



The Dispatch

John E. Jacobs American Legion Post 68 – Leland, NC

PO Box 521 Leland, NC 28451 www.ncpost68.org & Facebook

Post Officers

Commander:
Dale E. Todd

1st Vice Commander:
Jim Zelenski

Adjutant:
Daniel Dodge

Finance Officer:
Elliott Kopple

Chaplain:
Brian Danielson

Service Officer:
Lane Adrian

Sergeant at Arms:
Bill Smith

Logistics Officer:
John Marone

Public Relations:
Richard Fry

Membership:
Dan Fortini

Members @ Large:
Lou Tranzillo
John Hacker
Mike Conners

Monthly Meetings:

Third Thursday of month
Blossoms Restaurant
Magnolia Greens
1800 Tommy Jacobs Dr
Leland, NC 28451

Meet 'n Greet: 5:30pm
Meeting @ 6pm

Publication of:
John E. Jacobs
American Legion Post 68

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www.ncpost68.org



Serving Those who have served

Meetings & COVID-19:

The saga continues...

We cancelled our March and April meetings due to concerns over the COVID-19 virus and also to abide by Executive order 141 from our NC State governor and AL Department of NC Commander.

We are still in Phase-2 of the Governor's stay-at-home order which is not scheduled to end until June 26th. In checking with Blossoms, their meeting room will not be open until after Phase-2 ends. Therefore, it is looking unlikely we would be having an in-person meeting in June. However, we are looking into other options such as holding a virtual "on-line" meeting. Please stay tuned and what your email/mail for further information.

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Post 68 Officers:

As appointed...

As has been previously reported to you via email and US mail, elections for this year were cancelled following guidance from Department of NC Judge Advocate. After reviewing this guidance, on April 20th, the Post PEC took the action to unanimously appoint each member on the approved 2020 ballot to the elective office for which that member was running with the appointments effective June 30th. An additional action appointed Alan Simmons to the appointed position of Judge Advocate and Herb Moore to the appointed position of Membership Chair both affective 31 May.

The Commander has thanked the Election Committee for their hard work and has released the committee from further obligation.



Guest Speakers:

July 2020:
Cindy Parson
Wounded Warrior
Project

Website News:

Please check our website regularly for important news, information and changes – especially now while we all battle COVID-19

Post 68 Media:

Our Public Affairs Officer, Richard Fry regularly publishes meeting information and updates in the Wilmington STAR News along with the Brunswick Beacon newspapers

Did you know?

The American Legion has a training webpage where you can find training for both members and officers:

<http://legion.org/training>



John E. Jacobs American Legion Post 68

Veterans serving Veterans!

2020/2021 Officers

Appointed to elected positions:

Commander: John Hacker
1st Vice CMDR: Dan Fortini
2nd Vice CMDR: John Cook
Finance Officer: Jim Zelenski
Historian: Brian Danielson
Chaplain: Lou Tranzillo
Member @ Large: Elliott Koppel
Member @ Large: Mike Conners
Member @ Large: Dale Todd

Note: Transition meetings are being scheduled to ensure a smooth transition to new leadership

POST MEMBERSHIP SURVEY:

We have created a 10 question survey for Post members to take and provide their feedback regarding Post meetings along with your thoughts on the newsletter. Please be sure to take a couple minutes and complete this survey online with Survey Monkey. Post leadership would really like to hear from you. Click on the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QPXP8T2>

BUDDY CHECKS:

Membership coordinator Dan Fortini along with members of the PEC are continuing to perform buddy checks – reaching out to Post 68 members checking to see if any member needs assistance.

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT:

We helped two local Korean War veteran widows to obtain approval for installation of wheel-chair ramps. There is also a pending request for assistance with dental work for a disabled veteran.

CHAPLAIN REPORT:

Please be sure to report to the PEC of the passing of any member or local veteran you hear about.

LOGISTICS OFFICER:

Shirts and Post hats are available now with our new name: John E. Jacobs. Golf Shirts: \$25.00, T-Shirts \$15.00, Hats \$15.00

Post 68 Happenings:

Awards for North Brunswick High School students presented by Col Steve Baker:



Liana Slade
Jacobs Scholarship



Tyler Herrmann
Military Excellence



Kwesi Clarke
Scholastic Excellence

Col Steve Baker presented JROTC awards to North Brunswick High School students this year. Recipients are selected based upon strict criteria and the recommendations from Col Baker and the JROTC instruction staff. Our two medal winners also received a check for \$100 each. As the scholarship winner, Slade received \$500 towards collage at UNC Greensboro. Due to school closings, awards were presented on May 14th informally on school grounds.

