

## The American Legion



1932 Serving Veterans and the Community for 92 Years 2024

## **Laurel Post 60 Newsletter**

Number 3 Volume 18

"The Fun Post"

March 2024



## Commander's Message Lee Luby



Happy birthday to the American Legion on March 15th! On this date in 1919 the first American Legion caucus was held by members of the American Expeditionary Forces which convened in Paris and the American Legion came to life. Even though the birthday is often celebrated on July 4th in 1776 when patriots declared the independence of the British colonies, the Legion was officially born on March 15th. We are now officially 105 years old. We will have Happy Hour prices at the Post and some special food to celebrate on our birthday.

Put on your **green** and celebrate Saint Patrick's Day on the 17th. We are having a corned beef and cabbage dinner at the Post on the "**Green Day**" and invite you to share your tasty recipes with your fellow members at the Post. There is a sign-up sheet in the lounge for the event. We invite you to celebrate the wearn' o' the **green** with us.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is March 29th when we say thank you to all of our veterans who served in-country and stateside during the Vietnam War. We are grateful to the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice during this difficult time and to those who survived the war. **Thank you for your service!** 





Daylight Savings Time? How did that happen so fast! I am so glad to know that the days will start getting longer and that our summer Post activities will soon start. Come on Sunday, March 10th we have been waiting!

The election information for each unit can be found in the lounge. Be sure to read the instruction sheet and follow the rules for submitting your nominations for tallying. Any nomination that does not meet the required criteria will be discarded and you will be advised by the nomination committee so that you can make the correction. Now is the time to consider running for office so that we can keep the Legion running smoothly and ensure that all of our planned donations and activities take place. I will be running for 1st Vice Commander this year and look forward to working with the new Commander to keep Post 60's position in our organization. Join us in our efforts. You will be surprised how much goes on that you are not even aware of.

SAL Detachment Commander Joe Lohman's tour is almost over, and we are honored to have Mike Obremski taking over as Commander next year. This is the first time in the history of the Detachment that two Commanders from the same Post have served back-to-back, and we are proud to have the honor. Commander Lohman has done an amazing job this year and we are confident that Mike will accomplish as much. Both Commanders have The Southern Maryland Youth Camp as their project for the year, and major changes will take place at the facility because of their efforts. Thank both of you for your efforts on behalf of the Detachment of Maryland and for making us proud of your accomplishments.

Once again, be sure to participate in the election and vote for those candidates that you feel will do the best job. The future of our Post depends on having strong leaders and you can assure that by nominating candidates and by voting in the elections. Good luck to all of you who run for office. You will not regret serving the American Legion and we will get it done!





Top of the Morning to You! St. Patrick's Day on March 17th allows us to celebrate leprechauns, green beer, cabbage and corned beef, shamrocks and, if you aren't wearing green, be prepared to be pinched by someone.

## Here's hoping the bad weather is behind us in short order!!

We will begin meeting on the second Monday of the month in March, we hope you will join us on the 11th at 7PM. I promise, it's not all business with the auxiliary, we have fun too!

The Queen of Hearts continues Wednesday evenings – come on by for camaraderie and great food!! The Queen is still in hiding.

A Basket of Cheer will be raffled off on Friday, March 15th, so be sure to hurry and get those raffle tickets, they always sell out fast! See Nancy or Carolyn.



The Children's Easter Party is Saturday, March 23rd. We still need volunteers to help with field items (egg hunt, etc.) and games inside and outside. A hot dog lunch will be served - free to the kids and \$2 for the adults – limited space available. If you are interested in volunteering, please let Nancy Slavinski know or sign up in the Lounge. A meeting will be planned for all volunteers On March 16th. We are also in search of a Chair for this event

Family Day is April 27th at American Legion Post 60 – mark your calendars and plan to attend. More info to follow in the next newsletter.

Our craft show is being rescheduled as a holiday craft show so stay tuned! As we know more, we'll surely share!!

Elections are coming up soon so if you are interested in running for a position, please complete the nomination form in the Lounge by April 1st (needs to be signed by both nominee and nominator). Our ALA's Election Committee Chair is Lucy Haggerty, and the Committee Members are Janice Maloney and Lisa Ertz.

