

Bernard L. Tobin Post 128 – Aberdeen, MD

44 N. PARKE STREET

AMERICAN LEGION



News

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2015

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Greetings to all,

I hope you are enjoying the summer, fall is coming upon us quickly. We are seeing a lot of change around the Post, and think we are doing a good job of getting things to come together.

The American Legion Department of Maryland Annual Convention was held in Ocean City in July. Chaplain Lew was "down the ocean" for the whole convention. The 1st Vice and I went down and attended sessions on Membership and Advanced Leadership, and had good fellowship with other Legionnaires. We brought back good plans to stream line some of the processes at our post.

The National Convention is being held in Baltimore this year, and Dave Johnson with Chaplain Lew along with several of our folks will be involved. In the National convention there is going to be discussion, and everyone is fully expecting a dues increase on the National level. This increase will take place in January 2016, so I encourage all to get your dues paid up now. This is going to be a \$5 increase, and the Department of Maryland is expected to also raise their dues \$2, so in effect, the dues will be going up \$7 next year. It is a good time to consider becoming a "PUFL" Paid Up For Life member. We have the option to keep our dues as is, and not raise them.

Continued on Page 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings Ladies,

Well the 2014-2015 is now over and what a year it was. Our Unit received two awards, one first place and one third place from the Department of Maryland at the American Legion Convention in Ocean City Maryland. We also received 2 ribbons for making 100% membership and Goal Plus.

At the Northern Central District meeting in August, our Unit received 6 first place awards. A big thank you to all the Ladies for making this year such a success. Be sure to check out our New Auxiliary wall in the canteen.

I am looking forward to another successful 2015 -2016 year. Plans are being made to continue our services to our Veterans, Children and Youth, Community and Country.

It is with sadness that I inform you of the passing of Betty Bain. What a lady she was! Forty-four years in the Auxiliary. She served as President, 1st Vice and membership chairman since the 1980's. She will be greatly missed.

Once again I look forward to serving you as President and working beside you as we together make our Auxiliary have a year to remember.

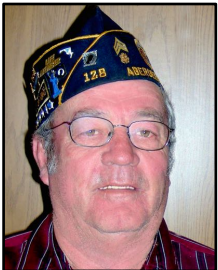
Remember: Teamwork Makes The Dream Work,

Linda Geigan, President

443 829 4320

from the

Adjutant's Desk



Dear Comrades,

Keep the membership coming Ladies and Gentlemen. If we could keep this great influx of membership up at this rate we would be a 4 Star in no time flat. I know that this is not likely to happen, but it is not out of the question either.

Good things are happening here at the Post. We are signing up a lot of new members and we trying new things in our canteen to attract new members into coming in and enjoying the Post's facilities. Our new Club Steward Jim Weber is introducing some specials on drinks and increasing the time

frame on Happy Hour from 3:00 - 5:00 PM to 3:00 - 7:00 PM. So come out and enjoy the Post.

I know I sometimes sound like a broken record, but we need old members to renew their memberships so we can meet our membership goals. And the more members we have, the more power we have in Washington D.C. to fight for Veterans benefits, of which Congress is trying to cut each and every year. In closing, if you see someone who has not paid his 2016 dues please send him or her my way.

Yours in Legion Service,

Bob Hanson, Adjutant

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

continued from page 1

There will be much discussion on this over the next several monthly meetings.

I have attended the Northern Central District Meetings, and the Department of Maryland Meetings, and in both the main message is the need to increase membership. I believe that the American Legion is a great organization, and on the National level there is a lot of work done in the preservation of Veterans Rights. On the State and District level we do everything possible to support the Nations fight, as well as work in the community to make a positive impact.

The ALR are participating in the Legacy Ride, which starts in Indianapolis and ends in Towson on August 26th at Post 22. I plan to be there to welcome all of the riders in and as a Post we plan to present a donation to the Legacy Fund. Anyone who would like to join me, is welcomed.

We have a lot of activities that we would like to get going to attract new members, and some of our older ones to the Post. We are looking at doing some family oriented events to attract new members that have families. We are already sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 820, and I would like to see a Girl Scout Troop as well.

We are kicking off September with some cooking in the kitchen. September 11th and 25th, we will be having a Fish Fry. This will be our first move in providing dinners on a regular basis. In this we are looking for volunteers. We will need help, to make this a success and keep it growing as we move forward. We would like to be able to offer dinners throughout the week, and be able to socialize with all of our members. Without the help of those who step up and volunteer this cannot happen. Please call the Post, or stop by to sign up as a volunteer.

