



Gautier-Vancleave Post 1992 American Legion, Inc.
3824 Old Spanish Trail, (Mail address: Post Office Box 682, Gautier, MS 39553)
Newsletter September - October 2016
Post Phone # (228) 497-6422
Freedom Isn't Free

Post 1992 Commander

Isn't it "GREAT TO BE AN AMERICAN"! Let me introduce myself, Lois Hendrickson, "Flo", Commander, Gautier-Vancleave, American Legion Post 1992. For those of you that I have not had the pleasure of meeting, I am happy to tell a little about myself. I am USN Retired, 20 years as a Hull Maintenance Technician, I spent about half of that time working Security and Customs in Sicily. I love my Navy. Like anyone in the military you have the best of times and the worst of times, but, you appreciate how the times molded and shaped you into who you are today. Today I am working as a contractor developing curriculum for Ingalls Shipbuilding. The Navy brought me to the Coast and stationed me on Singing River Island in October of '95. As you see, I can't be run out of town, today and for the past 20+ years Gautier is my home.

It is my pleasure to serve as your Commander and to work with each and every one of our new officers and the Legion Family. Our Post has very active Legion members.

Oratorical Contest is coming soon, for those who do not know about the Oratorical program, let me explain: this program involves students from the high schools in the area. These students work hard on delivering a speech on a portion of the Constitution of the United States. They are vying for the State and National contest that will provide scholarships to these talented young men and women. The Americanism Committee can provide more information.

The Sons of the American Legion (S.A.L.) are planning some wonderful events, coming soon is a car show at Indian Point. Come in check out the flyers, pick up a calendar, and join in the fun.

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is planning some wonderful events for the children and our VA veterans, as well as supporting multiple events at the Legion honoring our military families past and present.

The American Legion Riders (ALR) have multiple rides and events coming. The big event is in support of Home of Grace, check out the amazing "HOG" ride with the Mississippi Governor.

For those ham operators the American Legion Radio Club (ARC), K5TAL, is right up your ally. ARC is actively looking for new members, their next event will be communications for the "HOG" ride. Stop in and ask for information on the ARC.

Let me mention that we have motorized wheel chairs and some walkers. We are happy to assist any Post who is in need of this equipment for their members. Phone or stop in and ask what we can do to assist you in finding temporary assistance for our veterans.

Come out and take a look around, I am sure there is something for everyone. You are invited to join our growing family; we are actively looking to bring new members into the fold.

I am very proud of our Gautier-Vancleave American Legion Post 1992. The only thing we are missing is YOU. There are a multitude of events coming our way from Halloween through New Year's Eve; you can make a difference by supporting your American Legion, veterans, active duty families, and children of military homes.

For God and Country

Veterans Supporting Veterans

Flo Hendrickson

Post 1992 1st Vice Commander

HOOYAA COMRADS!! Looks like I will be serving the post this year as 1st Vice Commander! I am humbled by your support and will do everything in my power to support our post and Commander in the coming year! We have a great bunch of new and returning officers this year and I am looking forward to working with all of them. Thank you!

There have been a great many new ideas and suggestions to better our post not only for our members, but for the public as well and we will work hard to address them and continue the tradition of being the top post in the state of Mississippi! Grab me anytime and feed me any suggestions you have and I will bring them to the Commander and the Executive Committee – we exist for you!

The year promises to have lots of cool events and activities hosted by all the Legion Family organizations! Please make an effort to come out and support them and the post as we strive to build community relationships and take care of our vets in need. If you would like to volunteer and pitch in just grab any one of us and we will get you as involve as you would like to be! The more the merrier!

Looking forward to seeing you at the Post.

For God and Country

Scott Mitchell

Post 1992 Adjutant

2017 dues are now being collected and must be paid by 20 October 2016 IAW Post By-Laws. You can mail your dues, drop them off at the Post or renew on-line at www.legion.org/renew (with your member ID and a credit card.)

The Post's Legion membership total membership for 2016 & 2017 is currently 367 members. There are currently 136 members that owe their 2017 dues.

Please join me in welcoming our new members in July Kevin Benjamin and William Farmer Jr., and in August William Feazell, Gregory McMillan, David Mentgen, Tim Merrill and John Peterson. 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: Stan Cantrell, Herb Edmonds, Scott Mitchell and David Peterson 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.

Please keep the Post informed of changes to your mail address, 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 3rd Vice Commander

It's a pleasure to serve another term as 3rd Vice Cdr. at our great post. We have a variety of entertainment to include two open Mic nights in October so bring your instrument and join in with the band. Doug Purser will bring his Elvis and Oldies theme show to steak night in October. We will continue to have music every Friday night. Dave and Dee will play after the DAV Drawdown in the lounge. Come on out and enjoy what your post has to offer.

