



The Patriot



Post 15

Volume 15, Issue 4

Serving Morgan County

March-June 2016

Commander's Corner



We have now been into the New Year for a couple of months and I hope everyone's year is starting off without too many bumps so far. We are going to cover four months in this newsletter so there won't be another one coming out until July.

March will see us having our 97th Birthday and Awards dinner celebration here at the post on the 11th of March. This will take place at 6:00 P.M. don't forget that on the 13th of March, Daylight Savings Time starts, and Spring "Officially" begins on the 20th of March along with "Easter" being on the 27th of March. We will be appointing "nominating committees" who will compile lists of eager individuals to be nominated for election to offices for the post.

April will bring us 12th District Meeting on the 3rd of April. The regular post meeting will be on the 25th. Along with normal post business we will have the officer nominations from the committee and floor.

Please remember that May's regular post meeting will be held on the 2nd Monday, (the 9th of May) due to Memorial Day being on the last Monday of the month. This meeting will be a general membership meeting and election of new officers for the upcoming 2016-2017 year for Post 15. "Boy's State" held in Tuscaloosa will begin on the 29th of May thru the 4th of June this year.

June brings us a 12th District Meeting on the 5th along with Flag Day being on the 14th. The State Department Convention will be held this year on the 16th going thru the 19th of June and will be held at the Huntsville Marriott, Huntsville, Alabama. June brings this year's term to a close for the current officers. The installation of Post 15, Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and the American Legion Riders Officers will be conducted during the regular membership meeting on the 27th of June.

Since this is my last newsletter to be published for this term I want to take a moment to let all our members know how much I have appreciated all the hard work and dedication that our executive committee members and chairmen have done for our post and me. Without them I would have never been able to get thru the year as easily. A lot of members don't see all the hard work that is done behind the scenes, and that comes from your executive members who provide the things that we do here at Post 15. To those executive members along with a few others that have jumped into the trenches with us - I SALUTE YOU.

Last but not least, please take a look at the enclosed calendars for all upcoming events that are happening at your Post for times and dates. As other events become available in the upcoming months, we will send out emails to all on our email listing and we will post the events on our Facebook page and website. Thank you all for your continuing support of Post #15.

Thank you all for your continuing support of Post #15.
Roger Groves, Commander

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The American Legion Family

Calendar of Events American Legion Post 15

~ March 2016 ~							April ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1	2	3	4 Reservations for Birthday & Awards Dinner 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	5 9:00 AM Rider's Ride 6:00 PM Bingo	
6	7 Child Safety Conf. Decatur Baptist Church	8 International Women's Day	9	10	11 6:30 PM – Birthday & Awards Dinner Reservations by March 4	12 6:00 PM Bingo	
13 Daylight Saving Time Begins 	14 6:00 PM Rider's Mtg.	15	16	17	18 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	19 8:00 Post 15 Breakfast 9:00 Riders Ride Post 310 Mtg. S.A.L. Mtg. 6:00 PM Bingo	
20 Spring Begins 	21	22	23	24 6:00 PM Executive Meeting	25 Good Friday 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	26 6:00 PM Bingo	
27 Easter 	28 6:00 PM-Post Dinner 7:00 PM— Post & Auxiliary Mtg. Appointment of Nominating Committees	29	30	31 6:00 PM Lady Rider's Meeting	Notes: Kid's Swap 1 st thru 15 th .		

BINGO

Every Saturday 6 PM
Thousands in Cash Prizes

Calendar of Events American Legion Post 15

~ April 2016 ~						
◀ March						May ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	2 9:00 AM Rider's Ride 6:00 PM Bingo
3 12th District Mtg. Lunch 1:00 PM Meeting 2:00 PM Nominations	4	5	6	7 World Health Day	8 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	9 0800-JROTC Drill Competition 6:00 PM Bingo
10	11 6:00 PM Legion Riders Meeting *Nominations*	12	13	14	15 Tax Day (Taxes Due) 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	16 8:00 AM Cmdr's Brkfst 9:00 AM Rider's Ride S.A.L. Mtg. Post 310 Mtg. 6:00 Bingo
17	18	19	20	21 6:00 PM Executive Meeting	22 Earth Day 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	23 6:00 AM Bingo
24	25 6:00 PM Post Dinner 7:00 PM Post Mtg. *Nominations From Committee & Floor*	26	27 Administrative Professionals Day	28 0830-Co. Gov. Day Co. Courthouse 6:00 PM Lady Rider's Meeting	29 Arbor Day 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	30 6:00 Bingo

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American Legion Auxiliary



Current officers have three months left to serve. This year has been unique. Thus far, the auxiliary has accomplished much, but there is still many things that need to be done.

