

“FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER”

# The 268'er

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF WHEATON POST # 268

MAY -- JUNE 2023

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## **COMMANDER'S MESSAGE**

**Legion, Unit and SAL 268 members,**

Spring is finally here. Let me give you an update on all of the exciting events that happened at Post 268. On February 24<sup>th</sup> the Post had a great Subs and Fries Dinner. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> the Unit had a great Pork Loin and Baked Fish Dinner. On March 13<sup>th</sup> the Unit had an outstanding Spaghetti and Meatballs Dinner. On March 17<sup>th</sup> the Post had an extraordinary St. Patrick's Day Dinner. The dinner was such a great success that we ran out of corn beef. I am already looking forward to next year's dinner. The next day on March 18<sup>th</sup> the SAL had a tremendous Brunch. On March 24<sup>th</sup> had a Chicken and Shrimp Alfredo Dinner that was a big hit. On March 27<sup>th</sup> the Unit had an outstanding dinner of soup and sandwiches. On March 31<sup>st</sup> the Post had another great Subs and Fries Dinner. On April 1<sup>st</sup> the SAL provided an outstanding Brunch. On April 7<sup>th</sup> the SAL had a Lasagna Dinner there was also a Vegetable Lasagna option as well. On April 15<sup>th</sup> the SAL had an extraordinary Brunch.

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. On another note we need volunteers to help out with enforcing the parking for the Hall Rentals. Please support Linda and the Post in this endeavor.

The Bands and Karaoke have been providing great entertainment to the Post. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> The Marsh Brothers Band had an outstanding performance. On March 11<sup>th</sup> Alan Faulk put on a Karaoke display that excited the crowd. On March 17<sup>th</sup> the Eclectriks and Pete Stover played a variety of music that everyone enjoyed. On March 24<sup>th</sup> Groove Quest had everyone grooving. On April 7<sup>th</sup> No Disgrace was definitely no disgrace. On April 15<sup>th</sup> Alan Faulk rocked the house with a blend of Karaoke.

We are currently at 86.31% of our renewal rate for the 2022-2023 Legion year. Which is under the current goal of 95% 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.

We now are open on Tuesdays from 12:00PM to 8:00PM for the first four weeks. We are going to see how business is and then we might change the hours. On another note the pull tabs and slot machines have been doing very well. This past month we had 1 person hit the Jackpot for \$2,500! Not bad at all! Please continue to play and play responsibly.

Upcoming events include the SAL Kentucky Derby Party which is going to be held on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. The Post will have a meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM all Post Members are welcome to attend. We will have an election for Post Officers at this meeting. If any Post member is interested in running for any of the officer positions please come to the meeting. On May 29<sup>th</sup> we are going to have a Memorial Day Event were the Post will be teaming up with the Jewish American War Veterans to honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. If you are interested in helping out with this event please let me or Scott Schlesinger know that you are interested. Also on June 20<sup>th</sup> we are going to have an Officer's Installation at 7:00PM. Light dinner will follow.

I am looking forward to the Summer and we will have fun and accomplish many more things. As always please take care of yourself and each other and remember to hydrate. We are also going to provide more License Plates for our members.

*Yours In Service,  
Patrick Cuff  
Post 268 Commander*

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**~ 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](mailto:adjutant@alpost268.org) and : [lindasarkisian@yahoo.com](mailto:lindasarkisian@yahoo.com).*

**"IN FLANDERS FIELDS"**

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

**"THE ANSWER"**

In Flanders Field the cannon boom And fitful flashes light the gloom;  
While up above, like Eagles fly, The fierce destroyers of the sky;  
With stains the earth wherein you lie, Is redder than the poppy bloom In Flanders Field.  
Sleep on ye brave! The shrieking shell, The quaking trench, the startling yell,  
The fury of the battle hell Shall wake you not; for all is well.  
Sleep peacefully, for all is well. Your flaming torch aloft we bear,  
With burning heart an oath we swear To keep the faith to fight it through  
To crush the foe, or sleep with you  
In Flanders Fields.

## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Sons are welcoming Spring/Summer this year with new activities and projects. We hope that you will join us, the Unit and the Post with your ongoing support.

