



**Awardees at the Legion Birthday and Awards Ceremony.**



**A full house for the Legion Birthday and Awards Ceremony.**

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# COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Veterans,

Post elections are just around the corner. Bill Cole and Bill King are heading up the two nominating committees. They each will present a slate to the membership at the April membership meeting. The Post will vote on these slates at the May membership meeting. For those of you that did not attend the Awards Banquet, you missed my discussion on the milestones that the Post achieved in the past year. To say those present were impressed would be an understatement. However, to continue this level of performance, the Post needs veterans that are involved. So I ask each and every veteran to think about how he/she can serve veterans and the community. Seek out one of the nominating committees or an executive committee member. I guarantee we can find a role for you that will be fulfilling.

There are three things guaranteed in life: death, taxes, and inflation. The Post's dues are not exempt. National is raising its dues by \$5. Department is raising its dues by \$2. That makes the per capita to the Post \$46 which is a dollar more than we collect. Consequently, the Post's due will increase to \$50 starting in fiscal year 2025.

There is an opportunity to avoid this. The American Legion offers a Paid Up For Life (PUFL) program. This is where you pay one large initial lump sum and then never have to pay dues ever again. The lump sum is calculated based off your age. I, as well as 48 other members, am a PUFL member. I encourage everyone to take advantage of this program. You forgo the hassle of paying dues every year while being protected from future dues increases.

Post 15 sponsored a District 12 Post Revitalization event at Post 15 on January 20. Several posts participated in recruiting new members and getting existing members to renew their membership. I am happy to report that Post 15 signed up two new members. Our Post currently sits at 90% of our membership goal. We need 30 more veterans to join or pay their 2024 dues. So if you haven't renewed your dues for this year yet please mail them in. Better yet, plan on visiting the Post and paying them in person and make a new friend. Even better than that, encourage a veteran friend to join the American Legion.

The Post sponsored an Oratorical Contest on Saturday, February 10. Three high school students impressively displayed their knowledge of the US Constitution. Prizes of \$500, \$300, and \$100 were awarded with the winner heading to Madison County to compete at the district level.

The Post's Super Bowl tailgate was a big hit. There were 22 people in attendance. There was enough satisfying comfort food to feed an army. The team with the red uniforms won. A great time was had by all.

Once again the Post went all out for the American Legion birthday and Awards Banquet on Friday, March 15. 125 people were in attendance. The JROTC department from MC Tech Park assisted Violet in serving the meal. Twelve community leaders were recognized for their superior service. Bill King was awarded the AL Rider of the Year. Pat Darnell became the Auxiliary Member of the Year. John Johnson was honored as the Veteran of the Year and deservedly so.

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## Online Membership Renewals

A reminder to everyone who renews their American Legion Membership online. A new card will not be automatically sent to your home address. You must contact the Post 15 Adjutant who will provide an updated card.

## Commander's Comments continued

Mark your calendars for April 13 at 9:00 am. The AL Riders are hosting its annual Drill Team Competition. As of this writing, we have 145 cadets that plan to participate in the event. Make it a point to watch our future leaders in action. The competition will be followed with lunch here at the Post.

On Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at Roselawn Cemetery we honor our comrades who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation's cause. The honor guard will be present to perform a three volley gun salute and play taps. The Riders will stand a flag line. Please make it a point to attend this event to show your respect to our fallen comrades.

As the Post has the past two years, there will be a Flag Day Ceremony and a flag retirement ceremony on Friday, June 14 at 6:00 pm. This has been a rather well attended event in the past as we show honor and respect to our nation's flag. The Post will retire its flag. The Boy Scout will retire its flag. Additionally, another 300 or so flags will be simultaneously retired in the back parking lot. The activities will be followed with a dinner.

Remember the Post meets on the fourth Monday of the month except for May and December when it meets on the second Monday. An Epicurean feast is served at 6 pm with the meeting following at 7 pm. We do offer the opportunity to attend remotely by Zoom. If anyone needs a ride to a meeting, call the Post at 256-353-5501. Bring a veteran friend.

Fraternally,

Joseph Woodbury, Commander

## Morgan County Post 15 Honor Guard

The Morgan County Post 15 Honor Guard is hoping to grow with new members to its unit. We are looking for Legion members who have the desire to honor our brothers and sisters in the funeral honor ceremony. If you are interested, please contact Tim Riggs at 256-303-7400, or at email [americanism@allegionpost15.com](mailto:americanism@allegionpost15.com)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 April Fool's Day	2	3	4	5	6 Riders Group Ride BINGO 6pm
7 12th District Meeting Post 15 Decatur	8 Chapter 15 Riders Meeting 6pm	9	10 End of Ramadan	11	12	13 Drill Competition 9am BINGO 6pm
14	15 Taxes Due	16	17	18 Executive Committee Meeting 6pm	19	20 Riders Group Ride Sons of Amer Legion BINGO 6pm
21	22 Earth Day Post 15 Membership Dinner 6pm Meeting 7pm	23 Passover	24 Admin Assist Day	25	26	27 BINGO 6pm
28	29	30				



