



# American Legion Post 290

## Newsletter edited by Siegfried Gates



The Friendliest Place in Virginia!

Stafford, Virginia

May 2024

### Commander's Call to the Post 290 American Legion Family:

Greetings!

We have a lot of activities coming up which depend on your generous donation of time and effort. But first, let me thank all who participated in making the annual Easter Egg Hunt the rousing success it continues to be. Now for May: We are looking forward to the Ladies Auxiliary Poppy Patch Craft and Gift Show event to be held at the Post home on Saturday, 4 May from 0900-1500. This is followed by Military Spouse Appreciation Day on Friday, 10 May. Those who were married while on active duty owe a lot to those spouses for "keeping the home fires burning" and the kids healthy and happy while the service member was deployed. Mother's day, on the 12th better not be overlooked, if you know what's good for you! The membership meeting on the 14th should be well attended. We will be voting for the Post officers who will lead us into next year. Nominations can be taken from the floor so if you have a better leadership idea and want to run for office, here's your chance to become part of the team. The 16th District Convention and Armed Forces Day are on the 18th. Memorial Day is coming on the 27th and we kick off observance by placing flags on graves of veterans. We need as many volunteers as possible. All you have to do is show up at the Post Home on Saturday, 25 May with long heavy screwdriver (to punch holes in the ground). You may want to bring a clip-board. You will be given flags and a list of graves for the cemetery of your choosing. The head out and plant the flags. Our annual Stafford County Memorial Wreath Laying Ceremony, will be held at 0900 on Monday, 27 May, Memorial Day. We finish the month with a blood drive on Wednesday, 29 May at the Annex. Looking for a good turn out. It's a busy time. **NONE OF THESE ACTIVITIES ARE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOU. WON'T YOU PLEASE BE MORE THAN JUST A MIRROR FOGGING CARD HOLDER?**

Looking forward to seeing you  
 Rick Schultz  
 Commander, American Legion Post 290

### FROM THE 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE COMMANDER

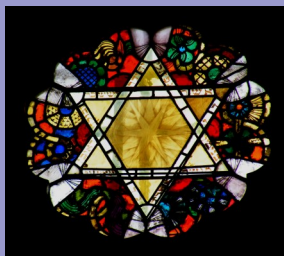
I view my membership in Stafford American Legion Post 290 as being part of a bigger family. As such, the family needs to take care of our facilities and keep them in the best shape that we can. For that to happen, we all need to be responsible for keeping our facilities clean and to report all issues that need to be addressed to me. I need more members of this family to step up and provide assistance as their time allows. Right now, I have two members of the family helping me with the rentals and the Sports Complex but there is a need for more members to pitch in when needed and to help me keep things running smoothly. Bottom line is that I cannot do this all by myself and need more members of this family to step up and help me as their time permits. One of the bigger areas I need help with is for members of the Legion family to simply help oversee business people who are performing maintenance or repair work for us. If you have the time to volunteer, let me know by sending me a text at 540-809-8337 or by email to [john4post290@gmail.com](mailto:john4post290@gmail.com).

John Patrick  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

**The Veterans Crisis Line HOT LINE is live! Dial 988 then Press 1.**

Post Everlasting	2
Chaplain's Corner	
ALA Unit 290 News	3
Eagle Eye for April 2024	
Poppy Craft & Gift Show	4
Legion Riders News	5
AFR Legacy Run	7
Junior Shooters	8
Nominations for Officers	9
SAL Info Firewood	11
Legion Leadership College 2024	12
Easter Egg Hunt	14
Post Highlights Coming Events	15
Calendar	16

Page 2



## Post Everlasting

By Darren King

Comrades: It is always with great sorrow when I must announce the transfer of any Legionnaire to Post Everlasting:

No Report for May

If you know of any member of Post 290, Unit 290 or Squadron 290 who transferred to the Post Everlasting, please contact me at [bsuking@yahoo.com](mailto:bsuking@yahoo.com), (816) 550-5228 or 111 Van Horn Lane, Stafford, VA 22556 .

## Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain Darren King

We celebrate Memorial Day in the month of May. It is about honoring those who served and died for their country. I would like to focus on the serve part, for it is better to give than to receive. It is important that as Legionnaires we don't forget why we exist. We exist to serve other veterans, our communities, and this great nation.

