



@ THE POST
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Towson Post 22



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Anita Stewart-Hammerer

Congratulations to the incoming officers for the 2021-2022 year. Thank you for making the commitment to serve veterans and their families and continuing to uphold the Mission, Vision and Values of the American Legion. With that said, I thought it appropriate to print The American Legion's mission statement, as adopted by the National Executive Committee in October 2020:

To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness. The American Legion's vision statement is "The American Legion: Veterans Strengthening America." The American Legion's value principles are as follows:

A VETERAN IS A VETERAN - which means The American Legion embraces all current and former members of the military and endeavors to help them transition into their communities.

SELFLESS SERVICE - which means The American Legion celebrates all who contribute to something larger than themselves and inspires others to serve and strengthen America.

AMERICAN VALUES AND PATRIOTISM - which means The American Legion advocates for upholding and defending the United States Constitution, equal justice and opportunity for everyone and discrimination against no one, youth education, responsible citizenship and honoring military service by observing and participating in memorial events.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - which means The American Legion meets the unique needs of local communities.

ADVANCING THE VISION - which means The American Legion educates, mentors and leads new generations of Americans.

HONOR THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US - which means The American Legion pays perpetual respect for all past military sacrifices to ensure they are never forgotten by new generations.

The American Legion's motto is "Veterans Strengthening America."

Legion Meeting
2nd Wednesday of each month
7:30 pm

Executive Committee Meeting
4th Wednesday of each month
7:00 pm

Sons of American Legion Meeting
3rd Wednesday of each month
7:00 pm

Auxiliary Meeting
2nd Wednesday of each month
7:30 pm

Legion Riders Meeting
1st Wednesday of each month
7:00 pm

CHAPLAIN

Vernon Crider

CARVE OUT SOME TIME IN THE MORNING TO THINK THROUGH YOUR DAY!

Almost every person would admit they like better ideas and crystal-clear perspectives on life. Finding peace and tranquility makes our day more productive and enjoyable when we take time to slow down and access the potential that each day brings. However, many of us take the start of our days lightly and wake up with “one foot on the gas and the other out the door” perceiving that we “are ready” for what the day may bring to our attention; resulting in being unprepared for the realities of life and repeating the same actions over and over, just like a hamster on a wheel moving in place and not making sufficient progress toward any goals/objectives we have set.

Often, we ignore the opportunity to wake up a little earlier, create space to “stretch” our minds and bodies and calmly think through the details of our day. Instead, we proceed with our “day” and forced to work out our challenges on the fly. Urgency takes over and throws us into survival mode; however, when formulating some type of a structured foundation in our morning routine would help us through the day with ambition and perspective on most matters at hand.

Real progress emerges when you’re relaxed rather than stressed. When you’re relaxed, you can focus better and prioritize what requires to be addressed in a scaffolded manner. The practice of being clear about our way of being; things we will or will not do; and preparing ourselves for all meetings, conversations, and events will improve results dramatically.

Thinking through the day and making decisions in advance will likely result in fewer surprises. This wise process will allow you to be more efficient and reap the rewards of applying wisdom in all that you do. So, once you wake in the morning (while you make that first cup of coffee) spend some time to reflect on your day, your relationships, and your responsibilities. Meditate on what you’ll be facing, and you’ll gain perspectives that will have you starting off on top of your day; rather than letting your day climb on top of you.

Read Proverbs 3:5-6: “***Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your understanding. Acknowledge Him in all your ways, and he shall direct your path***”.

*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



* Remember to keep all sick/shut legionnaires as well as those bereaved families in your prayers.

*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

2020-2021 Post Officers

Commander
Anita Stewart-Hammerer

1st Vice Commander
Kraig Dean

2nd Vice Commander
Vacant

Adjutant
Fred Hofferbert

Finance Officer
Dave Pardoe

Historian
Jeffery Whye

Chaplain
Vernon Crider

Asst. Chaplain
Jesse Mixson

Sgt-at-Arms
Norman Zickuhr

Service Officer
Sonia Young

Judge Advocate
John Adair

Past Commander
Jim Rebbert

HISTORIAN-ELECT

Mark Serio

As your newly Post Historian elect, I have a passion for our Post and its history. My goals this year are to write articles for our periodic Post newsletter focusing on our history through the decades; create an electronic template for a Post History Yearbook for future historians which can be saved to our web page; and begin planning our 100-year anniversary Post Celebration since receiving our Charter in 1923!

