



Gautier-Vancleave Post 1992 American Legion, Inc.
3824 Old Spanish Trail, (Mail address: Post Office Box 682, Gautier, MS 39553)
Newsletter July - August 2016
Post Phone # (228) 497-6422

Freedom Isn't Free

Post 1992 Commander

Greetings from you almost Past Commander:

A good post will know the needs of the community. It will know them by simple process of planned contacts by representative Post members with city officials, educators, welfare workers, community leaders, and other civic and fraternal groups. A legionnaire who does a good job for the community deserves recognition and thanks from the Post, whether the project was Post-sponsored or not.

Veterans activates alone will not establish the legion as an asset in the eyes of the community. These are, however, of particular importance to an organization composed exclusively of veterans.

As I bid you farewell from being your Commander, I want to thank each and every one of you for the support and friendship you have given me over these last three years. They have been three good years for the Post and nothing could have been done with the support of our Legion Family.

I now ask that you do the same thing for our new Commander and our Post Officers. With your help this Post will continue to be one of the best in the State of Mississippi and the Nation. Glad to have served you.

For God and Country
Bill Whatley

Post 1992 1st Vice Commander

A new year is upon us, elections have been held for Post 1992 officers, and there are high hopes for a prosperous year ahead. Congratulations to all the new officers.

I would like to thank the American Legion family for your vote of confidence and support this past year that I have served as your First Vice Commander. As I continue to serve in other ways, your support and participation will be greatly needed in the new year. Stop by the American Legion and join in the activities, support your lounge and the kitchen, volunteer, and bring new and fresh ideas for activities. This is your American Legion, it would not exist with your support. Looking forward to seeing you at the Post.

For God and Country
Flo Hendrickson

Post 1992 Adjutant

NOTICE TO LEGIONNAIRES: If you are one of the 51 who have not already paid your 2016 dues by 30 June 2016 your membership has lapsed (forfeited.) You can still apply to be reinstated by paying your 2016 dues and your 2017 dues and get voted back into The American Legion. That will maintain your continuous years of membership. Otherwise you'll have to reapply for membership.

2017 dues are now being collected and must be paid by 20 October 2016 IAW Post By-Laws. Early bird dues (paid and received before 20 July) are a benefit to the Post at the Department convention showing how much support our Post

supports the American Legion or renewed on-line at www.legion.org/renew (with your member ID and a credit card) on or after 1 July (you'll still be an Early Bird through 20 July 2016).

The Post's Legion membership total for 2015 & 2016 is currently 418 members. However we are starting out the 2017 membership year with 357 members. Sadly we lost eight valued members to The Post Everlasting during the year.

Please join me in welcoming our new members in May Eric E. Smith and William Schlegel, and in June William Wade and David Wicker. We all thank each of you for your service to our great Country and now you have made a commitment to continue to serve other veterans; their families, the community; and the nation. I'd also like to thank the recruiters of the above members: David Belcher, Scott Mitchell and David Pugh for their support of The American Legion and for growing our membership rolls. We need all members to actively recruit new members to get our membership numbers up to make up for normal attrition of non-renewals.

The elections of officers for the Post were held the month June. Congratulations to the new or returning officers. To those who are not returning I'd like to say thank you for all that you have done. For those that are returning, keep up the good work you've done guiding the Post through the past year. Officers alone do not make the Post, it's you the members that do. Please continue to support our functions and assist through volunteerism and constructive recommendations. A list of the new board of officers appears at the end of this newsletter.

Please keep the Post informed of changes to your mail, phone number and eMail addresses so that you will continue to receive our communications. Also The American Legion National has sent a request for email addresses to be filled out on the back of the dues reminder sent to each member. The Adjutant will update The American Legion National database records and Department address lists (for Legion and SAL members) insuring you'll continue to receive your membership renewal notices, Legionnaire, and the Legion magazine. Also if you provide me with your e-mail address, if you haven't already, you will receive any significant updates to the Calendar of Events and Newsletter.

Our Post Newsletter and Calendar of Events are only distributed electronically by e-mail and posted on the Post's web site. A limited number of hard copies will be printed as needed, locally on our printer for pick up in the lounge. To be added to electronic distribution by email deveaujr@bellsouth.net directly, call me at 228-471-5042, or dropping a note with your name and e-mail address in the membership dues box in the lounge, requesting to be placed on the Newsletter eMail distribution. This Newsletter and the Calendar of Events are, as I said earlier, published on our Post website at: <http://www.alpost1992.org>. Our electronic distribution currently reaches ONLY 47% of Legion Family members.

