



# The Howler

Cary American Legion Post 67, (May, 2022)



## Commander's Corner:



It's Election time for the Post. The Nominating Committee is putting forth the following slate of Officers for the next year 2022-2023:

### Slate of Officers for 2022-2023

Commander	Dennis Tackett
Adjutant/Membership	Richard Spyrison
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Ernest Long
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	David Christiansen
Finance Officer/PR	Curtis Leary
Post Service Officer	Gene Meyle
Historian	Dennis Tackett
Chaplain	Marie Faulkner
Athletic Officer	Tim Kenny
Sgt-at-Arms	Ray Martin
Judge Advocate	Open
At Large Member*	Shelton Faircloth
At Large Member*	Adelfo Campos

## \*New Positions

There is still an open position if anyone is interested or if you're interested in another position let us know. We will present the slate of officers at the General Meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup> where we will vote. They will be sworn in at our June General Meeting after the State Convention.

The General Meeting for the Post will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May. There will be a dinner starting at 6:15pm and meeting at 7 pm.

Our special guest will be our National Oratorical contestant and her family. Aliza will talk about her experiences at the National Contest.

We will be voting this month on the North Carolina Department Resolution (copy is attached to the Howler) about raising the Department's dues.

We will be sending each member of the post an email or letter with information on the pros and cons of the resolution. We are asking that each member of the Cary American Legion Post 67 look at the Resolution and respond by email or letter no later than the 27<sup>th</sup> of May whether you are for or against. This will give the PEC enough time to tabulate the votes. The delegates to the North Carolina American Legion Convention will cast their

votes according to the way the post votes.



May is a busy month with Memorial Day Remembrance coming up on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May. We will be at Hillcrest Cemetery on the 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 3PM to put flags on all the veterans' graves. Please join us. The flyer is attached to this month's Howler.



The Auxiliary Unit will have their annual fundraiser for their veteran programs on May 28<sup>th</sup>. This year's Poppy Day event location is at Bass Pro Shop on North Harrison near Hwy 40. This event will run from about 9:30am to 4 or

5pm. So please come out and support the Auxiliary and get a poppy or join in the fun and volunteer for a few hours.

Also coming up on June 4<sup>th</sup> the Cary Fire Department is holding a Birthday Party with a parade in downtown Cary. The Post has been asked to be the Honor Guard for the parade. Please put this on your calendar. If you would like to be a member of the Honor Guard let us know. There is some walking involved in this event.

The post executive committee has been working on bringing the Post 67 By-Laws and Constitution up to date. This is currently a work in progress and more information will be coming soon. One of the big items being favorably talked about is moving the Post General Meeting to the second Saturday of the month. We would like to get your feedback on this. When Wayne, our first Vice Commander was doing Buddy checks in the beginning of COVID he found out that a majority of our members were in favor of this move.

We also will be having a change in our Finance Department when we change Finance Officers. At that time, we will have an audit. If you would like to be a part of this process let us know. This will take place towards the end of May but before the convention in June.

One final note. If you have not paid your American Legion Dues for 2022, please do, as in July and August the American Legion Headquarters will be sending out renewal letters for the new year. We don't want your

membership to lapse. Many of you have been members for 15, 20+ years and your membership could be interrupted. If you have a question about it email me at: [adjutant.alncpost67@gmail.com](mailto:adjutant.alncpost67@gmail.com).

I would like to thank every member of our organization for your continued support during the last 26 months. It's been difficult to navigate and to keep the post together. We are coming back as a unit stronger and more focused in our mission.

Hope to see a lot of you at our meeting on Tuesday.

Commander,

Richard Spyrison

### **Post Chaplain's Corner**

#### **PONDER & PRAY**

As you ponder and pray over the week ahead, ask the Lord to help you to grasp Whose you are, Who goes with you, and the gifts that abide with you because of that.

Thank God for the blessings of friendship and look for ways to reach others this week.

Be that listening ear, be the one with the encouraging word, be the one to hear and know and understand.

A single strand of fiber might be fragile on its own, but it is strengthened when it is bound together with others.

God bless you,

Chaplain Marie

### **First Vice Commanders Corner:**

I participated in the Zoom Joel Fund conference. I also participated in a Zoom MVP conference.

For your information, I am a notary and will notarize most documents (cannot do car titles) for veterans free.

Please allow me to say thank you for trusting me to be your Vice Commander for the last four years. I was 2nd Vice Commander for my first year and 1st Vice Commander the last three years. I hope I did the Post proud. I know I worked hard for you. Thank you for trusting me. From me and my family thank you and I love you all! Hand salute...too!

1st Vice Commander,

Wayne Leazer

### **Second Commanders Corner**

The Post 67 2022 Oratorical candidate and Department Winner (Aliza Jankowski) has competed in the National Finals in Indianapolis, Indiana (April 22-24, 2022).

