



1986 - 2026



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



MAY 2026

2025-2026
Legion Officers

Commander
Stan Moore

1st Vice Commander
Ed Filipowski

2nd Vice Commander
Earl Heller

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

Post 10 Commander's Report



Hello Legion Family,

April has moved on and with it so has our second annual BBQ competition, **The Dan Frye Memorial BBQ Showdown**.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered and all who came out and enjoyed the day with us. It was a great success! Congratulations to all the winners, especially our very own **Larry LaMay**, who took First Place in Ribs for the second year in a row, First Place in Brisket, and as a result not only won the new Legion Family Pit Master award but took the Grand Champion Belt as well. Fantastic job!

As we all know, we lost **Dan Frye** last year in May, almost one month to the day after he helped create the BBQ competition now named in his honor. Let us remember the good times we had and all the good things he did for the Post, our community, and his family.

Coming up this month will be our Memorial Day Picnic. Details are not yet available, but planning is underway. Also we will be celebrating our country's 250th anniversary. There are no solid plans yet, but they are in the works, I promise you. Finally, this month we will be holding our elections for Post officers. Attend the meeting and have your current membership card in order to vote (Post 10 By-laws, Art IX).

As always, let me close by saying that 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





Legionnaire Membership Report from 1st Vice Commander

2026 - Renewals.

So far, we have signed up 36 new members and renewed 671. We are currently at 92.7% renewal. Just a gentle reminder. All unpaid memberships will be dropped from the roster if not renewed by June 30. Renewing online would be the quickest and give us instantaneous verification of your renewal.

Please welcome our new Legionnaire: **Gregory Barnett, USAF**

Also, please welcome our newest transfer: **Richard Crundwell, 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 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

**MEETING DAY & TIMES: 3rd Saturday. Executive Meeting starts at 0900;
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP Meeting begins at 1100.**

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

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**



Volunteers Needed

On Saturday, 16 May 2026, from 10 AM (1000 hrs.) to 2 PM (1400 hrs.) the City of Manassas will host a **Veterans Fair** at Baldwin Intermediate School, 1978 Eagle Way, Manassas, VA.

The goal of the fair is a one-stop shop to familiarize active duty, separating military, retirees, and their families with what the Manassas Community has to offer. It is targeting those who are considering staying in the Manassas / Prince William County area.

There will be tables with representatives providing information about the Four Areas being addressed: Quality of Life and Employment, Housing, Education, and Veteran Resources.

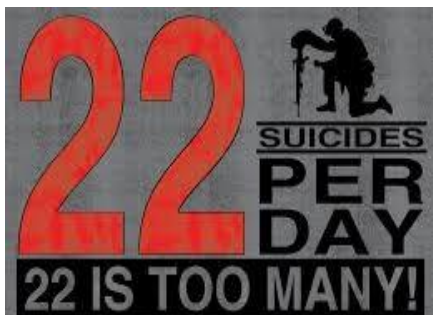
The Manassas Veteran Service Organizations will be participating with tables.

Volunteers are needed to man the **Post 10 American Legion, Unit 10 Auxiliary, Squadron 10, and Chapter 10 Riders** tables.

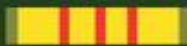
Please sign up with the AL Commander and Presidents of our organization to make this a successful recruiting and informational event.

Light refreshments will be available.

Submitted by *Jerry Martin*



Under the new 2022 PACT Act



eligibility is added for Veterans who served in

Republic of Vietnam

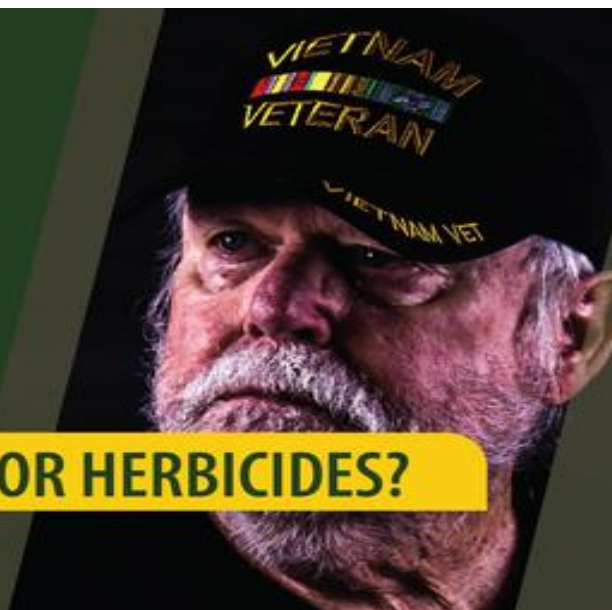
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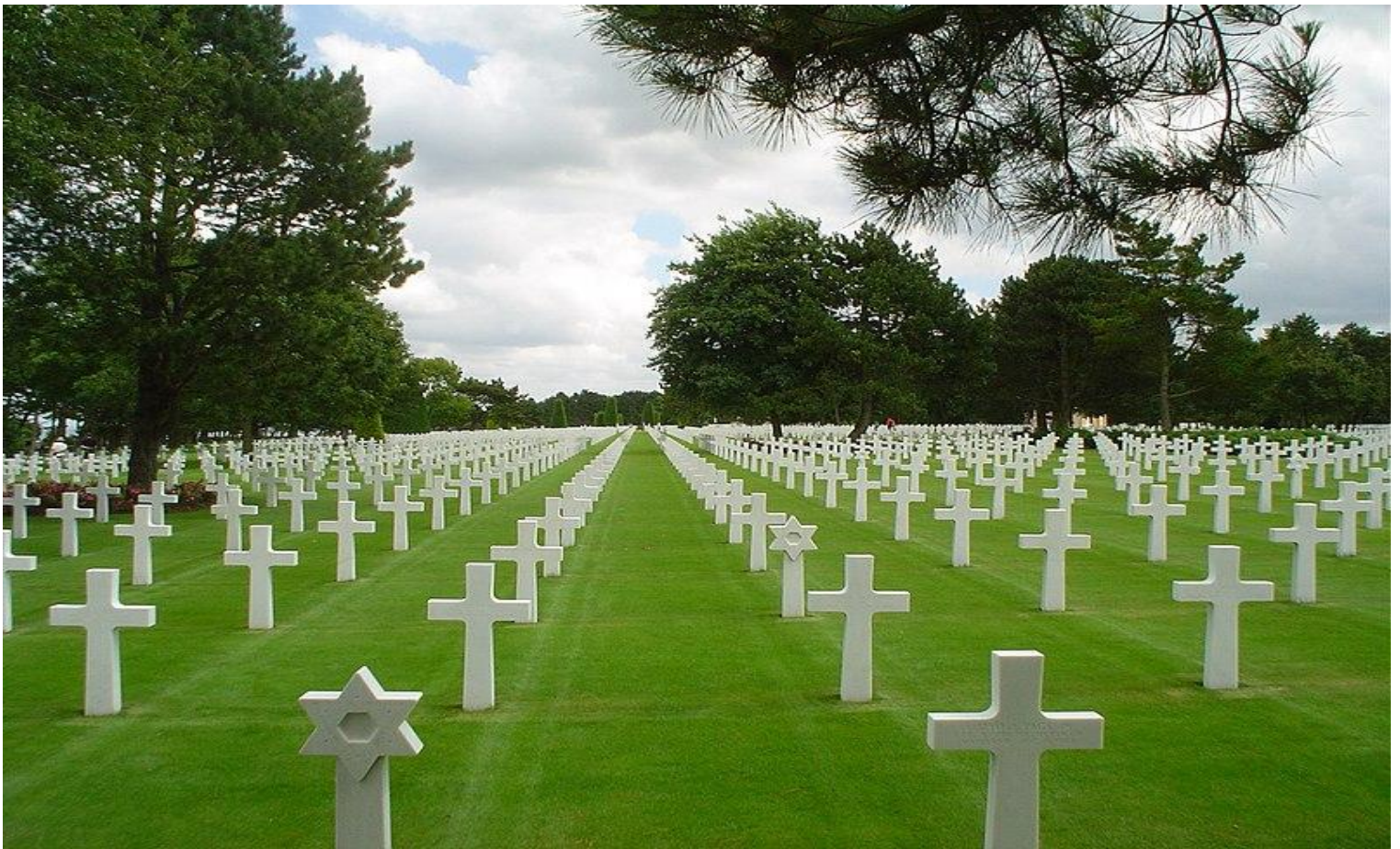
EXPOSED TO AGENT ORANGE OR HERBICIDES?

