

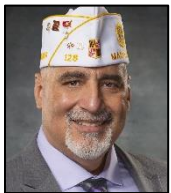


The Legion Scoop

Newsletter for Federal Post #19 of The American Legion
Baltimore, Maryland est. 1930 October 2024

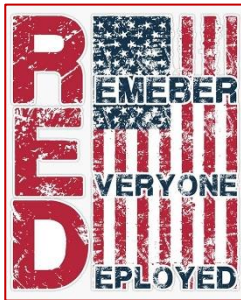
Honoring Our Heroes: The Importance of RED Friday

Every Friday, many of us wear red in solidarity with a simple but powerful message: Remember Everyone Deployed (RED). It's more than just a color—it's a commitment to honor the sacrifices of our brave men and women serving abroad. As a proud veteran and an advocate for our military community through the American Legion, I believe RED Friday serves as a weekly reminder of the courage, dedication, and resilience of those who serve to protect our freedom.



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For families with loved ones deployed, every day is a challenge. Wearing red on Fridays shows them that they are not forgotten—that their sacrifices are seen, felt, and appreciated by a grateful nation. This small gesture is a symbol of unity and support, reminding us all to reflect on the bravery of our military members and their families who endure separation and uncertainty.



As we observe RED Friday, let's also use it as a moment to take action. Reach out to a military family, support veteran causes, or get involved with organizations like the American Legion that work tirelessly to serve those who serve us.



Today, and every Friday, we wear red to remember, honor, and show our gratitude.

Let's make sure that no one who is deployed feels forgotten. We stand with you, we honor you, and we will always remember you.

Also, stresses Be the One

The American Legion's "Be The One" mission is a powerful reminder that we must always be there for one another, especially when it comes to mental health and veteran suicide prevention. Each of us plays a vital role in ensuring that no veteran feels alone. This is why our project supporting Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation is so essential to our success in serving veterans and their families.

By continuing to engage, support, and lead, you ensure that our mission



General Meeting
Sunday, October 4,
4 pm at the Post
NCR, District 4 Meeting
Sunday, October 20, 1 pm
Turner Post #276 ([map](#))

of service remains strong and that we continue to be a force for good. Thank you for your unwavering commitment, and together, we will continue to make a difference.

We are the Champions of Hope, supporting our veterans and their families within our local communities. We are "**Better Together,**" and together, we will reach our goal and help "**Build a Legion Family for the Future—One MEMBER at a Time!**"



Dates set for our Annual Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets

Giving holiday baskets to those in need is a [Federal Post #19](#) family tradition that dates to the 1930's during the Great Depression. This

year's dates to pass out and deliver Annual Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets are set for Sat, Nov. 23 for Thanksgiving and Sat, Dec. 21 at 12 noon for both dates.

We are accepting donations to provide at least 10 baskets with gift cards for each holiday. Please bring donations to



Federal Post #19,
1502 Madison

Avenue. Look for a box marked Post #19. In addition to **hams and turkey**, we are asking for the following:

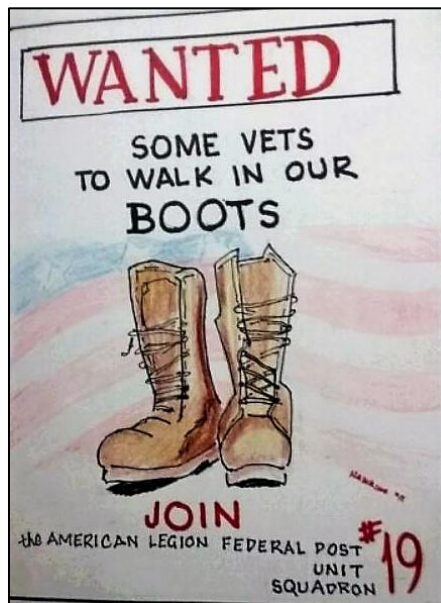
- Canned Vegetables (Green Beans, Collards, Mixed Vegetables, Corn, Sweet Potatoes, White Potatoes)
- Boxed/Bag Potatoes, (Mashed or Scalloped; Rice (White-Brown-Yellow – Boxes or Bags); Stuffing
- Cans of fruit (Apple, Cranberry, Cranberry Sauce, Pineapple, Applesauce, Canned/Packet of Gravy, and so forth.)
- Boxes of Baking Goods (Cake Mixes, Brownies, Pie Fillings)
- Gift Cards from Walmart (\$25)

Volunteers are needed to assist in putting baskets together. Please lend your support. For more information, please contact 3rd Vice Commander Harriette Gross or Chaplain Thomas Russum.



