

Bernard L. Tobin Post 128 – Aberdeen, MD

44 N. PARKE STREET

AMERICAN LEGION



News

JULY/AUGUST 2016

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Greetings to all,

I hope you are enjoying this summer. Please remember to take some time to spend time with your friends and family. Too many times we get caught up in the hustle and bustle of life, and forget to spend a few minutes with the ones we love.

We have had a lot going on over the last year, and I would like to take a moment to reflect. We have made a lot of changes at this Post, some good, some not so good. We have had people come and go, but overall I believe that we are in a better place. We have made a lot of improvements around the Post and we have several more to come. I continually try to remind everyone, this is your Post, come be involved. Help us get our Post ready for the future!

The current slate of Officers, and I, have been reelected to serve this Post in the upcoming year. I am excited to have another year to watch over the post as we move forward. I promise you, I will do my best to steer us in the right direction, and continue the success that we have enjoyed over the past year. We have a great team that has worked well together to ensure the Post lives on long after us.

As we look forward to the upcoming year, membership is going to be a MAJOR priority! We have been floating right around the 460-470 mark for our membership for the year. I

continued on Page 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings Ladies,

Our auxiliary year 2015-2016 is coming to an end and we have been able to accomplish a lot this past year. Monthly Bingo with our Veterans at Perry Point Hospital, Shop with a Cop, Children's Christmas Party, Special Olympics Plunge, Legacy ride for our servicemen & women's children, sponsored one Girl for Girls State, provided food for Harford County Food Bank, Memorial Day luncheon for our Veterans and guests and donated money to several Veterans and Community organizations meeting. Please try to be present for this very important meeting.

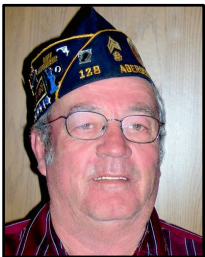
I would like to thank all our Auxiliary Ladies who donate their time and talents in support of our Veterans and Community. A special thanks to Vicki Adams who runs our Sunday night Bingo and our loyal Bingo ladies and men who support our auxiliary for making it possible for us to do all these things.

I am proud to say that we made a hundred percent for our membership this year. Thanks to all our members for supporting our Auxiliary by paying your dues. Please note: Since National Auxiliary has raised their dues, therefore we have decided that we must raise our dues to \$25 for the 2016-2017 auxiliary year.

continued on Page 2

from the

Adjutant's Desk



Dear Comrades,

We are starting a new Legion year and if it is as successful as our previous year we will be in good shape. In a week or two you will be receiving a mailing notice from

National HQ. about your 2017 dues. I know this looks to be a little ahead of time but the Legion year is from July to July of the next year. I do have the 2017 cards here so if you would like to pay your dues now I will be more than happy to take them. Just remember that the quicker we get the dues in, the better it looks for the Post as for meeting our quotas on time at National HQ.

Come out and enjoy the Post we have good food and fun almost every night. I would be remiss if I didn't mention something about our Baseball team we sponsored, age group 13 to 15 in the Aberdeen Rec. league which will be going to play for the championship of Harford Co. in the near future, Billy Hall who is a member of our S.A.L. is a member of the team.

Hope everyone is in good health and doing O.K.

Yours in Legion Service,

Bob Hanson, Adjutant

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

continued from page 1

would like your help in making a goal of 501. We have to do what we can to attract the younger Veterans into joining our ranks. We can't assume that simply because someone's father or grandfather was a Legionnaire, that these young Veterans will join us. We must do everything that we can to make the American Legion appeal to them. The American Legion can work for them, every bit as much as it has for the fathers, or grandfathers. The American Legion's mission has not changed. It simply needs to mold to the needs of the younger crowd. We need to teach them how to make this their club, and change it to fit their needs, as we have done for our time. Most of us know plenty of Veterans. It is surprising how many are not members! Many times they are not.. simply because no one has asked them. So please help me in this new endeavor, ask someone to join today!

