



1986 - 2025



Robert Vincent McMaugh Memorial
American Legion Post 10
9950 Cockrell Road
Manassas, Virginia 20110
703-369-4900
www.post10manassas.org



DECEMBER 2025

2025-2026
Legion Officers

Commander
Stan Moore

1st Vice Commander
Ed Filipowski

2nd Vice Commander
Mike Parra

Adjutant

Steve Olson

Finance Officer

Larry Logsdon

Chaplain

Steven Botello

Sergeant-at-Arms

Dave 'Pops' Fisk

1 Year Committeeperson

Gunny Lewis

2 Year Committeeperson

Greg Neiss

3 Year Committeeperson

Rick Goodman

Quartermaster

Francis Hall

Judge Advocate

Rick Raskin

Post 10 Veteran Advocate

Ginger Harvey

Newsletter Editor

Gunny Lewis



Hello Legion Family,
 Welcome to December.

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving. For those who attended the Son's Thanksgiving at the Post, I hope you had an enjoyable day.

November was a very productive month for us. We had a lot to do—from getting the Toys for Tots Program boxes delivered (thank you, Past Commander *Dave Quimby*), and securing donations for Wreaths Across America, to dealing with National's legal opinion re: the Sons of the American Legion. No matter the issue, good or bad, our members and the entire Legion Family worked together and persevered. I'm proud of everyone. I also want to give special recognition to *Carl Carey*, who went above and beyond to help me obtain additional wreaths for Rose Hill Cemetery.

For those who did not know, our Post and VFW Post 7589 joined together to recognize our military brethren—both known and unknown—buried in Rose Hill Cemetery. Through this combined effort, we were featured on NBC News. Even more meaningful, the VFW was able to identify an additional 41 military graves that had gone unrecognized and now will receive the care they deserve.

This is exactly why we are here. Our membership and dedication allow us to help Veterans in our community and beyond—ensuring our brothers and sisters are never forgotten, assisting those in need, and supporting efforts to bring home our POW/ MIA's so their families can finally have closure.

I hope everyone is able to come out to the Christmas Parade. If all goes well, our parade float will be repaired and ready for it. If not, we will ensure it is ready for the next parade. Toys for Tots will end soon after you receive this newsletter, so please bring in those toys and fill those boxes.

As we close out the year, please be safe if you are traveling for the holidays. We have lost too many of our Legion Family this year, and I want everyone to take care of themselves and each other. May the holidays bring joy and peace to you and your families.

The new year will bring more challenges, but as always, we will meet them head on. We encourage all members to voice their opinions and share ideas—whether about issues that need to be addressed or ways to improve our home and bring in new members. You can do this by attending our monthly meetings on the third Saturday of every month, or by reaching out via email or phone. Your feedback is invaluable as we strive to keep our Post one of the best in Virginia.

(Continued On Next Page)



(Commander's Column Continued)

Let me close with this: in every family, communication is the thread that weaves trust, understanding, and connection together. This is especially true within our community of Veterans, where challenges are deeply personal and often invisible to the outside world.

Communication provides a lifeline between isolation and healing. A simple conversation, a sincere question about someone's well-being, or just being present and truly listening—these small gestures can offer profound comfort to those who might otherwise suffer in silence. They remind us that no one faces their struggles alone.

Let this serve as a reminder to embrace the power of communication—to **Be the One** who listens, who reaches out, who shows compassion. Every act of connection helps build a stronger, more resilient support network. Together, we can help ensure no Veteran feels left behind.

For God and Country,
Stanley C. Moore
Your American Legion Post 10 Commander



Volunteer organizations such as the Post thrive on goodwill, shared mission, and the belief that people volunteer because they want to make a difference. But every dedicated volunteer knows there are individuals who contribute far less than others. I call these individuals *'oxygen thieves.'* They drain energy from those who are dedicated rather than add to it. They show up at Post 10 events where there is free food without contributing anything. These members a) drain enthusiasm of the highly committed volunteers; b) slow down others; c) create more work for other volunteers; and, c) discourage new volunteers who see these individuals as not pulling their weight. There is another word to describe these oxygen thieves and that is *'voluntaries snackivorus'* - the free-food-only volunteer. Are YOU an oxygen thief? For the new year make a resolution to move from an oxygen thief to a dedicated Post 10 volunteer—seeking only the satisfaction that you are contributing to a greater good. *Try it you'll like it!*

To paraphrase: *Ask Not What Post 10 Can Do For You—Ask What YOU Can Do For Post 10.*

Gunny

Help kids protect their devices: Online safety starts with protecting your kids' devices from hackers and scammers. Here are some steps to keep kids safer while they're on a phone, tablet, or laptop. Consider taking these steps on your kids' behalf and, as they get older, teaching them how to secure their devices and build good online habits.

Set automatic updates on phones, tablets, and laptops to protect your kids' apps, web browsers, and operating systems.

