



The Legion Scoop

Newsletter for the American Legion Federal Post #19
Baltimore, Maryland est. 1930 July 2019

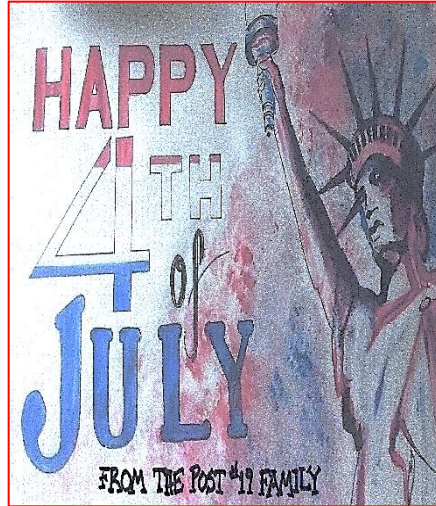
Department of Maryland celebrates 101st Convention in Ocean City

This year, the American Legion [Department of Maryland](#) will hold our 101st Anniversary Convention in Ocean City, Maryland from Tuesday, July 16 through Friday, July 19. In the Summer Edition of the [Free State Warrior](#), [Department](#) Adjutant Russell Myers offers several of the Convention's highlights including the Southern MD District's Fish Fry on Monday and Legion College on Tuesday at 8 am.

Adjutant Myers notes that "these courses are essential for officers at all levels, and I guarantee the instruction will teach you something about the Legion you didn't know." Myers also highlights our Joint Reception and Opening Ceremonies on Tuesday evening at the Bayview Grand Ballroom. Bring the family.

Membership awards will be distributed on Wednesday morning, and this year, [Federal Post #19](#) is among the 13% of Posts statewide to achieve 100% membership. Indeed, Area B of the Baltimore District ended up in 2nd position to Carroll County of Western Maryland District's 1st position. Big salute to Carroll County and to Western Maryland District for its overall number one in the Department. And a big salute also to [Randolph Furey Post #170](#), where we just visited, for being first in membership among Posts in the Department.

Also, on Wednesday morning of the Convention at 8:30 am, Post #19's Utopia Diabe, the Department Oratorical winner, will present her



prepared oration to the assembly. On Thursday morning, we will hear from this year's Boy' State Governor as well as this year's recipients of our National Security-Public Safety awards to first responders from across our State who "stand guard and answer the call when needed."

Adjutant Myers also explains that "Our Department Convention offers a glimpse at the busy year and, above all, allows the Department to thank the committees and commissions for their hard work and to thank the Posts that are the heart and soul of our organization. It also gives the Legion Family a week of fun in the sun, and ability to share the good times through a family vacation or get-away." Please see the Summer Edition of the [Free State Warrior](#) for the full schedule.

[Any Legionnaire can sign up online for the Legion College at the Department Convention in Ocean City. Classes begin Tuesday, July 16 at 8:00 am. Just follow this link.](#)

**General Meeting
Sunday, July 7
4 pm at the Post**

Post #19 Commander Betty Bonds re-elected to a second term

This past June, members of [Federal Post #19](#) re-elected Commander Betty Bonds to a second term as commander. "Thank you to my Comrades for your vote of



confidence in me as your commander of [Federal Post #19](#)," says Comrade Bonds. "I understand the job and the commitment better, and with the help of our entire Legion family, we can make a better Post #19. We are truly blessed, and our members show their love for our Post and the American Legion in many different ways."

"We had pretty good year. We held our Thanksgiving Dinner for veterans and seniors and delivered more than 170 dinners, and we gave out seven Christmas baskets to deserving families in the community. We also donated to the VA (all four times they asked), the Freestate Challenge Academy, and James Mosher Little League."

"We conducted ceremonies for Veterans Day, Memorial Day, and Flag Day and held bus trips to visit our comrades at [American Defenders Post #968](#) in Philadelphia and [Randolph Furey Post #170](#) in Indian Head, MD.

We also put in a much-needed new floor for the Canteen and purchased a new air conditioning unit. We did it all together.”