July and August are the prime summer months for vacation and a lot of people are out of town, or down to the Ocean for the convention. So it seems that a lot doesn't seem to happen around the post. Not this Year! July 2nd we will have our 2nd Yard Sale in the Park. Also on July 2nd we have a Band, One Eyed Jacks for only @\$10.. July 3rd we will have a float in the Havre De Grace Parade for the 4th. July 23rd is going to be the Installation of Officers. Please come out and support us on these events. We are still having food every Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, And Friday. The 3rd Friday of each month is our Fish Fry, catfish, whiting, this is really getting to be popular.

In the upcoming year we are going to be making some upgrades to the Canteen. We are planning to paint and change the window blinds. We are continuing to finish the Hall as well. We are very proud of the way the Post is coming together. We have had many compliments are the progress we have made, and we are renting the hall more now than we have in quite some time. We have had some thoughts of working with the Aberdeen High School art students to do some outside dress up of the building.

In closing, I am asking for your help. I have reached out in many ways, through this newsletter, emails, and Facebook. It takes all of us to work together to make this post great. We are more involved in the community now than we have been in years. We have a good crew of people I can rely on to get things done, but we need your help. I have heard this saying over the years, "We the Few, doing so much, with so little, for so long, are now qualified to anything with nothing!" This Post needs Volunteers!! If we continue to use the few that step up on a regular basis, it will come to a halt! People can only carry the load so far, will you step up and help?

Again, I am excited about the upcoming year. I see great things on the horizon, and I know we will continue to succeed. I am humbled at the opportunity to serve my fellow Veterans, and their families.

Yours in service,

Andy Powell, Commander

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

continued from page 1

Now it's time to look forward to the new year. Our officers have been elected and are anticipating a great year of service. Let's plan and work together to make 2016-2017 year and even more successful year.

Linda Geigan, President
443-829-4320

1st Vice Commander's Message



Greetings Legionnaires, Auxiliary (AUX), Sons of the American Legion (SAL), American Legion Riders (ALR), and family members,

This year has flown by and it has been an honor to serve as your 1st Vice Commander.

We made our membership goal of 100% For 2016. That being said, we still need a few more members to reach our goal of 500 Legion members. We cannot meet these goals unless we have your support. I would like to continue to encourage each of you to recruit at least one new eligible person to join our Legion Family. This is as simple as asking people you know or striking up a conversation with someone you see wearing military apparel. The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. Our organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives. Your membership gives you and your family practical discounts that can easily save you many times the cost of your annual membership dues. Your membership helps support Department Service Officers nationwide who assist veterans in preparing claims and obtaining their full military healthcare benefits through the VA. Lastly, we are starting or membership campaign for 2017 with a recruitment drive in the park on the third Friday of the month starting in July. If you would like to volunteer to help recruit new members, let me or Commander Powell know.

During the month of May and June we presented six (6) Gold Star Legacy Challenge Coins, to families who lost their

continued on Page 3



Fish Fry!

Only **\$9.00**

3rd Friday of Each Month

5:30 – 9:00 pm

Sides: Green Beans, Coleslaw and French Fries

Choice of Whiting or Catfish

1st Vice Commander's Message

continued from page 2

loved ones during Vietnam and the Global War on Terrorism. It was a great honor to represent American Legion Bernard L. Tobin Post 128. I presented these coins and expressed gratitude for the ultimate sacrifice these families gave to our nation. As a Gold Star family, they know that words will never return their loved ones but that we have not forgotten their sacrifice and never will!

Lastly, since the inception of the American Legion Legacy Scholarship in 2001 following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the American Legion has offered its support to the children of fallen post-9/11 service members through this scholarship. Beginning with the 2017 award year, the American Legion expanded the scholarship to include children of VA-rated, post-9/11 veterans with a disability of 50 percent or higher. Bernard L. Tobin Post 128 remains committed to honoring the memory and service of our fallen and disabled comrades by ensuring their children are afforded the best possible educational opportunities.

So, through its American Legion Legacy Scholarship in working with our Legion Riders, we designed this beautiful coin that we are offering for a \$20.00 donation. These Gold Star Challenge Coins represent what the Legion Family is all about, which is assisting those who need our help to make a better life for themselves. So, if you would like to purchase a challenge coin or want to help us sell them, please contact me or Richard Beckwell, Director of Legion Riders. Our goal is to make at least \$8000.00 in donations by selling these coins, not including other events the Riders are doing to collect funds for this scholarship.



