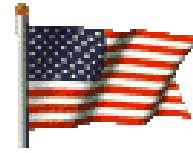


**AMERICAN LEGION
BICENTENNIAL POST 1976**
4206 Daniels Avenue
Annandale, VA 22003
Post Info Line: 703-941-9608
Email: rpcomm6759@aol.com
Website: www.post1976.org



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

Fall 2024

NEWSLETTER





VOLUME XLIV ISSUE #3

Fall 2024

Post 1976 Officers

POST 1976 LEGION OFFICERS 2024–2025

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

1st Vice Cdr. (Membership): Diane Ramsey
703-941-9608; rpcomm6759@aol.com

2nd Vice Cdr. (Events): Vacant (Contact the Commander if you are interested in filling this role)

3rd Vice Cdr. (House Comm): Tommy Kemp;
tomar1025warren@hotmail.com

Finance Officer: Bill Walters; walters_bill@hotmail.com

Chaplain: Paul McComb; pmccomb98@gmail.com

Historian: Amanda Fowler; asfl158@aol.com

Service Officer: Carl Menge,
amlgn1976vetservices@gmail.com

Sgt. At Arms: Allison Hoopes; adlhoopes@yahoo.com

Adjutant: Dan Vigano; daniel.vigano@gmail.com

MEETINGS:

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

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

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

SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON 1976

Commander: Tom Uglietta; tomug@verizon.net

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

Treasurer: Tom Uglietta; tomug@verizon.net

Adjutant: Gary A. Indre

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

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 1976

Director: Mike Trujillo; mrt.mike@verizon.net

Adjutant: Joyce Landry; catnapr520@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Vacant

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

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 1976

President: Pam McCarthy; pmccarthy@new-age-inc.com

1st Vice President, Membership: Gretchen Trujillo;
thegretch61@verizon.net

2nd Vice President: Joyce Landry; catnapr520@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sharon Ogle; share2520@gmail.com

Treasurer: Patti George; georgpjw@aol.com

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

Historian: Suzanne Weeden; weeden.suzanne@gmail.com

Sgt. At Arms: Susan Bodnar; selikhova@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: Dan Vigano; daniel.vigano@gmail.com

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

Commander's Corner

We had an action-packed agenda for the summer months with highlights being the Taste of Annandale, a Comedy Night, and our largest Family Breakfast ever with 155 people. As always, we have our volunteers to thank for making these events special and welcoming to our members and their guests. We started this fall with a packed house for "Scaraoke," the Early Bird Party, and a live band.



On the 26th of October, several of our members participated in the Annandale Parade. They enjoyed riding down Columbia Pike to cheering crowds in WWII Jeeps, an ambulance, and an aircraft mock up!



For those members who have not heard, we were told by the fire marshall that our sprinkler system heads must be replaced, ASAP. Estimates have come in at around \$4,000.



I would like to send a special note of thanks to our members and guests who contributed to our fire sprinkler fundraiser during the Family Breakfast in October. We collected \$2,230 worth of donations—unbelievable!

We are still short of achieving our goal. If you would like to contribute, please send any amount made out to Post 1976 with "sprinkler donation" in the memo section.

November's breakfast tips are going toward Wreaths Across America. Hope to see you at breakfast!

In closing, please consider volunteering at the post with whatever talent and time you have. We cannot function without your help.

Dorothy Hennessey Vigano, Commander

1st Vice's Report

No report this quarter.

