

THE TRIPLE NICKEL

Published exclusively for the members of

**AMERICAN LEGION MATTHEW BLOUNT POST 555
PELHAM, ALABAMA**

VOLUME VI, ISSUE IX

IN GOD WE TRUST

SEPTEMBER 2019

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'A foundation for the future'

By Steven B. Brooks
The American Legion

As he stood on the stage in the Indiana Convention Center on Aug. 29 following being elected American Legion national commander for 2019-2020, North Carolina Legionnaire James W. "Bill" Oxford made it clear continuing the organization's legacy into its next 100 years is not

the job one person can perform.

"As I looked around this hall today, I am humbled to beyond belief ... to accept this nomination as your national commander," said Oxford, who was elected during The American Legion 101st National Convention. "We have a terrific organization. What-

(continued on page 13)

BE SURE TO ATTEND OUR SEPTEMBER POST MEETING!

COMPLEMENTARY MEAL PROVIDED BY
TAZIKI'S MEDITERRANEAN CAFE



TAZIKI'S®
MEDITERRANEAN CAFE

DINNER BEGINS AT 6:15 P.M.

MEETING AT 7 P.M.

PELHAM SENIOR CENTER

50 RACQUET CLUB PARKWAY, PELHAM

COME JOIN YOUR FELLOW LEGIONNAIRES!

FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK



Kenneth Paschal
Post Commander

For God and Country! Special thanks to Mrs. **Barbara McAnally**, 23rd District Auxiliary President for joining our August Post meeting and speaking to potential Auxiliary Unit 555 members. Those interested in the Auxiliary Unit 555 are invited to attend the September 5th Post General Membership meeting. We would like to create a list of individuals interested in becoming an active member.

September areas of interest:

- Organizational longevity and continuity: Single chair committees need a backup person called assistant chairperson.
- Assist 2nd Vice Commander/Events Coordinator in filling the following co-chair positions:
 - Texas Roadhouse Veterans Day program
 - Oratorical program
 - University of Alabama Hockey Military Appreciation Night
- Renewal Membership Campaign. Encouraging the Executive Committee members to set the standard.
- A dedicated computer and table will be setup during the September 5th meeting for online and onsite renewal opportunities.
- Each Legion Family ask the American Legion Post 555 Pro Rodeo chairperson Jerry McClain how they can help.
- Matthew Blount Legacy Ride/Ride for Legion Legacy Scholarship (giving back to all the great fallen heroes Families).
- 23rd District meeting, hosted by Chilton Co. Post 216 at St. Vincent's Hospital on September 14th (10am – 2 pm). The Commander, 1st Vice Commander, and Adjutant are invited to attend.
- American Legion Self-improvement: Why is this important, you ask? It's because it helps you stay focused on the American Legion and Post goals, makes you feel invested and keeps you motivated. Below are two powerful tools to enhance your knowledge of the Legion.
- ALPOST555.com
- LEGION.ORG/ALEI [Take the Basic Training (self-paced online) course]
- Application for VA benefits success stories.

August at a Glance:

- The American Legion Post 555 Pro Rodeo Committee worked countless hours in support of the upcoming Rodeo opportunity. Made over 70 sponsorship contacts.
 - **August 5th**: 1st Vice Commander **Jerry McClain** and I were joined by several members of the Post and presented before the Pelham City Council regarding city partnership to sponsor the American Legion Post 555 Pro Rodeo Charity Fundraiser.
 - **August 12th**: 1st Vice Commander Jerry McClain and I attended the City Council special called council meeting. The council presented and passed a resolution to support the American Legion Post 555 in hosting the Southeastern Pro Rodeo Charity Event.

