



OUR LEGION FAMILY

Gautier-Vancleave Post 1992 American Legion, Inc.

3824 Old Spanish Trail, (Mail address: Post Office Box 682, Gautier, MS 39553)

Newsletter July - August 2017

Post Phone # (228) 497-6422

Freedom Isn't Free

Post 1992 Commander

The time is nearing for me to say “Goodbye” to the office as Commander of Gautier-Vancleave Post 1992 American Legion. Thank you for teaching me so much and I do hope that somewhere along the way I made a difference. I thank each of the officers that served and supported me this past year. Without the guidance and support of the Post Officers and the Post family, it well may have been a tough go. Thank you, all my Legion Family and friends for sticking around!

I wish to congratulate the new officers elected to continue “Supporting Veterans” and the community. Congratulations to the newly elected Officers 2017-2018:

- David Pugh Commander
- Scott Mitchell First Vice Commander
- Gordon Gollott Second Vice Commander
- Tim Honeycutt..... Third Vice Commander
- L. “Flo” Hendrickson ... Chaplain
- G. “Pete” Bunch Sargent -at-Arms
- Bill Ackeret Finance Officer
- John Deveau Adjutant
- Doug Stiles Services Officer
- Greg Shorey..... Historian
- Executive Committee: .. Bobby Bowmen, Herb Edmonds,
.....Joe Rutan, L. “Flo” Hendrickson (PPC), Bill Whatley (PPPC)

A Combined Installation of all Officers for Post/Unit/ALR/SAL/ARC Gautier-Vancleave American Legion Post 1992 will be held July 29th. Look for more information to follow.

July and August is the months to take vacations and entertain family visits; never forget that there is always something going on the Post. The fourth of July stop in to celebrate Independence Day.

We will also be playing Bingo on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday Bingo in the hall at 2:30 p.m. Stop in for Trivia on Thursdays at 7 p.m. The “Vancleave Misfits” will be cooking in the kitchen. Wednesday’s Dee and Dave will be playing the songs you want to sing bring your talent to the Post. Keep an eye on us Dee and Dave can pop in anytime to entertain you. The second Friday of the month is Seafood Night and music the last Friday of each month is Steak Night and music. (The SAL will be cooking on steak night.)

The Officers are getting geared up for the MS Department Convention July 21-23, 2017. For those Officers who have not made reservation in Vicksburg you must get them confirmed soon time is running out. For more information do not hesitate to phone “Flo” (228) 281-2062.

I will be seeing you at Gautier-Vancleave American Legion Post 1992.

For God and Country

Flo Hendrickson

Post 1992 1st Vice Commander

Well Y'all—yet another year has passed and we have done some great things for our vets! Thank all of you that have supported the Post's functions and efforts to take care of folks! Election season for the post has completed and you have elected a great bunch of folks to carry on in the coming year (and me ☺) – I would like to take this opportunity to thank Commander Flo for all her efforts! I think she has endured a lot of challenges that many before her have and she has done a fantastic job. Thank you, Commander, for the opportunity to work with you this last year!

Additionally, it looks like I will be continuing as your 1st Vice Commander this coming year—Thanks for your vote of confidence and I only hope I can live up to the challenge. I will do my best to support our new Commander David Pugh (congrats David!!).

I would also like to note that our post does not exist without the support of its members. I would challenge us all to set aside the differences we may have had and remember why we do this. It is in support of our vets and their families—which includes us as individuals. We have some challenges and opportunities in the coming year to build up the post membership and get our finances boosted back up to pre-recession levels. I hope to see you all joining in any way you can to volunteer time and support to make our post successful!

Thanks again Y'all!! And hope to see you at the post!!!!

For God and Country

Scott Mitchell

Post 1992 Adjutant

We are currently accepting 2018 Early Bird dues through 19 July 2017. Early Bird dues are those paid prior to the Department Convention.

“IT'S NOT THE PRICE YOU PAY TO BELONG, BUT THE PRICE YOU PAID TO BE ELIGIBLE TO BELONG”

2018 dues are payable now through 20 October 2017 IAW Post By-Laws. The easiest and fastest way to renew is on-line at www.legion.org/renew (using your member ID and a credit card,) you also: mail your dues or drop them off at the Post. Please renew your membership as soon as possible to help the Post meet its 2018 membership goal and for you to protect your continuous years of membership.

The Post's Legion membership total membership for 2016/2017 membership year was 394 members. There were **47** members who forfeited their American Legion membership with a combined 213 membership years. Their membership may be reinstated by paying back dues as well as current year's dues.

Sadly, we lost three members who transferred to The Post Everlasting. In May: Lonnie W. Lowery and Rueben E. Lyons, Jr. a WWII veteran and in June: Leo F. Carr, also a WWII veteran. These Veterans will be sorely missed by all their fellow veterans and members of Post 1992. May their souls rest in peace with The Lord.

Please join me in welcoming our new and transfer-in members in May: Carol Snapp, Larry Snapp, Jonnathon Patton and Christopher Walton and in June: Alexis Davidovich and L Brad Whitfield. We 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: Ed Huggins, David Pugh and Howard Tupper for their support of The American Legion and for growing our membership rolls. We need all members to actively recruit at least one new members to get our membership numbers up to make up for normal attrition of Post members.

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, at the Post 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 list. 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 57% 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

Nothing to report.

For God and Country

Gordon Gollott

Post 1992 3rd Vice Commander

Congratulations to new post officers I'm grateful for another chance to serve. Our summer schedule includes Truitt Williams and Vintage Vibe band for steak night and return of Augee the oldies man. Seafood night remains second Friday with steak night the last Friday. I hope to see everyone come out and support the post

For God and Country

Tim Honeycutt

Post 1992 Chaplain

Nothing to report.

