

Organized 1919
Chartered 1933

**American Legion
Williamsburg Post 39**

Newsletter

“For God and Country”

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Williamsburg, Virginia

Executive Board

Bill White, Commander
Bill Pinckney, Vice-Commander
Fred Malvin, Finance Officer
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Post Chaplin, George Washington
James Gilley, Adjutant
Jim Snyder, Sgt-at-Arms
Ben Machinist
Website: <http://www.alpost39wmsbgva.com/>

Meetings Every Fourth Monday
of Each Month –Rocco's BBQ Grill
6:00 PM – Dinner Meeting
Except July & August —No Meetings

***Next Meeting February 23
6PM at Rocco's Smokehouse Grill on By Pass Road***



**To Our Sick & Recovering
Lord, we place ourselves in Your care at this
difficult time. Pray for us.**

Please keep these families in your thoughts

From the Commander's Desk:

Fellow Legionnaires and wives,

From the Commander,

Fellow Legionnaires and wives,

To the ladies I extend to you, Happy Valentine's Day. I know you all received, or should have, a dozen "Red Roses"?

Not really a lot to talk about, Ann said she can't believe that, this month. For those who would like to attend the District Three meeting, it is Sun. 22 Feb, 1:00pm registration, meeting starts at 2:00 pm, at Post 368, Denbigh. Also the same invitation goes for the Department Spring Conference, March 14-16, at the VA Beach Resort, VB. Those who want to attend contact me and I will get you a registration form. Cost, registration fee, is \$6.

**Tri-Care and Commissaries remain at the head of the list, for some changes, not to our favor, based on new budget. Promise is it won't change, if in fact there are changes, until 2016/2017. Also, on the chopping block is reduction of Base Housing Allowance (BAS), and make up the difference by the occupants paying it out of their pockets. Right now BAS pays 90% and the service member pays the other 10%. For the rest of February, stay warm, be safe, and hope to see you at the meeting, Mon. 23 Feb at 6:00 pm.
"For God and Country"
Commander Bill**

What to expect with your Taxes from Fred Malvin

Fred Malvin's firm has received the following info from the IRS regarding 2015 tax filing.

- Identity Theft expected to increase: beware of phone and e-mail scams
- Refund Delays Expected: especially if you file a paper return.
- Unanswered phone calls: self-explanatory
- Fewer Audit Closures: fewer staff means fewer audit closures in 2015. Collection case closures will also be reduced.

Boys And Girls State

Lafayette and Bruton High Schools are gearing up to select candidates for Boys and Girls State. Post 39 traditionally sponsors three students to each. As costs keep going up, please consider a donation to help us sponsor these students to a most important experience for them. Total cost is almost \$1800, so any financial donation would be appreciated. Sent it to Post 39/Box 2782/Williamsburg/23187.

Vet End of Life Care

Now, that generation of veterans is getting older. And as many of them near the end of their lives, aging into their 80s and 90s, the demand for hospice care has been growing with them. That means that the Department of Veterans Affairs is spending a lot more on what's known as end-of-life care.

All VA facilities now have a palliative care team, but only a fraction of veterans enter VA hospice, according to Dr. Scott Shreve, who directs VA hospice care nationwide. Shreve says the vast majority prefer to stay in their communities and near family instead. The VA and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization are collaborating on a project called We Honor Veterans, to help civilian hospice workers ask the right questions. Volunteers with We Honor Veterans sometimes show up to find elderly veterans who haven't mentioned much about serving in the military to their family or community. For more on the We Honor Vets program refer to www.wehonorveterans.org

Coming to terms with the end of life can be a bit different for veterans, says Dr. Alice Beal, who directs VA palliative care for most of New York City. "If a veteran's been in combat, a veteran's likely to have killed," Beal says. "I think no matter what your culture is, when you meet your maker — even if it's been to save your buddy, to save your life, to save your country — it's just a burden the rest of us haven't even thought of." Sometimes that means vets want to tell their stories at the end of life, Beal says. Sometimes the stories come unbidden.

VA Hearing & Vision Benefit H.R.353 Hearing Act

U.S. Representative Sean Duffy (R-WI-07) and Rep. Walz (D-MN-01) introduced H.R.353, Veterans Access to Healthy Hearing Act, which will provide much needed options for hearing impaired Veterans. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), both our aging Veterans and younger Veterans returning from the battlefield are seeking help from the VA for hearing loss more than any other service-related disability facing them today. VA audiology clinics can't keep up with the increased demand and frustrated Veterans are living in a non-hearing world with no one to turn to. Rep. Duffy's bill would cut Veteran wait times by allowing hearing instrument specialists to be added to the list of the VA's approved care providers. Rep. Duffy offered, "Veterans in my district are driving up to 90 miles one way just to get hearing services from an audiologist at the Veteran's Administration. These Veterans could receive the same service from a local hearing instrument specialist, but under current law, the VA is only allowed to use audiologists.

Legion National Newsletters and Blogs

Legion National website has a number of newsletters and blogs available. Go to www.legion.org/newsletters and www.legion.org/headlines .

What's Up

Post 39 Update

February 23 at 6PM at Rocco's on By-Pass Road

Menu

Beef Brisket

Crab Cake

Rocco's Choices (two)



2015 Copays begin February 1, 2015: The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) outlines the following pharmacy copay changes that will increase to all categories – exception: generic drugs filled at the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy No copay changes for drugs filled at a Military Pharmacy

Copays Effective Feb 1, 2015	Formulary Generic Drugs	Formulary Brand-Named Drugs	Non-Formulary Drugs
Military Treatment Facility (MTF) (up to 90-day supply)	\$0	\$0	Not Available
TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy (up to 90-day supply)	\$0	\$16 (from \$13)	\$46 (from \$43)
Network Retail Pharmacy (up to 30-day supply)	up to \$8	\$20 (from \$17)	\$47 (from \$44)

Copays at non-network retail pharmacies are based on network retail copays, so they are also increasing accordingly.

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