Use strong passwords. Make sure your kids' accounts and devices are protected by unique passwords. Consider helping teenagers set up and use a password manager, or the device's password generator — and remind them not to leave devices unattended in public places.

Secure your home wi-fi network. To protect your home network — for your own benefit and your kids' — change your router's default name and password. Turn off remote management, and log out as the administrator once the router is set up.

Use parental controls to help reinforce good online habits and create safer spaces for kids to learn and play online. And, to have a better handle on what kids might be spending online, consider using parental controls to disable in-app purchases or require a password for all purchases on phones or tablets.

Learn more information about protecting kids online while enhancing their safety, privacy, and healthy development at [ftc.gov/KidsOnline](https://www.ftc.gov/KidsOnline).

[Source: FTC]

Submitted by *Annette Lewis*



Legionnaire Membership Report from 1st Vice Commander

2026 - Renewals: So far, we have signed up 14 new members and renewed 502. We are currently at a 69.3% renewal rate. As a reminder, Early Bird ended on November 10. **Also, all 2025 membership cards expire on December 31, 2025.** Please renew if you haven't done so. National Headquarters has updated the Paid Up for Life (PUFL) membership program based on your age. Check out mylegion.org for the updates or email us. We would be glad to help if you are interested.

Please welcome our new Legionnaire: *Praxedes A. Kennedy, USA*

Now you can renew for up to 3 years online. Go to mylegion.org, click the renew tab and put in your member number and you will be able to extend your membership at the current membership price for 3 years. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

There are several additional ways to renew your American Legion membership:

1. Online at www.mylegion.org. You can use a credit card online and set-up automatic yearly renewal. You can also update your profile information: address and, phone number. I will also send out your new membership card once I am notified by National of your renewal.
2. By mail. If you've received your renewal request from National Headquarters, mail it in the enclosed return envelope to Post 10 at 9950 Cockrell Road, Manassas, VA 20110 Attn: Post 10 Membership.
3. In person. Stop by Post 10 and ask the bartender for a membership envelope, fill out the envelope, include your membership number and dues. Current Legion dues are \$50.00. Please provide your address, email and phone number. It's important to be able to contact you.

Your information is stored in a protected database, accessible to only the post officers with the need to know. If you have an email account, you can receive the newsletter electronically.

Please feel free to email me with any questions/concerns about your membership.

For God and Country,
Ed Filipowski
1st Vice Commander
al10membership@yahoo.com

Happy Holidays to All Our Troops. May God Bless and Protect You All.

REMINDER: During ceremonies the Social Quarters is CLOSED. Post SQ Rules clearly states "During Post 10 ceremonies the Social Quarters will be closed. Occupants must either attend the Post 10 ceremony or *vacate Post 10 property.*" Take the time and attend the ceremony, you may find it informative, educational, and interesting. *Gunny*

From the desk of the 2nd Vice Commander

No report received.

Mike Parra, 2nd Vice



Remember Everyone Deployed Fridays (R.E.D.)

R.E.D. was created to show solidarity and support for our deployed service members and veterans. The primary mission is to keep the deployed at the forefront of our hearts and minds until they return home by wearing red on Fridays. The deployed and their families are not nameless, faceless, or forgotten. They are our heroes, and for them, we go R.E.D. on Fridays. Wearing a specific color of shirt or other apparel may seem a trivial act, but it represents something very significant. It translates to mean that as you prepare for the day, you recognize that others are playing an active role to allow you to go about your day with relative peace of mind that you are safe. Submitted by *George Moschatos*



Poor is a Nation that has no Heroes.
Shameful is a Nation that has Heroes but forgets them.



*“To Those Who Died,
Honor and Eternal Rest;
To Those Still In Bondage,
Remembrance and Hope;
To Those Who Returned,
Gratitude and Peace.*



COLOR GUARD REPORT

Manassas Veterans Day Parade: Color Guard: *Heidi BruMar, Dave “Pops” Fisk.*

Assisted: *Kevin Byrne* (Bagpipes); Young Manassas Marines Commander, *Deysi Vasquez;*
Joe Bigging and Scout Troop 884.



Manassas Veterans Day Ceremony: Color Guard: *Heidi BruMar, Rich Rosene, Dave “Pops” Fisk.*

Assisted: *Kevin Bryne & Garrett McKenzie* (Bagpipes), *Mark Meier “Tops”* (Bugle); Young Manassas
Marines Commander *Deysi Vasquez* and the Manassas Young Marines; *Joe Bigging* and Scout Troop 884.

Internment of Susan Hare: Color Guard: *Carl Carey, Heidi BruMar, Greg Neiss,* and *Dave Quimby.* Assisted:
Steven Botello (Post 10 Chaplain) and *Kevin Byrne* (Bagpipe).

Rose Hill Bench Dedication: *Kevin Byrne* (Bagpipe), *Mark “Top” Meier* (Bugle)

Dec Events:

6 Dec - The Greater Manassas Christmas Parade; Leaving Post 10 at 0830 hr; Staging at 0900 hrs. on Mathis Ave.;
Parade starts at 1000 hrs.

