



*@ THE POST*  
***THE AMERICAN LEGION***  
*Towson Post 22*



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Anita Stewart-Hammerer

Did you know that more than 16 million Americans served during WWII? Towson Post #22 has 31 active World War II veterans. Our Post is blessed to have that many WWII veterans as members.

Those that served in WWII were considered The Greatest Generation. They were born in the 1900s through the 1920s. They lived through the Great Depression and many of them fought in WWII. There are little over 240,000 WWII veterans still alive today with about 4,700 living in Maryland. And it's estimated that 413 WWII veterans die each day with the average age of WWII veterans in their nineties.

What an honor it is for the Post to be able to pay the yearly dues for these men and women who are considered part of the "Greatest Generation." I also challenge you to call and spend some time talking with them and getting to know their story. I talked to several of our WWII veterans and the conversations I had with them was very insightful. My first conversation was with Legionnaire Margaret Hediger, a Navy veteran that served from January 1943 until August 15, 1945. In her own words she said, "I am still here, I am doing great, still driving. The only thing I don't do is cut grass. My daughter does that now. I loved being in the Navy. I was a secretary." Legionnaire Hediger has been a member of Post 22 for 36 years and is a Paid Up for Life Member.

James Lee, a United States Army veteran, served from 1945 until 1970. He was in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. Although, the 94-year-old veteran is mostly confined to home, he did reminiscence about his days as a private investigator in Towson. "I used to be the only guard in the Mall in Towson when it had two floors and I worked as a guard at Channel 2. I've been in this area since April of 1970." Legionnaire Lee has been a member of Post 22 for several years.

And lastly, Legionnaire Albert Long, travelled to 15 different countries as a Merchant Marine. He says he joined the Coast Guard in 1940 but was transferred to the Merchant Marines and was an engineer. "I wasn't home too much, the Coast Guard took care of that," said the 99-year-old Legionnaire. He served until 1945. Legionnaire Long has been a member for 27 years and is a Paid up for Life Member.

## 2021-2022 Post Officers

**Commander**  
Anita Stewart-Hammerer

**1st Vice Commander**  
Warren Waugh

**2nd Vice Commander**  
Chuck Whims

**Third Vice**  
Sonia Young

**Adjutant**  
Fred Hofferbert

**Finance Officer**  
Dave Pardoe

**Historian**  
Mark Serio

**Chaplain**  
Vernon Crider

**Sgt-at-Arms**  
Brian Riley

**Judge Advocate**  
George Bereska

**Past Commander**  
Kraig Dean

## CHAPLAIN

Vernon Crider

### People who take risks are the people you'll lose against

People are like rubber bands; we're most successful when we are stretched. You can only accomplish in proportion to what you attempt. The reason so little is accomplished is generally because, so little is attempted.

It was once said (Author Unknown), "It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare it; it is because we do not dare things which are difficult". The definition of impossible: "Something nobody can do until somebody does it." Never say never. You have to think big to be big.

One does not tap into their talent until one is challenged to do so. Taking risks is part of every success plan. Mediocre minds usually dismiss anything that reached beyond their own understanding. President Calvin Coolidge once said, "We do not need more intellectual power, but we need more spiritual power." In essence, President Coolidge was stating that we should place focus on things that are unseen and not seen from the naked eye. Philippians 4:13 tells us, "*I (we) can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.*" When you are in Christ, His wisdom will guide you when encountering such risks, how to address them and not run away from the situation at hand.

Discover ways to exercise your risk muscle. Everyone has a "risk" muscle, and you keep it in shape by trying to do new things. It is sometimes better to "bite off more than what we can chew." Pastor Robert Schuller reminds us that people who are really failures are those who set low standards and keep the bar at a safe level, that they never run the risk of failure. Remember, unless you enter the beehive, you can't take the honey!

A great ship always asks for deep water. When you dare for nothing, hope for nothing. All progress involves risk, period. As spring training approaches in baseball, I would like to use this analogy when taking calculated risks: You can't steal second base and keep your foot on first! He who does not dare will not get their share.

### FYI

**\*If you know of any Legionnaire who is/has been ill as well as members of their immediate family, please contact me at (410) 258-2367 or [crider@comcast.net](mailto:crider@comcast.net).**

**\*Remember to keep all sick/shut Legionnaires as well as those bereaved families in your prayers. "Pray without ceasing..." 1 Thessalonians 5:17**

## Meetings

**Legion Meeting**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 pm

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 pm

**Sons of American Legion Meeting**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 pm

**Auxiliary Meeting**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 pm

**Legion Riders Meeting**  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month  
7:00 pm

**Post Membership Meetings  
start at 7pm.**

# HISTORIAN

Mark Serio

## Greetings, Comrades!



As we continue our tour of Towson Post 22 History, we enter the 1950's with the start of the Korean War, also known as the 'forgotten war'. After three years of fighting, it would claim over 54,000 American lives.