We are planning an "Early Bird Dinner" this year on November 6th. The Post is planning to supply the meats, drinks (nonalcoholic) and table wares, we are asking members to bring a covered dish. You can RSVP by coming into the Post and signing up where you will receive a ticket (no cost) to show you have RSVP'd, and sign up to state what dish you will bring. We need to get a head count to ensure we have enough food.

Some other events we would like to plan, are movie nights, a Halloween Party, and my favorite Steak Dinner night at the Legion. The SAL is still planning some Dart leagues, and Corn Hole leagues in the Fall. Again we will need volunteers to make all of this happen.

October this year, Aberdeen City Chamber of Commerce is "Painting the Town Pink", this is a month long drive to raise money to fight Cancer. The Legion is participating in several of the events planned. October 3rd, is a Poker Run the ALR is sponsoring, and also that day is a 5K run/walk. I am planning to participate in this event, I would like to get as many of you as possible to come out and stroll along with me. You can get more information from the website:

www.thinkpinkaberdeennmd.org.

I want to send a thank you out to Lee Coleman. I am grateful for the work that Lee did for the Post. He was a valuable employee, and will be missed. We currently have Jim Weber serving as Club Steward, but we are actively searching for a permanent Club Steward. What we are looking for is someone with either Bar Management skills, or Restaurant Management skills. If you or someone you know fits the ticket, contact me at 443-243-6772, or email me at commander@aberdeennpost128.org.

I am feeling more confident every day that we have great things to come in our future! We can do many things as long as we pull together as a family, and all work toward a common goal. We are a private club made up of Veterans and their families. Our goal is to help Veterans and their families, and to promote Patriotism. There are many ways we can accomplish this mission.

First is with mutual respect, and team work! I am considering setting up a town hall meeting, where all members of the family can come and discuss our post and our future. If you agree that this is a good idea let me know, you can contact me through the phone or email shown earlier in this article.

Thanks to all of you that have jumped on board to improve things, and get the Post moving forward. I look forward to working with all of you that join the team to keep our Post growing.

Thanks again, God Bless America, God Bless Our Troops, and God Bless the American Legion.

Yours in service,

Andy Powell, Commander

Welcome New Members!

Welcome aboard to our newest members:

Grant C. Osborne and Erik C. Greer

[Welcome to the Post!](#)

New Paid up for Life Members: Steven Blough and
Ralph L. Perry

Reinstated Member: Gary P. Lennon

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



Bartender Debbie welcomes our patrons to the Post with a smile

1st Vice Commander's Message



Greetings Legionnaires, Auxiliary (AUX), Sons of the American Legion (SAL), American Legion Riders (ALR), and family members. It's been an exciting summer, and the new leadership is happy to be looking forward to what we feel is going to make our post better than ever.

With the end of summer comes the membership renewal season, and we are looking to make 100% membership this year. I will be reaching out to all of you to recruit at least one new member. Our goal is to break the 500-membership mark in hopes that we can bring new life into our post. Also, the National Executive Committee Spring meeting passed a resolution recommending a \$5 per-capita annual increase in national membership dues. This is why if you haven't yet renewed your membership, you need to make sure you do it before January 2016, or you can become a Paid Up For Life (PUFL) member. Keep in mind that our goal is not just to increase membership numbers, but also to increase the number of active members in our post events.

As the Commander mentioned, we are planning an "Early Bird Pot Luck Dinner" this year to be held in November. The Post will provide the main dish and nonalcoholic drinks. We are asking our Early Bird members to bring a covered dish. We will have more details posted at the Canteen, on the Post webpage, and on Facebook. Also, to help attract new members, we have a lot of activities that we would like to get going to attract new members, and bring back some of our current ones. We are looking at doing some family oriented events to attract new members that have families. We are already sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 820, and I would like to see a Girl Scout Troop as well. We are kicking off September with some cooking in the kitchen. September 11th and 25th our Legion Riders are having a Fish Fry. Other events we are looking to have involve entertainment in the canteen, a Halloween Party for the family, a spaghetti dinner after the Aberdeen Christmas Parade, just to name a few. This is why we need **volunteers** to help make these events GREAT. So, if you have any ideas or suggestions, please let us know.