Thank you to everyone who helped collect the pull tabs from cans. They will be redeemed, and the funds are going to be sent to the Ronald McDonald House real soon.

We continue to collect the metal pull tabs from cans of any sort so help us assist Ronald McDonald House.

**MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:** Total members paid to date for FY 2024 is 261 which is 89% of goal.

- 1. https://www.legion-aux.org/Renew -or-
- 2. **(317) 569-4570** The hours to call are Monday-Friday, 8AM-4:30PM EST

Questions? <a href="mailto:com/carlymon4@gmail.com">carlymon4@gmail.com</a>





## Renew your 2024 ALA membership

If renewing through NATIONAL call (317) 569-4570
Visa or MC accepted.

To print your membership card go to www.alaforveterans.org

For additional information contact: ALAPresidentunit60@gmail.com or Membershipunit60@gmail.com

Please note: Dual members must pay through Unit 60 Auxiliary





## **Squadron 60** Charlie Turner



Squadron 60 held a flag retirement ceremony on Saturday February 10th, 2024. Squadron 60 Commander Robert Monko conducted the ceremony, assisted by Squadron members Eddie Souder, Charlie Turner, Bill Baker, Jeff Harkum, Frank Slavinski, Chris Davis, and Dave Manchas. Special guests included Dave Hullihan (MD SAL North Central Commander), Mark Sprucebank (MD SAL North Central Adjutant), Michael Obremski (MD SAL First Vice Commander), Sandra Johnston (Gold Star Mother), and Post Commander 60 Lee Luby.

A total of 790 flags were retired. Most of these flags were dropped off in the Post Flag Box located near the Post 60 cannon. However, if you would like a new 3'x5' replacement flag, bring your old one inside the Post and ask

for Charlie.



Sandra Johnston
Gold Star Mother



Flag Drop Box



Lee Luby
Post 60 Commander





## Save the DATE! Red Cross Blood Drive Coming to Post 60





The American Red Cross needs our help. Since the beginning of 2020, many thousands of blood drives have been cancelled. **Blood Drives are essential and** are in direct support to the emergency services remaining open to sustain the continuing fight against chronic illnesses and diseases.

Please join us on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and help us make this the most successful Blood Drive that we have ever supported.

To sign up, go to <a href="https://www.redcrossblood.org">https://www.redcrossblood.org</a>

Find a Blood Drive (top right), enter Laurel Post 60.

**Click on See Times**, and select the donation and time that you want to give. If you need assistance, please contact Dave Tyson at (410) 491-5028. If you get the recorded message, please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible.

**Blood Drive Information:** 



Date: 22 April 2024 Time: 1:00 – 6:00 PM

**Location: The American Legion, Laurel Post 60** 

2 Main Street Laurel MD 20707

We need your help and look forward to seeing you on 22 April.





## Post 60 ALR Riders Lenny Francioni ALR Director



Hello and Happy Springtime,

As the weather warms up its time to start dusting off 'them' motorcycles and brushing up on safety riding skills. Be sure to spend time checking over the bike as most of you haven't ridden these past four months or so.

Don't forget the Annual Blessing of the Bikes by our Chaplains here at Post 60 on March 16th, 2024. See the flyer below for all the details.

A big THANK YOU to all who have supported the Queen of Hearts dinners, the 50/50 drawings, and the Post's children's parties.

As we look forward to a new riding season please come to our next meeting with some ride ideas for the chapter. Our next Chapter Meeting will be on March 13th with the location to be determined.





## Allen Hall Update Lee Luby

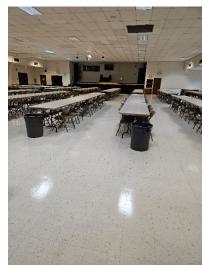


In February we had a couple of **HUGE** days at our Post. After two years we had the floor stripped and waxed and bought new tables for Allen Hall. The effect is amazing, and we want to thank everyone who worked so hard to get this huge task taken care of.

