



# THE AMERICAN LEGION



## Harry White Wilmer Post 82

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

October 2024

[www.Alpost82.org](http://www.Alpost82.org)

301-934-8221

### Commander's Message



Let me start by thanking all the volunteers that showed up for our steak & shrimp dinner Sept 6<sup>th</sup>. You did an outstanding job! Then there were the volunteers that helped cover our booth at the 4-day Charles County Fair. We had 28 members of the Legion Family representing Post 82. The response of people stopping to ask questions about the Legion and what we stand for, and about our programs was very encouraging. We had 26 individuals give us their contact info to become members, 3 students to participate in the Oratorical Scholarship program and Girls State. That is what I consider to be a great response from our community. Thank you, volunteers. We were also awarded the "Best Non-Commercial Exhibit" by the Fair Board.

We will be having our next Steak & Shrimp dinner on Friday, Oct 4 from 5-7pm. Please make plans to attend. If you'd like to help with morning prep at 8am and/or serving and cleanup beginning at 4pm, give me a call at 301-399-1240 or sign up using the link below.  
[https://bit.ly/SteakandShrimp\\_Oct\\_4\\_2024](https://bit.ly/SteakandShrimp_Oct_4_2024)

We are asking those of you who have not renewed your membership for 2025 and beyond, to take care of it ASAP. There are 350 unrenewed members on our roster. Please mail or bring your dues to the Post or renew on-line at [www.mylegion.org](http://www.mylegion.org). Your membership and participation are the lifeblood of Post 82.

If any of our members have high-school children interested in competing for scholarship money through the Constitutional Speech Contest, contact me at 301.399.1240. There is scholarship money out there to be had and this is great life experience and college resume material as well.

On Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>, Post 82 will be participating in the Town of La Plata "Salute to Veterans" parade. We will be marching & riding near the front of the parade. Meet up behind the County Courthouse at 12pm. Join me at the Post after the parade for some refreshments and light food.

On Dec 14<sup>th</sup> we are having our annual Children's Christmas Party. Bring your children and grandchildren. The party is free, and Santa will make an appearance. More information to come.

As we close out September, let's not lose the energy we've had this month; let's carry it on into October, making it another banner month!

I thank you again for allowing me to serve as Commander of Harry White Wilmer Post 82. I'll see you at the Post.

**For God and Country,  
Buddy Hindle**

**Do you know a veteran who is food insecure?**  
Post 82 member, Cassandra Mims, shared the following information from Disabled Veterans National Foundation. She has confirmed that this program is available in Charles County. Applications must be filled out on-line by the veteran at <https://www.grantinterface.com/sl/dl4Nja>. Please share this information with others



**DVNF** DISABLED VETERANS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

★ **Veterans Food Assistance Program** ★

**What?**  
Starting October 1st DVNF will be offering a one-time grant per veteran household to support their nutritional needs.

**How to Apply**  
We have an online application that will need to be completed by the Veteran. The application can be found at <https://www.grantinterface.com/sl/dl4Nja>. The link will be open starting October 1st, 2024.

**Veteran Qualifications**

- Must have a DD214 or Veteran ID
- Was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable
- A letter of reference from a case worker or advocate may make the application more favorable.

**Other Details**

- This is not a monthly grant.
- The groceries will be delivered directly to the Veteran using Walmart or grocery store delivery service.
- Veterans can receive up to \$450 worth of groceries

For more information, please contact us: (202) 737-0522 - [info@dvnf.org](mailto:info@dvnf.org)  
[www.dvnf.org](http://www.dvnf.org)

# AMERICAN LEGION

## Membership Report



Hello fellow Legionnaires,

As we enter the second quarter of the American Legion FY2025, our membership is very strong! As of the September 20 Department report, we have 475 current FY2025 members, 57.16% of our 2025 goal of 831. Our membership is our greatest strength and has made a lasting positive impact for all veterans and active-duty service members since the founding of the American Legion. Our membership is critical to the success of our Post and our American Legion. Your membership matters.

If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2025 or beyond, I would strongly encourage you to stop now, renew now, and then read the rest of this newsletter. You can renew on-line at [www.mylegion.org](http://www.mylegion.org) (preferred method), stopping by the Post or putting your check in the mail.

Thank you for your service, I am honored to serve beside you. Together we make a difference.

Still serving.

David D. Abildgaard, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander  
Membership Chair



## Chaplains Corner

So here we are in October, another summer has come and gone. Ever wonder how the tenth month of the year got a name based on the Latin word for eight? Probably not, but I recently learned that the original Roman calendar started in March, so October was originally the eighth month. When the Roman senate changed the calendar in 153 BCE, the new year started in January, and October became the tenth month. That bit of information and \$8.00 will get you a reasonable cup of coffee at most restaurants these days.

