



**AMERICAN
LEGION**

**Cummings-Behlke
Post 226**

830 E. Central Ave., Edgewater, MD 21037 • 410-798-9894

happy 
 *New Year*  


Never let an eligible veteran say:
"Nobody ever asked me to join the American Legion."

www.post226.com • January 2024

The Sons of the American Legion



Annual Shrimp Feast



Saturday, February 10th

1 PM to 5 PM

**All You Can Eat (on site only)
Shrimp will be served 2pm to 4pm**

Steamed Shrimp

Hot Dogs – Cole Slaw

Baked Beans – Potato Salad

Draft Beer & Sodas

\$45 in Advance ~ \$50 at the Door

Kids 10 & Under ~ \$15

Tickets are on sale at the Post



Commander's Message

Congratulations! You made it through another year of life. This past year may not been easy. It may have had tears, heartbreak, and loneliness. It may have had changes, some good, and some bad. But it was also a year of laughter, memories, new friendships, and love. No matter what life threw at you, you took it and ran with it. You grew from it and you learned from it, and that is something you should be incredibly proud of yourself for.

Live in the moment. Fully immerse yourself in each moment, because you never know when that moment will end. If you're not fully in each moment you could miss out on making the memories of a lifetime. Remember, memories that you can look back on and smile and laugh will be the most important thing you will have left.

You need to know that it is okay to take care of yourself and put yourself first sometimes. Know that you have the courage to get rid of the negative relationships in your life, and I hope that you have the wisdom to know when you need to. Find it in yourself to do what is best for you, regardless of what anyone else thinks.

I know that I don't necessarily need to tell you all of these things, but sometimes it just helps to be reminded. I know that in this next year, you will grow, and learn, and discover more of yourself. I wish you all the very best in 2024.

Larry Erwin
Post Commander



Chaplain's Message

Happy New Year! In 2023 we rose to meet the needs of our communities.

- During November and December there were many boxes of donations for Toys for Tots and toys for local families.
- Over two thousand pounds of food and \$500 were donated to the South County Assistance Network (SCAN) our local Food Bank.
- Four plus boxes of donations were delivered to the Charlotte Hall Veterans' Home.
- Over 120 donations of wreaths for Wreaths Across America, helping to make a big dent in coverage for the Crownsville Veterans Cemetery.

Over the course of the year, we celebrated together many different events, Pizza nights, Memorial Day Flags, July 4th Parade, and another wonderful Car Show. Our commander led the way taking an Icy Plunge in the Bay for the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge. Our leadership team and family units, Riders, SAL, Auxiliary continue to step up in a big way to bring us great community events, like Trunk or Treat. Oh, and what a terrific addition that Patio build was. Jim Hall and team, you made 2023 special indeed! I am looking forward to what we do in 2024.

Coming on February 4th at noon, we will have a remembrance ceremony to honor the souls who reported to Post Everlasting in 2023. We lost a lot of wonderful souls! If you have someone who passed from our Legion family that did not make our radar or use us for services and would like their name added to one of the rolls, please email me so they will not be forgotten.

Continued →

Chaplain's Message – Continued

Like last year I ask that we start 2024 with this simple prayer. *“Lord, remind us every day that because we have the things we need like, food, clothing, health, friends, a job, and a roof over our heads, we do not forget those who don't. Lord show us the hungry, homeless, lonely, sick, and poor so that we can help. Help us, Lord, to remember to “Love thy Neighbor”, to check on our friends, help who we can, where we can, when we can, and bless those in need with your grace and care. Amen.”.*

I will make myself available to meet with, talk with, and pray with any of you who need my services as your Chaplain. The easiest way to reach me is by sending an email to post226chaplain@gmail.com or dropping a note in my mailbox at the Post, or a prayer request in the prayer box in the main entrance.

For God and Country,
Ray Leone
Post Chaplain

Many Thanks To Members and Friends

As I recover from a broken hip, I thank each and every one of you for your prayers, good wishes, cards, and good cheer. I am making good progress, and I am able to get around pretty well (you may have seen me at Thanksgiving Dinner at the Post). Time is the great healer now, I just have to be patient and keep practicing. Many heartfelt thanks.

Cathie Kline

Weekly Events at the Post

Monday – Game Night, 6:30 pm

Tuesday – Pizza Night, 5:00-7:00 pm (Last order at 6:45)

3rd Friday – Auxiliary Dinner, 5:30-7:00 pm

Saturday – Bar Bingo, 6:00-8:30 pm

2nd & 4th Sunday – Queen of Hearts Drawing, 6:00 pm

Check out our web site and join our Facebook group.

Don't forget... We are always looking for volunteers.

Whether you can offer 30 minutes or 3 hours, it all helps and is appreciated.