The SAL is continuing with the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday night monthly dinners until June. **Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** will feature a **self-serve taco bar** (beef, chicken & vegetarian refried beans) with all the accompaniments in celebration of Cinco de Mayo (5:30 – 7:30pm). Live band “Reggie Right Eye & The Missing Pieces” afterwards. June 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the last SAL dinner (fried chicken breast w/fettucine in white sauce) until October. Live bands will also play on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday nights until the end of June. Brunches (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays 10-12 noon) will continue at least until the end of June as well when we take a break for the summer.

The bar stool reupholstering project has been put on hold pending an SAL financial update/restructuring. We are hopeful that this much-needed project will be completed by Memorial Day or soon after. SAL hall flagpole needed replacing. Member and officer Brian Vess donated the money for a new one (thanks Brian!) and the new flagpole has been put on order.

**Kentucky Derby Party Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 5-7pm.** SAL will provide the expert BBQ (burgers, dogs & chicken with rolls). The Unit will provide the sides. Donations to help cover expenses are encouraged. Flyers have been up announcing this event as well as a Facebook announcement. The SAL will also help with the BBQ for the **Memorial Day service Monday May 29<sup>th</sup>** (details soon).

In other good news - SAL membership has exceeded our goals for 2023! With new & returning members we are currently at 108% and climbing. Good work by the officers and everyone else involved. Still not too late for new and returning members to join and pay their dues. Reminders have been mailed out.

As you probably know by now the Post has tentatively reopened on Tuesdays which started on April 18<sup>th</sup> (mostly due to the unfortunate closing of the VFW down the street). Look on the Post's FB page for updated hours & please stop by if you can.

Nominees for 2023 - 2024 SAL officers are needed by the next meeting on Weds. May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Officers will be voted in for our last business meeting @7pm Weds. June 7<sup>th</sup>. Officer installation will be on Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> @7pm. As always members are encouraged to attend.

The SAL wishes you a very relaxed and wonderful summer.

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

Clint Sandford - S.A.L. Commander

### History of Flag Day -- June 14<sup>th</sup>

That the flag of the United States shall be of thirteen stripes of alternate red and white, with a union of thirteen stars of white in a blue field, representing the new constellation. This was the resolution adopted by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. The resolution was made following the report of a special committee which had been assigned to suggest the flag's design. A flag of this design was first carried into battle on September 11, 1777, in the Battle of the Brandywine. The American flag was first saluted by foreign naval vessels on February 14, 1778, when the Ranger, bearing the Stars and Stripes and under the command of Captain Paul Jones, arrived in a French port. The flag first flew over a foreign territory in early 1778 at Nassau, Bahama Islands, where Americans captured a British fort. Observance of the adoption of the flag was not soon in coming, however. Although there are many claims to the first official observance of Flag Day, all but one took place more than an entire century after the flag's adoption in 1777. The first claim was from a Hartford, Conn., celebration during the first summer of 1861. In the late 1800s, schools all over the United States held Flag Day programs to contribute to the Americanization of immigrant children, and the observance caught on with individual communities.

The most recognized claim, however, comes from New York. On June 14, 1889, Professor George Bolch, principal of a free kindergarten for the poor of New York City, had his school hold patriotic ceremonies to observe the anniversary of the Flag Day resolution. This initiative attracted attention from the State Department of Education, which arranged to have the day observed in all public schools thereafter. Soon the state legislature passed a law making it the responsibility of the state superintendent of public schools to ensure that schools hold observances for Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day and Flag Day. In 1897, the governor of New York ordered the displaying of the flag over all public buildings in the state, an observance considered by some to be the first official recognition of the anniversary of the adoption of the flag outside of schools. Another claim comes from Philadelphia. In 1893, the Society of Colonial Dames succeeded in getting a resolution passed to have the flag displayed on all of the city's public buildings. Elizabeth Duane Gillespie, a direct descendant of Benjamin Franklin and the president of the Colonial Dames of Pennsylvania, that same year tried to get the city to call June 14 Flag Day. Resolutions by women were not granted much notice, however, and it was not until May 7, 1937, that Pennsylvania became the first state to establish the June 14 Flag Day as a legal holiday. Flag Day is a nationwide observance today, but Pennsylvania is the only state that recognizes it as a legal holiday. Bernard J. Cigrand, a school teacher in Waubeka, Wisconsin, reportedly spent years trying to get Congress to declare June 14 as a national holiday. Although his attempts failed, the day was widely observed. “Father of Flag Day” honors have been given to William T. Kerr, who was credited with founding the American Flag Day Association in 1888 while still a schoolboy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Both President Wilson, in 1916, and President Coolidge, in 1927, issued proclamations asking for June 14 to be observed as the National Flag Day. But it wasn't until August 3, 1949, that Congress approved the national observance, and President Harry Truman signed it into law.