“I am truly honored to hold this position for my organization. I'm excited and looking forward to going beyond the call of duty for my Post. Keep me in your prayers as I undertake my assignment. With the continued support of the members and guests, all will be well with [Federal Post #19.](#)”

Along with Commander Bonds, Larry Little was elected 1st Vice; Harriett Gross, 2nd Vice; Willie Christian, 3rd Vice; Joe Harden, Finance Officer; Reggie Baker, Service Officer; Thomas Russum, Judge Advocate; LeCount Grace, Historian; and Earl Ennis, Sgt-at-Arms. Comrades Germaine Jefferson, Thomas Kennedy, and Rodney Reid were elected to the Board of Trustees.

Officers' Installation scheduled for Sunday, July 28th

On Sunday, July 28, 2019, the [Federal Post #19](#) Family will install officers for 2019-2020 at 3:00 am at Monumental Lodge #3, 1528 Madison Avenue. We will also be honoring our Police Officer, Fire Fighter, Teacher, and Student of the Year. Along with Comrade Betty Bond as [Post #19](#) Commander, ALA member Gina Jones will be inducted as President for [Federal Unit #19](#), and Comrade Dwayne Washington takes over another year as Commander of [Federal Squadron #19](#). A complete list of all the officers will appear in the next edition of *The Scoop*.

Installation is open to invited guests, and we hope that as many members as possible can join us and celebrate this momentous occasion. After Installation, we will take group photographs for our 90th Anniversary Journal, and refreshments will be served shortly thereafter.

89th Anniversary Week capped by Anniversary toast and comrades from out of town Posts



ALA Baltimore District President Pat Walker, Unit #19 President Gina Jones, Post #19 Commander Betty Bonds, and Squadron #19 Commander Dwayne Washington prepare to toast our 89th year.

[Post #19](#) Commander Betty Bonds presided over a successful 89th Anniversary Week and Open House, and the Post received visitors from both in and out of town. We played hosts to Elks, Masons, members from a variety of Social Clubs, and of course, lots and lots of Veterans. They ate, drank, and fellowshiped.

On Thursday, Northeastern Post #285, like last year, came out strong and deep; big salute to our Eastside Comrades and Commander Junious L. Lewis. On Saturday, members from [American Defenders Post #968](#) filled the Post with fun, camaraderie, and love. The camaraderie and love continued on Sunday as members of the [Post #19](#) turned out for our Anniversary Cookout and Toast.



Past SMD Commander Stan Shaw, Department Judge Advocate Frank Porter, and Department 3rd Vice Ron Holcombe join Post #19 during our visit to Post #170.



Post #19 family celebrating Open House and Anniversary Week.



Commander Betty Bonds, 3rd Vice Harriett Gross, and Historian Willie Christian inspect unserviceable flags at our Dignified Flag Disposal Ceremony on Flag Day.



Our Post #19 family fellowshipping with the Randolph Furey Post #170 family during our recent visit to Indian Head.



The Scoop illustrator Comrade Preston Hawkins and Post #170 Commander Allen McKenzie display a sign that Hawkins created and Commander Betty Bonds presented that acknowledges Post #170 as “First in Membership” for the Department.



Baltimore District Caucus elects Austin Ball to second term as District Commander

This past June 2018, the [Baltimore District](#) Caucus elected Comrade Austin Ball, Post #294, as Commander and Reggie Baker, [Post #19](#) as First Vice Commander for 2018-19. Darrell Truesdale, Post #294 and Marian James, Post #285, were elected as [District](#) Representatives to the DEC.

Baltimore District sponsors 50/50 Drawing

The Baltimore District is sponsoring a 50/50 Drawing to be held at the Department Convention in Ocean City. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5, and you need not be present to win. All proceeds will benefit District Programs. See Comrade Goether Roberts or any District Officer for tickets.



Bulletin for Auxiliary Unit #19

Gina Jones re-elected President for Federal Unit #19 for 2018-19

The Scoop would like to congratulate ALA member Gina Jones who was recently re-elected to a second term as President for [Federal Unit #19](#). *The Scoop* wishes her much



Unit #19 members sail around Baltimore Inner Harbor during their recent Moonlight Cruise fundraiser.

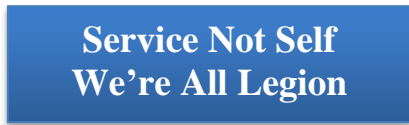
success. Also elected were Shelleyarlene Scott, 1st Vice; Trishera Diggs, 2nd Vice; Lasharan Wallace, Treasurer; Sandra Titus, Historian; Karen Berkley, Chaplain; and Patricia Ann Walker, Sgt-at-Arms. Germaine Jefferson, Sharta Matthews, and Tangi Turner were elected to the Executive Board.