Learn more at [VA.gov](https://www.va.gov)
1-800-MyVA411 (800-698-2411)



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs





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.*



SGT-at-ARMS REPORT

Beginning Monday, May 4, 2026, all loaned Color Guard equipment must be inspected at the time of checkout by **Dave “Pops” Fisk**, Sergeant-at-Arms, or a designated Color Guard member, along with the individual or organization borrowing the equipment. The borrowing party must provide their name, organization, phone number, as well as the date and time of checkout. The same inspection procedure will apply when the equipment is returned. All items must be returned in the same condition as when they were issued. The borrowing individual or organization will be held responsible for any lost or damaged equipment. Thank you.



Special thanks to all Post 10 members that participated in the following ceremonies:

Saturday, April 11 E.G. Smith Baseball Complex

Opening Ceremony for the Greater Manassas League Baseball

Dave Quimby, Carl Carey, Dave “Pops” Fisk, Photographer.



Honor Flight Welcome at the National Museum of the Marine Corps

Date: Saturday, April 12, 12:30 pm Honor Flight Welcome.

Dave “Pops” Fisk, Rick Goodman and Paul Goforth. Approximately 100 people greeted 156 senior Veterans visiting from Texas with the Texas South Plains Honor Flight.

Friday, April 17, Jimmy Bryant Memorial Golf Tournament.

Kevin Bryne (Bagpipes), **Mark “Top” Meier** (Bugler), **Carl Carey** (Rifle Bearer), **Dave “Pops” Fisk** (Colors), Sons Squadron 10 **Leon Kowalewski** (Rifle Bearer), and **Gunny Lewis** (Photographer).

V/R

Dave “Pops” Fisk, SGT-at-ARMS

814 - 574 – 7726 varoaderrunnr@gmail.com

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
IS NOT A
BAR**



**IT IS A VETERANS
SERVICE ORGANIZATION**



Legionnaire ***Ben Hester*** retiring a US Flag. Do you have our Nation's colors that need to be retired? Just bring them to the Post and place in the flag box in front of the building.

A flag should be retired when it is **worn, faded, frayed, or damaged** to the point that it no longer represents the nation with honor. Common signs include tattered edges, significant color fading, or thin, fragile fabric.

National Poppy Day® - May 22, 2026 Poppy Day is celebrated in countries around the world. The American Legion Family brought National Poppy Day® to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day, as National Poppy Day.

On the Friday before Memorial Day, wear a red poppy to honor the fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms.

Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, each year members of The American Legion Family distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.

Submitted by ***Kim Kowalewski***



At Post 10 we believe in safety, dignity, and respect for ALL. Your words matter. Your behaviors matter. The safety and well being of our members, guests, and employees matters. There is NO place at the Post for unacceptable behavior such as: Aggression; Use of inappropriate language; Use of racist language and/or behavior; Bullying; Verbal abuse; Threats; Assaults; Property damage. Anyone exhibiting violent and aggressive behavior will be told to leave at once. Failure to obey the ABC manager on duty will result in suspension from the Social Quarters— *immediately.* We ask for your cooperation.

Thank you. Gunny

Unknown Soldier

I started my long odyssey somewhere in France during the First World War. Just where, I alone know. The circumstances of my passing are forever shrouded in mystery; but until that last second of life I was an American soldier, fighting for my country. When they found what was left of me they tenderly placed me in what, at the time, I thought was to be my last abode. Perhaps you've forgotten that in France there are six military cemeteries of the AEF; also one in Belgium and one in England. Most of the Crosses over those graves bear the name, rank and organization of him who sleeps beneath. But mine was to bear only the simple legend, "Here Rests in Honored Glory an American Soldier Known But to God." There were many hundreds of us in that nameless legion.