We also have two major fundraising events that we need volunteers to help with. The first is the 2nd Annual Shop With a Cop "SWaC" charity. For this charity, American Legion Riders have teamed up with the Aberdeen Police Department (APD) and The American Legion Bernard L Tobin Post 128 to raise money to HELP SUPPORT underprivileged children. The SWaC benefits needy or neglected children from across the Aberdeen and Harford County area. SWaC is an annual event started by a fellow Legion Rider and held in early September with a Poker Run and with funds going to help children buy Christmas presents in early December. This provides a joyful shopping experience for each underprivileged child that is assigned a local Police Officer from APD and escorted by the Legion Riders of Post 128. The names are provided by the local schools, churches, and social service agencies to identify the participating children. If you would like to volunteer for this

awesome event and help make a child's Christmas one to remember for them and their family, contact Richard Beckwell, ALR Director.

The next special charity event our Legion Family is sponsoring is ThinkPinkAberdeenMD. For this charity, we are raising funds for cancer patients and their families; Bernard L Tobin American Legion Post 128 has joined forces with the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce, Aberdeen Rotary Club, Aberdeen Masons and The Lions Club Aberdeen. This fundraising event runs the entire month of October as we Paint the Town of Aberdeen Pink. If you would like more information, or to donate, sponsor, or volunteer please visit ThinkPinkAberdeenMD or email: thinkpinkaberdeenmd@gmail.com. For this event we are having a 5K Walk/Run and a Poker Run both being held on Saturday, 3 October 2015, so tell your friends and come join us.

One last charity called the Legacy Run held from August 21-31, 2015, which had eight of our Legion Riders participate in, is The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund helps ensure higher education is a possibility for children whose parents lost their lives while on duty since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The fund has been building steadily toward its goal of \$20 million, while at the same time issuing scholarships to qualified young people who have lost parents in the war. Individual donations are commonly made to the fund, but the major event of the year is The American Legion Legacy Run, a motorcycle trek that crosses numerous states between Indianapolis and National Convention city. Pledges for the Legacy Run and donations collected along the way have generated upwards of \$500,000 in some years. If you wish to donate to the fund, please see me or go to [Legacy Scholarship Fund](http://LegacyScholarshipFund).

For all of these events, we need volunteers. We can only be successful if we have your support, so please plan on joining us to make 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 me at: 1stvicecommander@aberdeenpost128.org. We are truly looking forward to working with you!

Thank you,

David Heredia, Jr., 1st Vice Commander



Come in and join one of our pool leagues!

A Word From the Chaplain...



Let me begin by thanking you for your prayers, cards and concern for my physical condition. At this point I am still recovering from my surgery. The good news is I am cancer free! Praise the Lord.

At the Department Convention in Ocean City, I was appointed to the position of Assistant Chaplain for the Department of Maryland. I am humbled and honored to be chosen for such a position. I will do my very best to fulfill my duties.

The following is taken from the Chaplain's "How To Manual" of the American Legion: The Chaplain ought to be willing to serve where there is a need. We cannot be selective in our service for we have a responsibility to all. Neither can we serve only when it is convenient, because Chaplain's should provide support as needed. Death, illness, family problems, and other concerns seldom take place at the convenience of the chaplain. Rather, it is the Chaplain who is to change his/her schedule to provide time to serve when there is a need. The Chaplains door should always be open!

I have been in the ministry for 38 years and have been pastoring the same church for 32 years. I have done my very best to fulfill my duties as a Pastor and pledge to do my best as your Chaplain. I am sharing the post office with the Commander and Bubba. If you need me remember I'm only a phone call away.

God Bless You All,

Rev. W. Lewis Geigan
443-829-6972

Notice of Dues Increase!

American Legion National Headquarters is increasing membership dues by \$5 which will take effect January 2016. Be sure to pay your dues before December 31, 2015 to avoid this increase. There is a \$100 discount for PUFL membership, if paid as a single payment.



Post 128 ALR waiting to ride in the July 4th Parade

SAL Commander's Message



As summer comes to a close great things are happening at Post 128 and with the SAL. Our August meeting was a success with great attendance and input from members. We voted to purchase and donate to the Post a 65 inch TV which should be great for the stretch run for the Orioles, NASCAR, and the soon approaching football season. It should be installed by the time you read this. We also donated monies to the "Shop with a Cop" program run by the Riders and Aberdeen Police Department, and "The Legacy Scholarship Fund". John Davis and a prospect new member volunteered to build Corn Hole boards for the Legion.

