



# The Howler

Cary American Legion Post 67, (Jan. 2022)



## Commander's Corner:

We hope this finds everyone in good health, the Post Executive Board held its January meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> on Zoom. Several items of importance were discussed.

The PEC decided to hold its General Meeting for January on Zoom due to the increase in cases of the Covid variant. Please refer to the attached flyer for logging into the meeting.

We also decided to postpone our February First Responders Awards Dinner to later this spring or early summer. We felt due to the pandemic and health of our members and the staffing issues everyone is dealing with to postpone at this time. So, February's General Meeting will also be on Zoom.

Now for some news, the Veterans Benefits Agency in Winston-Salem is rebranding the Veterans Experience Action Center (VEAC) to **"VA Benefits Live – In My Town Cary, North Carolina."** The new flyer is attached. This event is still on for this March. Volunteers will be needed, and information will come soon

on where to sign up. Please, if you are not sure you can work the event do not sign up. If you decide later you want to that is great, we will work with you.

The New Year has started, and I would like to remind everyone that our elections are coming up in May 2022. We need your support for your Post Executive Board. Several members of the current board are stepping down. If you are interested in one of the positions or want to learn about them, please call me and we can meet to discuss the open positions and their duties.

Membership dues are still being accepted for 2022. Currently Post 67 has 281 members and 205 have renewed their membership for a percentage of 72.95% as of 29<sup>th</sup> of December 2021. There is still time. Thank you to those who have renewed your membership.

Please, during the next 3-6 weeks be safe, wear your mask, wash your hands and stay healthy.

Your Commander.

Richard Spyrison

## First Vice Commander's Corner

The holidays are over and the decorations are put away for another year. This means that it is time for Buddy Checks. You will be hearing from one of your fellow Legionnaires in the near future. We are not calling to collect dues or ask you for money. We are calling just to check in on everyone. If you need assistance or have a concern please let us know.

**1-800-373-TALK** is the VA Crisis Veterans Hotline. Put this on your mobile phone just in case you or someone you know needs it.

Your First Vice Commander,  
Wayne Leazer

## Second Vice Commander's Corner

The Post 67 2022 Oratorical Briefing was held January 8, 2022 at Post 67. Thanks to all the volunteers that performed duties during this event. The Oratorical Contest winner is Aliza Janowsky. Aliza is 16 years old and a Junior at Green Hope High School.



Second Vice Commander David Christiansen with Post 67's 2022 Oratorical Winner Aliza Jankowsky



Public Relations Officer Curtis Leary Presenting the Winner Certificate to Aliza Jankowsky

We are working with the Cary HS JSSP to implement the shooting team's entry into the National Air Rifle completion.

*Happy New Year!*

Your Second Vice Commander,  
David Christiansen

## Post Chaplain's Corner

### MYSELF

I have to live with myself and so  
I want to be fit for myself to know.  
I want to be able as days go by,  
always to look myself straight in the eye;  
I don't want to stand with the setting sun  
and hate myself for the things I have done.  
I don't want to keep on a closet shelf  
a lot of secrets about myself  
and fool myself as I come and go  
into thinking no one else will ever know  
the kind of person I really am,  
I don't want to dress up myself in sham.  
I want to go out with my head erect  
I want to deserve all men's respect;  
but here in the struggle for fame and wealth  
I want to be able to like myself.  
I don't want to look at myself and know that  
I am bluster and bluff and empty show.  
I never can hide myself from me;  
I see what others may never see;  
I know what others may never know,  
I never can fool myself and so,  
whatever happens I want to be  
self-respecting and conscience free.

POEM by [Edgar Albert Guest](#)

Your Post Chaplain,  
Marie Faulkner

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## Ask VA Your Questions

Do you have a question or want more information about VA benefits and services? Use the new [Ask VA online question portal](#). It is an easy, fast, and convenient way to get your questions answered. [Learn more about Ask VA and how to use it.](#)

# News

## Department Mid-Winter Conference

The Department Mid-Winter Conference will be held February 17-19, 2022 at the Hilton Raleigh North Hills, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh, NC. 1-800-445-8667 is the toll-free number for reservations. You must specifically state you are with The American Legion. The room rate will be \$109/night plus tax. The cutoff date for reservations at this rate is January 20, 2022.

## 2022 Department Convention & Conference Dates

Convention: June 9-12, 2022

Fall Conference: October 27-29, 2022

## Veterans Can Now Use the Home Depot Military Discount

All U.S. veterans, active-duty service members and their [spouses](#) now qualify for [Home Depot's everyday military discount](#) thanks to an expansion announced by the home improvement retailer.

The 10% military discount is also now newly valid for online purchases in addition to in-store shopping, officials announced in a press release. Qualifying shoppers must create an account and then verify their military status in order to access the discount online and through the [Home Depot app](#).

## DIC eligibility for survivors of Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans

If the VA denied your Blue Water Navy Veteran's service-connected disability claim in the past, you may be eligible for DIC benefits based on the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019.

See [DIC eligibility information](#) and [how to apply](#).

Veterans who served on a Blue Water Navy vessel



off-shore of the Republic of Vietnam, or on another U.S. Navy or Coast Guard ship operating in the coastal waterways of Vietnam between November 1, 1955, and May 7, 1975, are now entitled to a presumption of [service connection for illnesses related to Agent Orange exposure](#). This is a result of Public Law 116-23, also known as the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019.

