

# AMERICAN LEGION

3219 RICHMOND HILL ROAD  
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30906

Phone: (706) 793-1724

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

## AUG - 2025 NEWSLETTER



### POST OFFICERS

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



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



### 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



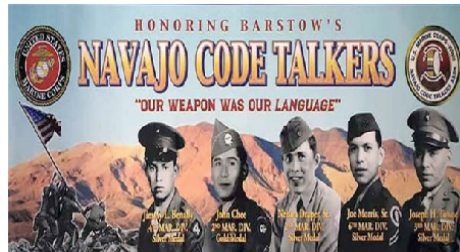
### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS

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 2026 cards are being processed. At the present time we have 143 members paid to date which brings our membership percentage to 38.1%. 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:** SAL Tuesday, Jul 22 at 1:07 PM:Thu, Jul 24 at 10:16 PM: **2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Riders Thursday, 7/24/2025 9:19 PM : **3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Auxiliary Thu, Jul 24 at 10:16 PM: **4<sup>th</sup> Place:** Lounge Received No Input.

**Job Opening: Diesel Mechanic:** WM is seeking Diesel Mechanics in Grovetown, GA, and you are encouraged to share this information with your networks and apply if you are a veteran. ([lrojas4@wm.com](mailto:lrojas4@wm.com))

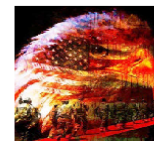
**VA's Board of Veterans Appeals;** is celebrating its 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on July 28, 2025. The Board is celebrating this milestone by surpassing 92,000 dispatched disability appeals for Veterans and dependents faster this year than ever before. The Board remains on track this Fiscal Year to issue the highest annual number of decisions in its history. The creation of the Board was confirmation that VA would not forget those who sacrificed so much for all our freedoms. Thus, the Board's primary mission was clear and simple: Fulfill the Nation's promise to Veterans by upholding the values of justice and fairness to ensure that those who sacrificed so much for this Nation would be cared for with dignity and respect.

"Under President Trump, the Board's decision productivity is the highest it has ever been, averaging nearly 2,550 decisions issued every week, and reducing the number of pending Veteran and dependent appeals to 169,747, the lowest level since September 2020. We will continue working hard on behalf of Veterans," said VA Secretary Doug Collins. "Veterans and VA beneficiaries deserve timely and accurate appeals decisions, and that is exactly what we will deliver to them."

**Pension poaching:** VA [pension](#) and [survivors' pension](#) are income-based benefits which are frequently targeted by bad actors in a scam called 'Pension Poaching'. Pension poaching is a financial scam where bad actors advise Veterans to transfer assets or add unnecessary home health care expenses so they can adjust their income to qualify for VA pension or survivors pension benefits. Obtaining VA benefits through deceptive practices may require Veterans (and not the bad actor) to repay any falsified amounts. If a Veteran needs assistance filing a claim for [VA benefits or services](#), they should work with a [VA accredited Veterans Service Organization representative, attorney or claims agent](#).

**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! GBW!**

"WE THE PEOPLE"



**RENEW YOUR LEGION MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**



Its that time of year again, Back to school. Please consider donating school supplies for the kids of Fort Gordon, see Teriann Benzel with donations. The Junior Awards program is Saturday August 2nd at 2 PM. We will have a cake at 6 PM for the Coast Guard Birthday. August 7th is National Purple Heart Day. Auxiliary Steak night is on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and our meeting is on the 10th at 2 PM. Georgia War will be at the post on the 21st for bingo and lunch at 10 AM. That is also the International Day of Remembrance. Be Blessed.

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



Congratulations to all the Newly Installed Officers!  
I appreciate all the volunteers and supporters for last month's steak night. The SAL Raffle is still ongoing in the lounge, do not forget to purchase your tickets for the cooler and tv with additional goodies(our awesome bartenders will be able to help you with your purchase).General Membership Meeting is August 14th at 6:30pm. SAL Steak Night is August 22nd 6pm-8pm and we hope to see you all there!

*Take Care, and May God Bless  
Wayne Stewart, SAL Commander*



Our Pony Express "Lunch" ride will be Saturday, August 9th meeting at Post 178 and KSU 9:20am. Our Friday steak night is the 15th from 6-8pm. The next general membership meeting is Aug 17 at 2pm. We also continue to collect non-perishable food items for Fort Gordon Battle Buddy program. It has also been expanded to accept other items such as diapers and school supplies. Please drop off your donations in the box located in the hall (flyer attached to box for more information). Ride Safe!

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



It's August already and it is the hottest that I can remember. Everyone please stay hydrated and cool. Thank You to everyone who continues to support us. Thank You to our Lounge Team for all your hard work. God Bless you all and remember we're here for you seven days a week.

*"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 *AUGUST 2025***

1	Friday	AL STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8PM; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM
2	Saturday	AUXILIARY JR. AWARDS BANQUET 1 PM
3	Sunday	VOITURE LOCALE 719, 40&8 MTG 12:30 PM
4	Monday	COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY
5	Tuesday	HOUSE COMMITTEE MTG @ 6PM& E-BOARD MTG @ 7PM
7	Thursday	NATIONAL PURPLE HEART DAY
8	Friday	<i>AUXILIARY STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8 PM; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM</i>
9	Saturday	PONY EXPRESS RIDE KSU 9 AM
10	Sunday	AUXILIARY GEN MBRSHIP MTG – 2PM
12	Tuesday	POST 178 GEN MBRSHIP MTG 7PM
13	Wednesday	<i>CHAPTER 178 RIDERS EXEC MTG 6:30 PM</i>
14	Thursday	11 <sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT EXECUTIVE MTG 7PM POST 178; SAL GEN MBRSHIP MTG 6:30 PM
15	Friday	RIDER’S STEAK NIGHT 6 - 8 PM; KARAOKE 8-11 PM
17	Sunday	CHAPTER 178 RIDERS GEN MBR MTG 2 PM
21	Thursday	GA WAR BINGO 10 AM - 1 PM; INTERNATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE
22	Friday	SAL STEAK NIGHT 6 – 8 PM; KARAOKE 8 – 11 PM
29	Friday	ALL ORGANIZATIONS STEAK NIGHT