October is the second month of fall in the northern hemisphere and the second month of spring in the southern hemisphere. In both cases, they are periods of typically beautiful, positive, and much needed transformations in weather and the lives of plants and animals. In these seasons temperatures drop or rise, old leaves are shed, and new seeds drop, new buds blossom, winter coats are grown or shed, offspring birthed, lifespans met, and so on.

Thinking about this gave me reason to consider how a parallel in our lives might play out if we were to experience periodic personal seasons of much needed transformation in our lives. In these positive seasons such things would occur as the shedding of toxic relationships and the nurturing of healthy ones, bad habits broken, and good ones developed, and blessings both counted and shared, to name a few.

As humans, such changes would likely require us to mentally, emotionally, and spiritually consider the changes needed, to seek God's guidance as to which one(s) to pursue, and how best to implement them. What if we were to set aside several minutes each day this month to contemplate and take appropriate actions towards attaining these needed positive personal transformations?

I don't know about you, but there is a significant amount of room for positive transformations in my personal life on several levels including physical, familial, and spiritual. I need to lose weight, improve my physical fitness, engage more authentically as a husband, father, sibling, and friend, and to draw closer to God.

That's it, it's decided. I'm going to seek God's wisdom and commit to investing in myself and others, of several minutes of my day for the month of October to the contemplation and attainment of needed positive personal transformations. I trust that taking the time to prayerfully consider and implement such things daily will lead me to take actions to improve myself as a person overall and leave me with fewer regrets going forward. How about you?

I leave you with the following Scripture verses.  
Ecclesiastes 3:1 ESV

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

Proverbs 16:3 ESV

Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

### Post Everlasting

**Edgar "Ed" William Wiesert**, (92) of La Plata MD died on September 3, 2024, at the University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center. Ed served in the US Army Signal Corps as an electronic technician during the Korean War. He was honorably discharged at the rank of Staff



Sergeant in 1953. Ed was a long-time member of the American Legion Post 82.

**Service**

OCT 7. 12:00 PM (ET), Raymond Funeral Chapel, 5635 Washington Ave. La Plata, MD

**Burial**

OCT 7. 1:45 PM (ET), Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery, 11301 Crain Hwy, Cheltenham, MD 20623

Yours in Christ,

Paul Stockman Chaplain

301.768.2514

[papastockman@yahoo.com](mailto:papastockman@yahoo.com)



OFFICIAL VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA'S GAME

## American Legion Sponsors Army/Navy Game

We're excited to announce that The American Legion is now an official sponsor of the Army-Navy Football Game, celebrating its 125th edition on December 14, 2024. This historic partnership marks the first time a veteran's service organization (VSO) has sponsored this iconic event.

Our multi-year deal includes sponsorship of both Army West Point and Navy Athletics, starting with this year's game at Commanders Field in Landover, MD. This partnership will help us advance our Be the One mission to prevent veteran and servicemember suicides.

Join our exclusive list today to be the first to get a sneak peek at the new Army Navy Game merch and be ahead of the crowd with the latest gear!



Email: [American.legion4@verizon.net](mailto:American.legion4@verizon.net)

## "At Your Service" Post 82 Resource Officer

The Southern Maryland Region recently changed the position title, "Post Service Officer" to "Post Resource Officer" to better capture our role in the Legion.

The American Legion's post resource officer (PRO) is a volunteer position within an individual post. A PRO serves as a link between the veteran or dependent and a representative holding American Legion and VA accreditation as a Veterans Service Officer.

An effective PRO understands benefits afforded to veterans and dependents; however, the PRO is not authorized to file any claims on behalf of the claimant. PROs serve as valuable resources to veterans in local posts to ensure that our veterans and their dependents receive their earned benefits.

The American Legion appreciates the dedication of PROs and their willingness to assist with veterans and their dependents. It is through the dedication of volunteers that we can not only assist the 2.4 million members that comprise this organization, but the 21 million veterans and their families nationwide.

*If you know someone in need of assistance from the VA or other support, please don't hesitate to send them my way. As your Post Resource Officer, I am here to offer resources and support to all veterans and their families. Please contact me at 240-267-6489 or ghawley83@gmail.com.*

*George Hawley  
Resource Officer*

Website: <https://www.alpost82.org/>

# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

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

Hello Horses:

Summertime is over and now we are down to  
business!

The Auxiliary will have a meatloaf dinner on  
October 11th from 5-7pm. The menu is meatloaf,  
mashed potatoes, gravy, stewed tomatoes, peas  
with pearl onions, rolls. There will be a dessert  
table also. The cost is \$15.00. So come and join  
us! If you wish to help, please let me know.

