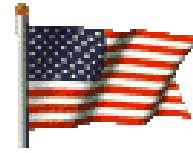


AMERICAN LEGION
BICENTENNIAL POST 1976
4206 Daniels Avenue
Annandale, VA 22003
Post Info Line: 703-941-9608
Email: rpcomm6759@aol.com
Website: www.post1976.org



If you wish to receive the newsletter, please send your email address to rpcomm6759@aol.com and we will email it.

American Legion Post 1976

Spring 2022

NEWSLETTER





VOLUME XLII ISSUE #1

Spring 2022

Post 1976 Officers

POST 1976 LEGION OFFICERS 2021–2022

Commander: Gretchen Trujillo; Thegretch61@verizon.net

1st Vice Cdr. (Membership): Jeremy Powell
jmpowell78@gmail.com

2nd Vice Cdr. (Events): Vacant

3rd Vice Cdr. (House Comm): Lance Kent;
lancekent17@aol.com

Finance Officer: Frank Buckley; frankcbuckley@aol.com

Chaplain: Paul McComb; pmccomb98@gmail.com

Historian: Vacant

Service Officer: Dorothy Hennessey Vigano
703-898-6627; dorothyvigano@yahoo.com

Sgt. At Arms: Dick George; hndymndick@aol.com

Adjutant: Dan Vigano

MEETINGS:

Executive Board: 1st Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m.

General Membership: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

House Committee: 1st Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 1976

President: Tom Uglietta; TomUg@verizon.net

1st Vice (Membership): Mike Trujillo
MrT.Mike@verizon.net

Treasurer: Mike Lowe

Sergeant at Arms: Scott Pratt

Historian: Doug Oneill

Adjutant: Gary Indre

Chaplain: Steve Smith

MEETINGS: 1st Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 1976

Director: Mike Trujillo; MrT.Mike@verizon.net

Treasurer: Dick George; hndymndick@aol.com

MEETINGS: 3rd Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 1976

President: Pam McCarthy;
pamelamccarthy@consiliumdevelopment.com

1st Vice President: Vacant

2nd Vice President: Joyce Landry; catnaper520@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sharon Ogle; Share2520@gmail.com

Treasurer: Laura Werner; laurawer@yahoo.com

Chaplain: Susan Dudding; Susan.dudding@yahoo.com

Historian: Vacant

Sgt. At Arms: Vacant

Membership: Karen McDaniel;
karensmdaniel@verizon.net

MEETINGS: 2nd Monday of the month, 7 p.m., except June, July (no meeting)

Club Manager: Diane Ramsey
703-941-9608; Rpcomm6759@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Stephanie Kern; Slk04@hotmail.com

Website Manager: Heather Pressler,
heather@capitalpractice.com

Want to get the newsletter emailed to you? Email Diane Ramsey at rpcomm6759@aol.com.

Commander's Corner

Dear Fellow Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders:

Welcome to spring 2022!

We are keeping everyone in our thoughts and prayers.

Our Legion Family Breakfasts are all-you-can-eat, dine-in only, on the third Sunday every month from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. The cost is \$10.00. This event is open to the public. We thank our volunteers from the SAL, Legion, and Auxiliary for their continued support.

Upcoming General Membership meetings will be held on March 8, April 12, May 10, and June 14 at 7 p.m. It is highly encouraged that our members join us at these meetings as this is a great forum to address issues, bring up ideas, and discuss legion business. The Executive Board and House Committee need your support. Please use the Suggestion Box for suggestions and/or complaints. Verbal ideas and complaints in the “Social Quarters” fall on deaf ears and do not constitute valid suggestions. Complaints need to be signed and dated. Please sign suggestions if you would like to hear the outcome of your idea.

Honorable Mentions: Thanks to American Legion Post 1976 for all of your support with the passing of Mike Lapont and being there for his Celebration of Life. Joyce Landry, Susan Dudding, Sharon Ogle, Karen McDaniel, Dee Rafferty, Susan Bodner, Paul McComb, Austin the Bagpiper, and Kelly from Blue BBQ: Thank you for your hard work and dedication in helping Mike and me. We couldn't have pulled this off without you. We are blessed to have such a wonderful legion family.

Patricia Ness—thank you for organizing the Winter Olympics and thanks to the team of

volunteers in supporting this effort, which is a huge success.