Front



Back

We can only be successful if we have your support, so please plan on joining us to make American Legion Bernard L. Tobin Post 128 better than ever.

If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact me via cell at (706) 631-0190 or email at:

1stvicecommander@aberdeenpost128.org.

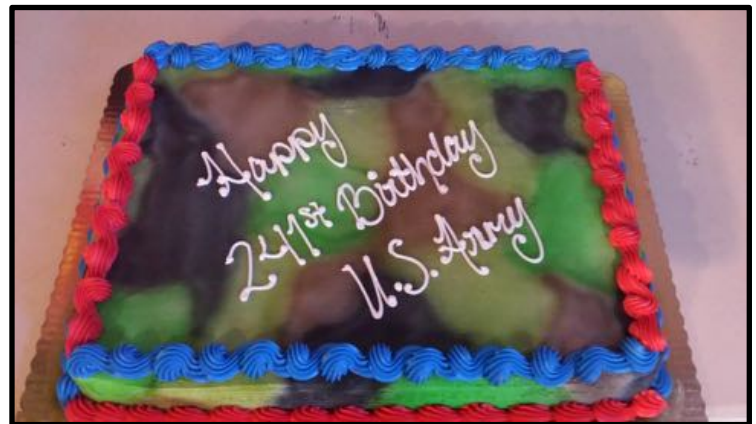
We are truly looking forward to working with you!
Thank you.

David Heredia, Jr., 1st Vice Commander



American Legion Riders Help Gold Star Families

David and Deborah Heredia presented Dr. Bruce Heilman with the "Gold Star Coin". Dr. Heilman is 89 years old and still rides his motorcycle thousands of miles each year on behalf of the Gold Star Families, and has met with many of them. He does this every year! God bless him!



Happy 241st Birthday to the US Army!

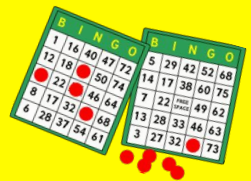
On June 14, 2016, Commander Andy Powell conducted a "Cake Cutting Ceremony" to mark the occasion of the 241st Birthday of the United States Army. Commander Powell invited all the members of the Post to attend the festivities.

Bingo!

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!!!

Sunday Bingo — starts at 6:30 pm
Thursday Bingo — starts at 6:00 pm

Kitchen Open 5-9 pm on Bingo Nights!



A Word From the Chaplain



Greetings Legionnaires,

The Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion begins with the following words "For God and Country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes".

It is not strange to me that the founding fathers of the American Legion recognized the importance of our need for God. Our nation was founded on Godly principles. Today we are no longer a Godly Nation! We are in need for Prayers For Our Nation. In 2nd Chronicles 7:14 the Bible reads: "If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their Wicked Ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Our prayers lay the track down on which God's power can come. Like a mighty locomotive his power is irresistible but it cannot reach us without (rails, prayers). Listen to the words of our founding fathers:

George Washington: "Bless the people of this land, be a father to the fatherless, a comfort to the comfortless, deliverer to the captives, and a physician to the sick".

Thomas Jefferson: "Almighty God we humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy Favor and glad to do Thy Will".

Abraham Lincoln: "With malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us finish the work we are in... to do all which we may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations".

God, I pray for your hand to be on Our Nation today. Amen.

God bless you all,

Rev. W. Lewis Geigan, Chaplain



Decorating Veteran's Graves

On Saturday, May 28th, 2016, Boy Scout Troop #820 placed flags of Veteran's Graves at the local cemeteries. They were accompanied by Bernard L. Tobin's Chaplain Lew Geigan and Auxiliary President Linda Geigan and other Post members.

Message from American Legion Riders



The heart of our riding season has started. Rolling Thunder over the Memorial Day weekend, Memorial Day ceremonies as the Aberdeen Memorial Park, followed by an escort for Cecil County Veterans to the Marine Corps museum located at Quantico, Virginia, on June 4th.

