



American Legion Post 290 Newsletter

edited by Siegfried Gates



The Friendliest Place in Virginia!

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Stafford, Virginia

November 2024

Commander's Call to the Post 290 American Legion Family:

Greetings!

Here it is November and it seems like we just had Christmas. Lots going on in November at your post. There will be no steak night in lieu of the Post 290 Club event. This will be on November 16th. There also will not be a steak night in December because of the holidays.

The holiday food basket program will be starting on November 4th, with box distribution. This will continue through November and into December. Any questions, please contact BJ Payne.

The Department convention is coming up Friday, November 1st through Sunday, the 3rd.

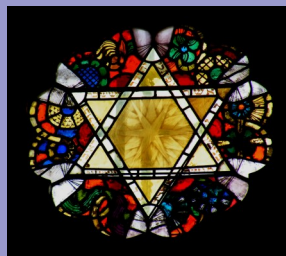
Riders bingo will be on Saturday, November 2nd.

Remember to volunteer when you have a little extra time and feel like supporting any and all activities for your Legion. Anything helps!

Thanks and I look forward to seeing all of you at the events coming up these next couple months.

Rick Schultz
Commander, Post 290

The Veterans Crisis Line HOT LINE is live! Dial 988 then Press 1.



Post Everlasting

By Darren King

Comrades: It is always with great sorrow when I must announce the transfer of any Legionnaire to Post Everlasting:

Michael Hodgkins answered the call to the Post Everlasting on October 10th, 2024. He was a Vietnam Era Navy Veteran.

If you know of any member of Post 290, Unit 290 or Squadron 290 who transferred to the Post Everlasting, please contact me at darren@northstaffordbaptistchurch.com, (816) 550-5228 or 111 Van Horn Lane, Stafford, VA 22556 .

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain Darren King

In November we celebrate Veteran's Day. As members of the American Legion, a veteran's organization, it is a good time to remind ourselves of why we exist. We exist for God and Country, to uphold and defend the constitution, and so on as found in our preamble. I want to focus on **"to promote peace and good will on earth"**.

How do we promote peace and good will on earth? There are several ways mentioned right in our preamble. We promote peace and good will by maintaining law and order. We promote peace and good will by serving our community, state and nation. We promote peace and good will by making right the master of might. We promote peace and good will by safeguarding and transmitting to posterity the principles of justice and freedom.

There is another way we can promote peace and good will on earth that is found somewhat in the beginning of the preamble – For God and country we associate together... The national holiday we celebrate in November is Thanksgiving. One way we can promote peace and good will on earth is to be thankful. Thankful for God and for country. Thankful people can't but be people of peace and good will. If you are thankful, you leave no room for grumbling and complaining and divisiveness. Let us be thankful veterans, thankful people, and promote peace and good will on earth.

BINNACLE LIST

If you know of any other member of Post 290, Unit 290, Chapter 290 or Squadron 290 who is ill, and/or hospitalized, or if you have updates on any of the above issues, please contact me, Darren King at darren@northstaffordbaptistchurch.com or call me at (816) 550-5228 (cell), or mail me at Darren King, 111 Van Horn Lane, Stafford, VA 22556.

The Veterans Crisis Line HOT LINE is live! Dial 988 then Press 1.



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 290 News

By Marilyn Butters

Membership: Did you know you can pay your dues by phone? Just Call 317-569-4570. You can use your MasterCard or Visa Credit Card or Debit Card. You can also pay online at <https://www.legion-aux.org/renew> by Logging in to your account. Don't have an account? It is very easy to set one up. Just follow the online prompts. Have your membership number ready-it can be found on your most recent issue of your American Legion Auxiliary magazine label.

Plans are underway for decorating the Legion Hall for the holidays. Please join members at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 16th so we can 'Deck the Halls' in preparation for the upcoming season.

Thanks to member Kathy Payne, plans are well underway for the annual Children's Christmas Party. This annual event will be held as tradition dictates, on the first Sunday in December at 2 p.m... This year that date is December 1st. This is the Sunday that directly follows Thanksgiving. More information regarding registration to reserve a spot will be posted on the Legion Facebook page closer to the event. Members are encouraged to register early as we know you want your children and grandchildren to meet Santa! Volunteers should arrive no later than 1:30.