(continued on page 4)

FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK ... CONTINUED

(continued from page 3)

- **August 15th:** 1st Vice Commander, myself, along with **Bill Hudson**, Double Creek Rodeo Company owner, did a radio interview on The Nick B to announce the American Legion Post 555 Pro Rodeo charity fundraiser.
- **August 21st:** 1st Vice Commander and I had the opportunity to meet with Mrs. Cynthia Saenz Assistant Manager, Rivera Communications – Spanish Radio.
- **August 11th:** Post 555 photographer **Chic Cecchini** capturing the moment during Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive Wreath Laying and Taps Ceremony at Alabama National Cemetery, Committal Shelter 3. See Post website at ALPOST555.com under "MULTIMEDIA" tab/Photos.
- **August 16th:** Post 555 member **Mathew Moyer** (Sergeant at the Hoover Army Recruiting Center) and a Post 555 Trustee, **Bill Blank** attended the Heritage Pickleball Tournament Opening Ceremonies.
- Alabama AL Department via National approved the Commander Membership Award pin design. Ordered August 21st with an expected shipped within three weeks.
- Adjutant **Ron Koonce** coordinated with Trustee **Bobby Horsley** in transporting the trailer used for the Post to the Pelham Senior Center. The trailer is now secured in the Pelham Senior Center which makes it more accessible in support of the Post programs and activities.
- Two of the Trustees and Immediate Past Commander conducted an inventory and developed an equipment sign out/in log. This will make it easier to account for the equipment stored in the trailer.
- The Triple Nickel Shooting team Butt and Brisket Sale went well.
- Trailer and meeting hall storage design: A couple of members created a sketch for a storage design for the Post trailer and meeting hall. Thank you **Bobby Horsley** and **Caroline Culpepper**.
- Ad-hoc Constitution/Bylaw Review Committee meeting facilitated by Judge Advocate **Larry Strayer**.
- Premiere of "Post 555 Boys State – Girls State Video" by Post Public Relations Officer **Jim Billings**. At ALPOST.com under PROGRAMS/Boys State tab [half down the page yellow/brown highlighted field].
- Post Commander Appointment of Comrade **Charles (Chuck) Kiser** as the Post Wreaths Across America Chairperson.
- Discussion to revamp the Post Deployment Support Program for members of the Post Family.

Communication – the importance of belonging, Battle Buddy CHECK: Feel free to use the Post membership directory and check on your battle buddy. Here's a sample modified script from the legion.org website.

Hi, [MEMBER'S NAME]. This is [YOUR NAME] from your American Legion Post 555. I want to thank you for your membership and see how things are going for you and your family. We're getting ready for The American Legion's Thanksgiving Family Dinner, November 7th and want to make sure you're aware. We want to be caught up with our renewals by then. I'm calling to check to see if you need assistance with your renewal, or anything else. Remember, your fellow Legionnaires are here for you.

Thanks again for your service and for your membership. If you need anything, call me anytime at [XXX-XXX-XXXX] or email me at [xxxx@xxx.com]. Let's stay in touch!

Battle Buddy responsible information-handling reminder: The Post members' directory is for internal distribution and use; not for outside Post functions or organizations.

Remember, working together, we can achieve more!

For God and Country!

1ST VICE'S COMMENTS



Jerry McClain
1st Vice Commander

Born in Alabama and made in America!

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve as the 1st Vice Commander of the Matthew Blount Post 555. The month of August has come and we have survived the heat and made every effort to maximize the moment! I'm grateful for the tireless efforts of the Commander and the men and women of this great Post who launched into action to bring the first ever Charity Pro Rodeo to the city of Pelham. With its many challenges, multiple layers of coordination, acquiring sponsors, radio broadcasting, media advertising, City Council approvals, location preparation and a myriad of tasks yet to be addressed! We are well on our way to making this charity event a reality! How might the Post 555 and the Pelham community benefit from such an all out effort? Well, I'm glad you asked.

- ⇒ Increase and expand our flag replacement and color guard program!
- ⇒ Increase our ability to appreciate our military veterans during military appreciation nights or events!
- ⇒ Provide Christmas gift bags for veterans at the Medical Care Center and the Assisted Living areas that care for our veterans!
- ⇒ Wreaths across America sponsorship Program!
- ⇒ Soldiers and Family Support care packages for deployed units!
- ⇒ The Run for the Wall Riders' Program!
- ⇒ Oratorical Scholarship Program!
- ⇒ American Legion baseball Program!
- ⇒ Increase our numbers in the Boys State Program!
- ⇒ Increased our numbers in the Girls State Program!
- ⇒ Increased support of the JROTC Awards Program!
- ⇒ Increased support for the School Award Medal Program!
- ⇒ Support for the American Legion's Legacy Scholarship Program!
- ⇒ Increase support for our children and youth fundraiser program!
- ⇒ Recognizing & Support of our Law enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the year Awards' program!