Leading the group was 2nd Vice Commander Josie Lohman who chose and ordered the tables and arranged for the cleaning of the floor. Josie came in at 6:30 AM to supervise the picking up of the old tables and led the group of volunteers in replacing the tables and putting new caps on all the chairs.

Participating in the project were Executive Committee member Frank and ALA President Nancy Slavinski, City Council member Carl DeWalt, Squadron Sgt-at-Arms Charlie Turner, Executive Committee member Tim Thomas, with Josie leading the pack.

Thanks to all of you for the effort it took to redo our hall. The result is amazing!







## Post 60 Entertainment Josie Lohman 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander



Congratulations to all of our Super Bowl football pool winners! Out of the 68 payouts, 62 of them were members from Post 60, how great is that! The Super Bowl party was well attended, and we had *sooo* much food and fun. Thanks to all who contributed the great food and helped with the set up and clean up. Since so many of you have been asking, next year's Super Bowl pool will start sometime in March, as soon as it's printed it will be on sale!





A special Thank You goes out to everyone who participated in or contributed to the Polar Bear Plunge. It was an awesome weekend with almost \$9,000 raised by our team for Special Olympics.



The Valentines Dinner that "Chef" Ray Torres provided, on behalf of the Auxiliary during the Queen of Hearts, was a huge success! As an added treat, ALA Jr. member Maya Delisi was busy handing out chocolates to all the members and guests who attended. That sure did put a smile on everyone's face.



Our annual Saint Patrick's Day potluck is coming up. Please sign-up to bring either corned beef and cabbage or another one of your favorite side dishes or desserts. This is a free event for our members to enjoy and socialize at, so please bring in a dish and join us. A sign-up sheet will be placed at the events kiosk desk in the lounge. Don't forget to wear your green, because I have been known to pinch anyone who doesn't!

With spring just around the corner, it is starting to get past freezing and into tolerably cold weather. Time to venture out, come on in to Post 60 and join us for some fun. We have a surprise in store for you, a new addition to our beverages. I'm sure that once it has been delivered and installed, everyone will enjoy it as much as I will. You have to come in to see it though, because I am not going to ruin the surprise by telling you what it is.





## Joe's Journey Joe Lohman SAL Detachment of MD



It has been an interesting and rewarding experience the last two months.

The first weekend in February was very busy. We started off by plunging into the cold waters of Chesapeake Bay for Maryland Special Olympics where the Legion family across the state of Maryland raised over \$25,000. I want to thank the members of the Post 60 family who both plunged and supported the plungers on that cold windy day



The Detachment had their annual midwinter conference in Ocean City. In addition to all of this excitement, we raised over \$30,000 in donations and fundraisers for various legion programs.



The caravan team has been very busy the last two months. We visited four American Legion Posts in the Eastern Shore Region during the weekend of January 6th; Kent Island Post 278, Corporal Herman Hughes

Post 87 in Cambridge, Blake-Blackston Post 77 in Eastern, and Benedict A. Andrew Post 296 in Queenstown). We were happy to have many of our Legion officers, including Department Commander Ruth Higgins and Eastern Shore Vice Commander Niki Randolph.

The weekend of February 10<sup>th</sup> marked the final caravan through the Western Maryland Region and included stops at Cascade Post 239, Francis X. Elder Post 121 in Emmittsburg, Hesson-Snyder Post 120 in Taneytown, Glen W. Eyler Post 282 in Woodsboro and Francis Scott Key Post 11 in Frederick. This makes 28 American Legion Posts that the caravan has visited since July. We will be back in Southern Maryland on the first Sunday in March. Anyone from Post 60 is invited to the caravan trips but must cover their own expenses and transportation. If you are interested in attending with the caravan team, please send me an email at jjal02@verizon.net.

Most of the fundraisers for my project are done for this administration year. I really appreciate the support from all Post 60 members.

Thank you again for all your support.