The Scoop salutes lifetimes of service. Comrade Micheal MacKay received the 2024 Federal Post #19 Lifetime Service Award and Comrade Thomas recently received the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award from Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland.

Join to Serve



Post #19 Strikers end a 2nd successful season

Earlier this month, the [Post #19 Strikers](#) Bowling League completed their second season with an awards ceremony and reception at the Post. Organized by Chaplain Thomas Russum, The Post #19 Strikers are deigned to raise the American Legion's profile in the community, increase morale within our Post family, and have lots of fun doing it.

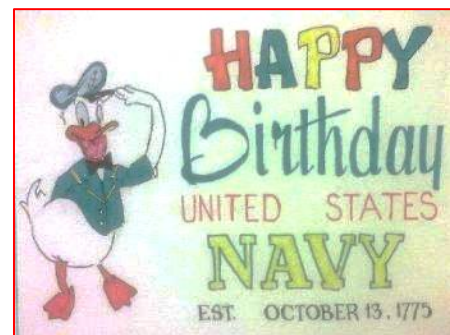


The League consists of 10-12 teams with more than 30 members and friends participating and runs for six weeks from July to August at the [AMF Woodlawn Lanes](#). Anyone interested in joining the Strikers or

creating a team for the league should contact Comrade Russum.



Fourteen Department of Maryland Past Commanders recently met for a luncheon at Kent Island Post #278. How many of them can you name?



On October 13, the United States Navy will celebrate its 249th Birthday with the theme “Warfighting Strength and Readiness.” African Americans have served from the Navy's beginning giving the [African American Experience in the U.S. Navy](#) a long tradition.

Still, that long tradition has been fraught with discrimination, segregation, and injustice with African Americans only allowed to serve as cooks, waiters, unskilled laborers, and officers' stewards. That is until the shooting starts.

Navy exonerates 256 black sailors wrongly punished in Port Chicago incident

For instance, last July 2024, on the 80th anniversary of the explosion at the [Port Chicago Naval Magazine](#) in California [that killed 320 people](#) and injured 400 others, the U.S. Navy exonerated 256 black sailors who refused to continue to load munitions

onto ships under unsafe working conditions.

Neither the black sailors nor their white officers, who “raced” crews to see who could load fastest, were not trained adequately for the dangerous work that included handling 600-pound bombs and highly volatile incendiaries fitted with detonators. The black sailors protested but were ignored, and the disaster ensued.

In the aftermath, 256 black sailors refused to work and were court martialed on charges that ranged from bad conduct to mutiny. The recent exoneration reversed their convictions, changed their discharges to honorable, and provided compensation to their families for pay they lost while incarcerated.

Today’s U.S. Navy is diverse, and African Americans comprise 17-19% of the One Navy Team. They are fully integrated into the Navy, and their ideas, experiences, perspectives, capabilities, and skill sets help to ensure the safety of our nation. *The Scoop* would like to salute all the men and women of the Navy, active duty and veterans, who have served our nation. One free drink for [Post #19](#) Navy vets on Sun, Oct. 13.

The Navy’s biggest mystery: What happened to Dewey Lowman?

The recent Department realignment made Post #19 part of the Northern Central Region, District 4 and placed us together with Posts in the Region that we had little prior contact with. One such Post is [Dewey Lowman Post #109](#), Halethorpe, MD. So, who was Dewey Lowman. As it turns out, the fate of Lowman and his shipmates is one of the U.S. Navy’s biggest mystery.

During World War I, Lowman and 306 shipmates served aboard the



[USS Cyclops](#), a Navy cargo ship, the largest ship in the Navy. On March 4, 1918, the *Cyclops* left Brazil with 11,000 tons of manganese headed for the port of Baltimore. The *Cyclops* was never seen again, and no wreckage of the ship has ever been found. All hands lost.

Was the ship overloaded and sank in bad weather; did a German submarine torpedo it; was it lost in the Bermuda Triangle; was it aliens or sea beasts? We may not know now, but as members of The American Legion, we will “spare no effort to secure ... the repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defense of liberty.” We will bring Lowman home eventually. A hearty salute to our Comrades at [Dewey Lowman Post #109](#). One Family, One Mission!

Col. Yolanda Gore becomes first woman commander at Ft. Meade

In August 2024, Col. Yolanda Gore became the 89th garrison commander of Fort Meade, Maryland, the first woman to hold the position. Gore recently served as the former



strategic initiative chief for the Army’s deputy chief. “I’m excited about the prospect of meeting new people and taking on the challenges this role will bring. It’s an exciting feeling to envision what lies ahead,” Gore said. “

Fort Meade is the Army’s second-largest installation by population, and in her new role, Gore will oversee the base’s 64,000 employees. Gore’s message for other women looking to the Army for leadership was to focus on the good and keep pushing for what you want rather than focusing on the setbacks.

