



The Legion Scoop

Newsletter for the American Legion Federal Post #19
Baltimore, Maryland est. 1930 May 2021

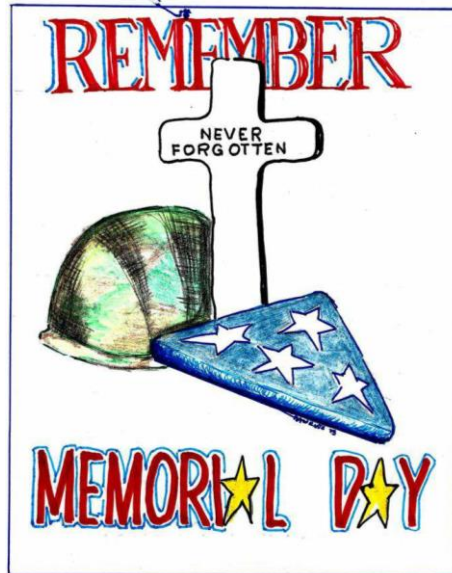
Post #19 plans Memorial Day Ceremony; May is Military Appreciation Month

On Monday, May 31, the [Federal Post #19](#) family is planning a very special Memorial Day Ceremony to honor all those who have died from COVID-19 during the past year. The social distancing mandates will determine how many members we can have at the Post, which presently at 50%. We will also have seating in the backyard. Moreover, Memorial Day is a day for remembering the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. We must never forget.

We will remember and honor members of the [Post #19](#) family who have transferred to **Post Everlasting**: Henry Brice, Gregory Hall, and Thomas Wiggins; **Unit Everlasting**: Jean Carwile, Crystal Futtrell-Christian, and Sherrie Watts **Squadron Everlasting**: None. After the ceremony, we will have our annual Cookout, again with limited capacity and following all coronavirus guidelines.



Memorial Day culminates [National Military Appreciation Month](#), celebrated every May to honor both past and current members of the



Armed Forces. The month includes several national and patriotic holidays. Saturday, May 1 is [Silver Star Service Banner Day](#), set aside by Congress to honor wounded, ill, and injured veterans. May 2-8 is [Public Service Recognition Week](#), which reminds us of the contributions of government workers.

The American Legion always celebrates family, and Friday, May 7 is [Military Spouse Appreciation Day](#). The next day, Saturday, May 8 marks the 76th anniversary of [Victory in Europe \(VE\) Day](#). Saturday, May 15 is [Armed Forces Day](#) to honor military service. Finally, Friday, May 28 is [National Poppy Day](#) to remind us of the sacrifices of our veterans.

The Scoop would like to salute the many **volunteers** and donors who have served their communities in our hour of need. This Memorial Day gives us challenges as none before, but we will rise to the occasion and honor past and current members of the military and their families. Never Forgotten.

General Meeting
Saturday, May 2
4 pm at the Post

District Meeting
Thursday, May 6,
7 pm at Post #285

Post elections scheduled for Sunday, June 6

This year, elections for 2021-2022 will be held on Sunday, June 6 at 3:00 p.m. at Monumental Lodge #3, 1528 W. Madison Avenue. **All members** must have a current 2021 membership card to be admitted and vote. No **new memberships, renewals or lost cards** will be taken care of on the day of election. If your dues are not current or you have lost your membership card, please contact Post Adjutant Kendall Cooper prior to the elections.

Post 19 to celebrate 91st Anniversary Week at half capacity; Open House ends with Birthday Cookout

This year, we are celebrating a scaled back 91st Anniversary Week and Open House from Sunday, June 6 through Sunday, June 13. For now, we are at half capacity and are following all coronavirus guidelines. Still, we hope you all will make an effort on one day to come to the Post, join in the festivities, and help greet our guests. We will end the week with an Anniversary Cookout and Toast.

Because of the pandemic, our Anniversary Week and Open House schedule has been modified from previous years, and you will receive an updated schedule in the June issue of *The Scoop*. Regardless, everyone is welcomed every day, and drink specials and light refreshments will be served throughout the week.

Goal Met!
\$1,000 for our
Child Welfare
Foundation, Inc.



It wasn't easy collecting a \$1,000 one penny at a time, especially with the Post Commander rattling those banks constantly. But we did and should be proud of our generosity!