The Cary HS Junior NROTC will be holding a Change-of-Command and an Awards Ceremony. The Post 67 entourage is invited. The Cary HS NJROTC Awards Ceremony is on May 17, at 5:30PM at the Cary HS Football Stadium. Post 67 will be presenting American Legion medals to outstanding students.

2nd Vice Commander,

David Christiansen





## The American Legion Department of North Carolina Resolution

The American Legion Department of North Carolina has issued a resolution titled: ***Increase in Department of North Carolina Per Capital Dues of the American Legion***. If the resolution is approved, the Post will pay the Department \$5.00 more per year for each Post member. Currently, the breakout of your dues:

	Dues	National	Department	Post
	\$45.00	\$18.50	\$9.00	\$17.50
If resolution passes	\$45.00	\$18.50	\$14.00	\$12.50
If Post raises dues	\$50.00	\$18.50	\$14.00	\$17.50

The Text of the resolution is on the following page and information about the resolution, provided by the Department, is on the next page. Please read the resolution carefully as we will be voting on this soon. Remember this is an increase for the entire year.



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
RESOLUTION FORM

Post Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Department Resolution No. FY22-1-DC

Date Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received 2/18/2022

(Dept. Use Only)

RESOLUTION TEXT

TITLE: INCREASE IN DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA PER CAPITAL DUES  
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

WHEREAS, The Department of North Carolina per capita dues have remained constant since January 1, 2001, although our nation and state have experienced an inflationary spiral during that time, and there is no indication that in the foreseeable future that there will be an end to rising costs in almost every area, and

WHEREAS, The Department, by practice of stringent economics, reducing costs of mailings, phone usage, travel and budget expenses has been able to absorb some of the rising costs, and

WHEREAS, The constant reduction of membership has reduced revenue, and

WHEREAS, The Department has experienced operational problems and has been forced to use reserves in previous years to fund operational costs and

WHEREAS, If The Department of North Carolina is to maintain its programs and services to the legionnaires, veterans and citizens of North Carolina, at their current levels without depleting all financial reserves by year 2024, and

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of The Department Finance Commission that unless a dues increase is forthcoming for the year 2023, the Department financial structure will be placed in jeopardy, and the Department will be forced to curtail drastically some of the traditional and long standing programs, and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, By the Executive Committee of The American Legion Department of North Carolina in a regular meeting assembled in Raleigh, North Carolina on June 11, 2022, that the Department Executive Committee recommends to the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention of the American Legion Department of North Carolina on June 11, 2022 that the Department per capita dues for the calendar year 2023 be fixed in the amount of \$14.00 provided that any 2023 dues paid at the current per capita rate of \$9.00 be accepted if remitted by the posts to Department Headquarters under postmark dated on or before December 31, 2022.

Submitted by, the Department Finance Commission.

(use plain bond paper for continuation)

The above resolution was approved by American Legion Finance Commission, Department of North Carolina at a meeting held at Mid-Winter Conference, NC on the 18th day of February, 2022.

Jo Anne Martin  
ATTEST BY VICE CHAIRMAN

Tommy Caviglia  
SIGNED BY CHAIRMAN

\*NOTE: See instructions on Back of form.

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
RESOLUTIONS

### Resolution FY22-1-DC

- Resolution FY22-1-DC will be introduced at our 2022 convention asking for your approval of a dues increase of \$5 per paid member.
- The DFC through good fiscal management has held the Department's share of dues at a constant rate of \$9 per paid member for 21 years.
- The current reduction of membership and rising costs due to inflation has caused a budgetary shortfall within the Department.
- Over the past couple of years, the Department has reduced costs of mailing, phone usage, and travel budget expenses to absorb some of the costs from membership reductions and rising costs.
- Because the Department has experienced the membership reductions and the rising costs it has been forced to use some reserve funds to fund some of its operational costs.
- It is the opinion of the Department Finance Commission that unless there is a membership dues increase of \$5 per paid member the Department's financial structure will be placed in jeopardy and there will be a possibility that major long standing programs will have to have cuts.
- We are aware that many of our members are affiliated with other fraternal and service organizations. Their annual dues i.e., Moose \$135, Elks Lodge \$148, Kiwanis \$225, SPSBQR \$115. The dues increase for The American Legion of North Carolina membership still holds its value for the increased price.
- We are asking for your support of this dues increase.

## Post Service Officer Corner

Please use the link below to see the May Veterans Benefits Newsletter.

[Veterans Benefits Newsletter | May 2022 \(govdelivery.com\)](http://govdelivery.com)

If you have any questions on your VA benefits, please do not hesitate to email or call me. I'm here for you.