Thank you, Joyce Landry, for shopping and delivering goods for the Martinsburg Canteen.

Thank you, Lance Kent, for organizing Texas Hold Em' and Trivia. These have been very successful and everyone has lots of fun.

Thank you Tom Uglietta, Red, Tennessee, and Scott Pratt for taking the lead on the Legion Family Breakfast. Thank you servers, Dorothy Vigano and Sharon Ogle, for your help. Thank you Mike Trujillo, Lance Kent, and Susan Dudding for being our cleanup crew. Stephanie Kern, thank you for keeping the cleanup crew in line and helping us. Please forgive me if I left anyone off as it wasn't intentional.

For God and Country,

Gretchen Trujillo, Commander

1st Vice's Report

The Post is continuing to do well in meeting our membership milestones. Thank you to all of our members that have already renewed and to the several new members who have recently joined! We are thrilled to have you aboard! Currently we are sitting at about 92% of our membership goal for 2022. Overall, the 17th District is sitting at 90.5% of its goal. While we are doing better than the overall District average, we are hovering near the middle of the pack when it comes to individual posts within the 17th. We need 21 more renewals, new members, or transfers of Legionnaires to fully meet our goal for the year. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, now is the perfect time to do so! You can pay and renew online at www.MyLegion.org once you have registered for an account, or you can drop off your dues to any of our friendly bartenders. If you have friends who are veterans or currently serving, please talk to them about the benefits of Legion membership as well. Remember, anyone currently serving on Active Duty who joins the Legion for the first time has their dues covered by the post for their first year! Thanks again for your continued

support and camaraderie, and I hope to see you around Post 1976 soon!

Jeremy Powell, 1st Vice Commander

2nd Vice's Report

This position is currently vacant. Please contact the Post for more information.

3rd Vice's Report

No report this quarter.

Lance Kent, 3rd Vice Commander

Finance Officer's Report

Post 1976 Calendar Year 2021 financial highlights:

- Net income from operations for 2021: \$153,056.29
- Current assets as of Dec. 31, 2021: \$385,885.19, an increase of \$115,327.72 for the year.
- Mortgage: Paid \$29,734.74 in mortgage principal and satisfied the loan 5 years and 4 months early.
- Charitable contributions during 2021: \$20,260.99.

Frank Buckley, Finance Officer

Chaplain's Report

Thank you for everyone who participated in the February 6th Four Chaplains Memorial Service.

We pray for our military members and their families—especially those military deployed to Europe. Lord, bless them and provide them your constant companionship, comfort, and protection.

St Patrick's Day (March 17, 2022). St. Patrick's Day observes the death of St. Patrick (5th century Ireland), patron saint and national



apostle of Ireland, credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland and probably responsible in part for the Christianization of Ireland. A St Patrick's Day prayer: May the Strength of God pilot us. May the Power of God preserve us. May the Wisdom of God instruct us. May the Hand of God protect us. May the Way of God direct us. May the Shield of God defend us. May the Host of God guard us, Against the snares of the evil ones, Against temptations of the world. May Thy Salvation, Lord, Always be ours, This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.

The overwhelming message of Passover, Holy Week, and Easter is of God's deep love for humanity. Easter reminds us of God's never-ending love for us. For the Spring and the Easter season find ways to make that love visible in the world. That might mean planting a garden; bringing groceries to someone who is shut-in; donating to those in need; making calls and sending emails to check on friends, family, neighbors, and fellow veterans; or finding ways to center yourself in love.



Blessings to you and your family. Happy Easter!

Paul McComb, Chaplain

Service Officer's Report

No report this quarter.

Dorothy Hennessey Vigano, Service Officer
dorothyvigano@yahoo.com; (703) 898-6627

Historian's Report

This position is currently vacant. Please contact the Post for more information.

Club Manager's Report

No report this quarter.

Diane Ramsey, Club Manager

American Legion Auxiliary Report

Happy March, Auxiliary Members!

We've been busy bees since our last update. Our membership drive is going well. We are at 95%!! We've had quite a few new members and transfers this year, so I wanted to take this moment to say Welcome and Thank You! To our current membership, thank you for renewing. We look forward to a great year. If you haven't renewed, you still have time. Please feel free to mail in your dues or drop them off when you come to visit our Post.