The last shot in the Great War had long since been fired when on March 4th, 1921, Woodrow Wilson, on the last morning of his administration, signed the Bill that was to make me the Most Honored Man in America. On Sunday, October 23rd of that year, eight of my nameless legion were removed—two each from the cemeteries at Aisne-Marne, Meuse-Argonne, Somme, and St. Mihiel. Four of the eight were alternates. I was one of the other four. A special military guard of honor secretly convoyed us to the quiet town of Chalons-Sur-Marne. We arrived at three in the afternoon, and were placed side by side in the city hall, draped with flags. An officer was in charge of each of us, and he turned over his casket to a Major of the Quartermaster Corps, he also handed over the form pertaining to the burial of his charge. You must understand that the Army spares no effort to identify its nameless warriors. Every scrap of information is gathered, long investigations are conducted, but sometimes it's all in vain. Even then, they carefully preserve what bare fragments of information they've come across, and they are included in a burial form. Duplicate records, known only by numbers, were preserved in Paris and in Washington. That was our case, my three comrades and I. When we passed through the door of the City Hall, an officer with the Major solemnly destroyed those burial forms, and at the same time the duplicate records were done away with in Paris and Washington.

I tell you these details to emphasize the pains taken by the authorities to preserve our anonymity. No one can ever possibly know, for even the records of the names of the cemeteries from which we four were removed were destroyed. Then on the morning of October 24th, 1921, a specially selected detail of French and American soldiers in the charge of the Quartermaster Officer came into the room and re-arranged the caskets as further insurance against anybody being able to identify us by our previous locations. There we rested, each one a like catafalque, each draped with an identical American Flag. The room was decorated with palms and potted plants and the intertwined colors of France and the United States. The detail left to join the Military Guard of Honor and a French Army Band, drawn up in the hollow Square outside. The Guard of Honor composed of six chosen soldiers thought that they were just to be pallbearers. They came to "Present Arms," and Major Harbold, the Officer in Charge of Grave Registrations, told them that one was to have the honor of selecting the casket to be sent to America. He handed a spray of white roses to Sergeant Edward F. Younger, a veteran of four major engagements, wounded twice in action. The Sergeant stepped through the door. You all know how he made his choice. It was a story that he told and re-told in the passing years, and it never varied. There he was, left alone in the dimly-lit Chapel. There were four coffins, all unnamed and unmarked. The one he placed the roses on was to be brought home and placed in the National Shrine. Slowly the Sergeant walked around the coffins, three times—and suddenly he stopped, as though something had pulled him—a voice seemed to say, "This is a pal of yours."

I wish I could have spoken, that I could have told him the truth. He seemed transfixed with awe as he put the roses on my coffin and quickly turned and stepped back into the sunlight. So I was to be the One. What a pity they could not know whether I was a volunteer or conscript, of my race, creed, or color. Through the years I've thought how much dissension could have been avoided, how many bitter words that would not have been spoken, had they known. Even if I had been permitted to say just a few words, they might have known what I was and what I stood for—but that was not to be—no one was ever to know.

After I had been chosen I was taken to another room, and in the presence of four American officers, was placed in another coffin. The empty one was returned to my three comrades, and the coffins were so mixed that no one knew which had been emptied. They went back to sleep beneath their white Crosses, but I was to have a long and eventful journey home.

Continued on next page

I left on a special train at ten after six that night, and arrived in Paris at ten o'clock—a strange leave for a soldier. At nine twenty the next morning I was off again, this time for Le Havre, my port of embarkation.

I sailed from there on October 27th, following a parade through the streets and a most impressive ceremony at the dock, in which both American and French soldiers took part. The French Ambassador to the United States made a speech, and I was given the first decoration of my new role—the Cross of the Chevalier of the Legion of Honor. Three hundred French children showered me with flowers. I came home on the deck of the United States battleship Olympia, the old Flagship of Admiral Dewey—she had been retired from active service. I was rather proud that she was to bear me home. It was somewhat of a stormy trip, but of course, I had company—a Chaplain, a Guard of Honor, newspapermen and photographers.

I reached the soil of my homeland November 9th of that year, 1921, and was taken immediately to the Navy Yard at Washington, where once more I was to be placed in the charge of the Army. For two days I rested in state in the rotunda of the Capitol. The final rites of all presidents who have died on office since 1865 had been held there—it was an honor I had not expected. Then on Armistice Day, which was declared a National Holiday, I began the last part of my journey to Arlington National Cemetery.

A gun carriage drawn by four black horses was to be my mode of conveyance—the pallbearers and honorary pallbearers walked behind. We started at eight-thirty, and the guns at Fort Myer fired every minute from that time to the end. It was eleven miles—the most solemn eleven miles I had ever traveled. There was music, the Marine Dirge for the Dead. Behind me were the highest government officials riding in cars according to their rank—General Pershing, the Secretaries of the War and Navy, an aging, saddened Woodrow Wilson. Never had so many high foreign representatives journeyed to these shores to honor an American. And so we came to the vast amphitheater. Mine was to be the first funeral ever held there. President Harding officiated—read the Lord's Prayer, and for two minutes all of this great Nation observed silence. It was a day filled with many memorable events—the muffled drums, the silence of the thousands who came to pay me homage—four abreast they filed past until nightfall—the line was unbroken. They brought flowers, and tears, and I was presented with the Congressional Medal of Honor. Me, the Congressional Medal of Honor!

Finally I was lowered into a solid stone vault which contained French soil—bayonets were at attention—rifle salutes were given and artillery salvos almost without number were fired. Then a bugler blew Taps over the grave. My day was at an end. I was left to my long sleep.

In 1931, a tomb was erected over an older and uncompleted Cenotaph which had stood for years. My last resting place is marble, striking in its simplicity, cut from a single rectangular block—one of the largest ever quarried. It is sixteen feet in length, nine feet in width, and eleven feet in height. The front panel is adorned with a composition of three symbolic figures representing the spirit of the Allies—“Victory Through Valor Attaining Peace.” The rear panel bears the same inscription as my white Cross in France: “Here Rests in Honored Glory an American Soldier Known But to God.”