Email Addresses

Post Commander (Larry) – post226commander@gmail.com

Post 1st Vice (Chris) – 1stVice226@gmail.com (Legion membership)

Post 2nd Vice (Ro) – post226events@gmail.com

Post Chaplain (Ray) – post226chaplain@gmail.com

Post Service Officer (Nicolina) – ALVSO226@gmail.com

Rental Coordinator (Victoria) – post226rentals@gmail.com

SAL Commander (John) – post226salcommander@gmail.com

SAL Membership (Dennis) – post226salmembership@gmail.com

AL Riders Director (Jim) – alr226info@gmail.com

Auxiliary President (Laura) – alaunit226@gmail.com

Aux Membership (Jeanette) – unit226membership@gmail.com

Bulletin and General Inquiries (Alicia) – info@post226.com

Membership Information

Key cards are available by showing your 2024 membership card. If you were an early bird the card is free, otherwise it is \$3.

Legion – Dues are \$38.50.

Make your check payable to "AL Post 226". Mail to PO Box 66, Mayo, MD 21106 or drop it in the **1st Vice** at the Post.

SAL – Dues are \$35. Juniors (under 21) and dual members are \$15.

Make your check payable to "SAL Squadron 226". Mail to PO Box 622 Mayo, MD 21106 or drop it in the **SAL Membership** at the Post.

Auxiliary – Dues are \$34, Juniors (under 18) are \$12.

Make your check payable to "ALA Unit 226". Mail to PO Box 432, Mayo, MD 21106 or drop it in the **Unit Membership** box at the Post.

AL Riders – Dues are \$30 (Legion, SAL, or Aux must be paid first)

Make your check payable to "AL Riders Post 226". Mail to PO Box 66, Mayo, MD 21106 or drop it in the **AL Riders** box at the Post.

Online Renewals

Legionnaires and Auxiliary members can pay their annual dues online. Unfortunately, this is not currently available for SAL members.

- Legionnaires: go to mylegion.org and create an account. You will need your Member ID# located on your membership card.
- Auxiliary members: go to www.alaforveterans.org/Members/ and create an account. You will need your Member ID# located on your membership card and choose Department of Maryland.

You can also print your card on line

JANUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>New Years Day</i>	2 5-7pm Pizza Night	3 7pm Auxiliary Mtg	4	5 8pm Live Music, <i>Jason Bishop</i>	6 6-8pm Bar Bingo
7	8 6:30pm Game Night	9 5-7pm Pizza Night 7pm Post Exec Mtg	10	11	12 8pm Live Music, <i>Loose Change</i>	13 6-8pm Bar Bingo 8pm Live Music, <i>Frank Raines (Elvis)</i>
14	15 6:30pm Game Night Bulletin Articles Due <i>Martin Luther King Holiday</i>	16 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Riders Mtg	17	18 7pm SAL Meeting <i>Aux Life Member Nominations Due</i>	19 5:30-7:00pm Aux Friday Dinner 8pm Live Music, <i>Chesapeake Sons</i>	20 6-8pm Bar Bingo
21 9am-noon SAL Breakfast	22 6:30pm Game Night	23 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Reg Post Mtg	24	25	26 8pm Live Music, <i>Betty White Stripes Band</i>	27 6-8pm Bar Bingo
28	29 6:30pm Game Night	30 5-7pm Pizza Night	31			

FEBRUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3 6-8pm Bar Bingo
4 12pm Post Ever-lasting Ceremony	5 6:30pm Game Night	6 5-7pm Pizza Night	7 7pm Auxiliary Mtg	8	9	10 1pm SAL Shrimp Feast NO Bar Bingo
11	12 6:30pm Game Night	13 5-7pm Pizza Night 7pm Post Exec Mtg	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	15 7pm SAL Meeting Bulletin Articles Due	16 5:30-7:00pm Aux Friday Dinner	17 6-8pm Bar Bingo
18 12pm Riders Chili Cook Off	19 6:30pm Game Night <i>Presidents Day</i>	20 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Riders Mtg	21	22	23	24 6-8pm Bar Bingo
25	26 6:30pm Game Night	27 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Reg Post Mtg	28	29		



American Legion Auxiliary President' s Message

Cheers to a New Year, and another chance for us to get it right! Last year was a very successful year for this unit, hopefully it will continue into this year. But it doesn't happen without all the volunteers who make it possible. Thank you for all you do throughout the year!

The Purse Bingo was a packed house. Great job, Mary Long, Mary Emrick, Dawn Penrod and Deanna Walls! I'm looking forward to the next one.