Kitchen help: We are really in need of support in the kitchen on Wednesdays for 4 hours. It is only twice a month, so 8 hours a month.....Please consider lending a hand. Ginger has been managing this task for close to 20! Years and is ready to pass this on. Would you consider helping your Unit in this way? PLEASE contact any officer to discuss. Your Unit needs you!

Eagle Eye of the Month for October 2024

There was no Eagle Eye contest for the October issue.

The Veterans Crisis Line HOT LINE is live! Dial 988 then Press 1.

American Legion Riders Chapter 290 News

By Marty Partridge

The Department of Virginia American Legion Rider's 14th Annual State Rally was held September 20-22, 2024 at the Petersburg Post 2. The 290 Riders departed Stafford at 0900 on Thursday, September 20th and conducted a leisurely, country road ride, wide to the west to avoid most highways, had a nice lunch stop and continued on to our hotel. We then headed over to Post 2 for the Rally check in, and enjoyed food, drink and entertainment. Friday morning kicked off with a very scenic historical battlefield ride around Petersburg, returned to the Post for lunch, Bike and other games. That evening wrapped up the Rally with a dinner and awards and recognition presentations and more entertainment. Congratulations to the Petersburg Post 2 and the Riders for putting on another Great Rally!

A beloved friend and fellow American Legion Rider, Dick George, from Post 1976, rode with us and attended the Rally with us. Sadly, Dick, a Vietnam Veteran and retired Air Force Master Sergeant, passed away on September 25th, 2024 at the age of 79. Several Riders from ALR-1976, ALR-290 and others from around the Northern Region, assisted Dick's wife, Patti, by conducting an Honor Escort of Patti from her home in Annandale to the crematory in Purcellville, to pick up Dick's remains and escort Patti and him to their home. It was a true honor for us to do this for Patti. A Celebration of Life Ceremony is being planned for November 9th at 1300 at the Annandale American Legion Post 1976. Dick will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery at a date to be determined.

On October 5th, Riders once again held their Cornhole Tournament. The weather was perfect, and all that attended had a great time. We had a total of nine teams enter, and we recognized our top three teams. Thanks to our Riders Justin and Tori Goemmer for planning and running the Tournament. Also, a Big Thanks to the 12U 290 Bomber Girls Softball Team for providing a very tasty lunch for us. This was a win-win for the Riders and the Bombers!

The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Chapter 27-2 (CVMA 27-2) attended our Bike Night on Friday, October 11th and presented the Post 290 with a plaque in appreciation of the Stafford American Legion Post 290 and ALR-290's support of their Bull Run III Dice Ride on July 20th. Post 290 was one of the stops on the Run, and the CVMA 27-2 was very thankful of the support received from the Post, the ALR-290 participation and donation, and the donation received from the 290 Bartender, Travis Kittrell, who donated his tips from the day. Great work by all, and this is a great representation of Veteran organization working together, for the betterment and support of Veterans in need!

Finally, a few of us took the opportunity to attend The Department of Virginia American Legion Rider's College at the Culpeper Post 330 on Saturday, October 12th 2024. This is a new initiative created this year by The Department of Virginia Legion Rider Sub-Committee Chairman, Randy Gunn, with an iteration in each of the three Regions. The Northern Region iteration at Culpeper was the last for 2024, and over 150 Riders and other Legion Members attended. Congratulations to 290 Riders Juanita Partridge, Don Dillon, Brandy Fitzgerald, and John Humphrey, and ALR-1976 Rider Laura Werner for Graduating and earning your Rider College Patch and Pin.

Keep the rubber-side down!
Marty Partridge
ALR-290 Director

American Legion Riders Chapter 290 News

By Marty Partridge



September 21, 2024 – American Legion Riders (left to right) (first row) Greg Nilges, Doug and Kim Sivigny, Juanita and Marty Partridge; (second row) Laura Werner (ALR-1976), Don Dillon, Dick George (ALR-1976), Clif McDaniel and Austin Sutton at the 14th Annual Virginia American Legion Rider's Rally at Post 2 Petersburg, VA. This was Dick George's last ride and event and we are so happy he was with us, and had a great time. (Photo by Unknown).