☞ May this list of items encourage and motivate you to double your efforts to serve, solicit sponsors and support this valiant effort to make this Rodeo a great success! ☞

Let's Getter Done!

2ND VICE'S CORNER



Nancy Waller
2nd Vice Commander

Just in case you missed me at the August 1st General Membership Meeting, I was driving for the first of two days to Des Moines, Iowa for the EANGUS (Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States) National Conference scheduled for August 04-07, 2019. I think I would have much rather have been with you in the Pelham Senior Center listening to Congressman Gary Palmer, but the two-day drive was well worth getting my husband and I to the national conference. We had a total of 25 EANGUS members present from Alabama, and had a great time. I was the proud recipient of a \$1,000 prize for being the winner of a five-month membership challenge to increase the membership at the state level as well as at the national level, so I was **THRILLED** to have been the winner--HOOAH!!!

Now that the American Legion Baseball is over, we are now focusing on a HUGE fundraiser that Comrade **Jerry McClain** is working hard on (with his planning team) in which we are hoping to bring in a pro-rodeo to Pelham while partnering with Mr. **Bill Hudson**, the owner of the Double Creek Rodeo Company. I am sure you heard about this if you attended the August General Membership Meeting, but if not, check-out everything that is listed in this newsletter. There is a potential of having a large amount of funding for our youth programs, so if you are interested in being part of this great venture, let Comrade McClain know.

I am still looking for someone to be the Chairperson for the Texas Roadhouse Veterans' Day Event scheduled for November 11, 2019, so if you are interested, please let me know. Comrade Paschal chaired this event last few year so he will be the one to help anyone who is interested in allowing him to "pass the torch".

I want to thank **Frank Lakotich** for helping get the R.S.V.P. Monthly Station Form completed with your July Volunteer hours, so thank you all for getting your hours recorded on this form for me. I will have the August form during the September General Membership Meeting, so be sure to get your Volunteer hours recorded; THANKS!!!



ADJUTANT'S AREA



Ron Koonce
Post Adjutant

We are still looking for sponsors for the Double Creek Rodeo. This great event is a major fundraiser hosted by Matthew Blount Post 555. Great fun for the entire family. Sponsor details can be found on the Home page of website www.alpost555.com. Contact Event Chair, Jerry McClain or Commander Kenneth Paschal if you know of a business or individuals that would be interested in becoming an event sponsor. All proceeds go towards funding the Post's Veterans and Youth programs. Post 555 is a 501(c)(19) non-profit organization with a 501(c)(3) status under the umbrella of The National

American Legion and The American Legion Charities.

Membership renewals are doing well. We are on track to meet our goal of 100 percent by Dec. 31, with an average of 39 renewals for each of July and August resulting with 39 percent of our target. Let's keep up the momentum during the next four months.

If you have not renewed your membership for 2020, you can renew either online at www.legion.org or mail your renewal fee of \$45 payable to "Matthew Blount Post 555". Mail to *American Legion, Matthew Blount Post 555, 50 Racquet Club Parkway, Pelham, AL 35124*.

The Post website has been updated to include a Veterans Affairs Page that provides a lot of information about researching Veteran benefits. Check it out!

Be aware that September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. This is a good opportunity to remind veterans and their love ones that VA offers resources to those at risk. Call 800-273-8255 for assistance.

You can always contact me at ron.koonce@alpost555.com if you have questions about any of the above.

