North Carolina’s Bill Oxford Welcomes President’s Signing of POW/MIA Flag Act

(WASHINGTON, November 8, 2019) – The head of the nation’s largest veterans organization thanked President Trump for signing a bipartisan act which will require certain prominent federal properties to display the POW/MIA Flag every day with the U.S. Flag.

“Yesterday I was humbled to stand with my fellow veterans inside the Oval Office and watch the president of the United States sign this symbolic but important legislation,” said American Legion National Commander James W. “Bill” Oxford. “It is important that Americans never forget that there are still more than 82,000 men and women who were taken prisoner or never had a full accounting. The American Legion reveres their memory and will continue to honor them at all of our meetings. I plan to visit the headquarters of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency later this month to observe their work firsthand. DPAA does a remarkable job of identifying and repatriating so many heroes who paid the ultimate price for freedom. The American Legion is eager to explore additional ways to lend our support.”
Post 416 in Lowe's Grove had a busy fall fundraising season. A Fall BBQ Chicken fundraiser was held with (from L to R) James Lowe, Commander and George Scruggs, Chaplain putting the finishing touches on the chicken before it's served. The fundraiser they are known for is the "Peanuts". This involves a monthly peanut cooking which supports most of their outreach efforts, especially at the USO located in the RDU airport. Pictured (from L to R) E.V. McBroom, Sgt-at-Arms, Larry Strickland, 1st Vice-Commander, and David Hartmetz, Historian.
North Carolina's Alternate NEC Patricia A Harris was selected as one of three 2019 National American Legion Auxiliary Women of the Year Awardees during the National Convention held in Indianapolis IN. She was presented this award for Women Veterans Support Services Inc. She is the Founder and Visionary since 2008. This non-profit organization specializes in Crisis management, advocacy and education for Women Veterans and male veterans with daughters in the State of NC and beyond. Their current funded program, Protective Red Shoe, addresses the issues of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault among our women Veterans and Military. With four generations of American Legion Auxiliary membership, Patricia is a dual member with Unit 124, starting as a Junior with Unit 157. She has served as the Southern Division VA&R Chair for the National American Legion Auxiliary. For more information about WVSS, please contact Rev. Shirley King@ 919-894-1012.
You’re invited to Commander James D. Moore’s Thank You Celebration Saturday, January 18, 2020 4-8pm at the Maxwell Convention Center 3111 Wayne Memorial Dr Goldsboro, NC

RSVP by December 31, 2019 Email: jmoorejr7@tnc.rr.com

2020 Membership Renewal
Support our Families
Support our Programs
Support our Veterans
Renew Online
www.legion.org/renew
Western Carolina University Heroes Day

Western Carolina honored Military and First Responders on Saturday 9 Nov with Heroes Day. The day started with the men’s basketball home opener against Gardner Webb. Following the basketball game, fans enjoyed the fun and festivities prior to the kickoff of the Blue Ridge Border Battle between Western Carolina and East Tennessee State University. All first responders and military members received free admission to both the basketball and football games. Western Carolina Alumnus Charlie Smith and ALNC Program Manager Greg Gidding presented a check to Terry Snyder of Operation North State during halftime. Go Catamounts!
Garner Post 232 hosts disabled veterans from Durham VA Medical Center

For the second consecutive year Garner Post 232 hosted a picnic at Lake Benson Park in Garner for disabled veterans residing at the Durham VA Hospital. The day began with Post Historian Terry Chatfield giving a guided tour of the Garner Veterans’ Memorial Park. The picnic followed with the veterans enjoying bingo, food, and the camaraderie of Post 232 members and hospital staff.
System Worth Saving Visits
W. G. (Bill) Hefner VA Medical Center
Salisbury

The American Legion believes that VA is a System Worth Saving. In 2003, American Legion Past National Commander Ronald F. Conley initiated a series of visits to Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers throughout the VA health-care system. After these initial visits, The American Legion declared VA "A System Worth Saving."