Joe Lohman Commander Detachment of Maryland









Photo credits: Marleen Van den Neste, David Privott





## SAL Washington Conference 2024 Joe Lohman





Once a year the American Legion National Commander testifies in front of Congress regarding important issues relating to our veterans' benefits. Concurrent with that, the National Sons of the American Legion, with delegations from around the country attend and participate in wreath-laying ceremonies at the many War Memorials in our nation's capitol. Wreaths are placed at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, as well as the World War II Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, and the Vietnam Veteran Memorial.

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, I had the honor of placing a wreath at the WWII Memorial, Maryland Pillar, the location honoring all our Maryland veterans who served in the war..

For more information on the conference, please use the provided link:

Video: Sons of The American Legion leads Legion Family wreathlayings in

Washington | The American Legion











Photo credits: Tim Thomas, Josie Lohman

Monday - Friday

4 to 7 PM

Sunday

#### Màrch 2 **The American Legion Laurel Post 60** Wednesday Thursday Monday Tuesday Friday Saturday Sunday DJ Butch **Happy Hour** Post Kitchen is Open Escape Goat 7:30 pm 7-10 pm Bingo 7:30 pm Monday - Friday Every Friday 5:30 to 8 PM 4 to 7 PM (50/50 C&Y) 3 5 6 Winey Wednesday The Reilly Goualt Band Color Guard Wild Grey Hairz 7-10 pm Bingo 7:30 pm (50/50 SAL) SAL Meeting Queen of Hearts Meeting 7:30 pm Games Begin at 5pm QoH Drawing at 7:15pm 7 pm 7 pm 11 ALA Meeting 13 Winey Wednesday Blessing of the Bikes 11 am 12 14 Executive 4 pm Queen of Hearts Games Rockabilly Rebels Committee 7 pm 7-10 pm Bingo 7:30 pm Begin at 5pm QoH Drawing at 7:15pm 7 pm Out of Order (50/50 ALR) ALR Meeting 7 pm 7:30 pm 20 Winey Wednesday 23Children's Easter St. Patrick's Day The Groove Quest 4 pm Party 1-3 pm General Assembly Social 7-10 pm Bingo 7:30 pm (50/50 ALA) Queen of Hearts 1:00 pm $7 \, \mathrm{pm}$ Honky Tonk Games Begin at 5pm QoH Drawing at 7:15pm Casanovas 7:30 pm 27Winey Wednesday 24 DJ Butch 30 4 pm Sandra Dean Band 7-10 pm Bingo 7:30 pm Queen of Hearts 7:30 pm Games Begin at 5pn QoH Drawing at 7:15p (50/50 Bingo) 31

## April 2024

## The American Legion Laurel Post 60

Wednesday Thursday

Sunuay	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Filday	Saturday
	Color Guard Meeting 6:30 pm	2	3 Winey Wednesday 4 pm Queen of Hearts Games Begin at 5pm QoH Drawing at 7:15pm	SAL Meeting 7 pm	5 DJ Butch 7-10 pm Bingo 7:30 pm (50/50 C&Y)	Greater Image 7:30 pm
7	8 ALA Mtg 7 pm	9	10 Winey Wednesday 4 pm Queen of Hearts Games Begin at 5 pm QoH Drawing at 7:15 pm ALR Mtg 7 pm	Executive Committee Meeting 7 pm	12 Lost & Found 7-10 pm Bingo 7:30 pm (50/50 SAL)	Jerry and the Heartaches 7:30 pm
14 Coach Purse Bingo 1-6 pm	15	16	17 Winey Wednesday 4 pm Queen of Hearts Games Begin at 5 pm QoH Drawing at 7:15 pm	18 General Assembly Meeting 7 pm	19 Mike, Deb & Bob 7-10 pm Bingo 7:30 pm (50/50 ALR)	Gary & the Groove 7:30 pm
21	22	23	24 Winey Wednesday 4 pm Queen of Hearts Games Begin at 5pm QoH Drawing at 7:15pm	25	26 DJ Butch 7-10 pm Bingo 7:30 pm (50/50 ALA)	27 AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY DAY X-X pm Black Falls Band 7:30 pm
28	29	30	31 Winey Wednesday 4 pm	Happy Hour		