For God and Country

Ron Koonce

Adjutant

THE TRIPLE NICKEL

*is published monthly for members of
Matthew Blount Post 555.*

*50 Racquet Club Parkway, Pelham, AL 35124
(205) 678-1375*



Items for publication are accepted on Executive Committee approval and available space. Submit articles prior to the 10th of the month for publication the following month. We reserve the right to edit any submission for the purpose of publication. Letters to the Editor must include name, address & telephone number. Names will be withheld upon request.

James Billings, Editor

FROM THE BENCH ...



Larry Strayer
Judge Advocate

I hope that all Comrades have been having an enjoyable Summer, and all vacations have gone as expected.

During a previous Executive Board meeting, Former Commander Barry Blount brought to our attention an issue where several of our members are in violation of one of the several rules and procedures not explicitly detailed in any guideline of American Legion etiquette.

It seems during the Department Convention in Montgomery, AL several Comrades from other posts approached Comrade Blount and advised him to remove a pin which was on his official American Legion cap which indicated his former military rank.

As explained to Comrade Blount, while the wearing of such insignia is not explicitly prohibited, it is greatly frowned upon. While this display may be permitted within a particular Post, wearing rank insignia at a function with Legion members from other Posts could cause negative reactions.

It is reasonable to understand this when one reads the National Constitution of The American Legion; Article II Nature; Section 1. Rank does not exist in the Legion; no member shall be addressed by his military or naval title in any convention or meeting of the Legion.

So to avoid any future embarrassment or issues from other Legionnaires, it is recommended that all rank insignia be removed from the official American Legion cap.

Reviewing other official etiquette rules for the official American Legion cap, remember:

- 1) It is not proper to wear a Legion cap while eating a meal at an official American Legion or civic luncheon or dinner.
- 2) In meetings, the cap should be worn except during the Pledge of Allegiance, prayer and while standing in silent reverence in memory of departed comrades, when it should be held with the right hand over the heart.
- 3) By American Legion tradition, a female Legionnaire may leave her cap on during the Pledge of Allegiance, the national anthem, prayer and meals.
- 4) Legionnaires wishing to attach decorations and/or other official insignia to their caps are advised of a National Executive Committee resolution on the subject, excerpted below.

“Consecutive membership insignia, membership stars and/or decorations (authorized American Legion or military services) must be attached to the right side of cap. Fraternal or civil organization insignia cannot be used on American Legion caps.”

- 5) Names or nicknames of individual members cannot be used on caps.

I hope this provides some enlightenment and guidelines for proudly wearing the official American Legion cap.

NOTES FROM THE SONS



Ron Koonce
Squadron 555 Advisor

Squadron 555 is off on a good start for 2019-2020 with 37 members.

Leadership Positions are filled:

Commander- **Jon Freeman**

First Vice Commander – **John Atwell, Jr.**

Second Vice Commander – **Robert Horsley**

Adjutant/Financial Officer – **Ron Koonce**

Chaplain- **Jeff Monday**

Sgt-At-Arms – **Ron McGriff**

The Squadron has accomplished 100% membership since its existence and is now accepting 2019-2020 membership renewals. The annual dues remain at \$20.

Checks are payable to "Matthew Blount Post 555" and can be mailed to:

American Legion
Sons of American Legion
50 Racquet Club
Pelham, AL 35124

All American Legion members are encouraged to register male members of their family as members of the Sons of American Legion Squadron 555. Membership applications are available on Post 555 website www.alpost555.com.

The Alabama Detachment of the Sons of American Legion is holding its Fall DEC meeting and Workshop on September 7, 2019 at Millbrook Post 133, 10:00 am. Squadron 555 has plans to have five in attendance.

The Squadron meets on the second Thursday of the month at the Heart of Dixie Harley Davidson HOG Riders Clubhouse, 6:00 pm prior to the Triple Nickel Riders Meeting.

