



@ THE POST
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Towson Post 22



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Anita Stewart-Hammerer

In 2020, I wrote about “Dancing in the Rain” and learning to do what brings you joy. Now in 2022, I am again encouraging everyone to continue to do what brings them joy.

I know in the times we are in; it may be difficult to do, but you must learn to think differently. With the new year, we should know that there are people suffering not just from the pandemic but from the everyday challenges of life—to include poverty, joblessness, and addiction.

When I reflect on 2021, I will look at what I accomplished on numerous levels. How was I able to go beyond the limitations put before me and accomplish more than expected? Did I limit myself to dwelling in the fact that I had to report to work every day while others were teleworking. Or perhaps, I took that opportunity to be grateful for a job and use that time to help others whenever possible. Did I bring joy to others as well as myself? Yes, in my own way, I was teaching other people to magically “dance in the rain with me.”

National Commander's Dinner

On March 12, 2022, the Post will be hosting a Banquet for The American Legion National Commander Paul E. Dillard. I am encouraging Post 22 members to attend the dinner as a show of support not only for the Post but as a testament for all that we are doing for veterans, children, and families.

The banquet will be held in the Grand Hall starting at 5:30 pm and tickets are \$40. Please attend the January membership meeting to learn more about the Banquet and how you can get involved. Menu includes Roasted sliced top round beef in a demi glaze au jus with roasted herb red potatoes, fresh steamed vegetable medley, Caesar salad and a variety of deserts. Breakfast with the National Commander is March 13 at 9am and tickets can be purchased at the door for \$8.

Legion Meeting

2nd Wednesday of each month
7:00 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
7:00 pm

Legion Riders Meeting

1st Wednesday of each month
7:00 pm



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

CHAPLAIN

Vernon Crider

BECOME AN AUTHORITY ON SOMETHING!

Happy New Year! If you are reading this article, I pray that your New Year was a blessing to you & your family! Whether you believe it or not, opportunity is all around you. What matters is where you place your focus. As we enter a new year, we shouldn't make "resolutions", one should be goal-orientated and focus-driven on matters of importance.

A daily question one should ask themselves: "Where should my focus be?" It is where one focuses their attention that momentum and strength will manifest themselves. Below are four characteristics of momentum:

- It is unwavering
- It possesses passion
- Demands concentration
- It has boundless vision and a commitment to excellence

Concentration is the key that opens the door to accomplishment. The Greek Philosopher Aesop stated the following: "*The first law of success is concentration; it bends all of its energies to one point and goes directly to the point, looking neither to the left or to the right*". One ingredient successful people possess is that of concentration, who have struck their blows in one place until they have accomplished their purpose. Their characteristics include a specific idea, a steady aim, and a concentrated purpose.

We accomplish things by directing our desires, not by ignoring them. Philippians 4:13 tells us that "*I (we) can do all things through Christ that strengthens me*". This scripture tells us that we put God first and as our guide and compass, we are able to accomplish things in due season, period. Sometimes we don't accomplish things because we get in God's way. Just like in football, God has a playbook for us to learn (The Bible) and when it's time to "get into the game" you must know what play to execute to be successful!

Don't be a person who is uncertain about the future and hazy about the present, stay in the groove without making it a rut. Make something in your goal-setting arsenal a specialty, share that wealth with others as well as use it to improve the quality of your life, your family as well as others in your community or circle. Remain on track, although there may be obstacles in the way, delay does not mean denial!

Learn how to define yourself by your goal setting and not allowing others to set goals for you and lead you. Dare to be what you can become, God made you on purpose with a purpose. Remember, Matthew 7: 7-8 tells us: "*Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you; For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened*".

If you know of any Legionnaire or any Legionnaire family member which is sick/shut-in, please contact me at (410) 258-2367 or criderv@comcast.net.

FYI- Four Chaplains Service will be held on Sunday, February 6, 2022 @ 9-10:30- Post #22.

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

Asst. Chaplain
Jesse Mixson

Sgt-at-Arms
Brian Riley

Judge Advocate
George Bereska

Past Commander
Kraig Dean

HISTORIAN

Mark Serio



Photo from The Baltimore Sun

on the 'westerly side of York Road, opposite Willow Ave' at an asking price of \$45,000, and then set an estimated cost for a new building at \$65,000. A special meeting was held in May 1949 to proceed with the purchase and the motion was unanimously agreed to by the 67 Legionnaires in attendance.

James R. Cox was selected as the Architect and Webster Mitcherling as the Contractor. Construction costs would increase as they had to blast through a thick layer of rock during excavations. Always looking to be involved, it was reported that a 'wrecking crew' of several Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, Sons and one daughter, descended on the lot to tear down a greenhouse building for preparation of building operations.

Construction took about six months and cost slightly more than \$100,000, half of which we had on hand at the time, the other half financed by Post activities. The first meeting in the new Home was on July 14, 1950, called to order by then Commander Raymond Pfeifer and Adjutant L.W. Tipton. The new Home was dedicated on July 25, 1950, with Senator Millard Tydings along with Judge William P. Cole, Jr., the first Commander of the Post, as the master of ceremonies.