There is a greatness in serving that cannot be found in being selfish. To serve is to be great. It is a greatness that is open to everyone. Martin Luther King, Jr. put it this way, *"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace."*

Grace. I pray that we have hearts full of grace this month as we serve one another and others. I pray that we have souls generated by love so that we go the extra mile in serving one another and our community. I pray that we, in the words of Jesus, "Let the greatest among us become as one who serves" (Luke 22:24-27). May you have a heart of grace this day and serve others around you.

### BINNACLE LIST

No Report.

If you know of any other member of Post 290, Unit 290, Chapter 290 or Squadron 290 who is ill, and/or hospitalized, or if you have updates on any of the above issues, please contact me, Darren King at [darren@northstaffordbaptistchurch.com](mailto:darren@northstaffordbaptistchurch.com) or call me at (816) 550-5228 (cell), or mail me at Darren King, 111 Van Horn Lane, Stafford, VA 22556.



## American Legion Auxiliary Unit 290 News

By Marilyn Butters

Welcome new members Stephanie Cousins, Marie Evans, Sabrina Oakes, Pamela Procell-Flores, Allyson Reilly and transfer members Maria Leydig-Carter and Christine Stevens. We hope you will join us at our monthly meetings held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Club Room. We also welcome you to volunteer in the kitchen on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays of the month from 4:30 ish to 8:30 ish to serve food to the Bingo players.

Committee Chairs: don't forget to complete your year end reports and give 3 copies to Ginger at the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting so she can mail them by the 15<sup>th</sup> of April.

Thank you to Mary Schelin who is coordinating the upcoming Poppy Patch Spring Craft Fair to be held at the Post home on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found in this newsletter. All proceeds will be donated to the MK9s Service Dogs Organization which supports veterans by providing service dogs and training.

Virginia Girls State interviews have been held and students informed of their status. An orientation session for delegates and their parents will be held on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Post. We are sorry to have learned we will only be able to send one delegate per high school due to the smaller size of the 2024 session. Special thanks to Sheri Pierce who works diligently coordinating Virginia Girls State for our Unit.

Our Unit made donations in memory of recently deceased member Charlotte Stevens to the Mountain View Fire Department and in memory of Joyce Thompson to the Breast Cancer Research Fund.

If you know a senior at any Stafford High School, please encourage them to apply for the Unit 290 Scholarship. Information and applications are located on the Post 290 website.

Kitchen news: Our Unit now works the Bingo kitchen on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. We would love to have more members join us. 4 hours a month, please consider it! We have a good time and you get to know other members through working side by side to prepare food for the Bingo players. Join us! Kudos to Ginger for continuing her fabulous efforts coordinating and working the kitchen!

Membership news: We are up to 111 members. Help us meet our membership goals by paying your 23/24 dues now. Thank you to members who have already taken care of their membership! Please renew your membership now. Bring your check by Bingo on Wednesdays or Fridays or mail it to Box 125, Stafford, VA 22555.

## Eagle Eye of the Month for April 2024

The Eagle Eye of the Month for April is Tom Dale Jr. He was the first to spot the errors on page 8 of the April Newsletter. However, just to clarify, using the wrong word, for example when you mean to say "specific" and you say "pacific" is technically not a spelling error, but a malapropism. We're searching for the spelling error. Good luck and good hunting!



# POPPY PATCH CRAFT

## &

# GIFT SHOW



Hosted by The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 290 & Family

May 4, 2024, from 9:00am – 3:00pm

American Legion Post 290, 1141 Mountain View Road, Fredericksburg, VA

PURCHASE UNIQUE CRAFTS & GIFTS FOR

Mother's Day – Sunday, May 11 and do not forget High School graduations.



Free admission (accepting donations)

Donations will go to - MK9s Service Dogs Organization. MK9s mission is to supply highly trained service dogs to maximize the independence and quality of life for veterans who suffer from mental disabilities such as PTSD. For more information [mk9servicedogs@gmail.com](mailto:mk9servicedogs@gmail.com).



Interested in being a crafter?

6' x 11' space + 8' table + 2 chairs (\$ 30.00)

Email [Marynschelin@yahoo.com](mailto:Marynschelin@yahoo.com)

An application will be sent to you

### ABOUT THE AUXILIARY

*Mission statement: In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of The American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace, and security.*



## American Legion Riders Chapter 290 News

By Marty Partridge

Greetings Post 290!

On Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 the Riders hosted their annual Bike Blessing and Dart Tournament, our first official Ride and Event of the year. It started with breakfast at 8am, served up by our regular Rider Kitchen Crew, the Bike Blessings at 10am and the Dart Tournament started at 12 noon. Thanks to the Post 290 members that stopped in for breakfast and checking it out. All proceeds from the kitchen have gone to the Post. Special thanks to: Chaplain John Humphrey for the Bike Blessing, which was one of his initiatives years back, and we have now successfully held the past three years. The Kitchen Crew - Mike, Derice, DD and his daughter "Little Miss," and Bob Dixon and his now famous Sausage Gravy. Justin & Tori for running the tournament. Denver for Bartending (and those that helped while he played darts). And finally, my wife Juanita - as she helped move things along in my place since I was unable to attend.

The Rider's held their annual elections at our 8 April 2024 meeting. Congratulations to all of the Officers and thank you for your dedication in keeping the Chapter moving forward. The results are:

Director: Marty Partridge (incumbent)  
 Assistant Director: Mike Miller (incumbent)  
 Secretary: Juanita Partridge  
 Treasurer: Tricia Miller (incumbent)  
 Road Captain: Greg Nilges  
 Chaplain: John Humphrey (incumbent)  
 Sgt-at-Arms: Doug Sivigny (incumbent)

As we continue to look forward to this year's Virginia Legacy Run in June. Please see the "Calling All Stafford American Legion Post 290 Vietnam Veterans" Invitation in this newsletter.

*Keep the rubber-side down!*

Marty Partridge  
 ALR-290 Director



April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Riders from ALR-290 and other organizations gather in the Post Club Room as they get ready to head outside for the Bike Blessing from ALR-290 Chaplain John Humphrey. (Photo by Juanita Partridge).

# American Legion Riders Chapter 290 News

By Marty Partridge



April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Chaplain John Humphrey (center) provides a Bike Blessing for Denver (left) and Derice (right) Steele. Their Patriotic Trike is seen in the foreground. (Photo by Juanita Partridge).



April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – ALR-290 Member, and tournament lead, Justin Goemer (right) presents Austin Sutton (left) with the First Place prize for winning the Dart Tournament. Austin also became a new Rider at our April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Congratulations Austin! (Photo by Juanita Partridge).



**Calling all Stafford American Legion Post 290 Vietnam Veterans**

***The 290 Legion Riders cordially invite you to participate in the Vietnam Veterans Pinning Ceremony on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 1200 at the Virginia War Memorial in Richmond.***

***The 2024 Virginia Legacy Run will recognize all Vietnam Veteran Riders as Honorary Road Captains. However, you do not need to be a Rider to participate in the Pinning Ceremony.***

**RSVP:** If you would like to participate in the Vietnam Veterans Pinning Ceremony on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, or if you are unable to make it to the ceremony, but interested in being recognized please contact the 290 Rider Director, Marty Partridge, at [vaalr290@gmail.com](mailto:vaalr290@gmail.com) or (703) 910-0788.

**The Virginia Legacy Run** has traditionally focused on **The American Legion Legacy Scholarship**, donating \$121,000 in 2023 alone, and a grand total of \$341,000 over the past six years. Thanks to Legion Riders from across the country, The American Legion Legacy Scholarship has nearly reached its \$20 Million goal, and The American Legion National Headquarters has asked Legion Riders to transition their efforts to support **The American Legion Veterans and Childrens Foundation**.

**The American Legion Veteran and Childrens Foundation** provides vital support for military and veteran parents in unexpected financial crisis and support for service officers in their tireless efforts to obtain care and due benefits and opportunities of disabled veterans and families. The Virginia Legacy Run is on board, and has a goal of \$159,000 for 2024.

**DONATE:** If you would like to make a donation to help the 290 Riders raise funds for The American Legion Veteran and Childrens Foundation, please reach out to 290 Rider Director at [vaalr290@gmail.com](mailto:vaalr290@gmail.com) or (703) 910-0788. Tax deductible donations can be made to the 290 Foundation, and earmarked for the Legacy Run donation.



