



The Patriot



Post 15

Volume 16, Issue 3

Serving Morgan County

January-March 2017

Commander's Corner

Commander Roger Groves



Hello Legionnaires,

Here we are at the start of a new exciting year again. I and my family want to wish everyone a "Happy New & Prosperous Year". Again, as in the past, this year will be filled with many new things and challenges that we will face. We as Legionnaires will need to stay vigilante of what our Congress will be doing in terms of veterans' affairs and benefits. We need your support and voice to help ensure that we do not lose any of the hard earned and fought for benefits that we now have and to help support any new upcoming actions that Congress might try to accomplish in this upcoming year.

Here at Post 15 for the upcoming year, I would like to encourage all our members to come and be a part of the events, meetings and to help guide our post thru the next year to make it better than ever before. We need your support and help to accomplish this and it would be fantastic to see you at our monthly meetings and getting your ideas and input on what you want to see the Post 15 to be doing in support of our community.

We have many things coming up in the next few months. We have the Mid-Winter Conference for the Department of Alabama being held starting the 12th thru the 15th of January at Montgomery, Al. If you are interested in attending, please contact the post adjutant to see if you are qualified to be a reimbursed delegate. Even if you don't qualify, you are still able to attend the conference if you chose to. The next event we are holding at Post 15 is the Post Oratorical contest for young men and women to compete for prizes and to

advance on to higher competition and scholarships at the state and national level. These young people will be speaking on different aspects of the U.S. Constitution. The talent and knowledge of these young people are something to see and heard. Please consider coming and observing these young people as they speak about our Constitution. If you would like to help with the contest, please contact Mrs. Earnestine Doubek, our Americanism Chairman. During our normal monthly meeting, we will be having a guest speaker. Ms. Whitehead of the Alabama National Cemetery will be giving us a presentation on our benefits as veterans and spouses for the Alabama National Cemetery. This presentation will take place at 6:45pm.

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**POW/MIA
Recognition Day
Above: Post 15
Honor Guard**

**Right: Post
Members Flag Line**

Calendar of Events American Legion Post 15

January 2017						
◀ December						February ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day 						
					1800-2200: Dance	1600: Bingo
8	9	10	11	12 Mid-Winter Conference 12th thru 15th <div style="text-align: right;">→</div>	13	14
	No A.L. Rides Mtg				1800-2200: Dance	1600: Bingo
15 → End of Mid-Winter Conference	16 Martin Luther King 	17	18	19 1800: Marine Corp League Mtg. 1800: Executive Mtg.	20 Inauguration Day 	21 0900: Post 310 Mtg. S.A.L.'s Mtg.
				1800: Marine Corp League Mtg. 1800: Executive Mtg.	1800-2200: Dance	1600: Bingo
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	1800: Post Dinner 1900: Legion Mtg. 1900: Auxiliary Mtg.			1800: Lady Rider's Mtg.	1800-2200: Dance	Post Oratorical Contest 1000 1600: Bingo
29	30	31	Notes:			

Calendar of Events American Legion Post 15

February 2017						
◀ January						March ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Groundhog Day 	3	4
					1800-2200: Dance	1600: Bingo
5 Super Bowl 12 th Dist. Mtg. Post 237, Hsv. 1300: Lunch 1400: Mtg 	6	7	8	9	10	11
					1800-2200: Dance	1600: Bingo
12	13	14 Valentine's Day 	15	16	17 TBD: JROTC Leadership Conference Lunch Tentative Time	18
				1800: Marine Corps League Mtg.	1800-2200: Dance	0900: Post 310 Mtg. S.A.L. Mtg.
19	20 Presidents Day 	21	22	23	24	25
				1800: Executive Mtg.	1800-2200: Dance	1000: Division Oratorical Contest Post 15
26	27	28	Notes:			
	1800: Post Dinner 1900: Legion Mtg. 1900: Auxiliary Mtg.					

Continued from page 1 – Commander Groves

February brings us an even busier month of activities. We will be having the 12th District meeting on the 5th of February. There will be a lunch at 1:00pm and meeting of the Legion and Auxiliary starting at 2:00pm. This will be held at Post 237, Huntsville, Al. On the 10th of February, we will have the 12th District Oratorical Contest held at Post 15 at 10:00am. The next activity to be held at Post 15 will be the JROTC Leadership Luncheon on the 17th. The Decatur High School JROTC along with our Sons of the American Legion will be hosting this Luncheon for the cadets to have an opportunity to interact with leaders of our community and to hear about many different leadership opportunities and skills. February the 25th at 10:00am will bring the 1st Division Oratorical Contest to Post 15. This will be the best of the best thru out Northern Alabama's Oratorical competitors that will be vying for the top spot to further compete in the state competition in Montgomery, Al.

