

# AMERICAN LEGION

**CARTER BURDELL HAGLER-POST 178** (Dept.. of GA) [Code: 811322]

## DEC- 2025 NEWSLETTER

3219 RICHMOND HILL ROAD  
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30906

Phone: (706) 793-1724

Conf: (425)-650-1385



### POST OFFICERS

COMMANDER..... GRANT WHITELEY  
SENIOR VICE CMDR..... BRUCE EARLY  
1ST. JUNIOR VICE CMDR..... CLARISSA WETHERBEE  
2ND. JUNIOR VICE CMDR..... ROBERT CARUSO  
3RD JUNIOR VICE CMDR..... JAMES BRENDLE  
JUDGE ADVOCATE..... HENRY WALTERS  
ADJUTANT..... THERESA BRISKER  
FINANCE OFFICER..... DAVID MYER  
SERVICE OFFICER..... TBA  
SGT-AT-ARMS..... MALCOLM DAVIS  
CHAPLAIN..... JOHN ELLIS  
I.T. OFFICER..... TBA

#### *Executive Committee Officers*

PAUL ANDERSON, SR. PAST CDR OSCAR SIMS  
CAROL WHITLOCK RAYMOND JOHNSON  
HENRY KING

AL MEMBERS MEETING.....2<sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY - 7:00 PM  
AL EXECUTIVE MEETING..1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY - 7:00 PM  
AL HOUSE COMMITTEE.....1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY - 6:00 PM  
AL AUXILIARY MEETING...2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY - 2:00 PM  
SAL MEMBERS MEETING..2<sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY-6:30 PM  
AL RIDERS MEETING.....3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY - 2:00 PM  
AL AUX JRS MEETING.....3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY - 2:00 PM



### AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT.....TERIANN BENZEL  
1ST. VICE PRES..... HEATHER STEWART  
2ND. VICE PRES..... CARRIE LeBLANC  
SECRETARY.....CLARISSA WETHERBEE  
TREASURER.....JULIE HUFFMAN  
SGT-AT-ARMS..... FRANCES BOWMAN  
& IRENE HACKLEY  
CHAPLAIN..... DENISE WIDENER  
HISTORIAN.....MIRIAM STEIN  
PARLIAMENTARIAN AMANDA THIRINGTON



### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS

COMMANDER..... WAYNE STEWART  
1st VICE CMDR..... DONALD HUFFMAN  
2nd VICE CMDR..... DAVID A HIGGINBOTHAN  
ADJUTANT..... STEPHEN BENZEL  
FINANCE OFFICER.....JEFF AWAIT  
JUDGE ADVOCATE.....JACOB MCRAE  
SGT-AT-ARMS..... ROBERT CARLTON  
HISTORIAN..... BRIAN KNUTSON  
CHAPLAIN.....STEVEN "BUCKY" ROGERS

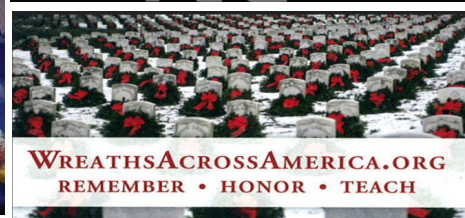


### LEGION RIDER OFFICERS

DIRECTOR.....DONALD HUFFMAN  
ASSIST. DIRECTOR.....DAVID A HIGGINBOTHAN  
SECRETARY.....MARY VERRET  
TREASURER.....JULIE HUFFMAN  
ROAD CAPT..... LEE GARCIA  
ACTIVITIES .....JOSEPH SHORES  
SAFETY OFFICER ..... LEE GALLOWAY  
HISTORIAN.....DAVID VERRET  
CHAPLAIN..... BRUCE A. EARLY  
SGT-AT-ARMS..... CLARISSA WETHERBEE  
JUDGE ADVOCATE.....JESSICA SPARKS  
WEBMASTER.....KRIS NICHOLAS

#GIVING  
TUESDAY

Happy New  
Year's Eve



AMERICAN  
LEGION

BE THE ONE



RENEW YOUR LEGION MEMBERSHIP TODAY!