## American Legion Junior Shooters News

By Mike Flanagan

### Post 290 Jr. Shooters CMP Regionals By Mike Flanagan

Our team fired in the CMP Nationals round 1 and fired a score good enough to be invited to compete in the Northern Regionals. We sent 2 4 person teams to the CMP 3PAR Regional Championship Match at Camp Perry, Ohio in April. Team one shooters are Marisa McDonough, Elizabeth Gunn, Faith Clevenger and Joseph Borne. Team two shooters are Lillie Miller, Logan Hawkins, Jessica Gioia and Jeremy Weldon. Jackson Niesent will attend as an alternate and will be able to compete as an individual. If one or both teams qualify, they will compete for the National Championship in June.

The competitors fired April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> resulting in our Team One took 3<sup>rd</sup> place and received an \$800.00 award. Also 1<sup>st</sup> place overall was Marisa McDonough and first place for 15 and under was Elizabeth Gunn.

(L to R) Lillie Miller, Elizabeth Gunn, Jessica Gioia, Faith Clevenger, Marisa McDonough, Tommy Gimble, Logan Hawkins, Jackson Niesent, Joseph Born, Jeremy Weldon



### Post 290 Jr. Shooters In the JROTC Championship By Mike Flanagan

On March 22-23, 2024 CMP held its JROTC 3PAR National Championship Match at Camp Perry, Ohio. 29 JROTC teams from across the country as well as a team from Kaiserslautern GE competed for the JROTC National Championship title. Stafford's Mountain View High School Marine Corps JROTC team competed and finished 18<sup>th</sup> out of 29 teams and in 6<sup>th</sup> place overall for the Marine Corps. The team was made up of the following individuals, Seniors Sameer Singh (former Post 290 shooter) and Charles Wallace, Junior Marisa McDonough (Post 290 shooter) and Sophomore Elizabeth Gunn (Post 290 shooter).

Marisa (left) and Elizabeth (right) fired scores high enough to achieve their EIC Distinguished Marksmanship Badge which was presented to them at the Awards Ceremony Saturday night.





## NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS IN MAY 2024

### BY MIKE SCULLIN, ADJUTANT

Fellow Legionnaires,

It's that time already for Post 290's Nomination Committee to start putting together a slate of nominations for Post Officer positions to serve the 2024-2025 term. If you have the time, inclination or interest in serving as a Post Officer, I encourage you to submit a nomination or nominations.

Any Post Member in good standing is eligible and encouraged to submit his/her nomination for ANY position, even if an incumbent has expressed an interest in continuing to serve in that position.

Once submitted, the nominations will be added to the 2024-2025 Officers slate, which will be presented to the General Membership at Post 290's April 2024 General Membership meeting. The General Membership will then vote on nominees at the May 2024 General Membership meeting with Officer installations to occur in June 2024. The term of service for Post Officers is June 2024 – June 2025. Two Executive Committee Members' three-year terms will be completed in June 2024, so if elected to one of the Executive Committee Member positions, those terms will end in June 2027.

Here is Post 290's current slate and VACANT positions for 2024-2025

#### POSITION

**Commander**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander**  
**Adjutant**  
**Finance Officer**  
**Service Officer**  
**Chaplain**  
**Judge Advocate**  
**Historian**  
**Public Affairs Officer**  
**Sergeant-At-Arms**  
**Executive Committee Member (3 year term)**  
**Executive Committee Member (3 year term)**

#### CURRENT SLATE of NOMINEES

Rich Schultz (Incumbent)  
 Lewis Bunch (Incumbent)  
 John Patrick (Incumbent)  
 Patricia "Brandy" Fitzgerald  
 Mike Scullin (Incumbent)  
 Robert Ponzio (Incumbent)  
 John "Doc" Richey (Incumbent)  
 Darren King (Incumbent)  
 Garry Briggs (Incumbent)  
 VACANT  
 VACANT  
 VACANT  
 Brian J. "BJ" Payne  
 Mike Flanagan

**PAO, Historian and Sgt-At-Arms positions are vacant. Anyone interested in submitting a nomination please see me Mike Scullin: 730-863-5288; [hokiemike@hotmail.com](mailto:hokiemike@hotmail.com)**

Below are position descriptors for Post Officers:

**COMMANDER:** It shall be the duty of the Post Commander to preside over all meetings of the Post and to have general supervision over the business and affairs of the Post, and such officer shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Post. The Post Commander shall approve all orders directing the disbursement of funds and shall make an annual report covering the business of the Post for the year, and recommendations for the ensuing year, which shall be read at the annual meeting and a copy thereof immediately forwarded to the Department Adjutant. The Post Commander is an ex-officio member of all committees.