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Riders Group Ride BINGO 6pm
5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9 Executive Committee Meeting 6pm	10	11 BINGO 6pm
12 Mother's Day	13 Chapter 15 Riders Post 15 Membership Dinner 6pm Meeting 7pm	14	15	16	17	18 Armed Forces Day Riders Group Ride Sons of Amer Legion BINGO 6pm
19	20	21	22	23	24 Comedy Night 6:00 PM	25 BINGO 6pm
26	27 Memorial Day Ceremony Roselawn Cemetery 10am	28	29	30	31	



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Riders Group Ride BINGO 6pm
2 12th District Meeting Location TBD	3	4	5	6	7	8 BINGO 6pm
9	10 Chapter 15 Riders Meeting 6pm	11	12	13	14 Flag Day Ceremony and Flag Retirement 6:00 PM	15 Riders Group Ride Sons of Amer Legion BINGO 6pm
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20 June Solstice (GMT) Executive Committee Meeting 6pm	21	22 BINGO 6pm
23	24 Post 15 Membership Dinner 6pm Meeting 7pm	25	26	27	28	29 BINGO 6pm



# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

## Chapter 15

The Chapter 15 Riders paid honor to it's Rider of the Year, Bill King, during this year's American Legion birthday and awards banquet. Bill is the Director of Chapter 15 and was recognized for his leadership throughout the year. He was responsible for safe, fun, and spirited events that included group rides, flag lines honoring Veterans, a very successful JROTC Drill Competition, representation at State Riders events, and establishing the inaugural Capture the Plaque for Chapter 15. Bill's commitment to the Legion Riders is greatly appreciated by all. If you are interested in learning more about the American Legion Riders, just contact one of our members or write to [communications@allegionpost15.com](mailto:communications@allegionpost15.com).



### **Attention Veterans** - Combat Related Special Compensation

Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) provides tax-free payments to retired Veterans with combat-related disabilities. You must meet all of the following criteria: Receiving military retired pay; have 10% or greater VA rated injury that is combat-related; military retired pay is reduced by VA disability payments; and you must provide documentary evidence that your injury was a result of training that simulates war, hazardous duty, or an instrumentality of war.

You must apply for CRSC through your uniformed service and the local DAV Veteran Service Officers are able to help. Wheeler Brown Hendrix Chapter 11, 108 Finley Drive, NW Decatur, Alabama 35602 will be available 10am to 6 pm on April 16th, 2024. Contact [johnson226149@bellsouth.net](mailto:johnson226149@bellsouth.net) for details.

AMERICAN  
LEGION  
AUXILIARY

Happy Spring everyone! I would like to begin by congratulating Pat Darnell on being named Member of The Year! Pat has been a member for 16 years and is a valuable part of our team. She is a great asset as she helps with needs at the post, helps to organize food service for our veterans at our meeting dinners, solicits prizes for our annual Christmas dinners and helps to decorate and prepare for events at the post for our veterans, and helps to place wreaths on the graves of veterans each year at the Wreaths Across America. Thank you for your service, Pat! The honor of Member of The Year is well deserved.

Our Unit will be helping the American Legion Riders with the JROTC Drill Competition on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> @ 9am at Post 15. We will be helping to prepare meals for the participants and supporting the event. If you would like to be a part of this event, please arrive at the post at 8:30am.

Unit 15 will be hosting the ALA District 12 meeting on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. We will be responsible for serving the meal, supplying the desserts, and donating the gifts/baskets for raffle to benefit ALA District 12. We look forward to seeing you there! Election Time! We will be accepting nominations for officers for the 2024/2025 ALA Unit 15 year on or before the meeting on Monday April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Consider donating your time, knowledge, and experience to our Unit. (If any offices have more than one member running for an office, the actual election will take place at the May membership meeting. Otherwise, offices will be accepted by acclamation at the April meeting.) Please come out to the April meeting and be a part of this important process.

Unit 15 has a FUNdraiser scheduled for Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm! We will be hosting a PAINT PARTY where you can paint your choice of art. Our instructor, who is donating her time and knowledge, Shree' Brown, will have a wide selection for you to choose from. She will be here to help guide us through completing our selected piece of art, while we enjoy spending time with our friends. Please feel free to invite your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors as this event is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC and only costs \$45. Thank you, Susan McLendon, for getting the ball rolling on this party!

Girls State is in full swing! We currently have twelve applicants, for up to eight openings to attend Alabama Girls State at Troy State University in June 2024. We have three members participating in the selection interviews and will have the names of our delegates and alternates by the May meeting on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. The Girls State Orientation, hosted by Unit 15, will be on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

As you can see, there is a lot to get excited about at ALA Unit 15! Come out and join us and become a part of the great opportunities to help our veterans and community! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at (251) 767-2446 or [kinghome6743@aol.com](mailto:kinghome6743@aol.com).

Marsha King, President  
ALA Morgan County, Unit 15



**Post 15 Activities**  
 Photos from the American Legion Birthday and Awards Banquet. Congratulations to John Johnson for being selected as the Veteran of the Year and to Pat Darnell for Auxiliary Member of the Year.

# AMERICAN LEGION

## Post 15 Activities

