



American Legion

HATFIELD POST 933

2100 KOFFEL ROAD, P.O. BOX 421
HATFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA 19440-0421

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October/November 2022 NEWSLETTER



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCT 15	John Hedrick Celebration of Life	1500-1900
OCT 27	American Legion Riders Meeting	1900 hrs
OCT 31	HALLOWEEN 🎃 🦇	
NOV 07	American Legion Post 933 Meeting	1900 hrs
NOV 07	Home Association Meeting	2000 hrs
NOV 08	Election Day	
NOV 11	Veterans Day (Ceremony at the Post)	1900 hrs
NOV 24	Thanksgiving (Post Closed) 🦃	
NO RIDERS MEETING IN NOVEMBER		

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Well, our elections are finished, and our selected officers have been sworn into a new year of service to the Legion, Riders, SAL and the Auxiliary. I congratulate all these special people that stepped up when they were needed. We all know the folks that step up when needed because they are same every time.

Since we are in a new term, I would ask each of you to take a few minutes to examine how you have contributed Post 933 in the past term. Have you volunteered

for anything? Have you helped a fellow Veteran in some way. Is there more you can do going forward? You all know the answer is most probably YES! Could I volunteer to help at the Friday night dinner specials by taking orders, delivering food, cleaning up tables when people are finished or simply wash dishes? Well, there are 720 hours in a month and using one or two to help our Post should be easy to do. One way to contribute would be to spend that one hour each month in a Legion or Home Association Meeting. We meet the first Monday of every month with the Legion

Meeting at 1900 hours and the HOA at 2000 hours. Enough preaching to choir.

We were 100% in our 2022 dues collection which made us a special Post at the District meetings. I applaud all our Legionnaires for achieving this goal. I would ask all of you to help us do it again in 2023. The Riders, SAL and the Auxiliary also achieved 100% in their dues collection. I give my sincere thanks to all of you for being able to do this.

I ask each of you to remember John Hedrick, a faithful Chaplain and Legionnaire who passed a few weeks ago and who was buried at Washington's Crossing National Cemetery. Please add John and his family to your prayers. If you don't pray, please observe a minute of silence for John.

Our next and last event of 2022 will be Veterans Day on November 11th at 1900 hours at the Post's front door that faces Koffel Road. I hope all of you can join us for this annual day of Thank You to all of those currently serving and Veterans. There will also be a celebration of Veterans Day at 1100 at the Tennis-Lukens Colonial Cemetery on Allentown Road behind the Planet Fitness, this is also the location of the future Towamencin Veterans Memorial Park.

In closing I want to say "thank you for your service" to our Great Country, America. Please remember we all took an oath to America that offered service with the possibility of sacrificing our lives to defend

our Constitution, our Nation, and our Liberty. This oath was for life!

Michael Lewis Commander

And this note from the American Legion Riders Commander, Gerry Galinski "The American Legion Riders is accepting new members. If you're a Legionnaire or a Son of the American Legion and have a motorcycle please consider joining. Our meetings are the 4th Thursday of the month. You're welcome to come to a meeting and check us out!"

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are very happy to welcome more new members since July: Kathy Garber, Michael Klein, James Moore, Matthew Ludlow, Kenneth Mawson, Andres Garay, and Audrey Halteman are new to our American Legion family. Please be sure to welcome them when you see them.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

As the Commander mentioned, John Hedrick, long-time resident of Hatfield, PA and recent resident of Sellersville, PA, died on September 6, 2022 after a short battle with illness at the age of 69. John is survived by his wife, Diane; his children, Jessica and John (Justine), and Nicholas; his grandchildren Justice and Deion Gerth, Elizabeth and Emma Hedrick, and Elyse Herrick. Please see the attached notice for his Celebration of Life event on October 15, 2022 at the Post.

Please check the website for our weekly specials. We are also taking reservations for parties again, please contact Jim Bagnell to reserve a date!

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Please Contact Laureen Sendel-Grant, or Barry Forgeng if you need help with your VA benefits!! There are two of us who can try to help you with your benefits issues. Neither of us officially trained yet, but we have lots of contacts we can go to and try to get your answers.

We have Applications for Admission to a PA State Veterans' Home. I know this is a last resort for everyone, but as we age and are left to fend for ourselves this might be an option that everyone wants to keep in their back pocket! Contact me if you want to fill one out or know of someone who needs to take advantage of this benefit.

American Legion Heroes! If you've heard of the Hometown Heroes Program then you'll know what I'm talking about when I tell you that we are going to start hanging banners from the light poles on our property for those Legionnaires that no longer live near their hometowns. The same company that puts together the banners for the Hatfield and Lansdale Hometown Heroes Program has agreed to make banners for us that will say American Legion in the place of the hometown. They will cost the same as the Hatfield and Lansdale banners at \$130 each. Please see the attached flyer and fill out the application form, there will also be packets printed and placed in the foyer of the post, if you're interested and still have questions

please contact Ann Scheuring at heroes@verizon.net . **THIS IS ONLY FOR MEMBERS WHO'D LIKE THEIR BANNERS HUNG AT THE HATFIELD AMERICAN LEGION, please don't let Preston and Jim's faces be the only ones out there!** When speaking to Ann please let her know that.