On June 10th, 11th, and 12th, Riders from all over Maryland will travel 800 miles around Maryland visiting American Legion Posts gathering monies that are destined to be delivered to the Department Commander at the Department Convention in July. Our goal is to raise \$20,000 that will be added to the other Legacy Foundation funds from Maryland and presented to the National Commander at the National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Maryland Public Television Salutes Vietnam Veterans with LZ Maryland, June 18th and 19th. It is kicked off with an Honor Ride on the 18th which represents the 1017 Marylanders who had died in combat or who are Missing in Action. <http://vietnam.mpt.org/lzmaryland/>

June 25th has Casey Cares and The Doug Henley Memorial Laps of Love which supports Casey Cares and the Maryland

continued on Page 5

Sick Call & Post Everlasting

POST SICK CALL

Jerry Sexton

SAL SICK CALL

None

UNIT SICK CALL

Ruth Romanuk Marge McKinney
Ramona Oldland



Our heart felt wishes for a speedy recovery are with you!

POST EVERLASTING

George Englessen Warren Preston
Patricia Stackhouse Helen White



SQUADRON EVERLASTING

None

UNIT EVERLASTING

None

Life brings tears, smiles, and memories. The tears dry, the smiles fade, but the memories live on forever!

American Legion Riders



continued from page 4

Special Olympics.

July 4th parade in Havre de Grace will be held on July 3rd and will once again present our Post to the public. Your participation makes a difference.

The American Legion Legacy Run will begin on August 20 when hundreds of riders gather at the Indiana American Legion Post 64 for a safety training session and a dinner. The Run takes to the road the next day at The American Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. It ends on August 25th at the National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. Now, should you look at a map, you might ask why does it take 5 days to go a whopping 100 miles. Well, they are going to take the long way around.

The run will pass through seven states (Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Ohio) and traverse about 1300 miles before arriving for lunch at the Yeager-Benson Memorial American Legion Post 199 in Harrison, Ohio. Over the next few days several Ohio chapters will host events, meals, and runs for those riders who choose to stay for the National Convention Parade on the 28th. This whole undertaking is very complex and highly organized. Last year, the total monies raised for the Legacy Foundation was over \$1.25 million.

Starting in 2017, the Legacy Scholarship is expanding to cover not only the children of our fallen comrades, but also the children of post-9/11 veterans with a VA disability rating of 50 percent or higher. It will be a needs based grant and will award up to \$20,000 in aid for the expense of tuition, books, room and board, meal plans, transportation and other supplies needed to achieve a higher education that can be renewed up to six times.

We invite all of our American Legion family members that Ride a motorcycle (two or three wheels) with an engine displacement of at least 600cc's to join us. Best wishes and stay safe.

Richard Beckwell, ALR Director



Memorial Day Ceremony

Commander Andy Powell, 1st Vice Commander David Heredia, and ALR Director Richard Beckwell led the ceremony.

Welcome New Members!

Welcome aboard to our newest members:

Sammy Marlow, Kenneth Brinegar, Clarence Hawkins, Michael Giannattasio, Robert Dombrowski, Daniel Detowski, Dan Augustniak, and Louis Markey

New SAL Members: Jeff Herman, Michael Sacrey, and Evan Sacrey

[Welcome to the Post!](#)

[Thank you all for supporting Post 128!](#)

YARD SALE in the Park



**Saturday
July 2, 2016
8 am to 3 pm**



**Aberdeen Festival Park
44 N. Parke St., Aberdeen, MD**

The Legion is hosting another Yard Sale in the Park. Tables will be rented for \$10 each. Anyone wanting to reserve a table should call: Sigrid Vigus (410) 459-5284 or stop by the canteen



Karaoke Night Every Friday Night

Starts at 8 pm till 12 am in the Post Lounge Canteen. Come out and join the Fun! Sing along with the oldies!

