

THE COFFEY CUP

AMERICAN LEGION POST 3

MARCH 2024

VOLUME 65, ISSUE 3



Commander's Corner

Dear Comrades:

Our next Monthly meeting will be held on 5 March 2024 at 19:00.

The 2024 renewal campaign is going well, please get your renewals in. The Membership passed by-laws change at the last meeting to elect officers at the April meeting, so we will start taking nominations at the March meeting. I encourage all members to get involved.

The post is planning several events in March a few high lights are St Patrick's Day party on the 16th, the SAL will host this month's meat raffle on the 17th and the Aux will host breakfast with the Easter Bunny on the 23rd. Check the calendar for all other events.

The Aux will be holding a Poppy drive in May and will be looking for volunteers. The upstairs hall is now available for rent. I would like to thank the Post Riders for their donation to the Post.

The lounge is now open Wednesday through Saturday 15:00 till 22:00 Sunday 12:00 till 21:00 come on down.

If you have any ideas, see the Jr Vice. If you have any question, concerns, or comments about the Post, or why we are doing or not doing something the meeting is the place to bring these topic's up. We still have positions open. Remember this is your Post if you want to see changes you must get involved.

The link for anyone needing a copy of their DD214 is www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records. Anyone can contact me by phone or email.

Commander John E York.

Cell Phone 6032620609

Email ujsarge@comcast.net

It's Election Time for Post 3 Officers

With the recent by-laws changes approved last month, the annual election of post officers for the 2024-2025 year is almost upon us.

Officers to be elected are:

Post Commander

Post Senior Vice Commander

Post Junior Vice Commander

Post Finance Officer – two (2) year term (Voted in on even years...2018, 2020)

Post Trust Officer

Post Assistant Trust Officer

Post Executive Committeemen (there shall be three (3)); elected at the Annual Meeting

Post Trustees (there shall be three (3)); One (1) elected at the Annual Meeting

Officers seeking renomination should send in their intentions to run for re-election.

Other post members considering running for any elective positions, should also submit letters indicating their intentions and the office they are seeking.

Nominations will also be made at the April Post 3 business meeting prior to the elections.

Legion Dues Increase Approved

At the February business meeting, the members in attendance voted to change the annual Post 3 membership dues from \$35/yr to \$40/yr. This change will go into effect for the 2025 membership year. Dues for the 2024 membership year remain at \$35.

The membership also voted approval to change the By-Laws Article 6, Section 4, Annual Meeting date from the first Tuesday in May to the first Tuesday in April.

The amended By-Laws are available to review on the Post 3 website, <https://post3legion.org/>

. Click on the Legion tab and scroll down.

ALA Unit 3 Continues to Grow

The Auxiliary membership is over 100% and still growing. If you have not yet renewed for 2024 please do so online or by mail to the post.

In March at our meeting on March 5, we will begin nominations for officers and in April at our meeting on April 2, we will continue nominations and hold election of officers. Installation of officers will take place on April 4th.

The Department Convention will be held in Lincoln NH on May 17-19.

If you have done any community service or veteran services please let us know so we can send our reports to District and Department.

Thanks,
Rosemary



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VA Expands Healthcare Eligibility to Vets Exposed to Toxins and Other Hazards

WASHINGTON — The VA announced February 27 that all Veterans who were exposed to toxins and other hazards while serving in the military — at home or abroad — will be eligible to enroll directly in VA health care beginning March 5, 2024. This means that all Veterans who served in the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Global War on Terror, or any other combat zone after 9/11 will be eligible to enroll directly in VA health care without first applying for VA benefits. Additionally, Veterans who never deployed but were exposed to toxins or hazards while training or on active duty in the United States will also be eligible to enroll.

As directed by President Biden, this expansion of VA health care eliminates the phased-in approach called for by the PACT Act — meaning that millions of Veterans are becoming eligible for VA health care up to eight years earlier than written into law. This is a critical step forward because Veterans who are enrolled in VA health care are proven to have better health outcomes than non-enrolled Veterans, and VA hospitals have dramatically outperformed non-VA hospitals in overall quality ratings and patient satisfaction ratings. Additionally, VA health care is often more affordable than non-VA health care for Veterans.

VA encourages all eligible Veterans to visit [VA.gov/PACT](https://www.va.gov) or call 1-800-MYVA411 to learn more and apply for VA health care beginning March 5. Since President Biden signed the PACT Act into law on August 10, 2022, more than 500,000 Veterans have enrolled in VA health care.

“If you’re a Veteran who may have been exposed to toxins or hazards while serving our country, at home or abroad, we want you to come to us for the health care you deserve,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “VA is proven to be the best, most affordable health care in America for Veterans — and once you’re in, you have access for life. So don’t wait, enroll starting March 5th.”

