

ROLL CALL

Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post 237



Alabama's Largest American Legion Post

Volume 19, Issue 2

October 2019

2900 Drake Ave. SW, Huntsville, AL 35805

256-883-9911



Commander's Corner

Billy Heatherly,

Post 237 Commander

VOLUNTEERISM. We have many opportunities where the Post home can use volunteers. Currently I am looking for Volunteers to help with Bingo nights and for a Building committee to help with Post and Annex improvements. For more info on how you can help, please contact me at the email address below. For other happenings, please visit "The Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post 237" Facebook page and hit the Like button to keep up with your Post.

Email: commander@legion237.com

Membership Update

Our current Membership is 615 and our goal is 1451. Please renew as soon as possible.

Renew at the Adjutant's Office, Mondays 11:30AM until 2PM and other weekdays 10AM until 1PM. Take time to enjoy a delicious lunch.

Renew online via credit card or setup Automatic Annual Renewal at: www.legion.org/renew



Be an Early Bird!

Please pay your membership dues today! Dues paid by October 21st qualify you for a Free Early Bird Dinner at the Membership Meeting on October 21st at 6:00 PM.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Commander's Corner, Early Bird Notice, and Membership Update**
- 2 Post 237 Information, Historian Report**
- 3 Officer and Communications Committee Reports**
- 4 Veterans Day Baskets and Activities, and Around the Post**
- 5 Honor Guard - Going the Distance**
- 6 Calendar of Events, Operating Hours, Why Was the American Legion Established**
- 7 In the News, Revitalization, Deployments, Football**
- 8 Don't Turn Around, Halloween Party**
- 9 Humor in Uniform, Stars Fell on Alabama**
- 10 October Monthly Calendar**



**AMERICAN LEGION
CLAYTON E. MONEYMAKER POST 237**

OFFICERS

Billy Heatherly	Commander
Don Pinkerton	Past Commander
Roy Hall	1st Vice Commander
Tom Paone	2nd Vice Commander
Glen Vela	3rd Vice Commander
Mary McCoy	Adjutant
Bud Pagakis	Finance Officer
Jerry Creel	Chaplain
Nicholas Jones	Service Officer
Michael Kinney	Historian
Gerry Frank	Sergeant At Arms
Ken Reisenweber	1 Year Trustee
Dennis Atkins	2 Year Trustee
Ben Cecil	3 Year Trustee
Earl Hokanson	Honor Guard Cdr.
John Murphy	ROTC Liaison
Steve Bowling	S.A.L. Commander
Buddy Miller	S.A.L. Adjutant
Steve Bowling	ALR Director
Sherry Schroen	Auxiliary President
Channa O'Keefe	Club Manager

Executive Committee

Billy Heatherly, Don Pinkerton, Roy Hall, Tom Paone, Glen Vela, Mary McCoy, Bud Pagakis, Jerry Creel, Nicholas Jones, Michael Kinney, Gerry Frank, Ken Reisenweber, Dennis Atkins, and Ben Cecil

House Committee

Glen Vela, Gerry Frank, Billy Heatherly, Tom Paone, Bud Pagakis, Rudy Cowe, Channa O'Keefe, and Steve Bowling

Post Address: 2900 Drake Ave. SW
Huntsville, AL 35805

Phone Number: 256-883-9911

Website: www.legion237.com
Webmaster: webmaster@legion237.com

Facebook Page:
"The Clayton E. Moneymaker American Legion Post 237"

Newsletter Contact: newsletter@legion237.com
Newsletter Archive:
<http://www.legion237.com/index.php?id=126>

Printed copies of the current newsletter are available in the Social Quarters.

Historian Report

Michael Kinney, Post 237 Historian

United States Air Force

The American Legion Post 237 and the newsletter would like to wish the United States Air Force (USAF) a very happy seventy-second birthday since it was not mentioned in the last newsletter. The USAF came into being shortly after World War II with a remobilization of what was left from the Army Air Force. Congress passed the National Security Act of 1947 and President Truman signed the Act on July 26, 1947. The newly formed armed services branch, headed by its own Secretary, was established formally on September 18, 1947.

