



# The American Legion



Walter H. Burt Post 30

P.O. Box 71551, Albany, Georgia 31708

www.legionpost30.org

ADJUTANT'S OFFICE

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COMMANDER: (229) 881-9426

AMERICAN LEGION HOME  
2916 Gillionville Road, Albany, GA 31721

## July 2023

### IMPORTANT DATES (in July)

- Jul 3** (Mon)-Put out flags 9 am
- Jul 4** (Tue)-**Independence Day**-Holiday
- Jul 5** (Wed)-Monthly breakfast, 9 am
- Jul 6** (Thur)- PTSD group meeting 12-1 pm
- Jul 6** (Thur)-Executive Board meeting, 6:30 pm
- Jul 6** (Thur)-Auxiliary Board meeting, 6:30 pm
- Jul 12** (Wed)-Coffee and donuts, 9 am
- Jul 13** (Thur)-Membership dinner, 6:30 pm
- Jul 19** (Wed)-NARFE luncheon, 11:30 am
- Jul 19** (Wed)-Coffee and donuts, 9 am
- Jul 20** (Thur)- PTSD group meeting 12-1 pm
- Jul 20** (Thur)-Bassin Buddies meeting, 7 pm
- Jul 20** (Thur)-40&8, 6:30 pm
- Jul 30** (Sun)-Young Marines graduation, 1 pm

### POST EVERLASTING

Post 30 had one death in June:

- 6/14: Horace Drew, Jr. U.S. Air Force (Vietnam)

### ADJUTANT'S COMMENTS (*Gary Fowler, Post 30 Adjutant*)

We are going to see membership renewal notices starting in July for the 2024 year. Our Post is in a great position in that we did not have to raise our dues. A super bargain at just \$35.00 a year.

Our Wednesday morning breakfast will be on July 5<sup>th</sup> where we will have bacon, sausage, grits, biscuits, sausage gravy, coffee, and juice for \$5.00. Our Wednesday mornings of donuts and coffee will be the 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and the 26<sup>th</sup> of July. It is great seeing more members attending these events. Please come out and participate. Post 30 exists for you veterans and your families. We want you to come to our monthly dinner and business meeting starting at 6:30 pm on Thursday July 13<sup>th</sup>. Our menu will consist of baked chicken, ham, peas, potato salad, side salad, and dessert. You get all this wonderful food for just \$10.00. You can learn about the business of your Post and also give your input into what your American Legion is doing over the year. Come participate in the business of Post 30 and hear a good speaker on a relevant topic of the day. See you at the post! *For GOD and Country*

### **Important dates in July:**

**July 4, 1776:** The 2nd Continental Congress approved adoption of the Declaration of Independence, prepared by Thomas Jefferson and signed by John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, without dissent. However, the New York delegation abstained. On July 9, the New York Congress voted to endorse the declaration.

**July 27, 1953:** After three years of a bloody and frustrating war, the United States, the People's Republic of China, North Korea, and South Korea agreed to an armistice, bringing the Korean War to an end.

### HISTORIAN'S CORNER (*Dan Brewer, Historian*)

#### **EO3 Brent Houston, U.S. Navy Seabees**

Brent Houston was born on May 7, 1952, in Richmond, Indiana, to Tom & Barbara Houston. They were bi-vocational church planters in rural Indiana. Brent is the oldest of 3 boys, brothers are Dan and James. Brent never really won anything except the draft lottery of 1970. Because of his low draft number, Brent and his classmate, Tom Hoffer, decided to join the Marine Corps rather than end up in the army, but Brent's dad was against the idea. Brent's dad would tell him that he would never make it in the Marine Corps because of his temper. Tom suggested that Brent should be a Navy Seabee. Tom said a Seabee was just a Marine with a bulldozer. Tom would become a Marine, but sadly, was killed in Vietnam after only 3 weeks in country. Brent went to Great Lakes for basic training in 1971 and then on to Camp Lejeune, NC for weapons training. He was then assigned to MCB-1, Air Det, as a M-60 machine gunner. Their home port was Davisville, Rhode Island. He completed jungle warfare training in sub-freezing weather there then was off to join his unit in Vietnam. From there, he went to Diego Garcia, and was aboard the first plane to land on the island. He was assigned to the rock crushing crew where coral was crushed to build a top-secret runway. The rock crusher he operated had bullet holes from Vietnam. Next stop was Guam where the Seabees were hauling bombs (500 pounders) around the clock from the ammo dump to Andersen Air Force Base, in support of Operation Linebacker. With Vietnam winding down, he was assigned to the Civic Action Team on the island of Yap. The work there was again runway construction. In November of 1973, he left active duty and was assigned to the Naval Reserve Center, Orlando, FL, where he joined NMCB-14, A-Company. After active duty, Brent farmed, worked for John Deere, and then went into ministry with Motor Racing Outreach. He later moved to Georgia and became a correctional officer. Upon retirement he worked for the Governor's Office of Reentry. Brent and his wife Doris together have 5 children, 8 grandchildren, and a great granddaughter. They are members at Sherwood Church and presently serve with Fellowship of Christian Athletes as coaches at Robert Cross Middle School. They also organize "Shoot for Warriors," supplying wreaths for Andersonville. Brent serves as the Chaplain for Navy Seabee Veterans of America (NSVA) Island X-2 and the Central Georgia Seabee Swarm. In addition to the American Legion, Brent is a life member of DAV.

