

233 Happenings

Scout Troop Meetings on Mon @ 7pm as necessary, **Support Scout Troop 500 July 17th** by eating at MEXICO Restaurant 5213 Williamsburg Road Sandston, VA 25150 11AM to 9:30 PM flyers at post or contact adjutant to get one by text.

Warrant/Volunteer Renovations on hold for July 2024
Ductless HVAC systems installed and complete as of 15 June

Summer Hiatus continues through August 2024. Post Contact will be as required. ITK will continue monthly. **No regular monthly meetings**
Executive Board Meeting and Updates at Commander's discretion during hiatus.

Congratulations Varina Post 233 for receiving 7 awards at Department Convention!!!

Don't forget!!! Tuesday **16 July Dedication** Taylor Farms Park honoring ALL Henrico County personnel who have served. Family fun and vendors will be on site all week. Check Henrico site for more information

Community Fair w/partners is now on hold due to shortage of community animals. More information to follow Previously planned for fall.

Bylaws Review/Update to start in September. Completion no later than December 2024

Varina Post 233 Post Awards Sneaker Ball 19 October 2024 What have you contributed this year? Are you a winner? Get your best outfit and sneakers ready.

Commander's Corner

If you see challenges as a reason for failure, the journey is already over before it begins. However, if you see challenges as opportunities to succeed, it makes the journey worthwhile.

Kenneth Harvey, Post Commander



**VARINA
POST 233
IN THE KNOW
Newsletter**

Conventions & Legion College Info

Dept Convention July 10-14 Hilton Washington Dulles, Completed

Legion College 2-4 August Doubletree Midlothian, Va
Registration Deadline, July 15th (Currently we have 10 Legionnaires registered to attend)

National Convention 23-29 August, New Orleans, LA **Registration Deadline July 19th (late fee after deadline & Banquet not available) HURRY deadline for registration is THIS WEEK!!!**

For applications/registration forms please go to VA department website, email post at al233varinapost@gmail.com, or contact post adjutant at our message center 804-859-1359. **Please take action no later than 72 hours** prior to specified deadlines to prevent Late fees. ****Emergencies will be handled on a case-by-case basis.**

TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

Did you know Final updates to our social media sites have slowed down. We are moving slowly because we need more IT support? Can you assist? If so, please contact al233varinapost@gmail.com

CONDOLENCES TO LEGIONNAIRE KIM BURRIS

Varina Post 233 offers heartfelt sympathy
In the loss of your close family member Kevin Foster. We hope the family finds peace in this difficult time. Our sincerest wish is for God's covering and continued grace for you and your entire family. Amen.

Claims Support By Appointment on Wednesdays call or email Us!

(Starts August 2024 Call 804-859-1359)

Varina Post 233 Receives 7 Awards at Department Convention

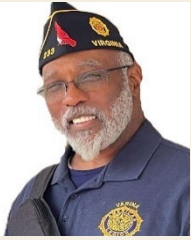
AL Varina Post 233 proudly represented the 11th District at the Department Convention this past weekend for Category 3 Posts. This is something to celebrate. The received a first place Americanism plaque, The Dan Daniel 110% Membership Award. The Post Commander's above and Beyond 120% Membership Award, The Post Commander's Above and Beyond 110% Membership Award, The Old Dominion 100% Membership Goal Award, a Combined 50-90% Membership Goal Award, and Second Place overall finish in the 11th District for membership.

In the Spotlight

Post Commander Harvey & VSO Griffith show off Americanism Award with 11th District Commander Evans Norris at Department Convention



Varina Post 233 Commander Kenneth Harvey and Veteran Service Officer Bonnie Griffith pose with 11th District Commander Evans Norris while displaying the first place Americanism plaque the post won during the Department Convention. Commander Harvey said, "the win represents hard work from the leaders and members of the post, and it's nice to see this year of hard was noticed. Membership is a good thing. However, what matters is what we do in our community, for the veterans, and children. These ventures cannot be discounted, and something you can put a price on." Commander Norris was happy to oblige the 233 Legionnaires with a photo op, and encouraged them "to keep up the good work." . Varina post has not participated in the Americanism contest for over 10 years. Varina Post also won 6 other awards, to include The Dan Daniel Award and various membership awards.