No man could wish for a more beautiful setting, with the lawn and trees and open space. Behind me are the Crosses of those who fell, on my left the Washington and Lincoln Memorials, and across from me the Capitol. It's known as Army Post Number One, and I've been guarded day in and day out through rain and sun, snow and hail, every second, every minute, every day of those long years. A sentry paces in front of the tomb with a rifle on his shoulder, his eyes straight ahead. As an ex-soldier I would be interested that he does two hours of marching and four hours off—that he can't answer any questions while on duty.

Every one who's ever come to see me has been impressed, and I welcome them all—especially the mothers. That has been the really sad part. Once a playwright said I had more mothers than any man in the world. I believe that's true. And the fathers also, they've become fewer with the years, but they still stand there with their heads bowed, trying desperately to breach time and eternity, searching with all their souls for an answer. It's just as well that I can't reply—too many would be disappointed.

We who sleep eternally know that, I, the Unknown Soldier, on behalf of all those who died for their country, humbly beg you to look into the future and to make true the words “they shall not have died in vain.”

**This is from an article written and broadcast by William Lang over station WHN, NY City for Armistice Day, 1944.*

Submitted by **Gunny**

That text about a traffic violation is probably a scam:

Did you get a text with a picture of what looks like an official notice of a traffic hearing? You're not alone. The FTC has seen a spike in reports about this text scam in the last month. It's just the latest story of how scammers are trying to separate people from their money. Here's how this scam works — and how to avoid it.

It starts with a text message with a QR code. The message says you need to scan it to pay for a traffic violation to avoid court. The text might look official with a seal from whatever state it claims to be from and a (fake) case number. It'll tell you when your (fake) hearing is scheduled — date and time — and will give you two options: go to the (fake) hearing, or pay the fine now. More on that in a minute.

Scammers want you to act quickly, so the text will also list bad things that can happen if you don't respond now: default judgements, fines, enforcement actions. All stuff to scare you into (supposedly) making it all go away by scanning the included QR code to settle your (fake) unpaid balance. If you scan it, they'll try to steal personal information (like your Social Security or credit card number), download malware on your phone, and steal your money.

If you get a text like this, don't respond, and **don't** scan the QR code. If you think the message might be real, check the court's website for case information or call the court directly — but use a website or phone number you know is correct, not info from the text message.

Already paid or gave your information to a scammer? Read [What To Do if You Were Scammed](#) to find out what to do next. And tell the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](#).

[Source: FTC]

Submitted by *Vic Librizzi*

With people losing big to investment scams, learn how to spot and avoid them:

You might be interested in making money through investments. Who isn't? So offers that promise big returns might draw your attention...and scammers know this. They use those promises and clever schemes to lure you in and, unfortunately, people are losing big money on investment scams. In fact, FTC data shows reports of more than \$7.9 billion in losses to investment scams, with a median individual loss of more than \$10,000 in 2025. Do you know how to spot and avoid investment scams?

Scammers might reach you through social media, WhatsApp, or through online ads, promising you'll make a lot of money quickly. These messages might also come from a friend or love interest offering you "coaching" to learn how to make a fortune in stocks, forex, or cryptocurrency. After you invest, they'll often say your investments are doing well, maybe even showing fake "proof" that you're making money. The reality? The investment isn't real and you end up losing all your money.

To avoid an investment scam:

- Remember that investments always involve risk. If anyone plays down the risk of an investment or acts like risk disclosures are just a formality you don't need to worry about, keep your money. Those are scammers who want you to think their opportunity is risk-free when it's not.

Check out the reputation of the investment company, its officials, and its promoters. Search online with their name plus words like "review," "scam," or "complaint." Go through several pages of search results.

Check for licenses and registrations. Many investment scams start with unlicensed people or unregistered firms, so use the free search tool on [Investor.gov](#) to check out anyone recommending or selling investments. For investments in precious metals or coins, check out the CFTC database.

Report investment scams to the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](#).

[Source: FTC]

Submitted by *George Moschatos*



Legislative Report

Claim Sharks

We are deeply disappointed that the Legislature failed to advance (HB 1268) that would have banned claim sharks from operating in Virginia. Despite the fact that the Louisiana Supreme Court ruled that these organizations are unconstitutional, and that California banned companies from operating in-state, and that also under Title 38 of the US Code they are illegal, the Virginia Legislature succumbed to the influence of lobbyists and passed legislation (SB315) that would legitimize these illegal operators.

We are further disappointed that Governor Spanberger signed SB315 into law. The new law does provide some protection, but I see two issues: (1) the exorbitant fees (5 months of compensation) and (2) the lack of text limiting the contract to the initial filing. That text would prevent charging for future increases, even if the chosen firm took no part in helping the veteran obtain them.

Perhaps it is time to address this issue at the Federal level. There is pending Federal legislation (HR1732) "Governing Unaccredited Representatives Defrauding VA Benefits Act or the GUARD VA Benefits Act" that if passed would ban Claim Sharks nationwide. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1732>.

Lobbying is already underway by several VSOs.

Continued funding for VMSDEP

The Virginia Military Survivors and Dependent Education Program (VMSDEP) is funded for the next two years. However, we have been advised that budget impacting issues would be difficult to advance, and that we should consider raising the issue for the 2028 Legislative session.

Charitable Gaming

The Charitable Gaming Board is considering adjusting Use of Proceeds requirements to 10% of adjusted gross for all gaming, including bingo. Also, under consideration is removing responsibility for charitable gaming from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs and placing it under the Lottery Commission's jurisdiction.

Fortunately we have VSO representation on the Charitable Gaming Board.

Some additional issues being considered for the 2027 session include:

Midlife Healthcare Gap for Women Veterans

Veterans Medical Appointment Access: Reducing Transportation Barriers Statewide

Expedited professional licenses for military spouses.

USPHS and NOAA commissioned corps retirees to obtain a state income tax exclusion

The JLC will meet in Richmond on June 10.