Diane Ramsey, 1st Vice Commander

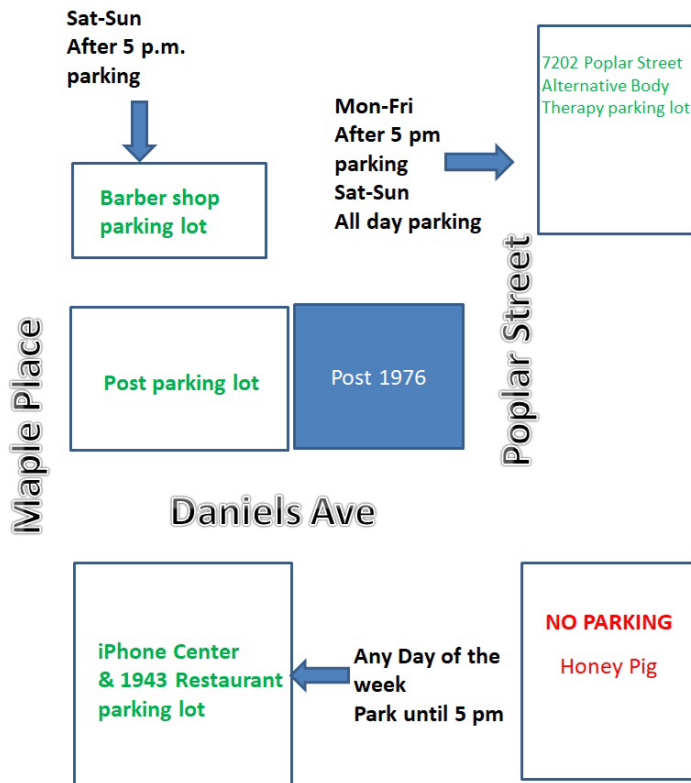
2nd Vice's Report

This position is currently vacant—please contact the post for more information. Check out our post's calendar of events at www.post1976.org.

3rd Vice's Report

During evening operating hours, we are locking the front door around 1800 hours (6:00 p.m.). Please just ring the doorbell on the right wall and we will buzz you in!

Overflow parking options for post events are shown below:



Tommy Kemp, 3rd Vice Commander

Finance Officer's Report

No report this quarter.

Bill Walters, Finance Officer

Chaplain's Report

November brings Thanksgiving and Veterans Day. To celebrate our thanks for veterans, here's a Veterans Day prayer:

"Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you today for all of the men and women who have served in our armed forces. From them may we learn the virtues of selfless service, unswerving loyalty to country, the discipline of teamwork for the good of all, obedience to authority, and perseverance in difficult and challenging situations. We thank you for the American Legion family and our chance to support each other and serve all veterans.

"We pray that you will provide your care and healing power for our veterans who carry physical and mental wounds from their days of service. We pray for the sick, the wounded, ill, and injured. And we lift up to your care those families who have lost a member of our armed forces in the line of duty. May your love, constant presence, and comfort be with them and sustain them.

"We pray that we will be able to express to our military and veterans our gratitude for their sacrifice and service for us. Protect our veterans, our military, and all citizens here and abroad. We pray in your holy name. Amen." [Credit for the prayer goes to www.prayerideas.org.]

Comrades, take care of each other. Blessings on your Veterans Day and your Thanksgiving!

Paul McComb, Chaplain

Historian's Report

The American Legion has a long history of advocacy for our veterans, service members, and their families. As we enter into the fall season, let us not forget some of the more noteworthy accomplishments of the American Legion, to which we all belong.

On Nov. 11, 1921, American Legion leaders join Allied generals and president Warren G. Harding in ceremonies to dedicate the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. The tomb was the culmination of Legion-supported legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. Hamilton Fish Jr., a founder of the organization.

On Dec. 15, 1943, past national commander Harry W. Colmery starts to write in longhand, on Mayflower Hotel stationery in Washington, D.C., the first draft of what will later become the “GI Bill of Rights”—considered the Legion's single greatest legislative achievement.

Amanda Fowler, Historian

Service Officer's Report

No report this quarter.

Carl Menge, Service Officer

Sargeant-at-Arms Report

No report this quarter.

Allison Hoopes, Sargeant-at-Arms

Club Manager's Report

Make a point to ask your friends if they are a member of our legion and ask them to join. Also, are you on my email list for the weekly events? If you are not, just send me an email at rpcomm6759@aol.com and I will put you on the list.

The post phone number is 703-941-9608. My office number is 703-941-9460.

Diane Ramsey, Club Manager

American Legion Auxiliary Report

Greetings members! I hope everyone is enjoying Fall and looking forward to the Holidays.

We are off to a great start with our membership renewals and have even added 3 new members to our ranks. As always, my ask is please help us increase our membership numbers...the more members we have, the more help we can provide. As a reminder, membership dues were due

October 31st. Please be aware, as noted in our last newsletter, that dues did increase this year to \$40.00.

I'd like to announce some wonderful news: Susan Bodnar graciously offered to be our Sargeant-At-Arms. She was unanimously voted in at our September Auxiliary meeting. Thank you so much Susan!

We have been busy planning fundraising activities and, as always, volunteering. We will be delivering snacks to our local police department as a thank you for all they do. We have started a clothing drive at the Post. The drive is for children, Kindergarten through 7th grade. The most needed items are coats, hats, gloves, scarves, and socks. There will also be a food drive starting mid-December. Your donations are greatly needed and would be so appreciated.