This cartoon showing a legionnaire saluting a Korean War memorial sums up our Post mission nicely; remembering and honoring those that served. I wonder how many of our members served in both World War II and Korea?

Having served in Korea with 314<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 5<sup>th</sup> Air Force, in the late 70s, I hope you don't mind me posting our patch.

In 1956, our Post membership passed a resolution to petition the State Legislature to make November 11<sup>th</sup> an official state holiday and redesignate it as 'Veteran's Day' to not only honor the end of World War I, but World War II, and the Korean War. The name was soon afterwards changed. Also in that year, the City Planner and Hutzler's Department Store wanted to move the Wayside Cross to facilitate development. Our Post along with many citizens of Towson fervently opposed this action and the city and store backed down.

As always, if you have activities to share for the Post Yearbook, please email to [MarkSerio@Outlook.com](mailto:MarkSerio@Outlook.com) and include a picture or two.



The Fighting Fifth



Looking south on York Rd around the 500 block in the 20s. The Wayside cross is still there. The building behind it is the Towson Hotel. The building next to it with the short tower is the Towson National Bank

# AMERICANISM

Stuart Blair



## Scouting

November 2021 the BSA Baltimore District presented a request to The American Legion Towson Post #22 for the Post to charter Troop numbers 729 and 1729. As such, the troop and the Post became a team in supporting each other and the community.

BSA Troops 729 and 1729, and Towson Post #22 have agreed to initiate a plan of mutual support to foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism among America's youth. We welcome their involvement of support for causes specific to The American Legion and our nation's veterans.

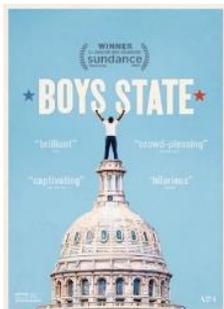
The Post believes strongly that our youth are our future and that it is our responsibility to prepare them for that future. The Scout Oath and Law that the BSA instills in youth is a strong foundation for future success. The Scouts of Troop 729 and 1729 and Towson Post 22 are excited about formalizing and strengthening our relationship and the future opportunities for us to work together to support America's youth! Scout Troops 729 and 1729 meet weekly at the Post with quality leadership and quality and productive programs.

## Youth Baseball

Towson Post# 22 is proud to announce sponsorship of youth baseball 13-16 with the Lutherville Timonium Recreation Council for Spring 2022.

The LTRC in-house program is for the enjoyment of youth to develop baseball skills and to nurture good sportsmanship. Teams are assembled with the goal of balancing talent among the teams to provide the best competition and excitement. League play begins late April.

## Boys State



American Legion Boys State is among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instruction for U.S. high school students. A participatory program in which students become part of the operation of local, county, and state government; Boys State was founded in 1935 to counter the socialism-inspired Young Pioneer Camps. The program was the idea of two Illinois Legionnaires.

This year's TAL Department of Maryland Boys State will be held at McDaniel's College in Westminster, MD on 13-16 June. We are about 2 months away from the application cutoff date of May 1st. To register go online to The American Legion, click on Boys State to complete application. If you know of a young man who is a junior in high school, encourage him to participate in this program.

## **Sons of the American Legion Squadron #22**

John Horner

Dues for the year are past due. If you have not paid your 2022 dues, please do so as soon as possible. If you are under 21 years old and/or a dual card member (also belong to the Legion) cost is \$15. If you are over 21, the cost is \$25. Please save the Squadron money by mailing or dropping off your dues at the post.

If you do not receive e-mails from the squadron and would like to be kept informed, please send your e-mail address to: towsonsq22@gmail.com. The Squadron is also having two Raffles one is a 50-50 drawing that will be drawn on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The second raffle is a Benell 12GA Shot gun. The winner can take the shot gun or \$350 cash. Drawing will be held on July 10<sup>th</sup>. See fliers in this bulletin.