Post #19 to resurface backyard along with other repairs

[Federal Post #19](#) is in the midst of completing several necessary but costly repairs to our Post home. We have taken down the closet attached to the building that was about to fall. We removed the unsightly blue paint, replaced several bricks, and pointed the back wall. We installed a new

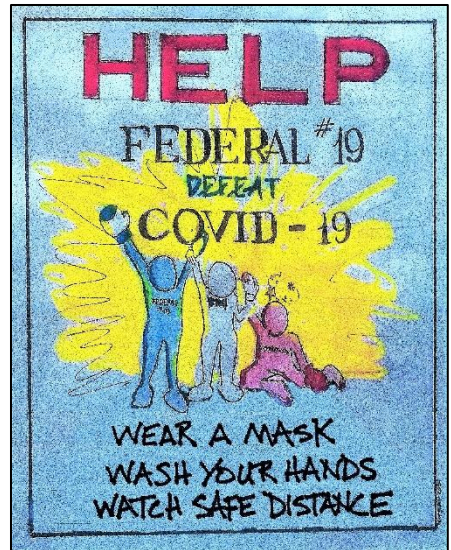


back door and painted the side wall. Big salute to SAL comrade Joshua Bonds for painting the wall and [Unit #19](#) member Cheryl "Ci-Ci" Rose for supplying the paint.

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We are currently resurfacing the backyard, a project that we've been



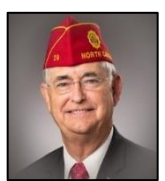
wanting to do for years. Of course, the job is quite expensive, and we are asking all members to make a donation to help fund the project. So far, we have about \$1,500 in pledges. Big salute to the Color Guard and SAL Comrade George Wright for being the first to make donations. We still need someone to paint the fire escape and the metal table, and we need repairs to the grill (welding). Once we get all of that done, we will decorate the backyard to provide a welcoming environment.

A message from our National Commander Bill Oxford

It was just over a year ago when I sent out an email to you with the title, "An urgent message about coronavirus."

The past year has been trying for us all. We've lost friends and family members. We've felt isolation while adhering to safety guidelines. And we've missed our brothers and sisters in The American Legion. Thankfully, there is hope ahead.

I look forward to our Legion events occurring once again and catching up with American Legion



Family members. At the same time, we'll need to continue practicing safety protocols. The pandemic still has not lifted and a heightened risk remains for yet another surge of cases.

To protect yourself, fellow Legionnaires and others, please wear a mask, wash your hands frequently and practice other social-distancing measures. And if you have not already, please get your vaccinations before joining us. Handshakes, hugs and other forms of close contact are out. As National Judge Advocate Kevin Bartlett recommends, "No touchy."

While we may see these measures as restrictive, remember this—what's important is that we are back together once again. And no mask can keep us from pursuing our mission of service to communities, states and nation. After all, we are ... Veterans Strengthening America.

Good Friday Bake Sale and Fish Fry a rousing success



Comrades Kendall Cooper, Preston Hawkins, Tommy Alderman, and Charles Taylor enjoying themselves at the Fish Fry.

The Good Friday Fish Fry and Bake Sale was a rousing success and Comrade Betty Bonds and her committee deserve a hearty salute. They worked tirelessly throughout the day and sold more than 300 dinners. It took a lot of volunteers.

"Team work truly makes the dream work," says Comrade Bonds. "On behalf of Commander Larry Little, sincere thanks to [Federal Post #19](#) members and all our patrons for your support of the Good Friday Fish

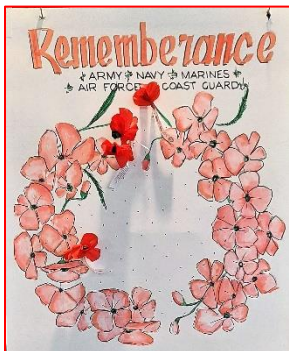
Fry. The fundraiser was quite successful because of you. To the committee members and the faithful members and guests that assisted with the cooking, you were truly a major blessing, and I am so grateful and thankful for you.”



And we opened up the 2nd floor. Thanks Gina!

Pick a poppy for a loved one; put it on our Memorial Day wreath

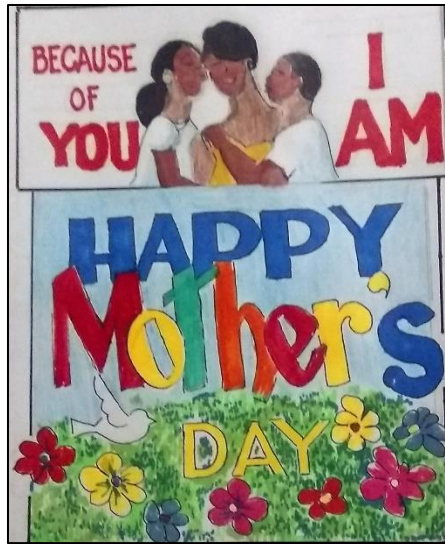
As part of our Memorial Day Ceremony, we ask that members and friends pick a poppy for a loved one



who has passed away and place the poppy on our Memorial Day Wreath. On Flag Day, we will dispose of the wreath in the ashes of the American flags.

The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms. Wear a poppy to honor those who have worn our nation's uniform.

All donations received will be used by The American Legion Family for their programs that support veterans, the military community, and their families.