*Thank you, Brent for your service*

**CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE (Dr. Doc Williams,  
Post 30 Chaplain)**

*"My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth."* **1 John 3:18,** (NKJV)

Charity or love is very important. It is certainly more than merely good intentions. It's about actions to help those in need. Care for others is love in action. John calls on Christians to truly love as God would love them. The Apostle Paul in Romans 5:8 declared, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." God's love here is revealed by His actions toward the sinner. God's actions draw us to Him as a loving God Who cares about His creation. May God help us to be men and women of action as we seek to care for those around us who are in need. Do you know of someone who can use your help? Maybe they need someone to go to the grocery store or fix them a meal. Maybe they need their house cleaned or their grass cut. Maybe they need some cash to help them get by. Maybe they need a tire changed or someone to get some gas for their car. People are in need all around us. I pray God will show us needy people in our lives. May He give you the will to meet those needs. We will all be the better for it as we act on our good intentions to help others in Jesus' name. Amen.

**AUXILIARY UNIT 30 (Marilyn Fowler,  
Auxiliary President)**

Unit 30 is really getting off to a great start. We had four very excited young ladies attend Girls State June 11-16<sup>th</sup> in Valdosta, GA. They hit the ground running. Lucy Davis was elected State Commissioner of Agriculture. Madeline Keaton was elected Mayor of her city. Milla McEwen was elected Judge of Probate Court for her county. And Natalie Allen was runner up for Sheriff and was appointed Fire Chief for her county.

The girls had a great learning experience and made life-long friends. We are so very proud of each of these young ladies and can't wait to hear about their experiences at Youth Night. Please let me know if you know of any girls that would like to attend GA Girls State next year.

Unit 30 is partnering with the Albany Elks Lodge to provide much needed help to Carl Vinson VA Medical Center Women's Health Clinic. The Unit will sponsor a Drop-By Baby Shower on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at the Post, 2pm-4pm. Everyone is invited. Please stop by and drop off a gift that a newborn baby can use. These new mothers are Active military and can use all the help we can supply. They are there for us when we need them, so let's be there for them when we can. Thank you in advance for your support.

We need to get our membership up. Please, we need your help to recruit new members and contact members that have not renewed. Invite someone to visit and remember to carry a membership application with you (at all times). Our next meeting is set for July 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. The Post will provide a light meal at no cost. Hope to see you at the Post.

*For God and Country,*

**COMMANDER'S MESSAGE (Dr. Daniel R. Brewer,  
Post 30 Commander)**

Our membership dinner will be on Thursday, July 13, beginning at 6:30 pm. Our speaker will be Mr. Bob Lynch, Executive Director of the Anchorage The Anchorage is opening up a new facility for women and it is going to be right next door to the Legion. Mr. Lynch will update us on their plans and how they will begin assisting both men and women.

I will not be at the dinner and meeting as I am the incoming President of the Exchange Club of Albany and will be in Phoenix attending the National Exchange Club Convention. Ted Wright, our Finance Officer, has agreed to facilitate the meeting.

*Duty, Honor Country is what we stand for.*

**Officers**

Gary Fowler, *Adjutant*  
Dr. Dan Brewer, *Service Officer*  
Ben Adler, *Buildings, Insurance*  
Dr. Doc Williams, *Chaplain*  
Nick Nicholson, *Color Sergeant*  
Ted Wright Jr. *Finance Officer*  
Jerry Garrett, *Grounds*  
Dr. Dan Brewer, *Historian*  
Nick Nicholson, *Judge Advocate*

**Commander**

Dr. Daniel R. Brewer

**Senior Vice Commander**

Richard Stowe

**Junior Vice Commanders**

Henry Alward  
Jerry Garrett  
Scott Hemmings  
Ron Langston  
Sonny Martin

**Auxiliary**

Ms. Marilyn Fowler, *President*  
Ms. Deanna Nicholson, *Vice President*  
Ms. Kathy Rush, *Chaplain*

**Past Commander**

Nick Nicholson

**Executive Committee**

Dan Brewer  
Ben Adler  
Henry Alward  
Tom Brown  
Paul Davis  
James Eppler  
Gary Fowler  
Jerry Garrett  
Scott Hemmings  
Ron Langston  
Sonny Martin  
Joe Najjar  
Nick Nicholson  
Jim O'Hare  
Denis Plette  
Sandy Richardson  
Gil Stokes  
Doc Williams