7 Dec – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day; TBD

13 Dec- Wreath Across America; 1200 hrs – Cemetery is next to Bull Run Harley on Center Street. Parking in rear
lot of Bull Run Harley.

The Color Guard is one of the most visible units in the community and plays a meaningful role in representing our
Veterans at Parades and Ceremonies. We are looking for new Members to join the Color Guard and volunteers to
help with getting equipment to and from Parades/Ceremonies.

- A. We supply your uniform, except for the cover.
- B. Are you willing to participate in 3 or more Ceremonies/Parades a year?
- C. There are no fancy drills or fancy marching.
- D. Ceremonies/Parades are usually over in two hours.
- E. Most Ceremonies are indoors.

If you have any questions about the Color Guard please reach out to me. Thank you,

Dave “Pops” Fisk, Sergeant-at-Arms – Captain of the Color Guard

(814) 574 – 7726 varoaderunnr@gmail.com

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
IS NOT A
BAR**



**IT IS A VETERANS
SERVICE ORGANIZATION**

VETERANS PARADE—1 NOV 2025—Old Town Manassas



More photos at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/tjwjt58dUH2TZipb7> and <https://photos.app.goo.gl/sM444sW8t9awt1kK7>
Photos by **Rick Goodman** and **Gunny**

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL VETERANS MASS & ASSEMBLY
FRIDAY, 7 NOV 2025



Principal Conroy, Msg. Lee, Director Combs



All Saints Catholic Church & School holds a Veterans Mass each year in November followed by an assembly where the students learn about the military plus a POW/MIA presentation is held. A reception follows. Post 10 has played an integral part with ASCC& School for the past 18 years; we are grateful for this association thanks to Principal David Conroy.

Article & photos by *Gunny*

ROSE HILL CEMETERY

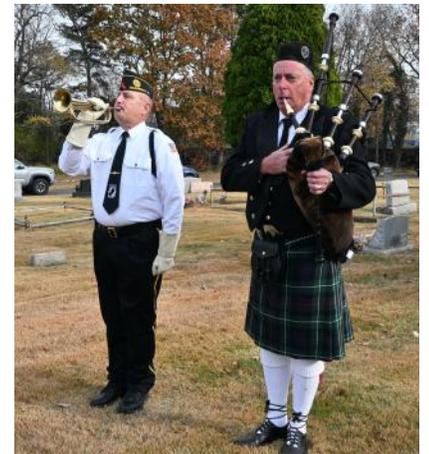
On 7 November members of Post 10 and VFW Post 7589 gathered in Rose Hill Cemetery and dedicated a Marble Memorial bench to honor both the marked and unmarked graves of Veterans interred there.

This was the first time since 1911 when Confederate Veterans erected a statue to honor their dead have Veterans gathered in a Manassas City Cemetery to place a memorial. The bench placement was a collaborative project between Post 10 and VFW Post 7589 who purchased the bench from Kline Memorials in Manassas which provided a generous discount to help support the project.

Rose Hill is the first and oldest traditionally African American public cemetery in Prince William County. It was established in 1887 and was a segregated cemetery until the early 1960s. Besides numerous formerly enslaved citizens within the cemetery is the grave of **Geo. Butler** one of the original Buffalo soldiers who fought the Apache and Comanches in Texas.

Participating in the dedication were Legion and VFW Veterans, "Riders" from Post 10 and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers Motor Cycle Club. Numerous others including the Cemetery Committee, City Museum members and the public attended. The Reverend **Art Jackson** of the First Baptist Church of Manassas Provided the Invocation with Mayor **Michelle Davis-Younger** giving reflective remarks. Also attending, and representing the City Government, were City Councilman **Ralph Davis**, Vice-Mayor **Mark Wolfe**, Council Woman **Ashley Hutson**, and City Manager **Steve Burke**. Legion Son **Kevin Byrne** played the bag pipes and Legionnaire **Mark Meier** ended the dedication with bugle taps.

Article by **Jerry Martin**



Photos by **Gunny**

LOCKER RENT DUE by Wednesday, 31 DEC 2025:

\$20.00 per locker (floor level lockers \$10.00) by **Wednesday, 31 DEC 2025**. Write your name and locker number on your check, place in envelope and give to bartender on duty.

Unpaid lockers shall be emptied on Saturday, 10 JAN 2026, and rented to the next member on list. Contents will be held at Post for 30 days and if not claimed will be treated as abandoned property and becomes the property of Post 10. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Submitted by *Donna & Bonnie*



NEW YEAR'S EVE

Come Celebrate New Years with Us
Featuring the band
Mars Rodeo

\$60 per person includes Dinner: New York Strip and Chicken Corndon Bleu, Breakfast Buffet and New Years Toast.

