

# AMERICAN LEGION

**CARTER BURDELL HAGLER-POST 178** (Dept.. of GA) [Code: 811322]

## JULY-2025 NEWSLETTER

3219 RICHMOND HILL ROAD  
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30906  
Phone: (706) 793-1724  
Conf: (425)-650-1385



### POST OFFICERS

COMMANDER..... GRANT WHITELEY  
SENIOR VICE CMDR..... BRUCE EARLY  
1ST. JUNIOR VICE CMDR..... MATTHEW FUNSCH  
2ND. JUNIOR VICE CMDR..... ROBERT CARUSO  
3RD JUNIOR VICE CMDR..... JAMES BRENDLE  
JUDGE ADVOCATE..... HENRY WALTERS  
ADJUTANT..... TERESA BRISKER  
FINANCE OFFICER..... DAVID MYER  
SERVICE OFFICER..... TBA  
SGT-AT-ARMS..... CLARISSA M WETHERBEE  
CHAPLAIN..... JOHN ELLIS  
I.T. OFFICER..... TBA

#### Executive Committee Officers

PAUL ANDERSON, SR. PST CDR OSCAR SIMS  
CAROL WHITLOCK RAYMOND JOHNSON  
HENRY KING

AL MEMBERS MEETING.....2<sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY - 7:00 PM  
AL EXECUTIVE MEETING..1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY - 7:00 PM  
AL HOUSE COMMITTEE.....1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY - 6:00 PM  
AL AUXILIARY MEETING...2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY - 2:00 PM  
SAL MEMBERS MEETING..2<sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY-6:30 PM  
AL RIDERS MEETING.....3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY - 2:00 PM  
AL AUX JRS MEETING.....3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY - 2:00 PM



### AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT.....TERIANN BENZEL  
1ST. VICE PRES..... MIRIAM STEIN  
2ND. VICE PRES..... CARRIE LeBLANC  
SECRETARY.....CLARISSA WETHERBEE  
TREASURER..... JULIE HUFFMAN  
SGT-AT-ARMS..... FRANCES BOWMAN  
& IRENE HACKLEY  
CHAPLAIN..... DENISE WIDENER  
HISTORIAN.....TINA JOHNSON  
PARLIAMENTARIAN.....JESSICA SPARKS



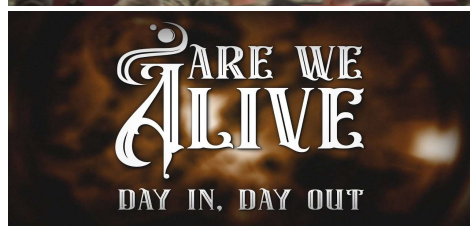
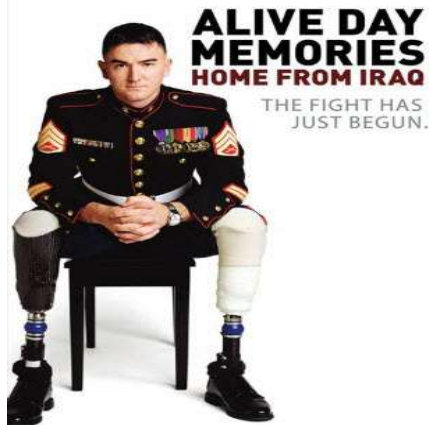
### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS

COMMANDER..... BRIAN KNUTSON  
1st VICE CMDR..... DONALD HUFFMAN  
2nd VICE CMDR..... DAVID A HIGGINBOTHAN  
ADJUTANT..... MICHAEL LAMIE  
FINANCE OFFICER.....JEFF AWAIT  
JUDGE ADVOCATE.....ROBERT BRIZIUS  
SGT-AT-ARMS..... ROBERT CARLTON  
HISTORIAN..... TRISTAN HALSTEAD  
CHAPLAIN.....STEVEN "BUCKY" ROGERS



### LEGION RIDER OFFICERS

DIRECTOR.....DONALD HUFFMAN  
ASSIST. DIRECTOR.....DAVID A HIGGINBOTHAN  
SECRETARY.....MARY VERRET  
TREASURER.....JULIE HUFFMAN  
ROAD CAPT..... LEE GARCIA  
ACTIVITIES.....MIRIAM STEIN  
SAFETY OFFICER..... LEE GALLOWAY  
HISTORIAN.....DAVID VERRET  
CHAPLAIN..... BRUCE A. EARLY  
SGT-AT-ARMS..... CLARISSA WETHERBEE  
JUDGE ADVOCATE.....JESSICA SPARKS  
WEBMASTER.....KRIS NICHOLAS



AMERICAN LEGION

BE THE ONE



RENEW YOUR LEGION MEMBERSHIP TODAY!



# Commander's Message



**Membership – New Cards** – The 2025 cards are being processed. At the present time we have 390 members paid to date which brings our membership percentage to 109.6%. Remember the Post Dues is now at **\$45.00** per member, per year. There are still members out there who have not paid their dues in a couple of years. That could help the post to 150% along with the new members. Please submit your dues either through the Post or on-line. **Renew your membership today and be part of the growing American Legion Family!**

**Newsletter Organizations Input** – 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Auxiliary – Sunday-Jun 22 at 3:36 PM: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: SAL Tuesday-06/24/2025 1:13 PM EDT: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Riders Tuesday 6/24/2025 4:35 PM: 4<sup>th</sup> Place: Lounge Tuesday 6/24/2025 7:46 PM.

**Convention Update:** The Post won the Outstanding Children and Youth Award – Category One for 2024-2025. In addition, the Post took the “The Outstanding Post Award Runner-Up Category Three for 2024-2025.