Please be on the lookout for upcoming announcements. We will have a fundraising dinner as well as a craft fundraiser at the beginning of 2025. You won't want to miss either event!

I always encourage our members to come to our monthly meetings not only to hear firsthand what we are planning, but to also help us with new ideas. With that in mind, I was wondering if it would be helpful to our members if we offered an alternative to attending in person such as Zoom or Teams. Please let me know your thoughts. I would love to hear from you.

If there is anything you believe we should be doing as an Auxiliary, I urge you to come to our meetings and assist us in our efforts on behalf of our veterans, active military, and community.

Stay safe and I hope everyone has a blessed Holiday season.

Pam McCarthy, Auxiliary President

Sons of the American Legion Report

Well, Summer is over, and it is now getting cool with Fall weather.

The 2024 membership year has been completed, and we have obtained 122 renewals for 2024. That is a good accomplishment for our Post 1976 SAL Squadron!

We have now started our 2025 membership year and have already received 38 member renewals for the 2025 Early Bird Season, which ended on September 30. The post sponsored an Early Bird celebration on October 12, where we had an enjoyable celebration with many other members of our post.

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 2025, 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 2025 membership card for the member renewing; most likely 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 p.m. So, come out to the post and enjoy a great wing or hot dog snack, and also participate in the humorous Trivia Contest, with a chance to win gift cards for the pair with the most correct answers.

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 breakfast is over. This is a very fun occasion; we can be proud of 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 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 most members participating 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 just before the meeting. Our next meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 5, 2024. 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

Hey, Summer is over but still a warm enough time to get our bikes out and get in some rides!

As far as the events our chapter has been involved in, here are current efforts we have been or are scheduling to be involved in this Fall:

Several Riders and supporters from our chapter were in the Virginia American Legion Riders State Rally down in Petersburg in September. We toured many of the battlefields and monuments that were built back in the Civil War period. It was a very enjoyable learning experience.

We will be looking into things to do at the post as additional fundraisers. We have a couple of functions approaching that our chapter will be involved in. One is the Toys for Tots effort, where the chapter and also post functions will be collecting toys for children, which will be distributed before Christmas. Another effort we have been involved in is the purchase of gift cards for distribution to needy service families at Fort Belvoir to help them with Christmas presents for

their young children. That effort will be initiated later in November, and we may be asking other post functions to help us out with that very appreciated donation.

With the cooler weather moving in, let us get out and ride.

RIDE SAFE!

For God and Country,

Mike Trujillo, ALR Director

The 2024 NATIONAL CARE LETTER CAMPAIGN TO HONOR DEPLOYED SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS

Help us honor veterans and deployed service men and women this holiday season by sharing a card or letter in appreciation of their service and sacrifices. **Care letters will be accepted through Dec. 31, 2024.**

The goal this year is to reach over 300,000, which would allow Adopt A Soldier to send at least four letters to every veteran in a veterans home or veterans hospital as well as to our deployed service members.

To participate in the 2024 National Care Letter Campaign, mail your personal written and designed letter or greeting card to

**America's Adopt A Soldier
6744 Gravel Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22310**

For more information visit www.americasadoptasoldier.org or call 703-278-3718.



Kid's

BOOK DONATION DRIVE



6646 Loisdale Road, Springfield, VA, 22150
November – December

**WALTER REED (WRNMMC)
FT BELVOIR COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
CHILDREN'S CENTER's**

**Buy a Specially priced or other Kid's book and simply
donate it at the register**

<https://www.americasadoptasoldier.org>





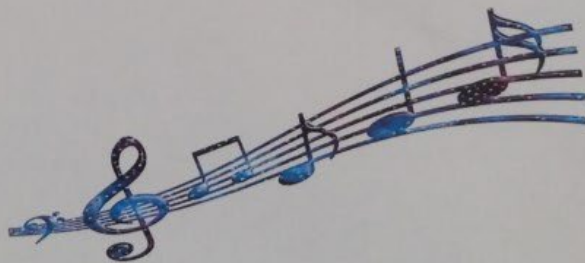
Karaoke Night



**Come and Join the
American Legion Post 1976
for Karaoke, 1st Saturday of
Every Month—Starts at 7pm**

Food is served at 6:30 pm

Food, raffles, Jello shooters, and more.