Submitted by *Rick Raskin*



Happy Mother's Day, Mom. Sunday, 10 MAY 2026

A mother is a protector, disciplinarian and friend. A mother is a selfless, loving human who must sacrifice many of their wants and needs for the wants and needs of their children. A mother works hard to make sure their child is equipped with the knowledge, skills and abilities to make it as a competent human being. Being a mother is perhaps the hardest, most rewarding job a woman will ever experience.

By *Susan Diranian*

Submitted by *Renee Valenti*



Three Servicemen Statue at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial



"Celer, Silens, Mortalis"
"Arrugha!"



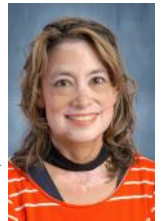
The Vietnam Women's Memorial to honor the women who risked their lives to serve their country. Depicting three women caring for a fallen soldier.



"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

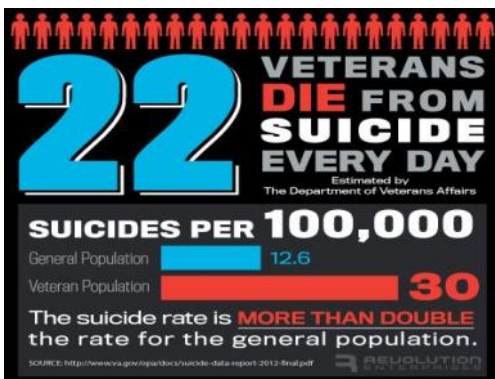
April showers will bring May flowers on this month of May. I hope all of our Post 10 Veterans and their families have a nice Mother's Day on May 10, 2026! Thank you for your selflessness and dedication to our country and thank you to the families of Veterans for their support and strength. As your Post 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 2026!



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*



Changes to the Post 10 By-Laws:

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Post 10 members in good standing present at a general membership meeting, provided all the proposed revisions have been presented at the previous general membership meeting. Amendments shall become effective 30 days after acceptance by the membership.

Changes to the Post 10 Bylaws

By-Laws:

ARTICLE II - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 2. The Post Executive Committee shall meet for organization and such other business as may come before it at the call of the Post Commander within 10 days after the installation of the new officers. Thereafter the Post 10 Executive Committee shall meet ~~one (1) week~~ prior to the regular membership meeting or at least once a month and as often as the Commander deems necessary.

ARTICLE III - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

~~*Duties of the Quartermaster.* The Quartermaster shall be responsible for the maintenance and preservation of the building, property, and grounds of the Post.~~

ARTICLE IV - POST COMMITTEES

House Committee

The House committee shall be responsible for the maintenance and preservation of the building, property and grounds of the Post.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

General membership meetings of this Post shall be held on the third Saturday of each month and shall be called to order promptly at 11:00 AM. Meeting time may be changed on a case-by-case basis with 14 days' notice by the Post Commander.

Submitted by ***Rick Goodman & Rick Raskin***

Auxiliary Membership Report

We currently have 205 mail-in renewals, 71 online, and 25 new members for a total of 301 members for 2026. We are at 95% of our 2026 membership goal.



Welcome to our newest members: ***Patricia Edgar, Jennifer McKee, and Elizabeth Ramirez.***

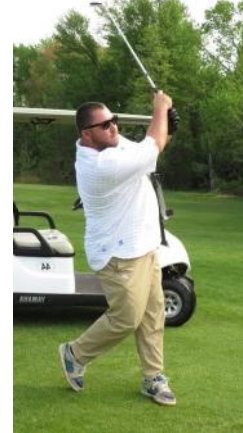
There are several ways to renew:

- 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,
Johnnetta Jetten, ALA Membership Chair

SAL Squadron 10 JIMMY BRYANT MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, 17 APRIL 2026



Photos by *Diana Lake & Gunny*



Additional golf photos at: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/wsgFEcQiDMPvov7K8>

Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 10



The SON's held our annual **Jimmy Bryant Golf Tournament** on April 17th at Prince William Golf Course. What a day it was!!!! 106 golfers participated and numerous volunteers and Legion members came out to witness the greatest start to a golf tournament. The Colors were presented by Post 10's Color Guard, **Dave 'Pops' Fisk** and **Carl Carey** with a helping hand from **Leon Kowalewski**, the bugle was played by **Mark "Top" Meier**, and **Kevin Byrne** on the bagpipes. Thanks to **Greg Hall** for leading us in prayer!! Special thanks go out to PWGC for allowing us to hold our tournaments there. **Andrew Billings**, **Dan Wagner** and the entire PWGC team had the golf course in excellent shape. Afterwards most came back to Squadron 10 for some great food provided by Mission BBQ. The Son's can't say enough about Mission BBQ. Thank you **Emma** and **Francis** from Mission BBQ. Not only did they bring and set up the food, but they also served it. Year after year they step up and help us make this event special. Thank you Mission.

After everyone got their bellies full we started the festivities.

Here are the winners

1st place- **Rudy Gonzalez**, **Joe Carter**, **Sang Chae Choi** and **Kevin Noca** with a 58!!!

2nd place-**Nic Williams**, **Trey Williams**, **Dave Westbrook** and his son-in-law **Cliff**.

3rd place-**Jake Bianco**, **Steve Bianco**, **Dave Bianco** and **John D'Alexander**

Our Infamous Horses Ass Trophy: **Jay Wilson**, **Joe Bersack**, **Smokey Jacobs** and **Carl Hutten**

Our closet to the pin winners were: **Steve Bianco** hole #4, **Jerry Jonas** hole #6 (Hamm Hole),

Jim Fowler hole #11, **Trey Williams** hole #14

Long Drive Women-**Susan Potendyk**: Long Drive Men-**Rudy Gonzalez**

The 50/50 winner was **Grubb**

It takes a lot of time and preparation to pull this event off and thankfully the Son's have the Team to Get It Done!!!

