

# AMERICAN LEGION

Cummings-Behlke  
Post 226

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

## MEMORIAL DAY



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

[www.post226.com](http://www.post226.com) • May 2024

# 3rd Annual CAR SHOW



## ***CUSTOM CAR , TRUCK AND MOTORCYCLE SHOW***

***TROPHIES, FOOD, REFRESHMENTS, & MUSIC***

***Saturday, May 4, 2024  
10:00 am until 3:00 pm***

Grounds open at 8am for pre-registered vehicles

Admission \$5 – Children 10 and under free

***Vehicle Registration  
\$15 by April 15th, \$20 day of the show***

Vendors: \$25 for the first table, \$5 for additional

Sponsor, vehicle registration, and vendor forms are available on our website under Special Events

***[www.post226.com](http://www.post226.com)***

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## Commander's Message

Service members, veterans, and their families know there is a big difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day. While Veterans Day, November 11, is a day set aside to celebrate all veterans, Memorial Day is a somber holiday dedicated to honor military fallen, with a special focus on those killed during military service or through enemy contact.

Originally called "Decoration Day", Memorial Day is often considered the unofficial beginning of summer. Parades take place, the grill is dusted off for the first time. Actually, it is more than that.

Memorial Day is in remembrance of soldiers who fell in combat risking their lives for their country. It is about gratitude. Although placing flowers on graves is a very old tradition, the modern Memorial Day observance began with the end of the Civil War. In four years of fighting, more than 622,000 Americans, from the North and the South, had died. The government established national cemeteries for the Union fallen, while cemeteries were established in cities and towns across the country. They decorated the graves of their fallen heroes with flowers, they recited prayers, they held tributes. It began as a very solemn day.

A pharmacist in Waterloo Village, New York, Henry C. Welles is credited with the inspiration that "it would be honorable and appropriate to recall the sacrifice of the patriotic dead by displaying floral tributes on the gravestones of the fallen." Many towns claim the privilege of being the first one to celebrate Memorial Day. What helped Waterloo's cause to be first was the consistency of the celebration from year to year in 1866, 1867, and 1868 and thereafter. Other cities did not have a tradition of annual celebration or where businesses closed as they did in Waterloo. Nevertheless, there is still argument that Waterloo was not first.

Today, the main observance takes place in Arlington National Cemetery, where the President lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier followed by an address in the amphitheater.

*Continued -->*

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## Commander's Message – Cont' d.

This holiday has evolved. It can be both solemn and joyous, both formal and casual. In 1968, Congress created a three-day weekend to include Memorial Day. In the years since the change became effective, Memorial Day has been hailed as the unofficial beginning of the summer season. The holiday weekend has spawned merchandise sales, vacation getaways, and marked by swimming pool openings. Parades replaced processions. Commemoration gave way to celebration.

Some of the solemnity of the day, in the eyes of some, was lost. President Grover Cleveland in 1888 went fishing, which prompted a few negative headlines and is listed as one of the reasons for his defeat in the bid for a second term. In 1910, there was consideration in ending Memorial Day to avoid controversy. A year later, the first Indianapolis 500 was held on the day without much of a whisper. No longer referred to as Decoration Day. Gradually, the "Memorial Day" designation took hold, still, it wasn't until 1967 that "Memorial Day" was the official name of the holiday. During the 20th century, Memorial Day became a permanent holiday on the calendar. It became a day of remembrance of all service personnel killed in war balanced with leisure.

So, when did it start??? 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1968, 1971? Pick your date. What really matters is that we all remember, in our own way, Memorial Day.

Larry Erwin  
Commander



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## Chaplain's Message

With summer soon upon us and the start of mild May weather, we need to start turning our attention to honoring the mother figures in our lives. We are also heading into a full month of Military recognitions.

May 12th is the day we set aside for honoring Mothers, but in reality, they deserve our thanks every day of the year. May 1st is Silver Star Banner Day, honoring wounded, ill, and injured veterans. On May 10th we honor Military Spouses. On May 18th, Armed Forces Day, we honor all Americans currently serving in all branches of the U.S. Military.

As a prelude to Memorial Day, a tradition dating back to the first National American Legion Auxiliary's Convention, the Friday before Memorial Day we wear a Red Poppy to honor the fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform. The Saturday Morning before Memorial Day we will be planting flags topped with those same poppies on Veterans graves throughout the South County area. We will be serving breakfast for veterans and volunteers as they finish planting flags. There will be a sign-up sheet on the wall around May 15th.