The revised Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules were sent to members for review. The vote to approve the revisions will be held at our next meeting on March 14th.

We are happy to say that Girls State is back on and we are in the process of selecting applicants. We are grateful to the Legion, SAL, Riders, and our Auxiliary for their donations enabling us to send 6 girls this year. I'd like to especially thank the Annandale Women's Club who generously donated funds allowing us to send an additional applicant from Annandale High School.

We were informed that the Food Pantry at Martinsburg was absolutely depleted. I am happy to share with you that with the donations from the Legion as well as individual members, we were able to deliver much needed food items TWICE in the past 2 months. A special thank you to Joyce Landry for spearheading this project!!

We were able to support 5 Veterans Hospitals this past quarter with a donation of \$300 to each

hospital. We were also able to finally deliver the Prom dresses we had gathered through donation 2 years ago to support special needs proms specifically for Fairfax County. We provided additional support in the form of a monetary donation to provide accessories as well.

The annual Poppy Mailing will be in May. We invite all Auxiliary Members to join us as we will be doing this as a group event at the Post. Please be on the lookout for the specific date. We will notify everyone via email.

We have been on a bit of a hiatus concerning our monthly craft event. However, we anticipate starting up again soon. If you'd like to participate, please be on the lookout for an email. It is so much fun and we would love to have you!

I want to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers for their dedication and hard work. We have some of the best volunteers. I'd like to give a special thank you to Karen McDaniel. We currently do not have a 1st Vice and Karen has been kind enough to step up to solely manage our membership. Without her efforts on this front, we would be in a terrible bind. Thank you, Karen!!!!

Pam McCarthy, Auxiliary President

Sons of the American Legion Report

Winter is almost over, and that warm weather is feeling much better. We did get a few inches of snow this Winter, requiring actually shoveling it off the sidewalks! Hopefully, we are finished with any heavy snow the rest of this year.

The 2022 Membership year is ending soon. At the current time, our Squadron has a total renewal count of 97 members for the 2022 Membership year. That's getting close to our Department Goal of 110 members for our Post 1976 SAL Squadron. So, let's achieve that goal soon. If you haven't yet renewed, please get your renewal in soon. The renewal cost is still \$30 for SAL members. Dual members pay only the State Membership cost of \$15 for their dual SAL membership. If you would like to renew for 2022, you can place your renewal

request in an envelope addressed to Mike T, with the \$30 renewal fee. The bartender on duty will provide the waiting renewals to me when I come into the Post home for meetings or just to visit, which I will then process, and provide a 2022 membership card for the member renewing; it will be mailed to you unless you are a frequent member that I can hand it to.

The Post is continuing with the monthly Trivia Contests, on the third Tuesday of the month. SAL also cooks chicken wings and hot dogs on the day of the Trivia Contest, with service beginning about 6:00 in the afternoon. So, come out to the Post and enjoy a great wing or hot dog snack, and also participate in the humorous Trivia Contest, and have lots of fun answering some of the Jeopardy-style questions Lance comes up with to throw out to the participants.

SAL also participates in the monthly Legion Breakfast, held on the third Sunday of the month. SAL members do most of the cooking and are assisted by other Legion and Auxiliary members to distribute the breakfast plates and clean up after the breakfast is over. This is a very fun occasion we can be proud of in our Post/Squadron, and the number of folks who come out for the Legion Breakfast is very significant. Our Post is proud to turn out this breakfast each month.

The SAL meeting is scheduled for the first Thursday of each month, at 7:00 p.m. We would like to hear any recommendations for events or any other worthwhile endeavors that we can undertake during the year which would benefit the Post.

The Squadron now has a substantial number of members who participate in person at the monthly meetings; but we also understand that some folks would rather participate remotely, so participation in the SAL meetings can be accessed using ZOOM connectivity on your home computer. If you so desire to join us in the monthly meeting through ZOOM, please respond to a message we will be sending out to all Squadron SAL members a day or so before the meeting, and we will send you a ZOOM invite to the meeting.

So please place the SAL meetings in your calendar, and hopefully you will join us for the next meeting.

Remember to be careful and stay safe.