That's right. Although our Post first met in 1919, our Charter was not approved until 1923 which became our 'official' anniversary date. I look forward to beginning planning for our celebration that exemplifies the pride we have in ourselves, and our heritage as Towson Post #22 Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders!

From our web page:

"The town of Towson in 1919 was a small village community, the county seat of Baltimore County, in the state of Maryland. The veterans who returned to the area after World War I came back to a thriving community - with paved and unpaved roads, and horse-drawn carriages vying with the new horseless carriages. Towson had long been a crossroads between the rural farm communities of northern Maryland and central Pennsylvania, and the industries and shipping centers of Baltimore City. Because of its prime location, Towson's inns and taverns attracted other businesses, and the small town began to thrive.

Convinced of the necessity for an organization to preserve and strengthen the bonds of friendship, forged by the service through which they had passed in the war against Germany, several Towson men (World War I veterans), met on August 6, 1919, in the main courtroom of the Towson Courthouse, to discuss the formation of a post in the new organization, The American Legion. The main force in calling the meeting was William P. Cole, Jr., who was also very much involved in the early beginnings of the Department of Maryland. Mr. Cole was an Executive Committeeman in the Department under Commanders Janney in 1919 and Mecklin in 1920.



Wayside Cross 1920s

From this first meeting, the members established and applied for a Charter as the Towson American Legion Post #22."

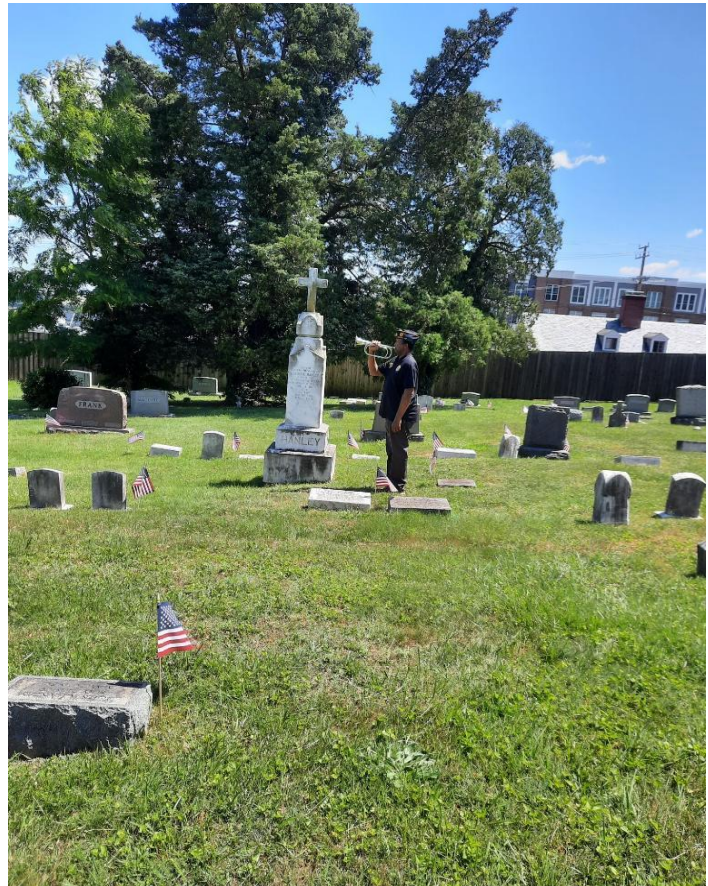
If you have activities to share for the Yearbook, please send them to me at MarkSerio@SerioWrit.com, and please include a picture or two.



TOWSON POST #22 IN ACTION



Participants playing bingo during the Towson American Legion Riders and Towson Jaycees Purse Bingo held in April.



Legionnaire Jesse Mixson plays Taps after placing flags on veterans graves at Mount Maria Cemetery in Towson.



Flag retirement ceremony held at the post on in June.



Post Commander Stewart-Hammerer and Service Officer Sonia Young posing with an award Young received in June for her work as Post Service Officer.



Hampden Troop 151 members pose with Eagle Scout candidate Joe Riley (third from left) after the completion of landscaping outside the front of the post.

