



Ron Asby Post 304 News

4220 S. Main Street
Acworth, GA 30101
(678) 217-5738



Vol 7, Issue 9
September 1, 2018

“There is always one more thing we can do to make a difference!”



**Serving our
Armed Forces Members**

COMMANDER'S NOTES

COMMANDER BOB KOZORA



Well here it is September first! Time is flying for sure. I have to take a brief pause and remember the passing of our dear friend and brother, Jerry Phillips last month. Special thanks to all of his friends who represented his Post at his funeral. RIP Brother.

Well, today is the Car Show, and I can only hope and pray that you come out and support it. **Dan Harr** has put a lot of effort into it, so we pray for a great outcome. Let's hope the weather man cooperates this time.

Our flag has been at half staff in remembrance of Jerry and of course the passing of Joe Biden. We will always honor our own first!

There are a number of great submissions to the newsletter from our new Officers. Thanks to each of you for your efforts and accomplishments so far. Looks like it's going to be a good year, but we need your support as well.

As Jim Smith mentioned, the kitchen staff is getting burnt out, and I am one of them. We need help there, and no it's not just flipping burgers, it's the preparation and clean up at the end of the day. At present we have to consider limiting the days that the kitchen is open, and I really don't want to think about it, but, it is simple, we need help. Henry, The Admiral, George and Greg as well as Jim Smith are pushing their limits. What are YOU going to do about it?

Pigs and Peaches was good, but with limited volunteers, and not the best of locations, the few people who showed up did their best, but I am a bit disappointed in the showing. A hardy thank you to all those who showed up. This is YOUR POST, let's make it a Post to be proud of by giving a bit of your time!

Have to thank those who showed up for the Malt Tasting. Put \$200 in the coffers. Next Tasting is September 22nd.

Thanks and God Bless!





BITS AND PIECES

Auxiliary President Lynda Asby



We are a part of the American Legion Family. We work together with the Legion Family so that everything we do benefits the veterans, military, their families, and the youth of the community. This past year, the Auxiliary raised funds for a variety of things. Just a few examples:

- Sponsored three girls to Girls State (\$300 each)
- Provided a Chemo Care Basket to a Legion member
- Donated money to Wreaths Across America
- Donated money to 5th District Past President's Parley towards the Nurses Scholarship Fund

We had a small group of Auxiliary members make this possible by volunteering at some of the following:

- Served at Post 304's BBQ in November
- Assisted with Post 304's 2017 Car Show
- Passed out Poppies for Veterans Day
- Hosted a Pancake Breakfast for the ALA's Blood Drive in March

Could we do more? **YES!** But, **we need you!** That is why we would love to see you at a meeting or two. We need your input for new ideas to raise funds so that we can do more. Remember, "In the spirit of Service, Not Self," is part of our mission to support and honor the sacrifice of those who serve/have served by enhancing their lives and their families.

I hope to see you at the meeting on September 19th, @ 7 p.m. We will have a short presentation by John Finch on "Quilts of Valor." Come to learn about this mission for our Veterans!

It's membership renewal time for 2019. Bring your check to the next meeting, pay online, or renew at the bar. Dues are only \$25 for the year. If you are not a member (but your significant other is a member of the American Legion) we would love to get to know you, so come to our next meeting. You just might decide this is the place to be!

In the spirit of Service, Not Self,
Lynda

The Adjutants Additions



Let me start off by saying that I am honored to serve as Adjutant for our Post this year. We have a great Commander and set of Officers and I look forward to an exciting and productive year.

Among the Adjutant's duties is the administration and reporting of Post membership. This is a large focus for us this time of year and this article is aimed to inform and encourage you. First off, membership in the Post is our life blood as an organization, nationally as well as locally.

Our current membership as of this writing is approximately 247 (by our Post-level tracking) against a target of 520, or about 47%. That is very encouraging this early on in the year and we thank you for your efforts to complete your renewals. The Department goal for membership for all Posts in Georgia is to be at 50% by September 15th. That date is only a couple of weeks away and we are asking you to complete your renewal as quickly as possible, if you have not already done so, to help us achieve or exceed our targets.