Post Service Officer,  
Gene Meyle

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### Veterans Benefit Live - Veterans Experience Action Center (VBL-VEAC)

The letter on the next page is from Lt. Gen. (Ret) Walter E. Gaskins, who is currently the Secretary of the NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, thanking Post 67's Commander and the leadership for hosting a very successful VBL-VEAC. Kudos to Commander Spyrison and all involved in this important event.

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### Post 67 Member Selected as a Guardian for the Triad Flight of Honor

Post 67 member, Bruce Dale, had the honor of being selected as a guardian for the Triad Flight of Honor departing Greensboro on April 28 and off to Washington DC for the day. The intrepid group of 94 vets and their support crew toured the USMC Memorial, Air Force Memorial, Arlington and the Changing of the

Guard.

They made a visit and wreath laying at the WWII Memorial and likewise visited the Vietnam Wall and Korean War Memorials. The weather was fantastic and the camaraderie across generations even better.

Bruce was tasked with escorting Lt. Col. Jim Dyer from Wake Forest who served as a Huey Helicopter Pilot in Vietnam. Jim may be best known as a stand-in for Santa Claus, a role which has taken him all over the world to spread Christmas Joy!!



Bruce with Lt. Col. Jim Dyer (Santa) in  
Washington, DC



Triad Honor Flight, April 28, 2022



North Carolina  
**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY  
AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

ROY COOPER • Governor  
WALTER E. GASKIN • Secretary  
TERRY E. WESTBROOK • Assistant Secretary

## LETTER OF APPRECIATION

APRIL 4, 2022

Richard Spyrison  
Commander, American Legion Post 67  
8523 Chapel Hill Road  
Cary, North Carolina 27513

Richard,

I wanted to extend my personal thanks to you and your leadership team for their outstanding support of the recent Veterans Benefits Live – Cary, North Carolina event.

Your level of cooperation, collaboration, and involvement in this event was instrumental to the overall success that it attained.

I appreciate the relationship that the Department and your organization has developed and know that it will only grow as we expand the Veterans' Benefit Live concept in North Carolina.

Please pass my spectacular thanks to your entire American Legion Post. We absolutely could not have done it without them.

Sincerely,

Walter E. Gaskin  
Lieutenant General, USMC (Retired)  
Secretary, Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs



## American Veterans on YouTube

Post 67 member, John Speights, has created a YouTube channel which consists of his interviews with six American Veterans. Each describes their War experiences, from the Spanish-American war era to Vietnam. Please see below on how to view these interviews. Dennis Tackett, dennistackettpost67@gmail.com, also has DVDs of the interviews. You can contact him at if you would like a free copy. You can view these videos on YouTube free.

### American Veterans on YouTube

Watch free on YouTube-interviews of six American veterans. The vets describe their War experiences, from the Spanish-American war era in early 1900s to Vietnam! Includes duplicates with Subtitles. Go to YouTube and search for John Speights. Choose the John Speights with 12 videos. Select the one you want and enjoy all you want for free!

#### Contents of the YouTube Channel:

Raymond M Berkeley - 100-year-old vet of Spanish-American War era. As lay minister, he brought people to Jesus.

Harvey Maness - World War One - See written info under his interview picture.

Dallas S Burroughs, Jr - World War Two Prisoner of War

Gilbert Lopez - Raleigh National Cemetery

Colonel James Hiteshow - Vietnam War Prisoner of War  
Courtesy North Carolina State Archives

Charles A Lloyd - World War Two  
Courtesy North Carolina State Archives

## Cary's Veterans Luncheon in November Save-the-Date

On November 4 at 11:30 a.m., at the Prestonwood Country Club, Cary will celebrate and honor veterans with a delicious catered lunch and presentation.

Participants will need to register by October 28. Please note: space is limited and each person must register. Please contact Stefanie Nichols via contact point below if you need a vegetarian meal option or have a group registration.

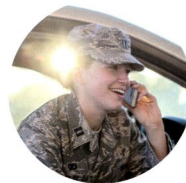
Any questions? Please contact Stefanie Nichols ([stefanie.nichols@townofcary.org](mailto:stefanie.nichols@townofcary.org)).

## Benefit for Veterans with Hearing Loss

There is a **free** benefit for Veterans with Hearing Loss. James Ktsanes visited the Post and provided information about CaptionCall. The flyer below explains this free program and gives James' contact information.

### Captions. Confidence. Caring.

CaptionCall helps people feel less isolated.



#### What does CaptionCall do?

Our phone displays large, easy-to-read text that automatically captions your conversations. It dials, rings, and works just like a regular phone.

- Easy to use
- Captions turn on or off as needed
- Captioned voicemails included
- Available to people with hearing loss and need captions to use the phone efficiently.

#### Take CaptionCall on-the-go with CaptionCall Mobile app

Connect to everyday life using CaptionCall Mobile on your iPhone® or Android® devices. Easy-to-read captions of the conversation help you communicate better, wherever you are.

