



AMERICAN LEGION POST 28

1ST QTR NEWSLETTER 1 JAN-31MAR 2015
AVERY TAYLOR - COMMANDER



COMMANDERS CALL

WHY DID YOU JOIN POST 28?



We each have our own reasons we chose to join Post 28 over different veteran organizations in the area. Perhaps because of the long standing tradition and stature this Post has within Spartanburg. Maybe

you want to support one or more of our strong and active youth programs such as AL Baseball or Boys State. It could be you just enjoy coming out for our breakfast meetings once a month or you have found a connection with one or more other members and have formed a special bond. I think for many of us, it is because we like helping preserve the historically significant building we have. Whatever your reason, taking advantage of what the Post has to offer and becoming involved in some way can enable you to gain satisfaction and enjoy the many benefits of being a Legionnaire. Post 28 is strong and active in so many ways, but with your help, we can offer so many more opportunities to address the desires and needs of all of our members. Won't you pledge to offer your skills and experience to help our pot grow?

Our WEB site has changed. Due to some technical issues we had with our previous web site we have created a new one that we feel is easier for non-technical people to maintain, easier for people to find current information they need, easier to remember the URL or name, and far less expensive. For those of you savvy with computers, take a look at our new web site at www.al28sc.org and see for yourself how easy it is to find out what is happening at the Post. The name is easy: American Legion 28 South Carolina, and we are an organization. The site is nothing fancy, but that is what makes it easy to maintain. Take a look at the link to National Registry information about our Post Home or take a virtual guided tour of our museum with Jim Harbison as your guide. Watch our Honor Guard in action. Really cool stuff!

SPECIAL SPECIAL SPECIAL



(1) From the Adjutant: To ALL members: To update our records, I need the following information as soon as possible:

- a. A copy of your DD214, or equivalent.
- b. A current address.
- c. Current phone numbers: Home and Mobile
- d. Email address if you have one.

All potential information that could expose you to theft will be redacted. I will black out all non-essential information on the copy of each DD214. The requested DD214 is necessary for me to maintain in case of an audit by the IRS. Let me assure you that NO ONE else will have access to these forms except me, unless there is a question of eligibility to be a member of the American Legion. (2) If you have already paid your dues for 2015, thank you. If you have not as of yet, I would

appreciate it greatly if you would do so as soon as possible. (3) Also if you have a question, a need, any change in your location, or health, please let me know, so that the appropriate steps can be taken. As we are all members of Post 28, we are family, one of my goals is to bring this Post Family closer, but to do this I need your help. My direct phone number is: 864 2052755. This number is always on, don't hesitate to call me. The needed information may be sent to the Post at: PO Box 391, Spartanburg, SC 29304, Attn: Leah White. (4) If you have spare time, and would like to put it to good use, we can always use volunteers to help out in a variety of ways at the Post. If you just want someplace to go, to have hot coffee and fellowship with other Post Family members, we have coffee call Monday-Friday from 10am until 2pm. Come join us! (5) We are proud to inform you that our new post website is: www.al28sc.org. You will be able to see what's happening on the monthly calendars. We think you will like this more user friendly site. (6) The Post can now provide Notary Services, free of charge to ALL VETERANS and their families. Call 864 205 2755 for an appointment. (7) We have been given a cemetery plot, to sell, in the Veteran's Section at Greenlawn. Contact the adjutant for details. Proceeds go to Boys State. For GOD and Country *Leah White*

DISTRICT FIVE COMMANDER

JACK WRIGHT



Next District 5 Meeting will be at 10am on Jan 31, 2015 at Post 28 Legion Hall. Meal will follow. National Comdr Mike Helms will address the SC General Assembly on Jan 27, 2015. Post 45 will present the Four Chaplins Ceremony at the Inman First Baptist Church on Feb 3, 2015 at 1800 hrs or 6pm for you civilians. Remember Pearl Harbor Day and have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. *Jack Wright*, District 5 Comdr.