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE COMMANDER:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander shall assist and discharge the duties of the office of Commander in the absence or disability of the Commander, or when called upon, by the Post Commander. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander is responsible for Post membership and shall also render annual reports on membership, or when call upon at a meeting. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander is the Chairman of the Post's Membership Committee.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VICE COMMANDER:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander shall assist and discharge the duties of the office of Commander in the absence or disability of the Commander and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander, or when called upon, by the Post Commander. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander is responsible for oversight of contracted personnel for cleaning of and repairs on Post facilities, as well as scheduling the use of Post facilities and handling rentals of the Post Annex. Please note that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander will NOT be required to perform custodial duties, as these services will be contracted out by the Post 290 Executive Committee. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander is the Chairman of the Post's House Committee.

## Duties (continued)

**3rd VICE COMMANDER:** The 3rd Vice Commander shall assist and discharge the duties of the office of Commander in the absence or disability of the Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander or when called upon, by the Post Commander. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander is Chairman of the Post's Ways and Means Committee – responsible for conducting periodic and regular money making activities conforming to Post policies, all special money making functions sponsored by the Post, and recommendations to the Post Membership for ways and means of accomplishing the two previously-mentioned activities. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander is also Chairman of the Post's Entertainment Committee – charged with the arrangement of social activities, the promotion of Post advantages and the entertainment for Post meetings, such as speakers, music, refreshments, etc.

**ADJUTANT:** The Post Adjutant shall have charge of and keep a full and correct record of all proceedings of the Post, keep such records as the Department and National organizations may require, and under direction of the Commander handle all correspondence of the Post. The Post Adjutant is an ex-officio member of all committees.

**FINANCE OFFICER:** The Finance Officer of the Post shall have charge of all finances and see that they are safely deposited in some local bank or banks and shall report to the Post Membership the conditions of the finances for the Post, with such recommendations as he/she may deem expedient or necessary for raising funds with which to carry on the activities of the Post. The Finance Officer shall be bonded in such sum as shall be fixed by the Post Membership and shall be the Chairman of the Finance Committee. He/she shall keep records of all receipts and expenditures with supporting vouchers, using the suggested forms of National Headquarters, The American Legion.

**SERVICE OFFICER:** The Service Officer shall disseminate such information and instruction as may be helpful in dealing with affairs of disabled veterans, matters concerning the administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs or Adjusted Compensation Law, claims of ex-servicemen against the United States Government.

**CHAPLAIN:** The Chaplain shall be charged with maintaining the spiritual welfare of the Post comrades and will offer divine but non-sectarian service in the event of dedications, funerals, etc., adhere to such ceremonial rituals as are recommended by the National or Department Headquarters from time to time.

**JUDGE ADVOCATE:** The Judge Advocate's duties shall be to advise the Post Commander of the interpretation or modification of the Post's Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations, and be responsible for an annual financial audit and the Post Responsibility Audit as described in the American Legion Officer's Guide.

**POST HISTORIAN:** The Post Historian shall consolidate the reports call memorial exercises held during his term of office. The Post Historian shall be custodian of such books, manuscripts, pamphlets, and like possessions relating to the Wars belonging to the Post. The Post Historian shall be charged with maintaining individual records and incidents of the Post and duties as may properly pertain to the office as may be determined by the Post Executive Committee.

**POST PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER:** shall be responsible for advancing the visibility of Post 290's programs and activities with all available media (print, social, and radio). Post Public Relations will establish rapport with the local newspapers, radio stations, and work with the webmaster and other social media sources. Post Public Relations will provide articles and photos for publication and dissemination of Post programs and activities.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:** The Sergeant-at-Arms shall receive all visitors, take their names, Post Numbers, and purpose of their visit, and pass this information on to the Adjutant for introduction to the membership. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall escort all distinguished guests to the Commander immediately, and may challenge any member for good standing whenever he/she sees fit to do so and shall preserve order at all meetings. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall ensure that the color bearers place the colors in their proper place during the Post meetings, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Post Commander.

### Duties (continued)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER:** The Post Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the Post's affairs between General Post Membership meetings. The Post Executive Committee shall make recommendations to the General Post Membership and perform such other duties as are specified in the Post's Bylaws.