Congratulations to Towson Post #22 Incoming Officers for 2021-2022

Swearing in Ceremony for new officers will be held at the August membership meeting.



Commander—Anita Stewart-Hammerer
First Vice Commander—Warren Waugh
Second Vice Commander—Chuck Whims
Third Vice Commander—Karl Pfrommer
Adjutant—Fred Hofferbert
Finance Officer—David Pardoe
Chaplain—Vernon Crider
Judge Advocate—George Bereska
Historian—Mark Serio
Past Commander—Kraig Dean

Executive Committee

Three Year Term—Jeffery Whye and Stuart Blair
Two Year Term—Regina Simpson and Wanda Bivens
One Year Term—Odessa Scott and Bill Logan
D.E.C.—Kraig Dean

Important Notice

There will not be a Towson Post #22 Membership Meeting in July because of the Department Convention in Ocean City. The next membership meeting will be in August.

VA Facts to Know

Veterans sometimes receive information about the Department of Veterans Affairs in fragmented ways. For some veterans this can create confusion and a disjointed experience with the VA for a first-time experience for veterans and their families. For veterans navigating the VA for the first time; the VA has produced a welcome kit to address this challenge.

The VA Welcome Kit is written in an easy to understand and concise manner.

The VA Welcome Kit provides pertinent information and helps veterans of all ages overcome the natural apprehension most people may experience when interacting with large complex organizations like the VA for the first time. It is written in an easy to understand and concise manner and includes information on popular VA benefits, including applying for VA healthcare, a disability rating, education benefits, etc. The VA Welcome Kit highlights key VA benefits and services available that can impact quality of life and explains how and where to go to access those benefits and services. The VA Welcome Kit can be downloaded and printed directly from the VA website <https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit>. *Information reprinted from Army Echoes, May-Jul 2021 Newsletter.*

Free Resources for Veterans and Families

Now that things are slowly going back to normal, below is a list of free resources for veterans and their families to take advantage of during the coming months and years.

- VetTix – provides free and discounted tickets to concerts, sporting events, and fine arts. For more information and to register for the free service, visit VetTix.org.
- The United Heroes League honors children under 18 of active duty service members or honorably discharged veterans who deployed to a combat zone (as defined by DOD or VA) with free sports gear, pro-sports tickets, access to free sports camps, and grants to cover the costs of sports association fees. UHL also provides once in a lifetime experiences to military families, including past trips to Super Bowl 52, the NHL All Star Game and in-person meetings with professional athletes. To learn more visit www.UnitedHeroesLeague.org, or call 651-319-0737, or email info@UnitedHeroesLeague.org.
- Many Veterans, with a service connected disability rating are entering Federal recreation lands and national parks for free with an America the Beautiful--the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands lifetime Access Pass through an interagency partnership between the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation. Good for entry into thousands of federally managed recreation sites across the country, the Lifetime Access Pass is another way a grateful nation says thank you for the service and sacrifices of U. S. Veterans with disabilities. Veterans with disability documentation can order the Access Pass online at <https://store.usgs.gov/access-pass> for a \$10 processing fee which includes standard shipping. Passes ordered online or through the mail will be delivered 3 to 4 weeks after receipt of documentation and processing payment. Passes can also be purchased at the federal park with proper documentation.

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 4 th of July	5	6	Legion Riders' Meeting 7pm	8	9	10
11	12	13 Department Convention Ocean City	14 Department Convention Ocean City	15 Department Convention Ocean City	16 Department Convention Ocean City	17
18	19	20	21 SAL Squadron 22 Membership Meeting 7pm	22	23	24
25 National Hire a Vet Day	26	27 National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day	28 Post Executive Committee Meeting 7pm	29	30	31

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Air Force Day	2	3	4 Legion Riders' Meeting 7pm	5	6	7 Coast Guard Day
8	9	10	11 General Membership Meeting Post Auxiliary 7:30pm	12	13	14 Navajo Code Talkers Day
15	16	17	18 SAL Squadron 22 Membership Meeting 7pm	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Post Executive Committee Meeting 7pm	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Towson Post 22, Inc.
The American Legion
Department of Maryland
125 York Road, Towson, MD 21204
www.towsonamericanlegion.org

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Upcoming Events

Check

Facebook or the Post Website for Events

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