September 15th we plan to kick off our Tuesday night Game night which will include Corn Hole, Pool and Darts. Invite your friends to attend. NOTE: Our September meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9th at 7pm due to Labor day. After that we will be meeting the first Mondays throughout the year. Hope to have even better attendance next meeting.

I challenge every SAL to sign up at least 1 new member by the next meeting and the Commander will buy you and your new Member a drink of your choice.

For God and Country,

Jerry Lacey, SAL Commander

Sick Call & Post Everlasting

POST SICK CALL

Lewis Geigan (recovering at home)

Jerry Sexton

SAL SICK CALL

None

UNIT SICK CALL

Betty Hale Ruth Romanuk



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

POST EVERLASTING

Willard S. McCardell

SQUADRON EVERLASTING

None

UNIT EVERLASTING

Betty Bain



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

Message from American Legion Riders



September, all ready??? Where does the time go? Since my last report, here are some of the things we have been up to. On July 5th, we participated in the Havre de Grace Parade. It was a hot and humid affair, making the stop and go-slow movement of the parade difficult on those of us who

participated. 900 pound motorcycles with overheated engines and personal dehydration made it somewhat difficult, but we made it through to the end. I didn't really mind because I was able to see the faces of the people, and especially the children, as we passed by. People stood up, veterans saluted, and even most of the children paid respect to our Nations flag as it passed their area. Members of the post passed out 3 gross of stick flags to the people and they were pleased to get them.

The following weekend we escorted two busses filled with patients of the Perry Point VA Medical Center to the Mason/Dixon fair outside of Delta, Pennsylvania. The next day we represented the Post at a fund raiser for the Hero Dogs (<http://www.hero-dogs.org/>) organization in Towson. This organization provides service dogs to qualified veterans who are in need of such support. One week later we participated in a fund raiser for Perryville Post 135's Rider Chapter with the finds targeted to support several Legion programs.

The American Legion 2015 Legacy Scholarship Run leaves Indianapolis on the morning of August 23rd. Several of our members are leaving for the +600 mile trip to Indianapolis on August 21 to return to Towson Post 22 on the 26th. The total miles ridden by our riders will be over 1500 miles. It is expected to raise over \$600,000 for the Legacy Scholarship fund.

The next day, August 27th, after the National Commanders Riders meeting in the morning, a ride is scheduled to take some of our visiting riders to Ft. McHenry, with a quick "ride by" of the VA facility in downtown Baltimore. The Ride captain for the event is our Assistant Director, David Heredia, and I will be acting as his assistant. On Thursday a ride is scheduled to tour Frederick and Carroll counties to visit three covered bridges and Camp David. Once again, David and I will be assisting in this effort. On the 29th, the 97th National Convention Parade will be held in Baltimore and we hope to have as many of our Riders participate as possible. Details: <http://www.2015legacyrunbaltimore.org/index.html>.

Our collaboration with the Aberdeen Police Department to support the annual "Shop With a Cop" program continues with our Poker Run Fund Raiser scheduled for September 12th. It is a rain or shine event and all are welcome to participate, including automobiles. The shopping event is scheduled for December 6th. If anyone who wishes to assist, or needs more information, please contact me.

The "Paint the Town Pink" effort is rolling along with great enthusiasm. On October 3rd, our Post, along with the

Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce, the Aberdeen Rotary Club, the Lions Club International, and the Masons, are planning a 5k walk/run for the morning, and a Poker Run in the afternoon (again, rain or shine and both automobiles and motorcycles are invited). Additional activities are scheduled to be held in the Park in the afternoon. These events are designed to raise funds for cancer patients in Aberdeen as well as Harford and Cecil counties. October is the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and all funds raised will be donated to the University of Maryland's Kaufman Cancer Center and the Cancer LifeNet.

For further information:

<https://www.facebook.com/thinkpinkaberdeemmd> and <http://www.thinkpinkaberdeemmd.org>.

Richard Beckwell, ALR Director



Fish Fry!

