



# The Legion Scoop

Newsletter for the American Legion Federal Post #19  
Baltimore, Maryland est. 1930 August-September 2020

## Federal Post #19 installs officers for 2020-21

On August 2, [Federal Post #19](#) elected and installed officers for 2020-2021.

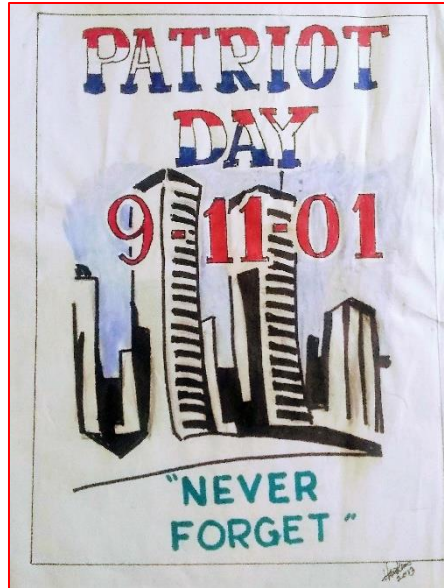
### Post #19 officers for 2020-2021

Larry Little .....	Commander
Reggie Baker .....	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice
Harriet Gross .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice
Willie Christian .....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice
Kendall Cooper .....	Adjutant
Thomas Russum .....	Judge Advocate
Joseph Harden .....	Finance Officer
LeCount Grace .....	Service Officer
Margaret Conaway .....	Chaplain
Marlin Johnson .....	Historian
Thomas Kennedy, Jr. ...	Sgt.-at-Arms

Adrian Barbour, Kermit Brown, Germaine Jefferson, John Jones, Rodney Reid, Gregory Scott, and Betty Bonds comprise the Board of Trustees.

## Federal Post #19 Commander Betty Bonds ends a successful two-year administration

Although hampered by the pandemic during her last 6 months in office, [Federal Post #19](#) Commander Betty Bonds leaves office with an impressive record of achievement. During her administration, we put up a new roof and a new floor on the first floor, both with lengthy warranties. We purchased a new microwave, stove, and refrigerator for the kitchen. We put new seats on the bar stools and refinished the bar.



At the same time, we upheld the principles of our Four Pillars, and during last year's [Department Convention](#), [Federal Post #19](#) received eighteen awards in our categories and district. At the time, Commander Bonds noted that "Such recognition is a tribute to all the hard work and dedicated service that the men, women, and children of [Post #19](#) perform each year."

Even during the pandemic, we helped raise funds and food for the Maryland Food Bank and funds and masks for [MCVET](#) while holding social distancing ceremonies for Memorial Day and Flag Day. All in all, Commander Bonds had a successful term, and *The Scoop* gives her a hearty salute.

[Join to Serve](#)

**General Meeting**  
**Sunday, September 7th,**  
**4 pm at the Post**



## Federal Post #19 initiates "Feed the Pig" fundraiser for Legion Child Welfare Foundation



When you go to the Post, you will see [American Legion Child Welfare Foundation](#) piggy banks located throughout. The cumulative donations from each Post, Squadron and Unit at the end of the program year is recognized with the Children First Gift Club award. Donation totals to receive the award are: \$1,000 – gold plaque; \$750 – silver plaque; and \$500 – bronze plaque. [Post #19](#)'s goal is to raise \$1,000 for the Foundation by May 31, 2021. So, the next time you're at the Post, please take your loose change and "Feed the Pig" to

benefit our Children and Youth. Better still, we have 64 banks, so you can purchase one of the little piglets for the low, low price of \$15.63.

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation provides grants to nonprofits for projects that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children. Grants are only given to entities that help U.S. children in a large geographic area; they are not awarded for day-to-day or special operating expenses. Learn more at [www.cwf-inc.org](http://www.cwf-inc.org).



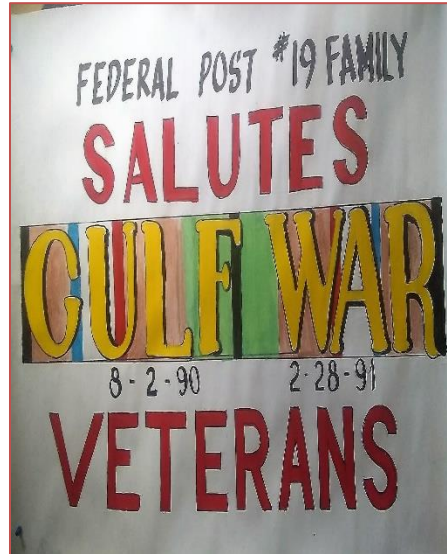
Squadron #19 Commander Dwayne Washington, Post #19 Commander Betty Bonds, and Unit #19 President Gina Jones present check to Red Cross for families of recent gas explosion.