For God and Country

Tim Honeycutt

Post 1992 Chaplain

Greetings Post Family,

First of all, for those of you that do not know me, allow me to introduce myself. I am the newly elected Chaplain, David Wicker and a proud United States Marine Corps veteran. It is an honor to have the opportunity to serve the members of Post 1992. Please feel free to contact me at any time. If you or anyone you know is in need of my attention please let me know by using the contact information below which is also on the board located at our Post.

We have a lot of our brothers and sisters who are in need of well wishes. Please remember all of those in need and continue to send Gods blessings upon them.

Remember that Labor Day is Monday, September 5th. This holiday is used to recognize the contributions of American workers. Enjoy the extra time off by doing something that puts happiness in your heart and celebrate the contributions you have made in making this Country great!

Contact information: David Wicker

dpwicker@yahoo.com

(228)219-0475

"Be so busy loving God, loving others and living your life that you have no time for regret, worry, fear or drama"

For God and Country

David Wicker

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

Post 1992 Historian

In the coming year, I hope to make a good accounting of all we do. Whether we gather for fun or to support vets and the community, we should keep the world informed and maintain our tribal knowledge.

To that end, I'd like to start by getting a short bio (personal and military) of all elected officers. We can meet at your convenience and try to create proper photos. These will be included in the yearbook/legion history.

I also want to keep the Legion front and center in the community. Whenever we have an events, I'll ask for a list of organizers and a description of what to expect so the media can be informed. This will help with attendance at open events and let everyone know we are living up to our charter.

For God and Country

Matt Jordan

President Unit 1992 American Legion

Greetings, August and September are the beginnings of a new Auxiliary year. We have some new chairmen ready to reach out to our veterans, community and schools.

Please pick up a few extra boxes of crayons, pencils, papers and other school supplies for the annual Give 10 to Education. We give supplies to local schools throughout the year. You can make a big difference just by giving needed supplies to a needy student as items are used up and need replacement during the year.

Trunk or Treat is a fun and easy activity to take part in. We'll look for decorated vehicles and participants to hand out candy at the MGCC sponsored Trunk or Treat. Traditionally, they've been holding it on a school night the week before Halloween. Look for flyers in the Post when the date is announced.

We are looking for junior girls and activities to get them involved. Carol Noble is organizing an outing to deliver pop tops to the Ronald McDonald House in Mobile. Let us know if you have a daughter, or granddaughter who'd like to participate.

A Sip and Paint Fundraiser is in the works for October. Participants paint a wooden door hanger – football, mason jar, Christmas Ornament or Santa. Brushes, paints, stencils are provided. You take home a finished door decoration, after enjoying a sociable afternoon of painting and wine sipping for \$35.

Our dues remain at \$20 and are renewable now. Please use the locked box near the lounge entrance for your convenience.

For God and Country

Cindy Harper

Post 1992 American Legion Riders (ALR)

The month of August was filled with highs and lows for the Riders. On August 15, The Riders escorted one of our Riders as he led his wife to her final resting place; 20 August, the Riders went on the Country Crusin' Ride to support Adrienne's House for Non-Violence; on the 22nd, we had a meeting of the ALR officers; and on 27 August, the Riders went to Post 160 to show support at a fundraiser for Pete Shoeman and Janet Snowden, donating \$50 in support of their future medical needs following a devastating motorcycle accident.

Going forward, the monthly ALR meeting will be held on 7 September, with the ALR Officers meeting following on the 19th. The Riders are looking forward to the HOG Ride on 24 September.

For God and Country

David Belcher,

ALR Director

President Amateur Radio Club – (Call-sign K5TAL)

The K5TAL Emergency Communications Trailer remains a work in progress. On September 23rd, the trailer will be positioned at the Home Of Grace H.O.G. Ride headquarters, and on the 24th will be operated as a Special Event Station providing certificates to all amateur radio operators who contact the K5TAL Radio Station.

Raffle Ticket Sales continue and have recently picked up. Tickets are available at the bar, and will be sold at an Amateur Radio HamFest in Huntsville, AL on August 20th and 21st. Since there are only 200 tickets available, we are hoping to have them all sold long before the December General Membership meeting/drawing. If they are all sold before the December Meeting, the drawing will be held at the first meeting after the last ticket is sold. This is a \$1,564.95 gold coin for \$20. Quite a Christmas Present!!

K5TAL will also support the Ocean Springs Post 42 Legion Veterans Day Parade in October but those plans are still being formed.

God and Country

Robert "Don" Rand, "KA5DON"

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. When you 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