For God and Country

Ron Koonce

Adjutant

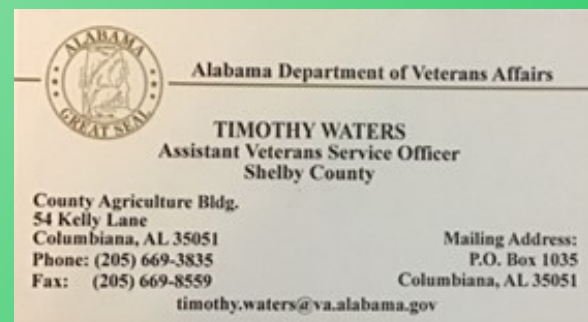
SERVICE OFFICER NOTES



Jerry McClain
Post Service Officer

Good things are happening on behalf of all American Legionnaires throughout the nation.

- ◇ Legion Act S. 504 Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for Legion national service, signed into law on Tuesday, July 30, 2019 by President Trump.
- ◇ VA Mission Act 2018- On June 6, 2018 the Trump Administration signs a \$55 Billion Bill for improvement to the Veterans Community Care Program! (Replaced the Choice Program)
- ◇ Bluewater Veterans and Agent Orange Exposure-Veterans who served on open sea ships off the coast of Vietnam during the Vietnam war. Claims for Veterans who served offshore from Jan 9th, 1962 to May 7, 1975, goes into effect Jan 1st 2020.
- ◇ President Donald Trump signs executive order on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 for any veterans who became totally and permanently disabled because of the military service, would automatically forgive their student loan debt to the government and also he encouraged all states to do the same!
- ◇ During my tenure as the Post Service Officer I have introduced to the Post the Community outreach Coordinator @ BVAMC John Pinion 205.933.8101 and Lolita Price, the My Healthy Vet Advisor. 205.933.8101 Ext. 3903
- ◇ During the month of August 2019 I met with John Jones the Veteran Service Officer for Shelby County and the Asst. Service Officer Timothy Waters. They are standing by and ready to assist us with all compensation matters! No appointments necessary! Walk-ins welcome!



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2019

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 6–8 p.m.

What: Open House for Oratorical Scholarship Contest

Where: Pelham High School

Chairperson: Richard Kaster

Co-Chairperson: Frank Lakotich (will continue mentoring with Richard Kaster, and may consider becoming the Chairperson for next year)

Volunteers Needed: If anyone would like to join Richard and Frank, please let either of them know; the more at the information table to share information about the Oratorical Scholarship Contest, the better.

OCTOBER 2019

Tuesday, Oct. 1, 6–8 p.m.

What: Pelham Police – National Night Out

Where: Adjacent to the Publix shopping center on Huntley Parkway, Pelham, AL

Chairperson: Nancy Waller

Co-Chairperson: Sparkie Waller

Volunteers Needed: Yes! Frank Lakotich has already volunteered, but we will need help to set-up our information table, American Legion Riders will be there, lots of other exhibitors there to visit, and lots of visitors to come by our tent! Plenty of food vendors as well, so come hungry!!

NOVEMBER 2019

Monday, Nov. 11, 2019, 10:30 a.m.

What: National Veterans' Day at Texas Roadhouse

Where: Texas Roadhouse Restaurant, 60 Drivers Mart Way, Pelham, AL

Chairperson: TBD

Co-Chairperson: TBD

Volunteers Needed: Yes!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Day/November/Time TBD

What: Flag Placement on Gravesite

Where: Alabama National Cemetery, 3133 Highway 119, Montevallo, AL

Chairperson: Chuck Kiser

Co-Chairperson: Nancy Waller

Volunteers Needed: Yes! We are responsible for the flags being placed at all of the gravesites in Section 8 where the Post namesake, Matthew Blount, is laid to rest. Not sure if the holes will be pre-dug or not, but will find that out ahead of time.

Day/November/Time TBD

What: Flag Retrieval from Gravesites

Where: Alabama National Cemetery, 3133 Highway 119, Montevallo, AL

Chairperson: Chuck Kiser

Co-Chairperson: Nancy Waller

Volunteers Needed: Yes! Each flag needs to be removed from the hole in front of the gravesite, wiped clean of dirt and/or moisture, put into a bundle of ten each with a rubber band, then placed stick end up (to dry) in the plastic bins located at the road sides.

Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019, 2:30 p.m. start time

What: "Saluting Those Who Served" Thanksgiving Dinner

Where: Hope Christian School Key Club, 419 Philippians Boulevard, Pelham, AL

Chairperson: Nancy Waller

Co-Chairperson: N/A

Volunteers Needed: Yes! Anyone interested in attending this event can RSVP to keyclub@hopechristian.net, and please let me know as well so I can keep up with the headcount.

GUEST SPEAKERS / PROGRAMS

Sept. 5th: City of Pelham Mayor Gary Waters and City Manager Gretchen DiFante (confirmed)

Oct. 3rd: Service Dogs Alabama, Scott and Rambo (confirmed)

Nov. 6th: Thanksgiving Family Meal and Updated on Post 555

Dec. 5th: Speaker/Program/Topic TBD

Bill Oxford installed as national Legion commander

(continued from page 1)

ever this job is, I will do it to the best of my ability, but I can't do it alone. I need everybody here on my team, helping us reach our goals and objectives. We are all stakeholders in this organization. We are the future of this organization."

A Paid-Up-For-Life member and past commander of American Legion Post 29 in Lenoir, N.C., Oxford said as The American Legion's centennial celebration comes to an end on Veterans Day, it's good time to look back on 100 years of successes and accomplishments.

He pointed out the Legion's role in creating the original GI Bill and being part of efforts to update it, the important role the organization played in the creation of what is now the Department of Veterans Affairs, the drafting of the U.S. Flag Code and, most recently, gaining passage of the LEGION Act.

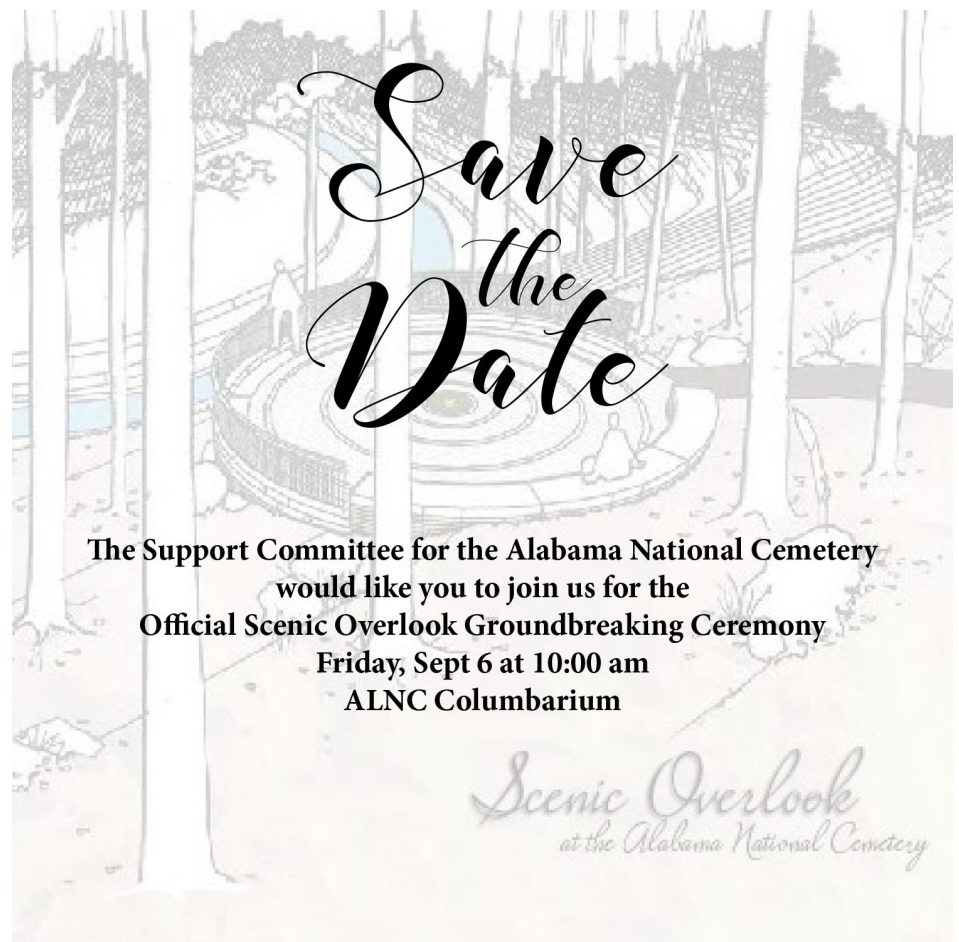
Oxford noted the Legion's relationship with the American Legion Auxiliary and the growth of both the Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Riders. And he pointed to youth programs such as American Legion Baseball, Boys State and Boys Nation, Junior Shooting Sports, the Oratorical Contest, youth law cadet programs and support for Scouting.