FACILITIES

Jim Harbison - Committee Chairman



In the past quarter we have been hard at work repairing and refurbishing the post. Working on the leak upstairs, new concrete sidewalks, patio and walk ways. Workshop downstairs has been restored to a workstation. New ceremonial brick walkways have been installed, new cabinets and counters in the canteen have been installed, and much more. These investments are designed to upgrade our facility. If you have not been in the post in the past 12 months I feel you would be very impressed. For God and Country *Jim Harbison*

VETERANS ASSISTANCE

Ted Hemenway - Service Officer



If you have not received a new VA Card within the last year, you may speed up the

process by visiting the new VA Outpatient facility in Greenville. Call first, and ask the operator to check if that office is open that day. I tried this after talking with an operator, it was the switch board and she did not check to see if that office was open, **IT WAS NOT**. Many do not use the VA because they cannot bill Medicare, thus leaving large co-pays. Eye care and Ear Care are very expensive out of pocket. One suggestion, When you visit your civilian doctor, be sure to get a computer print-out of that visit. It will list your medications, results from blood work-up and other valuable information. If you have a VA Card, make an appointment with the VA Facility in Spartanburg to see the doctor. You will have to have a VA provider to order eye and ear exams. Tell the nurse that you only need the office call to have a prescription from the doctor. The doctor will copy the information from the civilian doctor's print out and order the ear and eye exams. It will take several weeks, but considering the cost of these services, it is worth it. You can then use the VA for eye and ear, which includes replacement batteries for hearing aids, and still use your civilian doctor for all other medical care, including hospital, etc. Visiting the VA doctor once a year will maintain this set up. *Ted Hemenway*

HONOR GUARD

Ken Barton - Commander



During November they performed 3 military funerals and another on December 5. The Honor guard also performed several Veteran's Day activities, a DAR Ceremony at Greenlawn Cemetery on Nov 11 and presented the Colors at the Golden Corral Restaurant on November 17. 29 Military Funerals plus all the other ceremonies that they do. *Ken Barton*

ATHLETICS

John Barron, Athletic Director



The Legion Baseball Season will be here before we know it. In January we will get the word out to the high schools for baseball players in our recruiting area to get in shape for summer baseball. Our Home Field "Duncan Park" is seeing more renovations this winter. The seats in the grandstands have been removed and awaiting the installation of new seats. Exactly how much will be done is to be seen, but I'm sure we will all be impressed with the work the City and District 7 has been doing to renew Historic Duncan Park. I expect to see more fans this year and I will need more help from the legionnaires to ensure a class act along with very well played baseball. If you are interested in getting involved in the baseball program and want to experience a bit of what you enjoyed as a boy, see me to have fun at the ballpark. *John J Barron - Director.*

STANDDOWN 2014

I attended the After Action Report Meeting that was given to the Steering Committee. By all measurements Standdown 2014 was a success. Nearly 500 veterans and their family members was given help in some form or other. Kudos to the Staff and Volunteers for doing such a great job. *Tony Messel - reporting*

SC DEPT 2ND VICE COMMANDER

Bob Scherer - 2nd Vice Commander



New officers in the SC Dept are: James Holland, new Adjutant, Gary Mitchell - Finance Committee, John Collins - 4th Vice Commander. Support your State Officers, If you do, they can do a much better job for you. *Bob Scherer - 2nd Vice Commander* This was extracted from the full article. See the full article on the qualifications of the new officers on our web site (a128sc.org).

MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

Ed Y Hall - Curator and Librarian



Ed Hall's book goes to a third printing. Valley of Shadow published in 1988 has come out in a third printing as a 9x6 softcover for the library market. The book is about Ed's tour in Vietnam War, that General Westmoreland wrote an introduction for. Initial copies are available from Ed at the Legion most days. **POST LIBRARY LOOKING FOR MISSING BOOKS.** Ed reminds everyone who has checked out books to **RETURN THEM.** Check out time is for thirty days. We have a great military history library and we would like to have checked out books returned after the loan time. **BRICK WALK OF HONOR** growing. As of this date, almost 600 bricks are in the walk. Why not honor your or the service of a loved one. See Ed Hall for more information. *Ed Y Hall.*

AUXILIARY

Geneva Paggett - President



I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas. Your Auxiliary has been busy the past two months. In November we placed flags on the graves of veterans at Heritage Cemetery. The Veteran's Day Parade was one of the best, followed by a cookout at the Post and a Cake to celebrate our 95th birthday. Thanks Guys, you did great.

In December we decorated the Post Christmas Tree, wrapped gifts at the Campbell VA Nursing Home and had a joint Christmas Dinner with the Post. Brought toys for boys and girls. We donated money to several non-profit organizations to help with their Christmas.

Be sure to join us for events in 2015. Our Annual Soup and Salad Dinner will be Friday, February 20th at 6pm. Tickets \$7.00 for all the soup you eat. Many delicious bowls to savor and many different kinds. A Fashion Show is in the works for Saturday March 28th. More details later. Thanks everyone.