Mike Dixon, **Brandon Garner**, **Earl Heller**, **Bobby Olinger**, **Glenn Brixius**, **Kevin Byrne**, **Anthony Flores**, **Doug Williams**, **Mark Emerman** all helped make this successful. We also have help from the other family members from Squadron 10. **Peggy Pignone**, **Kim Kowalewski**, **Jayne Ramirez**, **Apryl Edelblute**, **Sue Ramirez**, **Penny Goodman**, **Sharon Barbe**, **Steve Olson**, helped in the morning and after we got back to the Post. **Gunny Lewis** taking pics at the course. **Diana Lake** and **Judy Compton** took pics and **Diana** has already emailed most to all players, thank you **Diana** and **Judy**. **Donna Navarro** made sure we had plenty of cookies, thanks **Donna**. If I forgot anyone I do apologize. Old brain matter!!

Our **John J Chada Tournament** will be held on 9/11 and it will mark the 25th anniversary or that dreadful day.

Thanks **Tom Ramirez**

2nd Vice Commander

Mike Dixon, Squadron 10 Commander



Thanks to All Our Sponsors.

Your Continuous Support is Greatly Appreciated.



On **July 4, 2026**, the US will celebrate its **Semiquincentennial**, marking 250 years since the signing of the **Declaration of Independence**. National and local organizations have launched a year-long series of festivities that will continue through the end of 2026.

Independence Eve Ball Drop (July 3, 2026): The Times Square Ball will drop again on July 3, 2026—the first time ever outside of New Year’s Eve—to anchor the nationwide countdown to the Fourth of July.

Salute to America 250: A White House-led task force is coordinating national programs, including a massive military parade, fireworks, and cultural showcases on the National Mall on July 4, 2026.

Philadelphia from June 19 through July 4 go to july4thphilly.com for events.

Washington, DC go to these three sites for the latest americanhistory.si.edu archives.gov and dc250.us/dc250/events/celebrations.

Boston bso.org/boston-pops-fireworks-spectacular

New York on the morning of July 4th NY about 30 tall ships from around the world led by the USCG barque **Eagle** will sail from the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge past the Statue of Liberty up the Hudson River to the George Washington Bridge. Details at sail4th.org

New Currency: The U.S. Mint is releasing special collectible coins, including dimes, quarters, and half-dollars with 1776–2026 dates and unique "Liberty Over Tyranny" designs. Submitted by **Annette Lewis**

Sail250 Virginia: Norfolk is an official port of Sail250®, a global gathering of tall ships and military ships to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States. For ten days in June 2026, 10,000 officers, cadets, and crews of more than 60 ships from 20 nations will engage with residents and visitors across the Chesapeake Bay region in events and programs symbolic of the bonds of international goodwill.

Submitted by **Mark Kowalewski**

Chaplain’s Report: Dear Post 10 Members, The summer of 2026 will soon be upon us. With that in mind our country is once again at war with evil of some kind in the middle east. What can we do as the American people to support the men and women who are now serving to protect us and our way of life as we know it?



We need to hold strong in our beliefs of freedom, of fairness for all, to protect those who cannot stand against tyranny alone.

Our country, the USA, has never been stronger, more resolute, more symbolic in the meaning of good vs evil.

Never in the history of Man has a country been needed more so to step up and stand alone against those who would cause us and/or our friends harm.

Many are just happy to stand on the sidelines, watch others and second guess what might be and then there are those of us who are open and willing to step up to protect our way of life. To them I salute them No matter where they are in the world, serving somewhere to protect us all.

Soon we will celebrate our country’s 250 years of freedom. We welcome it with open arms and salute all who have worn the uniform of freedom in that time.

If ever you may need help please feel free to contact me at my direct number of 1-703-853-1869. God Bless you one and all. Please take care of yourselves and your families.

You may reach me at any time at: 1-703-853-1869 or Email: steven.botello@gmail.com

Respectfully,
Steven M. Botello, Chaplain, Post 10



AUXILIARY UNIT 10 REPORT

No Report Received

Peggy Pignone, ALA Unit 10 President

“In Flanders Fields”

by **John McCrae**, May 1915

*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.*



“We Shall Keep the Faith”

by **Moina Michael**, November 1918

*Oh! you who sleep in Flanders Fields,
Sleep sweet – to rise anew!
We caught the torch you threw
And holding high, we keep the Faith
With All who died.*

*We cherish, too, the poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led;
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies,
But lends a lustre to the red
Of the flower that blooms above the dead
In Flanders Fields.*

*And now the Torch and Poppy Red
We wear in honor of our dead.
Fear not that ye have died for naught;
We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought
In Flanders Fields.*

The POPPY and MEMORIAL DAY

In the war-torn battlefields of Europe, the common red field poppy was one of the first plants to reappear. Its seeds scattered in the wind and sat dormant in the ground, only germinating when the ground was disturbed—as it was by the very brutal fighting of World War 1.

John McCrae, a Canadian soldier and physician, witnessed the war first hand and was inspired to write the now-famous poem “In Flanders Fields” in 1915. He saw the poppies scattered throughout the battlefield surrounding his artillery position in Belgium.

In November 1918, days before the official end of the war, an American professor named **Moina Michael** wrote her own poem, “We Shall Keep the Faith,” which was inspired by **McCrae’s** “In Flanders Fields.” In her poem she mentioned wearing the “poppy red” to honor the dead, and with that, the tradition of adorning one’s clothing with a single red poppy in remembrance of those killed in the Great War. **Moina** became known as “The Poppy Lady.”

The wearing of the poppy was traditionally done on Memorial Day in the U.S., but the symbolism has evolved to encompass all Veterans living and deceased, so poppies may be worn on Veterans Day as well. Not long after the custom began, it was adopted by other Allied nations, including Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. In these countries, the poppy is worn on Remembrance Day (Nov. 11th).

Today, poppies are not only a symbol of loss of life, but also of recovery and new life, especially in support of the Veterans who survived the war but suffered from physical and psychological injuries long after it ended.

Submitted by **Annette Lewis**



MAY LUNCH SPECIALS

Monday thru Friday, 11 AM x 2 PM

May 2026

Check with Post for current information.

