

“FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER”

The 268'er

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF WHEATON POST # 268

JULY -- AUGUST 2023

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Legion, Unit and SAL 268 members,

It is Summertime and we are enjoying the great weather. We are also getting ready to go into another Legion Year. Let me give you an update on all of the exciting events that happened at Post 268. On May 5th the SAL had an outstanding Taco Bar to celebrate Cinco De Mayo. On May 6th the SAL had a great Brunch. On May 8th the Unit had an outstanding Spaghetti and Chicken Parmesan Dinner. On May 22nd the Unit had an outstanding Open Face Roast Beef Sandwich. On May 26th The Unit had a great Pork Loin Dinner and Bake Sale. On June 2nd the SAL had a Chicken Florentine and Angel Hair Pasta Dinner that was a big hit. The next Dinner is going to be held in August. On June 3rd the SAL had an outstanding Brunch. Also on June 17th the SAL capped the last Brunch of the Legion Year. The Brunch was outstanding as usual. The next Brunch is going to be held in September.

The Hall Rentals continue to be a great success and is providing great revenue for the Post. Linda Sarkisian and her staff have been doing an excellent job when it comes to the Hall Rentals. There will be Hall rentals throughout the Year. Please support Linda in this endeavor. Keep in mind there are many ways to support Linda in this endeavor such as monitoring the Parking Lot.

The Bands and Karaoke have been providing great entertainment to the Post. On May 5th Reggie Right Eye & The Missing Pieces were phenomenol. On May 13th Alan Faulk had a great Karaoke Night. On June 26th Twist and Shout had everyone twisting and shouting. On June 2nd Barry and the Combustibles had the place rocking. On June 10th Alan Faulk had the place jumping with Karaoke after the Belmont Stakes Party.

Other great events that we hosted was the Memorial Day Ceremony hosted by the Jewish American War Veterans. The ceremony was held on Monday, May 29, 2023 at 11:00PM at the Wheaton Veterans Park. The Master of Ceremony was our Finance Officer Scott Schlesinger. Our main speaker was Retired Major General Richard Thomas of the US Army who is the Dean and Chief Medical Officer at the West Virginia University School of Medicine. Commander Lawrence Bateman and the John F. Kennedy Drill Team did the presentation and retirement of colors. Air Force Captain Alan Kahan provided the Opening Prayer. I would like to thank the Unit and the SAL for providing the refreshments for after the event. On Wednesday, May 31 Governor Wes Moore of Maryland made a visit to Post 268. The Governor had a beer and the Governor gave his military photos so we can place them in Chris Williard's Veteran's Book. The Governor also took questions from the meeting with topics from Business Development and Public Safety in Wheaton, MD. Montgomery Councilman Marc Elrich was also at this event. Overall a great event that gave the Post some exposure. Another event that took place was the Post Executive Meeting were jeff Marriott from Veterans Retreat Virginia provided insight on activities that his group does for Veterans. He gave us a lot of great ideas. Some of those were providing more trips such as camping trips or hiking trips.

We are currently at 87.95% of our renewal rate for the 2022-2023 Legion year. Which is under the current goal of 100% at this time in the Legion Year. If you haven't sent in your dues (\$45) as of yet, please get it to the Post in order to avoid any lapse in membership in the organization that's the biggest advocate for Veteran Rights and Benefits in the US. That fight for Veteran's benefits has not stopped during the past year and we need your help to continue the Legion's advocacy for you and every Veteran who has ever honorably served in the US Armed Forces.

On another note the pull tabs and slot machines have being doing very well. This past month we had one person hit the Jackpot for the slot machines! Not bad at all! Please continue to play and please play responsibly.

Upcoming events include the Officers Installation Ceremony for the Post, Unit, and SAL on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 7:00PM a light dinner will follow. On Saturday June 24, 2023 the Unit will be hosting the 100 Club Dinner which is from 4:00PM to 7:00PM. The Department of Maryland American Legion Convention is going to be held from July 10-14, 2023 at the Ocean City Convention Center in Ocean City, MD. On Friday July 28, 2023 the Post will be hosting a retirement party for Chad Trujillo who is completing his 20 years in the Air Force. A band will also be performing at the party. On September 23, 2023 the SAL is going to be having a Crab feast. Tickets can be bought at the Post. The cost of the tickets are \$55.00 for the Crabfeast and \$25.00 if you are having no Crabs.