Geneva Paggett

SOCIAL DIRECTOR

Carrol Owings



Carroll Owings, 1st Vice Commander presented plaques to Tony Price of Coca-Cola and Keith Laws of Chick Filet honoring them for their many contributions to the American Legion Post 28 during the past year.



Keith Laws
Chick Filet



Tony Price
Coke Cola

Announcing Post 28 new website

www.al28sc.org



The red area on the Home Page is the menu line. You will see the above titles to aid you in finding different parts of the web site.

- Let's begin with the title: **Home**. When you put your pointer on this title and left click, three more titles will be shown, they are:
 - Photo Albums: These are for photos of Post activities
 - Members: This is so each member can put not only a picture of himself, but information on his life. It will allow members to become familiar with you.
 - Guestbook is a place where non members can place their name and a comment on the Post and the web site.
- The next title is: **About the Legion**. This part of the web site make you familiar with the American Legion, the preamble to the National Constitution, Membership Requirements, Legion Riders Membership Requirements, the Legacy Scholarship Fund and the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program.
- The next title is: **About Post 28**. This part of the web site will make you familiar with Current Officers, Committee Chairs and Key Staff (2014-2015). It will give you a walk down memory lane and give you Post History, who our charter members were, who past commanders are. Then it will give you the Post 28 Constitution, the By Laws, and the Post Financial Policy.
- The next title is: **Current Activities**. This part gives you the present Post Newsletters, plus a couple of oldies, it tells about the Post Baseball Program, it tells about the Post 28 Legion Riders, it tells about the Post 28 Honor Guard, it has a video tour of the Museum, it has a video showing the Honor Guard at work, it tells about the Post Memorial Walk of Honor, it gives a history of Americanism Awards and Programs, and it gives you a history compiled by Mike Burgin in 1973 the describes various programs the Post had been involved in, many which we still do today. BOD Minutes are also included in this section.
- The next title is: **Useful Links**. This part gives a link to the National American Legion web site, and also gives a link to the South Carolina American Legion web site, and this is really useful link and is named after a part of the troops life "Burn Pit". This is where troops would gather around and discuss things that affected their daily life. The American Legion Burn Pit serves the same purpose, comments about what the Legion is doing, what our government has done that has military ramifications and to provide help when our troops need it.
- The next title is: **Calendar**. This part is just what it says it is a Calendar of Events, Past, Present, and Future. The part of this section that is unique "you double click on a specific event and additional information about the event appears" It also give you a chance to make comments.

CALENDAR 2015

JANUARY

3rd ----- Membership Mtg and Breakfast
10th ----- VVA Membership Mtg and Breakfast
17th ----- Honor Guard
19 ----- MLK Day
31 ----- Post Cleaning Day

FEBRUARY

2nd ----- BOD Mtg
7th ----- Membership Mtg and Breakfast
14th ----- VVA Membership Mtg and Breakfast
14 ----- Valentine's Day
14 ----- Palmetto Dance Club
16 ----- President's Day
20 ----- Auxiliary Soup Supper Fundraiser
21 ----- Honor Guard
21 ----- Shamrock Dance Club
28 ----- Post Cleaning Day

MARCH

2 ----- BOD Meeting
7 ----- Membership Mtg and Breakfast
14 ----- VVA Membership Mtg and Breakfast
14 ----- Palmetto Dance Club
21 ----- Honor Guard
21 ----- Shamrock Dance Club
28 ----- Post Cleaning Day
28 ----- Auxiliary Fashion Show
30 ----- BOD Mtg

APRIL con't

4 ----- Membership Mtg and Breakfast
11 ----- VVA Membership Mtg and Breakfast
11 ----- Palmetto Dance Club
18 ----- Honor Guard
18 ----- Shamrock Dance Club
25 ----- Post Cleaning Day
25 ----- Confederate Ball
27 ----- BOD Mtg

MAY

2 ----- Membership Mtg and Breakfast
2 ----- Dance Unlimited Club
9 ----- VVA Membership Mtg and Breakfast
10 ----- Mother's Day
16 ----- Honor Guard
16 ----- Shamrock Dance Club
25 ----- Memorial Day
30 ----- Post Cleaning Day

JUNE

1 ----- BOD Mtg
6 ----- Membership Mtg and Breakfast
6 ----- Officer Elections
13 ----- VVA Membership Mtg and Breakfast
14 ----- Flag Day
20 ----- Honor Guard
21 ----- Father's Day
27 ----- Post Cleaning Day



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