Fall Conference will be in Ocean City this year.  
The dates are October 25, 26, 27th. We will not  
have the craft fair this year due to most of the  
ladies that help will be at the fall conference.

If you wish to help in the kitchen for BINGO,  
please contact me at (301) 934-3512. We have  
the same people working it each week and it  
would be nice to have a break.

We would like to update the contact information  
we have on record for you. Please respond to  
Rita Sexton if you have had a change in email,  
phone number and/or home address. Contact her  
at [Ritasexton20677@yahoo.com](mailto:Ritasexton20677@yahoo.com).



For God and Country  
Lesley Radcliff

## Wreaths Across America



Orders are now being taken for the Wreaths  
Across America wreath laying at Cheltenham  
Maryland Veterans Cemetery on December 14,  
2024. Volunteers from Post 82 will once again  
participate in laying wreaths for those Post 82  
members who have gone before us, as we have  
done for many years. Auxiliary Unit 82 is once  
again leading our Post efforts and participating  
in the "3 for 2" program. For every two wreaths  
purchased using our account, a third wreath will  
be donated by WAA. Our goal is to place a  
wreath on all our Post Everlasting interred at  
Cheltenham (over 100 at last count). The  
wreaths are available for a 100% tax deductible  
donation of just \$17 each (2 for \$34).

Order online at

[www.wreathscrossamerica.org/MD0136](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/MD0136)

or by check made out to

*Wreaths Across America* and mailed to:

WAA, L. Rollins, Group Leader

114 Dulles St

La Plata, MD 20646

Thank you in advance for supporting our efforts  
to be sure all our Post Everlasting members are  
remembered and recognized this year.

*Linda*

Linda Rollins

WAA Group Leader Auxiliary Unit 82

# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

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

I attended the Southern Maryland Region (SMR) meeting at Greenbelt Post 136 on August 25. Plans for the Region's 2 major fundraisers, the Shrimp feast and the SMR Drawdown were discussed.

At the Squadron meeting on September 3, Squadron members voted to donate \$1,000 to the Detachment Commander Mike Obremski's Project which is the revitalization of the playground area at the American Legion SMR Youth Camp in Cheltenham. The members also voted to donate \$600 to the S.A.L. SMR bingos at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, \$500 to Toys for Tots of Charles County, \$500 for Boy Scout Troop 1321, and \$500 to Special Olympics of Charles County.

Thanks to Gary Shupe, Alana Lentz, David Quade, Kathleen Quade, Roy Yanosh, Carol Karpiak, Lennie Lentz, Kevin Earle, and Cathy Bryant who volunteered their time at the baby back rib dinner on September 20. As always, thanks to those who turned out to support the dinner. Our next baby back rib dinner will be on October 18. Check the flier on the website [www.alpost82.org](http://www.alpost82.org).

On September 14, Past Detachment of Maryland (2023-24) Joe Lohman stopped by the Post to drop off a couple of National awards the Squadron received at the 52nd National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion in New Orleans on August 24. The plaques, shown below, for the best Squadron History Book and the best Squadron Community Service Scrapbook have been mounted in the foyer at the Post.



Gary Shupe, Lennie Hanson, and I worked on the floor at the SMR bingo at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home on September 16. It was the largest turnout we've had since the pre-Covid days. Forty-nine residents participated and \$220 in prizes was handed out. Pictured below are Gary and Lennie in front of the bingo screen. Privacy restrictions prohibit taking pictures of the residents.





Thanks to Gale Willett and Gary Shupe for handling the registration and refreshment tables at the American Red Cross Blood drive on September 23. Thirty-seven units of lifesaving blood were collected. Thanks to all those who donated.

As of the September 20 report, 69 members have paid their 2025 dues. This number represents 31.94% of our goal of 216. Dues are still just \$20 for members 21 or over and \$15 for dual members and those under 21. Membership dues can be paid at the Post, by mail to the Post, or on-line at [Myegion.org/renew](http://Myegion.org/renew). Because on-line renewal is only set up for the \$20 rate, it should not be used by dual or under 21-year-old members.

