



RALPH H. JOHNSON AMERICAN LEGION POST 147

The Legion Banner



SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATION



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JAMES ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA 29412
STEVE DRISCOLL, Commander

TELEPHONE: (843) 795-3415
www.americanlegion147sc.org
PAUL HARRINGTON, Adjutant

PUBLISHED BY JAMES ISLAND AMERICAN LEGION POST 147

JULY 2024

COMMANDER'S REMARKS

It is truly an honor to be, once again, your Commander of the Ralph H Johnson American Legion Post 147. As I assume my duties, I want to thank our outgoing Commander, Harold Blum, for his work in shepherding our post through last year's insurance debacle which was overseen in a fiscally sound fashion. Thanks to Harold's efficient management, along with Mark Webster's oversight, we are currently solvent, and I don't foresee any price increases in the near future.

What we hope to do, over time, is to look for options where we can cut operational costs as a means to respond to inflation for utilities and increased insurance premiums. Hopefully, by October, we will be able to eliminate printing and mailing costs associated with our monthly bulletins and do more on-line communications through our web site. We will also pursue internal cost cutting measures for utilities, operational supplies, and equipment rentals: any adjustments will be noted in future editions.

On a positive note: If you are in the canteen, you may notice that all of the leather seating has been improved and this is the result of the generosity of S.A.L. member Pete Copelston who donated his time and expertise to refurbish all twenty-one chairs in the canteen. This has enabled us to maintain the attractive décor of our Post as well as contribute to the seating comfort of our members.

For the future, we look forward to expanding our current options in support of the Four Pillars of the American Legion. In this vein, we will be offering more activities for the youth and families of our community while maintaining our endeavors within the Legionnaire's Support Plan which include our library swap, week-day transportation service, and housing support. We will be adding on-site financial-management counseling and insurance availability for senior citizens. More details on the latter two items will be forthcoming over the next two newsletters.

For September, we will launch Tuesday Team Trivia competitions which we hope to grow into bi-weekly opportunities. It will be for fun with small prizes offered. An outline and rules will be published separately and promulgated in late August via our web site. Initially, this will be for members only.

To improve our overall ambiance, starting July 1st, smoking will be only at the back pavilion and restricted from the general entrance of the parking lot. In the event that the pavilion has been rented, smoking will be by the side door adjacent to the parking lot. This decision was reached by the Canteen Committee and sanctioned by the Post's Executive Board on June 13th.

On July 4th the Post's Honor Guard will host a complimentary buffet lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers/cheeseburgers, chips, slaw, and watermelon to be consumed at the Post from 11:30 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. Please try to join us as we pay thanks to our country and the generosity of the Honor Guard.

*Did you know – DHEC has graded our kitchen as an A. Congratulations and thanks to our Canteen Manager Tina Baugh, Debbie Caddell, Canteen Servers, and all volunteers for another job well done!

*Thanks also are extended to Squadron Commander Pete Rugheimer and the S.A.L. for his excavation and drainage work on the Pavilion. His work has mitigated the danger of this area being flooded.

All the best to our Legion Family as we enter the Summer Season.

For God and Country,
Steve Driscoll Commander

**If you have an email on file this is how you will be receiving your newsletter.
You are welcome to come to the Post to pick up a hard copy.**

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To get on Email List contact neildiez@hotmail.com



Auxiliary News

As we start the 2024-2025 year, let us remember what our organization is about. Our goals are to help our veterans and our community. To honor our Veterans and their service to our country. There are so many more projects that we could undertake this year with just a little more involvement from our members. Please consider attending one of our monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month and learn more about what we are doing. Our first meeting of the 2024-2025 year will be on Tuesday July 16th starting at 6:30 pm in the front hall.

The ladies will be serving Fried pork chops, rice and gravy with butter beans for \$20.00 a plate on meal. Saturday July 13th from 6 to 8 pm. Please remember to pre-pay when you sign up for your dinner. If you sign up but do not pre-pay, we cannot promise that you will receive a dinner.

School supply donations will start being received this month and our goal is to deliver them before the new school year begins.

We did some great work last year ladies. Lets make this year a better one.

Remember to keep our Legion family members in your thoughts and prayers.

Keeping our troops in our prayers,

Melody Easterby-Lowe
President Unit 147

CORNHOLE NEWS

We have had such great turn outs for the tournaments. Come out and have fun with your fellow members. It is \$1.00 to play, blind draw. Sundays 1:00 sign up starts at 12:30.



SAL NEWS



Greetings:

I would like to thank all the dedicated SAL officers and volunteers for their great effort last month. As we know we are sometimes a limited bunch, all efforts are greatly appreciated.

Our first in a while monthly meeting will be held on the second Tuesday, July 9th, 2024 at 6:30pm. Please attend, all members welcome. The BBQ Cook-off is soon upon us; thus we have a lot of planning to do.

Beginning July, new members recently processed will receive their first membership card after being welcomed into the meeting, shortly after old business is discussed by the current active members. Notice to be sent out to each new member as a reminder prior to the scheduled meeting. Come be a part, hard work, but very rewarding.

Please note: Due to recent increases in State dues, the SAL in response shall be increasing annual dues. Annual membership dues for regular members shall be \$35, while dual membership dues and Jr. membership dues shall be \$25.

SAL breakfast will be in full force on Sunday, July 21st, from 9am – 11:30am. Do not miss the best eggs in town.

Saturday, July 27th, from 6-7:30pm the SAL, with the help of one of our favorites, Mr. Robert Mazell, will serve a smoked half chicken dinner with two sides for \$15. Entertainment will be by the Wild Card Cover Band. They will be performing from 7pm – 10pm. It's sure to be a great night. Again, please come and enjoy our family friendly atmosphere and support our veterans.