The American Legion believes that the specialized care that veterans receive is unparalleled. In order to help the VA deliver the best possible care, The American Legion conducts town hall meetings and site visits to identify problems, challenges, and solutions. Miller-Russell American Legion Post 112 in Rockwell hosted the town hall meeting on Monday evening 4 Nov 2009, followed by the Medical Center visit on the 5th and 6th.

L to R: Dick Neville (representing national), national staff member Tammy Barlet, Department Commander James Moore, and Department Adjutant Randy Cash

Observations are compiled annually into a System Worth Saving report that is distributed to VA officials, members of Congress, and the President of the United
Dedication honors World War II Navy Veteran and former Cabarrus County Sheriff

By Peter Sabo
Black-Phillips American Legion Post 433

Midland, N.C. (November 9, 2019) – A solemn audience of family members, American Legion members, Veterans and friends of James B. (JB) Roberts Jr., a World War II Navy Veteran and former Cabarrus County Sheriff, gathered together for the dedication of the memorial in his honor recognizing his service in the Navy.

James B. Roberts Jr was born in a log cabin on the family farm in 1920 in the Flores Store Community of Cabarrus County. He joined the Navy in August 1941 and subsequent to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, 7 December 1941, he was assigned to the USS Yorktown (CV-5), 13 December 1941 in Norfolk, VA. During the Battle of Midway in June 1942, the Yorktown was sunk but Roberts survived and was picked up a Destroyer in the area. He later served on the USS Oglala (CM4) where he served till November 1945.

Upon his return home, he worked on the farm until joining the Cabarrus County Sheriff’s department in 1951. In 1954, he became Sheriff where he served till his retirement in 1982. As Sheriff, JB was instrumental in helping develop a law enforcement training program for the state of North Carolina which is still in use to this day.

Although the temperature may have been near freezing, this was not going to stop this important ceremony for the Post. Drew Vogel, Vice Commander for the Post, was the emcee and introduced Elements of the 208th Army Band from Concord, NC who opened the ceremony and played the National Anthem. They were joined by a color guard from the Cabarrus County Sheriff’s office bringing Military Service and Community service together. Tierian “Randy” Cash, American Legion Department of North Carolina Adjutant and retired Navy Chaplain, provided the invocation and benediction.

Post Commander Peter Sabo opened the ceremony with some inspiring words recognizing all Veterans with the upcoming Veterans Day. Sabo mentioned that in the audience were Veterans from Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan and asked those in attendance to speak with these veterans before they leave about their story about why they joined and their time in service.

“The American Legion knows these stories well. We were founded on the heels of the first world war. The stories that arose from the ashes of the war to end all wars follow us. For the past one hundred years, the American Legion has been dedicated to serving those who have served” Sabo said.

Continued on next page
James McLain, Curator for the torpedo, gave the technical details about the Torpedo and its use in the Navy before introducing the guest speaker, the Honorable Clarence E. Horton Jr.

Honorable Horton spoke about JB’s service in both the Navy and as Sheriff and the impact he made to the Cabarrus community. He spoke about JB’s seven children and how they carried on the family tradition of both military and community service.

The ceremony ended with the Cabarrus County Veterans Honor Guard rendering honors. Family and friends gathered around the torpedo to share memories and tell stories about JB.

The Black-Phillips American Legion Post 433 acquired a MK-37 MOD 2 Torpedo from the Hawthorne Ordinance Museum based in Nevada earlier this year and worked with the family to recognize the service of JB Roberts.
Warmest Greetings of the Season
and Best Wishes for
Happiness in the New Year
with Holiday Blessings

Department Staff

L to R: Loree Miller, Debbie Rose, Shelia Bayles, Greg Gidding, and Randy Cash
The American Legion Department of North Carolina
Calendar

- 23-25 DEC - National Office/Department Office CLOSED
- 30,31 DEC-1 JAN - National/Department Office CLOSED
- 15 JAN - Membership Target Date 80%
- 18 JAN - Commander Moore’s Homecoming
- 13-15 FEB - ALNC Mid-Winter Conference Raleigh