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The American Legion Department of North Carolina

The Legionnaire is published monthly by The American Legion Department of North Carolina to provide information and items of interest for the members of The American Legion in North Carolina. If you have articles or photographs you would like to include, please send by email to nclegion@nclegion.org.

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Post 81 Liberty

Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons of the American Legion family from Liberty American Legion Post 81 put over 600 flags at seven different cemeteries for Memorial Day to Honor our Fallen Heroes. The Post also had a Memorial Day ceremony at The Liberty Veterans Memorial and Gardens site on Monday at 3:00 PM. Despite the restrictions and social distancing, a good number were able to participate. Thanks to all the Veterans that helped with the Program and placement the Flags.
As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the lives of all Americans, businesses, and veteran’s organizations, members of Henry K. Burtner Post 53, Greensboro answered the call, partnering with another non-profit to aid those in need. In a few short days, the post organized a food drive in conjunction with The Servant Center, a local veterans homeless and transition center located in Greensboro. In order to ensure success, the post and Servant Center advertised on social media, e-mail to members of the Legion Family, community calendars, and media outlets. On Friday 29 May 2020 the post hosted the event at their post home located at 729 Creek Ridge Road in Greensboro. An estimated one thousand pounds of food, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items and cash were donated to the Servant Center. Well done, Post 53!
The American Legion Department of North Carolina, District 25

Announces “Chaplain of the Year Award”

“It is with great respect and gratification that I announce the 1st annual “Chaplain of the Year” award for District 25 of The American Legion Department of North Carolina to Air Force veteran, Chaplain Carl Maxwell of George Lee Post 532, Hayesville.”

The announcement and presentation were made during a Memorial Day ceremony at Unaka Baptist Church by the 25th District Commander J.D. Baker.

Carl has served as Post Chaplain for the last seven years. He has set the standard for looking after veterans and their families in Clay and surrounding counties. Under his leadership Post 532 developed the Tri-County Veterans Missions Council to help meet the physical and spiritual needs of veterans. Part of his work is centered around the veterans at the Clay County Care Center to insure they do not feel forgotten. He leads by responding to the needs of all veterans by working with other Veterans groups. In his life and work, Chaplain Maxwell exemplifies the role of the “servant leader” in his service to God and Country.
When one thinks of a Legionnaire of the Year, several images come to mind. Among these, and likely the most important is a Legionnaire who is involved in all facets of post life, passionate about the community and the Legion they serve—one who is enthusiastic about helping others and supporting the pillars of the American Legion. A person who has a genuine love for America and its veterans, this is the picture of the consummate Legionnaire, the one a Post member turns to for help, one that other Legionnaires aspire to be. This is Jerry Hill, Clayton Post 71, Legionnaire of the Year.

Jerry’s passion for all is evident in his involvement in the annual Clayton Harvest Festival. One of the largest events in Johnston County, the festival draws nearly 10,000 people each year. Jerry Hill is the reason Post 71 is involved at all, he brought the idea to the membership and sold folks on the idea of using the Festival as a recruiting tool and fundraiser. Since Jerry brought together Post 71’s initial display and setup nearly six years ago, the Clayton Harvest festival has ‘harvested’ over 20 members and over $6000 in donations and support. His compassion is felt in his support of members and their families in times of need. Jerry has helped coordinate efforts to aid members on more than a few occasions.

Legionnaire Jerry Hill has been the spark plug for many efforts at Post 71. He regularly volunteers as a wait staff member in our Post social quarters, helps with many building improvements projects, and was instrumental in the initial formation of our regular Friday Night Dinners. These dinners have become not only a source of revenue for the Post, but a great, new-found ‘tradition’ for camaraderie between Legionnaires as well as their spouses and families. Jerry’s presence as a member of the Post 71 Honor Guard makes him nearly indispensable for the Annual Clayton Christmas Parade, and honoring veterans as they go to their final assignment to the Supreme Commander.

These are but a few reasons Jerry Hill was selected as Legionnaire of the Year for 2019-2020. Well Done.
We Have an NC Legion App!

The American Legion Department of North Carolina has an app! It is available via the Google Play Store or the Apple APP store. When searching in the stores, search for NCLEGION. The app has information about the Department!
American Legion Post 46, Morehead City joined other Veterans Service Organizations in a ceremony and a wreath laying on Memorial Day. AL Post 46 Judge Advocate Bob Kirk organized the ceremony, which took place at Bayview Cemetery. In keeping with the Governor's Executive Orders, many such services were held across the state.
North Carolina TALARC member receives ARRL Scouting award

As reported in the most recent newsletter of The American Legion Amateur Radio Club (TALARC), a North Carolina Legionnaire has been named the recipient of an American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Amateur Radio Service to Scouting Award for his work in opening up the world of ham radio to Scouts.

Chris Cancilla (call sign W4CEC) is an Air Force veteran and a 10-year PUFL member of Walter E. Cole American Legion Post 187 in Wake Forest, NC, as well as the post’s Scouting chair. He is also president of the post’s amateur radio club, WF4TAL. He is founder and club president of the Occoneechee Amateur Radio Society (OARS), Scouting chair for the Franklin County Amateur Radio Club and holds commissioner positions on the BSA Occoneechee Council. He was presented with the award by his ARRL section leader at a Franklin County Amateur Radio Club meeting.

Over the past year, Chris has held Merit Badge events, conducted licensing classes and test sessions, participated in Get on the Air (GOTA) and Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) events, and much more. He also keeps in the loop with connections to the K2BSA Amateur Radio Association (“considered the amateur radio station for BSA’s National Council, according to its website”), TALARC operating out of American Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis, and the Department of North Carolina Amateur Radio Committee. And plans are underway for this October’s JOTA event – the largest Scouting event in the world.
June 2020

The American Legion Department of North Carolina

Calendar

• 21 June - Father’s Day
• 04 July - Independence Day
• 04 August - U.S. Coast Guard Birthday

The American Legion

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