## Delivery of Three Samsung Tablets to the Durham VA



Mr. Kevin Rosser (Right) accepting Three Samsung Tablet A7 Lite from Judy and Frank Rea. The Tablets are for the CLC at the Durham VA Health Center from the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 67.

**Post 67 Officers & Phone Numbers:**

Richard Spyrison, Post Cmdr.: 919-441-8295  
Wayne Leazer, 1st Vice Cmdr.: 919-319-9062  
David Christiansen, 2nd Vice Cmdr.:919-694-5015  
Ray Martin, Post Adjutant: 919-481-4811  
Shelton Faircloth, Financial Officer: 919-539-1421  
Tim Kenny, Athletic Officer: 919-481-4811—X7  
Marie Faulkner, Post Chaplain: 919-851-9838  
Eugene Meyle, Post Service Officer: 417-234-7608  
Dennis Tackett, Post Historian:703-340-9941.  
Curtis Leary, Public Relations: 919-270-2136

**Post 67 Home Address:**

8523 Chapel Hill Rd., Cary, NC 27513  
Post Home Phone: 919-481-4811  
Post Home Web Page: <https://www.alncpost67.org>  
Facebook Page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/alncpost67.org>  
Cary Post 67 Legion Base Ball:  
<https://www.carypost67baseball.com/>

**Post 67 Meeting date and time:**

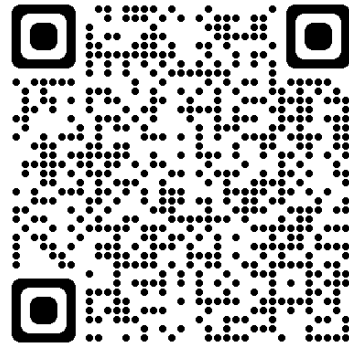
Second Tuesday of each month starting at 7 PM at the Post Home. The Post Executive Committee (PEC) meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Post Home. Members are invited to come and speak of any concerns or recommendations concerning Legion business at that time. Post meetings may be held using Zoom from time to time due to the viruses and guidelines so be on the lookout for announcements via email. If you need assistance in setting up your computer or tablet for Zoom meetings, please contact a PEC member.

Editor: Dennis Tackett  
Articles should be sent to Dennis no later than the Thursday morning following our PEC meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month.  
[tackett.dennis@gmail.com](mailto:tackett.dennis@gmail.com)

**VA Survivor Kit**

Please take a few moments and check out this web site, and PLEASE share the information with your spouse OR other loved one!

**Scan this QR code or use the link for more information:**



<https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/docs/VASurvivorsKit.pdf>

**New Post 67 Members:** To all new Post 67 members, thank you for joining. You are encouraged to purchase Legion hats and shirts from Emblem Sales so when we are at Legion meetings or taking part in a Community activity, you will be in uniform. For Color Guard, Rifle Detail, funerals, and other more formal activities, the uniform will be your Legion hat, gray pants, white shirt, and blue jacket with tie, black shoes and socks. At other times the Legion hat, a polo or golf type shirt with the Legion emblem is worn by most Legionnaires. This may be called Business Casual dress. **Emblem Sales** can be reached at <https://www.legion.org/promos/230360/shop-online> Need help, contact a PEC member.

*“America’s Veterans have served their country with the belief that democracy and freedom are ideals to be upheld around the world.”*

John Doolittle



# VETERANS BENEFITS LIVE VA IN MY TOWN CARY, NORTH CAROLINA. FORMERLY THE VEAC

**YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS THIS EVENT**  
Should any of the following apply :

You would like to file a new claim with the VA.  
You have questions about VA appeals or benefits to which you may be entitled.  
You have questions about VA Healthcare.

Veterans and dependents will be assisted by a combined team including Veterans' Benefits and Health Administrators, Vet Center, and Veterans' Service Officers.

They will assist with the following:  
Face-to-face explanation and assistance facilitating and expediting existing claims and appeals, filing new claims, and accepting all claims-related evidence for processing and providing information regarding benefit related VA programs.

**Who:** All veterans and family members of veterans

**Where:** Herbert Young Community Center, 101 Wilkinson Avenue, Cary, North Carolina 27513

**When:** 17th, 18th, 19th of March 2022.  
Hours on Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please bring with you the proper documentation about your case: DD 214, all medical records about your disability both military and civilian, and dependency documents if new or not already provided to the VA.

Wait times may be long, please be patient.  
Coffee, water, and snacks provided free of charge.

For more information contact Richard Spyrison at [CaryVEAC@gmail.com](mailto:CaryVEAC@gmail.com)



## Important Dates

Jan 11, 7:00pm General Meeting, Zoom

Jan 20, 7:00pm VA Benefits Live Committee Meeting

Feb 1, 6:30 PEC Meeting

Feb 8, 7:00pm General Meeting, Zoom

Feb 17, 7:00pm VA Benefits Live Committee Meeting

Mar 1, 6:30pm PEC Meeting

Mar 8, 7:00pm General Meeting

Mar 17-19, VA Benefits Live, Herb Young Community Center, Cary, NC (Need volunteers, set-up on Mar 16th)

## Purpose and Mission of The American Legion

As the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, the American Legion is devoted to mutual helpfulness, and is **committed** to:

- **mentoring** youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities,
- **advocating** patriotism and honor,
- **promoting** strong national security,
- continued **devotion** to our fellow service members and veterans.

## Mission

"To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."

## Vision

Veterans Strengthening America