“Beginning March 5, we’re making millions of Veterans eligible for VA health care years earlier than called for by the PACT Act,” said VA Under Secretary for Health Shereef Elnahal, M.D. “With this expansion, VA can care for all Veterans who served in the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Global War on Terror, or any other combat zone after 9/11. We can also care for Veterans who never deployed but were exposed to toxins or hazards while training or on active duty here at home — by working with chemicals, pesticides, lead, asbestos, certain paints, nuclear weapons, x-rays, and more. We want to bring all of these Veterans to VA for the care they’ve earned and deserve.”

In addition to expanding access to VA care, this decision makes it quicker and easier for millions of Veterans to enroll. Many Veterans believe they must apply to receive VA disability compensation benefits to become eligible for VA health care, but this is not correct. With this expansion and other authorities, millions of eligible Veterans can enroll directly in VA care — without any need to first apply for VA benefits.

This expansion of care covers Vietnam Veterans, Gulf War Veterans, Iraq War Veterans, Afghanistan War Veterans, Veterans who deployed in support of contingency operations for the Global War on Terror (Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Freedom’s Sentinel, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, Operation Inherent Resolve, and Resolute Support Mission), and more.

This expansion also covers many Veterans who never deployed as a part of a conflict but were exposed to toxins or hazards while serving in the U.S. Specifically, under this expansion of care, any Veteran who participated in a toxic exposure risk activity (TERA) — at home or abroad — is eligible for VA health care. VA has determined that Veterans who were exposed to one or more of the following hazards or conditions during active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training participated in a TERA: air pollutants (burn pits, sand,

Continued on page 4-VA expands Healthcare Eligibility

Membership – Welcome aboard to nine new members of the post, voted in at the February business meeting. They are:

Joseph D. Petrillo, USAF, Global War on Terror, a New Legion member;

Jason C. Snedeker, USA Army, Global War on Terror, New Legion member;

Douglas P. Jarvis, USAF, Vietnam, transfer from Post IL2910];

Blane F. Courtemanche, USN, Vietnam, transfer from Post NH0200;

Keith M. Taylor, USAF retired 22years., Lebanon/Grenada, Panama, Gulf War, Global War on Terror; a New Legion member;

William C. Chamberlain, USAF WWII, xfr from Post NH0200;

Bruce H Lambert, US Army, Lebanon/Grenada, a transfer from Post NH0200;

Micheal E. Norway, USAF, Lebanon/Grenada, a transfer from Post MA0247;

Joseph R. Veillette Jr., US Army, Gulf War, a New Legion member.

Current membership Status—Our 2024 membership renewal goal has been set at 258 renewals. As of 21 February 2024, National set our goal at 271 renewals or 105.04%. We have reached our goal with Silver Star Membership Award status. We missed a Gold Star Award by just 18 days. Let's get gold next year! Your 2023 card expired on Dec 31, 2023. Get that 2024 renewal in ASAP! I still have 60 members on the roster that do not have 2024 cards!

Chaplain—

Recent transfers to Post Everlasting:

James N. Tamposi, US Army AF, WWII, 6 January 2024

Irwin Bluestein, US Army, Korea, 27 February 2024.

From Page 3 -VA expands Healthcare Eligibility

dust, particulates, oil well fires, sulfur fires);chemicals (pesticides, herbicides, depleted uranium with embedded shrapnel, contaminated water); occupational hazards (asbestos, industrial solvents, lead, paints including chemical agent resistant coating, firefighting foams); radiation (nuclear weapons handling, maintenance and detonation, radioactive material, calibration and measurement sources, X-rays, radiation from military occupational exposure); warfare agents (nerve agents, chemical and biological weapons); and more. VA will use all available information to determine if Veterans participated in a TERA, including military records and service connection.

VA is executing a nationwide campaign to ensure that as many Veterans as possible enroll. To date, VA's PACT Act outreach campaign has included more than 2,500 events nationwide, \$13 million in paid advertising, 88,000 earned media clips, more than 400 million emails and letters to Veterans, VA's first-ever text messaging campaign, the creation of a one-stop-shop PACT Act website, and more. This is the largest outreach campaign in VA history, which has one goal in mind: ensure that all Veterans —and their survivors — get the health care and benefits they deserve under the PACT Act.

For more information about how the PACT Act is helping Veterans and their survivors, visit VA's PACT Act Dashboard. To apply for care or benefits today, visit <https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/> or call 1-800-MYVA411 for more information on eligibility .



Online
My Health, My Care: 24/7 Access to VA



**In Commemoration
of the end of the
Vietnam War
Welcome
Home**

If you served between 1955-1975, or are the widow of a Veteran who served during this time period, or a Gold Star Family Member of a Vietnam Veteran ...