Dinner only: \$45 per person

Breakfast only: \$15 per person

Please pre pay and sign up with the bartender.

To pay at the door will be..Dinner only \$55,
dinner and breakfast will be \$70

Don't throw away your old laptop or computer.



Bring it to the Post and we'll take it to
TECH FOR TROOPS.

Sorry, we cannot take CRT monitors or Printers.

What T4T needs the most are laptops, desktop computers, tablets, and cell phones.

These devices go to in-need Veterans after data destruction.

T4T guarantees Data Destruction for all devices that could contain data.

Puzzle Madness

American Legion Post 10, Manassas

Teams of 4 to
6 players

Monday
6-8P

Prizes for
fastest team

TRIVIA NIGHT
EVERY THURSDAY
STARTING NOV 7TH
7-9PM
9950 Cockrell Rd, Manassas, VA
ROCKSTAR TRIVIA

NOTICES: When playing the 'game' machines you must turn in your cash receipts within 48 hours of printing them. After that they become **null and void**. The Post has 48 hours to pay on winning tickets. Thank you for your cooperation.

MARINE CORPS 250th Birthday Ceremony at Post



Thanks to: **Kevin Byrne**, bagpiper, Manassas Young Marines, LtCol. **Jerry Martin** who has assisted me for numerous years with the ceremony, and to all in attendance. *Semper Fi Gunny*
Photos by **Rick Goodman & Gunny**

Youngest Marine present: **Erik Nguyen**
Guest of Honor: **Annette Lewis**
Oldest Marine present: **David 'Pops' Fisk**



VETERANS DAY CEREMONY at HARRIS PAVILION



Photos by *Rick Goodman*

More photos at:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/dRkfewXwAi2Sq4jf9>



Three Servicemen Statue at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial



"Celer, Silens, Mortalis"
"Arrugha!"



The Vietnam Women's Memorial to honor the women who risked their lives to serve their country. Depicting three women caring for a fallen soldier.



"We few, we Band of Brothers. For he who sheds his blood with me shall be my brother."
– William Shakespeare, "Henry V"

Post 10 Veterans Advocate

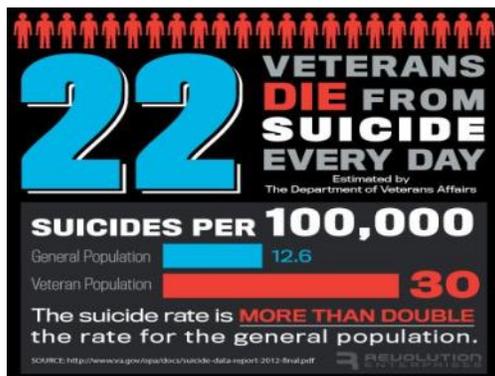
I hope all of our Post 10 Veterans and their families enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday! I wish all of our Veterans and their families a very nice Christmas holiday! Thank you for your selflessness and dedication to our country and thank you to the families of veterans for their support and strength. As your Post 10 Veterans Advocate, I will continue to guide and assist veterans in filing service-connected disability claims with the VA. It is a pleasure to be able to assist you with any questions that you may have and will continue to do so in 2025!



The Appointment of Claimant's Representative VA form authorizes The American Legion to assist Veterans and beneficiaries. Additionally, please send your full and complete contact information. You cannot have more than one POA!

I am available to assist Veterans and their families in completing and filing benefit claims. Contact me: ginger.c.harvey@gmail.com for VA claims assistance. Please include all of your contact information so that I can better assist you.

Post 10 Veterans Advocate, *Ginger Harvey*



Chaplain's Report:

Dear Post 10 Members,

A topic I want to bring up is for all our Veterans and their families. In my role as Chaplain, myself and others at Post 10 have recently assisted some families with dealing with their families and the preparation of their loved one for burials, funerals, interment and other post-passing of their family member and how to honor them.



We have seen much confusion lately with what the Veteran and/or the family member may be entitled to from the VA and also through the local Legion Post and cemetery services they may be entitled to.

To help you and to best answer any question you can contact me at any time at: steven.botello@gmail.com or my office number of: 1-703-853-1869 or contact David Fisk/ American Legion Honor Guard, at: 1-814-574-7726. We will assist you in any way which we can here at Post 10.

God bless you one and all. Please take care of yourselves and your families.