United States Navy

The American Legion Post 237 and the newsletter would like to wish the United States Navy a very happy two hundred and forty-fourth birthday. The establishment of the Navy grew as a result of security and combat needs during the Revolutionary War. The first legislation of the Continental Congress discussing the creation of an American Navy was on October 13, 1775, when the Congress directed that one vessel of 10 guns and another of 14 guns as national cruisers be equipped. Soon, an act was passed establishing a "Marine Committee," which was from its' own members, to be in complete control of naval affairs. Later that month on October 30, 1775, the Continental Congress authorized the equipping of two additional armed vessels, which carried more guns. These were the beginnings of the formation of a national Navy.

During President Washington's second term in office, the Navy's role expanded. Congress passed a resolution to establish with haste a national Navy that could protect U.S. commercial vessels from attacks by the Barbary pirates in the Mediterranean and nearby Atlantic waters. The resolution narrowly passed, and it resulted in the creation of a nine-man committee to study the buildup, especially of the cost and size needed. Years of indecision and ambivalence on the issue of a national Navy was costing the government and its citizens problems economically by imperiling United States trade in the West Indies and Eastern Europe. Another factor at play during this time was the French Revolution and how it impacted American commerce. In early March 1794, news arrived that attacks upon American ships started to increase. More and more ships were being taken by the Barbary pirates in late 1793 and early 1794. This hastened the argument for an increased Navy and on March 27, 1794, Congress easily passed the "Act to Provide a Naval Armament," which promised the President six frigates. Can you name the most famous of these six frigates that is the world's oldest commissioned naval vessel in the United States Navy?

Email: historian@legion237.com



Trustee Report

Dennis Atkins, 2nd Year Trustee

Welcome new readers,

I want to take just a moment and introduce myself to the Legion Post 237 community. My name is Dennis Atkins, newly elected 2yr Trustee. I can be reached via email at trustee2@legion237.com. You might ask what a trustee does for the American Legion. I myself wondered this as this is my first elected position at Post 237. So far I have learned the trustees are just like the name suggests, they are trusted agents to be utilized by and at the discretion of the Commander. This year Commander Heatherly asked the trustees to conduct a comprehensive inventory of the American Legion properties, equipment, furniture, etc. This was completed in July of this year. As a further action he has asked all three trustees to serve and be a part of the Post Finance Committee. This position signifies what trustees do. We become part of any program or committee as trusted agents of the Commander. The Commander has indicated further committee assignments can be expected as required.

All of the new committee members like myself are excited about their positions and are eager to contribute their skills and abilities to the Commander and the Post at large. Our Post offers so much to its membership and I hope all of you would take advantage of our facility and activities. The Post offers on weekdays a great lunch at a reasonable price, look for lunch specials. The Social Quarters host Karaoke every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday which is always great fun (not too serious) and all can enjoy these activities. Keep an eye open for special events and activities as they are put on the Legion Calendar for all.

In closing, let me say, as we all love America and all it stands for, it is my pleasure to serve our Commander and each of you as a trustee. May God richly bless each of you and your families. Please come out and support your Legion Post 237. I look forward to meeting you. ❖



LUNCH AT THE LEGION
Monday through Friday
11:00AM to 1:30PM
Specials: Steak - Wednesday and
Fish - Friday

Adjutant Report

Mary McCoy, Post 237 Adjutant

Thank you Post 237 Legionnaires for your patience as I begin my new role as Adjutant. My mailbox has been flooded with mail-in 2020 dues renewals, in-office renewals and online renewals. In addition this Post has received several new members and transfers. If you have not received your 2020 Membership Card please call 256-883-9911 and ask for Mary. My office hours are Monday 11:30-2:00, Tuesday through Friday 10:00 – 1:00. You may also call and setup an appointment. I look forward to serving you.

Email: adjutant@legion237.com ❖

From The Finance Office

Bud Pagakis, Finance Officer

Did you know that the only authorized paid position at The Post is the Adjutant position? Our Adjutant, like many of her predecessors, turned down the offer for payment and donates all her time to the betterment of the post. So...the next time you see Mary McCoy, let her know that you appreciate her dedication and service.