It is required that our Legion membership records contain evidence of discharge or release under honorable conditions during one of the recognized war eras. The most recognized evidence is: your latest DD214; Certificate of Discharge/Release or for Reserves or Guard components, evidence of being deployed under Federal Orders.

For God and Country

John Deveau.

Post 1992 2nd Vice Commander

July is here already. This past year has been a fast one. We have new officers coming in so please congratulate them when you see them.

We had another busy month in June. Boy's state wrapped up with 12 boys this year. Another great turnout like last year.

Memorial Day was another success. We had 6 new flags added to the avenue of flags bringing the total to 30. Thanks to everyone that came out and braved the heat for such an emotional and important day.

Flag Day was the 14th and we had a very nice ceremony for the retirement of used and worn flags. And we had a lot. But that lets us know that our great flag is proudly being flown as it should be.

This July 4th will be our nation's 240th year in our independence. That's really not very long. We are considered a young country but still considered the greatest country. So keep those flags flying to show your faith and dedication of our great land to the rest of the world.

This has been a good year at the Post and I have learned a lot. I have enjoyed being the 2nd Vice Commander and look forward to running for a position in the future

For God and Country

Joe Randolph, Sr.

Post 1992 3rd Vice Commander

For God and Country

Tim Honeycutt

Post 1992 Chaplain

Greetings once again Post family! The “Post year” is coming to a close and this will be my final salute as your Chaplain. Though it has been a great year for the Post, we have lost some very trusted and valued comrade’s. Their light still shines in our Post and hearts and I hope you will continue to keep their families in your thoughts and prayers. Continue to reach out to your brothers and sisters and let them know you are there for them, it is difficult to see sometimes who is suffering in silence.

Don’t forget that July 4th is up and coming and it is not just another holiday but a celebration of Independence as well as a remembrance of those who gave their lives in pursuit of it. Additionally, August 14th is “VJ Day” and marks the end of WWII- a historic day afforded us by the greatest generation—take a moment and seek out a WWII vet and shake their hand and thank them!

We have many events coming up in the next two months that you have an opportunity to get involved with. Check the Post calendar and find some time for fellowship with your fellow comrades and Legion brothers and sisters!

“Don't judge each day by the harvest that you reap but by the seeds that you plant!”

For God and Country

Scott Mitchell

Post 1992 Judge Advocate

Reminder: If You’re a Member in Good Standing with your Department of the American Legion you are eligible for LegionCare; \$5,000.00 in Accidental Death Insurance at NO COST TO YOU if a covered accident occurs while traveling on official Legion business*, or \$1,000.00 at NO COST TO YOU for all other covered accidents.

NOTE to ALL Legion Family Members: Effective 1 January 2015, the above program benefit is also available to The American Legion Auxiliary and The Sons of the American Legion (ages 18 and older.) You can sign up for it on-line at <https://www.thelit.com/no-cost-legioncare> or see the attached application at the end of this newsletter, or See the Judge Advocate; contact the Adjutant; or pick up an application in the Post Hall of Honor.

Reminder: The Post is still offering Memorial/Donor Bricks for sale. A two-line brick is still \$40, and \$43.50 for three lines

For God and Country

Bob Backel

President Amateur Radio Club – (Call-sign K5TAL)

The American Legion Amateur Radio (ARC) (call sign K5TAL) meets at 6:30 PM monthly before the General Membership meeting. Everyone is invited to join us.

K5TAL will begin selling Raffle tickets at the Aug meeting for a 1 oz. US Mint Gold Coin. Tickets will be available from any K5TAL member, and this \$1,600 beautiful Proof Coin with Certificate of authenticity will be available for \$20.00. There are only 200 tickets available so your donation could Really REALLY be profitable for you. Drawing will be held at the first General Membership meeting after the last ticket is sold. The coin will be available for viewing at the August meeting.

The Emergency Communications trailer is still a work in progress. All of the ceiling is insulated, and half of the ceiling covering is completed. LED lighting will be installed as soon as the ceiling covering is completed. The counter top has been purchased and will be installed by August also. You soon should see the permanent, secure placement for the trailer.