Unit #19 to host “Grown & Sexy Party” on August 10



On Saturday, August 10, 9 pm-1 am, [Federal Unit #19](#) is hosting a “Grown & Sexy Party” fundraiser at Northeastern Post #285, 2324 McElderry St. Proceeds will benefit American Legion Auxiliary Programs.

The affair will have door prizes and is BYOB and BYOF. There will be Lite Fare (while it last). Donations are \$20 (more at the door). For ticket info contact Committee Chairs Joyce Brown, Lasharan Wallace, Jean Robinson-McCauley, Yolanda Dow, Tangi Turner, Arndera Glascoe, or Unit #19 President Gina Jones.



Members of the ALA Baltimore District showed their love and appreciation for District President Pat Walker with several gifts.



Daughters of Great Southern Temple #30 celebrating our 89th Anniversary during Open House Week. They look really familiar.

Unit #19 sponsors three youth to Girls State



(l to r) Neighborhood Counselors Pat Dorsey and Cendoria Dean (Samaria’s mother); Girls State Reps Eysa Johnson, Samaria Dean, Jazmine Moore; and Store Manager/Neighborhood Counselor Wandaleer Brogden.

This year, [Federal Unit #19](#) sponsored three young ladies to Girls State held June 16-21 at Salisbury University in Salisbury, MD. Those representing [Unit #19](#) included Eysa Johnson (Comrade Ron Holcombe’s granddaughter), Western High School, whose career goal is to serve in the military; Samaria Dean, Baltimore Polytechnic Institute who wants to go into the Air Force and

become a lawyer; and Jazmine Moore, Baltimore City College, who wants to become a trauma physician. “These are the awesome juniors who represent [Federal Unit #19](#),” says Girl State Rep. Pat Dorsey. “We all are honored and proud to represent our Post.”

The American Legion Auxiliary’s marquee Girls State program, first presented in 1937, is one of the most respected and coveted experiential learning programs presented in the United States. The young women become knowledgeable of the democratic process and how our republic form of government works at the state and national levels.



A Word from the Sons

Squadron #19 receives recognition at the Detachment Convention



SAL Comrade Donnell Hughes, Squadron #19 Commander Dwayne Washington, and SAL Comrade Adrian Barbour and Charles “Petey” Dorsey display award.

At the SAL Detachment of Maryland 46th Convention, [Federal Squadron #19](#) received several awards that illustrated their support for veterans and the Four Pillars. The Squadron received an award for achieving Three Star status and Letters of Appreciation for their support of Boys State and the Special Olympics. While they missed the deadline, they still completed the

Detachment Commander’s Challenge for the Four Pillars.



**American Legion Federal Post #19
“4th of July Cookout”
Thursday, 3 pm**

VA Corner

Veterans gain huge victory with Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veteran Law

Congress recently passed the [Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act](#), which was signed into law June 25, 2019, a move that will fast-track disability compensation for veterans with medical conditions related to the chemical herbicide Agent Orange.

The law means veterans will now get the same presumption as ground troops that certain diseases are connected to Agent Orange exposure. According to Congress and the VA, an estimated 90,000 veterans may be eligible for benefits under the new law

The law extends disability compensation to veterans who served off the coast of the Republic of Vietnam between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, within 12 nautical miles of the coast of Vietnam and Cambodia, along a line of demarcation spelled out in the law.

Those eligible include veterans with one or more of the presumptive diseases whose claims were previously denied. It also includes those with new claims. The law also covers veterans who served in the Korean Demilitarized Zone between September 1, 1967, and August 31, 1971, as well as children with spina

bifida born to veterans who served in Thailand between January 1962 and May 1975.



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 help keep the Post clean, clearing tables, getting up spills, and generally policing the building.

The Scoop salutes ...

all the **volunteers** and donors who helped make our 89th Anniversary Week and Open House a success;

SAL Comrade Irvin Johnson on donating a student’s karate membership on behalf of [Squadron #19](#).

Sick Call

**Wendell Garland
Quentin Guy
Charles Gregory
George Harvey
John Howard
Kim MCoy
Emmett Pope
Warren Scott
Thomas Wiggins**