In conclusion, American Legion Post 290's leadership encourages all members to become actively involved in our Post. Everyone is encouraged to submit a nomination for any and all positions that might interest them.

Please feel to contact me with nominations for inclusion on the 2023-2024 Post Officer slate or to find out more information regarding Officer positions with Post 290.

I can be reached at: [mscullin@gmail.com](mailto:mscullin@gmail.com) or 703-863-5288.

Respectfully,  
Michael Scullin  
Adjutant  
Stafford American Legion Post 290

### SAL INFO

by Fargo Wells

Greetings SAL members and your families! I hope everyone is well and safe. Members can login into their myLegion.org account and renew directly or via the quick renew website: [legion.org/SAL-Renew](http://legion.org/SAL-Renew).

The procedure for modifying the current dues in the system is the submission of a Squadron Data Report (SDR) that is available at the Sons of The American Legion website under Publications and Forms. The SDR should be sent to the detachment and the email address Post and Squadron Reports ([postsqdnupdates@legion.org](mailto:postsqdnupdates@legion.org)) for processing.

If you have any questions please contact Kevin Mook the National SAL Liaison at [kmook@legion.org](mailto:kmook@legion.org)

The SAL has not had a dues increase in many years.

However, we have to send a portion of the dues to the Department and a portion to Nationals.

The Nationals Dues have increased, therefore we will need to increase the amount that we collect from our members to \$20.00.

If I can help you out with anything. Text, e-mail or call

Fargo Wells, Commander Sons of the American Legion Squadron 290 Stafford

(703) 362-8277 call, text or write [rfargowells@hotmail.com](mailto:rfargowells@hotmail.com).

Thank you,  
Fargo Wells

### FIREWOOD AVAILABLE FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

The Stafford Post 290 BSA Venture Crew Scouts are conducting a community service project to deliver firewood to families, in need, in Stafford County. The Venture Crew will also cut up and remove wood from properties that may have fallen after a storm or wood that individuals are willing to donate.

To date the Venture Crew's Firewood donation program for those in need: has delivered 16 cords of wood, to needy Stafford residents who heat primarily with firewood. Mike Robinson could always use volunteer support.

The Venture Crew is accepting monetary donations to help in this project or to support the Venture Crew.

If wanting to volunteer to help cut and split wood, or help stack or deliver firewood for this project, please call Mike Robinson, (540) 760-3255.

## Department of Virginia American Legion Leadership College

Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Richmond-Midlothian, Richmond, VA.

August 02 to August 04, 2024

### Registration Form

**One registration form per individual please.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: American Legion \_\_\_\_\_ Post \_\_\_\_\_ SAL \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron \_\_\_\_\_  
ALR \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ ALA \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

### Friday Afternoon Session

(Will you be attending the afternoon session on Friday, August 02, 2024 from 4:00 –9:00 PM?)  
(DINNER will be from 5:00-6:00 PM- American Legion Leadership College doesn't cover)

Program	Attending
Friday Afternoon Session (See program)	Yes/No

### Programs

(Please select one that you will attend on Saturday, August 03, 2024- For program details see  
Agenda)

Sponsor	Attending
American Legion Programs	Yes/No
SAL Programs (TBA)	Yes/No
ALR Programs (TBA)	Yes/No
ALA Programs (TBA)	Yes/No



## Registration Fee \$100.00

(includes Saturday breakfast and lunch, for this attendee only)

**Registration Forms received after the July 15, 2024 will not receive meals on Saturday.**

Registration fee (Check only) must be submitted with completed form. Make checks payable to THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA. Registration Form and Fee must be received at Department Headquarters no later than MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024

Mail completed form and check to:

The American Legion  
The Department of Virginia  
P.O. Box 11025  
Richmond, VA 23230

ATTN: LEADERSHIP COLLEGE 2024

### Lodging

Lodging will be at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Richmond - Midlothian, 1021 Koger Center Boulevard, Richmond, Virginia, 23235. Phone number for reservations is (855) 610-TREE (8733) or you may call the hotel directly at (804) 379-3800.

**Each College attendee is responsible for making his/her own hotel reservations. Hotel Reservations must be made no later than MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024.**

When making your reservations, be sure to identify yourself as part of The American Legion Department of Virginia Group. The hotel rate is \$125.00 per night, single/double, per room, plus tax. (We can not provide you the tax rates at this time due to pending legislation).