- FRI 01 Mushroom Swiss Burger.
- MON 04 Popcorn Chicken Bowl w/Cheese.
- TUE 05 Chopped Steak w/Mushrooms.
- WED 06 Taco Salad.
- THU 07 Fried Bologna & Cheese.
- FRI 08 Crabcake Sandwich.
- MON 11 Country Fried Steak.
- TUE 12 Baked Rigatoni & Sausage.
- WED 13 'Post 10' Pastrami Reuben.
- THU 14 'Po Boy' Shrimp or Oysters.
- FRI 15 Cowboy Chicken Sandwich.
- MON 18 Hot Brown Turkey Sandwich.
- TUE 19 Hangry Burger.
- WED 20 Soup & Grilled Cheese Sandwich.
- THU 21 Green Eggs & Ham.
- FRI 22 NY Strip Steak.
- MON 25 **MEMORIAL DAY—Picnic**
- TUE 26 Asian Chicken Thighs & Rice.
- WED 27 Brown Sugar Bacon Cheese Burger.
- THU 28 Hibachi Shrimp o/Rice.
- FRI 29 Country Fried Chicken w/Gravy.

Sides will be listed on the board
in the Social Quarters.

Menu & Prices Subject to Change.

SATURDAY DINNER SPECIALS

5:30 x 7:30 PM

- 2 MAY—Steak or Honey Garlic Butter Chicken
- 16 MAY—Prime Rib
- 30 MAY—Steak or Seafood Creole o/Rice

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

TACO TUESDAYS HAVE RETURNED

4:30 x 7 PM—WHEN? EVERY TUESDAY,

Duh!



April Entertainment

- 8 MAY, FRI—Joe Clay Karaoke**
8 PM x Midnight
- 9 MAY, SAT—Sixties Second Band,**
8 PM x 11 PM
- 22 MAY, FRI—Mars Rodeo**
7:30 PM x 11 PM

If you have suggestions for entertainment see
Bonnie.

NOTICES: When playing the 'electronic 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. For other games you have 30 days or the ticket is void. Anyone who turns in a winning ticket for **ANY** game must show a **VALID/CURRENT** Legion/SON/AUX card to collect their winnings. Thank you for your cooperation.

“Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain and most fools do.”

– *Benjamin Franklin*

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 must 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*

The Department of Veterans Affairs today announced a dramatic reduction in processing times for both Veteran disability claims and pension and survivor benefits, which shows that the Trump Administration's year-long push to make VA work better for Veterans is paying off. VA receives millions of claims from Veterans each year for disability benefits and continues to process them faster than ever while maintaining high accuracy rates. This means more Veterans are receiving the benefits they've earned through their service on a timely basis. For example:

- After processing a record of more than 3 million claims in fiscal year 2025, VA is on a similar pace in FY2026 and has processed more than 1.5 million claims halfway through FY2026.
- In FY2026, VA completed 1 million disability claims faster than ever and hit this milestone on Feb. 2, 2026.
- VA's claims-processing accuracy has increased to 94.02%, which is the highest 12-month accuracy rate in the last two years.
- The average number of days needed to complete a claim has fallen from 141.5 days to 80.7 days since the start of the second **Trump** Administration, a 43% decrease.

VA also receives hundreds of thousands of claims for Veterans Pension, Survivors Pension, and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation each year. DIC benefits are for the surviving spouses, the children, or the parents of a service member who died in the line of duty or through a service-related injury or illness.

During the second **Trump** Administration, VA has stepped up its levels of service to ensure Veterans and Survivors receive the benefits they deserve:

- In February, the backlog of Veterans waiting for VA benefits fell to less than 100,000 claims for the first time since 2020.
- VA has decreased the average time to complete an initial Veterans Pension claim from 170 days to 57 days, a 66% reduction. The average time to complete an initial Survivors Pension claim has dropped from 172 days to 73 days, a drop of more than 55%.
- VA has nearly eliminated initial Veterans Pension claims that are part of the VA disability claims backlog (older than 125 days), reducing this backlog from 3,514 claims to just 71 claims, a 98% reduction. The Survivors Pension backlog has decreased from 3,391 claims to 115 claims, a 96% reduction.
- The average time to complete DIC claims has dropped from 163 days to 73 days, a decline of more than 50%.
- The number of DIC claims in the VA disability backlog (older than 125 days) has dropped from 13,501 claims to 2,257, an 83% reduction.

Additionally, VA has cut the average time to complete burial claims from 70 days to 31 days, a reduction of more than 50%.

VA achieved these milestones through focused leadership, hard work and targeted use of overtime. About half of VBA's claims processors are Veterans, and their firsthand understanding of military service strengthens VA's ability to deliver benefits with both precision and compassion.

"Under the leadership of President **Trump**, VA is focused on delivering Veterans, families, caregivers and survivors all of the benefits they've earned as quickly as possible," said VA Secretary **Doug Collins**. "These tremendous improvements underscore that commitment."

[Source: VA News]

Submitted by *Vic Librizzi*




OVER 120,000
VETERANS HAVE
DIED BY SUICIDE
SINCE 2001.



Robert V. McMaugh Memorial
 American Legion Post 10
 MAY 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Events & Times subject to change.					1 R.E.D. Seafood Night 5:30-7:45 PM	2 Dinner: 5:30 x 7:30 PM Steak or Honey Garlic Butter Chicken
3	4 Bingo in Hall 9:15 AM-Noon	5 TACO TUESDAY Auxiliary Unit 10 Meeting 7 PM	6 Bar Bingo 5:30 PM	7 Unconditional Surrender of all German Forces signed 1945 Horseshoe Tourn. 6 PM	8 R.E.D. VE DAY (1945) Military Spouses Day Seafood Night 5:30-7:45 PM <i>Joe Clay Karaoke</i>	9 <i>Sixties Second</i> <i>Band 8 x 11 PM</i>
10 MOTHER'S DAY	11 Bingo in Hall 9:15 AM-Noon	12 TACO TUESDAY S.A.L. Squadron 10 Meeting 7 PM	13 Navy Nurse Corps Est (1908) Bar Bingo 5:30 PM	14 Horseshoe Tourn. 6 PM	15 R.E.D. Peace Officers Memorial Day Seafood Night 5:30-7:45 PM	16 ARMED FORCES DAY Exec. Mig 9 AM Gen. Mig 11 AM Veterans Resource Fair 10AM x 2 PM Bldg 10 Int. School Dinner: Prime Rib 5:30x7:30PM
17 Young Marines 1x5 PM	18 Bingo in Hall 9:15 AM-Noon	19 TACO TUESDAY Riders' Mig 7 PM	20 Bar Bingo 5:30 PM	21 Horseshoe Tourn. 6 PM	22 R.E.D. Seafood Night 5:30-7:45 PM <i>Mars Rodeo Band</i> 7:30 x 11 PM	23
24	25 MEMORIAL DAY (NO BINGO)	26 TACO TUESDAY	27 Bar Bingo 5:30 PM	28 Horseshoe Tourn. 6 PM	29 R.E.D. Seafood Night 5:30-7:45 PM	30 Dinner: 5:30x7:30 PM Steak or Seafood Creole o/Rice
31						