We are grateful to Post 15 for \$1,500.00 which they have donated thus far. Our fall Yard Sale, compared to previous 2 years, had fewer items and even less participants. This six hour event produced a little over \$125.00 after expenses. Reasons given for the lack of income were: time for the collections of donations was limited and members' donations were depleted by 4 previous yard sales. A month later, Sheree Brown conducted a painting class which provided \$450.00 for the auxiliary. Throughout the year we have had raffles and a 50/50 after the close of the meetings. These events enhanced the treasury approximately \$250.00. We are currently raffling a Friendship Basket which is doing quite well.

Our biggest money makers this year have been the Cake Walk, held during the August membership drive. Thanks to wonderful auxiliary members we made \$441.55. The Martins' and Belks' charity sales were profitable. We deposited \$114.55 in checks from Martins' and \$575.00 from the Belks' sales. Our membership contributed \$526.00 even though our members number 145.

We have provided for the Morgan County veterans, as well as the Tut Fann residents. We were unable to provide, as in previous years, car loads of food for needy veterans' who were clients of the Madison veterans' clinic. This year we have contacted and provided food for hospice veterans' families and veterans in local nursing home. Our contacts with veterans are more frequent. Because of a department grant, we were able to provide each Tut Fann resident with a Christmas present. The secured, 30 bed ward, was provided with a "Music Enhances Memory" program and the other 120 residents were given a magazine and a Junior designed Christmas card. For Valentines' Day, the Huntsville residents were given a DVD, candy and a card, designed by Chris Covington.

Our greatest acquired assets are our new members: Earlene Busby, June Asher, Joyce Wheeler, Yvonne Pounds, Carolyn Terry, Wendy Reiter, Vonnie Gsavonne Jackson, Shontez Morris, Faye Ackerman, and Denise Stankeditz.

In March a nominating committee for the 2016-2017 year will be selected and the chairman will report to the membership in April. At that time other members, not purposed for an office by the nominating committee, may be nominated from the floor. Election of officers will be held in May. After the election the incoming president will select chairmen for the auxiliary's programs. Information pertaining to auxiliary programs can be found in the Unit Handbook which can be purchased before or after the meetings for \$12.00

As president I wish to thank each member for their support and cooperation. Also, I thank the officers for their dedication and devotion to duty. The chairmen this year have worked tirelessly and have accomplished a great deal with little funding. They are to be commended. I wish the entire Legion Family a great productive 2016-2017 year.

Marilyn Volonino, 2015-2016 Auxiliary President

Upcoming Events

Unit 15 Ladies Auxiliary is running a "turn in your old cell phone(s), laptop computer(s), or Mp3 player" campaign to benefit veterans. Once 50 or more of these items are collected they will be shipped to a recycling center for cash. Help us help veterans by turning in your old outdated gadgets today. There will be a recycling container set up at the post starting Monday February 29, 2016. For any questions call or email Earnestine Doubek 708 691-2447 ewdoubek@yahoo.com.

Morgan County Post 15 is sponsoring a County Government Day for Morgan County juniors and seniors on April 28, 2016. Their day starts at the court house followed with lunch at the Post and ending with a mock trial. An array of Morgan County elected and appointed officials will be participating. Everyone is invited to the mock trial.

Post 15 is holding an orientation for Boys State on Monday May 16 at 6:30 pm. Nominees, parents, counselors and principals are expected to attend. Actual departure for the program will be Sunday May 29, 2016, at 7:00 am, return Saturday June 4. Please contact Earnestine Doubek at 708 691-2447 or ewdoubek@yahoo.com to volunteer.



Chaplain's Corner



As we go into the season of the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, it only seems fitting that we should reflect on our devotion to living a Christian life. The American Legion offers so many opportunities for “good works” and “walking in faith”, that we will never lack things that need to be done. But as the Bible says, “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:8-10. We all do “good works” all the time as individuals and Legionnaires; even just paying our dues, because part of those dues support veterans in need. And don’t we all like to do good deeds because it makes us feel good? It is the way we are made. And even though good works by themselves won’t get us into heaven, we are expected to do them. So what else can we do this season?

I encourage all our members to do more praying. Spend more time in private prayer, meditation and group prayer if possible. “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.”... Ephesians 6:18. We have so many members that need your prayers. We have had illness, surgery, death and grief visit many members in recent weeks and we know there will be no end of these hardships. I don’t want to start listing names because it would really consume a large portion of our newsletter. God knows their names, we just need to remember our Legion Family in our prayers.

