

AMERICAN LEGION CLINTON POST 259



JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Dear Legion Family,

Happy New Year! After the unpredictable year of 2020, many of us are looking forward to 2021. From the novel coronavirus pandemic drastically changing our everyday life to an unprecedented presidential election, there is a lot to leave behind and a lot to look forward to in the coming days, weeks, and months.

It has truly been a difficult year and unfortunately this pandemic life will remain with us throughout the new year. As such, we will continue to take steps to navigate a course forward as we follow the guidelines of our nation's public health officials. Currently, the Post canteen is closed in compliance with the most recent Executive Order issued by the Prince George's County Executive that prohibits the drinking of beverages and eating of food indoors. These restrictions are in place until 5:00 pm, January 16, 2021, at which time, we will wait and see what new measures the County Executive will put in place and then determine what impact these measures will have on Post operations.

As a result of the closing of the Post canteen, the final payment for the super bowl pool was extended to January 31, 2021 and the shotgun raffle drawing was extended to such time as a new date can be established. In the meantime, the Post House Manager will be available at the Post Monday through Friday of each week from 12:00pm - 4:00pm to accept membership dues payments, super bowl payments, and shotgun raffle payments (i.e., additional raffle tickets will also be available for purchase).

Although there is hopeful news with the rolling out of the COVID-19 vaccines, everyone must still commit to personal hygienic measures to avert a second major outbreak such as frequent handwashing, mask-wearing, social distancing, and avoiding gatherings.

Stay Safe!

Yours in Legion Service,

Willie E. Evans
Commander

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2020 - 2021

Commander	Willie E. Evans
1 st Vice Commander	Helen Smith
2 nd Vice Commander	Marie Vanness
3 rd Vice Commander	George Martin*
Adjutant	Glenda Sturdivant
Judge Advocate	Haywood Moss
Service Officer	James Woodland
Finance Officer	Richard Switzer*
Historian	June Forte
Chaplain	James Burrows
Sergeant at Arms	John Jackson
Immediate Past Commander	Murray Hall*
Executive Committee Members-At-Large Joseph Morgan Ray Carmichael Gary Gifford* Anthony Hinnant	

(*Note: George Martin also serves as the Southern Maryland District (SMD) Council Chaplain; Richard Switzer also serves as the SMD Council Finance Officer; Murray Hall also serves as the Prince George’s County Council First Vice Commander; and Gary Gifford also serves as the Department of Maryland Treasurer and Prince George’s County Council Treasurer. Other positions of note are: Elbert White serves as the SMD Council Judge Advocate and Charles Lewis serves as the SMD Council Historian.)



Auxiliary Officers

Legion Rider Officers

S.A.L. Officers

President: Freida Skaggs

Director: Darryl Fielder

Commander: David Hutchinson

Vice President: Marilyn Thomas

Asst. Director: James Burrows

1st Vice Commander: Vacant

Secretary: Rose Butler

Secretary: Brie O'Neal

2nd Vice Commander: Kenny Hendrix

Treasurer: Michele Davis

Treasurer: Brie O'Neal

Finance Officer: Dave Desmarais

Historian: Vacant

Chaplain: James Burrows

Sgt At Arms: Michael Thomas

Chaplain: Shay Brown

Adjutant: Rich A. Walsh Jr.