Bulletin for Auxiliary Unit #19

Unit #19 sponsors a Fourth of July Holiday Raffle

[Federal Unit #19](#) is sponsoring a 4th of July Holiday Raffle. First prize is a Bushel of Crabs; 2nd prize is a Grilling Utensil Set and Bluetooth Sound Box; and 3rd prize is a Case of Beer. The drawing will be held Sunday, July 4 at the Post. Donations are \$1.00, and winners need not be present to win. For tickets, see [Unit #19](#) President Gina Jones, 2nd Vice President Tangi Turner, or any [Unit #19](#) member.

Federal Unit #19 collecting puzzle and word search books for VA

Members of [Federal Unit #19](#) are again collecting crossword puzzles and word search books for veterans at the VA. Many of our veterans at the VA don't have access to computers or smart phones or are not computer



savvy, but word search books and crossword puzzle books are perfect ways to help keep their minds sharp. The more complex the book, the better. The dollar store is a perfect place to find the books, and you can drop them off at the Post. Look for the box marked word search. For more info, contact ALA member Pat Dorsey.



ALA Baltimore District President Pat Walker assisted by Junior Unit #19 member Lakeisha Matthews recently set up a Military Child Table to honor the children of service members. Also pictured are Post #19 Commander Larry Little and Baltimore District Commander Reggie Baker.



Unit #19 members put together Easter baskets for the students at the William Baer School for children with multiple disabilities and for members of our Federal Post #19 family.



Unit #19 members had a very busy Easter, handing out snacks and Easter baskets to neighborhood children.

**Service Not Self
We're All Legion**



A Word from the Sons

Squadron #19 elections set for Sunday, May 16

On Sunday, May 16 at 4 pm at the Post, [Federal Squadron #19](#) will hold elections for Squadron officers for 2021-22. Anyone interested in any office can nominate yourself. All members are required to show their 2021 membership card before the election. Only members in good standing will be allowed to cast their vote. If you do not have a current membership card, contact Adjutant Aaron Robinson as soon as possible. No one will be allowed to enter after the election process has begun.



Squadron #19 comrade Dwayne Washington donated fish dinners from the Fish Fry to the Baltimore Development Center for Youth.

Squadron #19 members host 2nd Annual Cancer Awareness Fashion Show Fundraiser

The pandemic stopped it last year, but it's on again now. On Saturday, May 22 at 7 pm at Monumental Elk Lodge #3, it's Federal Post #19 Patrons vs East Baltimore Elk Lodge #1043 Patrons at the 2nd Annual Cancer Awareness Fashion Show Fundraiser. The Post #19 team will be led by SAL Comrade Dwayne Washington and the Elk #1043 team (which doesn't have a chance) is led

by Donnell Hughes even though he is a Squadron #19 Comrade.

This year, the Fashion Show is in memory of Robin Brooke, Marian Henry, and Bridgette Kennedy who all participated in the 1st show and who all recently passed away. The affair is BYOB with light refreshments and set-ups. Music by DJ Absolute. CDC rules apply: masks, social distancing, and limited capacity. Donations are \$20. For tickets and more info, see SAL comrades Washington and Hughes.



VA Corner

VA expands COVID-19 vaccinations

On March 24, 2021, the President signed the SAVE Lives Act. The law expands VA's authority to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to more Veterans and some spouses and caregivers of Veterans.

The VA Maryland Health Care System still has a limited amount of the COVID-19 vaccine. They are working to determine how quickly they can obtain additional supplies so they can begin to offer the vaccine to the other groups, but they are not ready to begin these vaccinations at this time.

Veterans and their spouses/caregivers are encouraged to "Sign Up and Stay Informed" to receive regular updates about the COVID-19 vaccine at VA by visiting: www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/stay-informed.

Post Notes

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

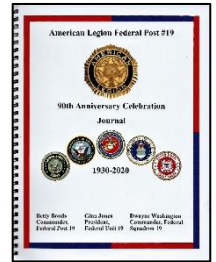
Please take time to visit or call our members who are sick and shut-in. They must not be forgotten.

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



We have 90th Anniversary shot glasses on sale. \$3 each and 3 for \$10 (It's a fundraiser!)

We also still have a limited amount of 90th Anniversary Journals for sale. The Journal is 80 pages, full color, and features our Post History, individual pictures of more than 200 members of our Post family, contributions from our patrons and sponsors, a Post Family Everlasting salute, and lots and lots of memories. Donations \$10.



The Scoop salutes ...

The entire Post #19 family for helping raise \$1,000 for our Child Welfare Foundation;

Comrades Tony Kennedy and Elmer Moore for their generous donations to the Post.

Sick Call

**Louis Hardy
Freda Holley
Jimmy Johnson
Marlin Johnson
Verlon Mills
Emmett Pope
Warren Scott
Lincoln Stokes
Abby Wilson**