I am looking forward to the new Legion year and we will have fun and accomplish many more things. As always please take care of yourself and each other.

Yours In Service,

Patrick Cuff

Post 268 Commander

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**NATIONAL COMMANDERS MESSAGE:**

The American Legion's common denominator is the bond we share through service in the L.S. Armed Forces. Our members understand what it means to choose the military way of life. They know the rigors, hazards, and uncertainties of service, as well as issues that can affect health, quality of life, family stability and economic outlook after discharge. We also appreciate the pathways of opportunity only possible through military service. In short, we've been there, done that. That's why the Legion's National Security Commission has launched an initiative built purely on the military experience-specifically, to improve it where needed-and assist in whatever form that may take, from support for commissaries to military spouse m=employment to understanding VA benefits for those about to separate. The Base Assessment and Servicemember Experience (BASE) program strives to strengthen connections between The American Legion and the Department of Defense, active-duty installations, National Guard armories and reserve centers. Worldwide. These connections are already established in many military communities, from L.S. Army Garrison Ansbach in Germany to Naval Station Norfolk, Va. The BASE Program aims to augment those relationships by assessing ways in which The American Legion can help with such issues as food insecurity, access to health services, childcare and career opportunities, to name a few. In a time of escalating geopolitical tensions, the security of our country hinges on a strong, motivated and capable defense force that can respond to emerging threats, failing to do so leaves us vulnerable. Beyond the quality-of-life needs of our military personnel, the L.S. Armed Forces must be properly equipped, trained, and supported to maintain strength in the global arena. As veterans who know both sides of the equation, we are uniquely well-suited to help make differences that truly improve our national security and live up to the motto "VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA". Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola, American Legion National Commander

**~ CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN ~**

*For those members departed which we do not know about, may their souls, and all the souls of the Faithful Departed through the Mercy of God, res in eternal peace.*

*Pray for all who are on sick call and who need our prayers.*

**IN MEMORIAM**

*In Memory of "Judge" & Pat McCaw~  
By The McCaw Family (3/25)*

*In Memory of "Blackie" and Vonda Sarkisian  
By the Sarkisian Family (6/25)*

*In Memory of Mason "Mad dog" Wager  
By sister Kaye (03/32)*

**IN MEMORIAM**

*In Memory of Joe Storer  
By the Storer Family (09/23)*

*In Memory of Edward & Sheila Beall J. Shaw  
By Mack E. Beall*

*In Memory of Dennis Lee Krisko  
By The Krisko Family (12/23)*

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*If anyone knows of any members who have passed away, please contact the Adjutant –
E-mail address is adjutant@alpost268.org and : lindasarkisian@yahoo.com.*

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

As we are winding down this business year and looking forward to a great summer, the S.A.L. would like to review some of our accomplishments, acknowledgments and appreciations.

First up - our S.A.L. Post membership is up 108% from last year. Southern Maryland Regional (SMR) is now Number 1 in State! Thanks to all who renewed their dues and to those who encouraged new members to join. When we have more members we can do more to support the Post and Veteran's programs. Remember to get your dues in early for 2024 beginning in September to qualify for a free entry to the Fall **Early Bird** annual picnic.

The SAL ran two BBQ events in May & June, in addition to preparing grilled fare (paid for by the Post) with contributions by the Unit for the Memorial Day after-service lunch. The Kentucky Derby & Belmont Stakes parties were fun AND a fundraising success. The Unit also contributed to both events with food donations and clean-up. SAL dinners in May & June were well-attended and will restart the first Friday of the month beginning in October. Special thanks to Unit members Linda Sarkisian, Patsy Adler & Jessica Warren (50-50 expert!) for their volunteer work with the dinners. It doesn't get said often enough but you are very much appreciated. Live music will also continue on Friday's after Labor Day.

Restoration of the Post bar stools is nearly complete (the last two stools are still in the shop as of this writing). Big shout outs to **Jim Cavender** for the reupholstering contact and **King Wilcox** who fixed the feet & transported borrowed stools from the VFW in the meantime (and to the VFW for the loaners - may you reopen soon!). **SAL CRAB FEAST** this year will be on Srday September 23rd, 4-7pm. Crabs (#1 Jimmies) expertly steamed fresh in the parking lot by Hooper's of Ocean City. Sloppy Joes, hot dogs, corn on the cob, Danny's crab soup, salads, draft beer, sodas & many sides. All included for just \$55 a ticket (\$25 for non-crabbers). Outdoor seating optional weather dependent. Alan Faulk will have a special extra night of his famous Karaoke upstairs afterwards. Tickets are now on sale at the bar and online (email clinttbf@aol.com for online payment information).

