



The Post Messenger

THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 318
8543 So. U. S. Highway #1,
Port St. Lucie, Fl. 34952-3347



Daryl Bowie, Commander
Phone - 772-878-0655
Fax - 772-878-0625

September-2012

Garin Salisbury, Editor
editor@americanlegion318fl.org

Member: FALPA , NALPA

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Issue No. 230

Commander's Message



Dear Legion Family,

I want to start off by saying how great it is to see membership coming in as fast as it has been. Our goal this year is to be the first Post in District 12 to hit 100%. Right now we are over 60% so we are well on our way. If you haven't renewed your membership I encourage you to as soon as you can. As you know, membership is the key to our success. This past month we have had a lot of new members join our Post and I ask that we welcome them all. We are the largest Post in the 12th District and we will continue to be growing the way we are.

I want to thank those members who helped out on Post Cleanup. A lot of hard work and scrubbing was done to make the Post look better. We had members from every organization within our Post lend a hand. Thanks again to you all. It's all the volunteers that make our Post successful.

Since the last newsletter we held our Installation of Officers. It was a great turnout. In fact, the District staff was impressed not only by the turnout but by the warm response they received. All officers of each group were sworn in that day and I want to congratulate each and wish them all a very successful year.

The New Building project is moving forward. Through business and membership donations we are continuing to raise the money we need before closing. We have to have enough money in our building account in case of any material overruns during construction. Until we raise that additional money we cannot close with the Bank. It's been a long process but we will get there. Our property is paid for and all preliminary work is done. We are getting so close and if you would like to donate please help if you can.

This month I would like to make Ed Black our Member of the Month. Ed's always helping us out around the Post. Ed's always there lending a hand with all the groups. Ed, thank you for helping.

Commander
Daryl Bowie

Would You Like To Save Your Post a Lot Of Money?

The cost of printing and mailing the newsletter continues to rise. Currently we are mailing about 1,100 copies of the Post Messenger every month. There are many members who do not realize that the newsletter and calendar are available on-line. They can be accessed by typing www.americanlegion318fl.org. Once on the web site, scroll down to the menu icons and select newsletter or calendar. At the bottom of the calendar page you can click on the printable calendar icon and can then print your own copy.

If you would rather read the Post Messenger on-line and save the Post some money please email me at:
editor@americanlegion318fl.org

Your name will be removed from the mailing list and you will receive an email each month when the newsletter is available.

Thanks for your help.
Garin Salisbury, editor

Legion Auxiliary



Hello Everyone,
I hope everyone had a great summer and I am looking forward to the beginning of the new Auxiliary year. Our first meeting will be held on September 17th at 6:45 pm and nothing would please me more than having a room full of members to kick off the New Year. I am excited to say I have met some wonderful people throughout the summer that are new to our Post either as new members or transfers from other Posts. I would like to challenge all of you to greet our new and prospective members as well as old friendships as our winter friends come back to join us. With everyone pulling together as a team, we can make this an incredible year for our veterans, their families, the children and our community. We would like to thank all that attended the Luau and for your continued support of our programs. The Luau was a success and a good time was had by all. If you missed it, plan on attending the Halloween Party in October. It seems at times that we have the same core group planning and doing the work for our events. Volunteering your time would ease the burden on these members and make it more fun for everyone. Please consider volunteering your time and services no matter how small. Every little bit helps.

Remember to support the fund raisers of all our Units as well as our Post Building Fund. We are all working towards a common goal and the possibilities are endless if we all work together.

Respectfully,

Debbie Johnston, Auxiliary President

S.A.L.



Just a reminder! On Sunday September 3 the will have our annual Labor Day Picnic. Post

Once again the S.A.L. will have our **Clam Bake**. Enjoy some of Babe's great chowder, or have some steamers or clams on the half shell.

The second Wednesday of the month Andy and crew will be offering delicious Lasagna.

Thanks to all the officers, especially Dan for 100% membership last year. You can pay your \$30.00 dues right now for the coming year. Keep the membership going for another 100% year.

October 14th will be the S.A.L. golf tournament at Gator Trace. Prizes and luncheon afterwards. \$55.00 per person. Sign up sheet is at the Post.

Looking forward to moving into the new Post this year.

God Bless,
Joseph Boehm

Chaplain

Post Everlasting

John O'Neil, August 14

Eric Larson, August 17

May their souls and the souls of all departed veterans rest in peace.

Need prayers for the following:

Raymond Drews, John P. Macleod and Fred Scheeley .

If you know any member that is sick, in the hospital/rehab or in distress, please call Garin Salisbury, Chaplain @ 772-878-0655.

Service Officer

Dependents and Survivors Benefits

Death Gratuity Payment

Military services provide payment, called a death gratuity, in the amount of \$100,000 to the next of kin of servicemembers who die while on active duty (including those who die within 120 days of separation) as a result of service-connected injury or illness.

If there is no surviving spouse or child, then parents or siblings designated as next of kin by the service member may be provided the payment. The payment is made by the last military command of the deceased. If the beneficiary is not paid automatically, application may be made to the military service concerned.

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation

Eligibility: For a survivor to be eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), the veteran's death must have resulted from one of the following causes:

1. *A disease or injury incurred or aggravated in the line of duty while on active duty or active duty for training.*
2. *An injury, heart attack, cardiac arrest, or stroke incurred or aggravated in the line of duty while on inactive duty for training. A service-connected disability or a condition directly related to a service-connected disability.*

DIC also may be paid to certain survivors of veterans who were totally disabled from service-connected conditions at the time of death, even though their service-connected disabilities did not cause their deaths. The survivor qualifies if the veteran was:

1. *Continuously rated totally disabled for a period of 10 years immediately preceding death; or*
2. *Continuously rated totally disabled from the date of military discharge and for at least 5 years immediately preceding death; or A former POW who died after Sept. 30, 1999, and who was continuously rated totally disabled for a period of at least one year immediately preceding death.*

The above information was taken from the current Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents Guide and is subject to change with legislation. As with ANY benefits from the Veterans' Benefits Administration, it is best to obtain an appointment with one of our County Veteran Services Officers for assistance in determining eligibility and with filing a claim. They can be reached at 772-337-5670