American Legion charitable funds, Oxford said, have provided millions in scholarship money, disaster relief and financial assistance. The Child Welfare Foundation has provided more than \$16 million in grants to organizations that contribute to the physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional needs of children. And the Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors provides items to recovering wounded warriors and veterans not covered by the federal government.

"When we think about those charities, there's one special thing about the Legion

charities: 100 percent of the funds go toward the programs," Oxford said. "All operational and administrative costs are covered by The American Legion. All of that money goes to those charities. "All of these things we've talked about shows who we are, but it also shows what we do."

What the Legion also does, Oxford said, is promote Americanism through flag education and being involved in local schools, advocate for veterans' benefits and health care, support a strong national defense, and support America's youth.



Annual Triple Nickel Thanksgiving Dinner Invitation



Dinner with the American Legion Matthew Blount Post 555

At

Pelham Civic Complex (500 Amphitheater Road, Pelham, AL 35124

November 07, 2019 (Thursday)

6:00 PM

(This is the Post's regular monthly meeting)

***You and your immediate family are welcome but,
we need a headcount including you and your family members to reserve the
meals and tables.***

***You must RSVP by October 20, 2019
to Commander@alpost555.com, and Commander
Paschal will reply when he receives your request.***

Please do not wait until the last minute!!!

Membership Renew Campaign



MEMBERSHIP

Post 555 success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism.

Renew Your Membership Today

Three easy renewal options:

1. Renew your membership online

[<https://www.members.legion.org/renewal>]

- 1) Enter your Legion ID#;
- 2) Enter your last name;
- 3) Enter your Billing Information; and
- 4) Submit

2. Mail your \$45.00 check or money order payable to: American Legion Post 555

Mail to:

American Legion Post 555

50 Racquet Club Parkway Pelham, AL35124

3. Bring your \$45.00 **renewal payment to the next Post meeting.**

National Veterans Award Dinner Invitation to Post 555



ARMY



MARINES



NAVY



AIR FORCE



COAST GUARD

Veterans Day Dinner • NOV. 10th • RSVP by Oct. 3rd

The Birmingham Veterans Day Committee is busy planning this year's Parade and Awards Dinner. This year's Birmingham National Veterans Awards Dinner is Sunday evening, 10 November 2019 at 6:00 PM in the "Birmingham Ballroom" in the Sheraton Inn Downtown. A reception will begin at 5:00 PM. Tickets are \$45.00 each.

This year, there will not be a World Peace Luncheon on Veterans Day so the Veterans Day planning committee is expecting a full house, and they are encouraging everyone to register as soon as possible. In year's past, the Support Committee for the Alabama National Cemetery (which includes members of Post 555) has had enough attendees to reserve a table (or 2) and we would like to invite Post members and possibly **reserve three (3)** table for this year. Therefore, if you would like to attend and sit at a reserved table for the American Legion Matthew Blount Post 555 table, please let me know no later than September 5th. Once we have a committed number, I will ask you to send a check or pay your \$45 at our next gathering, and we will send in one check with a list of names for a table.

Thank you for your interest and support of National Veterans Day in Birmingham. I look forward to hearing back from you soon.