So as I turn myself to renewing my commitment to daily study of the Word and abiding with Christ on a minute to minute basis; my prayers will include each of you. I pray you may realize the gift our Almighty God has given freely to us when he sent his Son to earth to give us the perfect example of man and to die for the redemption of our sins. And if I can be of any help to you I hope you will feel free to call me. You may call the Post and leave your name and number or you may call me at 256-345-7610.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13

Beckv Burnev

American Legion Riders

During the less desirable riding conditions of the winter months the American Legion Riders continued their enjoyment of supporting Veterans and our community through crafting lap blankets and scarves for donation to worthy organizations such as the local Tut Fann Veterans home. The handmade comfort products will be distributed to our heroes to help them stay warm and comfortable throughout the year.



Director Bob Branin at riders@allegionpost15.com
www.allegionpost15.com/riders.html
www.facebook.com/LegionRiders15

American Legion Oratorical

American Legion names Christopher Garcia winner in the speech contest held at Faulkner University in Huntsville on February 13, 2016.



Pictured: Earnestine Doubek, Americanism Chairman, Clay Hodges, Derrick Bishop, Madelyn Clark, Christopher Garcia, and Jeremy Blevins, Commander District 12.

American Legion names Christopher Garcia winner in the speech contest held at Faulkner University in Huntsville on February 13, 2016.

District 12 is proud to announce Christopher Garcia, a home schooled senior of Holly Pond as the 1st place winner of the American Legion High School Oratorical Contest. Christopher earned \$300.00 as the 1st place winner and will compete in the 1st Division contest against four other Districts in the Division. Madelyn Clark of Providence Classical School earned \$200.00 as the 2nd place winner and Derrick Bishop of Decatur Heritage Christian Academy earned \$100.00 as the third place winner. Also participating was Clay Hodges of Athens Bible School. Each contestant delivered a prepared oration to honor the U.S. Constitution as well as an oration on a randomly assigned constitutional Article.

Since 1938 The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program has encouraged the nation’s high school students to study the U.S. Constitution and hone their public speaking skills.

For information on The American Legion annual high school oratorical contest contact Earnestine Doubek Americanism Chairman Post 15 ewdoubek@yahoo.com 708-691-2447

Calendar of Events American Legion Post 15

~ May 2016 ~								
◀ April	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	June ▶
1	2 8:00 AM Mobile Service Officer Veterans Park	3	4	5	6 6:00 PM Executive Meeting	7 9:00 AM Legion Rider's Ride 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	8 6:00 PM Bingo	9
8 Mother's Day	9 6:00 PM Legion Rider's Meeting 6:00 PM Post Dinner 7:00 PM Post Mtg. *POST ELECTIONS*	10	11	12	13	14 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	15 6:00 PM Bingo	16
15	16 6:30 PM Boys State Orientation	17	18	19	20	21 Armed Forces Day 8:00 AM Cmdr's Breakfast 9:00 AM Legion Rider's Ride S.A.L. Meeting Post 310 Meeting Armed Forces Celebration 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	22 6:00 PM Bingo	23
22	23	24	25	26	27 6:00 PM Lady Rider's Meeting	28 7:00 PM Friday Night Dance	29 6:00 PM Bingo	30
29 Boys State at UA 29 May- 4 June	30 Memorial Day 	31	Notes:					

Mobile Service Officer

The Disabled American Veterans (D.A.V.) Chapter 11 of Morgan County will host the MSO at Morgan County Veterans Park in Priceville, May 2nd from 8 AM until 3 PM.
All Veterans needing help filing paperwork, claims, etc. may get assistance and support.

Calendar of Events American Legion Post 15

~ June 2016 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 9:00 AM — Legion Rider's Ride 7:00 PM – Friday Night Dance 6:00 - Bingo
5 12 th District Meeting- TBD - Elections	6	7	8	9	10 7:00 PM – Friday Night Dance	11 6:00 - Bingo
12	13 6:00 PM Legion Rider's Meeting	14 Flag Day  – Flag Retirement Ceremony - TBD	15	16 State A.L. Convention Huntsville Marriott Huntsville, Al.	17 State A.L. Convention Huntsville Marriott Huntsville, Al. 7:00 PM – Friday Night Dance	18 8:00 AM Post 15 Breakfast 9:00 AM S.A.L. Mtg Post 310 Mtg. Legion Rider's Ride State A.L. Convention Huntsville Marriott Huntsville, Al. 6:00 - Bingo
19 Father's Day State A.L. Convention Huntsville Marriott Huntsville, Al.	20 Summer Solstice	21	22	23 6:00 PM Executive Meeting	24 7:00 PM – Friday Night Dance	25 6:00 – Bingo
26	27 Installation of Post, Auxiliary, Legion Riders, Sons of American Legion Officers 6:00 PM Post Dinner 7:00 PM Post & Auxiliary Meeting	28	29	30 6:00 PM Lady Rider's Meeting	Notes:	

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

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO 858
DECATUR, AL
35602

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