## WHEATON UNIT 268

Greetings everyone. Happy spring. I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter. The legion had a visit from the Easter Bunny on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2023. The Easter Bunny gave our some Easter treats to the children that came. Pictures were taken with the Easter Bunny and the children had free pancakes.

I can't believe it's April already. This year is going by so quickly. This is the time where we do our spring cleaning, so if you have anything to donate to the post-bring it in and placed it in the bin as you walk in the door.

Dinners are still going well. We would like to see some new faces enjoying the dinner, we would love our support. This goes for the SAL and the Post also.

Our meeting is on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 6:00 pk. We have a lot to discuss so please come. We will be doing nominations at that meeting. If you are an auxiliary member and would like to be an officer let us know what office, you would be interested in. Installation will be on June 20<sup>th</sup>. This will begin at 7:00. A light dinner will be served afterwards. Please try to attend.

We will be having a luncheon for all Veterans on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 1:30 to 3:30. All VETERANS are invited. Those who are not a Veteran, may attend the luncheon for \$5.00. This is "Armed Forces Day", so please join us and help us say THANK YOU to all who served and helped keep us free.

May is Poppy Month. The Unit will have a board for you to place a "Poppy in Honor of / or in Memory of a Veteran". The Poppy board will be displayed near our Poppy tree for a year. You may add names any time. We are asking for donations for the Poppies. All Poppy donations are used for Veterans. We have adopted a Veteran, so some of the donations will be used for him. May 26 is National Poppy Day, please wear red and a Poppy. We will be doing something special for the veterans that day also.

Memorial Day – May 29<sup>th</sup>. A service will be presented by the Jewish War Veterans and the Legion at Veterans Park followed by a lunch at the Legion. Everyone is welcome!

The Presidents dinner will be held on Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup>, at Regina's Restaurant Time 6:30. For reservations, contact Chris Williard @ 301/785-8339. Please RSVP by June 10<sup>th</sup>.

The installation of new members will be Tuesday June 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. A light dinner will follow.

On Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding our Annual 100 club. It will be a "Beach Party on Fern Street"!! So, dig out those beach outfits and come join us for lots of fun!! Tickets are on sale now for \$30 which admits 2 people. There will be boardwalk buffet food (one time through this line), Baked Potato Bar, and a Sundae Bar for dessert. Sodas, beer, wine and rail drinks are included. Please contact Chris Williard for tickets and contact Linda Sarkisian (302/602-5276) for all other questions.

Our "Wagon of Cheer" tickets are on sale now. It's actually a wagon filled with liquor, beer, soda, wine and much more!! Tickets are at the bar (3 tickets for \$5.00) or see a Unit member.

If you know anyone that is sick or in the hospital, please inform Christine Willird so she can send them a get-well card.

We are now asking for your due for 2023-2024 membership. Dues is \$40. Please send them to Linda Sarkisian at 3117 Farnborough Ct. Silver Spring, Md. 20906.

*Jane Martin Auxiliary President*

## ARMED FORCES DAY

According to the [U.S. Department of Defense](#), "President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country. On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense."

From The American Presidency Project, [Proclamation 2873—Armed Forces Day, 1950](#): "I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim that Saturday, May 20, 1950, shall be known as Armed Forces Day; and I invite the Governors of the States, Territories, and possessions to issue proclamations calling for the celebration of that day in such manner as to honor the Armed Forces of the United States and the millions of veterans who have returned to civilian pursuits."