K5TAL members will be operating the Special Event call sign of K5P (for Pascagoula) for the Katrina 11th year celebration called Back, Beautiful, and Busy commemorating the rebuilding/recovery of the Coast since Katrina. Last year, we made over 3000 contacts throughout the world representing Pascagoula, and over 48,000 contacts from all 10 stations that participated for the 10th anniversary of Katrina. This year's event begins Aug 29th, and goes thru Sep 1st.

K5TAL been asked to serve as Net Control Station for at least 2 hours of the Veterans Day Special Event and will be operating as K9TAL the American Legion Amateur Radio Club.

God and Country

Robert "Don" Rand, "KA5DON"
ARC President

President Unit 1992 American Legion

For God and Country

Cindy Harper

Post 1992 American Legion Riders (ALR)

This will be my last newsletter as the director of the riders. We have had a very successful year. We gave \$4,200 in scholarships, \$100 to the American Legion Auxiliary for the Emergency Fund to help others in need and \$50 to sponsor a trophy for the American Legion in Waveland.

The D-Day poker run was a success even though the weather did not cooperate. We gave \$239 to the Fisher House and \$239 to the scholarship fund.

We will celebrate the 4th of July at the Post. Sign up to bring food....we will have fireworks.

Thank you for the support this past year. Congratulations to our new 2016/2017 ALR officers: Director David Belcher; Vice Director David Baird; Treasurer Howard Tupper; Secretary Dawn Belcher; Sergeant at arms Steve Reyer; Historian Daisy Randolph and Chaplain Patricia(PJ) Manual.

Note: we need help selling tickets for the 12 gauge shotgun.

Be safe! Live to ride another day!

For God and Country

Billy Simpson,
ALR Director

Post 1992 Bingo Supervisor

For those of you that are not aware bingo is our Post's major source of income. The problem is that there is only a hand full of members volunteering to help with bingo. If can spare a few hours a month to help with bingo call the post (228-497-6422) and leave a message for Bill McKee.

For God and Country

Bill McKee

Squadron 1992 Sons of the American Legion (SAL)

For God and Country

Mike Riser,
Squadron Commander

American Legion Family Post 1992 Officers for 2016 / 2017

American Legion Post 1992 (eff.07/30/2016)

Post Commander:Lois E. Hendrickson
1st Vice-Commander:.....Scott A. Mitchell
2nd Vice-Commander:.....Billy G. Simpson
3rd Vice-Commander:.....Timothy P. Honeycutt
Chaplain:David W. Wicker
Sergeant at Arms:.....George R. Bunch
Finance Officer:Gary G. Coon
Adjutant:John R. Deveau
Services OfficerDouglas K. Stiles
Judge Advocate.....Robert A. Backel
Historian:.....Mathew E. Jordan III
Executive Committee:Herb A. Edmonds
 “William B. Kirkpatrick
 “Seven M. Meredith
 “Joe E. Rutan, III
 “William Whatley-PPC

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1992 (eff.07/30/2016)

Auxiliary President:.....Cindy Harper
1st Vice President:Rosie Fontan
2nd Vice President:Diane Cantrell
Secretary / Treasurer:Beverly Cottom
Historian:.....Melanie Lane
Chaplain:Theresa Roberts
Sergeant at Arms:.....Frankie Misko
Executive Committee:Jo Tisbury,
 “ Camella Edmonds & Christy Tisbury

American Legion Riders Chap. 1992 (eff.07/30/2016)

Director:David Belcher
Vice Director:David Baird
Treasurer:.....Howard Tupper
Secretary:Dawn Belcher
Sergeant at Arms:.....Steven Reyer
Chaplain:Patricia Manuel
Historian:.....Daisy Randolph

Sons of the American Legion Squadron 1992 (eff.07/30/2016)

Commander:Anthony Bankston
1st Vice Commander:Shane Helms
2nd Vice Commander:Joe D. Watrous
Finance Officer:Wesley Bright
Sergeant at Arms:.....Shane Helms
Adjutant:Chris Watrous
Historian / Chaplain:.....Robert A. Backel

Amateur Radio Club Post 1992 (eff.07/30/2016)

President/License Trustee.....Robert D "Don" Rand President
Vice President
Secretary.....Robert "Nick" Conner
Membership Chairman
TreasurerLee Johnson