Email: financeofc@legion237.com ❖

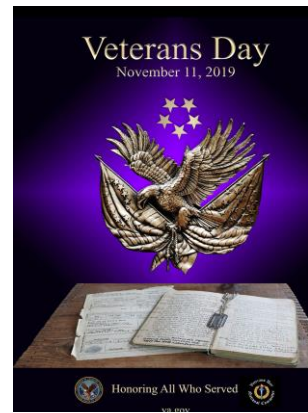
Communications Committee

The newly formed communications committee is tasked with improving communications with our membership, between our Legion programs and our officers, and with our community. Our members are: CeVin Barnes, John Carson, Michael Kinney, Tom Hartley, and Tom Paone.

The Roll Call Newsletter is our first project. We are distributing the Newsletter via email. If you did not receive it in your email please send an email to newsletter@legion237.com with your name and your affiliation with the Legion, S.A.L., or Auxiliary. Past and current newsletters are archived on our website at: <http://www.legion237.com/index.php?id=126>

We appreciate your feedback on the Newsletter and any suggestions for improving communications throughout the Post. Please email your thoughts and items to include in upcoming issues to:

newsletter@legion237.com ❖



VETERANS DAY PARTY BASKETS

GRAND BASKET

1800 Margarita Raspberry, 1800 Margarita Pineapple, 1800 Margarita Peach, Bailey's, Fireball, Apple Crown, Crown, Captain Morgan (Spiced Rum) Kahula, Kahula, Tequila Rose, Tanqueray, Maker's Mark, Tito's, Alabama Vodka (Smirnoff), Bacardi Rum, Long Island Tea (Captain Morgan), Pinnacle Vodka, Bloody Mary Mix, Pure Southern Alabama Dixie Melon (Vodka), Dewar's, Grey Goose, Jose Cuervo, Sweet Lucy, Jager, Paul Masson (Peach), Evan Williams, Jim Beam, Sweet Red, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, White Zinfandel, Moscato, Cabernet.

SMALL BASKETS

Jack Daniel's..... Gentleman Jack Miniatures Basket..... Angry Orchard Frozen Rita's More to come!!!!

**DRAWINGS WILL BE HELD ON
VETERANS DAY, NOV 11TH AT
4:00PM.**

**SMALL BASKETS WILL BE FIRST,
GRAND BASKET WILL BE THE LAST
DRAWING!!!**

**TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED AT
THE BAR:**

6 FOR \$5.00

ARM LENGTH \$20.00

HEAD TO TOE \$35.00

VETERANS DAY ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 11, 2019

- 0900 - MEET AT POST & RIDE TO PARADE
- 0930 - DECORATE THE FLOAT
- 1000 - VETERANS DAY PARADE
- 1200 - FREE LUNCH- RIBS AND CHICKEN
BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE
- 1600 - VETERANS DAY BASKET DRAWING



Around the Post

- ◆ Sherrie Love has joined our staff of dedicated bartenders. She will work day shift. Please come by and welcome Sherrie.
- ◆ We salute two of our Legionnaires for their outstanding volunteer work in the Social Quarters. Mr. Ed Wilson helps close and escorts the on-duty bartender to her vehicle every night. Ryan King assists in cleaning and sweeping and helps cook for special occasions. Thank you gentlemen.



GOING THE DISTANCE

John E. Carson, Honor Guard Photographer

Reveille sounded at 0400 hours on 20 August 2019 for Earl Hokanson and the members of Post 237's Honor Guard. Rendezvous at the Post had been set for 0600 Huntsville time for one of the farthest details in the past 5 years.

On that day, we were travelling to Chattanooga, Tennessee and the National Cemetery located there to honor a Post 237 member, Kenneth Eugene Weikert, a Korean War veteran of the Air Force. Mr. Weikert was 85 when he was called to Post Everlasting.

Normally, the Honor Guard's range is fifty miles-approximately a 1-hour drive one way. This translates to two hours round trip and one to two hours on site. Add the travel time to and from the Post, time to dress and undress and a single detail can take up the better part of a day.