Finally – the SAL has voted in new/existing officers for '23-24. **Brian Vess: Adjutant/Treasurer. Carl Sandford: Chaplain.** William Bryan voted in on the Executive Committee. All other officers & committee members will continue in their previous roles. Official Post, SAL & Unit Officer Installation occurred on Tuesday, June 20th. Regular SAL meetings will be on the first Wednesday of each month resuming in September. As always, we welcome all members to attend.

“Founded in 1932, the Sons of The American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires.”

Have a great summer!

Clint Sandford - S.A.L. Commander

“THE VETERAN'S CREED”

1. I AM AN AMERICAN VETERAN
2. I PROUDLY SERVED MY CONTRY
3. I LIVE THE VALUES I LEARNED IN THE MILITARY
4. I CONTINUE TO SERVE MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY AND MY FELLOW VETERANS
5. I MAINTRAIN MY PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DISCIPLINE
6. I CONTINUE TO LEAD AND IMPROVE
7. I MAKE A DIFFERENCE
8. I HONOR AND REMEMBER MY FALLEN COMRADES

NO FEWER THAN 12 VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS ENDORSE THE CREED, INCLUDING THE AMERICAN LEGION.

RESOLUTION NO. 10, PASSED BY THE LEGION'S NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN OCTOBER 2018, CALLS THE CREED "ARALLING POINT FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN ARMS TO UNDERSTAND THAT OUR MISSION IS FAR FROM OVER." "IT CAN SERVE AS A UNIFYING CONCEPT TO REMIND VETERANS OF THE VALUE OF THEIR MILITARY SERVICE, TO INSPIRE VETERANS TO CONTINUE TO SERVE AND LEAD A LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS, AND TO PUSH THEM TO CONTINUE TO EXCEL."

WHEATON UNIT 268

Now that the Summer months are here, we start thinking about vacations, Picnics or Barbecue gatherings, outdoor activities and more. Summer is the season of sun and having fun.

Speaking of having fun- our early bird picnic will be approaching soon so pay those dues early so you can eat free at the picnic. This year's theme is going to be country. The date is sometime in October 2023.

Convention is coming up on the week of July 11-14 2023 in Ocean City again this year. All who went last year had a good time. There are 7 of us Auxiliary members going this year. We are all looking forward to attending.

June 24th from 4-7 the unit had a beach theme 100th club. The people that bought tickets, came and had fun. There was plenty of food /prizes/ pull tabs and a wagon of cheer basket raffled off, along with a second prize basket of cheer. The winner of the wagon of cheer was Danny Baker. The second basket was won by our cleaning lady Lela. The 50/50 was won by Linda Reed from the Moose. The Grand prize of \$500 was won by Jeannie Dennie. Congratulations to all our winners. I want to thank all the Unit Members that set up the hall with all the beach decorations. A special thank you to Will (SAL) who hung all the decorations from the ceiling. Also, I would like to thank the unit members that helped out during the event checking in people. selling 50/50 tickets/pull tab tickets/raffle tickets and bartender and kitchen crew/ money changers / board caller. All of you did an exceptional job. Funds raised from this event go towards our Veteran programs.

On May 27, 2023- some of the members of the Auxiliary paid tribute to Jim Foster (Geneva Foster's Husband). A very lovely memorial service was held at the Interfaith Chapel in Leisure World, followed by a reception at Silo Falls Inn in Olney. Jim attended all the Brunches on Saturday with his wife Geneva. He will be missed.

On May 29, 2023 a memorial service was held in Veterans Park. Our Speaker was a retired Major General Richard W. Thomas who served in the United States Army with over 26 years of service. He is a physician healthcare executive and is a medical officer at West Virginia University school of Medicine. His speech was very inspiring to everyone that attended the service. During the wreath ceremony Chris Williard presented our Unit 268 Wreath and Jane Martin presented the Poppy wreath. Sal and the Unit helped with food after the service.