October 5, 2024 – American Legion Riders 290 Cornhole. Rider Justin Goemmer presents a check to First Place Winners Dewan Morton and Russ Chunn (Photo by Juanita Partridge).

American Legion Riders Chapter 290 News

By Marty Partridge



October 5, 2024 – American Legion Riders 290 Cornhole. Rider Justin Goemmer presents a check to Second Place Winners “Da Boyz” Reggie Coffey (ALR-290) and his son Reggie Coffey. (Photo by Juanita Partridge).



October 5, 2024 – American Legion Riders 290 Cornhole. 290 Rider Director Marty Partridge presents a check to Third Place Winners Tori and Justin Goemmer (ALR-290). (Photo by Juanita Partridge).

SAL INFO

by Fargo Wells

Greetings SAL members and your families! I hope everyone is well and safe.

Members can login into their myLegion.org account and renew directly or via the quick renew website: legion.org/SAL-Renew.

The procedur for modifying the current dues in the system is the submission of a Squadron Data Report (SDR) that is available at the Sons of The American Legion website under Publications and Forms. The SDR should be sent to the detachment and the email address Post and Squadron Reports (postsqdnupdates@legion.org) for processing.

If you have any questions please contact Kevin Mook the National SAL Liaison at kmook@legion.org

The SAL has not had a dues increase in many years.

However, we have to send a portion of the dues to the Department and a portion to Nationals.

The Nationals Dues have increased, therefore we will need to increase the amount that we collect from our members to \$20.00.

If I can help you out with anything. Text, e-mail or call

Fargo Wells, Commander Sons of the American Legion Squadron 290 Stafford

(703) 362-8277 call, text or write rfargowells@hotmail.com .

Thank you,
Fargo Wells

FIREWOOD STILL AVAILABLE FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

The Stafford Post 290 BSA Venture Crew Scouts are conducting a community service project to deliver firewood to families, in need, in Stafford County. The Venture Crew will also cut up and remove wood from properties that may have fallen after a storm or wood that individuals are willing to donate.

To date the Venture Crew's Firewood donation program for those in need: has delivered 96 cords of wood, to needy Stafford residents who heat primarily with firewood. Mike Robinson could always use volunteer support.

The Venture Crew is accepting monetary donations to help in this project or to support the Venture Crew.

If wanting to volunteer to help cut and split wood, or help stack or deliver firewood for this project, please call Mike Robinson, (540) 760-3255.

A cord is a unit of cut firewood which equals a stack of 4x4x8 feet or 128 cubic feet.



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

ALL TASKS ARE HELD AT THE
POST 290 ANNEX, 1204 AMERICAN LEGION RD

MONDAY, DEC 9 — PICK UP BOXES

volunteers meet at 8:00am

*Pick up collection boxes from Stafford County Public Schools
pickups, vans, and trailers are helpful, but not necessary*

MONDAY, DEC 9 - THURSDAY, DEC 12 — SORTING

8:00am - until task is completed

FRIDAY, DEC 13 - SATURDAY, DEC 14 — PACKING

8:00am - until task is completed

SATURDAY, DEC 14 — DISTRIBUTE BOXES

1:00 - 5:00pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 — DISTRIBUTE BOXES

volunteers to arrive starting at 10:00am

staffordpost290.org / HOLIDAY FOOD BASKET
post290foodbasket@gmail.com

*Schedule updates will be posted on staffordpost290.org &
American Legion Post 290 Members Facebook Page*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

You're invited to a Stafford County Sheriff's Office Project Lifesaver Demonstration

All are welcome!



Project Lifesaver is the premier search and rescue program operated internationally by public safety agencies, and is strategically designed for "at risk" individuals who are prone to the life threatening behavior of wandering. The primary mission of *Project Lifesaver* is to provide timely response to save lives and reduce potential injury for adults and children with the propensity to wander due to a cognitive condition.

Members of *Project Lifesaver* will wear a personalized bracelet that emits a constant locating signal. Each transmitter has a unique radio frequency enabling specially trained Deputies to positively locate and identify a missing individual. The Stafford County Sheriff's Office works with other local and national law enforcement agencies to provide citizens with this high-tech tool in an effort to save lives and bring peace of mind to loved ones and caretakers.