I would like to give special thanks to a dedicated group that took time to make this year's youth fishing day a success. What an effort to make sure kids have an enjoyable day catching catfish and building memories. Thanks for making it a great day, the kids.

Also, special thanks to Bennett Garvin for helping complete the drainage improvements around our pavilion. Thank you for your support.

I would like to reach out to any willing and able member to volunteer to support your post. There are many ways in which you can help.

May God continue to bless America!

Respectfully,

J. Peter Rugheimer, III

SAL Squadron 147 Commander



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



The American Legion Riders would like to thank Bruce and Leland for all their work they have done over the past year. The May election has brought changes to the Riders with new faces in key positions. Congratulations to everyone who was elected.

As the new Director I want to introduce myself to the Ralph H. Johnson Post 147 family and tell everyone about the exciting events we currently have planned for our Post. Those of you who don't know me, I am Thad (Ted) Sikorski, an Air Force Veteran, and a son of a WWII and Korean War Navy Veteran. On my motorcycle vest you will see an American Legion pin, The Battlefield Cross, a Purple Heart, and a Gold Star. The American Legion Pin was my fathers' and the other items I wear to honor my Uncle who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms. That is why two of my most prized possessions are my Uncle's burial flag and my father-in-law's Army Uniform from the Korean War.

Knowing firsthand the lasting impact the Gold Star left on my mother's family, Patriotism, Honor and Dedication to Service was ingrained in my soul from a very young age. That is why my wife LeeAnne and I wanted to donate on behalf of the Riders the new American Flag to our Post prior to Memorial Day. A very Special Thank You to Marine Chris Caraway for helping properly raise the COLORS.

The month of August we have a Car and Motorcycle Show planned. A family friendly event where we can check out everyone's special ride. September our post will be hosting the 9/11 Memorial Motorcycle Wide where we will have a cookout, silent auction, raffles, live music and a special guest speaker retired USMC LTC James McBride. November with Veteran's we will be escorting the Viet Nam Memorial Wall to Patriot's Point where it will be there from the 7th to the 12th.

In closing, I want to say how excited I am to be able to serve our Post and the American Legion Riders. Thank you for trusting me in this position and preserving the Riders Motto "Legion Family First, Riders Second"

With Gratitude,
Thad (Ted) Sikorski
ALR Chapter 147 Director

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Monday & Tuesday

10:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday

10:00 - 10:00 p.m.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY


10:00—MIDNIGHT

*(BARTENDERS CALL)

JULY 2024

LUNCH: WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY: 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

SEAFOOD FRIDAYS: 11:30 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  DAV MEETING 7:00 P.M.	2	3 LUNCH: BURGERS/ PHILLY/ CHICKEN JUKE BOX ON THE HOUSE 6-8 POOL TOURN. 6:00 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 7PM	4 	5  SEAFOOD 11:30—2:00 P.M. \$11, \$14, \$17	6 DINNER TBD KARAOKE RON SWAIN
7  BREAKFAST 9 AM—11:30 AM AUXILIARY CORNHOLE 1:00	8	9  SAL MEETING 6:30 PM	10 LUNCH: BURGERS/ PHILLY/ CHICKEN CANTEEN MTG 6 FINANCE MTG 6:30 HONOR GUARD 7 JUKE BOX ON THE HOUSE 6-8 POOL TOURN. 6:00	11 LUNCH: BURGERS/ PHILLY/ CHICKEN  LEGION MEETING 7:00 P.M.	12  SEAFOOD 11:30—2:00 P.M. \$11, \$14, \$17	13 AUXILIARY FRIED PORK CHOPS RICE AND GRAVY & BUTTER BEANS \$20.00 WILDFLOWER STATION
14  BREAKFAST 9 AM—11:30 AM HONOR GUARD CORNHOLE 1:00	15  AL RIDERS MEETING 6:30 P.M.	16  AUXILIARY MEETING 6:30 PM	17 LUNCH: BURGERS/ PHILLY/ CHICKEN HONOR GUARD 7 JUKE BOX ON THE HOUSE 6-8 POOL TOURN. 6:00	18 LUNCH: BURGERS/ PHILLY/ CHICKEN  KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 7:00 P.M.	19  SEAFOOD 11:30—2:00 P.M. \$11, \$14, \$17	20 DINNER TBD NEW ATTITUDE BAND
21  BREAKFAST 9 AM—11:30 AM SAL CORNHOLE 1:00	22	23	24 LUNCH: BURGERS/ PHILLY/ CHICKEN HONOR GUARD 7 JUKE BOX ON THE HOUSE 6-8 POOL TOURN. 6:00	25 LUNCH: BURGERS/ PHILLY/ CHICKEN	26  SEAFOOD 11:30—2:00 P.M. \$11, \$14, \$17	27 SAL SMOKED HALF CHICKEN DINNER \$15 WILD CARD COVER BAND
28  BREAKFAST 9 AM—11:30 AM 40/8 CORNHOLE 1:00 PM	29	30  40 & 8 MEETING 7:00 P.M.	31 LUNCH: BURGERS/ PHILLY/ CHICKEN HONOR GUARD 7 JUKE BOX ON THE HOUSE 6-8 POOL TOURN. 6:00			

SUMMER LUNCH MENU FOR THURSDAYS HAS CHANGED



PLEASE RESPECT OUR POST, DO NOT THROW YOUR EMPTY BEER BOTTLES, TRASH AND CIGARETTE BUTTS INTO OUR DITCH OR OTHER POST PROPERTY, WE HAVE DUMPERS AND TRASH CANS FOR THIS.

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M.O.P.H.**

Contact: James Lee, Commander 843-693-1943
Bob Mastrion, Adjutant 843-881-7586

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In Memory of the Ark Angels

12/24

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