

# THE MIDLOTHIAN LEGIONNAIRE

FOR GOD & COUNTRY

A PUBLICATION OF MAJOR CHARLES A. RANSOM  
AMERICAN LEGION POST 186 MIDLOTHIAN, VIRGINIA



June/July 2015

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www.americanlegionpost186.org

## Commander's Message

*Randall Lofland, Post Commander*

Congratulations, my fellow Legionnaires, as of 13 May, our post reached its 100% membership goal, even exceeding that goal by two members. I fully attribute this accomplishment to you – those who renewed their membership, our new members and the many people who joined the post via transfer. In addition, a tremendous amount of credit goes to those who helped recruit new members. I would be completely remiss if I didn't mention our team of post regulars who stop by every day for coffee, take care of the building and grounds as well as the numerous other duties that keep the post running smoothly. It is the many players on this team and the many roles they play that make our Post an attractive destination for local veterans and it just does not happen without all of you.

I want to encourage everyone to double check your membership status and renew quickly if you have not paid up for 2015. The 2016 membership years starts on 1 July. I certainly understand that life gets busy and things sometimes fall through the cracks. Please accept this suggestion as a gentle reminder. If dues are somewhat problematic for you, please contact the post – we may be able to work something out.

Exciting things continue happening at the post. Our monthly Bingo program is growing, we are packing the house on the first and third Thursday of every month with the Post socials and our first post memorial service on 9 May generated a great deal of positive feedback. We have our baseball team re-established and should be ready to take the field when the season starts in June. This year is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Post's American Legion World Series victory and fielding a new team means something special. Take a look at the post website [www.americanlegionpost186.org](http://www.americanlegionpost186.org), it has a new, fresh look with plenty of great information to include a calendar of events and activities. Finally, Dr. Bruce Heilman, a new member of Post 186 and the Legion Riders, just completed a cross country and back motorcycle ride escorted by our Post Rider's chapter and numerous other chapters along the way. Dr. Heilman is a World War II Marine Corps veteran. Semper Fi, sir!

## Notable Quote

"Serious misfortunes, originating in misrepresentation, frequently flow and spread before they can be dissipated by truth."

- George Washington, letter to John Jay, May 8, 1796

## Upcoming Events

### JUNE

2	Executive Board Meeting	7pm
3	Riders, KSU	9:30am
4	40&8 Golf Tournament at Birkdale	12pm
4	Post Social, Lounge	5:30pm
9	40&8 Board Installation Dinner and Mtg	6:30pm
10	Riders, KSU	9:30am
11	Legion Riders Social Membership Meeting	6pm 7pm
13	40&8 Breakfast	8-9am
13	Riders, KSU	9am
13	UFC Fight Night - Post Lounge	7pm
14	Bingo, doors open at 12, games at 1pm	
16	Post Social Membership Meeting & Installation Dinner	6pm 7pm
17	Riders, KSU	9:30am
18	Post Social, Lounge	5:30pm
24	Riders, KSU	9:30am
27	Riders, KSU	9am
27	Summer concert hosted by Creswood Presbyterian Church and the Post 186 Auxiliary, McGuire VAMC Spinal Cord Injury Pavilion	7pm

### JULY

1	Riders, KSU	9:30am
2	Post Social	5:30pm
7	Executive Board Meeting	7pm
8	Riders, KSU	9:30am
9	Legion Riders Social Membership Meeting	6pm 7pm
12	Bingo, doors open at noon	
15	Riders, KSU	9:30am
16	Post Social	5:30pm
18	Membership Lunch	11am - 1pm
	<i>NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING NO BREAKFAST</i>	
22	Riders, KSU	9:30am
23	Pontoon Boat Sunset Cruise, \$5pp	7 – 8:30pm
29	Riders, KSU	9:30am

Don't miss out on any of the upcoming events! Check out our website at [americanlegionpost186.org](http://americanlegionpost186.org)

## Chaplain's Corner

*Charles Miller, Post Chaplain*

*Psalm 121:7-8 The Lord will keep you from all harm, he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. ( NIV )*

As we remember our departed comrades and pay tribute to them this Memorial Day, I ask each of us to say a special prayer to their families. As we take time out of our busy schedule I ask that we check in on our fellow Veterans and the families that have lost a Veteran, with a visit, phone call, or a card. We must always remember the men and women that have defended our country for the freedom of all. This year we hosted our first annual Memorial Service for our fellow Legionnaires that have passed to Post Everlasting. This is but a small way for us to let the families that their loved ones will always be remembered for their service to our country, their community, and the American Legion.