Scan QR code for an informational video.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025 @ 2PM

**Stafford American Legion Post 290
1141 Mountain View Rd in Stafford County**

hosted by

**Surgeon Lawrence Brooke Society
Children of the American Revolution**

For more info about the event, contact: Kathy Payne, Senior Society President at slimzeke@aol.com

NOVEMBER 2024 HIGHLIGHTS AT POST 290

November

American Indians Heritage Month, National Diabetes Month,

- Nov 01-03 Department Fall Convention
- Nov 02 - American Legions Riders' BINGO 0900hrs Doors Open
- Nov 03 - Daylight Saving Time Ends
- Nov 05 - Election Day
- Nov 10 - USMC Birthday, 1775
- Nov 10 - 16th District Fall Conference, Post 330
- Nov 11 - Veteran's Day, Courthouse Wreath Laying, 0900
- Nov 16 - 290 Club, Happy Hour at 1730, dinner at 1900hrs
- Nov 28 - Thanksgiving Day

CONSTANT BEARING, DECREASING RANGE

(ITEMS ADDED AS THEY COME TO THE EDITOR'S ATTENTION)

December

Universal Human Rights Month

- Dec 01 - Children's Christmas Party, 1400hrs (2 pm)
- Dec 06 - Stafford County Tree Lighting Festival, 1800hrs, 1300 Courthouse Road
- Dec 07 - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony followed by showing of "Pearl Harbor" the movie.
- Dec 14 - Post 290 Oratorical, 0900 Judges show time; 1000 hrs START
- Dec 14 - Army Navy Football Game, Commander's Field, Landover, MD, 1500hrs
- Dec 25 - Christmas Day
- Dec 26 - Jan 01 Kwanzaa
- Dec 25 - Hanukkah begins at sunset
- Dec 31 - New Year's Eve

2025

January 2025

National Blood Donor Month, National Glaucoma Awareness Month

- Jan 01 - New Year's Day
- Jan 03 - Hanukkah Ends
- Jan 04 - District Oratorical Contest, at Post 295, 1000hrs START
- Jan 12 - Project Lifesaver Demonstration, 1400hrs
- Jan 20 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday/Presidential Inauguration Day
- Jan 25 - Robert Burns Night
- Jan 29 - Chinese/Lunar New Year - Year of the Dragon

February 2025

Black History Month

- Feb 01 - Regional Oratorical Contest Post 176, 1000hrs START



**YOUR ELECTED POST
290 OFFICERS**

Commander Rick Schultz
 1st Vice Lewis Bunch
 2nd Vice John Patrick
 3rd Vice Brandy Fitzgerald
 Adjutant Mike Scullin
 Finance Robert Ponzo
 Service Ofc. Jim Richey
 Chaplain Darren King
 Sgt at Arms VACANT
 JAG Garry Briggs
 PAO Cliff McDaniel
 Historian VACANT



**YOUR AUX UNIT 290
ELECTED OFFICERS**

President Ginger Brigs
 Vice Pres Mary Schelin
 Sec/Treas Marilyn Butters
 Chaplain Dale Seward
 Historian Mary Schelin
 Sgt at Arms Teresa Hardisty

**STAFFORD AMERICAN
LEGION POST 290**

**We are on the Web
www.staffordPost290.org**



November 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
National Diabetes Awareness Month	Native American Heritage Month				1 BINGO Department Fall Convention	2 Department Fall Convention American Legion Riders BINGO 0900hrs
3 Daylight Saving Time Ends Department Fall Convention	4	5 ELECTION DAY	6 BINGO	7	8 BINGO	9
10 USMC Birthday, 1775 16 th District Fall Conference, Post 330	11 Veterans Day ALR Monthly Meeting	12 General Members Mtg.	13 BINGO	14	15 BINGO	16 290 Club Happy Hour 1730hrs Dinner 1900hrs
17	18	19	20 BINGO	21 Great American Smoke-out	22 BINGO	23
24	25 Executive Committee Mtg. 1930	26	27 BINGO	28 Thanksgiving	29 BINGO	30