New Year Greetings, Comrades! As promised in my last newsletter article, we'll now look at how we came to be at our current Post Home.

Prior to having a permanent Home, we met at the Court House in Towson in 1919, the Elks Building on and off in the 1930s, the Odd Fellows Hall in 1932, the Finkelstein Building on York Road, and finally the National Guard Armory on Washington Avenue (until their CO booted us out in 1949!) Clearly, finding a new and permanent Home for our membership was of the highest priority following that.

In 1949, a Post Home Committee was assigned the task of finding a location in Towson that could accommodate a hall, kitchen, storage rooms, lounge, and Legion offices. They identified a 7-acre parcel located



Photo by Barbara Haddock Taylor



**Starting January 2022
Post Membership Meetings
Start at 7pm**

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Nicole Horner

Starting in January we will be starting a Gift Card Board raffle. We will run the raffle through March 20th. The winner will win all the gift cards on the board. So, we are looking for donations of gift cards.

If you received a gift card for the holidays that you are not interested in and are not sure what to do with it, we would gladly accept it for the Gift Card Board. Even if you bought gift cards for gifts and were offered that free smaller value card and don't know what to do with the free gift-card, please consider donating it to the Auxiliary for the gift board. We are looking for gift cards from anywhere—department stores, restaurants, grocery stores, or anywhere else.

Springing forward to March 20th, the Auxiliary will be hosting a Craft Fair from 10 am to 3 pm. If you would like to host a table at the fair, please contact an Auxiliary officer.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER #22

John Horner

It maybe winter but the Riders are still meeting and planning next year's rides. At the January meeting we will hold our election of officers.

We also will be holding our Purse Bingo on Sunday, April 3, 2022. Again, this year the Post & Riders will sponsor the Maryland Gold Star Ride. The weekend of June 10th, the ride will start at Post 130 this year due to the courts still using Towson's Building. We also will have our annual ride for HERO-DOGS in July.

We are collecting due's if you have not paid your 2022 dues yet, please get your \$15.00 into us. Our meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Come out and join us.

SAL Membership

It's time to pay your dues for the year. Regular member \$25 under 21 or a dual member (also member of Legion) cost is only \$15

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



Post 22 Legionnaire Brian Zongker who placed the Army wreath last month during a Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens in Timonium, Maryland.

TOWSON POST #22 IN REVIEW



Farewell Lou Zimmerman! Friends and family gathered last October to say thank you for his years of dedicated service to the Post as Past Commander and friend to all. Commander Stewart-Hammerer presents Lou with a certificate on behalf of the Post.



Back in step—Legionnaire Brian Riley with the help of a young Sea Cadet hold a Post 22 Banner during the annual Towson Fourth of July Parade.



Ms. Veteran America—Major Elise Dent was crowned Ms. Veteran America 2021 in October. Dent a Post 22 Legionnaire volunteers at the Post as a bartender when available.



Post Chaplain Vernon Crider delivering Thanksgiving Dinner to a Veteran in need.



MSG Willie Brown with the 58th EMIB presents Post Commander Stewart-Hammerer with a flag and certificate for the post supporting the unit during their deployment in 2020-2021.



Honoring Post 22 First Responders of the year: Volunteer Firefighter William Geist (second left), Police Officer Levi Rentzel (opposite photo); and not pictured, EMT, William Keenan and Career Firefighter Charles Watson.



**The American Legion
Department of Maryland**

**Proudly Presents
The National Commander's Banquet
March 12, 2022
5:30-9pm
Tickets: \$40**

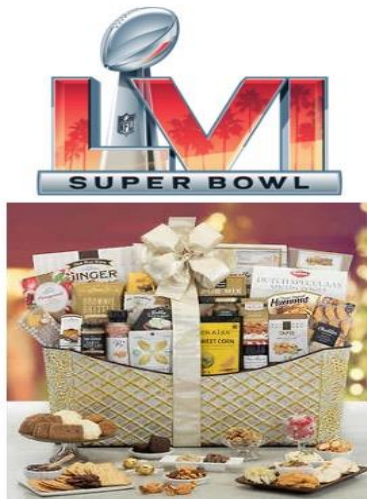


National Commander
Paul E. Dillard

**Hosted By:
The American Legion
Towson Post #22
125 York Road, Towson, MD 21204**

Menu: Roasted sliced top round beef in a demi glaze au jus with roasted herb red potatoes, fresh steamed vegetable medley, Caesar salad and a variety of deserts. Open bar included. For tickets, call 410-852-1039.





**Super Bowl LVI Mystery Cooler
*Silver & Gold Gourmet Basket***

American Legion Post 22Lounge Committee
100 Quart Coleman Cooler Filled with Bar Goodies
Sunday, February 13, 2022
125 York Road; Towson, MD 21204
Donations: \$5.00
Winner need not be present to win

Drink Responsibly



Towson Post 22, Inc.

The American Legion

Department of Maryland

125 York Road, Towson, MD 21204

www.towsonamericanlegion.org

**Non-Profit Org.
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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.

Upcoming Events

Check Facebook or the Post Website for Events