**TOWSON POST 22  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**



**Bull & Oyster Roast**

**Saturday, April 16, 2022 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**Towson American Legion Hall, 125 York Rd. Towson, MD**

**Appetizers 1pm-2pm**

*Broccoli, cauliflower, baby carrots, celery, tri color peppers with ranch dip, cheddar, pepper jack, Colby, swiss accompanied by assorted crackers, mustard dip*

**Menu 2:00pm**

*Pit Ham, Pit Beef with au jus, Pit Turkey, Mac n Cheese  
Red Bliss Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, BBQ Baked Beans  
Desserts and Coffee*

**Numbers Wheel • Whiskey and Plant Wheel  
Chinese Auction • Silent Auction Sports Memorabilia  
Free Beer, Wine and Soda • DJ Music**

***Cost: \$50 per person***

**\*\* No Refunds \*\* No Carry Out \*\***

**For Information Call 410-823-8030**

## The American Legion Riders Towson Chapter # 22

John Horner

The Riders will hold our Purse Bingo on Sunday, April 3rd. Tickets are available in the Post lounge. On another note, we are planning many rides for the upcoming riding season. Once again, we will be sponsoring The Maryland Gold Star Legacy Ride the Weekend of June 10-12. We will also hold our annual HERO-DOG Ride on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Please come to one of our meetings and see all the good work the Chapter is doing in supporting Post Programs. We meet the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

### Change in VA Disability Benefits

The Department of Veterans Affairs will change its disability ratings criteria for mental health conditions, sleep apnea and tinnitus, part of a major overhaul of the review process to ensure that compensation matches veterans' medical conditions and needs, department officials say.

The VA plans to update its Schedule for Rating Disabilities -- its guide for determining how it evaluates and provides benefits for service-connected disabilities -- for mental health conditions, to include their impact on veterans' lives, and abolish the "0%" disability rating for any service-connected mental health diagnosis in favor of a 10% minimum, according to a notice published Tuesday in the Federal Register.

For tinnitus, the department will get rid of its stand-alone rating and consider the condition a symptom of whatever underlying disease is its cause.

As for sleep apnea, ratings will be assessed based on the effectiveness of treatment and the condition's impact on "earning impairment," according to the notice.

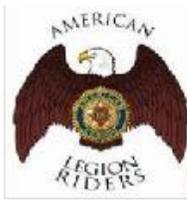
Officials say the changes, which would go into effect after a period for the public to comment and a final version is published, likely will result in higher disability ratings for veterans with mental health conditions, but fewer qualifying for disability compensation for tinnitus and sleep apnea.

Veterans already receiving disability for these conditions will not see their ratings downgraded by any changes, officials said.

"Veterans who currently receive compensation for a service-connected condition in these body systems will not have their disability rating impacted when the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities is updated," Thomas Murphy, acting VA undersecretary for benefits, said in a press release.

*-- Patricia Kime --taken from Military.Com*





**Towson American Legion Riders and The Towson Jaycees**

### **Purse Bingo**

Dooney & Bourke, Michael Kors, Kate Spade,  
Patricia Nash, Calvin Klein, Fossil, and Vera Bradley

B I N G O				
7	25	44	57	62
15	22	40	50	70
11	30	FREE SPACE	46	74
2	28	37	55	68
10	27	39	59	75

**April 3, 2022**  
Games Start at 1:30 pm  
Doors Open at 12:30 pm



Towson American Legion Grand Hall  
125 York Road  
Towson, MD 21204

\$20 a ticket paid in advance, \$25 a ticket at the door

16 Regular Games  
Door Prizes

Sold at the door: Extra Cards, Special Bingos, and Raffles



*Food will be available for Purchase*



For Tickets, please contact Bev Horner or Nicole Horner at 410-825-5464  
Or Email Nicole Horner at [nhomer@towsonjaycees.org](mailto:nhomer@towsonjaycees.org)

All proceeds to benefit Children and youth, Veterans, Towson Jaycees  
Senior Citizens Thanksgiving dinner, and Community projects

## **Sons of The American Legion Squadron #22 50-50 Raffle**

**Tickets are \$1.00 Each or 8 for \$5.00**

**Drawing July 4, 2022**

Tickets in the Lounge or contact  
Ricky Edwards 814-688-1883 or John Horner 717-201-0613  
Or any S.A.L. Officer



Towson Post 22, Inc.  
The American Legion  
Department of Maryland  
125 York Road, Towson, MD 21204  
[www.towsonamericanlegion.org](http://www.towsonamericanlegion.org)

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FOR EVEN MORE POST INFORMATION, VISIT  
[WWW.TOWSONAMERICANLEGION.ORG](http://WWW.TOWSONAMERICANLEGION.ORG) OR CALL (410) 823-8030. TO SUBMIT AN  
ARTICLE OR COMMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT POST COMMANDER AT  
[AHAMMERER@JUNO.COM](mailto:AHAMMERER@JUNO.COM).

## Upcoming Events

Check Facebook or the Post Website for Events