For God and Country,

Mike Trujillo, SAL 1st Vice

American Legion Riders Report

Well, Spring is just around the corner, and hopefully this warmer weather will allow for much more riding trips. The past couple of months have been standard Winter climate, limiting our combined rides.

As far as the events our chapter has been involved in, here are the current efforts we are involved in:

The Legion Riders 1976 Chapter has provided donations to the Martinsburg, VA, Food Pantry, to provide needy clothing items and non-perishable foods to Veterans.

We are already scheduling items for our 2022 ThunderBash, which will be held on Sunday, May 29, 2022. We will have vendors set up in the parking lot, BBQ sandwiches will be provided for a minimal price, and we will have one or two bands playing throughout the afternoon.

Our chapter is preparing to schedule our annual trip to Bedford, VA, to visit the DDAY Memorial, and definitely visit the Bedford Boys Tribute Center for their presentation of the Bedford Boys story on DDAY. The trip is tentatively scheduled for June 4-5, 2022, the weekend before DDAY. More information will be forthcoming as to the travel times and hotel reservations.

We will be looking into things to do at the Post as additional fundraisers. With much warmer weather moving in, let's get out and ride. RIDE SAFE!

Mike Trujillo, ALR Director

District 17's Four Chaplains Memorial Service

Several Post 1976 members attended the District 17's Four Chaplains Memorial Service on Feb. 6 at Post 177 Fairfax. This was the 79th anniversary of four U.S. Army Chaplains sacrificing themselves (giving up their life vests) while their WWII transport ship was sinking in the frigid Atlantic Ocean on Feb. 3, 1947.



Officers of the District 17 American Legion at the Four Chaplains Memorial Service, at Post 177 Fairfax on February 6, 2022. The guest speaker was Army Chaplain (Colonel) Robert Nay.



Joyce Landry, Susan Dudding, Commander Gretchen Trujillo, Karen McDaniel, and Mike Trujillo.



District Chaplain Paul McComb and his wife, Debbie (ALA).



Bill Walter and his sons (Christopher & Samuel) and Chaplain McComb pose by the Four Chaplains Memorial Wreath.

Post 1976 Member Jim Bucklin Turns 100!



Clockwise from top left: Patricia Ness, Commander Gretchen Trujillo, District Commander Mike Kimlick, and birthday boy Jim Bucklin. *Photo by Paul McComb.*

Our neighbor, Jim Bucklin, celebrated his 100th birthday on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022. Jim bought one of the first houses on Roundtree Road in 1961 and is one of a very few remaining "plankholders" in the Holmes Run Valley neighborhood. We placed a Happy Birthday banner on his lawn so neighbors and friends could drive by his home on Roundtree Road and honk out a Happy Birthday greeting to Jim!

Jim is a tenth generation American with roots back to his first ancestor, William Buckland, who sailed to Massachusetts in 1634. Jim's ancestors resided in Rehoboth, MA, and then Rhode Island where Jim was born in 1922. Jim graduated high school in Rhode Island and was a public school teacher at 18 before

he was drafted into the Navy in 1942. He served on a minesweeper during WWII; was involved in the invasion of southern France in 1944; and was associated with protecting a communications ship associated with the Yalta Conference where FDR, Churchill, and Stalin met to plan for the peace after the war.