Only **\$7.00**

Fri, Sep 11th & Fri, Sep 25th

5:30 – 10:00 pm

Sides: Coleslaw and French Fries
Choice of Whiting or Catfish



American Legion Riders Post 128



2nd Annual "Shop with a Cop"

Poker Run open to all Vehicles

Sponsored By

American Legion

Bernard L. Tobin Post 128



Date: Saturday, 12 September 2015

Registration Time: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM – KSU at Noon

Where: American Legion Post 128 44 N Parke St. Aberdeen, MD 21001

After the Poker Run, Festivities will be held at
The American Legion Post 128
44 N. Parke St. Aberdeen, MD 21001



American Legion Riders Post 128

1ST ANNUAL

"ABERDEEN BREAST CANCER AWARENESS"

Poker Run

Rain or Shine

Sponsored By

American Legion

Bernard L. Tobin Post 128



SATURDAY OCTOBER 3RD 2015

All Vehicles Welcome

Rain or Shine

Registration Begins at 10:00AM

Aberdeen American Legion Post 128
44 N. Parke Street, Aberdeen MD

\$20.00 per Rider/\$20 per Passenger

Includes Poker Run, Ride Pin, Door Prize Ticket, Entertainment, Food and Refreshments

Poker Run starts at noon and returns to American Legion Post 128 by 2:30PM



2nd Annual "Shop with a Cop" Fundraiser

Sep 7, 9, and 12, 2015

6:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Valid on Dine In or Carry Out

Bob Evans will donate 15% of sales
when you present the flyer to

Bob Evans

1024 Beards Hill Road in Aberdeen

Get a flyer in the Lounge or from our Calendar Page

*Flyer must be presented at time of checkout

POST 128 OFFICERS • 2015-2016

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.....Jim Weber

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jim Osborne Bruce Gerdorn
All Past Commanders

UNIT 128 OFFICERS • 2015-2016

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

President.....Linda Geigan
1st Vice President.....Betty Bain
2nd Vice President.....Deborah Heredia
Secretary.....Deborah Heredia
Treasurer.....Connie Johnson
Historian.....Vickie Adams
Chaplain.....Deborah Heredia
Sgt-at-Arms.....Janet Peightal
Color Bearers.....Kim Webb, Anna Sissum

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kim Webb Anna Sissum Mona Oldland
All Past Presidents

Club Steward Jim Weber..... (410) 272-9822
Newsletter Editor Sonny Barnhouse(410) 459-0485

Email: post128@aberdeenpost128.org

POST 128 WEBSITE.....<http://www.aberdeenpost128.org>

ALR 128 WEBSITE:

<http://www.aberdeenpost128.org/alr-128.html>

FACEBOOK PAGE:.....<https://www.facebook.com/Post128>
or search for: American Legion Bernard L. Tobin Post 128

KEY DATES

September 2015

Sep 7.....Labor Day
Sep 8.....AL Riders Meeting, 7 pm
Sep 9.....SAL Meeting, 7 pm
Sep 11.....Fish Fry, 5:30 pm
Sep 12.....ALR Poker Run, 10 am-2:30 pm
Sep 14.....Unit Meeting, 7 pm
Sep 21.....Post Meeting, 7 pm
Sep 25.....Fish Fry, 5:30 pm

October 2015

Oct 3.....Aberdeen Think Pink Day
Oct 3.....5K Walk/Run, 7:30 am
Oct 3.....ALR Poker Run, 10 am-2:30 pm
Oct 5.....SAL Meeting, 7 pm
Oct 12.....Unit Meeting, 7 pm
Oct 13.....AL Riders Meeting, 7 pm
Oct 19.....Post Meeting, 7 pm
Oct 24.....Boy Scouts Spaghetti Dinner, 4 pm
Oct 27.....Blood Drive, 1 pm
Oct 31.....Halloween Party for Kids

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

ALR 128 OFFICERS • 2015-2016

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

Director.....Richard Beckwell
Assistant Director.....David Heredia Jr.
Secretary.....Susan Beckwell
Treasurer.....Susan Beckwell
Chaplain.....George Martin
Historian.....Gary D. Ivey
Sgt-at-Arms.....Richard Davis
Road Captain.....Vacant
ALR Webmaster.....Gary D. Ivey

SAL128 OFFICERS • 2015-2016

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

Commander.....Jerry Lacey
1st Vice Commander.....Rick Brinney
2nd Vice Commander.....Gary Gerdorn
3rd Vice Commander.....Rick Bruno
Adjutant.....Randy Conlon
Finance Officer.....Mike Lindecamp
Chaplain.....Kyle Lacey
Historian.....John Davis
Sgt-at-Arms.....Rory Davila
Advisor.....Glenn Holcomb