You may reach me at any time at: 703-853-1869, FX: 703-991-0677 or
Email: steven.botello@gmail.com

Respectfully,

Steven Botello, Chaplain P10, Manassas, VA

'Tis the Season for Scammers: Four Signs That It's a Scam:

1. Scammers **PRETEND** to be from an organization you know. They pretend to be contacting you on behalf of the government. They might use a real name, like the FTC, Social Security Administration, IRS, or Medicare, or make up a name that sounds official. Some pretend to be from a business you know, like a utility company, a tech company, or even a charity asking for donations. They use technology to change the phone number that appears on your caller ID. So the name and number you see might not be real.
2. Scammers say there's a PROBLEM or a PRIZE. They might say you're in trouble with the government. Or you owe money. Or someone in your family had an emergency. Or that there's a virus on your computer. Some scammers say there's a problem with one of your accounts and that you need to verify some information. Others will lie and say you won money in a lottery or sweepstakes but have to pay a fee to get it.
3. Scammers PRESSURE you to act immediately. Scammers want you to act before you have time to think. If you're on the phone, they might tell you not to hang up so you can't check out their story. They might threaten to arrest you, sue you, take away your driver's or business license, or deport you.
4. Scammers tell you to PAY in a specific way. They insist that you can only pay by using cryptocurrency, wiring money through a company like MoneyGram or Western Union, using a payment app, or putting money on a gift card and then giving them the numbers on the back of the card. Some will send you a check (that will later turn out to be fake), then tell you to deposit it and send them money.

How To Avoid a Scam: Block unwanted calls and text messages. Don't give your personal or financial info in response to a request that you didn't expect. Honest organizations won't call, email, or text to ask for your personal information, like your Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers.

If you get an email or text message from a company you do business with and you think it's real, it's still best not to click on any links. Instead, contact them using a website you know is trustworthy. Or look up their phone number. Don't call a number they gave you or the number from your caller ID.

Resist the pressure to act immediately. Honest businesses will give you time to make a decision. Anyone who pressures you to pay or give them your personal information is a scammer. Know how scammers tell you to pay. Never pay someone who insists that you can only pay with cryptocurrency, a wire transfer service like Western Union or MoneyGram, a payment app, or a gift card. And never deposit a check and send money back to someone. Stop and talk to someone you trust. Before you do anything else, tell someone — a friend, a family member, a neighbor — what happened. Talking about it could help you realize it's a scam.

Report Scams to the FTC (FTC.GOV)

[Source: FTC]

Submitted by *Vic Librizzi*

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, SQUADRON 10



December is around the corner, and we will be busy. December 6th is the Christmas Parade. It should be a fun day. Come out to support and participate. On December 13th we will be meeting at the Post to buy gifts for Vets in various rehab facilities in the area. Afterwards we will return to the Post to separate and package the gifts. On December 20 we will meet again to deliver the gifts. Meeting time is 1000 for both days. Anyone that wants to help out either day please show up at 1000. If you've never done this it is a great heart-felt day. We try to spend some time with each Vet. A lot of people in these facilities don't get a lot of visitors. I believe they appreciate that more than the gifts themselves. This is one of the reasons why the Son's have our golf tournaments and chili cook offs. To give back!!! We invite all of our family members to join us!! Lastly, we will have the 'Hair Of The Dog Bowling' on January 1st at 1000. More details on this will be posted in the Social Quarters.

Happy Thanksgiving to All!!

Thanks,

Tom Ramirez, 2nd Vice Commander

Mark Emerman, Squadron 10 Commander

Auxiliary Unit 10 Report



The annual Children's Christmas party will be held on December 13, 2025, from Noon-2pm. Santa will be arriving by firetruck again this year!! All children 12 years old and younger are invited for pizza, snacks and crafts.

The Auxiliary will be walking in the Christmas Parade on December 6th. All are welcome to join! Details to follow.

Reminder the next Auxiliary meeting will be held on December 2nd at 7pm in the Hall at the Post. Hope to see you there!!

Thank you for all you do,

Peggy Pignone, ALA Unit 10 President

Auxiliary Membership Report



Season's Greetings! As the holiday season approaches, we want to extend warm wishes to all our members and their families. May your holidays be filled with joy, laughter, and good cheer! Thank you for your continued support—your dedication helps make a real difference for Veterans and our community. We currently have 136 mail-in renewals 33 online, and 14 new members for a total of 183 members for 2026.

Welcome to our newest members: **Taylor Blair, Brooklyn Cassedy, Jessica Cassedy, Elanor Doczi, James Garvey, Sonya George and Melanie Renner**

Transfer member: **Jean Humbrecht** from Post 1976 Annadale, VA

There are several ways to renew:

- 1) You may leave your payment of \$35 in a membership envelope, complete the information required on the label, and give it to the bartender on duty at Post 10; or
- 2) Mail your payment of \$35 to the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 10, 9950 Cockrell Road, Manassas, VA 20110 and include your current address, telephone number and email address; or
- 3) Renew online at www.ALAforVeterans.org with your member ID on your card. You must log in to pay your dues. If you do not have a username or password, simply click 'Create Account' to get started. Members will receive an emailed receipt as well as a signed, membership card mailed directly from ALA National Headquarters within three weeks. Cards have the authorized signature of an ALA National officer (instead of a unit officer).
- 4) Call ALA National Headquarters at (317) 569-4570 and pay by phone. Members will receive an emailed receipt as well as a signed, membership card mailed directly from ALA National Headquarters within three weeks (same procedure as number 3).