All lodging reservations and special lodging requests must be arranged with the hotel by each attendee.

### ***SPECIAL EVENTS***

Friday Night, August 02- Joint Opening Session- 7:00-7:30 PM

Guest Speaker- National Security- 7:30-8:30 PM

Saturday Morning, August 03- Guest Speakers FEMA- 11:00-12:00 PM

Sunday Morning, August 04- Religious Service and Formal Graduation -  
830 AM -1000 AM

## RANDOM PICTURES OF THE EASTER EGG HUNT

The Post 290 annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on Easter Sunday, March 31 at the Post Home and Sports Complex. Thanks to all who made this event a success.



## MAY 2024 HIGHLIGHTS AT POST 290

### May

- May 01 - State Income Tax Due
  - May 04 - Auxiliary Poppy Patch Craft and Gift Show, Post Home, 0900-1500
  - May 08 - Remembered as Victory in Europe (VE) Day by the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany to the Allies.
  - May 12 - Mother's Day
  - May 18 - 16th District Convention, Post 28, 1000hrs
  - May 25 - Place flags on Veteran's graves. 0800 start at Post Home to get flags
  - May 27 - Memorial Day
  - May 27 - Wreath Laying at Stafford Courthouse, 0900
  - May 29 - Blood Drive at the Annex
- 

## CONSTANT BEARING, DECREASING RANGE

(ITEMS ADDED AS THEY COME TO MY ATTENTION)

### June

- June 15 - Legion Riders Virginia Legacy Run Gun Raffle Drawing, Dept. HQ Richmond, 1000hrs
- June 15 - Legion Riders Vietnam Veterans Pinning Ceremony, 1200hrs, Virginia War Memorial, Richmond
- June 16 - 22 - Department of Virginia American Legion Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program
- June 16 - 22 - Boys State/ Girls State at Radford University

### July

- July 01 - Annual Legion Dues increase becomes effective (\$5.00)
- July 04 - Post 290 4th of July Celebration and Flag Retirement
- July 10 - 15 Department Convention, Dulles Washington Convention Center
- July 15 - Leadership College 2024 Hotel Reservation Deadline
- July 15 - Leadership College 2024 Registration Deadline

### August

- Aug 02 - 04 - American Legion Leadership College, Double Tree, Midlothian
- Aug 23 - 29 - American Legion National Convention, New Orleans, Hampton Suites

### October

- Oct 09 - Blood Drive at the Annex





**YOUR ELECTED POST  
290 OFFICERS**

Commander Rick Schultz  
 1st Vice Lewis Bunch  
 2nd Vice John Patrick  
 3rd Vice Ken Westenberger  
 Adjutant Mike Scullin  
 Finance Robert Ponzo  
 Service Ofc. Jim Richey  
 Chaplain Darren King  
 Sgt at Arms Lester Wood  
 JAG Garry Briggs  
 PAO VACANT  
 Historian Brandy Fitzgerald

**CORPORATION OFFICERS**

Michael Flanagan, Chair  
 John Cox, Secretary  
 Brian "B.J." Payne, Director  
 Steve Albertson, Director  
 Lester Wood, Director



**YOUR AUX UNIT 290  
ELECTED OFFICERS**

President Ginger Briggs  
 Vice Pres Sherilyn Pierce  
 Secretary Marilyn Butters  
 Treasurer Frances Shelton  
 Chaplain Dale Seward  
 Historian Mary Schelin  
 Sgt at Arms Teresa Hardisty

**STAFFORD AMERICAN  
LEGION POST 290**

**We are on the Web  
www.staffordPost290.org**

 **May 2024** 

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 State Income Tax Due BINGO	2	3 BINGO	4 Auxiliary Poppy Patch Craft and Gift Show 0900-1500 Star Wars Day
5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8 VE Day BINGO	9	10 Military Spouse Appreciation Day BINGO	11
12 Mother's Day	13 ALR Monthly Meeting	14 General Members Mtg. and Election of Officers - 1930	15 BINGO	16	17 BINGO	18 District Convention Post 28 Armed Forces Day Karaoke
19	20 Executive Committee Mtg. 1930	21	22 BINGO	23	24 BINGO	25 Place flags on Vet graves. 0800 start at Post Home
26	27 Memorial Day Wreath Laying at Courthouse 0900	28	29 Blood Drive (at the Annex) BINGO	30	31 BINGO	