There are 3 primary and simple ways in which you can renew your membership. It only takes a few minutes of your time.

- 1—Online:** Go to "legion.org/renew" through your web browser and simply login and complete the steps.
- 2—Mail-in:** By now all of you have probably received one or more renewal notices with forms in your U.S. Mail. Simply mail the form to us at the Post along with your check for \$40, and we will process your renewal and send your new membership card to you in the mail.
- 3—On-site:** Better yet, come into the Post with your renewal notice form and pay your annual membership at the register in the Bar and Grill. You will get a receipt, which you can bring to the Commander of me and we will issue your card to you on the spot. If neither of us are available at the time, we will mail your card to you. You can also grab a snack from the menu along with a refreshment of your choice while you are there. We'd love to see you.

So you see, there are simple ways to accomplish this little piece of business. Please take care of it as soon as you can. We appreciate your continued support for our Post.

Thank you for ensuring that The American Legion remains the most powerful voice in America on behalf of veterans, service members, their families, and communities across the nation.

Regards, Bob Hughes

Thoughts from our Senior Vice Commander

By the time you read this, hopefully, there will be a new wall file at the front entrance with applications for all four of our families. Along with new signage for visitors to the Post.

We are just about at the halfway mark of making our 100% membership number which is a good sign, however we need to get those other members to renew as soon as possible.

The National Department has shown that our family members have been on a decline due to the loss of older members. We must reach out to the younger generation of our military families to make up for this loss. We have in our area a large number of young veterans, reservists and Guard as well as Active personnel that need to be asked and encouraged to join and become part of our family.

So the challenge to everyone is to get out and remind an existing member to renew their dues and to sign up one new member this year.

A Post is only as strong as its members and it's the members that make a Post strong.

Now to the lighter side of things, as our Social Quarters Junior Vice Commander is in the process of retiring and moving, we really need a volunteer to step up and run the kitchen on Saturday or to work the other days, or you continue to eat my crockpot food on Saturday and I have to warn you I have a book full of off the wall menus for one pot meals. West Virginia Road Kill Stew is being saved till cooler weather.

But in all seriousness, the current Kitchen Crew is tired, some of them have been at it since the Post home opened and our kitchen is a big part of our revenue, so please step up and take a spot either as a cook or a helper.

Jim Smith
Senior Vice Commander



A note from your Post Service Officer

This month I'd like to address the general qualifications for a

NON-SERVICE CONNECTED PENSION

A Veteran, the Widowed Spouse of a Veteran or the Disabled Child of a Veteran may apply for a Non-Service connected Pension.

The Veterans Administration can provide help to Veterans and their families to cope with financial hardship by providing a supplemental subsistence income through the Veterans Pension benefit. Veterans Pension is a tax-free monetary benefit payable to low-income wartime Veterans.

Generally speaking a Veteran must typically have at least 90 days of active duty service, with at least one day during a wartime period then all of his/her service is considered war-time and the Veteran qualifies for a VA Pension. If the Veteran entered active duty after September 7, 1980, generally you must have served at least 24 months or the full period for which you were called or ordered to active duty (with some exceptions), with at least one day during a wartime period.

As was stated in last month's Post 304 News ... Only veterans with war-time service are eligible for non-service connected disability pension benefits. This does not require the veteran to have served in a combat zone, only that he/she was in service during the designated periods. War-time dates include: **Korean Conflict:** from June 1950 to January 1955; **Vietnam (Southeast Asian) Conflict** from August 5, 1964 (*but from February 28, 1961, for those who actually served in Southeast Asia*) to May 7, 1975; and the **Persian Gulf Conflict:** for VA benefits eligibility purposes, the Gulf War period is still in effect. ... duty from August 2, 1990, to present is considered a Gulf War Veteran.

A Veteran cannot have had a dishonorable discharge.

The Veteran must be age 65 or older, **OR** the Veteran's physician must declare him/her in need of personal assistance from another person and/or in need of a protective environment which may include services offered by a care (nursing home) facility; **OR** receiving Social Security Disability Insurance, **OR** receiving Supplemental Security Income.