Thank You for Your Continued Support!

Your commitment to the Auxiliary makes a difference every day. Wishing you peace, joy, and a wonderful holiday season!

Thank you,

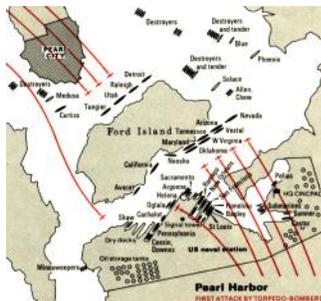
Johnnetta Jetten, ALA Membership Chair

DECEMBER 7, 1941—A Date That Will Live in Infamy:



On the morning of 7 December 1941, at 7:48 am local time, 177 aircraft of the Imperial Japanese Navy attacked the US Naval base at Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. Their intention was to destroy and damage as much of the US Pacific Fleet as possible, before it could respond to Japanese operations taking place on the same day against British, Dutch and US territories in southeast Asia.

This first attack wave began bombing the hangars and parked aircraft of the island's airfields while at the same time launching torpedoes against the US warships moored in the harbor. In the first five minutes of the attack, four battleships were hit, including the USS Oklahoma and the USS Arizona. Minutes later, the Arizona exploded after a bomb hit its gunpowder stores, sinking the ship and killing 1,177 of its crew. This devastating attack was followed an hour later by a second wave of 163 Japanese aircraft. Within two hours, 21 US warships



had been sunk or damaged, 188 aircraft destroyed, and **2,403 American servicemen and women killed**. Many of these ships were repaired and fought in later battles, luckily all three of the Pacific Fleet's aircraft carriers were not at Pearl Harbor during the attack and so escaped damage. They were to prove vital in the coming Pacific Campaign.

Submitted by *Gunny*

7 FACTS EVERY U.S. CITIZEN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT... PEARL HARBOR

- 1. It was a surprise, but not completely off the radar.** U.S. intelligence had picked up hints of Japanese military movement in the Pacific, but no one expected a strike 4,000 miles away at Pearl Harbor. The *location* of the attack—not the possibility of conflict—was the real surprise.
- 2. The entire attack lasted only about 90 minutes.** From the first bomb at 7:55 a.m. to the final wave pulling back, the strike was shockingly fast. In that short window, eight battleships were damaged or sunk and more than 2,400 Americans were killed.
- 3. The USS Arizona remains a tomb and memorial.** More than 900 sailors and Marines are still entombed inside the ship where it rests. The memorial straddling the wreck has become one of the most visited U.S. historic sites.
- 4. The attack missed the U.S. aircraft carriers.** Ironically, the Japanese mainly targeted battleships, believing they were the backbone of naval power. The U.S. carriers—*Lexington*, *Enterprise*, and *Saratoga*—were all at sea. Those carriers later became decisive in turning the war around at Midway.
- 5. The mistake that saved America's fuel supply.** Japan never attacked the massive fuel tanks, dry docks, and repair facilities at Pearl Harbor. If they had, the Pacific Fleet might have been crippled for a year or more. Many historians consider this one of Japan's greatest strategic mistakes.
- 6. A tiny U.S. force fought back immediately—and surprisingly well.** Between anti-aircraft gunners, base defenders, and a handful of pilots who scrambled into the air, the U.S. managed to shoot down 29 Japanese aircraft during the attack. It wasn't enough to stop the assault, but it showed instant resilience.
- 7. Pearl Harbor united the nation overnight.** Before the attack, America was deeply split on entering WWII. After December 7, the country shifted almost instantly into full commitment. It was one of the fastest and most complete changes in public opinion in U.S. history.

[Source: American Flag Express]

Submitted by *Joe Licari*

Current Department of Veterans Affairs News (www.va.gov)

VA provides Veterans relief from Biden-era backlogged medical bills: The VA announced it will relieve Veterans of more than \$272 million in potential medical bills that accrued after the Biden Administration stopped certain copayment claims processing and collections in early 2023. During the Biden Administration, certain copayments normally billed to Veterans for community care services were repeatedly paused starting in February 2023 due to technical issues with the department's Program Integrity Tool. The PIT centralizes community care claims data from multiple payment systems to ensure VA issues accurate payments to providers and accurate bills to Veterans. The Biden Administration failed to process and collect copayments for community care services related to the PIT pause, resulting in Veterans unknowingly accruing hundreds of millions in potential medical debt. When Biden left office, his administration handed this issue — along with a host of other VA problems — to the Trump Administration to solve. Under President Trump, VA will resume proper PIT-related copayment claims processing and will relieve Veterans of the hardship that could result from the backlogged copayments the Biden Administration failed to process and collect. VA resumed billing for community care co-payments as of Nov. 11, 2025. “Under President Trump, VA is focused on providing the best possible care and maximum convenience for Veterans, families, caregivers and survivors,” said VA Secretary **Doug Collins**. “Taking these steps to efficiently resolve the backlog of copayments will prevent Veterans from being blindsided with mountains of medical debt that accumulated due to problems the Biden Administration failed to solve.”