Ask The Commander(s)

Anonymous Question

Received by Phone Call Center: 804-859-1359

Why does our American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) work separately from the Legionnaires? Are they a different

Answer by Post Commander Harvey: This is a great question. You are witnessing the mixing of personalities and human nature. Yes. The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is a separate organization. However, make no mistake about the fact that the Auxiliary would not exist if it were not for the American Legion. ALA Membership is based on affiliation with a service member. The mission of the ALA is to support the American Legion (and legionnaires). More specifically, the ALA honors the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of veterans, the military, and their families both at home and abroad. In some posts (including ours), personalities and circumstances get in the way. This can cause hurt feelings and lead to negative outcomes and division. What can happen is a blame game or a Hatfield-McCoy effect. Nobody wants to deal with the other side, forgive, or start over. When groups remain stuck in the past, it is very difficult to move forward. The reality is; Legion Posts and ALA Units operate under two independent charters. Auxiliary units that do not support parent Legion Posts should be made to establish independent charters as far as I am concerned. That way ALA units can function on their own accord. To be fair, if Legion Posts mistreat ALA units they should be admonished. Legion Posts and ALA leaders must work hard to place the needs of the Legion Family above personal feelings. Our ALA unit is invited often and is always welcome to work alongside us at Varina Post 233.

*On Behalf of Commander Harvey, and the Varina Post 233 Executive Board,
WE HOPE YOU HAD A GREAT 4th of July Holiday
We extend a hearty welcome to new members of the 233 Legion Family*

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE, SACRIFICE, AND SUPPORT!!!

Write us at:
American Legion
Varina Post 233
8088 Recreation Road
Henrico, VA 23231

Donate to Virginia Legacy Run. It's never too late to give!!! Please email Randy at randybbgunn@comcast.net or call the Post 233 # 804-859-1359

Do you have Publication Input, Ideas, Ask the Commander Questions, or stories? Please contact us no later than the 10th of each month at 804-859-1359 or al233varinapost@gmail.com

Our Youth are the Future. What Are They Doing Now?

Congratulations Matthew Edwards, Malachi Moss, Scout Troop 500, Trinita Lorquet, and David Lorquet ...Varina Post 233 Sees You

In these trying times when young people have a lot to contend with, parents can celebrate the accomplishments and feel proud of Varina Post 233 as they shine and do positive things.

Matthew Edwards

Legionnaires Marvin and Letitia Edwards just celebrated their brilliant son Matthew Edwards last month. Once again Matthew has given us all a reason to smile. This young man was offered a two-year internship with Wells Fargo in Charlotte, NC. His parents are also American Legion Riders, and may be in for new wheels as the salary for this internship starts at \$70K. Go Matthew!!!

Malachi Moss

Parents Eric and Lorna are super excited to share that SAL Malachi is heading to Camp T. Brady Saunders BSA in Maidens, Virginia. This camp was established in the early 1960s to support scouts while improving leadership, and obtaining various merit badges. This is a wonderful place to grow and learn among peers.

Trinita Lorquet

Six-year-old Trinita Lorquet never thought going to a meeting over her birthday weekend would amount to much for the summer. However, she was rewarded by getting a quick peek at an American Legion convention. It

for her to see Juniors at work. She seemed more than surprised to receive a special gift towel from the new Junior ALA president. She was even more surprised to receive an invitation to come back next year. If we play our cards right, we may have a new ALA junior on our hands.

David Lorquet

If you ask David Lorquet what he thought he would be doing at Legion convention, he would probably have no answer before now. He spent some time observing the Sons of American Legion, and learning what Boy Scouts do this summer. While he thinks the Scouts are more fun.

David did show interest in understating about the flags, salutes, and SAL ceremonies. We may have a Scout and SAL in the making. We will see.

Scout Troop 500 At Mexico 17 July

Why stay at home and cook when you can get a good meal and support Scout troop 500 at the same time? They are asking for our support so they can receive credit towards every meal purchased. Please let the Mexico staff know you are supporting Troop 500. Show a copy of the flyer on your phone or stop by the post to pick up a flyer. Please contact us first. Food will be served from 11AM through 9:30PM. Mexico is located at 5213 Williamsburg Road Sandston, VA 25150.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

**DON'T FORGET
HAVE YOU PAID YOUR
2025 LOCAL DUES?**

OUR POST PROCEDURES

Remember we voted to pay \$10 per month.(However you wish)

We pay your Annual dues out of that, so you do not have to pay \$\$ when you get the slip in the mail. JUST SEND IT TO THE POST.

If you decide to renew for 3 years your local dues will be \$85 per year to help with operational costs at the post.

**SAVE THE DATE
19 OCT 2024**



**GET READY FOR THE AWARDS SNEAKER BALL!!!
Invitations Going Out Soon – Donations Accepted**

What Award will you win?

Door Prizes, Best Dressed, and Cash Awards