But for this occasion we mustered six for the squad and the intel we had received before the mission told Commander Earl Hokanson that we should be →



prepared to conduct the whole service from the Chaplain duties of reading from the Good Book and comforting the family, to folding and presenting the flag, as well as firing the three volleys and playing Taps.

Further complicating this detail was the time shift from Huntsville to Chattanooga; Chattanooga time was one hour ahead of Huntsville time.

For a volunteer outfit, an Honor Guard detail is a major commitment of time and energy and four hours travel time can severely limit the number of available members.

The early morning trip went well in spite of heavy fog in the hills and the many people commuting to work and we arrived at the site well ahead of time. Our normal arrival time for most details is 45 minutes in advance of the service; necessary to coordinate with the funeral home, family and any military that may be present.

The National Cemetery at Chattanooga is a very large, extremely well-kept place of honor. The many rows of uniform headstones, lined up in military precision, speak highly of the respect each departed veteran is rendered. Here and there, crews are at work maintaining the grounds and preparing for new arrivals. It is a place anyone would be proud to be laid to rest.

Once our site was located, Earl pulled the van into a waiting position; ahead of us was another service at the same location. At a National Cemetery, things take place on schedule-and only when the previous ceremony was finished were we able to fall out and line up.

While we waited, Earl prepared the Chaplain's talk he would be called on to read and we outlined the plan for the service.

It was then that two members of the Air Force Honor Guard arrived and shortly after, an Air Force Chaplain as well. It was one of the most impressive services I have witnessed.

Just as Mr. Weikert, and every veteran, has gone the distance for their country, so too did the staff at Chattanooga and the Air Force go the distance for him. And there was not a single complaint from any member of Post 237's Honor Guard that day; we were honored to go the distance as well.

Please contact Honor Guard Commander Earl Hokanson at hongrdcdr@legin237.com if you are interested in joining us.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LUNCH

SOCIAL QUARTERS

MONDAY – FRIDAY 11AM -1:30PM

Wednesday Steak Special and Friday Fish Special

KARAOKE

SOCIAL QUARTERS

THU 7-11 PM AND SUN 3-7 PM WITH HOWIE

FRIDAY 8-12 PM WITH PAUL

SATURDAY 8-12PM WITH CAROL

TRIVIA

SOCIAL QUARTERS

MONDAY 7-9 PM WITH PAUL

BINGO

POST 237 ANNEX

MON, WED, THU AND SAT 6 PM

COMMANDER'S BREAKFAST

BALLROOM

2ND SATURDAY 9-10 AM \$5.00 INCLUDING DRINK!

MEMBERSHIP DINNER AND MEETING

BALLROOM

3RD MONDAY DINNER \$5.00 AT 6 PM AND MEETING AT 7 PM

POOL TOURNAMENT

SOCIAL QUARTERS

THURSDAYS 7:00 PM

Social Quarters Hours of Operation

Monday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Tuesday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Wednesday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Thursday	10:00AM – 12:00AM
Friday	10:00AM – 2:00AM
Saturday	10:00AM – 2:00AM
Sunday	12:00PM – 8:00PM

Adjutant's Office Hours

Monday	11:30AM – 2:00PM
Tuesday	10:00AM – 1:00PM
Wednesday	10:00AM – 1:00PM
Thursday	10:00AM – 1:00PM
Friday	10:00AM – 1:00PM

WHY WAS THE AMERICAN LEGION ESTABLISHED?

A group of twenty officers who served in the American Expeditionary Force (A.E.F.) in France in World War I is credited with planning the American Legion. A.E.F. Commanding General John J. Pershing asked these officers to suggest ideas on how to improve troop morale. One officer, Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., proposed the establishment of a special organization comprised of military veterans. In February 1919, this group of twenty officers formed a planning committee and selected several hundred officers and enlisted men, who had the confidence and respect of the whole Army, as this special organization's initial members.

The first organization meeting took place in Paris in March 1919, where about 1,000 officers and enlisted men attended. The meeting, known as the Paris Caucus, adopted a temporary constitution and the name American Legion." It also elected an executive committee to complete the organization's work. It considered each soldier of the A.E.F. a member of the American Legion. The executive committee named a subcommittee to organize veterans at home in the U.S.

