

Organized 1919
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American Legion
Williamsburg Post 39

Newsletter

"For God and Country"

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Williamsburg, Virginia

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Website: <http://www.alpost39wmsbgva.com/>

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Ben Machinist

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

*Next Meeting September 22 at
6PM at Rocco's Smokehouse Grill on By Pass Road*

Sick List

Art Sass

Please keep these families in your thoughts

From the Commander's Desk:

Fellow Legionnaires and Ladies,

Here we are, September, summer is almost over, school is in session and now we have added another thing back on our list. The ole Yellow School Bus. Now it is that time to change back to our old itineraries to avoid delays.

Question to ponder: How many remember your first day of school, the name of the school, and your teacher's name? Bonus question:

How many children were in your kindergarten class? There may be a test?

Look forward to seeing you all Mon, 22nd, 6:00pm at Rocco's BBQ. Hope to see some new faces at our tables this year.

The only topic I have to talk about is where we are with TWTH, in regards to program and volunteers. TWTH will be here from the 7th – 13th of OCT. We have filled about 53% of the times for volunteers and daily as the word gets out to various civic organizations, we are filling those slots that are left. Most slots involve the Information Tent and Visitor Assistant. All positions are divided into two (2) hour increments. I am attaching the link to the sign-up list for those who would like to look at a hopefully volunteer to help this undertaking.

FOR
God
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Country

To view the sign up page, go to:

www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FABA62FA02-thewall

Also at the meeting I will have a listing of the four main events that will take place during the Walls stay.

If anyone has a topic to speak on or bring up, either you or me, please let me know, so I can publish it the Meeting Agenda. Anyone that knows of one our Legionnaires that is sick, home bound or just needs to be kept in our prayers, please let me know, so again I can add to the Meeting Agenda.

Bless all and see you the 22nd.

Commander Bill

“For God and Country”

“My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government.” Thomas Jefferson

DoD Pay and Benefits Update 02 ► New Electronic Notification Policy

To reduce cost and increase efficiency, the Department of Defense (DoD) is moving away from mailing letters with update information. This means that instead of a letter, you will get email notifications when there are important changes to your DoD benefits, including TRICARE. The email will link you to milConnect, a secure DoD website, where your personal information will be posted. The initial email you receive will give you an opportunity to “opt-out” of receiving emails and continue receiving paper notifications. Those who have not provided an email address or those who opt-out of receiving email notifications will receive a postcard stating that there is a change or update to their benefit. Even if you get a postcard you will still need to go to milConnect to read the letter because specific plan or protected health information (PHI) will not be printed on the postcard. To sign up or update your email contact information go to <http://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil>. The milConnect website can be accessed anytime and anywhere for the most up-to-date account and DEERS information. Once you sign-up, you will receive up-to-date benefit information such as, primary care manager changes, eligibility changes due to age (for certain family members), and more. You can click on the “MyProfile” menu item to update your personal email preference. Please allow three days for revised settings to take effect. [Source: Tricare,mil | Benefit Updates | Aug 27, 2014 ++]

Navy Bible Policy Returned to Lodge Rooms Pending Review

The Navy has decided to put Bibles back in Navy Lodge rooms while leaders review policy on keeping donated Bibles in Navy Lodge guest rooms. The 14 AUG announcement followed a wide-spread backlash from religious, conservative and veterans organizations after officials with Navy Exchange Service Command ordered the

Bibles removed in June. NEXCOM made the decision without consulting senior leadership, Navy spokesman Lt. Chika Onyekanne said in a statement, to remove Gideon Bibles from the rooms and transfer them to local religious commands earlier this year. "That decision and our religious accommodation policies with regard to the placement of religious materials are under review," he said. "While that review is underway, religious materials removed from Navy Lodge rooms will be returned."

Adjutant Notes

We are still in need of volunteers for the Wall that Heals. Sign up at :

: <http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0D4FABA62FA02-thewall/19706026>

Membership renewals are going well. If you haven't renewed, please consider doing so.

September 22 at 6PM at Rocco's on By-Pass Road
Menu: Choices:
Brisket Crab Cake Salmon
Pasta w/Tomato Sauce and Smoked Chicken
Program: State and National Convention Reports



VA and ALS: Special Adapted Housing Eligibility

Veterans and active-duty service members who suffer from Lou Gehrig's disease will have immediate access to a government-funded housing program under new rules from the Department of Veterans Affairs. The VA announced 13 AUG that soldiers who suffer from Lou Gehrig's disease, formally known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), will be eligible for its

specially adapted housing program. The housing program provides grants to soldiers with disabilities, now including ALS, so they can buy new homes or fix up homes they already own to accommodate their disabilities. The soldiers can receive up to \$67,555 in grant money to remodel their homes or find new places to live.

The VA tentatively added Lou Gehrig's disease to the list of diseases that qualify for the program in December, and the agency said Wednesday it is finalizing the rule. Much maligned for the recent scandal over long wait times at VA hospitals, the department said it is pushing the rule through without further comment, because of the urgency of soldiers who suffer from ALS. "Delay in the implementation of this rule would have been impracticable and contrary to the public interest, particularly to veterans and active-duty service members," the agency wrote in the Federal Register. "Because the survival period for persons suffering from ALS is generally 18 to 48 months or less from the onset of symptoms, any delay in establishing [Special Adapted Housing] eligibility is extremely detrimental to veterans and active-duty service members who are currently afflicted with ALS," it added. [Source: The Hill | Tim Devaney | Aug 13, 2014 ++]

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