

233 Happenings

Scout Troop Meetings on Mon @ 6:30 & 7pm ,

Warrant Officer Volunteer Renovations November 2nd, 2024
Scheduled to return in 202

Ductless HVAC one of two system Installed, third unit to be purchased. Members raised \$550 to purchase 3rd AC/Heating

11th District Meeting Monday 4 November at Dept HQ 7 PM

Fall Veterans Day Tribute Taylors Park Post Commander, Vice 4, and other Legionnaires participating 9 November @ noon (Patriotic Wreath Laying Ceremony)

Women Veterans Interactive National Leadership Diversity Conference 8-10 November Adjutant participating Washington D.C.

Regular Post Meeting 7pm In-person and by Zoom-conference, 13 November 2024

ALA Unit 233 Meeting 13 Nov @ 6 pm Robertas in person only

Buddy Check in progress Holidays around the corner Adjutant and 3-person committee now through the New Year.

Executive Board Meeting and Vice Commander's Meeting Combined times TBA. Focus 1st VARINA Fair, Bylaws Input, review, and Update. Reminder: All Officer's Input for Bylaws due NLT 11 November 2024. **Dues Reminder.**

Firestone offering 10 % discount with membership card

Post Turkey Give-Away-Donate a Turkey; Volunteers needed 16-18 November 2024

Commander's Corner

Be The One. It's not hard. Tell us what you can DO. It is your simple story to share with others and serve as a volunteer. Your time belongs to you, and you decide how much time you want to do in service!

Volunteer Now. Kenneth Harvey, Varina Post Commander



**VARINA
POST 233
IN THE KNOW
Newsletter**

Conventions and Upcoming Events

Keep your eye on the Department page for convention updates and registrations. We just completed the Fall convention in Williamsburg. Click below for more information about upcoming Events for department of Virginia
<https://valegion.org/tools-and-media/upcoming-events/>

Virginia American Legion Middle School Essay Contest.

First 4 to sign up complete application process potentially will receive gift \$20, \$40, \$60, and \$80; by Commander

Title: "I like living in America because..."

<https://valegion.org/programs/middle-school-essay->

Contact Varina Post 233 message center 804-859-1359 with questions. Take action as early as possible please. ****Emergencies handled on a case-by-case**

TECHNOLOGY & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Did you know American Legion has finally connected with Legion sites? We will have our domain name soon. Our Jr. IT Manager Malachi Gary & our adjutant will start setting up the Demo page this month.

MEDICAL RECOVERY and CONDLNCES

Varina Post 233 wishes a speedy recovery to Vice Commander Charlie Faniel, Judge Advocate Joe Robinson, Legionnaire Harry Wallace, Legionnaire, Charles Wagner, and all others who are sick and shut in. For those who may have lost a loved one, may the father provide strength, and peace as you adjust in this sad time. Amen!

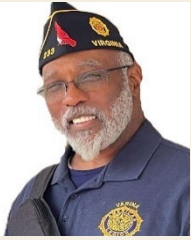
**Reminder.....American Legion Sponsoring
Army Navy Game
Watch to Game With US At the Post. Dec 14th @ 3pm
(Doors open at 2)**

The American Legion is sponsoring the Army Navy Game. It may be too late to get a ticket but you can tune in with us at the post. Drop by to cheer for your favorite team. Call the Post Call center if you are interested!!! Varina Café will be open.

In the Spotlight Varina Post Joins With Local Richmond Church to Support Hurricane Relief



So many families were impacted by the recent hurricane. Varina Post 233 joined forces with a local Richmond church to collect clothing and food. We called on the National Guard Amory behind the Airport to donate nonperishable food items and many of our Legionnaires willingly donated funds to help those in need. It was a blessing in so many ways to help communities that lost everything. We are still collecting new and gently used clothing through the end of November. If you have items to donate, please contact us at the post call center. There is still so much to do. Our father wants us to be of service to each other as best we can. Will you help us? We will continue to work with United House of Prayer for all People to get items to the victims in need. They are located in Churchill. If you want to know more about the communities in Charlotte, other parts of the Carolinas, and Florida that we are helping please don't hesitate to reach out.



Ask The Commander(s)

Question from Legionnaire A. Brother (Finance Officer, Varina Post 233. Training Question received in person. Question Call Center#:804-859-1359 How are dues applied by the Post? I just received another bill for \$120 and I am confused about who to pa; National or the Post?