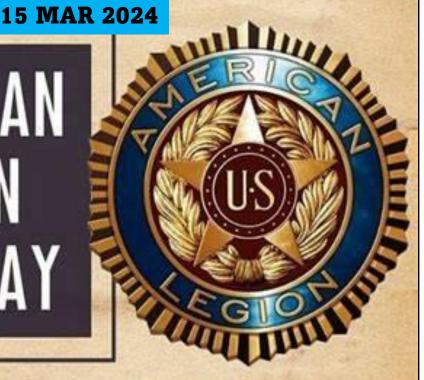
Queen of Hearts

Games Begin at 5pm QoH Drawing at 7:15pm

Post 60 Kitchen is Open Every Friday 5:30 to 8 PM

## 1919 ☆ HAPPY 105<sup>th</sup> **☆ 2024**

# AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY



American Legion Post 60

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIAL

Sunday March 17th at 1 pm

Open to all Post Home Members & Their Guests

To participate please bring your favorite Irish dish to share...

Corned Beef & Cabbage, a side, or dessert

A sign-up sheet will be located at the Post events kiosk,

please sign up by March 10th



Let's Eat, Drink, and be IRISH.

Be sure to wear

your GREEN!

## OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Loads of fun! Games and a free lunch for all children ages 12 and under

EGG HUNT TOO!

Meet & Take Pictures with the Easter Bunny

## Annual Children's Easter Party

Saturday March 23rd from 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Free event but tickets are required

All Children must be accompanied by an Adult

For more information or to reserve your ticket, visit:

Post60EasterParty.eventbrite.com

The American Legion Laurel Post 60

> Allen Hall 2 Main St. Laurel, MD

info: (301)725-2302



1ST & 3RD (& 5TH) FRIDAY

CANTEEN 60

Where Something Good Is Always Cooking

By Squadron 60

2ND & 4TH FRIDAY

P & G CATERING

Classic Favorites with a Modern Twist By Patricia King

#### BECAUSE VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE!

FESTIVA

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT FROM 5:30 - 8 PM AT POST 60

ESCORTED TOUR - NORMANDY, PARIS, LOIRE VALLEY 11 DAYS/9 NIGHTS









2024 will mark 80 years since D-Day at Omaha Beach. This escorted tour is organized by a local ALA member for next September and is open to all adults. Limited slots available! Travel insurance and payment plans available. Free refreshments provided at information meetings!

Other tours: Greece 9d/7n - October 2024. If interested in either, email allabroadjourneys@gmail.com to be placed on info meeting list.

## Jackpot Raffle and Game Night

Like us on Facebook - American Legion Post 60 Friday Night Bingo

At American Legion Post 60

Beginning Wednesday, September 6th, 2023 Games Begin at 5 pm, Queen Drawing at 7:15 pm

**Every Wednesday Night** Until the Queen of Hearts is drawn

## Raffle Tickets \$5 each (3 for \$10) Ask about our loyalty card program

Remember - Only Members are Permitted to Play

Only American Legion Family Members are eligible to win the Queen of Hearts drawing, so be sure to bring your Current Membership Card.

All participants must be 21 years of age - We comply with IRS Gambling Winnings Rules

Additional details, including the COMPLETE set of rules and payout information will be displayed at Post 60 prior to the first drawing

The Queen of Hearts game will be administered by SAL Squadron 60

#### Other Notes/Dates Of Interest

- If you wish to submit articles and pictures for the newsletter, please submit them to the editor at: oxonhillbilly@comcast.net. Articles and pictures must be about the Legion Family, veterans or the community Post 60 supports. All information must be received by the deadline of 8:00 AM, 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month to make it into the current newsletter. Submissions after that date will make it into the following month's newsletter.
- Please join us on our Facebook page, American Legion -Laurel Post 60 for Post 60 website links, newsletters, entertainment and activities that are posted on the page.

Link: https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/364213691671/







AMERICAN FAMILY





**Ongoing Community** 

**Outreach Programs** 



## Post 60 T-Shirts

With The New American Legion Logo!