Sgt At Arm: Parnice Green

Historian: Vacant

Executive Advisory Board
Donna Queen
Pam Streeter
Cheryl Batie

Chaplain: Gary "GJ" Shafer
Advisor: Eugene Murray

UPCOMING EVENTS

Prince George's County Council (PGCC) Winter Meeting – 11 January 2021 (7:00pm)
Clinton Post 259 General Membership Meeting – 25 January 2021
Southern Maryland District (SMD) Council Meeting – 07 February 2021 – Stallings-Williams Post 206 (1:00 pm)
Super Bowl Event – February 2021 – Clinton Post 259 (TBD)
SMD Council Oratorical Contest – 20 February 2021 – Clinton Post 259 (TBD)
Clinton Post 259 General Membership Meeting – 22 February 2021
American Legion Birthday – March 15, 2021
St. Patrick's Day Dinner – 17 March 2021 (TBD)
SMD Council Oyster Bowl – 20 March 2021 – LaPlata Post 82 (TBD)
Clinton Post 259 General Membership Meeting – 22 March 2021
Palm Sunday Brunch – 28 March 2021 – Auxiliary (TBD)
PGCC Meeting – 12 April 2021 – John B. Lassiter Post 217 (7:00 pm)
SMD Council Public Safety Awards Program – 25 April 2021 - Greenbelt Post 136 (1:00 pm)
Clinton Post 259 General Membership Meeting – 26 April 2021
Clinton Post 259 General Membership Meeting – 24 May 2021
PGCC Commander's Roast – 27 May 2021 – Laurel Post 60 (7:00 pm)
Memorial Day Program – 31 May 2021 – Clinton Post 259 (TBD)
SMD Council Reception – 05 June 2021 – SMD Youth Camp (TBD)
SAL Golf Tournament – June 2021 (TBD)
Flag Day – 14 June 2021
PGCC Caucus – 14 June 2021 – Glenarden Post 275 (7:00 pm)
SMD Council Caucus – 27 June 2021 – Cheverly Post 108 (1:00 pm)
Clinton Post 259 General Membership Meeting – 28 June 2021
Department Convention – 13-16 July 2021 – Ocean City, MD (TBD)

Messages from First Vice Commander Helen Smith

1. **Membership Status:**

- **2021 Membership Goal:** 896 Total Financial Members by 5/12/21 (Armed Forces Day)
- **Paid members as of this meeting is 698, which represents 77.90% of our goal.**
- **Our next Milestone: 717** – which will be 80% of goal by 1/21/21. We are only 19 members short of reaching that goal.

2. **Earl Bird Winners:** The ten selected who will have their 2022 dues paid by the Post are as follows:

Stephen Barnard	Lovell Brooks
William Clarke	Levi Delaine
Robert Fowler	Ewell Gilliam
Wilbert Keeton	Lawrence Kendall
Mary McMillian	Glynn Pratt

3. **New Members for Vote of Approved:** Two new members

Tyrone Snowden, Army
James Thompson Jr., Navy

**Department of Maryland Judge Advocate Frank Porter Visits Post 259 Members
at General Meeting on December 28, 2000**



Judge Advocate Porter was asked how the pandemic affected the Department of Maryland activities.

“We all had to make adjustments.” said Porter. “It’s still an ongoing thing, especially at the Department level, due to cancellations of meetings. We’re having some meetings, still doing virtual meetings, we haven’t completely opened.”

“But hopefully with the vaccine coming at us, by midyear Information should be back to doing some of the things we used to do.”

Porter also stated that the contract had been signed to go to Ocean City this July.

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Editor’s News Briefs

1. Top Military Brass Denounce Riots

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/01/12/unprecedented-joint-letter-top-generals-denounce-us-capitol-riot.html>

2. Statehood for Washington DC - The American Legion Magazine Page 12

3. VA Information to start off the New Year

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/stakeholder.asp>

JANUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Auxiliary Meeting (6:30pm) Prince George's County Council Meeting (7:00pm)	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Exec Committee Meeting (6:30pm) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 General Membership Meeting (7:30pm)	26	27	28	29 Southern MD District Council Reorganization Meeting (7:00pm)	30
31						

POST EVERLASTING



The Free State Warrior in its Winter edition stated eight members passed during the months of August to November 2000 who were members of Clinton Post 259.

The members are Elmiza J. Day, Max W. Gould, Bernard M. Howard, Dominick Lobas, Thomas J. Roth, Joseph I. Sieger, Leonard Strachan, and Robert E. West.



If family members of these comrades wish to further honor them, please forward a picture and summary about the person. This will be part of the February Newsletter.

My condolences and sympathy go to all during this traumatic year due to the Covid-19 pandemic and other illnesses that have affected us all.

Other members of Post 259 please share your stories as well.

Linda Poulson
Editor

***WISHING ALL MEMBERS OF POST 259 A PROSPEROUS, SAFE, AND
HEALTHY NEW YEAR!***



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Stay Home - Stay Safe - Stay Connected

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**I welcome your news, ideas, suggestions,
comments, or questions for future issues.**

**Forward to Editor Linda Poulson at
poulin515@gmail.com
(subject to change)**

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