# Commander's Message



**Membership – New Cards** – The 2026 cards are waiting for renewal. At the present time we have 218 members paid to date which brings our membership percentage to 66.0%. Remember the Post Dues is now at **\$45.00** per member, per year. There are still members out there who have not paid their dues in a couple of years. That could help the post to 150% along with the new members. Please submit your dues either through the Post or on-line. **Renew your membership today and be part of the growing American Legion Family!**

**Newsletter Organizations Input – 1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Riders 11/24/2025 5:10 PM **only input.**

**New scam: VA Benefits overpayment** - Clever scammers are targeting Veterans, surviving spouses and family members who receive VA benefits. They pretend to be official VA representatives and use official communication channels to demand repayment for alleged benefits overpayments. Fraudulent letters, emails and texts often include fake VA letterheads and logos, making it difficult to distinguish genuine VA communications from [scams](#). If you receive a letter or any communication about a VA benefits overpayment, log into your official [VA.gov account](#) immediately to verify if you truly owe money. The VA website will provide clear information on whether you owe any money. If you find you do owe money, VA's Debt Management Center (DMC) offers many [repayment options](#).

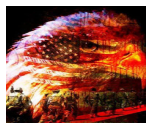
**VA burial benefits and memorial items** - VA burial benefits can help service members, Veterans, and their family members plan and pay for a burial or memorial service in a VA national cemetery. Family members can also order memorial items to honor the service of a Veteran. Find out how to apply for the burial benefits you've earned, and how to plan for a burial in advance or at time of need.

**About VA DIC for spouses, dependents, and parents** - If you're the surviving spouse, child, or parent of a service member who died in the line of duty, or the survivor of a Veteran who died from a service-related injury or illness, you may be able to get a tax-free monetary benefit called VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). Find out if you can get VA benefits or compensation.

**How to report the death of a Veteran to VA** - If you're the survivor of a Veteran who has died, or their legal representative, we encourage you to contact us as soon as possible to report the death. Learn about the information you can provide to help us verify the Veteran's identity. And find out how to contact us by phone, in person, or by mail. When a Veteran dies, we want to make sure their survivors avoid debt from benefit overpayments. When you contact us to report a death, we'll stop any benefit payments the Veteran was receiving.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE POST** - If you are interested in volunteering, then contact the Post Commander Grant Whiteley at 706-793-1724. I am always grateful to all my officers, our management, the Ladies Auxiliary, the SAL and the Riders for all the time and energy they have dedicated into helping the post, the veterans and the community. If possible, all officers need to attend both the executive board meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month and along with the members, the membership meeting on the Second Tuesday of each month. **We need a volunteer for Service Officer. Please step up to the plate and support us. Thank You! GBW!**

"WE THE PEOPLE"



**RENEW YOUR LEGION MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**





The Department VA hospital tours will be Dec 12-13. ALR 178 will be responsible for the escorts on Sat, Dec 13 tentatively meeting at Double Tree. Time is yet to be determined. Post 178 will be hosting the lunch at 12:30. Also on Saturday we will be hosting the Wreath's Across America ceremony taking place at Hillcrest at 12pm. Thank you to everyone that purchased a wreath. Our Friday steak night is Dec 19 from 6-8pm. The general membership meeting will be Dec 21 has been cancelled. We also continue to collect non-perishable food items for Fort Gordon Battle Buddy program. Please drop off your donations in the box located in the hall (flyer attached to box for more information). Reminder to pay 2025 membership dues before Dec 31. Your other organizational dues must be paid first. Ride Safe!

*For God and Country,  
Donald "Fix It" Huffman, Director*

## THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



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3219 Richmond Hill Rd. Augusta, GA. 30906

**JOIN OR  
RENEW  
TODAY**



**REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. .  
TEACH our children the value of Freedom.**

Welcome to the American Legion Chapter 178 Riders/Hillcrest Memorial Park's Wreaths Across America Program. On Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm, 2025, Wreaths Across America will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park to Remember and Honor our veterans through the laying of Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes. If you would like to volunteer to participate in the wreath laying, please come to the Hillcrest Memorial Park **NO LATER THAN 11 AM** at the Veterans Section where the American Legion Chapter 178 Riders will be. After the ceremony, the American Legion Chapter 178 Riders will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers ON-SITE, to show their volunteer appreciation.