KEY DATES

July 2016

Jul 2.....Yard Sale in the Park, 8 am-3 pm
 Jul 2.....One Eyed Jacks Band, 8 pm-12 am
 Jul 3.....Havre de Grace Parade, 12 noon
 Jul 4.....Independence Day
 Jul 4.....No SAL Meeting
 Jul 5.....Red Cross Blood Drive, 9:30 am – 2:30 pm
 Jul 11.....No Unit Meeting
 Jul 12-15.....Department of Maryland Convention
 Jul 18.....No Post Meeting
 Jul 22.....Installation of Officers, 6 pm
 Jul 25.....No ALR Meeting

August 2016

Aug 3.....SAL Meeting, 7 pm
 Aug 8.....Unit Meeting, 7 pm
 Aug 15.....Post Meeting, 7 pm
 Aug 22.....AL Riders Meeting, 7 pm

For a complete listing of all our upcoming events, check our web
 Calendar Page at: <http://aberdeenpost128.org/calendar.html>

Newsletter Notice

Due to the cost of mailing the newsletters, we are only mailing this newsletter for a limited time. If you would like to help us out, please send an email to:

post128@aberdeenpost128.org, and you will be added to our email list. You will then receive the "color version" of our newsletter via email. You can also view the newsletter via our Facebook page, "American Legion Bernard L. Tobin Post 128", or directly on our website at: <http://aberdeenpost128.org/newsletter.html>.

If you do not have access to email or Facebook, and you would like to continue receiving this newsletter by mail, please send us a letter to "American Legion Post 128, 44 N. Parke St., Aberdeen, MD, 21001", or call the Post at 410-272-9822, and simply let us know that you wish to continue receiving the newsletter by mail. If we do not hear from you, you will not be receiving the newsletter by mail after a limited time.

Thanks for your cooperation, and understanding.

Club Steward.....Andy Powell.....(410) 272-9822
 Newsletter Editor.....Sonny Barnhouse.....(410) 459-0485
 Post Email.....post128@aberdeenpost128.org
 Commander's Email.....commander@aberdeenpost128.org
 1st Vice Email.....1stvicecommander@aberdeenpost128.org
 POST 128 WEBSITE.....<http://www.aberdeenpost128.org>
 FACEBOOK PAGE.....<https://www.facebook.com/Post128>
 or search for: American Legion Bernard L. Tobin Post 128

POST 128 OFFICERS • 2016-2017

Meetings – 3rd Monday Every Month – 7:00 pm

Commander.....Andy Powell
 1st Vice Commander.....David Heredia Jr.
 2nd Vice Commander.....Kenneth Lathrop
 3rd Vice Commander.....Sonny Barnhouse
 Adjutant.....Robert Hanson
 Finance Officer.....Robert Hanson
 Chaplain.....Lewis Geigan
 Judge Advocate.....Richard Beckwell
 Historian.....Vacant
 Service Officer.....Joseph Frye
 Sgt-at-Arms.....Richard Davis
 Dept. Exec. Committee.....Lewis Geigan
 Club Steward.....Andy Powell

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jim Osborne Chad Prutko Bruce Gerdorn
 All Past Commanders

UNIT 128 OFFICERS • 2016-2017

Meetings – 2nd Monday Every Month – 7:00 pm

President.....Linda Geigan
 1st Vice President.....Connie Johnson
 2nd Vice President.....Kim Webb
 Secretary.....Deborah Heredia
 Treasurer.....Joyce Steininger
 Historian.....Janet Peightal
 Chaplain.....Connie Martin
 Sgt-at-Arms.....Janet Peightal
 Color Bearers.....Anna Sissum, Elizabeth Hewitt

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kim Webb Sigrid Vigus Jean Jacobs
 All Past Presidents

ALR 128 OFFICERS • 2016-2017

Meetings – 4th Monday Every Month – 7:00 pm

Director.....Richard Beckwell
 Assistant Director.....David Heredia Jr.
 Secretary.....Susan Beckwell
 Treasurer.....Susan Beckwell
 Chaplain.....Vacant
 Historian.....Vacant
 Sgt-at-Arms.....Richard Davis
 Road Captain.....Vacant

SAL128 OFFICERS • 2016-2017

Meetings – 1st Monday Every Month – 7:00 pm

Commander.....Jerry Lacey
 1st Vice Commander.....Kyle Lacey
 2nd Vice Commander.....Richard Brinney
 3rd Vice Commander.....Richard Bruno
 Adjutant.....Randy Conlon
 Finance Officer.....Michael Lindcamp
 Chaplain.....Vacant
 Historian.....Gary Gerdorn
 Sgt-at-Arms.....Sean Foley
 Advisor.....James Osborne