For God and Country

David Wicker

Post 1992 Judge Advocate

As I stated in the previous newsletter, I will not be the next Judge Advocate. But, I will act as Judge Advocate and Insurance Representative emeritus/advisor until such time as my relief(s) become comfortable with those positions.

I would like to thank the entire Legion Family for their cooperation and support over the last 10-11 years; your inputs and advice have been invaluable. I feel as though I've made many friends and have treated everyone equally and with respect. It has been an experience that I couldn't have found anywhere else. The only tasks I would like to retain are Post Everlasting and Donor Bricks, subject to the approval of the Incoming Executive Committee.

Reminder: If you're a Member in Good Standing with our Department of the American Legion, you are eligible for LegionCare: \$5,000 in Accidental Death Insurance at NO COST TO YOU if a covered accident occurs while traveling on official Legion Business, or, \$1,000 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 all 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 pick up an application from several locations within the Post, or contact the Adjutant, Judge Advocate 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. Order forms can be obtained from the Duty Bartender, Adjutant or Judge Advocate

For God and Country

Bob Backel

President Unit 1992 American Legion

Cindy Harper was re-elected to President. Incoming officers are: Diane Cantrell – 1st Vice President.; Flo Hendrickson – 2nd Vice President; Beverly Cottam Pugh – Secretary/Treasurer; Teresa Roberts – Chaplain; Daisy Randolph – Historian; Frankie Misko – Sergeant at Arms; and Jo Tisbury, June Crosslin and Camilla Edmonds – Executive Committee.

Tania Whitfield has asked to chair juniors and is visiting with other units and researching how to revitalize and include our young members in the Auxiliary program. Please help us to reach out to your daughters and granddaughters. Other goals are to continue to support our Veterans first and foremost; Girls State, college scholarships, community service, and support of the American Legion. Please let any officer know if you are interested in becoming involved in any of our auxiliary programs.

We are selling tickets now to our annual Monthly drawing. Each \$12 ticket enters you into a monthly drawing for \$100 beginning in August. We continue to work Sunday bingo and prepare dinners on the 3rd Friday for other fundraisers. Please be part of the Auxiliary, you are welcome at meetings (1st Monday at 6:30), programs and fundraisers. Together, we can support our veterans and community.

For God and Country

Cindy Harper

American Legion Riders Chapter 1992

The ALR would like to thank the Legion and all those that participated in the 3rd Annual D-Day Poker Run. We had a good turn out even though we had to move to the rain date of 10 June. Along with that, CONGRATULATIONS to Bill McKee, the winner drawn on 3 June for the AR-12.

Elections were held and these are the incoming/returning ALR Officers for 2017-2018: Director - David Belcher; Vice-Director - David Baird; Treasurer - Howard Tupper; Secretary - Dawn Belcher; Chaplain - Steve Rancier; Road Captain - Lynn Cochran; Sergeant at Arms - Kevin Plym; Safety Officer - Bob Atwater and Historian - Kate Baughman.

We are looking forward to an even more productive and eventful year supporting our veterans and families and to more rides!

For God and Country

David Belcher

President Amateur Radio Club – (Call-sign K5TAL)

Elections are over, finally, our new officers are: Lee Johnston, President; Rod Roberts, Vice President; Don Rand, Treasurer; Josh Dopson, Membership and Terri Rand, Secretary. This month, we welcome Charlie Carnie, AG5CC, to our group. He is a 20+ year AF Veteran and new Legion Member and TALARC Member. The Fishing Trip Drawing was won by a gentleman from Washington, DC who wishes to remain anonymous. The proceeds allow us to provide scholarships for 2 boys to go to Boys State, and 2 girls to go to Girls State. The weekly K5TAL Wednesday Evening Net continues and on June 7 we had check-ins from New Hampshire, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Michigan, and Mr. Marty Justice, President of TALARC, The American Legion Amateur Radio Club. I will be ordering Vinyl Wrap for the Trailer, and hopefully that be delivered next week and I can begin the application of the Wrap. If anyone has an activity, event, or opportunity to show off our trailer and its capabilities, please contact any member of the K5TAL group or don.rand@gmail.com is the most efficient communication with me.

God and Country

Robert “Don” Rand, “KA5DON”

Post 1992 Bingo Supervisor

As you should already know, Sunday Bingo is Post 1992’s biggest single revenue generators to support what the Post does for veterans, veteran’s families, school programs and the community. It is a large task and takes volunteers to run and administer. Thus far it is supported by just a few volunteers. Volunteering only takes four or five hours per week, but it gets old when the same few people have to do it every week. Please step up and devote at least 4 hours one Sunday afternoon a month to assist by volunteering to help YOUR Post.

For God and Country

Bill McKee

Post 1992 SAL Commander

The Sons of American Legion, Squadron 1992 hosted their 2nd Annual Appreciation Day Luncheon on Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM at the Legion Post .. First Responders, active duty military and veterans attended the event. It was is a casual affair ... like a back-yard fish fry. And, like last year's event, it was a great success! We served fish plates, hamburgers and hot dogs), with all the fixings. Some agencies took meals to those on duty that could not leave their posts.

The scheduling of the SAL proposed Hardhead Catfish Tournament is still in limbo, but could still happen this July.

On June 7, our Squadron voted for the new slate of officers. All positions were unopposed:

- .. CommanderShane Helms
- .. 1st Vice Commander.....Billy Shimp
- ..2nd Vice Commander ...Joe Watrous
- .. Chaplain & HistorianChris Watrous
- .. Treasurer Wes Bright
- .. Adjutant.....Bob Backel
- .. Sergeant-at-ArmsMike Riser

For God and Country

Robert Backel, 2018 Adjutant Elect