March will be bringing us the "American Legion Birthday and Awards" dinner on the 10th of March which will start at 6:00pm. The last day to sign up for the dinner will be the 3rd of March. The Department of Alabama Oratorical contest will be held on the 11th of March at Montgomery, Al. Again, on the 12th of March will start Daylight Savings time so don't forget to move your clock ahead 1 hour.

At the March meeting, we will be appointing 2 Nominating Committees to develop their slate of individuals for nomination of offices. These nominations along with nominations from the floor will be taken during the normal April meeting. The election for officers will be held in May for the ensuring year of 2017-18.

Please see our website at www.allegionpost15.com for any new and upcoming events. The events on the enclosed 3-month calendar are the known events at the time of this newsletter. Watching our website, and updating your email address for email notifications of upcoming events is a sure way of staying up to date of the events.

Roger Groves,
Commander

Disaster Preparedness

On November 29th an EF3 tornado swept thru the Danville, Neel, and Pumpkin Center areas of north Alabama damaging homes and businesses. Post 15 personnel rosters were immediately reviewed and it was determined that 17 members resided in the areas affected by the tornado.

On November 30th and December 1st steps were taken to determine the extent of damage, if any, to residences of Post 15 members. Of the 17 members, 9 were contacted by telephone. In that attempts to contact the remaining 8 members by telephone were unsuccessful, those addresses were driven to and the residences were inspected for damage. Fortunately, none of the 17 Post 15 residences were found to be damaged.

This action was taken to assist Post 15 members in obtaining financial assistance as made available by the American Legion National Emergency Fund (NEF), if needed. This fund provides financial assistance of up to \$3,000, as needed, for food, clothing, and lodging to members who had to evacuate their primary residences due to a disaster. Also, some emergency supplies could be made available by Post 15 disaster personnel at that time.

As a follow-up to the above activity, it was found that actions to determine if Post 15 members' residences had received damage by the tornado consumed a lot of time. Time that could, in the future, be used to assist those who need help. Post 15 members that reside in disaster areas could help this process greatly by calling the Disaster Chairman (George Marsh 256-345-0777) or the Commander (Roger Groves 256-606-4476) and report if any damage has occurred.



Auxiliary Members Help During Dinner Fundraiser



BINGO
Every Saturday 6 PM
Thousands in Cash Prizes

American Legion Riders



Remembering Vaughn Harwell, Past Commander, Purple Heart Recipient, Veteran, Father, Husband, and Friend.



Float designer Steve Burney and contributing artist Sheree Brown put the finishing touches on Buzz Brown before taking his place on the Post 15 holiday float.

Congratulations to everyone for taking 1st place.



The award winning Post 15 holiday float.



Calendar of Events American Legion Post 15

March 2017						
◀ February						April ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Last day for Reservations for Birthday & Awards Banquet 1800-2200: Dance	4 0900: Riders Ride 1600: Bingo
5	6	7	8	9	10  1800: A.L. Birthday & Awards Banquet	11 Department Oratorical Contest 1600: Bingo
12 Daylight Saving Time Begins 	13 1800: A. L. Riders Mtg.	14	15	16 1800: Marine Corps League Mtg.	17 Saint Patrick's Day  1800-2200: Dance	18 0900: Post 310 Mtg. S.A.L. Mtg. Riders Ride 1600: Bingo
19	20 Spring Begins 	21	22	23 1800: Executive Mtg.	24 1800-2200: Dance	25 1600: Bingo
26	27 1800: Post Dinner 1900: Legion Mtg. 1900: Auxiliary Mtg.	28	29	30 1800: Lady Riders Mtg.	31 1800-2200: Dance	Notes:

The American Legion



**Another hugely successful annual Field of Flags honoring our heroes on Veterans Day.
Thanks to Adjutant Geri Bright for leading this effort.**



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American Legion Post 15
2607 Highway 31 South
Decatur, AL 35603

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