The American Legion held a second organizing meeting in St. Louis, MO in May 1919. It completed the constitution and made plans for a permanent organization. It set up temporary headquarters in New York, New York and began its relief, employment and Americanism programs.

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in September 1919 as a patriotic, mutual-help war-time veteran's organization. The American Legion is a community-service organization which now numbers nearly 3 million men and women members and has nearly 15,000 American Legion Posts worldwide. These posts are organized into 55 Departments—one each for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico and the Philippines.

Next ROLL CALL: The Preamble to the American Legion Constitution and What It Means

Tom Hartley





USS LST 325 Decatur August 29-September 3, 2019

In the News – USS LST-325

Hopefully, many of those in ALPost237 made it over to Decatur during Labor Day weekend (Aug29-Sept 3) when the USS LST 325 was in the harbor. The USS LST-325 is the last fully operational World War II Landing Ship Tank (LST).

The LST was an amazing ship, which could hold 20 Sherman tanks (33 tons each) or 16 Marine Landing Tracked (LVTs, 30 tons each). All rubber wheeled vehicles and artillery were carried on the Main Deck. In 1941, they were the largest ship designed to place tanks, troops, and cargo onto hostile beaches and then retract off the shore using the Stern Anchor.

These were so important to the war effort that Churchill called it “The Ship That Won The War.” After it was decommissioned, the LST-325 served in the Greek Navy for 36 years, from 1964-2000. Syros, its Greek name, is still painted above the entrance to the Tank Deck.

Michael Kinney – Post 237 Historian ❖



Forefront: British Re-enactors Back: U.S. Marine Corps Re-enactors

Post Revitalization

Volunteers are needed to participate in the Post 237 Revitalization on October 10th - 12th in the Ballroom.

Bring your cell phone and charger and help us call Legionnaires who have not renewed or who live in the area but are not assigned to a local Post.

Questions?

Email: adjutant@legion237.com

Active Duty Deployments

If you have a close relative (i.e. son, daughter, mother, father, husband or wife) who is currently deployed in a combat zone please send us their contact information. We would like to recognize them in the Newsletter and let them know that the American Legion Family at Post 237 supports them.

Email: newsletter@legion237.com

Football in October!

Cheer on your favorite college football team on Saturdays in October in the Social Quarters!





DON'T TURN AROUND

It's All Hallows Eve and the cold North breeze
Sends the wails of spirits whistling through the trees.

The moon is full behind dark clouds
And the fog is hiding vampires and werewolves in its shrouds.

The children are gathering in hordes on the street
Thinking of candy and the ghouls they'll meet.
And if you are alone on this magic night
BEWARE lest your imagination take flight!

The cupboards hold monsters and slimy things
Snakes and bats and crawling things...
There's a banging in the hallway
And a slither on the floor...
Pretend you don't hear
And you'll only hear more!

Don't pull back the curtain
For a face you may see
Sit in the chair
And gather your knees.

Remember this rule
As the goblins abound
Whatever you do-
DON'T TURN AROUND!

John Evan Carson



HALLOWEEN PARTY!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 @ 7PM

KARAOKE WITH CAROL

**COSTUME PRIZES IN LEGION
BUCKS!**

BEST OVERALL \$50

MOST CREATIVE \$25

SCARIEST \$25

POT LUCK!

**BRING A DISH TO SHARE WITH YOUR
FRIENDS.**





HUMOR IN UNIFORM

An Army Ranger was on vacation in the depths of Louisiana and he wanted a pair of genuine alligator shoes in the worst way but was reluctant to pay the high prices the local shoe stores were asking.

After becoming very frustrated with the “no haggle” attitude of one of the shoe store salesmen, the Ranger shouted, “Maybe I’ll just go out and catch my own alligator so I can get a pair of shoes made at a reasonable price.

The salesman said, “By all means, be my guest. You might run into a couple of Marines who were in here earlier saying the same thing.”