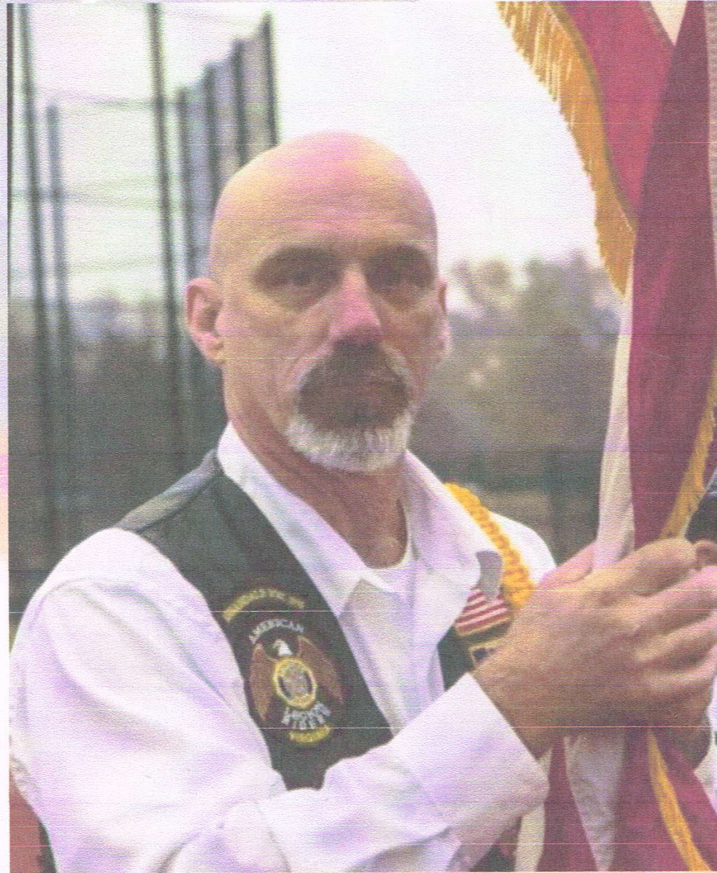
After his 14-month service to his country, Jim married, moved to Virginia, and started his family. He bought their home on Roundtree Road for \$26,000—with an extra \$500 for a carport and \$50 for a fireplace. His son and daughter attended (then) Jeb Stuart High School and neighborhood kids learned to swim in his backyard pool.

Jim has traveled to more than a dozen countries including Canada, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, and countries in Africa. He has traveled to all 48 continental states and Alaska twice. He took his family and friends all over the country in his camper. His son and daughter now reside in Florida. His daughter continues to call him weekly.

Jim was a jeweler at the Pentagon and an appliance technician for many years before he retired in 1987 at 65. He is a lifetime member of the Moose Lodge and the American Legion in Annandale, where he was honored at a special birthday recognition.

For much of his life he has enjoyed gardening, yard work, and woodworking including furniture making and making things on the lathe. He still "fiddles around" in his workshop and occasionally drives to errands and appointments, although somewhat more rarely now. He was a big fan of the Commanders Football Team (formerly Redskins) until they cut Kirk Cousins in 2017. He enjoys TV quiz shows and watching the bevy of birds drawn to his front window feeders.

Celebration of Life



March 12, 2022





1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

American Legion Post 1976


4206 Daniels Avenue

Annandale, Virginia 22003

~ March 2022 ~

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | 1 <div>House Committee Meeting 6:30</div> <div>Executive Board Meeting 7 pm</div> | 2 | 3 <div>SAL Meeting 7 pm</div> | 4 | 5 DAR Meeting 10-12 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 <div>General Membership Meeting 7 pm</div> | 9 | 10  | 11 Texas Hold Em' 7 p.m. | 12 Cornbread's Celebration of Life 1-4 p.m. Legion Olympics 6 p.m. |
| 13 Daylight Saving Time Begins | 14 <div>Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm</div> | 15 Trivia Night 7 p.m. | 16 | 17  St. Patrick's Day Dinner 2-6 p.m. | 18 Texas Hold Em' 7 p.m. | 19 Legion Olympics 6 p.m. |
| 20 All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24  | 25 Texas Hold Em' 7 p.m. | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31  | | |

~ April 2022 ~

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 April Fool's Day | 2 DAR Meeting 10-12 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 House Committee Meeting 6:30 Executive Board Meeting 7 pm | 6 | 7  SAL Meeting 7 pm | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm | 12 General Membership Meeting 7 pm | 13 | 14  | 15 Good Friday | 16 |
| 17 EASTER All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | 18 | 19 Trivia Night 7 p.m. | 20 | 21  ALR Meeting 7:00 pm | 22 Earth Day | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28  | 29 | 30 |

~ May 2022 ~

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 <div>House Committee Meeting 6:30</div> <div>Executive Board Meeting 7 pm</div> | 4 | 5 <div>SAL Meeting 7 pm</div> <div>Cinco de Mayo</div> | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Mother's Day | 9 <div>Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm</div> | 10 <div>General Membership Meeting 7 pm</div> | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | 16 | 17 Trivia Night 7 p.m. | 18 | 19 <div>ALR Meeting 7:00 pm</div> | 20 | 21 Armed Forces Day |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 ThunderBash | 30 Memorial Day | 31 | | | | |