

AMERICAN LEGION

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

MAY - 2025 NEWSLETTER

3219 RICHMOND HILL ROAD

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30906

Phone: (706) 793-1724

Conf: (425)-650-1385

[Code: 811322]



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



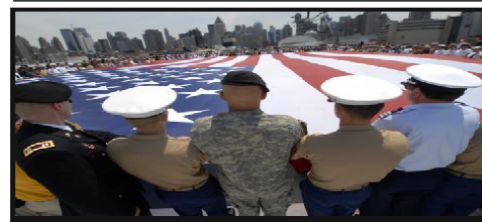
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS

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 376 members paid to date which brings our membership percentage to 100.2%. 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 – **1st Place Auxiliary on 4/25/25 at 11:06 AM; 2nd Place SAL on 4/25/25 11:14 AM; 3rd Place Riders on 4/25/25 at 4:26 PM and Lounge Input on 4/29/25 by proxy.**

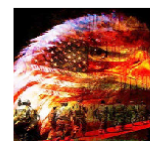
VA Improves the Veteran Experience with Contact Centers - To provide fast, tailored and reliable support for the Veterans who call VA contact centers, as well as slash costs associated with older, legacy platforms, the [VA Office of Information and Technology](#) is transforming Veteran support by migrating VA contact centers to a new cloud platform. The [Women Veterans Call Center](#) launched this effort on March 5, 2025, followed by the Office of Inspector General Contact Center on March 10. This shift from outdated systems boosts the resilience of VA's critical Veteran-facing platforms, cuts costs, and drives exceptional service to the Veterans, families, caregivers and survivors that VA serves. These upgrades empower Women Veterans Call Center agents with scalable, reliable tools to provide swift, tailored support for women Veterans, and the Office of Inspector General Contact Center gains sharper insight and increased efficiencies to bolster oversight of Veteran care and benefits. Next up? [The Veterans Crisis Line](#). This new cloud platform's flexibility and AI-driven analytics allow VA to adapt instantly to Veterans' needs, from surges in Veteran outreach around benefits claims to national crises. Spread across fortified data centers, this new platform is as unyielding as those it serves—guaranteeing every voice is heard.

Slashing costs with zero compromise: Reinvesting in Veterans – Legacy systems are a financial anchor for many government organizations, draining funds into hardware, maintenance and bloated IT overhead. This new cloud platform reduces that burden, slashing costs with a lean, subscription-based model that eliminates the need for endless infrastructure spending. For VA, this isn't about saving pennies—it's about redirecting every dollar toward the Veterans we serve. Efficiency isn't a buzzword here—it's a lifeline.

POST NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS – *2nd Nominations will be held May 13th, 2025, at the (General Membership Meeting (19:00 Hours) and the Elections will take place on Saturday May 17th, 2025, from 12N – 6:45 PM. You must Present a Current 2025 Post 178 Membership Card for Verification and Validation to vote.*

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 1st 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! GBW!**

"WE THE PEOPLE"



RENEW YOUR LEGION MEMBERSHIP TODAY!



Looking at the blossoms of May. Silver Star day is May 1st. The Auxiliary steak night is the 9th. Our meeting this month is Saturday the 10th at 11 AM. Please remember that this meeting is not only a meeting but also, our elections. May 11th is Mothers Day. Our Junior meeting is the 17th as well as Armed Forces Day from 12-2. We need volunteers to help organize the crosses for the Hill of Honor. We will be starting that process on May 19th starting at 10 AM. Get your papers in for your crosses. Renewal is \$5 and a new one is \$10. Crosses will be going in the ground on the 21st at 6 PM. We need volunteers. National Poppy Day is the 23rd we will be having a program and light lunch at 1 PM. Flags will be put out at Hillcrest Cemetery at 7 AM on the 24th. Please come show your support. Come out and support the Legion barbeque on the 26th.

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



We will have our monthly meeting on the 8th. If you signed up for an officer position you MUST be at the meeting to accept the position. We will be cooking on the 23rd. We will also be cooking for the mothers on Mother's day bring mom to the post and enjoy a meal. We will be placing flags on veterans' graves at Hillcrest on the 24th at 730 PLEASE come help!!

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



Instead of our lunch ride on May 3rd, we will be supporting Green Knights poker ride benefiting K9 Solutions. We will meet at Post 178 at 9am with KSU at 9:10am. Our Friday steak night is May 16 from 6-8pm. General membership meeting is May 18 at 5pm. We will be helping put out flags at Hillcrest on Saturday, May 27 at 7 am. We would like as much participation as possible. Ride 2 Remember will be Sunday, May 25 starting at Post 178 with registration at 8am and KSU is 10am. See flyer for more details. Following this ride, a group will be leaving to go to Loganville, GA for Ride For America on Monday, May 26. We will be meeting at Post 178 at KSU at 3pm. Please see the Director for more information. **Ride Safe!**

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



I want to say thank you to the ones that work so hard for post. Without your hard work for our post and your dedication; we would not be where we are today. I am proud to be apart of the American Legion Post 178 family. May 8th, is a very special Happy Birthday, for our Past Commander of nine years, Oscar Sims. We love you Oscar and another Happy Birthday. May 28th, Happy Birthday to our SAL Commander Brian Knutson (Yank). Hope you have a great birthday. I thank everyone for all your loyal support to the lounge and American Legion Post 178. May God Bless you all!

*"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

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POST 178 CALENDAR <i>MAY 2025</i>		
2	Friday	AL STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8PM; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM
3	Saturday	LOUNGE KENTUCKY DERBY NIGHT: TIME TBA
4	Sunday	40&8 VOITURE V-719 MEETING 12:30 PM
6	Tuesday	HOUSE COMMITTEE MTG @ 6PM& E-BOARD MTG @ 7PM
8	Thursday	SAL GEN MBR MTG 6:30 PM
9	Friday	<i>AUXILIARY STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8 PM</i> ; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM
11	Sunday	MOTHERS' DAY CELEBRATION 12–3 PM:AUX GEN MBRSHIP MTG - 4PM
13	Tuesday	POST 178 GEN MBRSHIP MTG 7PM; 2 ND NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS
14	Wednesday	<i>AUGUSTA VETERANS' EXPO 9 AM – 4 PM: RIDERS EXEC MTG 6:30 PM</i>
15	Thursday	BOYS STATE ORIENTATION DINNER POST 205 6 PM GIRLS STATE ORIENTATION DINNER POST 178 5 PM
16	Friday	RIDER'S STEAK NIGHT 6 - 8 PM; KARAOKE 8-11 PM
17	Saturday	POST 178 ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS 12 N – 6:45 PM; ARMED FORCES DAY
18	Sunday	11 th DISTRICT MTG 9 AM – 3 PM; RIDERS GEN MBR MTG - 2 PM
23	Friday	<i>POPPY DAY CEREMONY 1PM</i> ; SAL STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8PM; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM
24	Saturday	HILLCREST MEMORIAL PARK PUT OUT FLAGS (7:30 – 9 AM) CEREMONY 9 AM
25	Sunday	RIDE TO REMEMBER
26	Monday	MEMORIAL DAY BBQ 11 AM – 3 PM
30	Friday	ALL ORGANIZATIONS STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8PM; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM
31	Saturday	SAL JR. LEADERSHIP CAMP