So, the Ranger headed into the bayou that same day and a few hours later came upon two men standing waist deep in the water. He thought these must be the two Marines the salesman was talking about.

Just then, the Ranger saw a tremendously long alligator swimming rapidly underwater towards one of the Marines.

Just as the alligator was about to attack, the Marine grabbed the alligator’s neck and strangled it to death with very little effort. Then both Marines dragged the alligator on shore and flipped it on its back. Laying nearby were several more dead alligators.

One of the Marines then exclaimed, “Damn, this one doesn’t have any shoes either.”

Contributed by Tom Hartley

To contribute a funny story to Humor in Uniform email to: newsletter@legion237.com

Stars Fell on Alabama



A Murder/Mystery Benefit Dinner will be held at Post 237 on November 8th at 6PM to commemorate the night that “Stars Fell On Alabama” in 1833. The play, written by Shirley Mohler, will be performed by Jacque Reeves and her Ghost Walk Players.

The setting is a courtroom where the Grand Jury has been called to decide if a body, found lying in the street, was the victim struck by a falling Star or was it good old fashion murder.

An evening of fun for the whole family includes a Ham dinner with all the trimmings prepared by Chef Carl. Proceeds will go to Post 237.

Tickets are \$25.00 per person. To purchase tickets mail your check made out to the American Legion to:

Shirley Mohler
2703 Peel Street
Huntsville, AL 35805

For more information call Shirley at 256-539-3660.



**BINGO AT THE ANNEX
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY AND SATURDAY
6:00PM**

Clayton E. Moneymaker Post 237 ~ October 2019 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch 7p-8p 40/8 Meeting	2 11a-1:30p Wednesday Lunch	3 11a-1:30p Thursday Lunch 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	4 11a-1:30p Friday Lunch 8p-12p Karaoke w/Paul	5 8p-12p Karaoke w/Carol
6 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie	7 11a-1:30p Monday Lunch 7p-8p Purple Heart Mtg. 7p-9p Trivia with Paul	8 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch 6p-7p House Comte. Mtg.	9 11a-1:30p Wednesday Lunch 6p-7p Exec. Board Meeting	10 Post Revitalization 11a-1:30p Thursday Lunch 5:30p-6:30p VVOA Meeting 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	11 Post Revitalization 11a-1:30p Friday Lunch 8p-12p Karaoke w/Paul	12 Post Revitalization 9a-10a Cmdrs. Breakfast 10a-11a AL Riders Mtg 10:30a-11:30a CVMA Meeting 12:30p-1:30p Marine Corp Mtg 8p-12p Karaoke w/Carol
13 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie	14 <i>Columbus Day</i> 11a-1:30p Monday Lunch 7p-9p Trivia with Paul	15 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch	16 11a-1:30p Wednesday Lunch 5p-6p Comm Cmte Mtg	17 11a-1:30p Thursday Lunch 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	18 11a-1:30p Friday Lunch 8p-12p Karaoke w/Paul	19 8p-12p Karaoke w/Carol
20 2p-3p SAL Meeting - Sons of the American Legion Meeting 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie	21 11a-1:30p Monday Lunch 6p-8p Mbrs. Dnr. and Mtg. - Membership Dinner and Meeting 7p-9p Trivia with Paul	22 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch 7p-8p County Meeting	23 11a-1:30p Wednesday Lunch	24 11a-1:30p Thursday Lunch 7p-8p AL 351 Mtg. 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie	25 11a-1:30p Friday Lunch 8p-12p Karaoke w/Paul	26 7p-12p Halloween Party 8p-12p Karaoke w/Carol
27 3p-7p Karaoke w/Howie	28 11a-1:30p Monday Lunch 7p-9p Trivia with Paul	29 11a-1:30p Tuesday Lunch	30 11a-1:30p Wednesday Lunch	31 Halloween 11a-1:30p Thursday Lunch 7p-11p Karaoke w/Howie		

Details on Calendar items are available by clicking on the item at:

<http://www.legion237.com/index.php?id=100>



To contribute to the Roll Call Newsletter email your article to: newsletter@legion237.com