On Sale Now - \$25 Each

Available Sizes:

Men - Medium to 4X Women - Small to 3X



## are always in need of peanut butter & jelly, tuna, pasta & sauce, cereal, and oatmeal. Please consider bringing in at least one non-perishable food item whenever you visit us at Post 60. Chaitra Chambers Notary Public/Loan Signing Agent Abacus Notary, LLC E: abacusnotaryllc@gmail.com T: 202.352.5778

Laurel Advocacy & Referral Service LARS supports the Laurel Community and many of the people they serve are veterans and their families. It is one of Post 60's ongoing projects to support LARS, there is a food collection bin set up in our lounge. LARS will accept anything that is non-perishable, but they

#### SAL Squadron 60

Commander Lee Luby 1st Vice Vacant 2ndVice Josie Lohman Judge Advocate Richard Harding Finance Officer Melvin Campbell Chaplain Martin Berman Service Officer Leroy Bell Historian John Musgrove Melvin Campbell Sgt-at-Arms Mac McNally Adjutant

Post 60 Officers

Commander Rob Monko 1st Vice Eddie Souder 2ndVice Tom Allen 3rd Vice John Brinton Finance Martin Caslow Chaplain Tony Scovitch Sgt-at-Arms Charlie Turner John Musgrove Historian Adjutant Vacant Parliamentarian M. Obremski Advisor Chris Davis

#### Auxiliary Unit 60

President Nancy Slavinski 1st Vice Carolyn Monko 2nd Vice Catie Stearns Lucy Haggerty Secretary Tris Thomas Treasurer Chaplain Lisa Ertz Historian Vacant Denise Person Sgt-at-Arms

#### Legion Riders

Director Lenny Francioni Asst Director Rona Francioni Secretary Christel Lopez-Berryman Treasurer Barclay Butler Sgt-at-Arms Chris DiPasquale Chaplain Charley Buckley Safety Officer Pedro Lopez Road Captain Lenny Francioni

Pedro Lopez

Quinn Harry

Membership

Public Affairs

The American Legion Laurel Post 60 2 Main Street Laurel, Maryland 20707- 4304

**Address Service Requested** 









Serving Veterans and The Community Since 1932

#### POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY

#### **Commander's Last Shout**

Thank you, Denise Person, for organizing the Winter Wreath Craft Night and to Peggy Purcell and Barbara Rhodes for assisting.

Thanks to the SAL for making us proud at the Ocean City meeting by donating approximately \$20,000.00 to SAL programs.

Thanks to everyone who brought delicious food to the Super Bowl Party and to Josie Lohman who managed all the pools.

Thanks to all of the members who set up the food and TVs so that we could have a great Super Bowl time!

Thanks to Ray Torres for cooking a spectacular dinner for the Valentine's Day/Queen of Hearts party.

Thanks to Diane Spears for organizing the tribute in memory of Ed Burns and to all of the members who wore red.

Thanks to everyone who has thrown in their hat to run for office for your Unit. You are needed to make a difference!

Thanks to Dave Manchas for making the best cookies on the planet!! and for sharing them with us.

Thanks to John Musgrove filling in as weekend Office Manager while we were all in OC, and thanks to John Brinton for accepting the weekend position.

We e-mail the website link for our Post Newsletter and other items of interest to members that have access to e-mail and the Internet. Please send your e-mail address to: <a href="mailto:lubyshirley@gmail.com">lubyshirley@gmail.com</a> and it will be added to our email list. Your e-mail will be used for Post 60 notifications only, it will NOT be given out to solicitors.

Post Phone: (301) 725-2302 Website: http://laurelpost60.org

## **Post Meetings**

**General Membership** 7:00 pm Third Thursday

#### **Executive Committee**

7:00 pm Second Thursday Note: Except the 2nd Thursday In July Due to Convention

### Auxiliary Unit 60 General Membership

7:00 pm Second Tuesday

**SAL Squadron 60** 7:00 pm First Thursday

**American Legion Riders** 7:00 pm Second Wednesday



## For members who do not have E-Mail

If you want the Post Newsletter mailed to your home, please send the written request by mail to the Post Adjutant.