“It takes years to change culture,” said Gore, “it takes years sometimes

to change climate. So, I’m hoping this is a step in the right direction.”



Bulletin for Auxiliary Unit #19

From the President’s desk

I want to congratulate the Wine & Jazz Event Committee for a job well done. The event was a delightful and enchanting evening, and everyone had a wonderful time.

We have two upcoming events this month. First, we will be hosting the Breast Cancer Awareness and



Auxiliary Potluck on Tuesday, October 15th at 5 pm. Additionally, our Annual Trunk or Treat event will be on Thursday, October 31st from 6 pm to 8 pm. Your support for these events is highly appreciated.

Don't forget that our Monthly Meeting will be on Sunday, October 13th at 4 pm. It will include the initiation of our new members, so please come out and welcome them.

Unit #19 hosts Trunk or Treat for neighborhood children

On Halloween, Thursday, October 31, members of the [Federal Unit #19](#) will be hosting a “Trunk or Treat for Children.” The event will be



held at Madison Av. and Mosher St. in front of the Post from 6-8 pm. The event will provide less walking for little kids, a safer environment for Halloween, and fun for everyone!

If you want to turn the trunk of your car into a spookfest or if you would like to make a donation,

contact [Unit #19](#) President Shelley Scott.



The Scoop salutes the members of the Federal Unit #19 “Wine and Jazz Affair” committee who did an outstanding job with a successful event. As one member put it, “Hot dayum my ALA Sisters!”



Unit #19 honors our Gold Star Mother, Rosemarie Ceo. We acknowledge her loss and offer our support, grateful for the sacrifice her son made for our nation. Thank you for your

service, Cpl. Bernard L. Ceo. Your legacy lives on.



A Word from the Sons



The officers of Federal Squadron #19 recently had their first meeting and laid out an ambitious agenda for the new year that focuses on the Four Pillars

VA Corner

Today, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced that tele-emergency care (tele-EC) is now available nationwide, a step that increases timely access to virtual emergency care options for Veterans enrolled in VA health care. This expansion of care — piloted in recent

months — has already shown promise for Veterans, helping more than 61,182 callers with a 59.4% case resolution rate (meaning Veterans’ needs were resolved without having to travel from their homes to urgent care or an emergency department).

Tele-emergency care is a part of [VA Health Connect](#), a phone service that Veterans can call nationwide. Veterans who contact VA Health Connect will speak to a clinical triage nurse, who will connect them to tele-emergency care when clinically appropriate.

Veterans can be evaluated for possible emergencies from the comfort of their home. If you’re not sure if what you’re experiencing is a minor emergency or not, tele-emergency care can help you resolve those questions. Veterans can get immediate, virtual triage with a VA medical provider who has direct access to their medical records. This avoids having to potentially drive to the nearest emergency department and wait to be evaluated, if appropriate.”

Through VA’s tele-emergency care, Veterans now have increased and quicker access to timely emergency care from VA clinicians, helping them get the right care, at the right time, from the right place. While tele-EC does not replace the need for in-person emergency evaluation, for Veterans with mobility and transportation challenges, in-person immediate care can be difficult to access. VA’s tele-EC helps bridge the gaps.

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.

All members are asked to help keep the Post clean, clearing tables, getting

The Members Only Fundraising Committee of Federal Post 19
Presents L’Affaire Toute Noir
 (An All-Black Affair)

On Saturday, November 2, 2024
 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
 At Northeastern Post #285
 2324 McElderry Street

B.Y.O.B. ... B.Y.O.E
 Music by D.J. Absolute
 Basket Raffle

Donation \$20.00
 Cash Bar Available

This is an All-Black Affair
Not Mandatory to Wear Black!

Post 19 Commander Rodney Reid
 Unit 19 President Shafeyarlene Scott
 Squadron 19 Commander Irvin Johnson

up spills, and generally policing the building, inside and out.

The Scoop salutes ...

All the members of Unit #19 for your generous donation to the Post.

Squadron #19 Commander Irvin Johnson for holding a Unity Affair for Baltimore area Posts.

Post #19 family members Betty Bonds, Virly Moore, and LaSharan Wallace for hosting “50 Shades of Pink.”

Our Comrades and Friends

Open House for VFW Post #8509, Oct. 27-Nov. 2; Day Party, 2-6 pm, Nov. 2.

Open House for Northeastern Post #285, 64th Annual Black & White Ball, Sat, Nov. 19, 5-9 pm, \$45; \$1,000 raffle.

Sick Call

Louis Hardy
Freda Holley
Emmet Pope
Claude Scott
Bill Williams