*Honor our Deployed Service
Members and
Veterans this Holiday Season*



14th ANNUAL



CHRISTMAS DAY Care Packing

"Giving Back"

*Join Us in Saying, "Thank You" to our Veterans and Deployed Service
Members for their Service and Sacrifices*

DATE: 25 December

TIME: 1pm to 5pm **Snacks, Beverages, Lunch**

LOCATION: American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst
Avenue, Springfield, VA 22150

REGISTER: <https://americasadoptasoldier.eventbrite.com>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - NO AGE RESTRICTIONS - NO TIME SLOTS

**We will be packing Care Packages and Care Letters for our Deployed
and Veterans in Veterans Homes / Hospitals**



Bring an item for the care package or mail



Tax Deductible donations to ONLY MAIL PACKAGES/LETTERS: P.O. Box 1049
Springfield, VA 22151 or 6744 Gravel Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22310 or via our
website : www.americasadoptasoldier.org



ALL THESE TOYS FOR OUR HOSPITALIZED MILITARY CHILDREN **ARE GONE!**



WANTED "TOYS"



*We Need Toys YEAR – ROUND for all ages
Help Us "Fill the Toy Bunker!"*



*We Need **"NEW"** Toys Year-Round for our Sick and Hospitalized Military Children at
Walter Reed (WRNMMC)*

Mail **"NEW" Toys and Games:
Americas Adopt A Soldier
6744 Gravel Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22310**

Donate On Line: www.americasadoptasoldier.org



~ November 2024 ~

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|-----------|--|--|---|
| <p>Lunches are served at the post Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 11-2</p> | | | | | 1 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. | 2 Karaoke 7 p.m. |
| 3 Daylight Savings Time ends | 4 | 5 House Committee Meeting 6:30 Executive Board Meeting 7 pm | 6 | 7  SAL Meeting 7 pm Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. | 8 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. | 9 |
| 10 Marine Corps Birthday | 11 Veterans Day Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm | 12 General Membership Meeting 7 pm | 13 | 14  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. | 15 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. | 16 |
| 17 Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | 18 | 19 Trivia Night 7 p.m. (food 6 p.m.) | 20 | 21  ALR Meeting 7:00 pm Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. Free Comedy Show 8:15 p.m. | 22 Flag Cutting 4 p.m. Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. | 23 Post Christmas Decorating 11:30 Flag Retirement 4:30 p.m. |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28  Post open | 29 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. | 30 |

~ December 2024 ~

| 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> <div>SAL Meeting 7 pm</div> Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.</div> | 6 <div>Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.</div> | 7 <div>DAR Meeting 9–12:30</div> <div>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</div> |
| 8 | 9 <div>Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm</div> | 10 <div>General Membership Meeting 7 pm</div> | 11 | 12 <div> Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.</div> | 13 <div>National Guard Birthday</div> <div>Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.</div> | 14 <div>Army vs. Navy Game 2 p.m.</div> <div>Christmas Karaoke 7 p.m.</div> |
| 15 <div>Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.–1 p.m.</div> | 16 | 17 <div>Trivia Night 7 p.m. (food 6 p.m.)</div> | 18 | 19 <div> <div>ALR Meeting 7:00 pm</div> Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.</div> | 20 | 21 <div>Poker Quarterly Tournament 2 p.m.</div> |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 <div>Post open</div> <div></div> | 26 <div>1st Day of Hanukkah and Kwanzaa</div> <div> Queen of Hearts 8 p.m.</div> | 27 <div>Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m.</div> | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 <div>New Year's Eve</div> | <div>Lunches are served at the post Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 11-2</div> | | | |

~ January 2025 ~

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|--|---------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Lunches are served at the post Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 11-2 | | | 1 New Year's Day | 2  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. <div>SAL Meeting 7 pm</div> | 3 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. | 4 DAR Meeting 9-12:30 Karaoke 7 p.m. |
| 5 | 6 | 7 <div>House Committee Meeting 6:30</div> <div>Executive Board Meeting 7 pm</div> | 8 | 9  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. | 10 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. | 11 |
| 12 | 13 <div>Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm</div> | 14 <div>General Membership Meeting 7 pm</div> | 15 | 16  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. <div>ALR Meeting 7:00 pm</div> | 17 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. | 18 |
| 19 Legion Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | 20 MLK Jr. Day | 21 Trivia Night 7 p.m. (food 6 p.m.) | 22 | 23  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. | 24 Texas Hold 'Em 7:30 p.m. | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30  Queen of Hearts 8 p.m. | 31 | |