I want to take a minute here and write about the comrades we have laid to rest so far this year. It's been a tough year with several of our Legion family going to their final rest. Grief manifests itself differently in each of us. While we may have similar ways of honoring our loved ones, each family is a little different, perhaps it's because of their religion or beliefs, or the way they carried themselves while alive. I wish it was one size fits all. What I do know is that you are part of a very large family, we care and love you and will find ways to honor you when you are gone. You are never forgotten, with a place for your name on our walls for as long as we are here. Pray for each other, for patience, health, peace, and posterity. God hears our prayers. He is our good shepherd after all.

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 emailing [post226chaplain@gmail.com](mailto:post226chaplain@gmail.com).

Ray Leone  
Post Chaplain



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## **Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Commander’s Message**

Thank you to everyone who helped support the SAL Fish Fry on Good Friday. Special thanks Chuck Abell and crew for putting on a great event and to Chesapeake Seafood for supplying the fish. Our monthly dinners continue to be a success under his leadership as well.

Our membership is above 100% of goal; thank you to Dennis Long for all of his hard work. For any questions, please reach out to us by email at Post226SALmembership@gmail.com.

The Annual Car Show on May 4th will be a major event, please consider volunteering.

John Emrick  
Squadron Commander

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## **Memorial Day Weekend Activities**



Here is a list of the planed activities for Memorial Day weekend. Please check social media as the date gets closer.

- ◆ Mid May – Flag prepping, attaching poppies. Check the Post and Facebook for update.
- ◆ 25 May, 8am – Place flags on veterans graves in South County. Sign up sheet will go up around 15 May.
- ◆ 27 May, noon – Memorial Day Ceremony

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## 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** box 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** box 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.

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## 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](http://mylegion.org) and create an account. You will need your Member ID# located on your membership card.
- Auxiliary members: go to [www.legion-aux.org/members](http://www.legion-aux.org/members) and create an account. You will need your Member ID# located on your membership card.

***You can also print your card on line***

# MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7pm Auxiliary Mtg <i>(Nominations)</i>	2	3 5:30-7pm SAL Dinner 8pm Live Music, <i>Chesapeake Sons</i>	4 10am-3pm Car Show 6-8pm Bar Bingo
5	6 6:30pm Game Night	7 5-7pm Pizza Night	8	9	10	11 6-8pm Bar Bingo
12  <i>Mothers Day</i>	13 6:30pm Game Night	14 5-7pm Pizza Night 7pm Post Exec Mtg	15 <b>Bulletin Articles Due</b>	16 7pm SAL Meeting <b>(Elections)</b>	17 5:30-7pm Auxiliary Dinner	18 6-8pm Bar Bingo  <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
19 8:30-11am SAL Breakfast	20 6:30pm Game Night	21 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Riders Mtg	22	23	24	25 8am Place flags on graves 6-8pm Bar Bingo
26	27 12pm Memorial Day Ceremony  <i>Memorial Day</i> 	28 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Reg Post Mtg (Elections)	29	30	31	



# JUNE 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 6-8pm Bar Bingo
2	3	4 5-7pm Pizza Night	5 7pm Auxiliary Mtg (Elections)	6 <i>D-Day Remembrance</i>	7 5:30-7:00pm SAL Dinner	8 Bar Bingo? 6pm - 12am Live music
9	10	11 5-7pm Pizza Night 7pm Post Exec Mtg	12	13	14 7pm Flag Day Ceremony <i>Flag Day</i>	15 6-8pm Bar Bingo <b>Bulletin Articles Due</b>
16 8:30-11am SAL Breakfast <i>Fathers Day</i>	17	18 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Riders Mtg	19	20 7pm SAL Meeting	21 5:30-7:00pm Auxiliary Dinner	22 6-8pm Bar Bingo
23	24	25 5-7pm Pizza Night 7:30pm Reg Post Mtg	26	27	28	29 6-8pm Bar Bingo
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## American Legion Auxiliary President's Message

May is Poppy month; cans will be available all month long in the lounge for your donations. We thank you for your support. This year we will again be sponsoring a Poppy trophy at the car show.

Thank you again to Jeanette Hilty for doing a good job on membership, we are at goal plus.

Nominations for officers will be taken at our May meeting, and elections are in June. I would like to thank everyone for their participation and dedication throughout the year — officers, committee chairs, event chairs and volunteers. Again, I thank you so much for your willingness to donate your time and talent. Your efforts contribute greatly to the success of our organization. Please don't hesitate to ask questions if you are interested in trying a new position of any kind.

I'd also like to thank Scout Troops 249 and 2018 for their help with the flea market, very much appreciated.

The Friday night dinners continue to do well. Thank you everyone that attends and helps, either on the day of, or with desserts. This month's dinner will be on May 17, 5:30-7:00.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 1 at 7pm.