On June 14, 2023-A presidents' dinner was held at Reginas in my honor. There were 22 people that attended. Everyone enjoyed the great food and conversation. I want to thank everyone of the Auxiliary for the very lovely Journal that I received.

There will be a dinner on July 22nd Menu: Chicken Parm. With Spaghetti, Cole slaw and Italian Bread 5:30 till 7:30. \$9.00 Monday Dinners will resume in August.

Enjoy the Summer and hope to see you at the post.

Jane Martin Auxiliary President

JULY 2023						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 POOL	4 Open 2:00 till 8:00 4 th of July Independence Day	5	6	7	8 Karaoke w/ Alan Faulk 7:00-11:00
9	10 POOL	11 Open 2:00 till 8:00	12	13	14	15
16 Open 12-10pm	17 POOL	18 Open 2:00 Till 8:00 Open 2-8pm	19 Open 1-8pm	20 Aux. Game Night with Pizza 6:00 Open 1-10pm	21 Open 12pm-12am	22 Aux. dinner Chicken Parmesan 5:30-7:30 \$9.00 Band "Livin' Large" Open 12pm-12am
23 Open 12-10pm	24 POOL 31 POOL Open 4PM	25 Open 2:00 Till 8:00 Open 2-8pm	26 Open 1-8pm	27 Open 1-10pm	28 Open 12pm-12am	29 Open 12pm-12am
30						

Message from Russell Wood

There will be no exercise classes during July and August. They will begin in September. Everyone is welcome to join us. The exercises are easy and fun!! See me with any questions.

PLEASE SUPPORT:

"THE QUEEN VIC" RYAN GORDON (OWNER/CHIEF) (MEMBER OF POST 268)
1206 H STREET N.E. WASHINGTON, D.C. www.thequeenvicdc.com ryan@thequeenvicdc.com
703/869-0081 (Cell)
202/396-2001ryan@thequeenvicdc

AUGUST 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Air Force Day	2	3	4 U.S. Coast Guard Birthday	5
6 U.S. Coast Guard Birthday	7 POOL	8	9 National Women's Day	10 Aux. Game Night with Pizza 6:00	11	12 Karaoke w/ Alan Faulk 7:00-11:00
13	14 UNIT DINNER POOL	15	16	17	18 "No Dinner" "No Band"	19
20	21 POOL	22 National Senior Citizens Day Open 2:00 TILL 8:00	23	24	25 "No Dinner"	26
27 National Just Because Day OPEN 12-10	28 UNIT DINNER POOL Open 4-11	29 Open 2-8pm	30 Open 1-8pm	31 Open 1-10pm	 Open 12pm-12am	

UNIT DINNERS will begin in August!! The first will be Monday August 14th 5:30 till 8:00. Menu: cheeseburger, chicken salad or tuna salad sliders (3) with French fries and cole slaw. August 28th 5:30 till 8:00. Menu: spaghetti with choice of meatballs, sausage or just sauce with cole slaw. All served with Italian bread. Both dinners \$9.00.

Linda Sarkisian 301/602-5276 (Please contact me with questions and/or suggestions!!)

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BOOSTERS

Support Post 268 by being a Booster! For \$10, Boosters' names will be published in six bulletins. For \$20, names will be published in twelve bulletins. Remember, there are six bulletins per year. For \$20, you will be a booster for two years!!! This opportunity is available to all Legion, Unit and S.A.L. Members and to all guests of the Post. Please renew your listing by the 15th of the month prior to its expiration. To become a Booster or to renew your listing, see our Adjutant. Our “In Memory Of--” section works the same way. Thank you for your support.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 268 BOOSTERS

Expires Jan 2024

Helen Storer

Expires March 2032

Bob & Gail McGuire

Expires October 2026

Ed DiRaimo

Expires July 2025

Geneva Foster

Expires May 2024

**Pat & John Krisko, 111
Dennis Krisko & Selva Karslo
Matt Lynott & Darlene**

**Expires July 2032
Sherman & Eva Wong**

Expires March 2025

**Mack E. Beal
Anne Jarrett**

Expires September 2023

Stephen & Wanda DeMint

Expires May 2032

Brian K. Vess

Expires November 2025

Ed & Veronica McCaw

Expires May 2025

Laurence Olson

PLEASE SUPPORT POST
268 -- --BE A BOOSTER