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



The past month has been action-packed for the Chapter 10 American Legion Riders, with members coming together to honor Veterans, support the community, and enjoy the camaraderie of the open road. Here's a look back at our recent activities:

Polar Bear Ride to the US Marine Corps Museum and Dixie Bones BBQ: Braving the chilly weather, **Rick Goodman, Carl Carey, Leon Kowalewski, Cary Guess, and Bob Ficken** participated in our Polar Bear Ride. Riders enjoyed a visit to the US Marine Corps Museum, followed by a hearty meal at Dixie Bones BBQ. It was a fantastic opportunity to appreciate military history and share great food with fellow Riders.

Veterans Sidecar Adventures at Mission BBQ: Some Riders teamed up with Veterans Sidecar Adventures to take a group of veterans out for a special lunch at Mission BBQ. It was a memorable event focused on camaraderie and honoring those who have served our country.

2026 High Mileage and Safety Award Kickoff: April 1st marked the official start of the 2026 High Mileage and Safety Award. All participants are reminded to submit their starting odometer readings and bike photos to the Northern Region safety coordinator at VAALRHMSafety@gmail.com. Let's ride safe and rack up those miles!

Honor Flight Welcome at the US Marine Corps Museum: We proudly supported an Honor Flight welcome for over 100 Veterans visiting from Texas at the US Marine Corps Museum. It was a moving experience to greet and thank these heroes for their service.

Supporting the BBQ Showdown: We pitched in to help with the BBQ Showdown, contributing time and energy to ensure the event's Director, **David Albrecht**—ALR Chapter 10 success and bring the community together.

Auxiliary Easter Egg Hunt and Party: We assisted with the Auxiliary Easter Egg Hunt and party, helping to create a fun and festive event for families and children in our community.

Thank you to all Chapter 10 Riders for your continued dedication and enthusiasm. Stay tuned for more events and opportunities to ride and serve together!

Welcome to our new members: **Dean Short, Garrett Geene, Stan Horton**. We look forward to many miles and many smiles with you.

Spring Safety Tip

As riding season ramps up, now is a good time for a full **spring** safety check of both bike and rider. Inspect your tires for wear and proper pressure, check all lights and signals, test your brakes, and verify that your registration, insurance, and inspection are current before heading out.

Article by **Leon Kowalewski**



Congratulations to American Legion Post 10 Family for your donation to The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation. The foundation relies entirely on charitable donations from individuals, like-minded associations and corporate allies. The Virginia Legacy Run and the National American Legion Riders is appreciative of your support.

Rick Goodman presents the 2025 AL Legacy Run Award to Post 10 Commander Stanley Moore.



MEMORIAL DAY, Monday, 25 MAY 2026

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEMORIAL DAY AND VETERANS DAY?

On both Memorial Day and Veterans Day, it's customary to spend time remembering and honoring the countless veterans who have served the United States throughout the country's history. However, there is a distinction between the two holidays:

Memorial Day commemorates the men and women who **died** while in the military service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. In other words, the purpose of Memorial Day is to memorialize the veterans who made the **ultimate sacrifice** for their country. We spend time remembering those who lost their lives and could not come home, reflecting on their service and why we have the luxury and freedom that we enjoy today. We might consider how we can support and safeguard their grieving families and loved ones who are left behind.

Veterans Day is the day set aside to thank and honor ALL who served—in wartime or peacetime—regardless of whether they died or survived. Veterans Day is always observed officially on November 11, regardless of the day of the week on which it falls.

For those who have lost loved ones in the military, hearing “**Happy Memorial Day**” can be unsettling. Many veterans have expressed their displeasure with the phrase, deeming it inappropriate for the occasion. While Veterans Day is a time to honor all those who have served in the military, Memorial Day is meant to pay tribute to those military personnel who *died while serving*.

The holiday began three years after the Civil War ended and was known as Decoration Day, a time to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers. The designated date was 30 May, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act (28 JUN 1968) took effect, moving Memorial Day to the last Monday in May.

In 2015, Marine Corps veteran **Jennie Haskamp** wrote a piece for The Washington Post in which she shared her frustration with the sentiment of “Happy Memorial Day” and the holiday's transformation into “grilled meat, super-duper discounts, a day off work, beer, potato salad and porches draped in bunting.” She said it should be more than that. Others have argued that using Memorial Day as an opportunity to celebrate with loved ones and embrace the joy that life has to offer is a fitting way to honor those who died in service of our country.

Those who seek to remind people of the more somber meaning of Memorial Day have advocated for Congress to change the date of the holiday back to 30 May, instead of making it part of a three-day weekend of leisure. These efforts have not been successful, Congress established “**The National Moment of Remembrance**” in 2000, asking Americans to pause for a minute of silence and reflection in honor of those who died in military service at **3 p.m.**

local time on Memorial Day.

In **Haskamp's** Washington Post piece, she noted that a friend reminded her how many people use Memorial Day to “pause and remember the men and women who paid the price of our freedom, and then go on about enjoying those freedoms.” But she believes not enough people commemorate the occasion in this way. “Not enough people pause. Not enough people remember,” she wrote, “I hope you enjoy your weekend — but I hope you pause to remember, too.”



Submitted by **Gunny**

**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



Access a digital membership card, manage membership information, recruit and save a life featured on new mobile app.

for more information go to the Legion website :
<https://www.legion.org/information-center/news/membership/2024/october/download-the-new-legion-membership-app>



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