*All gave some, some gave all. Remember them this  
Memorial Day.*

Laura Causey  
Unit President





## American Legion Riders Director's Message

Our Riders would like to send condolences and prayers to our fellow rider Bernie Floyd on the loss of his wife Alice in late March. We are celebrating Alice's life on April 27 and appreciate everyone's attendance. Bernie has requested in lieu of flowers a donation may be made in honor of Alice to our veteran suicide awareness fundraiser, ALR Project 226.

On May 4th, the Riders are handling the parking for the Car Show, volunteers will be needed. We are doing our Wednesday rides (open to anyone) and have events every weekend so keep your eye on the ALR Facebook page and emails. We will also be continuing monthly bike nights, as our first one was a huge success. Thank you to all who came out and thanks to John Emrick and Danny Baldwin for bartending.

As always, Riders lead the way! We are here to serve those that have served.

Jim Hall  
Chapter Director

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## Save the Date... Saturday, June 8th

The Riders will be having a poker run on June 8th. Registration at 10am, KSU at 11:30am. The run starts at the Greene Turtle with stops at American Legion Post 206 (Chesapeake Beach), the Boathouse, Stan & Joe's Riverside, and ending at Post 226. \$25 per bike (car, truck, jeep).

June 8th is also *Rebel Soul* THE LAST RIDE (final show). Opening acts include *Arrival* and *Kevin Lee*. Music will begin at approximately 6pm. More details will be available as the date gets closer.

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## Regular Events at the Post

*Monday* – Game Night, 6:30pm

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

*1st and 3rd Friday* – Dinner, 5:30-7:00 pm

*Saturday* – Bar Bingo, 6:00-8:30 pm

*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.*

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## 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 (Matt)* – serviceofficer226@gmail.com

*Rental Coordinator (Stephanie)* – 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

*Auxiliary Membership (Jeanette)* – unit226membership@gmail.com

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



## **American Legion Riders Partner with America's Warrior Partnership to Combat Veteran Suicide**

The American Legion Riders (ALR) are proud to announce its partnership with America's Warrior Partnership (AWP) to address the pressing issue of veteran suicide. The partnership aims to raise funds and awareness through the "ALR Project 226" charity drive, with all proceeds benefiting AWP's initiatives to support veterans in crisis.

Veteran suicide remains a tragic reality in the United States, with an average of 22 veterans taking their lives each day. In response to this national tragedy, the ALR Project 226 event has set a fundraising goal of \$50,000 to support AWP's efforts in preventing veteran suicide and providing crucial support services to veterans and their families.

"We are honored to join forces with America's Warrior Partnership in our ongoing mission to support our nation's veterans," said Jim Hall, Director of the ALR Chapter 226. "Through the ALR Project 226 charity drive, we aim to raise awareness about the alarming rate of veteran suicide and contribute to the lifesaving work being done by AWP."

As part of the partnership, a presentation will be made at the ALR Project 226 charity event on September 7th, 2024, at the American Legion Post 226 in Edgewater, MD. This will be an all-day event featuring various activities, special guest appearances, and opportunities for the community to show their support for veterans.

"We are grateful for the support of the American Legion Riders and their commitment to our mission of partnering with communities to prevent veteran suicide," said Jim Lorraine, CEO at America's Warrior Partnership. "The funds raised through the ALR Project 226 charity drive will enable us to expand our reach and provide vital resources to veterans in need."

Members of the media are invited to attend the ALR Project 226 charity event on September 7th to learn more about the partnership between the American Legion Riders and America's Warrior Partnership. Interviews with representatives from both organizations will be available upon request.

For more information about the ALR Project 226 charity drive and the partnership with America's Warrior Partnership, please contact Tom Locke at [ALRProject226@gmail.com](mailto:ALRProject226@gmail.com).

American Legion Riders Post 226  
ALR PROJECT 226 VETERAN SUICIDE AWARENESS  
*In Honor of*  
**US Army Chief Warrant Officer Nick Fogle**  
And the 22 lives per day lost to Veteran/Soldier Suicide

 **\$50K CHALLENGE** 

**SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 10AM-11 PM**

*Live Music!* FOREIGN COMPANY/FORMERLY COMPANY B  
• SHAWN MUSSELMAN • SUZY LENOX • ALL YOU NEED • ARRIVAL •

**Special Guest Appearances!**   • **VENDORS • FOOD AVAILABLE**

 *National Anthem 4pm by Laura Farrell* 

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

Web site: [www.post226.com](http://www.post226.com)  
Email: [info@post226.com](mailto:info@post226.com)

**ELIGIBILITY DATES**

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

**DATED MATERIAL  
NO DELAY PLEASE**