Yours in Service, Dave



**David Tatman**  
**Commander, Squadron 82**  
[tatman\\_david@comcast.net](mailto:tatman_david@comcast.net)

## What's Going on at Post 82 in October?

### **Tuesday, October 1**

S.A.L. Meeting – 6 PM

Legion Exec Mtg – **No Exec Meeting in October**

### **Wednesday, October 2**

Honor Flight Charles County

0600 Registration

0730 Departure for Washington, DC

1900 Welcome Home Ceremony at New Life Church, White Plains (See Flyer Below)

### **Friday, October 4**

Steak & Fried Shrimp Dinner 5 – 7pm

Public Invited

Signup to volunteer

[https://bit.ly/SteakandShrimp\\_Oct\\_4\\_2024](https://bit.ly/SteakandShrimp_Oct_4_2024)

### **Tuesday, October 8**

Legion Membership Meeting – 6PM

Auxiliary Meeting – 6 pm

### **Thursday, October 10**

American Legion Riders Meeting – 6 PM

### **Friday, October 11**

Auxiliary Meatloaf Dinner 5 – 7 PM

Open to the Public

### **Friday, October 18**

S.A.L. BBQ Rib Dinner 5 – 7 PM

Open to the Public

### **Friday, October 25**

Members Shrimp in the Bar 6 – 7 PM

Members Only

### **S.A.L. Queen of Hearts every Wednesday**

Drawing in the Lounge at 7pm

### **Auxiliary BINGO every Thursday.**

Doors open at 4:30 PM



### **ALR Meetings are held the Second Thursday of Each Month at 1800hrs**

Hello Riders, wow the last year just flew by. Summer is winding down and it is already membership renewal time for 2025. Please renew your memberships in the Legion, S.A.L. and, Auxiliary. This is mandatory for membership in the Riders. So, with that out of the way it is also time to renew your Riders membership for a very reasonable \$15. After 12/31 it will go up to \$20.

A very special thank you to all of those who came out to support our Spaghetti Dinner on August 30. We sold 114 dinners, 90 desserts and one 50/50 board for a total of \$1,638. Also, a huge thank you to Chef's Markley and Zayas for that incredible sauce and all of the members and spouses for their support in putting the food on the table and the final cleanup of the kitchen.



On Sunday Sept. 8, The Riders attended the kickoff dinner for Warfighter Advance's Evolution #37 at Lions Camp Merrick in Nanjemoy. Six Riders, representing our entire organization presented Warfighter Advance with a check for \$13,277.00 from our SoMD Gold Star Legacy Ride and the Gun Raffle. I'm over the top proud

of the men and women of ALR 82 for their commitment and dedication to make a positive difference in the lives of veterans and our community. Also, a heartfelt "THANK YOU" to our business sponsors and partners for your loyal support of our events and causes. This check would not be as significant without each of you.

On Saturday Sept. 14, The Riders rode to Mayo Post 226 in Edgewater to show love and support to ALR 226 and their \$50K Challenge project. ALR Post 226 raised over \$70K in 7 months. On Saturday they presented a check to America's Warrior Partnership in honor of US Army Chief Warrant Officer Nick Fogle who lost the battle with his inner self. We are so proud of our brothers and sisters of ALR 226 for one hell of a successful endeavor. Fourteen Post 82 Riders enjoyed food, live music and vendors dropping a lot of cash in support of the fundraiser.

Upcoming Rides: (Check ALR 82 FB or GroupMe for details)

Cruisin' Southern Maryland Fundraiser for Charlotte Hall Veterans Home September 28 @0730

Honor Flight Welcome Home New Life Church Oct. 2 @1900

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home Ice Cream Social Oct. 5 @1330

ALR Membership Meeting Thursday Oct. 10, @1800

Respectfully Submitted,

**Kevin "Big Sexy" Bryant**  
**Director**  
**ALR Chapter 82, MD**





## **CAPITAL REGION HONOR FLIGHT**

### **OPERATION “WELCOME HOME”**

**COME OUT TO GREET OUR SENIOR WAR VETERANS AS THEY RETURN FROM THEIR DAY OF HONOR. THIS HONOR FLIGHT IS MADE UP OF VETERANS FROM WWII, KOREA AND VIETNAM.**

**WHERE: NEW LIFE CHURCH**

**9690 SHEPHERDS CREEK PLACE, LAPLATA MD**

**WHEN: OCTOBER 2ND, 2024**

**PLEASE ARRIVE BY 7PM TO GREET BUS.**

**SHOW UP, CHEER LOUD, SHAKE A HAND !**

**When the bus pulls into New Life Church, we want to hear you LOUD and PROUD! Honor Guard, Taps and a County Proclamation, along with an opportunity to visit with Veterans. Signs/Banners/American Flags/Hugs encouraged.**

**LET'S SHOW THESE VETERANS HOW A GRATEFUL COMMUNITY WELCOMES WARRIORS HOME!**

**FOR MORE INFO-CALL/TEXT MARK BRICKELL 301-643-4450  
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MARKWBRICKELL**