**VA processes more than 2M disability claims in record time** (June 24, 2025)- WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced today that it processed more than 2 million disability benefits claims for Veterans in fiscal year 2025, faster than ever before. VA achieved this milestone more than a month faster than the all-time record reached in FY 2024. At this pace, VA will surpass the previous record number of completed disability claims by more than 14% this year. VA has already awarded more than \$120 billion in compensation and pension benefits to Veterans and survivors in FY 2025. Since President Trump took office, VA has reduced the inventory of backlogged disability claims by more than 74,000. Veterans are also getting their claims processed more quickly — the average wait time for a Veteran’s claim to be processed fell from 141.5 days on Jan. 20, 2025, to 131.8 days on June 21, 2025. “VA has reduced the claims backlog and has processed these claims faster than ever for a simple reason: we’re focused on getting results for Veterans,” VA Secretary Doug Collins. “We are just getting started in our mission to help Veterans, families, caregivers and survivors get the care and benefits they’ve earned.” **VA encourages all Veterans to visit [VA.gov](https://www.va.gov) to learn more and apply for the care and benefits they deserve.**

**VA Home Loan basics: An earned benefit with unique advantages** - Active homebuyers most often search for their new homes during the busy spring and summer months. Experienced Veteran homebuyers know they have a leg up on the process—their VA Home Loan Guaranty benefit. But what about those who’ve never used it? Meet Army Reservists and new homeowners Brian and Amy. They expected the VA home loan process to include lots of government paperwork that would take a ton of time to complete, but they quickly learned that it was fairly simple—and came with an added benefit. The couple had been saving up for a down payment, but thanks to the VA Home Loan program, they were able to use the money they saved for the down payment and instead put it toward renovating their new home.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE POST** - If you are interested in volunteering, then contact the Post Commander Grant Whiteley at 706-793-1724. I am always grateful to all my officers, our management, the Ladies Auxiliary, the SAL and the Riders for all the time and energy they have dedicated into helping the post, the veterans and the community. If possible, all officers need to attend both the executive board meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month and along with the members, the membership meeting on the Second Tuesday of each month. **We need a volunteer for Service Officer. Please step up to the plate and support us. Thank You! GWM!**

**"WE THE PEOPLE"**



**RENEW YOUR LEGION MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**





The Auxiliary is organizing a scavenger hunt for the Juniors on July 4th, a steak night on the 11th, installation on the 12th starting at 9AM, and a meeting on the 19th at 2PM, with potential visits from Georgia and Korean War Day groups. The Auxiliary is organizing a scavenger hunt for the Juniors on July 4th, a steak night on the 11th, installation on the 12th starting at 9AM, and a meeting on the 19th at 2PM, with potential visits from Georgia and Korean War Day groups.

*God and Country,  
Teriann (TC) Leblanc, Unit 178 President*



We will have our monthly meeting on the 10th. We will be cooking on the 25th. thanks to all who supported our fish fry and the horseshoe tourney it was a huge success! We have our raffle for a really nice handmade cooler, TV and lots of other goodies please buy some tickets! Wishing everyone a fun and safe 4th of July. Take Care and God Bless!

*Take Care, and May God Bless  
Brian "Yank" Kunston, SAL Commander*



Our installation and awards will be on July 13 at 1pm. Our Friday steak night is July 18 from 6- 8pm. The next general membership meeting is July 20 at 2pm. I want to say a special thank you to everyone that has helped with our steak nights, rides and other functions this past year. Looking forward to another Great Year! Ride Safe!

*For God and Country,  
Donald "Fix It" Huffman, Director*

**Do believe summer is here!!!**



July 4th we will be grilling hamburger's and hot dogs this year. We will also be celebrating Bucky, Billy, John, and Wayne "Pork Chop's\_ birthday as well. July. 19th we will be having a Sheppard's Pie Benefit for Maggi. Ms. Maggi has gained custody of 4 of her grandbabies just recently so let's pull together and help her with this transition. More details soon. Prayers for Oscar, Julio , Mrs. Gloria ,and Lynn's mother.

**Thank you all for your support and God Bless!**

*"Freedom is nothing but a chance to be better."  
Lounge Manager, Frances Bowman*

The American Legion  
Carter Burdell Hagler Post #178  
3219 Richmond Hill Road  
Augusta, Georgia 30906-4713

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Augusta, GA  
Permit No. 86

POST 178 CALENDAR <i>JULY 2025</i>		
1	Tuesday	HOUSE COMMITTEE MTG @ 6PM& E-BOARD MTG @ 7PM
4	Friday	AL STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8PM; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM BUCKY - WAYNE PORK SHOP BIRTHDAY 8 PM
5	Saturday	BILL HACKLEY'S BIRTHDAY 1PM
6	Sunday	NO 40&8 Meeting 12:30 PM
8	Tuesday	POST 178 GEN MBRSHIP MTG 7PM
9	Wednesday	<i>RIDERS EXEC MTG 6:30 PM</i>
10	Thursday	SAL GEN MBR MTG 6:30 PM
11	Friday	<i>AUXILIARY STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8 PM; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM</i>
13	Sunday	INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS 1PM COCKTAILS – 2PM CEREMONY AUX GEN MBRSHIP MTG – 4PM
17	Thursday	GA WAR BINGO 10 AM - 1 PM; VICE CDR WETHERBEE BIRTHDAY
18	Friday	RIDER'S STEAK NIGHT 6 - 8 PM; KARAOKE 8-11 PM
20	Saturday	AUXILIARY JR'S MTG 2PM
25	Friday	SAL STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8 PM; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM
27	Sunday	KOREAN DAY JUL 27TH