## 102<sup>nd</sup> Department Convention to be held at five separate precincts

The Department Convention will be on September 19, 2020. The concept is to conduct the convention at five satellite locations that will be referred to as precincts. [Francis Scott Key Post #11](#) (West); [Harry White Wilmer Post # 82](#) (South); [Dewey Loman Post #109](#) (Central & Main); [Bernard L. Tobin Post #128](#) (North); and [Kent Island Post #278](#) (East).

These sites will be linked together using streaming devices that will provide the ability to observe, listen, and interact from each of the sites. Only critical items will be scheduled on the agenda. Post delegations will be assigned a precinct although only essential personnel are expected to attend. Posts will be expected to pick up their delegates packets that

morning from the sites, and do all their convention business from that assigned precinct.



## Department sends out patriotic labels to raise funds



During the current health crisis, fundraising for the Legion at just about every level has taken a toll at a time when many veterans and their families need greater aid. By now, you should have received your patriotic labels in the mail as a thank you from The American Legion, [Department of Maryland](#) for your continued support. Commander Philip Dorsey wants to “thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you do, and I pray will continue to do, for our at-risk Veterans, their families and the communities in which we live.”

“Now, as our nation confronts the unique challenge this year has bought, our Legion family here in Maryland must accept the crucial mission in front of us. As we did when we wore the uniform in defense of our flag and our loved ones,” says Commander

Dorsey, “I ask that Legionnaires lead from the front once again.”

“I hope you will use these labels to share your love of country with others during this critical time. And, if you haven’t done so yet, please consider making a gift to The [Department of Maryland](#) to support the programs and services that our Veterans and their families depend on, especially now with so many challenges they face.”

So, don’t just throw the labels in a desk and forget about them. Reach down and give to help veterans. That’s what we do!

Shrimp, Fish and Chicken Tenders Dinners on Sale at the Post, Friday and Saturday, 5-9 pm



## In August, U.S. Coast Guard celebrated 230<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The [history of the U.S. Coast Guard](#) dates back to August 4, 1790 when Congress authorized the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service under the Treasury Department to enforce tariff laws and prevent smuggling. [African Americans](#) served from the beginning and worked and fought side-by-side with their white shipmates. While some were free African Americans, others were American slaves for Cutter Service officers, a practice not ended until 1843.

Nevertheless, African Americans, free and slave, fought in the Quasi



War against France in 1790, and in the War of 1812 against the British, during which a captured 15-year-old African American cutter man became the youngest POW in Coast Guard history. During the Civil War, African Americans comprised nearly 10% of the Cutter Service, and during the Spanish-American War (1898), Congress awarded bronze medals for valor to Moses Jones and Henry Savage, black crewmen aboard U.S.R.C. *Hudson* during the Battle of Cardenas Bay.

In 1915, Congress merged the Revenue Cutter Service with the U.S. Life-Saving Service to form the U.S. Coast Guard. In subsequent years, the Lighthouse Service (1939) and the Navigation and Steamboat Inspection Service (1942) also merged with the Coast Guard.

Throughout, African Americans have served bravely. During World War I, ten African Americans crewmembers of the U.S.C.G.C *Tampa* gave the ultimate sacrifice when the cutter was sunk by a German U-boat in the worst naval loss of life in the war, 142 in total.

The first armed forces branch to desegregate, the Coast Guard in 1943 assigned 50 black enlisted men and officers to the Coast Guard-manned USS *Sea Cloud*. The experiment proved a success and set the standard for integration in other Coast Guard and Navy vessels. In addition, five African American women enlisted in [SPARS](#), the Coast Guard Women's Reserve. Today, the Coast Guard continues to provide opportunities for African Americans and to break cultural barriers in the United States.



## Bulletin for Auxiliary Unit #19

### Unit #19 to pass out school supplies to neighborhood youth

While our annual Back-to-School Block Party may have been canceled, the members of [Federal Unit #19](#) are not forgetting our neighborhood youth. Sometime in mid to late September they will be passing out school supplies to children in our community. They also plan to set up a table to give them hot dogs, juice, and potato chips. Of course, all social distancing guidelines will be adhered to.

[Unit #19](#) President Gina Jones is also asking for donations of school supplies including pencils, pens, pencil sharpeners, highlighters, composition and spiral notebooks, colored pencils, markers, scissors, glue sticks, pocket folders, dry erase markers, crayons, and backpacks. Although many of the school will open with online distance learning, these supplies are still if not more critical for the children in our neighborhood. The date of the give away will be decided at the upcoming Unit #19 meeting on September 13.