We want to invite you to come to the Post and have coffee with us Monday through Saturday between the hours of 0830hrs to 1200hrs. If you know of members that we have not seen or heard from in a while, please let me know as we want to let them know that they are not forgotten. If you seek counsel then I am willing to meet and talk with you, but if you need to be connected with a minister, please leave a note in my post mailbox and I will gladly assist you. Praying For All.

## Legion Riders

*Bob Christie Director ALR*

May was an active month for our Chapter. Our membership increased to 17 and we escorted our Marine from Quantico to High Point, NC on April 23.

Our total mileage increased to just under nine thousand miles with nearly 4,400 miles logged on April 23 alone.

Denis Graffum and I made an emergency run at the end of April to help the Chancellor make up time when he ran into ugly weather and traffic near Atlanta. We took my truck and a trailer and left at 6pm on Saturday evening, arriving in Atlanta at 3:30am. On three hours of sleep we loaded up the bike, the Chancellor and headed to Shreveport, LA.

We arrived in Louisiana at 10:30pm and delivered the Chancellor to the local ALR who escorted him to meet the mayor. Our return trip was quite eventful with an overnight in Chattanooga only to wake and discover the trailer was stolen. A police report was filed and we even made the CBS 6pm news. The Post has received media exposure at the national level to include the National Legion, several major blogs, local news, and Facebook pages.

The Silver Streak Squad is now running every Wednesday and the entire group will be running twice a month on Saturdays throughout the summer and fall. A poker run is in the planning stages for a Saturday in October.

We have come a long way growing from six to 18 in just half a year. We are moving in the right direction and look forward to continued growth.



*186 Riders with Chancellor before leaving Quantico to ride to High Point NC, April 23.*

## Auxiliary Unit 186 News

*Ann Robbins, President*

It's hard to believe that another year has come to a close. Your Auxiliary has once again done great things for our Veterans, families and the community and we truly have an outstanding group to be proud of. As I leave you as President, I can say that this has been one of the most exciting times in my life and I thank all of you for the support. I encourage you all to keep up the great work that you do and continue to grow as a Legion Family.

"May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face and the rain fall softly on your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the hollow of his hand." ~Irish Blessing

## Memorial Day Poppy Distribution

The 2015 Memorial Day Poppy Distribution draws record contributions. Poppy distribution yielded many smiles, many stories from those that we interacted with, and much needed dollars in the form of donations for our VA&R. Many thanks to Auxiliary President Ann Robbins and Linda Hahn for a very smart distribution strategy and to all who participated for the hard work and long hours.



## Gun Raffle Fundraiser

Tickets now available for purchase or to sell! Pick-up at Post 186, 901 Otterdale Rd, Midlothian or contact Frank Willis at 804-794-9785 or [amlegionpost186@aim.com](mailto:amlegionpost186@aim.com).

\$5 per ticket, Mallard CZusa 12ga 28" Dbl Barrel Over/Under Shotgun or \$400 cash.

- Only 500 Tickets being sold
- Need not be present to win
- Must be 18 years of age to purchase
- Winner must comply with all Federal and State Laws
- Winner is responsible for any additional cost including, but not limited to, shipping and transfer fees.

## Bingo

The April Bingo was very exciting as we rolled out our all cash prizes! Our summer program will kick-off on 14 June with doors opening at noon and games at 1pm. Bingo will continue every month thereafter on the 2nd Sunday. We feature cash and door prizes, on-site vending, 50/50 drawing, ample parking, and only \$20 for an admission pack (special games sold at an additional charge).

We need volunteers and players! Please consider volunteering at this event once a month either as a runner, caller or kitchen staff. Volunteers are needed on a rotational basis so when it's not your turn we'd love to see you win CASH prizes! Join us for this growing fundraiser event! Contact Barbara Vonada for more information at [communications186@gmail.com](mailto:communications186@gmail.com)

## April Membership Meeting

Cupcakes seemed to do the trick to attract a large crowd to our April membership meeting. Important decisions were made and a thank you was extended to our post from Mr. Rodney Priest from the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA). PVA hosted a Bass Fishing Flea Market at our post and were very appreciative of our generosity. Membership meetings are fun! Join us on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Social at 6pm in the lounge / meeting at 7pm.



## Parade

On 9 May, former commander Dan Johnson and Legionnaire Andy Lawler participated in the Bon Air Victorian Day Parade showcasing his 1952 military Jeep and Post 186 signage.



## June Installation Dinner / Membership Mtg

Meet your 2016 post leadership at the June 9<sup>th</sup> Installation Dinner. Social at 6pm with an Italian themed dinner (\$7pp) beginning at 7pm followed by the membership meeting.