# MAY 2023

SUN	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1  POOL	2  Open 2:00 till 8:00	3  "SAL Meeting"  7:00	4  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	5 SAL Dinner SELF SERVE TACO BAR 5:30 – 7:30 CINCO DE MAYO!!  "Reggie Right Eye & The missing Pieces" 8:00 - 11:00	6 SAL BRUNCH 10:00 TO 12:00  KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY 5:00-7:00 SAL HOSTING
7  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	8 UNIT DINNER 5:30-8:00 Spaghetti, Chicken Parmesan \$ 9.00 POOL	9  Open 2:00 till 8:00  POST Business Meeting Open to Members 6:30	10	11 <u>UNIT GAME NIGHT 6:00</u>  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	12 NO Dinner  NO BAND	13  Karaoke w/ Alan Faulk  7:00-11:00
21  EASY EXERCISE CLASSES RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	22  POOL	16  Open 2:00 till 8:00	17  UNIT Business Meeting 6:00	18  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	19 NO Dinner  NO BAND	20 SAL BRUNCH  10:00 TO 12:00
21  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	22 UNIT DINNER 5:30-8:00 Open Face Roast Beef \$9.00  POOL	23  Open 2:00 till 8:00	24	25  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 <u>DEVLIN HALL</u>	26 UNIT Dinner Pork Loin Dinner Also Bake Sale!!!  "Twist and Shout" 8:00-11:00	27
28  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL <hr/> Open 12-10pm	29  Memorial Day Services 11:00AM  Open 10 am till 6 pm	30  Open 2:00 Till 8:00  Open 2-8pm	31  Open 1-8pm	  Open 1-10pm	  Open 12pm-12am	  Open 12pm-12am

*FRIDAY, MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SELF-SERVE TACO BAR (BEEF, CHICKEN & VEGETARIAN REFRIED BEANS) sponsored by SAL*

*SATURDAY, MAY 6<sup>TH</sup> KENTUCKY DERBY PARTY 5:00-7:00 SPONSORED BY SAL (Burgers, Hot Dogs, Chicken and Sides) Cost: Donations to help cover expenses are encouraged.*

# JUNE 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	2 SAL DINNER Chicken Florentine with Angel Hair Pasta  "Barry & The Combustibles" 7:30-10:30	3 SAL BRUNCH  10:00 TO 12:00
4 EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	5  POOL	6  Open 2:00 till 8:00	7  "SAL" Meeting 7:00 pm	8 UNIT GAME NIGHT 6:00  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	9  No Band	10  Karaoke w/ Alan Faulk  7:00-11:00
11 EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	12 UNIT DINNER  POOL	13 "POST" Executive Meeting 6:30pm  Open 2:00 till 8:00	14	15  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	16 "No Dinner"  "No Band"	17 SAL BRUNCH  10:00 TO 12:00
18  EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	19  POOL	20  Open 2:00 TILL 8:00	21	22 EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL	23 "No Dinner"  "SR3" 8:00-11:00	24 UNITS "100"CLUB  4:00 PM TILL 7:00PM MIKE DEVLIN HALL
25 EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HALL  OPEN 12-10	26 UNIT DINNER  POOL  Open 4-11	27  POST CLOSED  Open 2-8pm	28  Open 1-8pm	29 EASY EXERCISE CLASS RUSSELL WOOD 7:00 DEVLIN HAL  Open 1-10pm	30 "No Dinner"  Open 12pm-12am	

**"BEACH PARTY ON FERN STREET"**  
**WHEATON UNIT 268 ANNUAL "100 CLUB"**

**RAFFLES—DOOR PRIZES—FOOD—LIQUOR--SODAS—BEER**

**FRIED CHICKEN—CORN DOGS—AND MUCH MORE!!**

**BAKED POTATO BAR—SUNDAE BAR**

**\$30 TICKET ADMITS 2 PEOPLE**

**SEE CHRIS WILLIARD FOR TICKETS 301/785-8339**

**SEE LINDA SARKISIAN FOR INFORMATION 301/602-5276**

**PLEASE SUPPORT:**

**"THE QUEEN VIC" RYAN GORDON (OWNER/CHIEF) (MEMBER OF POST 268)**  
1206 H STREET N.E. WASHINGTON, D.C. [www.thequeenvicdc.com](http://www.thequeenvicdc.com) [ryan@thequeenvicdc.com](mailto:ryan@thequeenvicdc.com)  
703/869-0081 (Cell)  
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[JXSINS@AOL.COM](mailto:JXSINS@AOL.COM)

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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 2022  
Tony & Lois Marella

Expires October 2026  
Ed DiRaimo

Expires July 2023  
Jim & Geneva Foster

Expires May 2023  
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 March 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**