Thank you so much for the American Legion Chapter 178 Riders/Hillcrest Memorial Park's



*American Legion Post 178*  
3219 Richmond Hill Road  
Augusta, Georgia 30906



*Visit from Santa  
Children Must Have  
Sign-In With  
Sponsor And Be  
10 Years Old  
Or  
Younger*

**For Information Call  
TC Leblanc - 706-360-8941 or  
Deather Stewart  
706-793-1724**

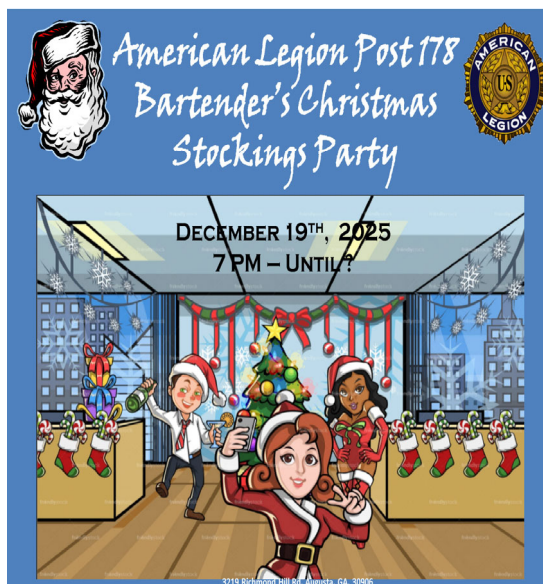
*Sign-up In The Lounge  
Deadline For Sign-up / Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025*

Sponsored by The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 178 *Merry Christmas*



**Veteran's Christmas Dinner  
Menu - TBD**

**Wednesday - December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
1 PM - 3 PM**



**The American Legion  
Carter Burdell Hagler Post #178  
3219 Richmond Hill Road  
Augusta, Georgia 30906-4713**

**Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Augusta, GA  
Permit No. 86**

## Events Calendar December 2025

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <u>House Committee Mtg</u> 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM  <u>Post 178 Exec Meeting</u> 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <u>AL Steak Night</u> 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  <u>Voiture Local 719 40&amp;8</u> <u>SUB Char Mtg</u> 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <u>Voiture Local 719 40&amp;8 Meeting</u> 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  <u>PEARL HARBOR DAY</u> 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <u>POST 178 Mbrship Mtg</u> 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <u>Augusta Hospital Annual Visit</u> 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  <u>11TH DISTRICT SAL DEC</u> 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM  <u>SAL GEN MBRSHIP MTG</u> 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>12</b> <u>Augusta Hospital Annual Visit</u> 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  <u>Auxiliary Steak Night</u> 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>13</b> <u>Augusta Hospital Annual Visit</u> 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
<b>14</b> <u>11th District Meeting</u> 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  <u>Auxiliary Gen Mbr Mtg</u> 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM  <u>Augusta Hospital Annual Visit</u> 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <u>Chapter 178 Riders Exec Mtg</u> 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	<b>18</b> <u>GA WAR BINGO</u> 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	<b>19</b> <u>Chapter 178 Riders Steak Night</u> 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  <u>BARTENDERS XMAS PARTY</u> 7:00 PM - 12:00 PM	<b>20</b> <u>SPACE FORCE DAY</u> 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  <u>GINGERBREAD CONTEST</u> 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
<b>21</b> <u>KIDS XMAS PARTY</u> 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM  <u>RIDERS GEN MBR MTG CANCELLED</u> 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM  <u>CHINESE XMAS EXCHANGE</u> 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <u>E-B Raymond A Johnson Birthday</u> 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM  <u>James Peebles Birthdat</u> 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM	<b>24</b> <u>LOUNGE CLOSING EARLY</u> 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	<b>25</b> <u>XMAS DAY VETS DINNER</u> 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM	<b>26</b> <u>NO SAL Steak Night</u> 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <u>NEW YEAR'S EVE - LOUNGE</u> 8:00 PM - 1:00 PM			