More about the National Veterans Award Dinner:

A perpetual National Veterans Award was created in Birmingham for America's first official National Veterans Day observance November 11, 1954 as authorized by Congress. Its purpose is to honor an outstanding veteran in the United States each year who has made the greatest contribution to further the patriotic interests of veterans and veteran organizations throughout the country. Every year, the award is presented at the National Veterans Award Dinner in Birmingham.

The National Veterans Award Dinner supports the Post Goals and Objective:

- Support Community service project that include local youth and legionnaires
- Participation in local community support activities
- Conduct Community activity that connects the local community with the American Legion

You must RSVP by October 3, 2019 to bkblount@gmail.com, and Past Commander Blount will reply when he receives your request.

Coat and tie for males and **Semi-Formal** for females.

VA

U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs*You are invited to a*
.....

Veterans Town Hall & Resource Fair

.....

Monday, September 16, 2019
10 a.m.—noon

Birmingham VA Medical Center
9th Floor Auditorium
700 19th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35233

.....

- Birmingham VA Medical Center, VBA, and NCA representatives will present information and answer questions on current VA initiatives.
- Service representatives from the Women's Clinic, Suicide Prevention, My HealtheVet, Enrollment/Eligibility, Education and Benefits, and more will be available to provide resources and information.
- All Veterans and community partners are invited to attend.
- Free parking and shuttle from VA parking garage at 2415 7th Ave. South (35233).

THE BIRMINGHAM VA PRESENTS



FOCUSING ON SUICIDE PREVENTION

**SEPTEMBER 17 • TUESDAY • 8-3 P.M.
UAB HILL CENTER BALLROOM**

LUNCH SPONSORED BY HATTIE B'S

Registration and lunch are free but space is limited!
<https://VAMHS.eventbrite.com>

Free Social Work CEU's

Spirit of '45



August 11
Alabama National
Cemetery
Montevallo



Triple Nickel Presents Our Monthly



1 ticket = \$1
7 ticket = \$5

How it works!

1. You buy your 50/50 raffle tickets, and they are put in a bin.
2. At the end of the Post Meeting a ticket is pulled.
3. That person wins 50% of the money collected. The other 50% goes directly to support the Post Goal and Objectives.

****Winner needs to be present to be eligible****

*The proceeds will go toward supporting the American Legion veteran's programs such as Military Appreciation Night, community and youth programs.

POST 555 FUNDRAISER COMMITTEE PRESENTS: VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISER OPPORTUNITY!



Have you heard? McDowell Security Services based in Pelham is inviting individuals, groups, and organizations to volunteer and earn fundraiser money.

Your volunteer time can be converted into a charitable donation to the Post.

- **How does it work?** Volunteers can sign up to work for the security firm for 2-5 hours at an Event and McDowell Security Services will make a charitable donation to the Post in your name.
- **Why volunteer?** To support our Veterans, community, and youth.
- **Questions or interested:** Contact Comrade Bill Blank (fundraiser committee member) at bhbpac@yahoo.com or (214) 476-7074.



Post Store Price List

(Proceeds Benefits Post 555 and Department Programs)



Post 555 T-Shirt
S-XL - \$20
XXI-XXXL - \$22



**Post 555
Coffee Mug \$ 10**



**Car Fund-raiser Benefiting Oratorical
Scholarships**
\$7 value for \$5



Defender's Bracelet \$5

**American Legion
Centennial Pin - \$5**



MATTHEW BLOUNT Post 555



Ride for Legion Legacy Scholarship

PROVIDES COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP MONEY TO
CHILDREN OF POST 9/11 VETERANS WHO DIED ON
ACTIVE DUTY, OR HAVE AT LEAST 50% DISABILITY

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

STARTS: HEART OF DIXIE HARLEY DAVISON
PELHAM, AL

REGISTRATION STARTS – 12 NOON KSU – 1 PM

RIDE TO Alabama National Cemetery FOR A SHORT PROGRAM

ENDS Main Street Tavern (MONTEVALLO, AL.)

(HAVE YOUR WHOLE FAMILY MEET US THERE FOR LUNCH)

AUCTION DOOR PRIZES 50/50



Single Rider \$20 Double \$30