Our unit hosted the District 5/6 Christmas party on Sunday, December 10th. It was a big hit, but not without a lot of hard work. Thanks go out to Chuck Abell, Marla Abell, Kevin Millard, Steph Millard, and Julia Spradling. Thanks also to Mike Causey and Tim Rosquist for setting up the back hall for us. Great job!

Also... January 19th will be the next dinner, 5:30-7:00. And Life Membership nominations are due this month. Guidelines are on page 15.

Just a reminder that 2024 membership dues are due. You can mail your payment in or pay it online. You will not be able to get a new key card (door card) without your 2024 membership card .As of this writing, unit membership is at 86%, let's get to 101%!

Our next Meeting is Wednesday, January 3 at 7pm. Hope to see you there!

Laura Causey
Unit President



Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Commander's Message

I hope everyone had safe and wonderful holidays, also hope you remembered our veterans.

The shrimp feast is next month on Saturday, February 10th. Come one, come all! Get your tickets early. Anyone wanting to volunteer please let 2nd Vice Commander Chuck Abell know.

The SAL is bringing back it's monthly breakfast. Sunday, January 21st, 9am to noon. Details are on page 14. And don't forget, SAL meetings are the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7pm.

John Emrick
Squadron Commander

SAL 1st Vice Commander's Message

I hope everyone's holidays are going well and this finds you in good health. As most know I have moved to membership. To the many SAL members who have paid 2024 dues, thank you. We still have many who will need their 2024 card to get a new door card the first of the year. Shrimp Feast tickets should be available as of this writing. See SAL board members or bar tender for tickets.

Happy New Year!

Dennis Long
SAL Membership



American Legion Riders Director's Message

January 2024 the Riders will be kicking off our first ever raffle of a custom built motorcycle. The bike was built by a veteran in Pennsylvania. Full details will be released in January at the onset of the raffle, but I am hearing it will be a 3 tier raffle with a couple of extra cool prizes on the same ticket.

Chili Cook Off 2024 is on Sunday, February 18 this year. A sign-up sheet will be posted on Saturday, February 3rd at the Legion. You must sign up in person and pay the \$25 entry fee at the bar at time of sign up. There will be 18 spots and 16 entries; number 17 & 18 will be reserves and only pay if called up to compete. Further details will be posted with sign up sheets.

Congratulations to Alicia Curran on winning our 2023 Christmas Cash raffle. A big thank you to Chris Owens for heading it up and all who helped sell tickets.

Lastly, I want to thank Kim Owens who headed up our Christmas drive this year. Kim put in many hours of work making this year's drive a huge success. With all of our Riders, support of our post, community, and a partnership with Adams of Edgewater nearly \$6000 was raised and 350 gifts collected. These donations were used to help many families this year to have food and gifts that may not have otherwise been possible. Also a thank you to our Riders helpers (the girls that came out and wrapped all those gifts in one night). THANK YOU !!!!

Hoping everyone had a Merry Christmas and wishing you a Happy New Year.

Jim Hall
AL Riders Director



SAL Breakfast

Sunday, January 21st

9am – Noon, \$7

**Scrambled Eggs,
Choice of Sausage, Bacon or
Scrapple, Home Fries,
Pancakes, Toast,
Coffee, Juice**

Bloody Marys and Mimosas available at the bar



Riders Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, February 18

Noon, \$25 to Enter

Sign-up sheet will be available on February 3rd

Auxiliary Life Membership

The guidelines for Unit 226 Life Membership are outlined below and will be reviewed at the January Unit meeting. Feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Alicia Curran, Committee Chair
info@post226.com

Nomination Eligibility Requirements

- A member must be active and in good standing with Cummings-Behlke Unit 226 for at least the prior ten (10) years.
- A member must have held an officer position and/or chaired a standing committee for six (6) continuous active service years in Unit 226.

Nomination and Award Procedure

1. No oral nominations shall be presented from the floor during a regular meeting. At the regular meeting in the month of January, the committee shall invite the membership to submit nominations for Life Membership in writing within 15 days following the January meeting.
2. Nominations must be submitted in writing, be original thought of the author, dated, and signed.
3. Content of the nomination must include a detailed description of the outstanding service rendered by the nominee on behalf of the Cummings-Behlke Unit 226. Areas to be addressed are the following.
 - a. Offices held
 - b. Committees chaired
 - c. Service to the Unit that went above and beyond the assigned duties of the offices held and committees chaired
4. After a full consideration of all nominations for Life Membership, the committee shall submit their report and recommendation at the March regular meeting. ***“Only one (1) Life Membership may be granted per year.”***

**Cummings-Behlke Post 226
The American Legion
PO Box 66
Mayo, MD 21106-0066**

Web site: www.post226.com
Email: info@post226.com

ELIGIBILITY DATES

**April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918
December 7, 1941 to Present**

**DATED MATERIAL
NO DELAY PLEASE**