



American Legion

Sumter Post 15

34 South Artillery Drive
www.sumterpost15.com

Dec 2016

Next Meeting: 5 Dec 2016, 7:00 pm

Commander's Call...



At our November meeting we had 129 members and guests attend as we recognized the Air Force Jr ROTC Cadets from Sumter High School. The Cadets opened our meeting by posting the colors, and did a wonderful Job of it, very professional. Our guest speaker was Cadet Commander Danielle Morris. Cadet Morris did a power point presentation on ROTC.

At the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month, veterans from Sumter County assembled on the lawn of the County Court house to pay homage to all veterans. An impressive gathering of several veterans groups, active duty personal, ROTC students, city and county officials honored all veterans. Twenty Viet Nam era Veterans were recognized by receiving special medals and a flag shadow box. I was humbled to be one of the veterans recognized, along with several other Post 15 members. Pryor to the ceremony about 25 post members in golf carts, on foot, and in the Post Van participated in the Veterans Parade down main street. It was a wonderful sight, citizens lined the road on both sides, waving flags and cheering as the various veterans groups passed in review.



Our December meeting is our Christmas program. Members and guests are welcome. The Sumter Civic Corral will be the entertainment., Each member asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy for the "Toys for Little Troops" drive at Shaw AFB. We will also pass the hat for the Salvation Army as is our custom.

Vice-Commander Ray Baker, Chairman of the Home Committee reports that no one showed up on the 12th of November for the Home cleanup day. This is very distressing. This is your post, and if you dont care about it, no one will. A new date will be set up and anounced.

First Vice-Commander Jim Morris reports that membership stands at 350 paid members, which is 75% of our goal. Jim wants volunteers to help form a recruiting team to solicit new members by setting up a recruitment stand at various businesses, i.e. Wal-Mart, K-Mart etc the Saturday prior to our monthly meetings. If you can help, please contact Jim Morris and join the team. Jim is also signing up bell ringers for the Salvation Army Kettle Drive, Saturday, 17 December, at Wal-Mart.

December 4th is the Sumter Christmas Parade. We will have the float, the Post vans, and members with golf carts. Any member that wants to be involved should call Jim Morris. The Scouts will ride on the float along with members. Members may also wish to ride in the Post Van. If you want to bring your golf cart and can ride a member, please contact Jim Morris. His home # is 803-481-0050, Cell # 803-468-3233.

Big news for Post 15! The American Legion National Commander, Charles E. Schmidt, will visit Post 15 in March 2017. He will attend our monthly meeting and be our guest speaker. The Department Commander and several other guests are expected to attend.

Commander, Buddy Suitt

From our Chaplain...

There were two members transferred to Post everlasting since our last meeting: William Hubbard and James Skinner. I am looking for volunteers for the Funeral detail. All veterans deserve a proper send off. Please call if you can assist rendering honors to our fallen comrades. If you know of the passing of any member, or a member who is ill or hospitalized please let me know. (803) 983-9546

Chaplain, Billy Thompson

From our Adjutant...

The final payment of \$3600.00 to the Department for “enhancement” has been paid. That brings to a total more than \$18,000 the Post has paid to the Department, over and above dues, to “enhance” the Department. This money went to cover deficits due to poor management and to prevent the Department from defaulting on loans. Everyone needs to reach out to veterans and invite them to join post 15. I encourage all members to go to the National Legion web page and join “mylegion.org”. Once you register, you can view post newsletters, messages, and a calendar of events. You can also renew your membership on-line.

Adjutant, Nick Nero



American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit 15
P.O. Box 2174, Sumter, S.C. 29151



Hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving. I would like to thank the ones that participated in the Veterans Day parade. Those who walked or helped with the information booth. It's a great proud feeling being part of honoring our veterans.

I would also like to thank Carla Banghardt and her committee for starting the gifts for our veterans in the nursing homes. Finding out their needs is a big job.

Our next meeting December 5, is our Christmas dinner and entertainment with the Legion. Look forward to seeing everyone.

If would like to help decorating for the Christmas dinner please let me know. We will be decorating December 4.

We will be collecting on December 5 heavy coats for the homeless veterans. They can be new or used heavy coats in good condition. Carla will be collecting the coats in our meeting room December 5.

The Dorn VA Hospital workday will be December 6. Please bring new gifts if you can. A veteran that is at the VA Hospital can pick out a gift for their family for Christmas. Nancy Jordan will be going over to carry the gifts that day and will be helping wrap the gifts for the veterans. If anyone would like to go with Nancy please let her know.

Please bring heavy coats and new gifts for the veterans to our December 5, meeting. Both will be collected in our meeting room.

Also, at the Christmas dinner we will have nuts available for sale. Look for our table. Connie Suit is heading this project up. They make great Christmas gifts; they can be used in fruit baskets or just a yummy tasty treat for you.

If you haven't paid your dues for 2017 please do so immediately. Membership dues in the Auxiliary is \$30.00 for each senior member and \$5.00 for each junior member. Please send the dues to PO Box 2174, Sumter, SC 29151. If you know of someone who would like to join our meeting, we would love for them to come to a meeting.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Norma Jean Rogers

American Legion Auxiliary Sumter Unit 15

President

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