Join us

for a special ceremony
on Thursday, March 28
10 a.m. to Noon

Manchester Vet Center
1461 Hooksett Road, Suite B7
(Back of the building)
Hooksett, NH 03106

Please register with the **VET CENTER** no later than March 25th

Email: William.Connery@va.gov or call (603) 782-6947



Nominate Mary Licking for Trustee

House Committee— At its February meeting the committee authorized the purchase of a new reach-in refrigerator, replacing an old refrigerator which had quit working. It has arrived and is behind the bar.

Installation of the replacement of the front stairway fluorescent fixture with an LED fixture was accomplished weekend of the 24th by Sanders Salvagni and Marc Plante. The fluorescent fixture in stairway between the Main hall bar and restrooms has already been completed. A leak in the Main hall bar 3-bay sink has been temporarily repaired and a new sink is to be ordered.

The Main hall bar door lock has been changed. The search for a custodian has been completed. Don Vincent inquired about placing the By-Laws into the website to enable members the ability to access them, for their review, should they have any questions. The by-laws can be found via a link from: <https://post3legion.org/legion.php>.

Plante informed the committee that an arborist has agreed to help the post in painting the flagpole, by bringing his lift truck to the site.

The committee approved changing the planned withdrawal of \$1,000 from the Post account withdraw the funds from the Lucky 7 account

Discussion of Bar manager's 2023 vacation ensued and was concluded with the policy of authorizing seven days wages to cover the 2023 vacation time not used. Further, Vacation not used in the ensuing calendar year, will be reimbursed by wages for the time not used. The bar manager requested that a job description be developed, the house committee set a time to complete the form. Mike Fortin will be asked to install cabling for additional cameras, the cameras and a wireless access point.

March 2024



AMERICAN LEGION, JAMES E. COFFEY POST 3, NASHUA NH.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	1 7PM	2
3	4 <i>LOUNGE CLOSED</i>	5 POST MTG. 7PM AUXILARY MTG. 7PM <i>LOUNGE CLOSED</i>	6 6:30	7 Thursday 4-7 PM ENT.COMM. 5PM	8 7PM VETS COFFEE TALK 0930 at SAC	9 JOE MACDONALD LIVE IN THE LOUNGE 7PM
10	11 <i>LOUNGE CLOSED</i>	12 HOUSE COM. 7PM <i>LOUNGE CLOSED</i>	13 6:30 RIDERS MTG 7PM	14 Thursday 4-7 PM	15 7PM	16 ST. PATS PARTY 5:00 PM
17 SONS MEAT RAFFLE 2:00 PM	18 DAV MTG. 7PM <i>LOUNGE CLOSED</i>	19 SAL MTG. 7PM <i>LOUNGE CLOSED</i>	20 6:30	21 Thursday 4-7 PM	22 7PM	23 BRUNCH W/ THE EASTER BUNNY 9-11AM JOE MACDONALD LIVE 7PM
24	25 <i>LOUNGE CLOSED</i>	26 <i>LOUNGE CLOSED</i>	27 6:30	28 Thursday 4-7 PM	29 7PM	30 WILLGOOD BROTHERS LIVE IN THE LOUNGE 7PM
31 EASTER <i>LOUNGE CLOSED</i>	1	<p><u>LOUNGE OPEN WED-SAT. 3-10PM, SUNDAY 12-9</u></p> <p>RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP @ legion.org or contact Don Vincent @ 603-577-1075</p> <p><i>CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY</i></p> <p><u>VETS COFFEE TALK HELD AT 70 TEMPLE ST. NASHUA SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER</u></p>				





Free Skiing/Riding Day for Veterans!

The Lakes Region Veterans Coalition and Gunstock Mountain Resort are partnering to offer free skiing/riding at Gunstock on Monday, March 18th. This is offered at no cost to any interested Veteran!



This event includes lift passes, free equipment rental if needed and skiing or snowboarding instruction for veterans who have never skied or ridden before or need a refresher. It also includes a free lunch at the new Barrel Bar & Grille at Gunstock.

The event will start with lunch at 11:30AM followed by skiing or riding in groups based on ability level. However, Veterans can arrive as early as 9AM to ski/ride on their own or with other Veterans until lunch.



Again, this event is free for any interested veteran! Spaces are limited and will be given out on a first come, first served basis.

If you are interested in attending, please contact us no later than Wednesday, March 13th. If you need equipment, please contact us by March 7th, if possible, as this will make the process of getting the equipment on March 18th much quicker and easier.

If you are interested, email us at info@lrvcnh.org or call 603-520-3989.