### 2016 Leadership

Commander – Randy Lofland  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice – David Throckmorton  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice – Barbara Vonada  
Adjutant – Dick Hahn  
Financial Officer – Bill Pouch  
Communications Officer – Barbara Vonada  
Athletics Officer – Brian Marley  
Judge Advocate – Richard Jackson  
Chaplain – Charles Miller  
Quartermaster – Bill Lipsett  
Service Officer – Henry Bowe  
Historian – Angelo Fusari  
Sergeant at Arms – Johnny Tillman, Jr. and Henry Billings

## July Membership Picnic Style Luncheon

A membership luncheon will be held on 18 July from 11am – 1pm. This is an opportunity to renew your membership on-site for the 2016 membership year. Legionnaires who show up and renew their membership, or join, will receive a free lunch (others only \$5). Your membership ID card will be signed and issued on the spot. Menu to be announced.

## Free Concert

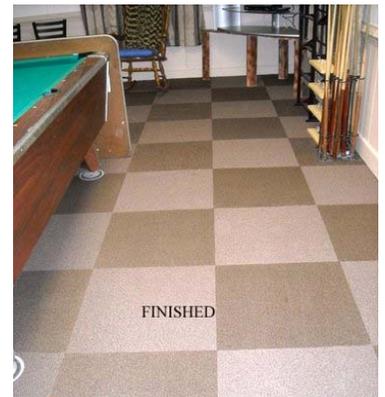
Concerned Veterans of America is sponsoring an event on June 12th at the Richmond Speedway. Everything is free. No cost to park, admission and drinks for the first hour is free, and then goes to a cash bar. Madison Rising will be performing along with C&W singer Ava Brown. Gates will open at 6 pm.

## Pontoon Boat Sunset Cruise

\$5 per person, 7 to 8:30pm on 23 July on the Reservoir in Woodlake. Limited space. Reservations required at 804-794-9785 or email to [communications186@gmail.com](mailto:communications186@gmail.com)

## Lounge Work

Thanks to the hard work of several Legionnaires our post lounge is sporting NEW carpet! Our home keeps getting better and better!





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**PAID**  
 Richmond, VA  
 Permit #3022

## Dated Material

*Home Delivery Requested by June 1, 2015*

## Midlothian Mules Post 186

**Joe Doherty** – Manager

**Connar Baistich** - Asst. Manager (rising senior Longwood University baseball; majoring in Criminal Justice)

**Kevin Oakey** - Coach (Roanoke College baseball sophomore majoring in Mathematics)

Date	Time	Location	Opponent
Sat, 6 June	7pm	Hermitage HS	Post 361
Sun, 7 June	9am	Sheperd Stadium	Post 284
Sat, 13 June	7pm	TBD	Post 125
Sun, 14 June	3pm	Rockwood Park	Post 137
Thu, 18 June	7pm	Rockwood Park	Post 125
Sat, 20 June	11am	Sheperd Stadium	Post 284
Sun, 21 June	3pm	Rockwood Park	Post 201
Tue, 23 June	7pm	Atlee HS	Post 175
Thu, 25 June	7pm	Rockwood Park	Post 361
Fri, 26 June	7pm	Freeman	Post 125
Sat, 27 June	7pm	Rockwood Park	Post 284
Tue, 30 June	7pm	Manchester	Post 137
<b>Wed, 1 Jul</b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>Senior All-Star Game, Freeman HS</b>	
Thu, 2 Jul	7pm	Freeman HS	Post 186
Tue, 7 Jul	7pm	Rockwood Park	Post 284
Thu, 9 Jul	7pm	Rockwood Park	Post 175
Sat, 11 Jul	7pm	Powhatan HS	Post 201

Follow us on Facebook at: [facebook.com/186baseball](https://www.facebook.com/186baseball)

## Geezer Talk

*NOT Forgotten...*unable to make it to Post events or would like a visit for conversation to catch up on the latest happenings? Please contact the Post at [804-794-9785](tel:804-794-9785), or [americanlegionpost186@aim.com](mailto:americanlegionpost186@aim.com). We care about you and would like to keep in touch.

*Post 186 Hat Sale:* The ballcap was so popular we are placing another order for 24 caps. Cost is \$13 ea. Watch for the order form or contact the post at 804-794-9785 to place your order.

*Boys State:* Post 186 will sponsor 26 boys for Boys State this year! Great job!

*Cans for Cash Program:* Save your aluminum cans and bring them to the post for recycling. Minimal effort = cash for the Post!

*War on Cookies:* Every day from 9am to noon. Come out for free coffee, sweet treats and an opportunity to enjoy the musings of the “bards of Midlothian” as they solve the world’s problems.

*Help Wanted:* Ways & Means Committee Chair; Bingo Volunteers; Flag Raiser for Avenue of Flags. Call the Post!

## Post Everlasting

Bert Cohee, 14 April 2015

Israel Cavazos, 23 April 2015

Dick Harman, 26 April 2015

George “Buck” Hicks, 22 May 2015