Do you know the widow of a Navy Vietnam Veteran? If the Veteran served in the Republic of Vietnam or on a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles off the shore of Vietnam or Cambodia between January 9th, 1962 and May 7th 1975, and one of the following conditions caused or contributed to their spouse's death, then they may be eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). DIC is a benefit paid by the USDVA and includes monthly compensation and Healthcare coverage. Specific conditions include:

- AL Amyloidosis
- B-Cell Leukemia's
- Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia
- Multiple Myeloma
- Type 2 Diabetes
- Hodgkin's Disease
- Ischemic Heart Disease
- Non-Hodgkins Disease Lymphoma
- Parkinson's Disease
- Parkinsonism
- Prostate Cancer
- Respiratory Cancers
- Soft-Tissue Sarcoma (excluding Osteosarcoma, Chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's Sarcoma or Mesothelioma)
- Bladder Cancer
- Hypothyroidism

Please have her contact an American Legion Department Service Officer at: the Philadelphia Regional Office-215-381-3032; the Harrisburg Regional Office-877-720-8387; or Wilkes Barre Regional Office-570-821-2526

Also, and this one's important! MONTCO has rental assistance money available for Veterans, call 211 and ask for rental assistance through the Montgomery County ERUC "Your Way Home". They can give up to 15 months of rental assistance money! They have money that they have to use or it goes back to the state! Take advantage of this valuable benefit!!

We will continue to announce that Post 933 has 15 burial plots remaining in Whitmarsh Memorial Park (WMP) for the use of our Veterans. If you'd like to learn more about these plots and get an estimate for how much burial in the WMP might cost, please reach out to Tom Harwick or myself. Unfortunately, these plots will be given away on a "first come, first serve" basis.

Also, again, if you donate blood regularly or even just occasionally, please keep track of your donations and let me know, just send me an email. We get credit on our yearly Post Consolidated Report to the Department and National for pints donated! Platelets count too!

ADJUTANT'S REPORT

THANK YOU everyone for helping us achieve 100% membership renewals in 2022! And I want to thank everyone who

have already renewed their Membership for 2023, but if you haven't renewed your membership yet, please do so now. Remember, all door cards expire on 31 December 2022 and if you want to be eligible to attend our Customer Appreciation Event in January 2023 then your dues need to be paid before 12/31/2022. For those of you who still haven't renewed your membership please see the bartender for an envelope to submit dues as an alternative to mailing them. Also, unfortunately the Department of PA continues to send out renewal requests to people who have ALREADY PAID their dues, if you've paid your dues, then IGNORE these notices.

I want to inform everyone that if you have achieved 50 years membership in the American Legion (that means you've paid for your 50th year), then your membership is free for every year after 50! Our Post covers this cost for you. Don't roll your eyes folks we have about 10 members currently receiving this benefit!

Also, one of the benefits of attending our monthly meeting is that sometimes we have special guests! This month we had visitors from Paws of Valor, Tales of Honor, a non-profit located in Coopersburg that trains service dogs to support our Veterans in need. We were pleased to welcome Tracy Hausknecht, Program Director, Brian Staub (and Legion member), President, and their star pups, Arthur and Ash, to our meeting on October 3rd. The dogs and their handlers were a much welcome distraction to our meeting! The dogs were actually more

well-behaved than some of our members, who shall remain unnamed.

The few Officers that serve on the boards that keep this Post running are doing a huge service for ALL our members, but we continue to need volunteers to step up and help us keep things going. Many hands make light work, when we don't get volunteers, it makes it more difficult for the rest of us. PLEASE STEP UP! Contact the Commander or me if you're interested in filling a vacancy or just helping out.

SICK CALL

Tracy Cook stay posted for when he returns home soon!

Bill Woosman is recovering nicely at home

Joe Gallagher continues his recovery from mouth cancer and is going for his last surgery on October 27th!

Deceased Members: NONE, Praise be!

Please keep these Veterans and their families in your thoughts and prayers. If you know of someone who is ill, hospitalized or has passed, please notify me ASAP so that we can coordinate the appropriate support for the Veteran/family members.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE AND EMAIL INFORMATION:

1. **Medical or Mental Health Emergency**---Call 9-1-1 or go to nearest emergency room.

2. **24-Hour Medical Advice**---610-384-7711, Press 3.
Urgent Care Eligibility Verification---1-833-4VETNOW or 1-833-483-8669.
3. **VA Urgent Care Support Line**---1-866-620-2071.
4. **MISSION Act Benefits**---610-384-7711, Option 6.
5. **Veterans Crisis Line (Suicide)**---1-800-273-8255, Press 1. Confidential Chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net or Text 838255. 24 Hours a Day/365 Days a Year.
6. **White House VA Hotline**---1-855-948-2311. 24 Hours a Day/365 Days a Year.
7. **VA Healthcare Benefits**---1-877-222-8387.
8. **VA Benefits**---1-800-827-1000.
9. **MYVA311 (other):** 1-844-698-2311, if you don't know who to call.
10. **Coatesville Primary Care Clinic**---24 Hour Call Line 610-384-7711. Press #1 for Refill Medications, Press #2 for Schedule or Cancel an Appointment, Press #3 to Speak to a Registered Nurse for Health-Related Concerns.
11. **DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Chapter 25:**
<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/pa/25/default.aspx> ; email:

davchapter25@outlook.com; phone:
610-657-7754

12. **Senator Casey, Washington, DC -**
202-224-6324
13. **Senator Toomey, Washington, DC -**
202-224-4254
14. **National Service Officer Hot Line -**
888-604-0234, M-F, 9-4PM. To call
about your claim.
15. **VA Life Insurance:** 1-800-669-8477
16. **Philadelphia VA Med Center:** 1-800-
949-1001
17. **Willow Grove Outpatient Clinic:**
215-823-6050
18. **Spring City VA OutPatient Clinic:**
610-948- 0981
19. **Gulf War/Agent Orange Helpline:** 1-
800-749-8387

Please submit any announcements
or items for the newsletter to
Laureen Sendel-Grant, Editor.
Requests must be received by the
15th to be in the current edition.