[Source: VA News]

Veteran spouses, dependents and survivors getting faster access to CHAMPVA: The VA announced November 24, 2025, it has completely eliminated the backlog of Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) applications, a major VA program that provides health care coverage to over 900,000 qualifying Veteran spouses, dependents, survivors, and caregivers. When President Trump took office, there was a backlog of more than 70,000 CHAMPVA applications that the Biden Administration had failed to process. Applicants were waiting in some cases over 150 days for VA to take action. As of October, the application backlog has been reduced to zero, with new applications now being processed in a handful of days. VA currently receives about 4,000 new applications per week and can process more than it receives. VA has also substantially reduced the number of appeals waiting for processing. Under the Biden Administration, there was a backlog of more than 20,000 CHAMPVA appeals. This has been reduced to 1,000 and continues to rapidly decrease by the day. The backlogs have been cut thanks to VA Secretary **Doug Collins**' immediate, two-pronged approach: provide CHAMPVA application processors with overtime pay to get the job done and implement process engineering and automation to sustain the gains going forward. As a result, Veterans' loved ones no longer face needless delays for health care coverage. Long-term, automation will lead to faster processing times. In December, VA will complete its move to a more automated application processing system that increases the efficiency of processing CHAMPVA applications. In addition, more than 90% of medical services and pharmacy claims are electronically processed within days of receipt for more timely payment. “Veterans around the country knew it was taking far too long to process CHAMPVA applications, and that meant delayed coverage for their loved ones,” said VA Secretary **Doug Collins**. “We listened, and now the application backlog that caused so many unnecessary delays has been wiped out.” VA is processing record numbers of disability claims, reaching an all-time fiscal-year high of three million claims processed Sept. 30. VA has opened 20 new health care clinics across the nation. Since Jan. 20, VA has offered Veterans more than 1.4 million appointments outside of normal operating hours. These early-morning, evening and weekend appointments are giving Veterans more timely and convenient options for care.

VA permanently housed 51,936 homeless Veterans across the country in fiscal year 2025 – the highest total in seven years. VA is spending an additional \$800 million on infrastructure improvements to ensure department facilities provide safe and effective patient care. The additional funds will come from savings gleaned from various VA reform efforts. VA has made it easier and faster for VA-enrolled Veterans to access care from non-VA providers at the department's expense. VA has implemented major reforms to make it easier for survivors to get benefits, after serious problems during the Biden Administration. VA is accelerating the deployment of its integrated electronic health record system, after the program was nearly dormant for almost two years under the Biden Administration. VA partnered with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to identify and recover \$106 million in duplicate billing. VA has brought tens of thousands of employees back to the office, where we can work better as a team to serve Veterans. VA has terminated union contracts for most bargaining unit employees and redirected millions in wasteful union spending back to Veterans. VA ended DEI at the department, reversing the divisive Biden-era policies and stopping more than \$14 million in DEI spending. VA is phasing out treatment for gender dysphoria. Frankly, this commonsense reform should have been done years ago.

[Source: VA News]

DECEMBER LUNCH SPECIALS
Monday thru Friday, 11 AM x 2 PM

DECEMBER 2025

MON 01 Coq Au Vin.
TUE 02 Smoked Sausage w/Peppers & Onions.
WED 03 Taco Salad.
THU 04 Fried Bologna & Cheese.
FRI 05 NY Strip.
MON 08 Meatloaf.
TUE 09 Country Fried Steak.
WED 10 Soup & Grilled Sandwich.
THU 11 'Po Boy' w/Oysters OR Shrimp.
FRI 12 'Post 10' Pastrami Reuben.
MON 15 Chicken Parm., Salad, Garlic Bread.
TUE 16 Meatball & Cheese Sub.
WED 17 Sloppy Joe.
THU 18 Sausage Burger w/Cheese & Egg, Country Gravy.
FRI 19 Hawaiian Burger, Grilled Ham & Pineapple.
MON 22 Prime Rib, French Dip.
TUE 23 Cajun Seafood & Sausage Alfredo.
WED 24 Brown Sugar Bacon Cheeseburger.
THU 25 CLOSED—Christmas
FRI 26 Fish & Chips.
MON 29 Grilled Curry Shrimp over Coconut Rice.
TUE 30 Veal Parm., Salad & Garlic Bread.
WED 31 Country Fried Steak Sub.

Sides if not listed above will be listed on the board.

Above subject to change.

ENJOY YOUR LUNCH.

SATURDAY DINNER SPECIALS

5:30 x 7:30 PM

6 DEC—Steak OR Crab Stuffed Tilapia

20 DEC—Prime Rib

Stop by for dinner and entertainment at the Post—make it a date night!