Answer by Post Commander Harvey: Good questions. Your annual fees / dues currently stand at \$35 a year. There are also Department fees. The slip you received covers ALL costs. National, Department, and Post dues. Originally Post 233 had no operational dues received from members. National HQ initiated has since raised their annual fees/dues to \$40 I believe. Some of you received a \$35 statement and later received another one. There are operational costs imposed on every Post. Starting dues at our post was a hard but necessary decision. Holding events will not pay operational bills. Dues if managed properly, will eventually make it possible for our post to pay for the members, but we have not got there yet. Post 233 has not raised dues in more than 15 years. However, cost to operate keeps rising. Bottomline, we approach membership/dues shortfall with \$10/ monthly dues at the local level. We voted on this. When you receive the slip in the mail it is for all fees/dues. When you pay, National takes their cut, Department takes theirs, and the post will get the difference. Varina Post members have the choice to pay to our finance people, or pay when they receive the slip in the mail. Just keep in mind that if you pay prior to mid-October, it will feel like you are paying twice to assist with Operational costs to manage Post 233. Securing a 3-year membership online is a smart decision over all. Call us if you still have questions.

Everything Is Possible with the of Support of our Leginnnaire Families!

WE want to hear from you. Write us at:
American Legion
Varina Post 233
8088 Recreation Road
Henrico, VA 23231

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

Do you have ITK Pub Input, Ideas, Ask the Commander Questions, or stories? Please contact us no later than the 25th of each month at 804-859-1359 or al233varinapost@gmail.com

Varina Post 233 welcomes new member **Roderick Simms** and partnership with **Good Faith Veteran Foundation!** We will do great things together! Thegfvf.org 210-551-5597

Sneaker Awards Ball A Great Success. Past National Commander Charles "Chuck" Talley outstanding Keynote speaker

"Congratulations to Commander Harvey and Leaders for a great inaugural program"

Varina Post 233 was honored to have a surprise keynote speaker to help honor awardees on Saturday October 26th. Past National Commander Chuck Talley delivered a very inspiring speech and many nuggets of encouragement about "Being the One" to inspire change and make a difference. He spun the story of Varina Post 233 that those in attendance will not soon forget. The job left to Commander Harvey and Adjutant Dr. Harvey was not an easy task according to Past Commander Talley. "When they took the reins, the post was nothing more than bones. His analogy of dry bones," Talley commented. This was a very fitting assessment of how work is necessary at times, but how hard work can turn things around. Past Commander Talley spoke of the dynamics and dedication involved in turning a post around. Talley also commented on how God can touch the abilities of a few in a way that it impacts many. He took the theme of "Being the One," to a new level by tying the concept to creativity in managing "dry bones," and how to bring life to those bones. Being the one is not always easy, but takes a deliberate effort. After his speech, the audience gave a standing ovation. Awards were presented with pride to many Varina post legionnaires, scouts, and several family members. National Officers Delores Tooman and

Randy "BB" Gunn also received awards for their support to the rebuilding post. It was a very successful event. The Post commander Kenneth Harvey was very proud of the work the Post has managed to achieve in such a short time. He was excited to present Past Commander Tally with a Presenter's Plaque, and an award for Post 144 being the Best Legion Post Supporter of the Year. The awards included volunteer of the year, most dedicated legionnaire of the year, auxiliary supporter of the year, Mentor of the year, vice commander of the year, and of course Legionnaire of the year. **Winners will be posted at the post with their award and picture this month.**

Varina Post 233 is looking forward to the next sneaker ball and salutes all the those who were honored this year!! It has been a tough but rewarding journey.



Past Commander Talley (far right) and Post Commander Harvey present award to Vivian Harper-Hampton for exceptional support and collaboration with the Post.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

DON'T FORGET DUES FOR 2025 OUR POST PROCEDURE

Post dues are \$10 per month, \$40 quarterly \$60 twice a year, or \$120 Annually. **Reminder: Membership vote this in.** Anyone in receipt of National dues statement contact the Post Commander. We have your solution. Pay what you can to our Finance Officer or our Adjutant. Mail National Dues Statement to Varina POST 233. **If you decide to renew for 3 years your local dues are \$85 for the year Questions???** Call or email the post.

Varina Post 233 VSO Claims Support
By Appointment on Wednesdays call or email Us!
Call 804-859-1359 In-person and telephone support

On Behalf of Commander Harvey, the Varina Post 233 Executive Board, and members; a hearty welcome is extended to ALL 233 Legion Families.