Birthday Drive-by for WWII Vet Alex Moskowicz – May 6th, 2020



A massive drive-by of well-wishers helped celebrate the birthday of WWII veteran Alex Moskowicz. The drive-by consisted of close to 100 vehicles with cars, motorcycles and classic cars passed by Alex to wish him a happy birthday. Many Legion posts including Post 68, Post 543 and Post 550 along with Legion Riders and American Honor Guard participated.

US Coast Guard Cutter Diligence send off – May 25th



Members of Post 68 gave a show of support helping to send off the US Coast Guard Cutter Diligence. The Diligence and her crew have been based out of Wilmington for many years and is being repositioned to Florida. Veterans from other Legion Posts along with the American Honor Guard were in attendance showing their support along with many members of the community. Members were working to adhere to social distancing best practices.

MEMBERSHIP INFO:

Welcome new transfers!

MEMBERSHIP STATS:

As of 1 May:

Members: 184
2020 Dues Paid: 172

Stars by Bea:

As members of the American Legion we all understand the symbolism of our Country's flag- We readily recognize the stars as a symbol for each of the States. But stars have also been thought of as a symbol of the heavens and the goals to which humankind aspires and been used to symbolize a victory- think Battle Stars.

You can say "Your service is appreciated and Thank YOU" to a fellow Veteran by sharing a star from a retired flag.

Stars are available packaged in a ziplock bag with information about our Post and can be obtained by calling either Joe or Bea Frost at 910-769-0543.



Post 68 Events:

Your Post PEC team has done much work planning events for this calendar year. Fund raisers, public service events, support for youth, etc. Many events have had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 virus. However, once travel and movement restrictions are lifted, the PEC will again get back to work planning events for the remainder of the year.

WE NEED YOU TO STEP UP AND HELP LEAD!

Upcoming Events: Many cancellations due to virus

June 9th: Officers Meeting 1pm via Zoom

July 16: Post membership meeting

Sep 11: Post 68 Blood Drive—Mike Conners/Dan Fortini leads

Please note:

Our Post is STILL OPERATIONAL! Members of the PEC (Post Executive Committee) are providing leadership. Our Service Officer and Chaplain stand ready to provide support to members and local veterans whenever and wherever we can. Our Commander and Adjutant are working to provide information and news to Post membership. The PEC is still meeting using virtual meeting tools.



Post 68 Legion Riders news: *Lane Adrian-Commander*

AL Riders from post 68 took part in the celebration drive by on May 6, 2020 for WWII veteran Alex Moskowitz in honor of his 97th birthday and service to his country. The event was attended by a large number of various veteran groups and the public in general as well as coverage by local TV news crews.



COMMANDERS CORNER:

Unfortunately, due to the specified precautions to fight the pandemic we've had to cancel activities that we had planned for the May-June timeframe. Our Post Executive Committee (PEC) is working to re-plan and re-schedule those activities. As new plans are finalized, we'll communicate that information to you. We have completed the process for appointing our new officers based on our election ballot. The new PEC will be in place on June 30th. We've already begun the transition actions to prepare for the turnover. While the PEC has continued to meet using virtual technology, we're closely monitoring state and local guidance in order to determine when it would be possible to hold an actual post meeting. Prior to scheduling that first real meeting, we have sent out a survey to get your feedback on what it will require for you to be comfortable in attending a group meeting. We want to be sure that we consider your inputs in determining when we can return to a regular meeting schedule. We have managed to successfully complete some activities including delivering the JROTC Awards to the winning NBHS cadets (thanks to the efforts of Rick de Moya and Col Steve Baker) and supporting a "Happy Birthday Drive-By" for a 97 year old WWII vet in Supply. Details on both activities are covered in this newsletter. We are also continuing to try to stay in touch with you through our Buddy Check calls. Our goal with this program is to make sure we identify any member who may be in need of assistance, or who may know of some other veteran who needs help. Please stay in touch because we can't help if we don't know there is a need and, as you all know, our primary mission is to support veterans.

This is our 2nd monthly newsletter. It seems even more important with all of the current limitations on group activities. We've had positive feedback about the 1st edition of the newsletter. If you have any feedback or suggestions on ways to make the newsletter better, please share them with us. We are all in this together and want do everything possible to stay connected.

Take care of yourselves and stay safe! Dale Todd, Post 68 Commander