Friday is Seafood Night—5:30 x 7:30 PM



December Entertainment
(Friday & Saturday evenings)

FRI, 12 DEC—Honky Tonk Healin'

SAT, 13 DEC—Navy/Army Football Game & Soup Contest

SAT, 20 DEC—Bob Cook Bluegrass & Pot Luck Party

WED, 31 DEC—NYE Party with Mars Rodeo

Check starting times at Post.

If you have suggestions for entertainment see *Bonnie*.

Menu and Prices Subject to Change—Call Post on 703-369-4900 for Current Info.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION: Please remember to submit your articles to me in word document format by COB [1700 hours] on the 25th day of each month. Photos should be 'jpeg' and separate from the body of the article & include identifying info. Please check and double check your spelling and grammar.

Articles should be submitted to gysgt_mc@yahoo.com

Thank you, **Gunny**



Robert V. McMaugh Memorial American Legion Post 10 DECEMBER 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Bingo 9:15-12 PM	2 Auxiliary Unit 10 Meeting 7 PM	3 Bar Bingo 5:30 PM	4 Queen of Hearts	5 R.E.D. Somalia Campaign Began (1992) Seafood 5:30-7:45 PM	6 Manassas Xmas Parade 10 AM Dinner: Steak OR Crab Stuffed Tilapia
7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Flags at 1/2 mast until sunset	8 War Declared on Japan (1941) Bingo 9:15-12 PM	9 S.A.L. Squadron 10 Meeting 7 PM	10 Bar Bingo 5:30 PM	11 Germany & Italy Declared War on US Queen of Hearts	12 R.E.D. Seafood 5:30-7:45 PM <i>Honky Tonk Healin' Band</i>	13 Navy/Army Game & Soup Contest
14 Hanukkah Begins (Sundown) Young Marines 1 x 5 PM	15 Iraq War ended (2011) Bingo 9:15-12 PM	16 Riders Chapter 10 Meeting 7 PM	17 Bar Bingo 5:30 PM	18 Queen of Hearts	19 R.E.D. Seafood 5:30-7:45 PM	20 Panama Cam- paign Began (1989) Space Force Est (2019) EXEC Mtg 8:30 AM GENERAL Mtg 10 AM Dinner: Prime Rib
21 Winter Begins	22 Hanukkah Ends (Sundown) Bingo 9:15-12 PM	23	24 Bar Bingo 5:30 PM	25 Christmas Post Closed	26 Kwanzaa R.E.D. Seafood 5:30-7:45 PM	27
28	29 Bingo 9:15-12 PM	30	31 WWII Ended (1946) Kosovo Campaign Ended (2013) NYE PARTY See posters in SQ & Newsletter			

See Menu page for lunch and dinner specials.

Calendar subject to change—call Post on 703-369-4900 for current information.

Our website is: www.post10manassas.org



American Legion Riders Chapter 10

Greetings Post 10 Family



Riders from Post 10, Post 176 and Post 293 participated in the Annual Veterans Day Parade in Manassas. It was a great day of patriotism and respect for our nations Veterans.

The Cary Smith Veterans Day Card Pickup at the local schools was once again a huge success. Always heartwarming and uplifting to see the kids waving flags and chants of U.S.A, while handing out home drawn thank you cards and notes to the Veterans. No matter the weather they are out to greet us.

On Veterans Day (Nov., 11th) the Riders assisted the Post with the Veterans Day ceremony at the Harris Pavilion. It was a cold, windy, sunny day that didn't keep our Veterans from getting the recognition they deserve.

Riders escorted Past Department Commander **Ronald Miluszewski** remains to his final resting place at Quantico cemetery. It is an honor to be part of the escort to lead a fellow Legionnaire and his family in this somber occasion.

Safety Reminders: Cold weather riding reminds us that we need to dress in layers, to consider heated gear and most importantly to protect your extremities.

Ride On, Chapter 10 American Legion Riders

Article by **Leon Kowalewski**



Submitted photos

It is the soldier, not the reporter,
who has given us freedom of the press.
It is the soldier, not the poet,
who has given us freedom of speech.
It is the soldier, not the campus organizer,
who has given us freedom to demonstrate.

It is the soldier,
who salutes the flag,
and whose coffin is draped by the flag,
who allows the protester to burn the flag.

Father D. Edward O'Brien, USMC



An advertisement with a dark green background. On the left, white text reads "Under the new 2022 PACT Act" followed by a yellow bar with four white squares. Below that, it says "eligibility is added for Veterans who served in Republic of Vietnam 01/09/1962-05/07/1975". A yellow bar at the bottom says "EXPOSED TO AGENT ORANGE OR HERBICIDES?". On the right is a photo of a man with a white beard wearing a black cap with "VIETNAM VETERAN" and a rainbow stripe. At the bottom left, it says "Learn more at VA.gov 1-800-MyVA411 (800-698-2411)". At the bottom right are the VA logo and "U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs".



DECEMBER 2025 Newsletter
www.post10manassas.org

