

Organized 1919
Chartered 1933

American Legion
Williamsburg Post 39

Newsletter

“For God and Country”

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Williamsburg, Virginia

Executive Board

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Bill Pinckney, Vice-Commander	
Fred Malvin, Finance Officer	Jim Snyder, Sgt-at-Arms
Pete Womack, Past Commander	Ben Machinist
Post Chaplin, George Washington	
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 January 26
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
RIP
Pitts Farinholt Andy Dawson*

From the Commander's Desk:

Fellow Legionnaires and wives,

Happy New Year! Here is wishing that it will be a great year for all. I would like us to do something different this year, as a Post, but I am kind of lost as just what that is? I know some of you are involved as volunteers, and I wonder if not more of us could also do volunteer work/service? Unfortunately, the where, how and what are my stumbling blocks. So I turned to you my fellow Legionnaires to please help me/us and identify just how we can do more within the community. We can probably search among our own Post, and see if there are some of us who could be in need of help? (Maybe they need a ride to Doctors, or to the grocery store, or just a plain visit?) I understand that most of us are very limited in what we can do, so that is why I am looking to you as a Post as what can we do both for Veterans and the community? Is there something else other than volunteer work? I guess the bottom line is I

want the Community to know that we, the American Legion, Post 39, does exist right here in Williamsburg. I respectfully ask that you all think this over and we will discuss it further at our monthly meeting, Mon, 26 Jan 2015 at Rocco's.

Two of our Legionnaires have been called to the High Command, and have gone to report to the Commander of us all. Comrade Alvin Pitts Farinholt and Comrade Andy Dawson have transferred to Post Everlasting. Let us all keep them and their families in our thoughts.

"For God and Country"

Commander Bill

[VAMC Hampton VA Update 02](#) ► **Longest Wait Times in Country**

Local veterans have to wait a month on average to get an appointment with a primary care physician at the VA Medical Center in Hampton, longer than any other veteran's facility in the country and significantly more than the national average of one week, according to the most recent data released by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The average wait time at the Hampton VA Medical Center and its regional clinics is 30.53 days. The second-longest wait time is 28.45 days at the VA in Fayetteville, N.C. Only four VA facilities in the country have wait times over 20 days. The national average, measuring from the preferred time for the appointment to the actual appointment, is 6.95 days. The numbers come as little surprise. Veterans in the region have long complained that they can't get timely appointments with primary doctors at the Hampton VA, while the facility acknowledges it has struggled to meet increasing demand - up 7.5 percent between September 2013 and September 2014 - as the veteran population grows. Dunfee said the medical facility lost a physician in December but added another to its staff last week, and it will add two more by the end of the month and another seven by the end of February. He said the medical center was able to boost its recruitment with a more enticing employment package that includes increased salaries and paying back student loans. That has generated more interest in positions at the VA and given the facility a better pool of applicants, he said. The expansion projects ultimately will give the VA 11 additional primary care rooms on its main campus in Hampton and as many as 20 more rooms at a facility in Va Beach. With more doctors coming on board soon, Dunfee said, he believes wait times will improve by spring.

[TRICARE Pharmacy Policy Update 18](#) ► **Electronic Prescribing**

The Military Health System has deployed electronic prescribing in military pharmacies across its system of clinics and hospitals in the United States (and in Guam and Puerto Rico). This capability will allow civilian providers to send prescriptions electronically to military pharmacies, reducing the need for handwritten prescriptions. "E-prescribing is a great new service at military pharmacies," said Dr. George Jones, chief of the Defense Health Agency Pharmacy Operation Division. "E-prescribing makes military pharmacies a more attractive and convenient

option for doctors and patients, and it aligns the Military Health System with current best pharmacy practices.” E-prescribing is a safe and efficient option already adopted by most civilian pharmacies and providers. It can help reduce prescription errors and has the potential to decrease wait times at military pharmacies. When a prescription comes into a pharmacy electronically, it allows the pharmacist to resolve issues before the patient arrives. Beneficiaries can ask their doctor to look for their local military pharmacies in the e-prescribing database/networks. Military hospitals and clinics will not be able to accept electronic prescriptions for controlled substances. Beneficiaries will still need a hand written prescription for these medications. To learn more about TRICARE’s pharmacy benefits, visit the TRICARE website <http://www.tricare.mil/pharmacy>. [Source: TRICARE Communications | Jan. 08, 2015

Please keep the families of Pitts Farinholt and Andy Dawson in your thoughts. Pitts was a Williamsburg native and WWII veteran. Andy was a former member who had moved to North Carolina. Many of us remember his program on the Pan American Airlines Air Bridge in north Africa during WWII. Andy was retired from Pan American and a number of us bought his book on the subject. Thanks!!!!

What's Up

Post 39 Update

January 26 at 6PM at Rocco's on By-Pass Road
Menu

Beef Brisket

Fish and Chips

Rocco's Choices



Awards Replacement Use SF 180, Request Pertaining To Military Records

The military recognizes that military medals are often a cherished part of family history and makes replacement medals, decorations, and awards available to veterans or their next of kin if the veteran is no longer living or able to make the request on his or her own behalf. Replacement medals, decorations and awards should be requested on SF 180, Request Pertaining to Military Records. This form can be downloaded from <http://www.va.gov/vaforms> . Each request should be filled out neatly, and should include the veteran's branch of service, social security number, dates of service, and it should be signed by the veteran or the next of kin if the veteran is incapacitated or deceased. Where to forward it to is indicated by an address code on the back of the SF 180. In general, requests made by the veteran are fulfilled at no cost. This includes requests made by family members who have the signed authorization of the veteran. There may be an associated fee for requests made by next of kin, especially if the request involves archival records (records are considered archival records 62 years after the veteran's date of separation from military service). [Source: RAO Seal Beach CA | John Ryan | Jan, 01, 2015 ++]

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