the American Legion Auxiliary Unit. Our Unit is 82.)

Candidates will print their application and *contact me for an interview*. At this interview, they will need to bring their application and pay a \$45.00 application fee (cash or check). The American Legion Auxiliary will pay the remaining \$290 registration.

Please have potential candidates watch [this](#) YouTube Video by Rana Holmes. Rana attended LaPlata High School and was a Girls State Citizen in 2020.

When the Mandatory Orientation Schedule is finalized, I will send you the information.

The Interest Form, Application, and interview must be completed before March 15, 2023. The applicants are not to send their applications directly to the department office. It must have a sponsoring unit cover sheet, which I will add to the application after I have done the interview.

Sincerely,

Rita Sexton
Girls State Chairman
7400 Retreat Place
Port Tobacco, MD 20677
301-934-8616
ritasexton20677@yahoo.com



★ **December 17, 2022** ★

National Wreaths Across America Day



Help the American Legion Auxiliary
Unit 82 honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on
a veteran's grave this December at the
Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery.

Just scan the QR code to your right with your smart phone
camera to make a donation online.
Or visit: www.wreathsaacrossamerica.org/MD0136



#FindAWay2022

Contact Linda Rollins at rollinsl@verizon.net for more information.