#### Why you'll love CaptionCall

- Phone and services at no cost to you
- Complimentary delivery, installation, training, and support
- Captions make understanding phone calls easier
- Features include speakerphone, answering machine, and custom audio
- Hearing aid friendly
- Bluetooth connectivity
- Captioning also available for iPhone® and Android® devices with CaptionCall Mobile app.

#### Request CaptionCall Service or Download CaptionCall Mobile today!

Contact:  
James D Ktsanes  
919-397-5792  
jktsanes@captioncall.com  
Referral Code: 1620639  
Additional Info:  
Call, text, or email me!  
I'm available for post presentations.



833-3 VAHEAR  
8 3 3 - 3 8 2 - 4 3 2 7  
CaptionCall.com/Vet



## Post 67's Oratorical Contestant Goes to the National Competition

As stated by the 2nd Vice Commander, the Post 67 2022 Oratorical candidate and Department Winner, Aliza Jankowski, has competed in the National Finals in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Competition was held April 22-24, 2022. You can meet our contestant on May 10 at the General Meeting. She and her parents are coming to eat with us and she will talk briefly about her experience. Here is a picture of her with our Department Commander at the National Oratorical Competition.



### Some VA Benefits to Consider

**VA disability compensation** (pay) offers a monthly tax-free payment to Veterans who got sick or injured while serving in the military and to Veterans whose service made an existing condition worse. You may qualify for VA disability benefits for physical conditions (like a chronic illness or injury) and mental health conditions (like PTSD) that developed before, during, or after service. Find out how to apply for and manage the Veterans disability benefits you've earned.

[VA Disability Compensation | Veterans Affairs](#)

If you have a **Veteran-Owned Small Business**, you may qualify for advantages when

bidding on government contracts—along with access to other resources and support—through the Vets First Verification Program. This program is run by the Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU). Registering through OSDBU will allow you to work with us (all businesses who work with VA must be registered). Find out if you're eligible and how to register your business.

[Get Support For Your Veteran-Owned Small Business | Veterans Affairs \(va.gov\)](#)

The **Veterans Pension program** provides monthly payments to wartime Veterans who meet certain age or disability requirements, and who have income and net worth within certain limits. Find out if you're eligible for this benefit.

[Eligibility For Veterans Pension | Veterans Affairs \(va.gov\)](#)

**VA Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefits** provide monthly payments added to the amount of a monthly VA pension for qualified Veterans and survivors. If you need help with daily activities, or you're housebound, find out if you qualify.

[Aid And Attendance Benefits And Housebound Allowance | VA.gov | Veterans Affairs](#)

The VA offers **housing grants** for Veterans and service members with certain service-connected disabilities so they can buy or change a home to meet their needs and live more independently. Changing a home might involve installing ramps or widening doorways. Find out if you're eligible for a disability housing grant—and how to apply.

[Disability Housing Grants For Veterans | Veterans Affairs \(va.gov\)](#)

**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.:919-650-3848  
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 Baseball:  
<https://www.carypost67baseball.com/>

**Post 67 Meeting date and time:**

Second Tuesday of each month starting 7:00 PM at the Post Home with dinner starting around 6:00 PM. 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 virus 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.  
[dennistackettpost67@gmail.com](mailto:dennistackettpost67@gmail.com)

**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.

Please keep **Behavioral and Mental Wellness** top of mind – please reach out to your fellow military members, veterans, and family. Even those who appear to be strong on the outside can be struggling on the inside.

Share or reach out if you or others need help: **Veterans Crisis Line, (800)273-8255, then select 1. Or text 838255. Hearing loss TTY: (800)799-4889.**

**Women Veterans Day, June 12**

Women Veterans Day, also referred to as Women Veterans Recognition Day and Women Veterans Appreciation Day, is the anniversary of the day the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman on June 12, 1948. Prior to then, only women nurses could serve in the regular and reserve forces during peacetime. Women Veterans Day is not a separate day for women Veterans, it is a tribute to a groundbreaking day when women were acknowledged as essential to the war efforts and could serve in the regular armed forces.

## Important Dates

May 10, 6:15pm Dinner, 7:00pm Post 67 General Meeting & Election of Officers

May 30, 10:00 Memorial Day Ceremony, Cary's Hillcrest Cemetery

June 4, Cary Fire Department 100 Year Anniversary Parade—Provide Color Guard

June 7, 6:30pm Post 67 PEC Meeting

June 9,10,11 American Legion State Convention, North Raleigh Hilton

June 12, Women Veterans Day

June 14, Flag Day, 6:15pm Dinner, 7:00pm Post 67 General Meeting & Installation of Officers

June 19-25, Boys' State

June 26 - July 1, Student Trooper Program

## 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