## Unit #19 officers remain the same for 2020-21

Because of the pandemic, [Federal Unit #19](#) officers will remain the same with exception of Historian Sandra Titus who is leaving office after during an outstanding job. The Unit will choose a new Historian at September meeting. Because of social distancing guidelines the Auxiliary meeting will be held Sunday, September 14 at 4 pm at the Elks, 1528 Madison Avenue.

- Gina Jones ..... President
- Shelleyarlene Scott ..... 1<sup>st</sup> Vice
- Trishera Diggs .... 2nd Vice
- Wandaleer Brogden ..... Secretary
- Wanda Stewart .... Corres. Secretary
- Lasharan Wallace ..... Treasurer
- Karen Berkley ..... Chaplain
- Vacant ..... Historian
- Pat Walker ..... Sgt-at-Arms
- Pat Dorsey ..... Asst. Sgt-at-Arms

Germaine Jefferson, Sharta Matthews, and Tangi Turner comprise the Executive Committee.

### Auxiliary membership dues are currently due

[Unit #19](#) 1<sup>st</sup> Vice president, Shelleyarlene Scott reminds everyone that "Membership dues for 2021 are now due. Membership dues for year 2021 are \$26. I am in receipt of the new membership cards, and if you prefer you can mail your dues directly to me, and I will mail your card out to you. You also have the option to pay your dues on line at [WWW.ALAforVeterans.org](http://WWW.ALAforVeterans.org) or call ALA National Headquarters to pay by phone. Remember, if you renew online or by phone, you will receive your card within 3 weeks, coming directly from ALA National HQ. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Thank You." [#ALARocks](#)



## A Word from the Sons

### Squadron #19 elects officers for

2020-21

This past August, [Federal Squadron #19](#) elected officers for 2020-2021. While most of the officers remained the same, there are some important changes at the top with SAL Comrade William Pinder becoming Squadron Commander. Squadron officers will be installed at their Sunday, September 20 General Meeting at the Post.

- William Pinder ..... Commander
- Dwayne Washington ..... 1<sup>st</sup> Vice
- Roscoe Holley ..... 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice
- Al Ramsey ..... Judge Advocate
- Aaron Robinson ..... Adjutant
- George Wright ..... Finance Officer
- Rufus Williams ..... Historian
- Jerry Sykes ..... Chaplain
- James Grayson ..... Sgt-at-Arms

[Check out the picture of our Post #19 Family on Legiontown!](#)

### VA Corner

#### **MDVA emphasizes employment assistance for veterans**

[Maryland Veterans Commissioner](#) Stan Seidel recently offered several tips for veterans seeking employment. If you or someone you know is seeking employment, the first step is to register for assistance with the Maryland Workforce Exchange (MWE) [mwejobs.maryland.gov](http://mwejobs.maryland.gov).

The Exchange has staff specifically dedicated to serve veterans with priority of service. Currently, MWE is conducting

business virtually and can assist veterans with their resumes as well as connecting them with employers via virtual job fairs.

Besides helping veterans craft a resume, there are programs to increase a veteran's opportunity to get an interview including the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) that offers employers an incentive to hire veterans. Additionally, veterans may be eligible for on-the-job-training through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Service-connected disabled veterans may also be eligible for paid training through the [U.S. Veterans Affairs, Veteran Readiness and Employment](#) under Chapter 31. The MWE has trained staff near you that can assist you in finding the right career.

Also, there are nonprofit organizations who will also assist veterans in finding careers including the [Veterans Staffing Network](#) (VSN) which is part of Easter Seals. VSN also has career coaches that will assist you with your resume as well as introduce you to employers who are looking to hire on a temporary basis with a possibility of permanent employment.

### Post Notes

Take the online [Basic Training Course](#) on the [National](#) website.

Please take time to visit or call our members who are sick and shut-in. They must not be forgotten.

Please remember to clean your own areas at the Post. Personal responsibility and discipline will help keep all of us safe.

Still collecting clothes for MCVET, which is holding a Virtual 5K Run and Walk on November 11, 2020.

Membership for 2020-2021 is currently due. We missed 100% membership for 2019-2020, so please

make every effort to pay your dues in a timely fashion.



Early Bird Special extended until October 1.

*The Scoop* salutes ...

all the members of the Post #19 family who keep us strong and united during these rough times;

Unit #19 President Gina Jones for managing the door every Wednesday to make sure everyone signs the book and has a mask;

Comrade Greg Shaw for purchasing lightbulbs for the kitchen.



**Sick Call**  
**Louis Hardy**  
**Freda Holley**  
**Jimmy Johnson**  
**Kim McCoy**  
**Emmett Pope**  
**Warren Scott**  
**Thomas Wiggins**  
**Abby Wilson**