The Veteran should have limited household assets; excluding primary home, car, and personal belongings. If the assets are jointly owned by **OTHER THAN A DEPENDENT**, only the Veteran's share is generally considered countable. In the case of a married Veteran, both his & her assets are countable.

Continued on next page

The VA now considers the Veterans life expectancy in determining how much a claimant can have. If the Veteran has assets greater than \$50,000 it would be best to consult an Elder Care Attorney – and never just start transferring assets or adding names to your accounts without proper legal or professional advice.

Finally, a Veteran's household out-of-pocket annual medical expenses must exceed or come close to his/her total annual household gross income. The total annual cost of a care facility may be considered a medical expense **IF the doctor states the need**. If the Veteran lives independently it would require a **THIRD-PARTY** caregiver.

SPOUSAL BENEFITS

A surviving spouse must have been married to the Veteran for at least one year or have had a child by the Veteran if married less than 1 year and never remarried. The surviving spouse typically must be living with the Veteran at the time of the Veterans death (there may be some exceptions to these two statements).

HOW TO APPLY

You can apply for Veterans Pension online or download and complete VA Form 21P-527EZ, "Application for Pension". You can mail your application to the Pension Management Center (PMC) for the state of Georgia. Personally, I continue to recommend as in past columns, that the applicant file electronically. Additionally, for complete information and assistance your local **Georgia Department of Veteran's Affairs** would be glad to help you with this as well as other matters pertaining to your veteran's benefits.

Georgia Department of Veterans Services
320 W. Cherokee Ave.
Suite 105
Cartersville, GA 30120
(770) 387-3746

www.veterans.georgia.gov

Want current information on Veteran's Benefits and legislation come visit my page on Facebook - North Cobb 304 Veteran Services Officer – I update this site frequently with information from various sources to keep you updated as to the latest news, trends and assistance on the benefits you earned while serving

"This guy
plays some
great Blues!"
— Les Paul —

ROGER HURRICANE WILSON

APPEARING LIVE!

American Legion #304

Friday, September 7 - 6 to 9pm

www.hurricanewilson.com

Our foodbank donations are back. At the end of each month we will be taking our donations to a local food bank. Please give what you can ... stop by and drop off your donations.... to each monthly meeting make it a priority to bring non-perishable items ... each time you come bring a can of food so that others may eat.



For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore, I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'

[Deuteronomy 15:11](#)

Support Combating PTSD by playing
Find the
Queen of Hearts
Jackpot now at \$4536.00



Drawings: Sunday's at 4:30pm

Ticket donations are \$4.00 each

Available now!

Complete Rules of the Game available at
the bar in LZ304

25% of each weekly ticket donations goes to the
Combating PTSD Fund.

Multiple chances to win besides the Jackpot!

September Birthday's

Make sure you wish them the best!

- 1—Bobby Tripp
- 4—Elizabeth Bolen
- 5—Jeff Duckett and William Smail
- 7—James Durham
- 9—George Edmondson and John Husselman
- 12—Harry “Skip” Smith
- 13—Michael Barrett and Benjamin Blanco
- 14—Clyde Tanner
- 15—Dylan Doyle and Charles Jones
- 16—John Cameron and George Zimmer
- 17—Robert Scalfaro
- 18—Gregory Horton, Richard Blevins Jr and James Jenkins
- 20—Richard Anderson Sr and Jeffery Whitehurst
- 21—Richard Bell Jr
- 23—David Beasley and William Manning
- 24—James Peshel
- 26—Geoffrey Brownlee and Steve Price
- 27—David Carne and Andrea Currier
- 29—Tom Fitzgerald
- 30—Mathew Phillips

If we missed your Birthday, please let us know so we can update our list.



Kiwanis Club Meeting is every Wednesday at 11 AM

ABA Morning Jolt Every 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 AM

SEPT 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Please try to attend the meetings as posted. This is YOUR POST!				30	31	1 CAR SHOW AT THE POST
2	Labor Day POST OPEN	Lions Club Meeting	5	ALR Meeting	Roger "Hurricane" Wilson 6 PM	8
9	10	SAL Meeting	12	13	14	15
16	E-Board Meeting	Lions Club Meeting	Auxiliary Meeting	General Meeting	21	Malt Tasting
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6